

THE NEGRO PEOPLE AND THE KOREAN WAR

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THE MILITANT

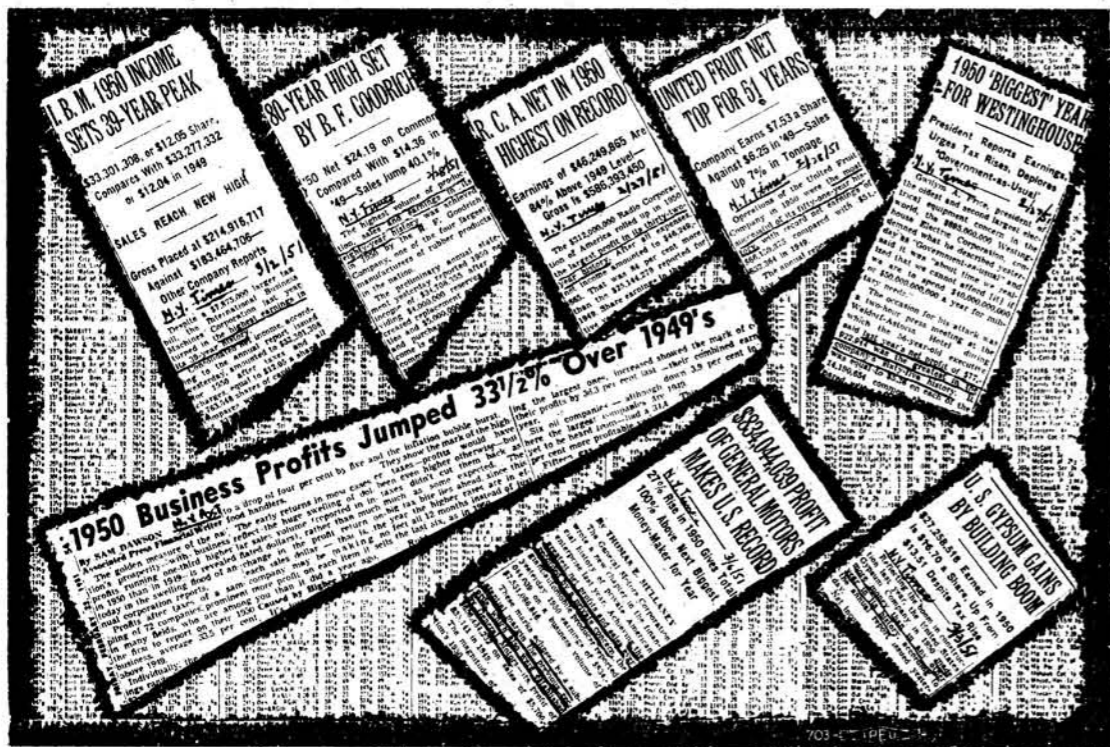
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Why Capitalists Like War



This time last year the U.S. monopolists were glumly scanning the economic horizon for storm-clouds of depression. Then Truman's "police action" in Korea changed their gloom to joy overnight.

Almost a billion dollars profit for General Motors alone! More than a billion when profits hidden as "reserve funds" are counted in one year for one corporation. GM has more than \$3 billion in war orders to increase the golden flood.

Korea War 'Unpopular,' New Gallup Poll Shows

The Korean war is "not a popular war" with the overwhelming majority of the American people, concludes George Gallup, Director of the American Institute of Public Opinion, on the basis of the results of the Gallup Poll's latest nation-wide survey.

Half (50 per cent) of all representative voters interviewed in all parts of the country replied, "Yes," to the question "Do you think the United States made a mistake in going into the war in Korea or not?" Only 39 per cent said, "No, we did not."

of March in many newspapers, Gallup this time did not include any survey on the attitude of the voters on the question of whether the U.S. troops should be immediately withdrawn from Korea.

COTTON KINGS FORCE GOV'T SURRENDER ON PRICE CEILING

Early in February the Cotton Exchange shut down. This was because cotton merchants and shippers combined to stop doing business until the Office of Price Stabilization came through with a price ceiling so high that it would not interfere with speculation and price-gouging.

PULL OUT OF KOREA Last January 23, Gallup released the results of a poll on this question, showing 66 per cent want to "pull out of Korea" and only 25 per cent to "stay there."

Millions in Korea Flee U.S. Bombs

Gen. MacArthur sees the flight of North Korean civilians to "sanctuary" behind the U.S. lines as "possibly of greatest political significance." In his March 1 report, the General claims that when millions fled with the retreating U.S. Army last December, they "made clear their complete aversion to Communist rule."

