THE MILITANT

PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKING PEOPLE

Vol. XIII - No. 29

Touchstone for Conference

To Defend Bill of Rights

An Editorial-

fostered by the Truman administration. The time is at hand to or-

ganize this resistance in a broad movement of united action to stop

the campaign for thought control and defend all victims of the

witch-hunt. The Bill of Rights Conference is presented with a

ment. But unfortunately it is also presented with an ultimatum

which, if accepted, will nullify all its activity and blow it up as an

Party. In an editorial in the July 14 Daily Worker, a compendium

of misrepresentation and slander, the Stalinists put two peremptory

ties of Trotskyists will not be supported by the Communist Party but must expect its most vicious animosity, sabotage and disruptive

conditions to the conference and all defenders of civil rights:

The ultimatum is delivered by the leaders of the Communist

1. That a movement for civil rights which defends the liber-

2. That any movement for civil rights which receives the sup-

The model for this ominous ultimatum is to be found in the

port of the Communist Party must accept its position on Trotsky-

ism, its whole catalogue of unfounded, irresponsible and criminal

methods and reasoning of the Tom Clarks, the Un-American Com-

nittee and the FBI. The witch-hunters are not for the suppression

of all critics at this time. They now limit their victims to the left-

all with one exception - its opponents and critics from the left,

the Trotskyists. Like Tom Clark, it proceeds from the standpoint

Like Tom Clark, the Stalinists are willing to permit "differ-

ences" from all except those whom they arbitrarily blacklist as

"fascists," "fifth columnists," "agents of Hitler and Franco" -

civil rights movement but to be denied its defense against the

witch-hunters and persecutors. Here the liberals and progressives

are called upon to uphold the Smith Act against the Trotskyists,

and to join a united front with Tom Clark against James Kutcher.

Harlow Shapley, Frederick Schuman and others who have never

who reject with indignation this Stalinist disruption of a united

defense movement are themselves attacked as "disrupters" by the

Daily Worker. Herein is revealed the true nature of Stalinism, which

considers the very notion of submitting disputed questions to demo-

cratic discussion and decision - for that matter the whole demo-

Let the victims perish, let the witch-hunt triumph, but let no

This threat cannot be ignored or evaded. The Bill of Rights

widest mobilization of all sections of the labor and liberal movement

one question the crimes and treachery of Stalinism - that is the

Those liberals like I. F. Stone, Thomas Emerson, Albert Deutsch,

Liberals Branded "Disrupters" Too

effective instrument for civil rights.

Imitators of Tom Clark and FBI

charges and accusations.

magnificent opportunity to become an important part of that move-

Popular indignation is mounting against the police-state terror

NEW YORK, N. Y., MONDAY, JULY 18, 1949

PRICE: FIVE CENTS

CIO Steelworkers SWP Asks Board of Inquiry Face Showdown Face Showdown Battle on Wages To Probe Stalinist Slanders

JULY 14 - The frantic efforts of Truman and Philip Murray to forestall a steel strike by a formula of government intervention without open use of the Taft-Hartley

Act has foundered on the flat 3refusal of the major steel cor- agreement reached through govporations to accept Truman's ernment intervention. proposed "fact-finding" procedure unless carried out formally under

applying Taft-Hartley procedure might suggest. without invoking the Taft-Hartley . Murray, however, has virtually

Thus, Murray's hand has been forced and he has been compelled terms, no matter how slight the to fix a strike deadline for mid- gains, proposed by Truman night Saturday, July 16. Unless through his "fact-finding" board. the steel barons reverse their For it has been known for weeks stand at the last minute and that Murray wanted intervention accept Truman's second plea to by the government, that he inpresent their case before his vited it and eagerly accepted it special "fact-finding" board in as soon as Truman made his return for a 60-day delay of the proposal. strike, an estimated 500,000 workers in basic steel will hit the picket lines this week-end.

NO ASSURANCES

There is no assurance, how ever, that if there is a prolonged steel strike which progressively affects wider sectors of industry, Truman will not resort to Taft-Hartley measures to break the strike. He will be under the heaviest pressure of the capitalist press, the whole capitalist class and Congress to smash a strike that might well set off a new wave of labor struggles in auto, electrical equipment, coal and other industries now in nego-

On the other hand, even if the steel corporations finally accept Truman's proposal and a strike s averted or halted after starts, there is no assurance that the steel workers will gain more than crumbs, if that, from an

The Truman administration has the "fact-finding" board he pro-Contemptuous and arrogant, poses to set up will have power the U. S. Steel. Bethlehem Steel to recommend a settlement, but insist on nothing less than all- will not be binding on either party out, open government strike- in the dispute. Under these conbreaking. They refuse to allow ditions, the companies would still Truman and Murray even a poli- be able to refuse any concessions, tically face-saving formula for however small, the government

committed the steel union, in the eyes of the public, to accept any

AGAINST THEIR WILL

Murray and the top CIO leaders, much against their will, may he forced to lead a show-down battle. But they have no stomach (Continued on Page 2)



DICTATOR-RULE IN UAW FOUGHT AT CONVENTION

MILWAUKEE, July 12 — The twelfth convention of the CIO United Automobile Workers Union is a far cry from the convention that met in this same city and in this same

hall twelve years ago. The 1937 Milwaukee convention, flushed ministration's record on the facturers, was the very embodijealously-guarded democracy and it raises its ugly head." defiant militancy. The 1949 concorroded with the deadly acids of strike by vaguely threatening to red-baiting and opportunism.

Nevertheless, as was made clear union's economic demands were in the presentation of a minority report on CIO Policy and the brief rebellion against holding has simply been quelled because of specific developments in the faction fight inside the UAW and Ted O. Thackrey, Editor the sweeping witch - hunt from The Daily Compass outside the union. But this con- 164 Duane Street vention has provided enough signs New York City to confirm that militancy will animate the UAW again, once the ranks shake off the effects

REUTHER'S SPEECH

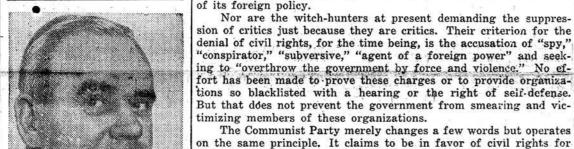
Walter Reuther, UAW Presibonuses, their gouging and their support Trotskyist victims responsibility for depression. the witch-hunt. Reuther also brought out the full prices at the same time.

with the union's remarkable vic- speedup problem, Reuther thuntories over the automobile manu- dered that, "We take the position we will mobilize our union to ment of insurgency, fierce and fight against speedup wherever

Reuther then attempted to take vention shows that the union is the edge off any criticism of his in the grip of a conservative wage strategy and his mismachine and that it has been handling of the recent Ford rali a new strike at Ford if the

(Continued on page 2)

assured the steel companies that and Republic Steel corporations that such a proposed settlement



wing minority which is critical of the administration and especially Truman Report Belittles Danger of Depression

By Art Preis

With almost all economic indexes dropping steeply, Truman 1948 peak. of "guilt by association" in its warning to I. F. Stone that if he at last has been forced to admit persists in defending Trotskyists he is to be read out of the "pro- that there is "a declining national economy." But his Midyear Economic Report to Congress, issued on July 11, still sees only a "moderate downward accusations which are also made without evidence or the right of trend." He tries to freight this those so charged to publicly defend themselves. The penalty for latest report with the optimism those blacklisted by Stalinism is not only to be barred from the of his previous ones. But now, instead of being able to point to new records in production and employment, he has to concede

a reverse trend. His statistical data, however, is selected and trimmed to minimize the extent and speed hesitated in defending Stalinists from government persecution but of the decline. He tries to assure us that American capitalist "free enterprise" is fundamentally sound and that the current downslide is merely a "transition period" that holds no cause for alarm. The net effect is a falsely reassuring picture of the present state of the economy and the meaning of the ultimatum delivered to the Bill of Rights Confer- direction it is traveling.

Thus, his first stress is on the claim that employment, producsubmits to the Stalinist ultimatum. Only the unambiguous and "still high." But even his own

employment in June was 59.6 million, down only 11/2 million Census arrived at this figure.

The bureau balanced off a sharp decline in industrial employment by claiming a big sudden rise in agricultural employment, although, as the July this should be - with crops no larger and machinery more plentiful - is one of the little mysteries of the employment figures." It is no mystery when we understand that this surprising growth in farm "employment" largely reflects the return to farm homes of relatives laid off from city jobs.

Conference will stultify itself as a mere front for Stalinism if it tion and business investment are unemployed, also based on Census Bureau statistics, is at least unqualified rejection of this ultimatum can lay the basis for the figures, selected to give the most 11/2 million shy of the real mark. optimistic picture, show in- The bureau does not list as undustrial production down 13% in employed anyone laid off who

June, unemployment at close to has worked as little as 1 hour quite frankly that he supported the overthrow of the government ments running 26% below the those on temporary lay-offs of by force and violence." To this Truman's figures on employ- off worker not "actively" seek- the Trotskyists are "admitted

YIPPEE __ I FEEL BULLISH!

his efforts to minimize the others cut to less than half-time financially supported by the Gerseriousness of the situation. He employment are not mentioned man Nazi movement," and that claims, for instance, that civilian by Truman. from a year ago. He does not 000 employed and more than state how the U. S. Bureau of 5,000,000 unemployed means a Compass, Dobbs gives a point-

Truman's figure of 3.8 million

less than 30 days and any laid- FBI-stoolpigeon lie he added that ing a job. More than four

telling us that less than 60,000,- provocateurs." major crisis. Truman has "avert- by-point answer to Fast's inven-(Continued on page 2)

Howard Fast Challenged to **Face Hearing**

NEW YORK, July 13 -Farrell Dobbs, National Chairman of the Socialist Workers Party, today called for establishment of a Commission of Inquiry, composed of impartial liberal and labor leaders, to investigate the libelous slanders against Dobbs and the legless veteran James Kutcher made by Howard Fast, Stalinist literary hack, in Fast's letter published by the July 11 Daily

Compass. Fast's scurrilous lies about Dobbs, Kutcher and the Trotskyst movement represent the Comnunist Party's answer to liberal columnists I. F. Stone and Albert Deutsch who, in recent issues of the Compass, attacked the position of the CP in refusing to defend the civil rights of Trotskysts and other political opponents

Stone and Deutsch rebuked the Stalinists specifically for their action at the New York Civil Rights Congress when they voted down an amendment to support the pardon campaign of the 18 Minneapolis Labor Case victims and to defend James Kutcher, who was fired by the Veterans Administration for his membership in the SWP.

