

LEON TROTSKY ON PACIFIST JUDAS-GOATS

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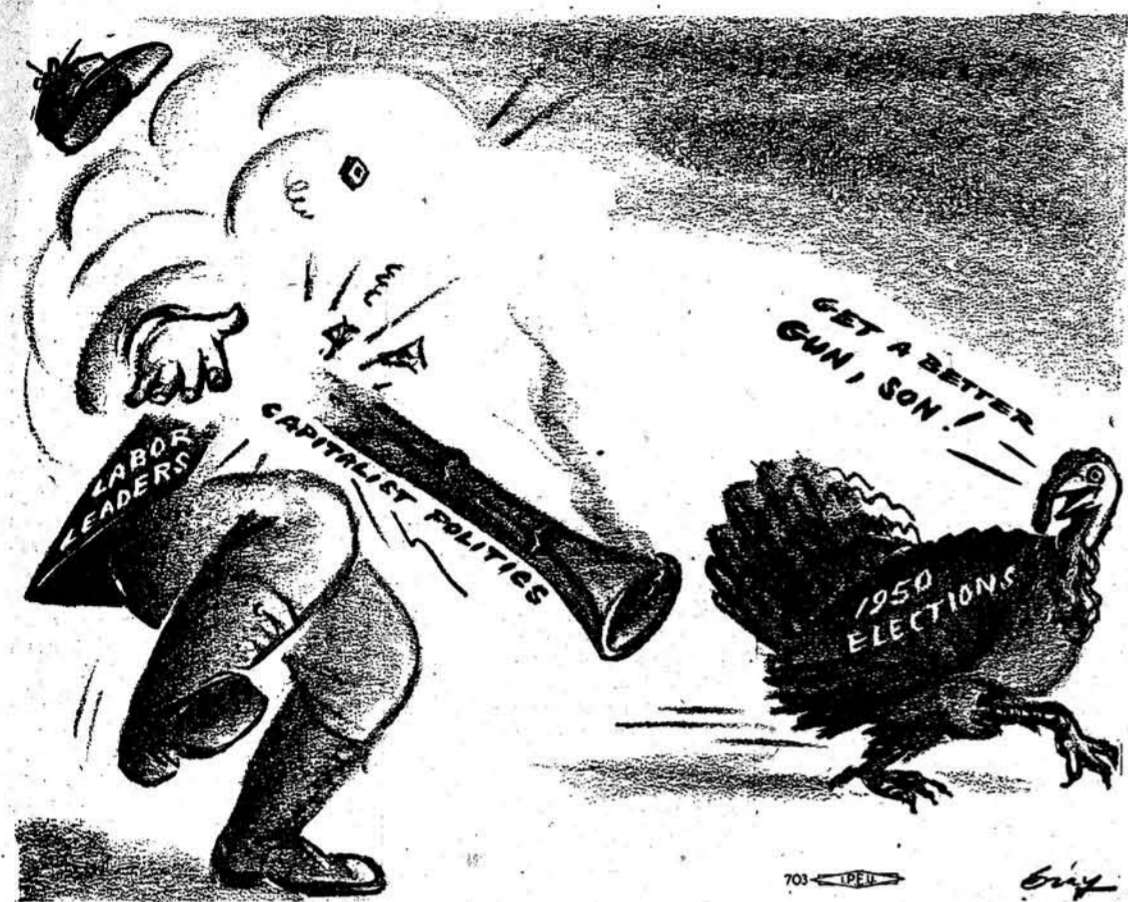
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New Congress Threatens More Attacks on Labor

Myra Weiss Gets 7,498 Votes for Congress in L.A.

By Lois Saunders
LOS ANGELES, Nov. 11—Myra Tanner Weiss, as a result of a fighting, dramatic campaign for a seat in the House of Representatives, rolled up the impressive vote of 7,498 in the Nov. 7 balloting.

This vote, 9.3% of the total cast for Congress in the 19th (Los Angeles) district, can be properly appreciated only against the backdrop of the present political scene in which the middle class, fear-stricken and panicky, in a nationwide sweep turned its back on the labor movement and attached itself instead to the coat-tails of Big Business.

