

THE MILITANT

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**Open the Books!
An Answer to GM**

— See Page 2 —

WORLD-WIDE GI DEMONSTRATIONS SHOUT DEMAND: "GET US HOME!"

Truman Pressures Murray Into Steel Strike Delay

Government Offers Price Boost, Limits Wage Concessions

Following a definite pattern of strikebreaking intervention, the Truman administration put the full pressure of the government on CIO Steel Workers President Phillip Murray, who wilted and "postponed for one week" the calling of the national steel strike scheduled for January 14.

Truman's intervention was similar to his unsuccessful attempt to force the General Motors strikers to end their walkout. At the same time, a threat of government seizure of the country's telephone system was used to force a delay in the scheduled national telephone strike.

In using the prestige and power of the capitalist government to curb the crucial steel workers' struggle, the administration at the same time acted to whittle down as low as possible the wage demands of the CIO steelworkers, while providing big price increases to the steel corporations.

The instrument for chiseling down the wage demands of the steel union was the wage formula developed through the "fact-finding" semi-compulsory arbitration mechanism in the General Motors case.

HOG-GREEDY BOSSES

Having advanced a recommendation for a 17½ per cent instead of a demanded 30 per cent wage increase in auto, the government is now using this as a standard formula for foisting the lowest possible wage gains on the workers in steel, electrical and radio, packinghouse and other industries scheduled to strike following the now-delayed steel walkout.

Although the steel barons can well afford to pay the \$2 a day

wage increase sought by the steel workers without raising prices, the administration conceded a \$4 a ton price increase to the steel companies. Hog-greedy and arrogant, the steel moguls wilfully refused to meet the reduced minimum wage demand of 19½ cents an hour which Murray finally offered as a basis of settlement.

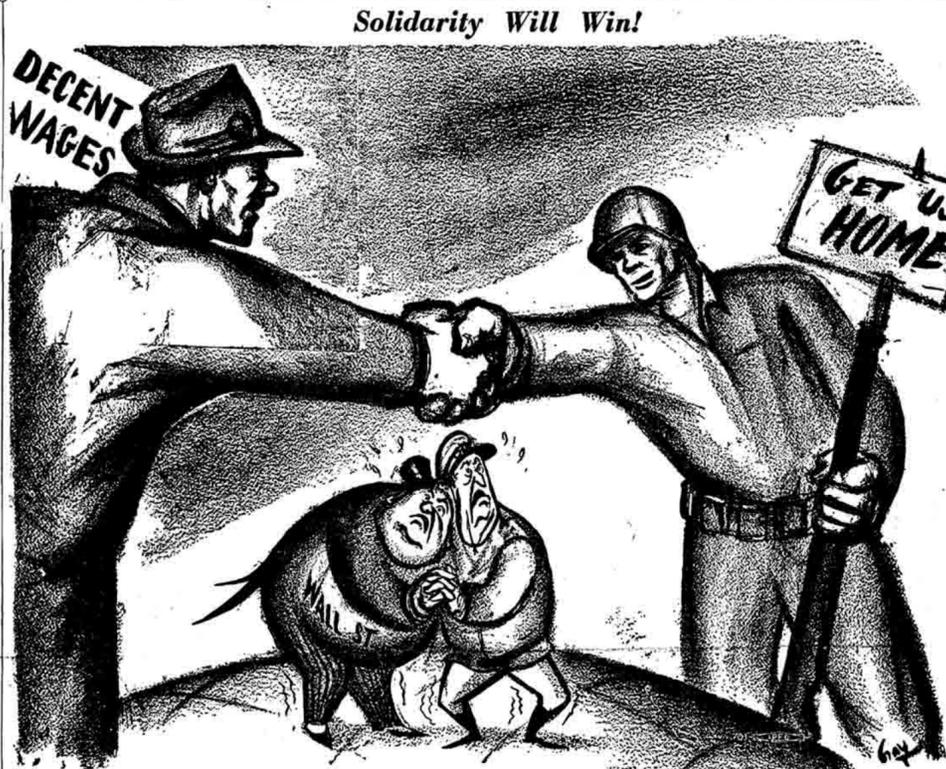
Taking advantage of Murray's spineless attitude and his fear of launching a militant union struggle, Truman forced a delay in the scheduled strike and gave further opportunity for the steel companies to press for still bigger price concessions before they concede even a minimum acceptable wage increase.

Instead of challenging this further attempted price-steal of the corporations by calling the steel strike on schedule, Murray called off the steel strike on his own personal responsibility without a by-your-leave from the steel workers. He thus dealt a disorienting and demoralizing blow to his own membership while giving additional leeway to the companies to blackmail the government for still higher prices.

BLOW AT GM WORKERS

It was a treacherous blow as well to the General Motors workers who have been on strike since November 21 as the spearhead in labor's fight for higher wages. The GM workers were looking forward eagerly to the backing

(Continued on Page 2)



Solidarity Will Win!

Labor! Back the GI Protest! You Fight in a Common Cause

By the Editors

The world-wide GI demonstrations coincide with the greatest labor upsurge in American history. These simultaneous struggles have truly colossal significance.

Undoubtedly the angry GI protests have been inspired to no small degree by the example of the militant labor struggle at home.

The signs of this deepening fraternity between the soldiers and workers first became manifest on the picket lines here at home.

From coast to coast, in every battle for labor's rights, the returned veterans have been out in front, fighting shoulder to shoulder with their fellow workers.

In the titanic GM strike, in the general strike at Stamford, in the Western Electric battle, in the whole vast wave of strikes involving millions since V-J Day, the returned veterans have been among the foremost fighters against the employers' union-busting, wage-slashing offensive.

Thus Wall Street's cunning scheme to pit the returned servicemen against organized labor is being shattered on the rocks of working class solidarity.

This solidarity on the picket lines must be further fortified by an equally solid alliance between labor at home and the workers in uniform abroad. Just as the returned veterans have added their power to labor's battle against Big Business, so the entire labor movement must rally to the support of the GIs.

Labor Must Support The GIs

One common cause binds the workers and demonstrating soldiers together. They belong to a common class, the working class. They are engaged in a common fight against a common foe.

The men in uniform clamoring to come home are the sons, brothers, husbands of the men and women on the picket lines. These union fighters want their loved ones back home. But they want them to return to decent working and living conditions, not to sweatshops and breadlines.

For their part, the GIs don't want to be the hated oppressors of other peoples. They, too, yearn to be with their families.

Who opposes and denies these just demands of the workers and the soldier ranks?

A vicious gang of rich parasites and their agents, headed by a few billionaire families like the Rockefeller, Morgans and du Ponts.

These monopolists, who control American economy, who dominate the big banks and corporations, who dictate the policies of the government and its armed forces, have gorged themselves on unprecedented blood-profits during World War II.

Now these profiteers plan to extort still greater billions both from the American workers and from the peoples conquered by Wall Street imperialism.

That is why the Big Business government in Washington utilizes every lying pretext to maintain huge occupation forces throughout the world and to evade and stall the promised demobilization.

That is why the corporations so arrogantly reject labor's demands for living wages and security.

Neither Serfs Nor Slave-Drivers!

But the American workers refuse to be reduced to industrial serfdom. And the American soldiers are resisting the attempt to convert them into tools of imperialist slavemasters.

Members of the same working class, confronting the same capitalist enemy, impelled by common necessity, it is natural that the GIs have adopted militant methods and forms of struggle similar to that of the labor movement.

Moreover, just as veterans have stepped to the head of many picket lines, so experienced unionists have played a prominent role in the GI protest actions.

Those same democratic principles which imbue the labor movement, likewise animate the GI ranks. They have united regardless of race, creed or nationality. Among their elected spokesmen are not only labor leaders but Negroes, Jews, Italians, etc.

The numerous links of sympathy and mutual interest between the workers and the soldiers must be consciously forged into an unbreakable alliance.

United, the workers and the soldiers have the power to defeat Wall Street's plot to degrade American Labor and subjugate the world.

Strong Blow Dealt Imperialist Plans

By Joseph Hansen

Wall Street's plans for global domination have been dealt a staggering blow by the sweeping world-wide protest demonstrations of the American GIs.

In actions unprecedented in the history of victorious imperialist armies, hundreds of thousands of battle-scarred veterans have shaken their mighty fists at Washington, shouting: "Get Us Home!"

These troops have defiantly denounced the American plutocracy's scheme to use them as tools for subjugating conquered peoples in other lands.

The angry, bitter protests against the delay in demobilization came from all over the world. The press publicized only the most spectacular — Philippines, Germany, Hawaii, France,

Brass Hats Lied About Bottleneck In Ships For GIs

Brass Hats have blamed the delay in demobilization on an alleged shipping shortage. This excuse now turns out to be a lie.

On January 4, Lieut. Gen. Lawton Collins, Director of Army Information, admitted sufficient shipping is available to bring back all eligible men overseas in "three months."

Other Reports And Editorials On Pages 3, 4, 7

Japan, Korea, China, India, England, Alaska and "dozens" of other places.

This colossal new wave of protests was provoked by a January 4 War Department announcement that demobilization would be slowed-down. This reversed a December 26 promise to speed up demobilization.

SWIFT ACTION

The GIs reacted with a swiftness that stunned official circles. On January 6 in Manila, thousands of GIs demonstrated at separated points, shouting their resentment. Military police "broke up" one band marching toward headquarters of Lt. Gen. Styer. Another crowd was dispersed on Quezon bridge. Meanwhile, half a dozen Army outfits issued mimeographed calls for action.

On the same day approximately

2,000 men marched on camp headquarters at Camp Boston, France. They addressed a letter to Gen. Joseph T. McNarney protesting repeated delays in their departure for the U. S.

The following day, January 7, in Manila, more than 2,500 GIs marched four abreast to the headquarters of Lt. Gen. Styer. "The capital was tense," reported United Press.

In the evening at least 12,000 American soldiers jammed into the shell-battered ruins of the Philippine Hall of Congress. "The crowd ran as high as 20,000," said one report. Speakers attacked American armed intervention in China and the Netherlands Indies.