Among other slanders, Fast al-

the SWP members generally are Government experts have been "strikebreakers, thugs and agent

In his reply sent to the Daily ed" the crisis simply by covering tions and challenges Fast to sub-(Continued on page 3)

RIGHTS OF ALL GROUPS

to Dobbs:

Paul Kern."

On the same day Professor

"I am in agreement with your

position that any conference on

civil liberties should support the

political and civil rights of all

groups in the United States. I

also agree that a representative

of your party should appear as

speaker at the conference and on

the important committees. I

have written to this effect to

On July 12 Professor Schuman

Emerson sent the following letter

ployment, although, as the July Business Week observes, "Why Three Conference Sponsors the should be with crops no **Agree on United Action Need**

JULY 13 - Three prominent educators this week expressed agreement with Farrell Dobbs, National Chairman of the Socialist Workers Party, that the Bill of Rights Conference should undertake to 3-

defend the civil rights of all | ticipants are going to speak and groups under attack. They were act constructively - not attack Harlow Shapley, director of the each other. The enemy is the Harvard College Observatory; persecutor of all minorities, not homas I. Emerson, professor in those who differ from us in polithe Yale University School of tical ideologies." Law; and Frederick L. Schuman, professor in the Political Science Department at Williams College. All three are sponsors of the July 16-17 Bill of Rights Conference.

They had received copies of Dobbs' letter to Paul Kern, temporary chairman of the coming Militant). Dr. Shapley- sent the following letter to Kern on July 11, with a copy to Dobbs:

'A PROPER REQUEST"

"I have received as you must intent of the resolution." Besides have also received a copy of the letter from Mr. Farrell Socialist Workers Party. On its face, the argument in his letter follow the activities at the meeting of June 25. Naturally I would

wrote a letter to Dobbs, which read as follows: "I am in receipt of your letter of July 9 and of the copy of your J. Kern, acting chairman of the Bill of Rights Conference to be held at the Henry Hudson Hotel in New York on July 16 and 17. Although I am one of the Initiating Sponsors of this Conference, circumstances beyond my control will make it impossible for me to participate in person.

"I am, however, in agreement with your position that the lefense of civil rights cannot be honestly and effectively furthered save on the basis of defense of all minority groups whose rights are (Continued on page 3)

conventions bi-annually, the tradition of insurgency in the UAW has not died by a long shot. It has simply been quelled because

crystal clear that the Communist Party, for whom he is obviously constitute grounds to deny that dent, pitched his opening address its refusal to defend the civil do with civil liberties. cleverly to meet the rights of political tendencies opthe past year. The speech was movement they are connected Engels, Lenin and Trotsky. The a few facts. militant in tone and consisted, with. That is the real reason for Communist Manifesto was inin the main, of a savage attack his insolent rebuke to I. F. Stone troduced as evidence against us. a pact with Hitler opening the court for that heinous crime. against the Big Business giants, who has sharply criticized the their huge profits, salaries and Stalinists for their refusal to

Mr. Fast contends that the conjustice of the workers' demands viction of 18 Trotskyists at and the ability of the corporations Minneapolis in 1941 under the to grant wage increases, pensions same Smith Act that is now being like to rebuke Henry A. Wallace Mr. Fast vilifies by his accusa-At complete variance with his Why? Because the Trotskyists parent that the defendants in the Paris by the Gestapo; Pantelis June 25 meeting an amendment themselves entitled to civil liber- of Rights be given recognition.

cratic process — as "disruption."

tions against the Stalinists would this case."

skyists.

Perhaps Mr. Fast would also It was Molotov.

Mr. Fast boasts of Stalinist

Unions representing millions of way for the slaughter and

sion among the American Armed victed on the basis of any acts Trotskyists, shot by the Italian cher, the legless veteran who of violence or intimidation but fascists; the French leader, Mar- was fired from his clerical job in conference (printed in last week's A mere accusation, without solely by reason of their ex- cel Hic, tortured to death at the Veterans Administration proof, appears sufficient to con- pression of political views and Buchenwald; Leon Lesoil, veteran solely because of his membership vince Mr. Fast of guilt. By his opinions." Mr. Wallace further Belgian Trotskyist, starved and in the Socialist Workers Party. standards of justice, the simple stated in the same letter: "I fully beaten to death at Neuengamme; Howard Fast's letter in The fact that the government prose- support the restoration of their and scores of other martyred one of many. To raise such cases of the present anti-red hysteria. Compass of July 11 makes it cutor has made unproven accusa- civil rights to the defendants in Trotskyiss, murdered by the would water down "the central fascist butchers.

Mr. Fast slanders the Trotstruggle." He accuses the Trot- and agent provocateurs." Again known as Frank Jacson, who has simple, It was not Trotsky who signed been convicted by a Mexican

members and scores of liberal destruction of World War II. It attacked the striking coal miners viction and have supported the any other member of the So- "Not An Hour's Stoppage! The pardon campaign of the Trot- cialist Workers Party, who said, Mines Must Be Seized!" It was "Fascism is a matter of taste." the Daily Worker of March 30,

Mr. Fast presents an involved previous declarations and his ad- "were accused of sowing dissen- Minneapolis case were not con- Pouliopoulous, head of the Greek pledging support to James Kut-

Kutcher's case, he says, is only

there are "very simple chanspeaking, intends to stand pat on this persecution has anything to "consistency in the anti-fascist skyists as "strike-breakers, thugs nels" for asking Civil Rights Con- Dobbs, National Chairman of the gress aid. "Why then was the The truth is that the 18 Trot- skyists of "advocating support let me remind him of a few amendment on Kutcher raised?" grumbling in the ranks and the posed to Stalinism and aims to skyists were convicted only of to the Nazi and fascist dealers facts. Trotsky was murdered by he asks, hinting darkly at some to you, dated July 7, appeals to letter of the seventh to Mr. Paul union's lack of achievements in impose that fatal policy on any advocating the teachings of Marx, in death." Let me remind him of a proven Stalinist police agent sinister motive. The answer is me as a proper request. I did not

Both Kutcher and the Trot-(Continued on page 3)

skyist victims of the Smith Act expect the communist cause to be requested Civil Rights Congress strongly defended and presented support prior to the June 25 at the Civil Rights Congress. It organizations protested the con- was Stalin. It was not Dobbs, or in a headline that screamed, meeting. A second request was strikes me as highly important submitted to the resolutions com- that no favoritism of any sort mittee at the meeting. Virtually prevail at the coming meeting every Stalinist civil rights case under your chairmanship. I am was mentioned in the resolutions sure that it is your intention, adopted, but there wasn't a single and the intention of the great and health plans while lowering used against the Stalinists "is for stating in a letter to me on tions Martin Widelin, German alibi for the refusal of the Civil reference to the Trotskyist vic- majority of the sponsors, that all not a case of civil liberties." September 21, 1948: "It is ap- Trotskyist leader executed near Rights Congress to accept at its time of the witch-hunt. Believing sufferers from abuses of the Bill

Dictatorial Rule in UAW Fought

(Continued from Page 1) machine, brushed aside these Caucus," up on charges for that while the delegates under-not met. "We say to them here necessary proposals and supported publishing a suppressed report. stand the significance of these and now," he declared, "we are the Reuther policy. prepared to use all the weapons possessed by free labor in America in those negotiations. of our problems through collective bargaining over the conference

The convention proceeded to bass in routine fashion a whole series of canned resolutions traditional nowadays in CIO union conventions and embodying what decision of the recent CIO Ex- speech, which was favorably to bring these issues before the is known as "CIO policy." On the ecutive Board meeting and further received by the convention. He delegates and our membership. . . Taft Hartley Act, the union proposed to get out the vote to elect dominated unions in the CIO be more "liberal" Congressmen in 1950, in line with the CIO pro-Truman program. On full em- jurisdictions. ployment, Murray's totally inadequate program is repeated in ber of the opposition and a memessence. The convention also ber of the resolutions committee, adopted, as it had done for many submitted a forceful minority years past, fine-sounding resolutions on "equal pay for equal do not support and have no symwork," a national health pro- pathy with the policies of the gram, housing, an additional resolution embodying Reuther's asserted the autonomous rights proposal for using idle aircraft of international unions and the and ship construction facilities democratic rights of the rank and for mass production of houses, file within the UAW and all rent control, guaranteed annual other unions to express their wage etc. A number of these opinions and voice any criticisms. resolutions contain many pro- The resolution concluded with a unions, including the Textile ever. gressive demands. Their fatal resolve to "avoid the harm of a defect consists in their lack of witch-hunt which could drag our any proposals for action to carry union into the strangling atmothrough and realize these aims. sphere of an AFL bureaucracy." PROPOSALS REJECTED

When De Vito, a Stalinist supporter from Local 45 in Cleveland, proposed that the convenfight the Taft-Hartley Law, a called for the question and the Reutherite majority summarily shut off the discussion. Reuther personally felt so secure that he even suggested a little more debate would be in order. But the votes - why bother discussing? ployment. This proposal was delegate Rawcliffe of Lincoln

opposition gathered around the Reuther candidates. On the roll pressed their opposition in such We know that we can't solve all Democratic UAW" challenged the their candidate for President, re- questions of policy of our union machine on its resolution on CIO ceived 672 votes against 8,080 the majority of this convention Policy. The Reuther resolution for Reuther. The Committee for retains confidence in the present Stalinist forces inside the CIO nominated Claude Bland, Presiand the necessity of adhering to dent of Hudson Local 154, against job now to be done is to utilize "CIO Policy." It proposed to Reuther. Bland declined the to the fullest extent the present endorse the anti-democratic nomination with a well-motivated demanded that the Stalinist- stated: expelled and that organizing committees be set up in the respective

. Paul Silver, a prominent memreport which declared that "We Communist Party," but which