In a fitting climax to a hard-hitting campaign, Myra Weiss, after a four-hour struggle, succeeded in getting the microphone at the traditional City Hall election program following the closing of the polls. Undaunted by jeers and boos from the crowing Republican big-shots and hangers-on, she presented her socialist program briefly but inclusively to the radio and television audiences listening to the returns.

By thus hurling her defiance at the most rabid of the reactionaries, she rounded out the task of speaking to all segments of the population. During preceding weeks, she had concentrated her efforts on appealing to trade unionists, Negroes, Mexican-Americans, Stalinists and Progressives.

SPOKE DAILY

As an example, during the course of one evening, she attempted to battle her way into 10 different union meetings. She managed to get the floor at three of them. She also spoke in Spanish at street-corner meetings in predominantly Mexican-American sections of the district, and addressed several pro-Stalinist organizations. She spoke at one or more meetings every day of the campaign.

Moreover, intensive electioneering was carried on in and near housing projects inhabited largely by Negroes and Mexican-Americans. Significantly, analysis of election returns showed that in these particular areas Comrade Weiss received between 15 and 20% of the votes, considerably higher than the over-all average of the district.

It is difficult to estimate as yet how many of the votes for Myra Weiss, who ran as an independent candidate endorsed by the Socialist Workers Party (Trotskyist), were cast by Stalinists. But there is good reason to believe that this campaign marked the first time

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MYRA TANNER WEISS

National SWP Vote Higher Than '48

Still incomplete returns show that the Socialist Workers Party vote this year was the highest in its history — 27,216. These were received in the following places:

- New York State (for U. S. Senate): 13,746 (incomplete).
Seattle (for Congress): 7,498.
San Francisco (for State Assembly): 2,972.
Minneapolis (for Congress): 1,305.
Newark (for Congress): 838.
Seattle (for Congress): 327.
Wisconsin (for U. S. Senate): 276 (incomplete).
Pennsylvania (for U. S. Senate): 260 (incomplete).
No returns have yet been received from Michigan.
In 1948, when the SWP was on the ballot in more states, the total of the highest votes received in all states was 24,798, while the presidential vote was 13,613.

PAC, LLPE LINE MADE TAFT VICTORY POSSIBLE

By Harry Braverman
YOUNGSTOWN, Nov. 12 — The political organizations of the trade union movement are today in a new situation created by the smashing victory of Taft in Ohio

officialdom themselves. They have been the victims of the reactionary mood which they have worked so hard to create in the ranks of labor during the past three and four years.
An election held in Ohio within the year following the passage of the Taft-Hartley law would surely have resulted in the defeat of Taft, or at least in a sizable anti-Taft majority in the industrial centers. The miserable failure of the Democratic administration and its supporters in the labor officialdom to carry out their promise to repeal the Taft-Hartley law has had its effect.

More than that, the labor officialdom has been unable to campaign effectively against that law as a whole because they have made their peace with each and every provision of the law, and even incorporated much of it in "little Taft-Hartley laws" in union constitutions in the form of "anti-communist" provisions, etc. They expelled whole unions from the CIO, and sought to label as an "outlaw" and "disrupter" the one union leader who fought the law in word and deed, John L. Lewis.

The AFL and CIO "leaders," thoroughly whipped by Taft in the conflict over the law, went over to his side on most of the individual provisions, but then sought to take their "revenge" on Election Day. This didn't work so well. A mood established among the workers by three years of passive servility cannot be reversed in six weeks of breast-beating speeches.
The militants in the plants became more and more isolated. The right wing, scissorbill elements were emboldened. And the mass

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UNION LEADERS' ALIBIS INDICT THEIR OWN POLICY

By George Breitman
The post-election explanations of the labor and liberal leaders for the defeats of the Democratic candidates they had supported can be summarized in three points: 1. The American people were expressing

"a feeling of insecurity and uncertainty" resulting from the international situation and its consequences at home. 2. The voters were confused by McCarthyism and "the unscrupulous use of the 'big lie' technique." 3. Anyhow, the results, while unfortunate, were not as "disastrous" as they might have been because it is normal for the party in power to lose ground in Congress during off-election years. (The quotations are from the statement of Jack Kroll, CIO-PAC director.)