Simultaneously, on the other side of the world at Camp Boston, France, 2,000 GIs demonstrated. In Rheims more than 200 GIs cabled protests to the Senate and American newspapers. (Continued on Page 3)

GM Delegates Hotly Debate UAW Board Wage Proposal

DETROIT, Jan. 13.—Despite the fact that the entire CIO United Auto Workers executive board lined up behind UAW-CIO Vice-President Walter Reuther in urging 19½ cents an hour as a basis for settling the General Motors strike, over a third of the delegates at the national GM delegates conference held here today voted against the proposal. They thereby indicated that they wanted the strike continued and extended until better terms were forthcoming.

This action came following a report by Reuther to the conference in which he explained that even Truman's fact-finding committee favored a 24 per cent raise for GM workers, if the whole issue of wages and prices in steel were not the paramount consideration.

Reuther blamed the top committee in the steel union for disregarding prices in their wage negotiations, which hampered the GM strike, and also attacked the Stalinist-dominated CIO Electrical and Radio Union for its failure to pull out the GM electrical division. His thinly veiled attack against the Stalinists received loud applause.

However, Reuther concluded his report by giving the recommendation of the executive board that 19½ cents be accepted as the best GM strikers could obtain under the circumstances. But this wage rate was made contingent on the company's agreeing to it no later than January 21, with the additional proviso that the company agree to settle all local grievances. Reuther also reported as the recommendation of the board that the GM strike be extended to the tool and die shops.

A motion to reject Reuther's recommendations was made by Leo Fenster, delegate from Cleveland Fisher Body Local 45, and supported by the other Local 45 delegates as well as by both militant delegates and Stalinists. They argued that since GM had rejected 19½ cents and since steel and UE were on the verge of coming out, the conference should not bind itself to a settlement which fell so far short of the union's wage demands.

The action of the discredited Stalinists in combining with the genuine militants on this issue caused considerable confusion, and undoubtedly kept many other militants from coming out against the 19½ cent proposal. In spite of the vote which defeated Fenster's motion, discussion had to be concluded for lack of speakers from the floor who favored accepting the board's recommendation.

At the end of the conference, John Anderson, of Fleetwood Local 15 and secretary of the Detroit citywide strike committee, made a motion that the conference record itself as opposed to going back to work as long as any incentive plan, whether the present piecework or some new incentive proposal, exists in any GM plant. This motion carried unanimously.

Long Lines Phone Workers Back Strike in 44 States

BULLETIN

Leaders of the National Federation of Telephone Workers, under threat of government strike-breaking seizure of the nation's telephone system, on Sunday, January 13, called off for 30 days the scheduled formal strike of 263,000 organized telephone workers. The latter's refusal to cross picket lines of striking communications equipment workers had already paralyzed long-distance telephone communications. The Association of Communications Equipment Workers, an NFTW affiliate, was asked to withdraw pickets to permit exchange operators through.

By Alan Braden

NEW YORK, Jan. 12—The greatest strike in the history of modern communications swept across the nation yesterday when 26,500 long-line and local telephone workers solidly respected the picket lines of the 8,000 members of the Association of Communications Equipment Workers, an affiliate of the independent National Federation of Telephone Workers.

This dramatic demonstration of labor solidarity cut off 95 per cent of all long distance phone service and reduced local service to dial phones. Communications in New York City, the financial stronghold of America's Sixty Richest Families, and in Washington, D. C., its political center, were crippled as this paralyzing blow of phone workers spread the strike front to another vital industry.

In addition, the strike of the Western Union telegraphers, members of the American Communications Association (CIO), further crippled New York and northern New Jersey communications.

The giant American Telephone and Telegraph corporation, biggest communication trust in the world, was forced to admit that

the staggering blow by the embattled phone workers had virtually paralyzed phone communications in 44 states, from New York and Philadelphia on the East Coast to Seattle and Los Angeles on the West Coast.

This inspiring sympathy strike was, for the most part, conducted by the 263,000 members of (Continued on Page 2)

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Open the Books! An Answer to GM

By Art Preis

In the fight against General Motors the CIO United Automobile Workers have put forward a most significant and far-reaching demand: "Open the Books of the Corporation!"

This is the first time in American history that a union has wielded this powerful weapon in a major struggle against the employers.

The mere suggestion that the union has the right to investigate the corporation's records has sent General Motors and its Big Business confederates into convulsions of fear and rage.

For the billionaire Wall Street financial cliques like the du Ponts and Morgans correctly see in this demand more than a simple issue of wages or hours.

To the capitalist overlords who have a stranglehold on the natural resources and means of production, a "look at the books" contains a threat to their continued rule and their profits, privileges and power.

In answer to the UAW's demand, General Motors Corporation published from coast-to-coast a newspaper advertisement entitled: "A Look at the Books or a Finger in the Pie?"

GM follows up with this 64 question: "Which is the UAW-CIO really after? Is it seeking facts—or new economic power? Does it want to know things—or run things?"

First of all, the GM workers do want to know things—plenty of things. When they raised their demand to investigate GM's books, their immediate purpose was to throw full light upon the corporation's enormous profits and profit-potential to prove conclusively that the company can easily afford to pay the full wage demands of its workers.

"We have firmly declined to recognize this as a basis for bargaining," says GM's advertisement. Thus with one contemptuous gesture, General Motors rejects any inspection of its books for the purpose of ascertaining the facts of its ability to pay higher wages.

Even if we can pay the wages asked, says General Motors in effect, we refuse to consider this fact as relevant to the merits of the union's wage case.

At the same time, the GM propagandists go on to assert that "the full facts are published" already "in annual reports . . . audited by outside auditors. Similar figures are filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission."

"Does the UAW-CIO honestly believe," asks the corporation in self-righteous indignation, "that General Motors would or could deceive these experts?"

This mammoth corporation has no need to "deceive" its own "experts." Corporation auditors are not likely to differ with their high-paying clientele on what constitutes "legitimate" cost and profits. Nor does the SEC, a hand-picked agency of the Big Business government, often question the carefully-drawn reports of the most powerful corporations.

What The Workers Want To Know

What the workers want to know are all those facts the corporations misrepresent or fail to report: The hidden profits concealed as "costs"; the hundreds of millions piled up in fake "depreciation" and "contingency" funds; the watered stock and phony "capitalization" on which the corporations pay out millions in profits from the wealth produced by the workers.

If the corporations have nothing to hide, if their hands are clean even within the definition of capitalist law, why should they fear to let the representatives of their own workers see the books?

The answer is clear. They don't dare permit investigation of their records. Such a thorough going scrutiny as a workers' committee might make would inevitably uncover scandalous acts of fraud, double-bookkeeping, fictitious losses, padded costs, diversion of assets, price-rigging, falsified production figures, etc. The corporation owners would be fully exposed as grand-scale swindlers and outright violators of the law.

That is one real reason why the corporations threaten to resist to the end rather than willingly permit the workers any glimpse into the company books.

But there is a further and equally weighty reason why General Motors refuses to divulge its "secrets" to those who create all its wealth.

The unions, howls the GM ad, "hope to pry their way into the whole field of management." And this "surely leads to the day" when the organized workers "will demand the right to tell what we can make, when we can make it, where we can make it, and how much we must charge you—all with an eye on what labor can take out of the business . . ."

Thus, says GM, "the idea itself (a 'look at the books') hides a threat to GM, to all business . . ." Because questions of "earnings, prices, sales volume, taxes and the like . . ." are recognized as the problems of management, and the owners alone have the right to deal with such matters.

The Nub Of The Corporation's Fears

Here we come to the nub of the corporation fears. Once the workers turn an x-ray on the corporation books, once they get a clear picture of the stupendous robbery and exploitation registered in those books, they would inevitably be aroused to demand greater control over the predatory operations of the private owners.

The workers would eventually come to the conclusion that the best thing for them to do would be to KICK OUT THE PARASITIC OWNERS ENTIRELY and operate industry under the control and for the benefit of the working people.

Just what is this "management" and its function that the GM owners speak so awesomely about and whose "rights" the workers must never invade? These are functionaries hired to squeeze the maximum profits for the owners out of the labor force and means of production. For the capitalists aren't interested in producing for the needs of the people. They are solely concerned with grabbing ever-greater profits.

The tax laws have been rigged so that the monopolists can operate industry even at low capacity and still realize enormous profits from tax refunds. Giant monopolies like General Motors conspire to restrict production in order to create artificial scarcity and impose high prices. In the last months of 1945, many cor-

porations deliberately curtailed production in order to avoid paying excess profits taxes which are to be eliminated in 1946.

Labor Has The Right To Say

The workers who suffer from the greed, swindling and sabotage of the monopolists have not only the right but the duty precisely to tell the owners "what we can make, when we can make it, where we can make it, and how much we must charge . . ."

Thus labor not only has the right and obligation to "know things," but to "run things."

The handful of billionaire monopolists who arrogate to themselves the "right" to control the means of subsistence of the people serve no useful function in production. Their "management" has been only mismanagement.

They manipulate the means of production to serve their selfish profit interests. They have converted the means for potential plenty into a monstrous exploitative mechanism creating scarcity, terrible depressions, starvation wages, poverty, wars.

For economic planning and the rational administration of industry a new "management" has long been needed. The only ones truly capable of organizing and operating industry for full and efficient production and for the needs of the people are the organized workers themselves.

Standing in the way of the needs of the masses, blocking the road to plenty, are the plutocratic parasites who hypocritically prate, as does General Motors, about "more and better things for the people," but who actually provide less and less for the working people and more and more for the idle rich.

To screen their predatory and criminal operations, the capitalists have invariably invoked the "sanctity of business secrets." But this is a sham intended only to deceive the people and ward off exposure of the capitalists' real secrets—the monstrous degree of their exploitation of labor and their criminal acts.

Between the big monopolies themselves there are no "business secrets." They cooperate closely, not only on a national but an international scale, to exploit the toiling masses.