The Stalinists opposed both the majority and minority resolutions Reutherite delegate, Shier of Chition call for a "one-day labor cago Local 6, supported the Silver no objection to this. holiday all over the country" to report. Reuther felt it necessary to personally intervene in the Reutherite delegate immediately debate with a demagogic, twisting speech, after which the majority resolution carried with about 200 delegates voting for the Silver

report. The second day of the convention also witnessed a brief revolt, Reutherites figured they had the reminiscent of past UAW conventions. The delegates over-Delegate McLogan from the whelmingly turned down the West Coast called for the 30 hour Reuther motion to hold convenweek at 40 hours pay as a prac- tions every two years. That eventical measure to combat unem- ing, Reuther for the first time called a mass caucus meeting seconded by a Stalinist supporter, where he worked up his sup-Delegate Ellis of Local 453 of porters on backing the machine. Cicero, Ill. On "Fair Deal Legisla- Next day, he succeeded in jamtion," a good speech was made by ming through a modified proposal that the next convention is to be Local 900 of Detroit to break held in 20 months. The remaining with the pro-Truman policy and controversial issues still to come PATTERN AT STAKE form an independent "Labor- before the convention are Reuth-Farmers Party and send our own er's constitutional amendments members to Congress where they which would give him dictatorial the steel dispute are at stake. in the past. Or they can surwill support us and not Big Busi- powers, and the report of the It is generally recognized that render their demands to the ness." But these were only in- grievance committee which is the settlement in steel will set tender mercy of boards dominated cidents in the discussion. The holding hearings against Tracy a pattern for the most important by capitalist-minded "impartial" convention majority, still lined Doll and Sam Sage, officers of sectors of American industry. agents of the capitalist govern-

The anti-Reuther anti-Stalinist slate of officers against the convention motion] and have ex-Committee for a Militant and call, Grant of Ford Local 600, splendid fashion, on the overall consisted of a fierce attack on the a Democratic and Militant UAW leadership. . .

that our Committee for a Mili- I am declining this nomination tant and Democratic UAW has and releasing the supporters of been organized to fight for pro- the Committee for a Militant and gressive, militant policies such as Democratic UAW so that they made our union famous in the may vote as they feel best, guided great days of 1937 and to defend by the needs of their local situathe democratic rights of our tions and a desire to help build a membership from attack from bigger, more militant and demowhatever source. . . It is clear cratic UAW."

The Stalinist caucus ran a full proposals [Reuther's two-year "We believe that the important

convention and the period ahead For these reasons and in view of "By now, most of you know the present situation in our union,

Strikers on the Air



On the air nightly, members of CIO United Electrical Workers tell the story of their 10-week strike at the Singer Sewing Machine plant in Elizabeth, N. J. Recording the evening's program are (l. to r.) Olga Bowers, Marie Farrell, Bob Callahan and Milton Meltzer.

Showdown Fight Looms in Steel

for a fight. Several leading CIO against any concessions whatso-Workers and Amalgamated Clothing Workers have abandoned

wage demands altogether on the of the union, there could be no pretext of the worsening econemic conditions and the CIO National Maritime Union recently CIO last week, proves by irrewhile the Reutherites made signed a contract with virtually straight red-baiting speeches. One no gains. Murray, Reuther and the other CIO top leaders made Although the CIO auto, rubber,

electrical and oil workers are pressing wage, welfare and pension demands like the steel workers, the CIO leadership has made no effort to formulate and carry out a unified strategy or to prepare the CIO workers for a real battle. Murray and his lieutenants have clearly been banking on government intervention to relieve them of responsibility for leading an independent militant battle. No doubt they are still hoping that government intervention will succeed and that the decision will be taken out of the hands of the workers and will be made in Washington and imposed by government fiat on the workers.

ICAN EMP

up solidly behind the Reuther the Stalinist "Progressive Unity That is why the steel moguls ment.

are so adamant in their stand |

If the issue were settled on the basis of the justice of the demands question of the outcome. The futable facts and figures that the incomes of steel and other industrial workers are lagging far behind the minimum decency level major gains if it undertakes a fixed by the government itself and serious, determined course of that the big corporations have unified, coordinated fighting acnever been in a better position tion. Along with the steel workother benefits out of their recordbreaking profits and reserves.

But the best statistics, the most annihilating proofs of the correctness of labor's demands have never won a nickel for the worksympathetic support for workers picket lines - that have supplied the decisive arguments and forced the employers to yield concessions.

The CIO workers are confronted with a crucial choice. They can conduct a fighting More than the interests of the struggle of the kind that has workers immediately involved in won them every important gain

Such intervention in the past a period of 10 to 12 million unwhich the union leaders then try

to peddle as a "victory." The CIO is in position to win and electrical workers.

If the CIO could win in 1936-The CIO rose to its heights in in Washington.

has invariably ended with the employed, when it had no vast workers getting the dirty end of treasury, when its unions were the stick. The bitter, long-fought weak in membership, inex- grew enormously not only because Bendix strike was recently settled perienced and untested. Today, by government intervention and the CIO is solidly entrenched, the workers got nothing. At best, with more than six million mem-Nathan report, released by the the government whittles down the bers experienced in unionism and union's demands to mere crumbs tested in battle. Its financial resources are imposing. It is not faced wth mass unemployment on the scale that existed when it fought its heroic battles in the Thirties. What is decisive is the will and

the militant spirit. The CIO can to grant wage increases and ers there are the auto workers win on the picket lines, if the leadership does not throw the 37, it certainly can win today. victory away behind locked doors

ers. At best they have helped to inform public opinion and win in their struggles. But it has been the workers' struggles — their BELITTLED BY TRUMAN

(Continued from Page 1) up the true extent of joblessness and exaggerating the number still at work.

The 13% drop in industrial production in a country where the labor force and productivity are rapidly rising, which Truman cites, is no insignificant matter in itself. Averages here don't give the full story, however. A number of the key industries are in a far worse plight. Steel - the biggest basic industry - has already declined by more than 25%, although the experts had been predicting it would "never" fall below 75% of capacity this year.

Most instructive is the AID FOR PROFITEERS thoroughly false picture Truman the level of the last half of production."

figures on consumers' income monopolists that whatever hapwith the fact that more than 5 pens their profits will not sufmillion are totally unemployed fer. and more than 10 million cut or less, with corresponding loss power. And he omits the fact | billions in the first two postwar that in the first quarter of this years. year corporate profits rose an high.

THE BASIC FACTOR

tradictions of capitalism. The ca- ers. pitalists are gobbing up a greater and greater share of the national the economy by more and more

Truman, however, insists this s not possible today because the

GIVE THIS

MILITANT

TO YOUR SHOPMATE

ASK HIM TO

government has provided pensions etc. But unemployment insurance of \$20 a week average and old-age pensions between \$25 and \$45 a month aren't much of "cushion" for the loss of full take-home pay by millions.

The main "cushion," however, is more than \$60 billion in annual governmental expenditures, federal, state and local. But even this huge shot - in - the - arm largely through expansion of the proof of that.

How does Truman propose to gives of the relation between soive the problem? First of all, wages and profits. "Personal in- by concessions to the profiteers. come of consumers after taxes Instead of demanding, as he decreased only about 1% from promised, higher taxes on profits Other West European countries anti-capitalist struggle for a and big incomes, he has with-1948," he claims, while "profits drawn his previous request for reflected the decline in prices and tax increases - an action hailed by Republicans and Democrats How does Truman square his alike. Truman assures the

His specific 11-point program from a 40-hour week to 35 hours begins by asking Congress to "liberalize the provisions for One Year After of pay? In fact, the crux of the carry-over of losses by corporacurrent economic slump is the tions" - the way the corporavast lag in mass purchasing tions got back a tax-grab of

For the masses, he repeats his average of 9% to an all-time proposals for "improved" unemployment insurance, old-age pensions, etc. But even the meager improvements contained in the The heart of the matter, which bills he has sponsored in Conwas nevertheless indicated in the passage in this congressional pendence from Moscow, in spite continual deterioration of the report of his Council of Economic session. And all of his measures of the growing fierceness of economic situation in most of the Advisers: "The downturn com- taken together do not begin to Kremlin attacks against it. The Salinist - controlled countries of menced with a failure of con- touch the real core of the matter reason for that is obviously to Eastern Europe which has led, sumer markets to expand in line .- the ever-greater slice the

with total output." A hundred capitalists are taking from the

income, the wage-earners are "pump-priming" - expansion getting less and less. The inevi- of government expenditures by table result is declining mass means of running into debt. And, markets, "over-production" for in the end, as his whole course the market, production cut-backs, indicates, he will resort to the lay-offs, still further declines in one final extreme that Roosevelt mass purchasing power - in resorted to when his "pumpbrief, the whole unfolding of priming" failed - war. The only other alternative is the elimination of the profits system and the establishment of a planned economy of socialism. That, however, is the task of the revolutionary American working class.

> NEXT WEEK: Reports on:

The 40th annual conference of the NAACP in Los Angeles. The Bill of Rights Conference in New York City. The conclusion of the UAW convention in Milwaukee.

BACKGROUND OF THE CRISIS IN BRITAIN

By Charles Hanley

During World War II Britain made an enormous effort to escape being vanquished by German imperialism. That effort was crowned with success, but Britain was

drained by it. Her dollar assets vanished; she came out of the goods. war much poorer than she entered, whereas the United States grew richer and more powerful. while the world's gold has been streaming to America, as it still In Asia, the most precious sec-

tor of Britain's Empire, the fountainhead of British richness has been dried up by the awakening of the Asiatic peoples during and after the war; and though British ist management itself. influence is still prevailing there, it certainly has become far less direct than before 1941. So there remained only one way

Britain in 1945: a record increase in exports to supply her with dollars she badly needs for imperts of vital raw materials without which her industry cannot work.

And, indeed, Britain's exports of her concentrated industrial effort and the "austerity" program at home, but also because every country needed manufactured goods after the war. These exports almost balanced Britain's imports.

Most of her exports, however, went to countries other than the U. S. and were paid for not in dollars but in so-called "soft currencies" which could not be converted into dollars. The Marshall aid (ECA) was ostensibly designed to fill this dollar gap, but Britain, obliged to import so stuffs from the dollar zone, found that these ECA dollars could not stabilize her financial position, all the less so when her exports began to run up against increasing difficulties.