The U.S. high command has officially boasted of its "scorched earth" policy and the scope of its "strategic bombing" since the start of the Korean intervention. Scores of U.S. war correspondents have described the systematic total devastation the U.S. forces, in advance and retreat, have inflicted on both North and South Korea.

asking bitterly just to be left alone to rebuild their bamboo and straw huts," says Barrett. "The United Nations apparently is getting most of the blame because its concentrated fire power is doing the damage," Barrett adds.

American Labor Must Break Tie with Truman

A Sign of Bigger Things to Come

The walkout of the labor representatives from all government war agencies has ushered in a new stage in the crisis of American capitalism. This crisis, beginning with the reverses of the imperialist adventure in Korea, became aggravated in the "Great Debate" over foreign policy and has now reached its sharpest expression in the rift between the labor leadership and the Truman administration.

The labor bureaucracy did not want this crisis. These "labor lieutenants of the capitalist class" did everything to avoid a political showdown with their capitalist superiors. But the break came despite their wishes, and it has drawn a sharp line between labor and capital on the political field.

No Partnership

The last question the labor officials want to raise is the right of Big Business to dominate the capitalist state apparatus; what they are objecting to is exclusive domination. The most striking feature of the labor officials' statements is their demand for "real partnership."

But this is no longer the heyday of capitalism, but the epoch of its death agony. The American capitalists dream of world empire in the grand style of Nineteenth Century Great Britain whose ruling class was able to amass huge super-profits from its colonial possessions all over the globe.

The capitalist world since 1914 has been suffocating in a shrinking world market. Two imperialist wars were fought to seize and dominate this market. The richer the imperialist nation, the bigger its productive capacity, all the greater its need for foreign markets and outlets for capital investment, all the more catastrophic the consequences of this contracting world market.

Another Deal Cannot Solve Grave Crisis

By Joseph Andrews MARCH 8 — The breach between the United Labor Policy Committee, representing 15 million AFL, CIO and independent union members, and the Truman-Wilson war mobilization set-up has thus far brought no major concessions from the Truman administration.

There is an inescapable contradiction between the execution of this monstrous program and the maintenance of class peace at home. This is the point the labor bureaucracy cannot and will not understand. American capitalists, goaded by the unforeseen catastrophe in Korea, have unleashed a program that aims at and imperatively requires the reduction of American living standards.

Sharp Struggles Ahead

The labor bureaucracy will be caught between its fundamental allegiance to capitalist foreign policy and its mass union base. Every serious clash between the workers and the capitalists will direct hammer blows at the already shaky political structure and introduce new deep-going contradictions into the relations of the bureaucracy with the capitalist state, and within the bureaucracy itself.

Reuther Suffers Setback In UAW Local Elections

The Reuther machine suffered setbacks in the February election of local union officers and delegates to the UAW April convention. In the Flint GM locals and in Ford River Rouge Local 600, the Reutherites did not succeed in winning either control of the locals or majority of delegates to the coming Cleveland convention.

run-off. Tommy Thompson, former local president, received only 7,784. Hogan's showing came as a big surprise. The Stalinists had supported Thompson. Hogan was relatively unknown outside of his own unit.

tionists, all made good showings in the elections. Four of them were re-elected to their posts. The fifth man, Gallo, got the top vote for his post but faces a run-off in which he probably will be elected.

NEXT WEEK MORE SPECIAL ARTICLES ON LABOR CRISIS Don't miss our next issue. Information and analyses not given by any other newspaper.

HANSEN HITS U.S. WAR AIMS IN BUFFALO TALK

BUFFALO, March 8 — A large and eager audience greeted Joseph Hansen last evening at the Buffalo headquarters of the Socialist Workers Party. Workers from Buffalo's huge industrial plants, high school and university students, and even suburbanites from towns twenty miles outside of Buffalo, attracted by the Party's advance publicity for the meeting, came to seek an answer to the gnawing problems that have been thrust into their lives by the world crisis.

HANSEN TOUR SCHEDULE

Table with columns for date and location: Tuesday Mar. 13 Minneapolis-St. Paul, Wednesday 14 " " Thursday 15 " " Friday 16 " " Saturday 17 " " Sunday 18 Montana Tuesday 20 " " Thursday 22 Seattle Friday 23 " " Saturday 24 " " Sunday 25 " " Monday 26 " " Tuesday 27 " " Thursday 29 S. Francisco -Oakland Friday 30 " " Saturday 31 " " Sunday Apr. 1 " " Monday 2 " " Tuesday 3 " " Wednesday 4 " " Friday 6 Los Angeles



WALTER REUTHER