Thus, America's leading corporations were caught red-handed in secret cartel agreements with the Nazi and Japanese corporations whereby all these Big Business conspirators freely exchanged the most vital patents and industrial processes essential to war. These deals were concealed not only from the people but from the American capitalist government itself.

GM Workers' Battle Cry

These are facts which the Trotskyists have long since exposed. That is why the Socialist Workers Party in 1938 advanced for the first time in this country the slogan of "Open the Books of the Corporations!" For the past seven years, the Trotskyists have been advocating the need for this step.

Today the GM workers have taken up this slogan and made it the battle cry of the most progressive sections of the labor movement. Tomorrow, American labor is going to go even further.

To Wall Street's and GM's question, "a 'look at the books' or a 'finger in the pie'?", American labor is going to answer:

"We are not only going to inspect your books. We are going to eliminate your despotic and ruinous rule over our economic life. We want nothing less than the whole pie our sweat and toil produces."

Truman Pressures Murray Into Steel Strike Delay

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of the steel workers through strike action.

The CIO Electrical and Radio Workers and the Packinghouse workers had set strike dates to follow the voted steel walkout. If they go out—and that is not definitely settled at this writing because of the steel developments—they will lack the powerful aid of the steel union.

The gains that labor has already recorded in this national wage fight are due primarily to the militant strike action of the GM workers, who have been forced to bear the main brunt of what is the fight of all labor. It is the GM fight principally which has forced even the present inadequate wage concessions out of Truman's so-called Fact-Finding Board.

The fact that the GM strike has not yet been successfully settled and that the whole struggle still hangs suspended can be laid at the door of the other leading CIO unions, which have not yet come to the help of the GM strikers. This responsibility rests especially heavily on the steel union and Murray's improper postponement of the steel strike.

How greatly must the steel workers resent Murray's high-handed conduct is indicated in last-minute reports from The Militant's correspondents in the Pittsburgh and other steel areas.

The large U. S. Steel locals in Braddock and Homestead, Pa., have sent messages to Murray

GIs Emulate Labor At Home

American labor's militant methods of struggle for its rights at home have deeply impressed the workers in uniform abroad, despite the anti-labor campaign of the Brass Hats.

A dispatch from Nuremberg, Germany, in the New York daily, PM, January 13, reports:

"The fact is the GIs have strike fever. Almost every soldier you talk to is full of resentment, humiliation, and anger. He acts exactly as workers have acted and by so doing drew the GIs' criticism in the past . . ."

"But now the shoe is on the other foot. The GIs now feel they have got a legitimate gripe against their employers. If the gripe does not include a wage scale, that is purely a minor consideration. They don't like their conditions of work, they don't like the length of their contract, they don't like their bosses."

and Labor Secretary Schwollenbach that they want a \$2 raise—but they don't want this raise tied to any boosts in steel prices for the profiteering companies.

The Hazelwood Local 1843, of Jones & Laughlin, wired Murray an ultimatum that if they do not get a \$2 raise by this Wednesday night, they are going to "pull the plug" Thursday. In Lackawanna, N. Y., the huge Bethlehem steel plant was shut down tight even before Murray called off the general walkout.

All reports indicate that the steel workers were ready and willing to put up a courageous and militant battle that would have gained them far more than Murray has yet attained.

They are still standing poised to strike and are more determined than ever to close down the steel mills if the corporations don't come through with the union's wage demands.

Lackawanna Steel Workers Don't Wait for Murray



CIO United Steel Workers members at the huge Lackawanna, N. Y., plant of Bethlehem Steel "pull the plug" in advance of the national steel strike date, now postponed. These pickets helped shut down the plant to frustrate company strike-breaking preparations.

Lackawanna Workers Shut Bethlehem Steel Plant to Foil Strikebreaking Preparations

(Special to The Militant)

LACKAWANNA, N. Y., Jan. 11—Thousands of determined pickets clamped an iron ring around the huge Bethlehem Steel Plant here at 9 o'clock tonight and shut it down tight. Moving swiftly, more than two days in advance of the nation-wide steel walkout scheduled for midnight Sunday, members of

several CIO United Steel Workers locals struck in a surprise move which effectively halted the Corporation's strikebreaking preparations.

This action was taken upon authorization of Joseph P. Molony, District Director of the USA-CIO, after the company had refused to reach an agreement with the union regarding the procedure for permitting the necessary maintenance men to take care of the furnaces when the national strike begins.

The 78 other companies in the Buffalo area have reached an agreement with the union on this matter.

Molony said, "The Union met with company representatives at 8 o'clock Friday afternoon. We again endeavored to negotiate with the company and reach an agreement on how maintenance and key personnel needed to maintain the plant would be able to go through the picket lines un molested. The company informed the union that it would decide who should be in the plant."

STRIKEBREAKING PLANNED

"The company rolled in carloads of foodstuffs, including a car of butter, mattresses and washing machines. We learned that the company instructed its foremen, safety and maintenance employees to report to the plant at 7 a. m. Sunday, and come prepared to live in the plant."

With the rejection by the company of the union's maintenance offer, a special steward's meeting was held late this afternoon. This was the largest stewards meeting ever held at this plant. The room was jammed and the stewards overflowed into the street. At this meeting the attitude of the company and the decision to take immediate action was reported.

Tremendous applause greeted the proposed strike action. The stewards were then instructed to enter the plant and bring the men out. This action was taken so swiftly that the company was not aware of what was transpiring.

"SHOT OUT OF PLANT"

The stewards entered the plant and began to ask the men to come out. As one steward put it, "The men shot out of the plant like released springs." Men dropped their tools, stopped in the middle of whatever they were doing and hurried out of the plant. Simultaneously picket lines began to form at all the gates.

A strike committee set up

now they've got it."

A huge crowd of sympathetic onlookers in this steel city watched with evident support and interest the tremendous picket line at No. 3 gate. Marching around in a huge oval under the glaring lights of the gate entrance, forming an impassable barrier, the strength of the steel workers on the picket line could be dramatically felt.

This power was especially felt by the few ill-advised foremen who attempted to pass through the unbreakable lines. The picket line was made up of white and colored workers with a good sprinkling of women. Feeling ran high and at a glance one could see that these men were really out to fight for a \$2 a day increase. Skirmishes developed at different gates as supervisors in cars made efforts to crash the lines. During one of these unsuccessful attempts several strikers were injured and one sent to the hospital with a possible skull fracture. But the lines became

IMPASSABLE BARRIER

The food committee was on the job, too, and before long hot coffee was being distributed to the men. The publicity committee issued the first of a series of daily bulletins, called the LACKAWANNA STRIKER, with a big head reading "THIS IS IT, Bethlehem has asked for it and

still more solid and even the plant executives couldn't get through.

The numerous clashes only served to raise the confidence of the steel strikers in their ability to keep the huge plant shut down.

WINDSOR TECHNIQUE

At the strip mill gate the Windsor Ford strike technique was effectively applied. A string of cars bumper to bumper sealed off the entrance. The same method was employed at the Buffalo gate which the company opens only during strikes. Groups of pickets patrolled the fences on the lookout for anyone attempting to climb over.

A blast furnace worker told The Militant reporter: "This is the first time in five years that we heard the sound of the air-pressure going off the six furnaces at one time. That means we got her shut down tight." The Lackawanna steel makers out in front in the fight for the \$2 a day raise are determined to keep it that way until they win.

LONG LINES TELEPHONE OPERATORS SUPPORT WALKOUT IN 44 STATES

(Continued from Page 1)

the NPTW, of which the ACEW is the installation group. The ACEW handles installation of Western Electric equipment, which is the manufacturing agent of the AT & T.

In addition to this gigantic demonstration of NPTW members from coast to coast, the solidarity of the phone workers was reinforced by the announcement of John Curtin, president of the Telephone Workers Union, unaffiliated, that its members, who work for Bell Telephone, are supporting the struggle of their ACEW brothers.

This powerful union action not only backs up the wage demands of the ACEW against the Western Electric trust, but likewise brings mighty reinforcements to the 10-day old strike of the Western Electric Employees Association (NFTW) whose 17,400 workers have tied up 21 plants of the Western Electric Co. in a determined fight for a 30 per cent raise. (See The Militant, Jan. 12)

CAPITAL TIED UP

The great phone strike first broke in the nation's capital late Thursday night when the 3,000 Washington operators went out for their own wage demands against the Washington and Potomac Telephone Co. But their union emphasized that even should their own demands be won, they will stay out in support of the ACEW.

No sooner was the capital tied up than early Thursday morning the first ACEW picket appeared at the 27-story AT & T building, located at 32 Avenue of the Americas (Sixth Avenue) in New York. As other ACEW pickets set up their lines, they were joined by phone operators on the line, while thousands of others stood on the side and refused to enter.

Simultaneously, picket lines were established at 261 Washing-

ton St., Newark, N. J., and within a few hours, reports from every major city throughout the nation indicated that the strike was 100 per cent effective from coast to coast.

The federal government, which had vainly attempted to prevent the strike, immediately threatened government seizure of the phone systems unless an immediate settlement was reached.

The heavy-handed pressure of Labor Secretary Schwollenbach had earlier intimidated Ernest Weaver, president of the ACEW, but Schwollenbach's threats could not deter the rank and file. Weaver had originally announced the start of the strike for Wednesday, January 9, but postponed picketing until Friday.

Then, on Thursday night, under Schwollenbach's pressure, Weaver sent out telegrams, press statements and radio announcements ordering postponement of picketing until Monday.

But the rank and file decisively rejected this weak-kneed policy. One official of ACEW Local 600, in Newark, summed up their attitude when he told this reporter: "Weaver is our representative but not our boss. We've ordered our pickets out and they're going to stay out."

This determined attitude of the ACEW ranks, backed up by the solid sentiments of the 263,000 NPTW members, forced Weaver to rescind his order, and the strike surged forward with full force.