END OF BOOM

The beginning of the ECA virtually coincided with the end of bankruptcy without in any way "cushions." By this he means the postwar boom and the start solving Britain's grave economic such hand-to-mouth measures as of depression. In the U. S. the and fiscal problems. unemployment insurance, old-age exceptional demand for goods is over; imports from foreign coun- return to "normal market and tries are growing much smaller; business conditions" are absurd. America's own industries are In this era of acute capitalist entering a crisis, with unemployment spreading rapidly.

reducing their imports, too, and postwar boom is the "normal" buying only at the most ad- evolution of capitalist world vantageous prices. British industry is not modern. Like other foreseen and predicted from the old industrial countries (Belgium and especially France), Britain military establishment-no longer cannot produce goods as ef- workers' world with internasuffices. The current decline is ficiently and rationally as U. S. tional planning of production and industry, and the average quality distribution for the exclusive of these goods is not outstanding, benefit of the toiling masses in either.

will use their ECA dollars to socialist society.

and foreign investments virtually | buy American rather than British

The present condition of British industry is not the result of any "nationalizations." On the con-Britain's gold reserve is dwindling trary, British capitalists permitted nationalization only of those industries which were particularly antiquated and unproductive and did not bring enough profits (the coal mines, for instances), their technical equipment having been neglected for some forty years by capital-

Britain's economic difficulties are the heritage of British capitalism. And if the Laborite government is to be blamed, it is out for a poorer capitalist not for having dealt blows to capitalism, but, on the contrary, for having failed to abolish capitalism. Instead, the Laborites have helped maintain it. (In fact, representatives of old capitalist companies are to be found on the boards of all "nationalized" industries!) Assuredly, a Tory government would have faced a similar situation, if not a much worse one!

There is now considerable talk of the possibility of Britain's devaluating her pound sterling. This would not resolve the problem, since its effects would be quite temporary. In particular, other European countries would follow suit, to prevent Britain from getting any advantages out of it. After a while, the whole problem would reassert itself, with bankruptcy menacing direly.

For the moment, Britain has many raw materials and food- stopped buying in the dollar area. She is now trying to obtain some raw materials and food from other countries (Argentina and Soviet Russia) but many of the needed supplies will still have to be bought from the dollar area.

Washington may agree to throw more dollar loans into the breach. This, however, will postpone open

The capitalist hopes for a decay, there can be no such thing as lasting stabilization. A crisis Most European countries are following upon the shortlived economy, as the Trotskyists have very outset.

The only realistic solution is a each country and on a rigidly American mass production is non-profit basis. There is no way cheaper without being inferior in of overcoming the menacing quality and Britain cannot com- British, American and world pete with it on the world market. crisis other than the road of the

World Events

By Paul G. Stevens

The Tito Split

Tito and the Cominform. Con-disaffection in the Stalinist trary to most predictions in the ranks. For, as their titles inworld's press, the Yugoslav revolt dicate, some of the purge victims against world Stalinism has not were themselves in control of the been crushed. The position of police and repressive apparatus Yugoslavia seems rather to have in their countries until a year been strengthened considerably ago. since its declaration of indebe found, not so much in the for the first time, to public inherent strength of the Tito demonstration and hunger riots. regime, as in the threat of widethis as one of the classic con-smaller share going to the workbuffer zone.

This is evident from several facts. This whole past year the been on strike for two weeks. Stalinists have had their hands Their main demands are \$3.85 full in suppressing echoes of the weekly raise, and nationalization Tito schism in the Communist of the coal industry. Their strike, parties of Albania, Bulgaria, coming in the midst of the Hungary, Rumania, etc.

by the public execution of Koci ports. Dodji, former Secretary of the CP and Minister of the Interior in Albania. While no execution enforcing the Australian governhas been announced in the case ment's recent legislation which of Lajos Rajk, former Minister forbids the use of union funds of the Interior and Politbureau for strike purposes. Several ofmember in Hungary, his an- ficials of the miners' and iron nounced expulsion from the Stal- workers' unions have been jailed inist party leads to conjecture for refusing to comply with the that he met a similar fate.

whom were purged in the course of the year.

The prominence of the purged This month marks the end of individuals is merely symptomatic the first year of the split between of the depth and extent of the

· Of equal importance is the

In Australia

Australian coal miners have Australian winter, has had a The extreme violence of these paralyzing effect on the country's purges was recently emphasized industries, according to all re-

The strike issues have been complicated by a court decision court orders demanding an ac-No further indications have counting, under this legislation, been given in the Stalinist press of the disposal of union funds of the fate of former Vice- recently withdraw from the Premier Kostov of Bulgaria, banks. The miners' strike comformer Vice-Premier Gomulka of mittee has announced that it will Poland, or of the Greek guerrilla not enter into negotiations until leader, General Markos, all of their leaders are freed from jail.

in this instructive article.



The August issue of Fourth International, the monthly theoretical magazine of American Trotskyism, presents: THE AMERICAN EMPIRE. A whole issue devoted to the most ominous development of our times - the drive of the Wall Street oligarchy toward domination of the entire world.

1. The Power and its Nemesis

In broad strokes the editors place the American Empire in its historic setting, showing how it far transcends anything seen before in wealth and malignancy. But American capitalism carries the seeds of its own destruction. Its real destiny is to prepare the ground for socialism in America. This editorial presents the main Marxist conclusions that are developed in detail in the succeeding articles.

2. The Reigning Oligarchy

Ferdinand Lundberg's book America's 60 Families created a sensation in 1937 with its facts about the enormous concentration of wealth in America. What has happened in the 12 years since then? John G. Wright brings the essential material up to date. From the obscure records where the capitalists try to bury the truth, he has pieced together the evidence. The cold figures reveal a startling increase in the size of the giant fortunes and the sinister power of the economic royalists. The pirates of private enterprise won't like this article, but class-conscious workers will. Put this down as must reading.

Organizer of Counter Revolution

Wall Street doesn't export democracy. It exports dollars and guns to strengthen reaction throughout the world. George Clarke presents the black record of Washington's foreign policy. He lays bare the economic sources of this policy, showing how the explosive force of American capitalism impels the multi-billionaires to take the road of conquest and another world war.

4. The Iron Heel

A reactionary policy abroad cannot be maintained without entrenching reaction at home. The price of imperialism

basic rights that bodes ill for the future. G. F. Eckstein probes the underlying social forces behind the "loyalty" purges, witch-hunts and anti-labor legislation. He shows why the drive against independent thinking was deliberately launched and why it extends from the most oppressed sections of the Negro people right up to the top circles of the atomic scientists. If you wonder why a vast, secret police network is being built in America on the pattern of the Gestape, you'll find the answer

Wall Street's Labor Salesmen

America's 60 richest families could not rule long without the support of the top labor bureaucrats. Bert Cochran tells the sordid story of Wall Street's cheapest diplomats, the labor "statesmen" who go abroad at union expense to peddle evil schemes of American imperialism. At home these same "statesmen" are doing their utmost to keep labor in the harness of the capitalist political parties. Brutal anti-labor legislation has been the pay-off. This article cuts through all the pretenses and camouflage of the top labor bureaucrats to expose the miserable role they play as low-priced messenger boys and cut-rate salesmen for American imperialism.

6. Program of the Opposition

William F. Warde sums up 60 years of anti-imperialist struggle in the United States. How can the American people find their way to a new economic system that operates in their interests? How can they end the rule of the profiteers and put in power a Workers and Farmers Government? The experience of the struggle against Wall Street since the Spanish-American war demonstrates that the answer cannot come from "isolationism," from pacifism, from the social-democracy or from Stalinism. The great hope for the future lies in the unique combination of Marxist theory and native American leadership embodied in the Socialist Workers Party. A profound study, drawing deeply on the lessons of history, "Program of the Opposition" fittingly rounds out another outstanding issue of Fourth International.

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Vol. XIII - No. 29

THE MILITANT

each in foreign countries. tors do not necessarily rep-THE MILITANT PUBLISHING ASSOCIATION resent The Militant's policies. 116 University Pl., N. Y. 3, N. Y. (Phone: AL 4-9330) These are expressed in its Editor: GEORGE BREITMAN

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Monday, July 18, 1949

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In the capitalist states the most monstrous forms of bureaucratism are to be observed precisely in the trade unions. . . It is thanks to this that the whole structure of capitalism now stands upright, above all in Europe and especially in England. If there were not a bureaucracy of the trade unions, then the police, the army, the courts, the lords, the monarchy would appear before the proletarian masses as nothing but pitiful and ridiculous playthings. The bureaucracy of the trade unions is the backbone of British imperialism.

-Leon Trotsky, "Communism and Syndicalism," 1929.



Dulles Blurts Out the Truth

The other day John Foster Dulles, the new U. S. Senator from New York, made his maiden speech. In the course of whooping it up for the Atlantic Pact, he blurted out some top-drawer secrets. .

Dulles has played a prominent role both in the secret councils of the bi-partisan warmongers as well as in the public conduct of Washington's "cold war." Among other things he took a leading part in the U.S. delegation to the recent Paris confab with the Kremlin. And what did this delegation seriously discuss among themselves? Here is what Dulles himself

"At Paris last month there was discussion as to whether to accept at all the Soviet-proffered truce and to resume, even on a tentative basis, four power consultations. Some feared that any relaxation of East-West tension would bring a corresponding relaxation on the part of the people and that they should artificially be kept alarmed."

There you have it, from the lips of one of the chief plotters, Dulles himself, that the American people have been and are victims of one of the most monstrous conspiracies in modern times. All the time that the capitalist rulers of this country have been howling about the

need for measures against "foreign aggression," they have been carrying on a war of nerves against the American people, keeping them "artificially alarmed."

For what purpose? So that the capitalist politicians, militarists and diplomats could have a pretext for extorting the countless billions of dollars required for their imperialist program to dominate the world. So that they could have a pretext for instituting a permanent conscript army, for expanding their FBI stoolpigeon network, for their attacks on civil rights, etc.

Everything that has transpired since the Paris Conference - the drive for ratification of the Atlantic War Pact. the arms-for-Western Europe scheme and the continuing assault on civil liberties at home - proves that for tactical reasons, Dulles, Acheson, Truman and their fellow conspirators decided in Paris only to make it appear that there has been some "relaxation" in their war drive.

The capitalist rulers must resort to "artificial" methods, that is, secret diplomacy, conspiracies, and lies, to put over their real program. If they told the truth about their aims, the American people would rise up in wrath and put them in the insane asylums where they belong.

Rubber Workers and 30-Hour Week

Last week in discussing the abject failure of top union leaders to advance the demand for the 30-hour week with no reduction in pay we mistakenly referred, in passing, to the rubber union. We are glad to take this opportunity to make a

The leadership of the CIO United Rubber Workers is to be commended for highly progressive steps that were taken by its Executive Board which recently held a special meeting on the unemployment

It was here decided to include in 1949 URW contract demands the extension of the six-hour day throughout the industry with no reduction in pay.