But none of these explanations, even the ones that contain elements of truth, offer the slightest justification for the policy of supporting capitalist politicians followed by the labor leaders, ADA, Liberal Party, etc.

THE WAR QUESTION

It is true that the American people had a "feeling of insecurity and uncertainty" when they went to the polls and that, as Kroll puts it, they are "concerned over the possibility of world-wide conflict with its hardships in terms of casualties and in terms of shortages, increased taxes, and other sacrifices." They would really be blind not to feel that way, and not to want to express their resentment against conditions so strikingly different from the ones promised by the labor-supported Democrats in the 1948 election.

Yes, a great many voters were

Bi-Partisan War Drive to Dictate Course

By Art Preis

The incoming Congress, like its more solidly Democratic predecessor, will be dominated by the bi-partisan war program. War preparations and militarization of the country at an ever-accelerating pace will determine the basic policies of the new 82nd Congress. That is why the American people can expect further onslaughts against their living standards and civil liberties.

This Congress will continue the reactionary drive of the previous ones. It will be "more to the right" and "worse" only in the sense that each succeeding Congress since 1938 — when the War Deal supplanted the New Deal — has marked a deepening of capitalist reaction.

This does not mean that there will be no modification in emphasis and tempo with respect to particular details of domestic and foreign policy. In the domestic sphere especially, the victory of McCarthyism will be regarded as a go-ahead signal for more virulent witch-hunting and attacks on civil liberties. It will embolden Big Business and its political agents in both major parties to more brazen and open attacks on organized labor.

NOT MUCH DIFFERENT

But it would be wrong to conclude that things would be much different even in this respect — as the liberals and Trumanite union leaders would have us believe — if the Democrats had retained or even increased their majority, which has been reduced but not destroyed.

The big financial and industrial interests do not give too much weight to the fact that the Republicans have made gains in Congress at the expense of the Democrats. Their view is stated quite candidly by J. B. Wallach, business analyst of the N. Y. World-Telegram:

"Business jumped to no conclusions this week following the tallying of the nation's votes. In normal times, GOP gains would have been accorded all due significance, but business now feels that forces stronger than parties will shape its immediate future... business doesn't anticipate any let-up in defense spending and

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SEN. TAFT

Workers Showed Little Enthusiasm In Illinois for Anti-Labor Democrats

By Frank Roberts

CHICAGO, Nov. 8 — Scott Lucas, Senate majority leader and No. 3 Democrat nationally, was decisively defeated for re-election yesterday by Everett Dirksen, who has been closely linked with the

McCormick faction of the Republican party. Lucas, endorsed by the CIO, AFL and ADA leadership, failed to carry Cook County, traditional Democratic stronghold.

The major reasons for Lucas' defeat were the apathy and even open resentment of many workers to his reactionary record and campaign for re-election, the dissatisfaction and anxiety which were crystallized by the turn of events in Korea and the revelations by the Chicago Sun-Times of the self-implicating testimony of Captain Dan Gilbert, Democratic candidate for sheriff, before the Kefauver crime investigation committee.

With the support of the bankrupt labor leadership securely in his pocket, Lucas unabashedly courted the most reactionary elements in the state for support of his candidacy. He campaigned against national health insurance and defended the McCarran-Kilgore police-state law.

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Truman Releases Big Handout to Butcher Franco

Contrary to his assurances of two months ago, Truman has ordered the release of the \$62,500,000 handout voted by Congress for the Spanish fascist butcher, Franco. The Economic Cooperation Administration announced on Nov. 15 that "at the direction of President Truman" the "United States loan aid for Spain will get under way immediately."

It will be none too soon for the shaky Franco regime which has bankrupted Spain and brought the Spanish workers and peasants to the verge of starvation. With the U. S. dollars Truman has so opportunely released to him, Franco will be able to reinforce the brutal terror which has kept his prisons and concentration camps overflowing.