GOVERNMENT THREATS

Schwollenbach's strikebreaking threat of government seizure forcefully demonstrates that the Truman administration is an instrument of Big Business. The strategic nature of the communications industry for the financial, business and political operations of the ruling class forces the government to reveal its naked strikebreaking fist with-

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CHICAGO "STRIKERS' SOCIAL"

Saturday, January 19

Proceeds To Strike Funds Of GM, Steel, Packing and FE Workers

Dancing . . . Singing . . . Refreshments
75 cent Admission includes food

Socialist Workers Party
160 N. Wells St. Rooms 317

Mighty Voice of the GIs As Heard Round the Globe

A world-wide roundup of the declarations of demonstrating veterans reveals bitter resentment against Washington. The servicemen do not want to be used as tools of Wall Street imperialism. They do not want to play the role of a brutal police force to subject the peoples of the earth to the will of profit-mad capitalists.

The soldiers are in a fighting, rebellious mood. They intend to make their voice heard. They are determined to galvanize an unwilling Congress into passing legislation that will bring them back home at once. Here are the most significant of the GIs' own statements, as reported in the press:

Philippines

MANILA, Dec. 25—Banners in a Christmas Day demonstration read: "We want ships. We want to go home."

MANILA, Jan. 7—A mimeographed pamphlet charged: "Redeployment has been deliberately slowed down to force compulsory military training... The point system is a two-edged sword used to keep men in, instead of getting them out... Generals and colonels who want to go on playing war are anxious to retain sizable commands rather than go back to their permanent grades of lieutenants to majors... The State Department wants the Army to back up its imperialism... The chain of 'snafu' is the result of just plain stupidity by high brass."

MANILA, Jan. 7—"The Philippines are capable of handling their own internal problems," was the slogan voiced by several speakers.

MANILA, Jan. 7—Demonstrating GIs carried placards with such slogans as: "We are Tired of False Promises, Double-Talk and Double-Crossing." "We Want Ike." "Heaven Can Wait—We Can't." "Forty-Eight Is Much Too Late."

MANILA, Jan. 7—A pamphlet, typical of several distributed by soldiers, appealed to soldiers to write their families "telling them about the situation out here and urging them to write to their Congressmen requesting them to put pressure on the War Department to release us." "According to a War Department spokesman," continued the pamphlet, "demobilization is proceeding at alarming rapidity."

"Alarming from whose point of view? Alarming to generals and colonels who want to go on playing war and who do not want to go back to being captains and majors? Alarming to business men who stand to make money having their investments rebuilt at Army expense? Alarming to the State Department, which wants an Army to back its imperialism in the Far East?"

BATANGAS, Jan. 9—A soldiers' committee released an advertisement demanding the removal of Secretary of War Patterson "whose incompetence has been shown by his own statement that he didn't know men overseas had stopped accumulating points."

Guam

GUAM, Jan. 8—"Mass meetings" protested "against the present point score system." A lieutenant declared: "This farce has passed endurance."

Saipan

SAIPAN, Jan. 8—A cable protested the War Department "announcement that the present point score would not be reduced drastically."

Hawaii

HONOLULU, Jan. 10—A headline in a service paper labeled "Patterson Public Enemy No. 1." The staff of Stars and Stripes charged the paper had been converted into a "house organ for the War Department" after Brass Hats accused the paper of speaking disrespectfully of "those in authority."

A resolution states that "our present policy of intervention in China and Indonesia is contrary to provisions of the Atlantic Charter, invites conflict and hinders demobilization."

Alaska

GIs here poured cablegrams of protest into Congressional offices. "The communications contained bitter charges of preferences and broken promises, of incompetence."

Japan

YOKOHAMA, Jan. 8—A mass demonstration protested "the War Department's slowdown of demobilization."

An anonymous pamphlet opposed the "Army plan to cut the demobilization rate in half."

China

Recent dispatches from North China reported the "lowest morale since the war's end among Marine units."

India

CALCUTTA, Jan. 9—Mimeographed circulars

of unknown origin called a GI protest meeting "to back our buddies in Manila and France."

Korea

SEOUL, Jan. 10—A resolution stated: "We cannot understand the War Department's insistence on keeping an oversized peacetime army overseas under present conditions."

France

RHEIMS, Jan. 7—A cable to Senator Johnson charged that "the men in the European theater now have been imprisoned here by a lackadaisical government." The cable declared that "bitter resentment" had been aroused by "the discharge of low-point men in the U. S. as non-essential when men in the European Theater cannot leave for lack of replacements."

PARIS, Jan. 8—A soldier told a correspondent of *The Militant* "the reason they were keeping so many of us in France this winter, was the hope that our mere presence would be a threat to prevent revolutions in France this winter."

PARIS, Jan. 8—Marching soldiers yelled: "We Wanta Go Home!" "Remember Pearl Harbor!"

Posters in Red Cross clubs and GI messes read: "Don't let our Manila buddies down. Meeting Are de Triomphe, 8:30."

Soldiers who refused to join the demonstration were greeted with cries of "scab" and "slacker."

PARIS, Jan. 8—Sergt. Albert Ellenbogen, Brooklyn, speaking at a meeting: "We want our protest heard loud enough in the States so that folks at home can bring pressure to bear that we cannot 3,000 miles away."

Austria

VIENNA, Jan. 9—Soldiers radioed protests "against delays in redeployment."

Germany

FRANKFORT ON MAIN, Jan. 8—A telegram signed by 100 GIs asked: "In addition to the army of occupation, a closeout force of 316,000 men has been ordered. Yet two of the three services to be performed by this close-out force, as listed by our theater commander, are such obviously occupational army jobs as disposing of German prisoners and maintaining law and order in some areas. Are Brass Hats to be permitted to build empires? Why?"

The cable ended: "The evident lack of faith of our friends and neighbors is causing bitter resentment and deterioration of morale of men in this theater. It is to be hoped that our faith in democratic procedures is not finally lost."

FRANKFORT ON MAIN, Jan. 9—Speakers at a demonstration declared General McNarney was "too scared to face us here."

A cable queried: "Are the Brass Hats to be permitted to build empires?"

Great Britain

LONDON, Jan. 8—A telegram from 1,800 officers and enlisted men of the 8th Air Force: "We want an explanation of delayed return. Dogs, GI brides, parading low-point 82d Airborne Division and general prisoners rate shipment while N. Y. Times says all U. S. troops who have not been redeployed have venereal disease or have volunteered. Ambiguous replies from Congressmen and three canceled shipping dates do not help. We are tired, homesick, disgusted men with 55-45 points, eligible for discharge Dec. 1, 1945. In the European theater over 30 months."

United States

ANDREWS FIELD, Maryland, Jan. 8—Soldiers and Wacs jeered down their commanding officer when he tried to tell them why their discharges were delayed. An officer described the reaction of the veterans as "uncomplimentary muttering."

NEW YORK, Jan. 10—One of the soldiers scheduled to parade January 12 objected: "I want to get the hell out of the Army immediately and get back to college. What nonsense this is! They're breaking us down before the parade. We march seven miles a day to get ready for it. I'm sick now, and if I go on sick call I have to make up any formation I miss at night. All I want is out."

World-Wide Protests of GIs Hit Wall Street Imperialism

GIs Demonstrating in Manila



Part of the huge crowd of 20,000 American troops in Manila demonstration protesting double-cross in promised demobilization speed-up. "Get Us Home!" the GIs demand in protest action before headquarters Lt. Gen. W. D. Styer.

Mazey, UAW Militant, Helps Lead GI Protest

Sgt. Emil Mazey, former president of the militant Briggs Local 212, CIO United Auto Workers, is playing a leading role in the Manila GI demonstrations which touched off a world-wide wave of soldier actions demanding return home.

Mazey was elected on January 10 by a delegated convention, representing 139,000 rank and file troops, to membership on the top central committee of eight which heads the unified soldier committees.

In addition, he is chairman of the committee of six representing 600 enlisted men of headquarters, Company Sub Base R, Batangas, Philippine Islands. This committee on January 7 communicated a lengthy cablegram to the CIO United Auto Workers requesting the aid of the UAW in transmitting soldier demands for immediate return home to Congress.

The cablegram was immediately made public by the UAW, which simultaneously issued a statement from UAW President R. J. Thomas, saying, "I have the utmost sympathy for the outraged feelings of these GIs. The War Department having made a public commitment on the rate of discharge, that commitment should be carried out in full at least in non-hostile countries. What soldiers and sailors do we need to occupy the Philippines? To ask the question is to expose how ridiculous it is."

Mazey was nationally known as an outstanding militant in the UAW. At the 1943 convention of the auto workers he led the fight of the progressives against the no-strike pledge and introduced a resolution for the formation of a labor party.

His inclusion on the top soldiers' committee graphically illustrates the friendly ties growing between the labor movement and the protesting GIs, the role of the experienced unionists in the armed forces and the failure of the Brass Hats' anti-labor campaign.

Other members of the Manila top central committee of the GIs are illustrative of the truly democratic character of the soldier protest movement. It includes a North Carolina Negro and an Alabama white, a Jew and an Italian, as well as regional representatives from different sections of the U. S.

Officers' huts are equipped with toilets imported from the States, this GI declares, while "the toilets used by enlisted men are made from old garbage cans."

A soldier in India said in a letter printed in the November 3 *Militant*: "An EM slapped an officer in the face. He got a couple of years in jail and a dishonorable discharge. In another case an officer slapped an EM in the puss and he got a \$75 fine."

"Was reading in Yank," he continues, "where water was rationed to EM, and officers were washing their jeeps and staff cars with it."

George Sokolsky, in a recent column in the N. Y. Sun, quoted a letter from a serviceman who said his superior officer "frequently sent men to the EM's kitchen to get sugar, coffee and oranges to send to his woman in Paris."

"I've seen this same officer," said the soldier, "steal a whole chicken from the EM's Sunday dinner when there wasn't enough to feed the men."

USO troupe performers are monopolized by the officers. Officers discouraged GIs from mixing with the girls. They usurped the USO show "putting on performances and dances at officers' clubs to which the GIs were not admitted," says Sokolsky.