While making this demand upon the companies, the URW, at the same time, came out in favor of federal legislation cutting the work week in rubber from 40 to 30 hours.

Here, indeed, is a splendid example to follow. By taking the lead in fighting for such a key issue as the 30-hour week, the URW leadership has performed a signal service for organized labor as a whole, and, in particular, has aided greatly in the unpostponable struggle to curb the spread of joblessness.

The unemployment situation is already

so acute as to make decisive action imperative. Effective action can come from one source and one source only - and that is, from organized labor itself. Delay, especially at a time when union

contracts are up for negotiation, can act only to aggravate such a major problem as unemployment and render it more difficult to ameliorate the already intolerable position of workers in one industry after another.

The action of the URW Executive Board on the 30-hour week is all the more noteworthy because it points up the urgency of the situation and the dangers of any further delay.

An example has been set. It should be picked up and followed. Above all, the rubber workers must not be left in a position where they can be isolated by the employers in the struggle for the institution of the 30-hour week. Any setbacks in this connection will be paid for by the labor movement as a whole.

On the other hand, if other unions rally behind the same demand, pooling their resources and forces in a common struggle, a giant step will have been taken to assure one of the most effective immediate remedies that can be taken against the spread of unemployment.

SWP Denounces Rigged Regents 'Hearings'

ALBANY, July 14 - Farrell Dobbs, National Chair- reaching threats to civil liber- placed us on his "subversive" list thought would be put in irons. man of the Socialist Workers Party, today appeared before ties has been manifested among without charges or a hearing Our children would be blighted the New York Board of Regents special committee to Both the CIO and AFL at their Consequently, you are more its folce "broads sections of the population. Both the CIO and AFL at their Consequently, you are more its folce "broads sections of the population."

HISTORY OF BLACKLIST

any action against us.

referred to him.

these demands. Finally, on

plied to my second letter to the

of those affected" by the "sub-

While we were getting this

runaround from the President,

was fired from his clerical job

With understandable indigna-

tion over this insulting, tyrannical

treatment at the hands of the

federal government, I immediately

requested a personal interview

POLICE STATE STEP

charges."

denounce its fake "hearing" on so-called "subversive" organizations. He demanded that the Regents "accord to the accused put on the Department of every single right guaranteed Justice "subversive" list until we under the constitution before tak- read about it in the newspapers. ing action against our party, or On July 28 1948, I wrote a letter against any other organization to Attorney General Clark in or individual." The full text of which I protested against his Dobbs' statement follows:

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee:

I appear before you today in esponse to Commissioner of witnesses in our own defense. Education Francis T. Spaulding's letter of July 1 to the Socialist Workers Party in which he stated:

"The Regents are conducting an nquiry to determine what organizations are subversive within the terms of Chapter 360 of the New York, commonly referred to is the Feinberg Act.

"You are so characterized by the Attorney General of the United States."

Not another word is said about ny charges against us. The rest torney General to withdraw his f the Commissioner's terse letter illegal "subversive" list and limitations on testimony at this due process of law before taking o-called hearing.

GUILTY BEFORE TRIAL

In effect, Commissioner Spauldng has said to us: "The Regents intend to brand you subversive October 18, 1948, Assistant Atecause the Attorney General has torney General Peyton Ford reso branded you, The trial is already over. But if you insist, you President which he said had been nay say a few words before sentence is passed barring your York public school system."

If that is to be your procedure, you are about to commit a grave njustice. You are about to add more innocent victims to the witch-hunt that is spreading like James Kutcher, a legless veteran, terrible plague throughout the curning of books, after the in the Socialist Workers Party. ashion of Hitler.

What evidence has Attorney General Tom Clark supplied you back up his charge that the Socialist Workers Party is "subversive"? Before what legallyconstituted tribunal has he proved this outrage. My request was this outrageous accusation? Were ignored. we informed of the nature of his charges against us? Did we have an open trial before a jury of our peers? Were we granted the right to confront our accusers and cross-examine them?

You do not, and you could not, Attorney General granted us a of an opponent party is a long of due process of law. ingle one of these constitutional step toward a police state and rights. For the facts are that undisguised thought control. Mr. Clark put us on his political planation whatever for his high- standing over every work bench handed procedure, and he has and police spies - detestable bitrarily defined." denied our repeated demands for paid stoolpigeons, or obnoxious, selves against his dictatorial in every home.

(Continued from Page 1)

be had as to what groups and

organizations deserve to be des-

cribed as 'sections of the labor

We didn't even know that the Socialist Workers Party had been list is based.

James Carey, CIO secretary, denounced the firing of James Kutcher because of his membership in the Socialist Workers illegal action, requested a detailed Party which has been, as Mr. statement of all charges against Carey put it, "gratuitously termed us, and asked for a public hearsubversive in the personal opinion ing with the right to crossof the Attorney General." examine our accusers and present

International unions in the auto, clothing, maritime packing and other industries have protested against the Clark list. The Assistant Attorney General Alex Campbell replied as follows Amalgamated Clothing Workers on August 16, 1948: "In the ab- Union has called it "indicative sence of provision therefor in of a trend away from the demothe Executive Order (9835) the cratic principles of freedom which Laws of 1949 of the State of Department does not contemplate the people of this country have cherished and guarded." holding hearings in such matters.

State CIO councils in Caliwith or without specifications or fornia, Washington, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island I next sent a letter on August Illinois, Ohio, Michigan, New 26, 1948 to President Truman have demanding that he direct the At-Jersey and Minnesota demanded the reinstatement of Kutcher. Carl Holderman, New describes the narrow, arbitrary grant us a public hearing under Jersey CIO president, branded the firing of public employees for their political beliefs a "very infectious business that is spread-My letter was ignored, so I ing beyond the confines of govagain wrote to Mr. Truman on September 29, 1948, repeating ernment service into labor.

Referring to the firing of Kutcher, A. I. Davey, editor of the AFL Cleveland Citizen, said, "Once any people permit this Mr. Ford insolently told us sort of thing to become a commembers from their constitutional that "the Attorney General has mon practice"... we are fooling right to employment in the New had strict regard for all of the with dynamite that might even tually operate against any man substantial and procedural rights or woman, no matter what their beliefs."

Numerous other organizations like the Americans for Democratic Action, the American Veterans Committee and the Ameriountry. You are about to move in the Veterans Administration can Civil Liberties Union have dangerously close to the actual solely because of his membership rallied to Kutcher's support and attacked the Attorney General's high-handed policies. Hundreds of scientists, educators and religious and cultural leaders have spoken out in similar opposition to the Clark "subversive"

with President Truman to protest Over 100 members of the University of Chicago faculty have joined with Dr. Harold C. Urey, famous atomic scientist, in declar-"Administrative agencies Such are the facts concerning ing: the Attorney General's illegal have been and are dealing with branding of the Socialist Work- governmental employees in proers Party as "subversive." For a cedures which violate the basic political party in power to thus decencies of notice and hearing ave a shred of evidence that the suppress the constitutional rights which are part of our tradition

"All of this at the hands of administrative officials and other If these sinister acts continue, non-juridical bodies proceeds the supported the overthrow of Co. under the title, "Not Guilty." Hacklist without giving any ex- there will soon be a policeman from the doctrines of 'guilt by

process of law to defend our dalmongers — will be snooping Cornell University, "under the founded accusation and Mr. Float "trope financially connected by guise of attacking communism, attack something quite dif- knows it.

> recently asked. "It is, above all, America as a finished product, Trotskyists on trial."

applying a dirty name to them." "growing restlessness with the Here are the facts. whole business of spy-hunting,

THE FEINBERG ACT

Yet Commissioner Spaulding's letter and the Regents' statements to the newspapers indicate that you intend to use the Attorney General's illegal "subversive" list as an alibi for extending his hateful methods into the New York public school

You may say that the Feinberg Act authorizes you to use the Attorney General's blacklist. If so, I reply that even that vicious thought-control law merely says you MAY use the Clark list if you so desire. You are not compelled to use it.

Once again I ask: What evidence did Mr. Clark submit whereby the state legislature and Governor Dewey could honestly conclude that the Socialist Work-The answer is still the same:

ernor Dewey did not, and they could not, have any such evidence, because the Attorney General violated every constitutional right involved when he arbitrarily

1948 national conventions passed any stretch of the imagination resolutions demanding the justified in using the Feinberg trails of human progress. rescinding of Executive Order Act as a pretext for stigmatizing 9835 upon which the Clark black- the Socialist Workers Party "sub-

EVERYTHING ON ITS HEAD Everything is stood on its head here. An unproven accusation by by you as a verdict of guilty. Instead of recognizing our constitutional right to be considered innocent until proven guilty, you demand that we prove our innocence. You act like this was

hat has never been held. We are not told why we are called "subversive." Instead we are challenged to disprove a any meaning our political oponents want to read into it. The traditional test of a

teacher's qualifications is his competence. You would substitute the test of political prejudice, with competence ignored as unimportant. You propose to victimize public school employees through the unconstitutional, anti-democratic charge of guilt by association, making mere membership in blacklisted organization cause for dismissal.

Under that policy, stupidity injustice in our public schools. Timid souls who conform to backignoramuses, would preside over the class rooms. Freedom of beliefs.

in their education, cruelly de-Consequently, you are not by prived of their right to go forth from school equipped to blaze new

BURDEN OF PROOF

If you really want to protect the public school system, you should challenge the constitutionality of the totally undemocratic Feinberg Act. You the Attorney General is regarded should refuse to join in the thought-control purge in the schools. You should defend the constitutional right to employment in the public schools, regardless of political beliefs.

If you choose instead to press court of appeal from a trial the unjust accusation that the Socialist Workers Party is "subversive," the burden of proof legally rests upon you, not us. We demand that you accord to the charge so vague that it can have accused every single right guaranteed under the constitution before taking action against our party, or against any other organization or individual.

Provide us with full information as to the exact nature of the charges against us. Hold a genuine public hearing under due process of law not a fake hearing ike this one. Permit us to confront our accusers and crossexamine them. Let us call witesses in our own defense.

We intend to fight with every legal means at our disposal to would soon reign side-by-side with secure these rights and to safeguard freedom of thought and freedom of expression for every ward prejudices, and outright employee in the public school system, regardless of political

Dobbs Answers Fast's Lies In "Daily Compass" Letter

(Continued from page 1) ties equal to those demanded by

the Stalinists, the Trotskyists naturally offered an amendment to that effect.