PREDICTION CONFIRMED

At the time Truman said he would impound the Franco loan, the Sept. 4 Militant categorically predicted that "at the moment Truman feels the coast is clear he will unfreeze the loan."

The principal obstacle was the UN resolution of 1946 which barred Hitler's Axis partner from any UN agency and urged its member nations to withdraw their major diplomatic officers from Madrid. It would have been embarrassing, in view of the accusations Washington was making about North Korea and the Soviet Union, for the U. S. to take "unilateral" action in support of Spain.

But how many UN member-nations dare to resist Washington's threat of withholding loans and ECA aid? It was no trick at all for the U. S. State Department to line up a 37 to 10 vote in the Special Political Committee of the UN General Assembly to reverse the 1946 policy. Thus, Truman now props up bloody Franco under cover of "UN sanction."

AS ASIA CRISIS MOUNTS LABOR SHOULD DEMAND: 'NO WAR WITH CHINA!'

By John G. Wright
NOV. 15 — The attention of the entire world is now fixed on the China-Korea border where American and Chinese troops are colliding. What the final outcome of the mounting international crisis

will be no one can tell with certainty. But it is no exaggeration to say that the greatest uncertainty reigns in Washington, that is, among the very circles chiefly responsible for the situation precipitated by Truman's plunge into Asia via his "police action" in Korea.

"The struggle within the Administration on how to deal with this problem is acute," reports James Reston, political expert of the N. Y. Times. The proponents of some sort of settlement through diplomatic negotiations appear to have the upper hand for the time being. Many hopes are being pinned, especially in Europe, on a possible deal that might be achieved through "private discussions" with the nine-man Peiping delegation, headed by Gen. Wu Hsui-chuan, which at this writing is on its way to Lake Success.

Secretary of State Acheson took the occasion on Nov. 15 to make a public speech assuring the Chinese people that Washington is ready, in discussions with Peiping, to ally any possible "misunderstandings" and to "safeguard" any of China's "legitimate" interests in Korea. Just as important as these assurances, is the back-handed, and rather belated, admission that the Chinese people have every reason to be suspicious, if not alarmed, by Washington's role and aims at China's Korean border, economically so vital and militarily so vulnerable.

How would Washington react if a mighty foreign power seized Cuba, as Formosa was seized by

Yugoslavia Seen With Open Eyes: 3

ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES

By Ernest Germain

Industrialization and electrification of a backward country is in itself a difficult enterprise, posing many economic problems which create tensions and sharp conflicts between different layers of the population. Trying to achieve that goal amidst a hostile imperialist world whose pressure is constantly exerted toward breaking through the barrier of the state monopoly of foreign trade, of re-integrating the country into the capitalist world market, makes this an even more difficult and hazardous enterprise. Following this determined plan of the construction of a socialist economy against the combined pressure of hostile forces from within, from the imperialist powers and from the "bloc" of countries subjected to the rule of the Soviet bureaucracy creates difficulties whose magnitude a foreigner can hardly appreciate without going to Yugoslavia and studying the problems on the spot.

Where Industrial Equipment Comes From

Industrialization means intensified accumulation; a great percentage of the national product cannot be consumed by the people but must be transformed into machines, tools, buildings, roads, trucks and locomotives. In Yugoslavia it was possible to do this without imposing

new hardships on the toiling masses, because a large part of the national income before the war was squandered by the native ruling classes, or went as tribute to the international capitalist class. But the conversion of this part of the national income, set aside for accumulation, into actual means of production and of transportation, cannot be achieved by the efforts of the Yugoslav economy alone. This transformation can be achieved only through an exchange of goods with foreign countries, which can deliver the necessary capital equipment which Yugoslavia does not yet produce herself.

When the first Five Year Plan was mapped out, a series of important if not key projects were based on commercial collaboration with other Eastern European countries, the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia, Poland and Hungary. The development of the bauxite mines and of an integrated aluminum industry was to be achieved through purchase of material from some of these countries. The Yugoslavs even paid in advance 50% of the price of the equipment they wanted to buy. After the Stalinist bureaucracy ordered its satellites to break off trade relations with Yugoslavia, the Yugoslav government

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