GI's ride coaches to see their wives. Officers fly to football games. Maj. William Ord Ryan used an Army plane to fly a bale of hay across the Pacific to feed his captive kangaroo.

Col. Soriana, personal representative of Franco, flew "three plane-loads of beer-bottle tops across the Pacific."

A letter from a soldier on Luzon, Philippine Islands, to *The Pilot*, a Boston Catholic paper, said: "There isn't anything gets a man down more than to see a beautiful officers' club constructed even before the smoke of battle cleared away, while the men eat 'K' and 'C' rations and sleep in a dustbowl."

"Or to see an officers' country club built with separate rooms for each man," he continues. "Or to see an officers' dining hall and galley constructed with stainless steel furniture and galley equipment, while enlisted men stand in line three times a day and wait upwards of one hour before sitting down to eat slop food."

(Continued from Page 1)

ers, and 400 at Marseilles sent cables. Protests likewise came from 100 GIs at Frankfurt, Germany; 1,800 officers and enlisted men of the 8th Air Force at London; and GIs at Tidworth, England.

HUNGER STRIKE

In the Pacific theatre, 6,000 men on Saipan wired protests. At Guam more than 3,500 enlisted men and officers of the 315th Bombing wing of the Twentieth Air Force staged a "hunger strike" in protest against the demobilization slowdown.

Next day, January 8, milling thousands of GIs flooded communications offices in Manila.

At Batangas, south of Manila, 4,000 GIs voted funds for full-page newspaper advertisements in the United States demanding the removal of Secretary of War Robert F. Patterson and appealing to the public for pressure on Congress.

In Guam, 18,000 men attended two protest meetings. They sent a cablegram of protest signed by 6,000 soldiers.

Some 500 soldiers met in Yokohama to plan for a larger demonstration. In Honolulu more than 2,500 soldiers met at Fort Shafter. At Rheims about 1,500 soldiers gathered to protest "illogical explanations" on the demobilization slowdown.

In Paris about 500 GIs marched down the Champs Elysees. Their ranks swelled until a thousand shouting American soldiers gathered in front of the American Embassy.

OFFICERS BOOED

At Andrews Field, near Washington, D. C., 1,000 soldiers and Wacs booed down their commanding officer.

Soldiers in Munich, Germany, and London likewise protested the War Department's slowdown order.

On January 9 the Batangas Committee came prominently into the news. This committee not only included an officer but also a well-known union leader, Emil Mazey, former president of UAW Local 212, Detroit, who acted as chairman. The committee interviewed a touring group of Senators and reported how the Brass Hats are wasting American taxpayers' money.

In Frankfurt, a demonstration of 5,000 soldiers was met at bayonet point by a small group of guards. Handbills announced a demonstration and yells of derision greeted reports that some officers had declared the demonstration "would make a bad impression on the Germans." About 20 were arrested.

In Vienna, Austria, 362 soldiers radioed a protest to Truman, Patterson, Eisenhower, 24 Senators and a number of newspapers. And in London 1,800 officers and men joined in the

Brass Hats Fear Revolt In India; Arm U. S. GIs

One reason for Washington's slow-down in demobilization may be Wall Street's fear British imperialism will be unable to suppress the rising resistance to its rule in India.

According to Washington columnist Drew Pearson, "GIs in India report the U. S. Army, fearing the British may be faced with revolt, has issued rifles, bayonets and ammunition to American GIs..."

swelling chorus of complaints. Mimeographed circulars in Calcutta, India, called a protest meeting for the following day to "back our buddies in Manila and France." About 5,000 assembled in a public park to oppose the demobilization slowdown.

Several thousand troops met at Seoul, Korea. At Hickam Field, Honolulu, 15,000 troops held a demonstration.

SOLDIERS' COMMITTEE

January 10 marked an event of great significance. In Manila 156 soldier delegates elected by as many separate Army outfits held a meeting. Such soldier delegates organized in committees immediately call to mind the Soviets (committees) elected by the soldiers in the Russian army during the 1917 tide of revolution.

These 156 delegates in Manila represented 139,000 men, "all interested in getting home."

The delegates unanimously elected a chairman and adopted a program. The chairman, Sergeant Schiffrin of Rochester, N. Y., appointed a Central Committee, totalling eight. "The Central Committee," reports the January 11 N. Y. Times "... includes two officers and is widely representative of creeds and backgrounds." Emil Mazey is a member of this committee as well as the Batangas committee.

The formation of the Manila Soldiers' Committee undoubtedly marked the high point of this mighty, globe-encircling wave of demonstrations. The GIs expect Congress to act, and act promptly. If Washington fails to respond, then another and more turbulent series of demonstrations can very likely be expected. In this event the formation of the Manila Soldiers' Committee has already set an example for the soldiers the world over. Just as Manila's GIs gave the lead to the demonstrators, so Manila shows them how to set up the most effective form of organization to get action on their demands.

"MILITANT" WAS FIRST TO DEMAND GIs' RETURN

The *Militant* was the first newspaper in the United States to demand: "Get the Boys Home!" It has consistently defended the just demands of the servicemen. As early as May 12, 1945, in an editorial *The Militant* demanded: "Withdraw the Allied troops from Europe!"

Editorials and articles regularly repeated the demand. On October 6, 1945 an editorial in *The Militant* commented on the situation in the Far East and called upon the labor movement to "demand the withdrawal of Allied troops" from that area. "Bring the soldiers back home!" *The Militant* insisted time and time again.

"Their demand to come back home must be backed to the hilt" declared *The Militant* on October 20, 1945.

On November 3, an editorial in *The Militant* under the caption "Withdraw all American troops from foreign soil!" said:

"Millions of American troops are being kept abroad for occupational forces. They are being forced to act as brutal imperialist police in the interest of Wall Street. These troops are the sons, brothers, husbands and loved ones of the American people, particularly the working class. The greatest immediate service the American workers can perform for world working class freedom and in their own interests is to compel the American imperialist government to withdraw all American troops from foreign soil."

On November 10, 1945 the "War Veterans" column in *The Militant* reported the mounting resentment of the GIs and stated that "the Army and Navy are doing nothing to speed up demobilization... the government has ships to burn... it moved millions of men to the battlefronts"... yet Brass Hats claim demobilization is slowed by lack of transportation.

Typical Scene of Vets On Picket Lines



These returned veterans, leading the picket lines in the recent strike of 8,000 Timken workers in Canton, O., represent a typical strike scene in America today.

Read:
Fourth International

BROOKLYN
Gala House Warming Social
Opening the New SWP Headquarters
Saturday, Jan. 19
All Militant Readers Invited

First Public Meeting:
Thursday, Jan. 24, 8:30 p.m.
"The Meaning of the Strike Wave
And the Soldiers' Demonstrations"
Speaker: **WILLIAM WARDE**
Associate Editor Of *The Militant*
635 Fulton Street

THE MILITANT

Published in the interests of the Working People

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Only the world revolution can save the USSR for socialism. But the world revolution carries with it the inescapable blotting out of the Kremlin oligarchy.

—Leon Trotsky

An Inspiring Example

One of the fears gnawing the ruling class of America is the inspiring example the present strike wave and the GI demonstrations have set for the workers of other lands.

The working people of Germany, of Japan, of Italy, as well as the working people of the colonial and semi-colonial lands, have been held in subjection partly because of the terrible defeats inflicted on their labor movement in the past. After severe defeats, the oppressed masses sometimes need years to recover their self-confidence. Discouragement, a feeling of hopelessness and apathy sway them, draining their energies. The rule of tyranny seems invincible.

Victories of the working class can break this hypnosis almost overnight. A heroic upthrust of the working class in one country serves to awaken and arouse the workers of the entire world.

Equally important in inspiring the oppressed colonial peoples and workers of other lands is the demonstration that America is by no means united in schemes of conquest. They see Wall Street opposed by the American workers, and its Brass Hats defied by American soldiers. American imperialism is thus revealed to be far weaker than it appeared on the surface. With friendly forces inside the United States fighting the common foe, the toiling masses elsewhere conclude that their own struggle has far better chances of success than they had hoped.

What hopes must now be reviving in the minds of the workers of Spain and China, for example, when they see how the American workers shake their fist in the face of the most powerful tyranny in history—Wall Street! As the class struggle in America reaches new heights, far surpassing any previous battles, how the class-conscious workers in other lands must feel fresh confidence in their own powers, if only they organize and follow the militant example of the American workers!

How the hundreds of millions of oppressed people of India must be watching the American workers and soldiers, absorbing the lessons of militancy and mass organization in their struggle against imperialist rule!

The beleaguered Indonesians and Indo-Chinese battlers for freedom undoubtedly hail the GI demonstrations and great strikes in the United States. To them it means a powerful ally has come to their aid. It means fresh forces are dealing blows against the common enemy—Anglo-American imperialism and its satellite capitalist classes.

Democratic Rights In the Armed Forces

Wall Street plunged America into the Second World War ostensibly to end totalitarianism and bring democracy to the world.

However, the very armed forces Washington sent abroad were modeled on the Prussian system. The main characteristics of this totalitarian system are blind obedience of the ranks, a vicious segregation that sets officers apart as a privileged caste, and denial of basic democratic rights.

So rigid was this reactionary pattern imposed on the armed forces that a serviceman could not even write Congress without fear of Brass Hat reprisals!

Every serviceman should enjoy his right to free criticism. If he has grievances, it should be his unquestioned right to lay them before Congress.

Every serviceman should enjoy the right to freedom of speech, freedom of press, and freedom of assembly. If he has important considerations to bring to the attention of his buddies or of the civilian population, it should be his inalienable right to organize meetings where he can freely express his opinions and to publish those opinions in the press.

Every serviceman should be able to organize politically. If he has political views which in his opinion deserve consideration, it should be his unquestioned right to argue, debate and organize for his point of view.