Mr. Fast's alibi is completely exposed by an editorial in the June 24 Daily People's World, West Coast Stalinist paper, which bluntly says of the Kutcher case, "Let it be stated that everything connected with this sorry affair reeks of fraud and deceit. What is being touted as the 'case of the legless vet' and a 'test case' for civil liberties hasn't the remotest connection with the defense of civil rights."

Giving his own game away, Mr. Fast libelously asserts that "Kutcher said quite frankly that he supported the overthrow of report, published by Harper and violence." James Kutcher never made any such statement any fessor Edmund Ezra Day of trary, he has vigorously and death, as "admitted pro-fascists." where at any time. On the con-

This contemptible provocation "What is the new loyalty?" is the Stalinist way of saying to of the Trotskyists in this respect Professor Henry Steele Com- the Foley Square prosecutor, nager of New York University "All that's wrong with your thought-control trial is that you conformity," he said. "It repu- have the wrong defendants in diates the once popular concep- the prsoner's dock. You should tion of progress, and regards put Kutcher and the rest of the

On top of that Mr. Fast falsely Dr. Robert M. Hutchins, Chan-charges that The Militant reportcellor of Chicago University, has age "cannot possibly be construed denounced what he called "that as fair, much less favorable to easy process by which one the people on trial" at Foley disposes of different views by Square, and that The Militant "does not call for such unity" of The New York Times of June all people whose civil rights are 19 states that a national survey threatened as I advocated in my by its staff brought reports of speech at the June 25 meeting.

When the Stalinist leaders were similar activities" and "grave July 1948, the Socialist Workers public misgivings concerning the Party formally proposed a united need for such investigations and front with the Communist Party the manner in which they are to combat the whole witch-hunt. That proposal was ignored by the Stalinists.

> trial, The Militant of January 24 carried a front-page headline reading, "Trial of CP Threatens All Labor's Rights." Subsequent issues of the paper have consistently called on the labor and

Los Angeles

Hear JAMES KUTCHER and leading labor and liberal supporters of the defense of the legless veteran.

Southern California Kutcher Civil Rights Banquet Saturday, July 23 6:30 pm PARK MANOR

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AN 2-5390 or RI 7-8356

liberal movement to defend the Stalinists against the thoughtcontrol prosecution. This we have done despite our fundamental opposition to Communist Party

policies and practices. In similar manner the Socialist Workers Party and The Militant have defended every victim of the witch hunt including Howard Fast n the appeal from his conviction for contempt of the House Un-American Committee.

The Stalinist slanders of Trotsky as a "paid agent of fascism" were long ago refuted by a formal Commission of Inquiry, headed by the eminent educator and philosopher, Professor John Dewey. Seekers of the truth will find the facts in the Dewey Commission

Mr. Fast now libels Trotsky's es, who have advocated Trotskyist program since his the German Nazi movement." He further states that the "record" false from beginning to end.

There are no such "documents." 'I challenge Mr. Fast to submit his slanders and forgeries to the test of examination by an honest and impartial body. I ask that an impartial Commission of Inquiry, composed of leading figures in the labor and liberal movement, be constituted to investigate Mr. Fast's accusations and render a verdict.

In his letter Mr. Fast describes . F. Stone as a sincere and honest person. I agree with that characterization, and I propose to Mr. Fast that he join me in asking Mr. Stone to act as chairman of such an impartial Commission of

> FARRELL DOBBS National Chairman Socialist Workers Party

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REFRESHMENTS

URGE BOARD OF INQUIRY ON STALINIST SLANDER

mit proof of his allegations before a non-partisan Commission of Inquiry similar to the one that Professor John Dewey headed, which in 1937 held hearings in Mexico on the Moscow Frameup Trial charges against Leon Trotsky.

Dobbs invites Fast to join in advocating a Commission of In- ference, have at last forced the had hailed the imprisonment of quiry and proposes that I. F. Stone, who Fast in his letter ad- sition on civil rights unambigu- Act. But the government's intromits is a sincere and honest liberal, shall be the chairman of duck the issues of the Kutcher Stalinist trial forced the defendsuch a commission. (Dobbs' let- case and the pardon campaign of ants and their lawyers to claim ter to the Compass is published the 18 Trotskyist and Minneapo- in the court that the SWP case in full on Page 1.)

AIM TO INTIMIDATE

Undoubtedly, Fast's letter was designed to intimidate liberal ele-

in the form of a reply to I. F. the SWP delegates from present- the Smith Act, offer you our aid supporting the defense of the in- inists and Trotskyists.

| ing their appeal for a broad unit-|

The participation of the SWP rights." in the recent New York Civil Rights Congress conference, the reply. They sought to bury the The Militant, helped focus na- ever, for any such conference to tion of the Stalinists at the con- own prosecution and that the CP opponents of Stalinism. lis CIO leaders imprisoned during the war under the same ent case." Smith "Gag" Act now being used

ments at the national Bill of leaders to the SWP's proposal for to ignore the case of James Kut-Rights Conference this week-end a united front on civil rights first cher. But as liberal and labor from supporting the defense of made a year ago. On July 26, support for Kutcher mounted, the rights for Kutcher, Dobbs and the may be, so long as they are the victimized Trotskyists. Those | 1948, immediately after the FBI- | CP hacks in the unions sought to | Trotskyists. who do so are being labeled in arrest of the CP leaders, Dobbs sabotage such support. Finally, advance as "defenders of fas- issued a press statement denoun- the Feb. 18 Stalinist Daily Peo-The July 14 Daily Worker, also leaders under the Smith Act as ly attacked Kutcher and his de-"a monstrous blow against civil fense campaign. Stone, hands down explicit orders liberties." Two days later, the

against the CP leaders.

ed front of all liberal and work- the profound political differences Daily Worker, which it did not ing class organizations, regard- between us to stand in the way publish, cited chapter and verse less of political differences, in of a broad united front of the on how the CP supported the Dedefense of all witch-hunt victims. working class in defense of civil partment of Justice prosecution

"is not a parallel with the pres-

ABRAMSON LETTER

cing the indictment of the CP ple's World in Los Angeles open-

On May 16, Irving Abramson, of all liberal and working class seek to distinguish among varieto the Stalinists at the confer- SWP sent a formal statement to eastern regional CIO director, organizations to defend the civil ence not to allow Trotskyist "dis- the CP Central Committee, say- answered the Daily Worker's liberties of all victims of the ties of political and social ruption" - that is, to prevent ing that "we the first victims of complaint about labor leaders not witch-hunt, including both Stal- heterodoxy in the matter of the

and frameup of the Trotskyists.

jeopardy. I am inclined to logical rivalries, as in religious doubt the practicability of your wars, heretics are invariably perfect and complete." suggestion that 'all sections of hated more than infidels. The the labor and liberal movement Conference, moreover, is not be invited into the Conference on primarily a meeting of delegates an equal basis.' It is altogether of organizations. On the other unlikely that full agreement can hand, I am in complete agreement with your statement that 'all victims of the witch-hunt should be defended, regardless of political belief.' I am writing Mr. Kern to this effect and urging that you or some other representative of your organization be Communist investigations and indicted under the Smith Act in invited to participate in the Con-"Within the limits of demo-

Serious concern over these far-

and liberal movement.' In ideo-

THREE CONFERENCE SPONSORS

AGREE ON UNITED NEED

cratic procedure, there is no way by which the Chairman of the being conducted." Sponsors can control the votes of the participants. I would regard The CP leaders did not even Abramson's letter, published in it as wholly inadmissable, howwidespread publicity and liberal fact that the Minneapolis Labor tional attention on the CP policy put itself in a position, overtly indignation aroused by the ac- Case set the precedent for their of no defense of civil rights for or by implication, of defending the civil rights of particular When Dobbs spoke at the Civil groups and declining to defend Communist Party to make its po- the Trotskyists under the Smith Rights Congress he brought the those of other groups. The prinwhole issue to a head. This forced ciple here at issue, in my judgously clear. They can no longer duction of this precedent into the the Stalinists to a clear-cut ac- ment, has nothing to do with the tion in denial of civil rights for question of whether any parthe genuine Marxists, the Trot- ticular group, were it in a posiskyists. An article in the N. Y. tion to do so, would or would not Times, an editorial in the N. Y. respect the civil rights of others. Post and the forthright stand of Free trade in ideas' is meaning-I. F. Stone and Albert Deutsch, less it embraces all ideas. 'Freewho support the defense of the dom for the thought we hate' is This is the answer of the CP The Stalinists similarly tried indicted Stalinists, resulted in the meaningless unless the civil rights venomous public attack by Fast of all are safeguarded, regardless and the Daily Worker on civil of how hateful their thoughts acting within the law. It is my On July 16 and 17, the SWP hope and belief that the forthseek once more to put forth the the first to repudiate any resolu-

representatives will participate in coming Conference will fully en- ers Party had been constituthe Bill of Rights Congress and dorse this position. I should be tionally adjudged "subversive"? program of a genuine united front tions or recommendations which The state legislature and Govdefense of civil rights."

Witch-Hunt Purge

The Detroit Common Council

proposes to place on the Septem-

ber ballot a charter amendment

which would legalize the setting

up of a five-man loyalty board to

investigate and pass on the poli-

tical and religious beliefs and

affiliations of city employees and

applicants for such jobs, and to

fire all those accused of belong-

ing to organizations termed

"subversive" by the U. S. At-

torney General. Mayor Van

Antwerp, fearful that such an

amendment would be unconstitu-

tional since the Communist Party

The present city charter clearly

forbids the questioning of civil

service employees regarding their

religious or political beliefs, and

prohibits discrimination against

These actions follow a long and

carefully-planned drive by the

anti-union Detroit press to whip

up hysteria. Typical was the

Detroit News' front page ques-

them on these grounds.

is a legal organization, has asked

Aimed at Detroit

It was a coincidence that a letter was sent me on the day Truman was telling the nation that the "recession" is really nothing to worry about. "Dear Ruth," the letter said, "Ralphie died

three months ago, but I haven't been able to write about it until now. The end came after three weeks of terrible pain. He had a headache that wouldn't go away. . . Doctors and two brain specialists made all kinds of tests, spinal taps, two minor operations on his head, and then a major operation to remove what they thought

"He died eight days after the operation. After the autopsy they told me it was tubercular meningitis, and the beginning must have been contact with Bud so many years ago."