These are only the most elementary democratic rights. To further democratize the armed forces, officers should face the test of free election. The men know how officers performed, who proved incompetent, who unnecessarily endangered lives, who took advantage

of his post to spread reactionary ideas that tended to set creed against creed and race against race among the ranks. On the other hand the men know which of their own ranks proved exceptionally able and progressive in ideas, which ones gained through their exemplary conduct the confidence of their comrades in arms.

Election of officers would thus constitute a great step toward weeding out the most reactionary elements, advancing those who represent genuine democracy and breaking the Prussian caste system in the U. S. armed forces.

"Company Security"

In their life and death struggle against the giant corporations, the workers confront the grave peril of "company security" propositions designed to cripple their powerful organizations and convert them into house-broken unions.

Ford, General Motors, G.E. and others have put forward demands for such "company security" clauses in any negotiated contracts.

For example, under pressure from the Sinclair Oil Co. and Truman's fact-finding board, the leadership of the CIO Oil Workers International Union last week agreed to the inclusion of a no-strike clause in the contract. They also agreed that if any employee disregarded this prohibition the company had the right to cancel the national agreement on ten days' notice. Finally they agreed to suspend immediately any striking union members and permit the company to fire them. The officials are now trying to thrust these union-busting proposals down the throats of the oil workers, who are vigorously protesting against them.

The Kaiser-Frazer agreement just concluded by the UAW-CIO likewise contains in its bonus incentive pay arrangement, nothing less than "company security" with the poison bait of a bonus.

The Press Steel Unit of Ford Local 600 and the Greater Flint Industrial Union Council have passed resolutions bitterly condemning all such union-busting proposals and urging the UAW-CIO International officers to "wash their hands" of them. The Briggs Local 212 has taken similar action.

These militants understand what a terrible menace agreements of this type are to the entire labor movement. In the hands of the corporations they can be wielded to victimize the best union members, hamstringing the union, terrorize its ranks, and cut the union to pieces.

The workers must be on guard against any attempts to impose such vicious clauses in their pending contracts. All "company security" clauses must be opposed and rejected.

Two Americas

In the great wave of strikes and GI demonstrations, two Americas are locked in combat.

One is the America of Wall Street. This is the America of the ruling 60 families—the bankers, industrialists and big commercial interests; the America of the leisure class—stockholders, society lizards and assorted parasites.

On the surface, the America of Wall Street appears all-powerful. It counts its dollars in the tens of billions. It holds the means of production. It emerged victorious in the Second World War. Its garrisons encircle the earth. It controls the government. It threatens humanity with the atomic bomb.

The dream of this imperialist America is world empire. Out of the ruins, devastation and death of the Second World War, Wall St. hopes to impose on the globe the "peace" of conquest such as the Roman Empire imposed on the ancient world.

To convert this dream of a power-drunk ruling class into reality, Wall Street requires the fulfillment of two conditions: At home, a working class broken to servile submission; abroad, hundreds of millions of colonial slaves held in abject subjection by brutalized legions of military police.

This is one America. The other America is the land of the working people, the overwhelming majority of the population who work for a living. Working class America wants to live in fraternal brotherhood with the rest of the peoples of the earth. This America abhors bloodshed, violence, slavery. It is the America of democracy, freedom and opportunity, the America that believes in abundance and prosperity for the average family.

The future of working class America lies on the road to socialism, to a planned world economy that will fraternally develop the backward areas and gear the resources and labor power of the entire earth into the production of boundless wealth for the enjoyment of all mankind.

The real power lies with this working class America. At the first assertion of its organized might, the glittering facade of Wall Street's power is being shaken and exposed. The strikes and GI demonstrations revealed Wall Street as only a tiny, fumbling minority, sapped by all the weaknesses of a blind, decayed, out-lived ruling class determined to block the organized will of the majority.

But this treacherous America of Wall Street is skilled in minority rule. Pressed back by picket lines and GI demonstrations, the Wall Street dynasty will retaliate and hope to recoup on the political field. It will set in motion laws and measures to straitjacket the masses.

Working class America must thus organize politically if it hopes to win the final battle with Wall Street. Working class America must enter politics with the same militancy it has displayed on picket lines and in GI demonstrations. Right now this means organization of a Labor Party based on the trade unions. To carry forward the battle against Wall Street, let every militant do his utmost to organize a Labor Party for working class America!



"He's really just a big child at heart."

Workers BOOKSHELF

FIVE YEARS OF WAR PROFITS, 1940-1944 COMPARED TO FIVE YEARS PEACE-TIME PROFITS, 1935-1939; published in 1945 by CIO United Steelworkers of America, 23 pp., 25 cents.

This timely and attractively illustrated pamphlet was prepared by the Research Department of the CIO United Steelworkers of America. It proves with irrefutable facts and figures how the rich and powerful steel corporations during the war years gorged themselves upon a feast of profits unprecedented in history. It decisively answers any argument as to how justified the steel workers are in demanding their \$2 a day raise.

To begin with, the pamphlet points out, the United States Steel Corporation (Big Steel) "is in the best financial position of its history." Enders M. Voorhees, Chairman of the U. S. Steel Corporation, made this boast at a Chicago press conference, December 14, 1944.

"What is true of U. S. Steel holds for the steel industry as a whole," the pamphlet continues. "Never before have the steel companies been so rich."

"For five years of war production the steel industry has charged the American people over two billion dollars in open and concealed profits. About one billion of these war profits have been kept by the industry—added to its total financial resources, while other millions have been concealed. 765-million additional dollars—more than three-quarters of a billion have been paid out to stockholders."

The staggering profits of this steel octopus during the five war years compared with the five peace-time years, 1935

through 1939, are revealed in the pamphlet:

Profits before taxes rose 276 per cent; from \$933-million to over three and one-half billion.

Profits after taxes rose 113 per cent from \$576-million to one and one-quarter billion.

Undistributed profits rose 81 per cent from \$585-million to \$1-billion.

In open and concealed profits the industry "earned" over \$2-billion in the five war years.

Thus the millionaire stockholders reaped ever more millions in dividend payments: "Dividend payments rose 82 per cent, from \$419-million to \$765-million."

PROFITS OF DEATH How the vast manufacture of the instruments of death has reinforced the whole financial position of the steel corporations is further revealed in the pamphlet. Total assets of the steel corporations rose 22 per cent, from \$4.86-billion to almost \$6-billion.

Working capital during these years rose 68 per cent, from \$1.2-billion to \$2-billion. General reserves rose 283 per cent, from \$103-million to \$395-million.

The total financial resources of the steel industry (excluding statutory and potential tax refunds) rose 131 per cent from \$689-million to \$1.6-billion.

And now, after they have wallowed in super-profits for five war years, the U. S. Government has prepared for these profit-hogs a post-war feast, which is given the fancy name of "statutory and potential tax refunds."

The pamphlet states: "In addition the steel companies will receive over 200-million dollars in statutory refunds of excess profits taxes. And they can obtain funds from the Treasury if their operations drop to the

break-even point, and even larger refunds if they suffer operating losses—refunds that are very much greater than the 115-million dollars in net profits after taxes they averaged before the war."

These stuffed-to-bursting corporations today have the impudence to plead "poverty" and demand a steep steel-price rise!

The pamphlet contrasts this enormous wealth with the financial position of America's steelworkers. "In five years of war work they (the steel workers) have accumulated only a total of \$285-million in savings, or \$600 a worker." Here is the answer to those who contend that the steel workers have put away large savings!

It is informative to recall who are the owners of the steel industry, and the main stockholders, to whom this immense wealth and power is presented on a silver platter. U. S. Steel, the first billion-dollar corporation in America, is owned by the House of Morgan, which also owns more than three-fourths of the iron ore reserves in the United States. The aluminum trust, whose workers are part of the steel union, is 100 per cent owned by the Mellon family. Bethlehem Steel Corporation, largest of the 200 "Little Steel" corporations, also shows a dominant Morgan and Mellon interest. These are the decisive powers in the steel industry.

It is this handful of greedy billionaires against whom the hundreds of thousands of steel workers and their families are today girding for their gigantic battle. This pamphlet by the CIO steelworkers provides a potent propaganda weapon in the workers' arsenal.

Reviewed by Larissa Reed

Congressmen At Work

A tender subject with Wall Street's Congressmen is the dough they shake down in their racket. Many Senators, for instance, claim they can hardly make ends meet on a bare \$10,000 a year salary and some \$3,000 a year for expenses.

The ones who have to pinch and skimp by on their salaries alone are always thinking about a raise. The ones who were born rich, or those who have made the grade with the profit-bloated corporations and Big Banks, use the salary for pin money and oppose any raises. They argue it's best to look like you're suffering in public office. It would be bad publicity, they maintain, to clip the public treasury for a heavier take while you crack down on labor for trying to keep wages within a reasonable distance of the skyrocketing cost of living.

Just before taking their three-weeks Christmas vacation, a clique of Senators went hog-wild and made a motion to give themselves a \$2,500 pay boost. To hear them tell it, what a tough row they have to hoe! Some explained how they had two homes to keep up, one in Washington, the other in the home state. Some pointed to their traveling expenses being higher than the government allowance. Some complained about the cost of living going up. Some grieved over the terrific rise in income taxes—when they imposed stiff income taxes on the lower brackets to pay for the war, they somehow overlooked exempting their own salaries.

Maybank of South Carolina proved that many a judge or



bureaucrats are," continued Senator Bridges, speaking from long experience in Washington, "would not be satisfied with airplanes unless they were also furnished with pilots, co-pilots, and good looking hostesses."

Bankhead reminded the Senators of their poverty—how they have to "go around trying to catch a ride, thumbing a ride from time to time in order to get downtown, or to reach our apartments."

Bridges, his feelings getting the better of him, wondered what would happen if a proposal were made that "each Senator and Representative should be furnished a long, sleek Packard limousine or Cadillac limousine, with a chauffeur such as every bureau in Washington has, at least one, and sometimes more?"

"I would need the detail of a whole regiment of soldiers to get me out of the Senate Chamber," responded Bankhead cynically; "if I seriously made such a proposal."