As I remembered that episode of long ago, I could see Ralphie's mother and father, twenty years old and deep in love. That was in the bitter depression year of 1934, but they weren't afraid of a thing. They both had jobs, and that alone seemed like a miracle to the rest of us. Between them they earned \$32 a week, enough to get married on, buy furniture on the easy-payment plan, and get a cozy apartment. Bud was a bright ambitious young man, going to night school to "improve himself" so they could afford a family

He worked in a warehouse office nine hours a day, more whenever the boss ordered it. Who could refuse to put in a little overtime, when hungry lines of unemployed stood before the building every morning? Often Bud dashed off to class without time for dinner, then plopped into bed too tired to eat at midnight.

Before the furniture was paid for, Ralphie was on the way. Bud worried a great deal, skipped a few more meals to put aside a little extra money. The big long hours, the strain, the skimpy meals began to tell on him. He lost weight, fired easily, kept getting colds. Two months before the baby was due, the doctor ordered Bud to

Socialized Medicine VI -

British Doctors

By Grace Carlson

Like their American counterparts in the American Medical Association, the bureaucrats of the British Medical Association resist every real move toward "socialized medicine." In 1911, they fought a bitter but losing fight against Lloyd George, whose Liberal Government enacted the first national health insurance program for British workers. While they lost the fight, they did win some points, such as local administration and choice

By 1948, when the National Health Service replaced it, this panel practice enrolled 20 million workers in England and Wales and twothirds of Britain's doctors had at least some panel practice. Under pressure of Labor Party members, Churchill's coalition government threw out a sop to the British workers in the terrible war year of 1943 in the form of the Beveridge report. Among other benefits, the Beveridge plan provided for the extension of free health services to all Britains from the "cradle to the grave." The Beveridge plan was instantly popular and a Gallup poll taken in 1943 showed that 88% fawored its passage after the end of the war.

Faced by this widespread demand for the extension of compulsory health insurance, the BMA supported the Beveridge plan, but began to put pressure on the Health Minister to draw up a bill that would favor the medical profession. Twice, the BMA rejected health bills submitted to them by Hubert Willick, the Conservative Health Minister. Later the BMA and the Conservatives were near agreement when the 1945

Aneurin Bevan, the former Welsh miner, was named as the new Health Minister and drew up the health bill, which a Labor-controlled parliament passed in 1946. Immediate and loud cries of protest rose from the BMA and in the two years which elapsed before the National Health Service went into effect on July 5, 1948, Bevan

and the Laborites fought a strenuous fight with the embattled BMA bureaucrats.

The BMA heads conducted three plebiscites tionaire to be signed and sent to among British doctors to determine whether the the Mayor. It stated, "I, as a doctors would cooperate with the health service. qualified Detroit voter, believe These were carried out by medical association the City should protect itself leaders in the same hysterical spirit in which the and its people from plotting by American Medical Association heads now attack subversive employees of the City. the proposed National Health Insurance Pro- I support the suggestion of the gram. As expected, the plebiscites in 1946 and Detroit News that the City 1947 gave a substantial majority against partici- Charter be amended to provide pation in the National Health Service.

In February, 1948, the Labor Party called a special debate in the House of Commons on the fice of any city civil service emforthcoming health program. A Labor Party leaflet circulated at the time said, "On July 5 GRILLING BEGUN 1948, we begin a major attack on poverty and ill health. Britain awaits the attack on misery and everybody is ready save the BMA."

The third plebiscite occurred after this debate. which was widely publicized in the British Isles tee. Several city employees have for violating anti-trust laws. Atand served to enlighten the public as to the greedy character of the BMA opposition to the National Health Service. Equally and perhaps even more important, the vote was taken after Bevan made welcomes from private citizens some significant concessions to Britain's doctors and city employees the names of - concessions which gave them a larger guaranteed income, and removed their fear that of being "subversive." British doctors would become salaried officials. After the third plebiscite, the BMA withdrew its a grave threat to the entire expressed objections to the Health Service and Detroit labor movement. For in trials as public masquerades to the vast majority of British doctors joined up. its wake will come the argument keep up the pretense of free com-

laining. They do not ask to have the National Health Service bill repealed. It has been too popular with the British workers this past year. But they are asking that the fee for the first 1000 Toy has already reactivized his that after every trial the trusts patients on a doctor's list be raised from \$3.40 to \$7 per head. If the BMA heads can bring enough pounds and shillings in through the doctor's door, they will gladly toss the Hippocratic oath out

of milk and eggs and meat. They didn't think it was too bad. Of course They didn't think it was too bad. Of course they had to give up the apartment and take a cheap furnished room, with barely enough space for a bed and a bassinet. But Gladys was working up to the day of the baby's birth, she picked her way through rush-hour crowds morning and night. Her boss, who liked the idea of keeping a good worker, so disciplined by necessity, even told her she could come back in two weeks.

In spite of the doctor's eare, Bud wasn't getting any better. Still, it didn't take much exertion

to feed and dress a baby, so he shouldered these tasks while Gladys worked. It is possible that the doctor was careless. Or was it just that he didn't think much about what happened to patients who had so little money? Anyway, it took him months to discover that Bud had tuberculosis, City Employees in an advanced stage.

I put the letter down, thinking of how long, even then, they had to wait for a vacancy at the free sanitarium. Bud lived only three weeks after they finally admitted him. I remembered the twenty-two year old widow stunned with grief, holding Ralphie in her arms.

There was nothing weak about Gladys. She worked, she managed well, she gave her baby glowing health. Somehow she could always afford specialists for him, no matter what she did without herself; she was haunted by the know!edge of her child's early exposure to tuebroulosis. Now Ralphie is gone. Born in the midst of a depression, struck down by its effects, dead at the age of thirteen as another depression looms.

That is the story of Bud and Gladys and Ralphie. It is a small part of the bigger story of a the State Legislature to outlaw society that dooms millions upon millions to such the Communist and other parties fate. Out of all our rememberings and sufferings will some day come the power to free our lives from the death-clutch of the capitalists.

British Troops As Scabs



A vote by striking British longshoremen to continue their 2month walkout resulted in proclamation of state of emergency by King George VI, empowering the British Labor Government

month, the Laborite government invoked and applied the Emergency Powers Act in order to try to break the strike

by use of armed troops and legal?

This law, enacted in 1920, invests the authorities with sweeping dictatorial powers, enabling them to billet troops anywhere they please, including union offices; to make arrests without warrants; and to deal summarily wih sabotage or "interference" with soldiers or even "loitering." It was by means of such powers that the Tory government broke the General Strike of 1926.

The Attlee regime last invoked the 1920 law to break the "unofficial" strike of 20,000 dockworkers in June 1948. At that time the mere proclamation sufficed. This time the law has been applied. Despite the earlier fraudulent claims of a "growing return - to - work feeling," the ranks of the strikers increased afer this open act of government strikebreaking.

"Labor Minister George Isaacs told the House of Commons this afternoon that the 'position at the London docks has not improved.' He added that the number of men on strike had risen to nearly 13,000 - about 2,500 more than yesterday. Other official sources gave the number of

more than yesterday." (N. Y. Times July 12 dispatch from London.)

The mood of the longshoremen was indicated by their voting overwhelmingly to continue the strike while the Cabinet was convening on the issue amid cries of "treason" "agitators from abroad," and the ominous threat

The longshoremen did not actually call a strike at all. They have been locked out by the shipowners and the Laborite government. As a London AP dispatch, July 11, correctly reported:

of the dictatorial decree.

"The strike began when some stevedores refused to unload two Canadian ships (the Beaverbrae and the Argomont) . . . The Dock Labor Board - governing dockyard body composed of management, labor and government representatives - refused to let them unload any other ships until they went back to work on the Canadian ships."

There can be no question that the dockworkers' justifiable action, involving elementary international solidarity, is widely popular among the British labor movement a whole. Otherwise the strike could not have lasted as long as it has, the Laborite strikebreakers would not have been compelled to expose themselves so openly, and the rank of the strikers would not have swelled n response to Laborite strike-

These misleaders of the British working class have seized as a pretext on the lie that the strikers are acting under "Communist. agitators obeying instructions from abroad." The Stalinists are undoubtedly active in the leadership of the British longshoremen as well as of the Canadian seamen. But so far as all these workers are concerned they resent any attempt to have imposed on them leadership and decisions not of their own choosing.

The Canadian strike which has provoked world repercussions was precipitated by the AFL Seafarers International Union's attempt to raid the Canadian union while the latter was engaged in

When the Canadians received support from the dockworkers in giving them the power to out- current case against the du Ponts British and other Commonwealth ports, notably Australia, the AFL unions acting in solidarity with Rubber - 17% while the rest of perts" estimate it will "probably the Canadians. A recent move is the stock is scattered among take years of legal maneuvering a threat by the AFL Maritime Council in New York to call a If it ever comes to trial, the boycott of British shipping in

While these arrogant and blackmail threats by the American assets. Their 1947 sales amounted not once has a single monopolist labor bureaucrats only stiffen the been sent to prison for violating determination of British dockworkers to express their interthey are reprimanded, and urged national solidarity, their "own" to be more discreet lest their Labor government has undertaken depredations raise too great an the task of bringing the longshoremen to their knees.

Du Pont Monopoly Faces for a Loyalty Board to determine the qualifications for public office of any city civil service emfice of any city civil service em-

THE MILITANT

MONDAY, JULY 18, 1949

By Ruth Johnson

For the fourteenth time since Mayor Van Antwerp has meanwhile set up his own special is being sued by the government helpless. three-man investigating committorney General Tom Clark, like already been dragged before the prosecutors who preceded him, board, and submitted to grilling. points with alarm to the size The board has stated that it and power of the trust. But he will do no more than the others to pry up a single tentacle from any city employees they suspect the monopoly stranglehold on America's wealth. These sinister moves represents

The government uses such One year later, the BMA heads are still com- that if the city can purge the petition under capitalism today. so can private enterprise. The middle class In anticipation, Labor - hating ers are supposed to be impressed Police Commissioner Harry S. by the legal bombast, and forget have grown bigger, more power-Union leaders in the Detroit ful and more arrogant.

area have maintained silence on Nevertheless, a lot of interestthis issue. Their failure to act ing facts are uncovered in the can only be construed as tacit course of such farces. This time the government shows how the du

Pont octopus rules General | Such losses are made up by higher Motors, the United States Rubber prices to other users. Why don't Company and subsidiaries in order these customers balk? The gov-1907, the huge du Pont monopoly to keep prices up and competition ernment explains that du Pont is

FOUR BILLION ASSETS

The suit names over 100 members of the du Pont family and their retainers. The du Ponts nave wealth that makes kings look like paupers by comparison. The corporation bearing their name produces a thousand comnodities, many under a total monopoly set up, such as nylon, cellophane, certain plastics and

eral Motors, 23% of its stock, is the government says. in the hands of the du Ponts. 14,000 holders - makes that before it even comes to trial." still another private du Pont

These three companies together have over four billion dollars in to more than five billion dollars. were nearly half a billion dollars.