But the majority of rich Senators ganged up on their poorer colleagues and killed the motion to step up the racket for all it is worth. Their destitute fellow capitalist politicians are left to struggle painfully along on their measly, little \$10,000 a year salary and some \$3,000 a year for expenses."

Washington bureaucrat has his arms deeper in the pork barrel than a Senator. Bankhead of Alabama added the painful fact that "in many instances, in addition to salaries which are higher than the salaries received by Members of Congress, automobiles are supplied."

"And chauffeurs," interpolated Senator Bridges of New Hampshire, who is especially sensitive on this point.

"Yes," responded Senator Bankhead with emotion. "In some cases officials are supplied with two or three automobiles, as well as chauffeurs..." He slipped the Senators the latest flash about the "Maritime Commission or the Civil Aeronautics Board" requesting "authority to purchase seven airplanes. Free automobiles do not travel fast enough. Of course, the furnishing of the airplanes would include expenses for pilots."

Senator Bridges gulped. "And probably co-pilots and hostesses."

"The Senator is correct," roared Senator Bankhead.

"The officials who are now furnished with long, sleek limousines and chauffeurs, as many

PROBLEMS FACING WAR VETERANS

By CHARLES CARSTEN

Terminal Leaves Show Class System

Why don't enlisted men get terminal leaves? Officers are given up to 120 days. Here is a case of the most flagrant discrimination.

Officers accrue leave time at the rate of two and a half days a month while they are in the service. That amounts to thirty days a year. Leave time is cumulative from year to year.

By the time they are discharged, they generally have from 90 to 120 days of leave to their credit. Officers receive full pay for this time before they are officially mustered out. This includes pay for rations, quarters and allowances for dependents.

During these three or four months officers can do whatever they please. They can survey business opportunities, look for a position, readjust themselves to civilian life. All the while they receive full salaries.

In addition they receive the same separation pay given to enlisted men—\$200 for 90 or more days of duty in this country; \$300 for overseas duty.

Enlisted men receive no terminal leave. All they get is the separation pay which is barely enough to re-outfit themselves with clothes. Hence they must immediately go to work or live on their meager savings.

Why this discrimination?

Enlisted men served equally long periods in the army. Hazards were as great for them as for the officers. The health of the enlisted men was impaired as much or more by service in the Army and Navy. They suffer as much as officers do from "battle fatigue" and nervous conditions produced by combat. They received much lower wages than the officers.

Why isn't leave time for enlisted men cumulative as it is for officers? Why don't GIs get paid for three or four months while they visit friends and relatives, readjust themselves to civilian life? Why don't they receive full pay while looking for a job?

Apparently the government believes a long vacation with pay is one of the privileges that must be reserved for "officers and gentlemen."

This is just another aspect of the class system of the Army and Navy. It is part of the system of class discrimination observed every day in civilian life. The wealthy enjoy privileges denied the poor.

Most officers, and all those of high rank, come from families of the middle class or the capitalist class. They share the same arrogant attitude toward enlisted men that bosses have toward workers.

While in the Army or Navy, as every GI soldier and sailor knows, officers had the best quarters, the best food, a liquor ration, transportation facilities and far more freedom than the enlisted men.

Members of the capitalist class, the officers' class, normally have these advantages. Money and social connections make it possible for them to live in a way that is beyond the wildest dreams of GIs and workers. Wall Street arranges for the members of its class to enjoy similar privileges while they are in uniform.

Terminal leave is another part of this favoritism. It is like the signs GIs have seen and resented in every part of the world—"For Officers Only." This sign bars enlisted men just as price bars workers from exclusive restaurants, night-clubs and resorts and keeps them from living in fine apartments and homes.

Everyone knows enlisted men are more deserving of terminal leave than the officers. GI and veterans are bitterly resentful of this final act of discrimination.

By organizing in alliance with the workers, veterans can force the government to change the situation. They must demand terminal leave for enlisted men on a fully equal basis with officers. And for those already discharged, full pay for the three or four months leave they had coming.

Why The Steel Moguls Act So Arrogantly

Steel shares are having a spree on the stockmarket. Despite strike threats, production declines and the general economic uncertainty, the speculators are boosting up the price of steel stocks in an orgy of "optimism."

The optimism is not unfounded. Gain or lose, operate or shut down, the steel industry faces the next several years with the vision of guaranteed profits milked right out of the U. S. Treasury—that is, out of the pockets of the American people.

To begin with, the steel moguls are getting an estimated \$200-million refund of excess profits taxes. This comes under the heading of a section in the 1945 Federal Revenue Act which provides for a 10 per cent rebate of wartime excess profits taxes paid by the corporations.

In addition, under what is known as the "carry-back" provisions, the tax laws provide for payments to the corporations out of the U. S. Treasury in the event they sustain losses during 1945-46-47.

From these tax refunds, if the steel industry merely breaks even in 1946, it will snatch a total of \$149,138,781. That's greater than the average annual pre-war profits of \$115,000,000. For eighteen leading companies, the refunds are as follows:

United States Steel Corp.	\$87,340,000
Bethlehem Steel Corp.	17,563,000
Republic Steel Corp.	6,370,000
Jones & McLaughlin Steel Corp.	6,028,750
Youngstown Sheet & Tube Company	4,800,280
National Steel Corp.	4,757,000
Inland Steel Company	3,574,000
American Rolling Mill Company	4,488,000
Wheeling Steel Corp.	3,185,000
Crucible Steel Company	1,719,000
Colorado Fuel & Iron Company	1,183,000
Pittsburgh Steel Company	1,183,000
Sharon Steel Corp.	482,300
Lukens Steel Corp.	605,150
Alan Wood Steel Company	574,210
Allegheny Ludlum Steel Corp.	1,201,200
Midvale Company	1,201,200
Rustless Iron & Steel Corp.	395,850

Grand total of the government's gift to just these 18 companies is \$132,136,860.

That's what keeps the steel stocks speculators so happy. And that's what keeps the steel barons so arrogant in their attitude toward the CIO Steelworkers and its just wage demands.

WORKERS' FORUM

The Workers' Forum columns are open to the opinions of the readers of "The Militant". Letters are welcome on any subject of interest to the workers. Keep them short and include your name and address. Indicate if you do not want your name printed.

GM Strikers in Flint Eager For Militant

Not only are the Flint GM strikers marching the picket lines for the needed 30 per cent increase in pay, but in the process of their militant struggle comes simultaneously a political awakening. I recall the difficult days passing out The Militant to reluctant workers at factory gates, and picking up nearly a third of them after they had been disinterestedly thrown away. No More!

The extensive distribution of The Militant is accepted eagerly by the picketers, and is serving to influence their political thinking in working class terms. The Militant is being recognized by many workers as the labor paper of the strike — so much so that in one day alone, 10 new subscriptions to the paper were obtained. Nearly all comments are favorable. We are rebuffed for publishing it only once a week!

Forty new subscribers in one day—that's the tune today. In simple arithmetic that adds up to a political awakening.

F. B. Flint, Mich.

Soldier Tells Why Japanese Workers Go On Strike

I have a very interesting letter from a friend of mine who was recently sent to Japan. As I believe that the news may be of interest, I am quoting a portion of it:

"A high monthly salary here is 100 yen, which is equivalent to \$20. A lot of the Japanese are striking for higher wages. Some are demanding 400 per cent increase in salary. I can't say I blame them. They seem to be breaking away from the old-system of mythology and are beginning to face facts squarely in the face."

I believe that news from Japan is very light, and if anything further of interest is received by me I will send it in.

A. Bronson San Francisco, Cal.

AFL Machinists in Spid Strike at Gould & Eberhardt

There are many workers in this area who work in small plants and are striking with the same tenacity, determination, and courage as the workers of the large corporations, but their plants are less conspicuous, and their strikes are hardly heard of. Therefore, I'd like to tell of one such strike, for the fighting spirit of these workers is great in spite of their isolation.

At the Gould and Eberhardt factory in Irvington, N. J., 350 workers have been on strike now

for five weeks. They are members of the International Association of Machinists, Local 571. Their strike vote was 328 for, 12 against. Practically everyone from the shop has signed up for picketing, and has been taking his turn, regardless of the terrible snow storms and cold wave which hit this state during the entire month of December.

The 12 women who worked in the shop have been doing their share, and the few veterans who have already returned home have joined in labor's battle. This plant manufactures gear-outlets and shapers, but it is as dead as any shut-down war defense plant shortly after V-J Day. After two weeks, none of the office workers or supervisory employees crossed the picket lines, which are maintained for 24 hours at each of the three gates of the plant. And the office workers are now being organized.

To keep warm and for a picket headquarters, the workers secured a tent, then they rented an old bus, fixed in a stove and got themselves set for a long siege. The company has offered nothing more than a 7 1/2 per cent increase, and this was five weeks ago. Since that time they have made no move whatsoever, to meet or negotiate with the union. And the rates are 70 cents and \$1.20 an hour. Imagine supporting a family on forty hours of work at those scales of pay.

Like the bloated, huge corporations these smaller firms have profited from the war and audaciously try to trample and crush the unions. But these workers maintain their high morale by the conviction of the justice and the necessity of their fight. They are only asking fifteen per cent increase. They are firm and confident, and know that the strength of their union, and the general battle of the labor movement throughout the country will win for them the increases that they are more than entitled to and need.

The pickets and shop stewards that I met as I distributed The Militant were all friendly and glad to see a paper that carried news of labor's fight everywhere. All felt that Stamford, Conn., by its general strike demonstration had shown the way to publicize and fight against the corporations. These were AFL trade unionists, and they wished for a unified demonstration with the CIO in this area. It's good to see the solidarity everywhere as labor today is asserting itself.

R. Laurie Newark, N. J.

The Workers' Needs... And Truman's Proposal

President Truman has asked the American people to bombard the "representatives" of the "people" (Congress) with a deluge of letters, post-cards, telegrams and other forms of "pressure" to



TRUMAN

compel it to take action on his "desired" and "must" legislation. This legislation is about as follows: The establishment of "fact-finding" boards for the purpose of preventing (read: breaking) strikes during which time the workers would be compelled to take a 30-day "cooling off" stay of action while the fact-finders pursue their leisurely way.