Other capitalists of course ould like a slice of this juicy melon. But the du Ponts safeguard it in a thousand ways. This isn't news, of course. 'Way back controlling power in General Motors, the du Ponts set up a special committee to award or withhold bonuses of cash and stock to GM executives. "As an inevitable and intended consequence," the government complains a quarter of a century later, "General Motors have responded to the influence and desires of the du Pont company."

As in every capitalist enterprise, these "interests and desires" are to drive out competition and have a free hand to fix exorbitant prices. It is not surprising to entire West Coast tour has been du Pont forces GM and U. S. read the government charge that the Communist Party. He em- Rubber to buy "substantially all" the products they need from the du Pont combine and from it alone, "thus depriving outside suppliers of an opportunity to

METHODS OF CONTROL

than prevailing market prices concretely what new guiding prin- words and bluster.

also guilty of "inducing" outside suppliers of commodities to buy only du Pont, GM and U. S. Rubber products or forfeit their Where fields of operation over-

lap, as in the manufacture of tetraethyl lead, ethyl fluid and ethyl chloride, du Pont and GM set up a new subsidiary, the Kinetic Corporation.

Where there is danger of new chemicals; and many other pro- competition, all three companies negotiations for a new contract. ducts, including explosives and made contracts to control "the The SIU signed agreements of munitions in vast quantities. But sale of products, the grant of its own with Canadian shipowners this is only the core of their licenses, agreement to licenses which the seamen in that coununder patents, and agreements try have rejected as strikefor the exchange of know-how," breaking. All this is an old story. The

vote 436,000 small stockholders was started two years ago, and who together own the balance. will drag on indefinitely, Accord-The controlling interest in U. S. ing to the United Press, "extrust will go scot free. Over a thousand similar suits have been started by the government, and

the anti-trust laws. At the most outcry from their victims.

isn't news, of course. 'Way back in 1923, when they bought the FITZGERALD SPEECH HINTS AT POSSIBILITY OF SPLIT IN CIO

PHILADELPHIA — Albert Fitzgerald, President of the CIO United Electrical Union, spoke to a membership meeting of UE Local 107 on the subject, "1949 Wage Fight and the Program of UE." But 9-

the implication of a coming split | ciples, what new trade union proof his remarks.

State CIO Council was over- Stalinist UE leaders or were still whelmingly defeated by the mem- only bluster. But this talk of bers who want to stay in and splits and expulsions shows how fight to make it a better organiza- strained relations between the tion. He began by commenting Murray leadership and the Stalinfavorably on the arguments for ists in the CIO have become. disaffiliation: "They are good trade union arguments and cannot above remarks, Fitzgerald tried be answered. Men must stand up to cover his flanks: "It is not we for what is right and what they who threaten to leave. It is they believe in. If everyone thought that way about unity there would ing about kicking us out, or others never have been a CIO. A point who think like we do." is reached when unity alone is not the issue."

"We will not toe the political when we must build a new organ-To keep the structure air-tight, ization just as the people who

in the CIO was the main theme gram would serve as the basis for his "new organization." It Before Fitzgerald spoke, a was never clear whether his vague motion to disaffiliate from the threats indicated a decision of the Immediately after making the

who go around the country talk-

about the 1949 wage fight in his talk or in answer to questions. When one member asked what steps were being taken to win the 30-hour week, he answered, honest-to-God petition campaign." Ridiculous as it may sound, the

The Rent Fight in Chicago

Climaxing a series of public hearings to determine whether Chicago should be the first city to get a blanket rent increase, the Cook County Rent Board has voted to reject the landlords' demand for a 45% increase. The vote was 8 to 7, five "public interest" members voting with three tenant representatives to reject any increase. Chicago will long remember the hearings held

early in June. The principal protagonists were the Chicago Tenants Federation, representing the organized tenants, and the Cook County Fair Rent Committee, whose petition for a 45% blanket rent increase had precipitated the hearings on the "adequacy of the rent level in Chicago" and the "general operating position of landlords." Apparently enough the stage of the Civic

Opera Building was the scene. The "performances" ran the gamut - from shoddy burlesque to first rate drama. The landlord-packed house hooted and booed and hissed the tenant representatives and at times completely drowned out tenant testimony. They saved their best efforts for Jack A. Rosen, executive secretary of the Chicago Tenants Federation. His charge that Chicago tenants were paying the highest rent in the country was met by such an outburst of booing by the landlords in the audience that the chairman threatened to clear the house.

The Cook County Rent Advisory Board met June 28 to consider the voluminous record of the testimony collected at the hearings. Michael Mann, CIO Regional Director and a public interest member, promptly made a motion to reject few of the many indications of the requested increase. In the discussion that widening support in labor and a public hearing for my followed, M. J. Myer, tenant representative on liberal circles on the West Coast party which was placed on the the board and attorney for the Tenants Federation, assailed the landlord-sponsored survey in a masterful one hour presentation.

"If there is room for a general rent increase in Cook County," he concluded, "then there will be one for the whole country. That would amount to legislative action by this board and Congress. never intended that or it would have written it into the law." Myer asserted that the Fair Rent attended the welcoming house Committee's analysis of rent conditions was shot through with inaccuracies and misleading con-

The decision was a blow to the landlords, who confidently expected to win a large rent increase and thus make Chicago the opening wedge in re-

moving all rent controls throughout the country.

Notes from the News

ANOTHER "FAIR DEAL" FRIEND - Commenting on the Senate Appropriation Committee's decision to earmark 50 million dollars of ECA money for the butcher Franco, Secretary of State Acheson declared that he and his colleagues have "no political objections to granting Spain an American loan."

PROFESSORS DISSENT - Unlike the National Education Association, the investigating committee of the American Association of University Professors upholds the right of teachers to belong to the Communist Party as long as it is a legal party.

FREE SPEECH LOCKED OUT - The Labor Youth League in Minneapolis found itself locked out of the hall it had hired for its meeting on July 9. Capt. William McCormick of the North Side police station explained: "I saw in Thursday's Minneapolis Star that these people were going to

meet. I talked to Mack (the landlord) and told him I didn't like it. Mack promised to close

SIGN OF THE TIMES - A Pittsburgh wantad offering "good, clean factory work" brought 1,500 anxious applicants. There were five jobs open, or one for every 300.

RENT-HOGS ON RAMPAGE - Federal rent PRESS COMMENT officials have proudly anounced that since April 1 when Truman's "Fair Deal" rent law went into yesterday, the Los Angeles Daily this week to the Kutcher case. effect, dwellings have been decontrolled at the News today published a full- "The label of 'subversive' to a mg "a closed and guaranteed we have to toe the line as they rate of 9,300 a day.

NEW MEMBER OF "SH-H-H" CLUB - All Italy campaign and VA job in as terribly unfair as that same this talk about a depression is just "propaganda" Clark's purge." The article re- label was affixed on all Japanese against the Democratic Party, according to CIO ported the history of the case in 1942," the editorial concluded. the "infant" of the group, to sell did." Amalgamated Clothing Workers President Jacob and quoted Kutcher:

KUTCHER IN LAST LAP OF WEST COAST TOUR

LOS ANGELES, July 9 - The warm welcome accorded James Kutcher on his arrival at the municipal airport Their net profits after taxes, Thursday and at an informal house party tonight are a

for the defense of the civil rights of the legless veteran. Kutcher was met at the air-

support of the witch-hunt.

Red Squad.

port by a large committee, including officials of the CIO Steelworkers, Textile Workers and unions. More then 100 persons party and \$151 was netted for the This week, also, three important

additions were made to the speakers' list for the Kutcher Civil Rights Committee banquet to be held July 23 at the Park Manor, 607 South Western ave. They are newly-installed Councilman Edward R. Roybal; CIO-PAC Field Representative George Roberts, and Attorney Leo Galrights lawyer.

McWilliams, author; Attorney Liberties Union.

"All I want is my job back you can."

subversive list without being told of the charges against it."

He was also correctly quoted as saying that "the only time I committed an act of force and violence was in the Army under the orders Amalgamated Clothing Workers of the United States government." The article incorrectly stated,

however, that he "said the Socialist Workers Party is a bitter foe of Communism and believes in 'a farmers and workers government elected through legal channels which would carry through socialization of the country's basis industries'." Kutcher actually said that the

only group that has viciously attacked him in its press in his lagher, noted labor and civil phasized the fact that while the Socialist Workers Party is op-Already on the speakers' list posed to the Stalinist regime in n addition to Kutcher were Carey the Soviet Union and false Stalinist policies in the labor move-Loren Miller of the NAACP; ment here, we defend the civil CIO Regional Director Irwin De- rights of the Communist Party Shetler: and Attorney A. L. of the eleven leaders on trial in Wirin of the American Civil New York, and of the members of the party.

Another Los Angeles paper, with the caption, "Lost legs in Party without public hearings is monopoly. ". . . Back the Committee while

compete.

The profits from GM and U.S. Rubber were used by the du Ponts to expand their own plants, and in addition both companies were line of Murray and Reuther," he Crossroads, a Japanese-American dictated to enter new fields of continued. "Why don't they force Following a press conference weekly, devoted its entire editorial manufacture that could use up other unions to toe the line on more du Pont products, establish- the fourth round wage fight? If "We are going to start a real length picture of James Kutcher member of the Socialist Workers market" at prices set by the see it, then the time will come

> du Pont orders U. S. Rubber, left the AFL to form the CIO tires and tubes to GM at less | Not once did Fitzgerald state

Fitzgerald had little to say

"militant UE" is reduced to petition campaigns again. Not a word about industry-wide bargaining, not a move for a strike vote. Just