But the workers have had a "cooling off" period, beginning shortly after Pearl Harbor, Mr. Truman, and are getting hotter and hotter. Besides, what facts are they that the government wants? The facts that the corporations are enjoying the lush profits, reserves, sinking funds and contingencies in the history of American capitalism? To say nothing of postwar tax rebates running into the billions (while the workers were denied even the pitiful \$25 a week jobless compensation?) But everyone knows these facts already.

It is indeed strange that the government as tax collector does not already have in its possession all the essential facts as to the assets and financial conditions of these war profiteers.

Should such "fact-finding" boards be set up and legalized by Truman and Congress, the outcome would be the same as the "fact-finding" machinery set up by Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1944 to look into the Little Steel (big steel) wage-freeze, price control and other parts of the "hold the line" order. It will be remembered that the government through its Bureau of Labor Statistics announced that the cost of living had "only" gone up 23 per cent. An independent survey of the labor members of the board in a thoroughly documented and analytical report PROVED that the over-all cost of living had gone up 48 per cent, or double the percentage given by the lying BLS report.

All this, however, did not prevent Roosevelt from accepting the patently false BLS report and coming forth with the demagogic statement that wage and price controls had "proved" remarkably "successful." Successful for whom?

Also, at that time the labor members of the board had included taxes as a decrease in purchasing power and quality deteriorations as price increases. The BLS indignantly rejected this method. Evidently, it is not a "fact" to a pot-bellied bourgeois that a pair of shoes which only lasts six months costs twice as much as a former pair for the same price which lasted 12 months! Or that the monstrous tax put on the wage-earners was not a wage decrease!

It is such chicanery and trickery to which the "fact-finding" apparatus of the bosses' government resorts. That the present boards appointed by Truman will produce more of such lies and deceit cannot be doubted by anyone except the most optimistic dullards.

G. H. R. St. Louis

For More Articles On Veterans' Needs

I wish to call your attention to what I think is a serious fault with the article on veteran's problems in The Militant. First there is too much generalization. The answers to the problems are too general. The complete failure to deal with the veteran's organizations (The Veterans of Foreign Wars and The American Legion) and their activities; particularly their public statements which effect the unions.

A series of articles should be written calling upon the unions to support the veterans in their demands and for the organization of the veterans by the union. The question of national defense, compulsory military training, and the use of American troops and equipment against colonial peo-

GI's Letter Tells Troops' Anger At Demobilization Double Cross

Editor:

The following letter on the Army's demobilization system was written to me by a soldier in Guam. It's a perfect example of the mood of the American soldiers, who are demonstrating all over the globe, to demand "Get Us Home!"

A Reader

Indianapolis, Ind.

Guam, December 18, 1945

Dear folks,

Yes, as the army has announced, there is undoubtedly an increase in shipping. Once again our great and honored military leaders have proven their amazing ability to deal with the most difficult and critical situations. The shortage now is not in shipping, but in number of eligible men.

By conveniently dropping the discharge score by only 5 points this month, the army is able to reveal that it is ahead of schedule. What schedule! It's like a railroad scheduling a run between New York and Chicago in ten days, and then crowing because it was accomplished in seven. Who the hell is being duped? Certainly not the suffering soldier himself.

In October, you may remember, it was announced that all troops in the ETO with a point score of over 44 would be on their way home by January 1st. Now, in December, they state that they hope to get 55 point men out of Europe by New Year's... while countless 60, 70 and 80 point men are being held under an "essential" clause. December was to have been the biggest month for discharges, if you recall. But now we find that with a monthly separation capacity of at least 1,200,000, only some 800,000 actually become eligible during December, resulting in some AAF separation centers, at least, closing down for good.

But the War Department eligibility score did not stop the Air Forces from releasing 45 point men in the States, beginning November 15, on a surplus basis.

Who the hell are they deceiving with this eligibility stuff? If the Army is ahead of schedule, then it's damn sure time to change the schedule. They treat the point system, which was inaugurated only as a makeshift stopgap between V-J Day and W-J Day, as though it had all the pontifical infallibility of the Ten Commandments.

Where does the Army get the right to deliberately hold men in overseas theaters doing absolutely nothing, while ships rust in the harbors... because the men are not ELIGIBLE? Then, by God, they have the nerve to say that the national security is being endangered by the "hysterical" demobilization... while all the way around the world, really hysterical high ranking men are deliberately provoking and fostering international situations... anything to keep making the exorbitant salaries... anything to convince the American public that troops are needed.

The mammoth injustice, the filthy politics and the bungling muddle-through inefficiency of the entire Army system has never been shown so apparently and in a worse light than in the criminal handling of demobilization. They have an unbroken record of not keeping their word.

Yes, even the poor suckers who reenlisted during November after they were promised immediate air transportation back to the States, are

ples should be closely linked.

The widest publicity should be given to evidence that at the present time new recruits are being indoctrinated by anti-labor films and other propaganda. It is further evident from training problems given these troops that they are to be used against the workers if the opportunity should arise.

An exposure should be written on how censorship was abused by the brass hats, how they abused their privileges, and generally the hostility of the enlisted men toward the officer caste. Individual veterans might be encouraged to write in their experiences. Proof that demobilization is not proceeding as it should must be publicized at every opportunity. That only the enemies of labor can benefit from the continued drafting of the youth of the nation should be pointed out.

J. Roberts Detroit, Mich.

The Sleeping Giant Of Labor Is Stirring

Editor:

The urge to fill the world with homilies so manifest in America today may after all be a good sign. We bear up under this volcanic eruption of moral tripe, wondering, waiting. May it not be that our homilists, like some sensitive gauge of the scientists, do but record with trembling the stirring awake of the giant who has lain sleeping for countless centuries—this giant who asked for nothing, seemed to want nothing, seemed indeed to need nothing; while a chosen caste, dancing their lives away in every conceivable idiosyncrasy of self indulgence, devoured gluttonously all material good things.

And these homilists, these hypocrites, these fear-bitten par-

anoiacs are as bloodless, as heartless as are the scientists' machines that measure us, gauging death's approach, when we lie in sick bed. The pseudo-religious bell-wethers are the shield and buckler of the sadistic bosses. And the bleating lambs as they are led to the slaughter, bleat that the pursuit of happiness is an inalienable right bestowed on us by them that's above. These lambs assure us, solemn as owls, that for the first time in history their own that's above have let us announce this inalienable right.

"Is it any wonder that our homilists use every device of evasion, concealment, double-crossing and get away with it! Kant's common sense dictum: "We are here to do our duty and not to be happy" falls on deaf ears.

On December 31, 1943 a certain group of seventeen men and one woman began to serve their sentences in federal penitentiaries. Were these eighteen of the Minneapolis Labor Case, agitating for a better world, pursuing lollipops or were they actuated by what they regarded as their duty?

That opiate of the people, pseudo-religious philosophy (apologies to Karl Marx for the correction!), seems under the quickened pace of the times to be losing its effect on the befuddled giant wallowing in the sloth of ages.

The drugged giant is shaking himself awake. He seems to have determined that his wife and children shall have proper share in the fabulous wealth he creates.

Let us hope that this time our thunderbolt — forging Cyclops will make his ultimate goal not expropriation but equitable distribution.

Joseph McNamee New York, N. Y.



MILITANT ARMY

Last week's issue of The Militant carried an "on the scene" report by Evelyn Atwood of the Stamford General Strike. A brief account of how The Militant came to be distributed at the demonstration will be of interest to our readers.

Comrades Spangler and Singer of Connecticut arrived in New York early Thursday morning where they were reinforced by Comrades Morgan and Jensen. These four comrades rushed over to the printshop where The Militant was rolling off the press, grabbed all the available papers and stacked them in a car.

Comrade Spangler now continues: "What a powerful sight met our eyes when we arrived in Stamford. Thousands of union workers were carrying banners pledging support to the striking Yale & Towne workers. Shops and stores on all sides of the streets were closed down tight for the length of time the demonstration was in progress.

"We started to distribute The Militant and in no time at all the 1500 papers were gone. We could hardly pass the papers out fast enough, so eager were the workers to get it—they literally pulled the copies out of our hands."

J. Smiley of California, a new subscriber, sent in for a one year subscription for a friend, and added the following: "I have read several copies of The Militant, and would like to congratulate you for the good work. I am glad to read the 'other side of the question' that practically all of our present day papers neglect. More power to you in the future."

I was reading in the last issue about the Socialist Workers Party. Any information that you could send me would be greatly appreciated."

Ruth Laurie of Newark writes: "We want to order 2,000 copies of this week's Militant. As the strike wave spreads, we want to distribute to thousands of work-

ers in UE at Westinghouse, UAW workers in Harrison and Bloomfield and steel workers in Newark, the only paper that has consistently fought against Wall Street's aims to take away labor's gains.

"Last week we distributed about 1,000 papers to workers of Western Electric in Kearny, and from the comments we heard they were favorably impressed with the story Alan Braden wrote on their scheduled strike. We intend to follow this distribution up with others."

The month of December has been quite a fruitful one in which many workers became acquainted with The Militant. Since the termination of our nationwide campaign on December 9 through the end of the month we have obtained the following subscriptions:

- 180 new six-month subscriptions.
- 32 new one-year subscriptions.
- 1 six-month renewal.
- 4 one-year renewals.
- 7 new one-year combination subscriptions to The Militant and the Fourth International.

Clara Kaye of Chicago writes: "An enclosing another batch of new subscriptions obtained by the comrades in the Calumet Steel area. The fact that the official sub campaign is over doesn't seem to concern them; they go right on plugging."



OUR PROGRAM:

- 1. Full employment and job security for all workers and veterans!**
A sliding scale of hours! Reduce the hours of work with no reduction in pay!
A rising scale of wages! Increase wages to meet the increased cost of living!
Government operation of all idle and government-built plants under workers' control!
Unemployment insurance equal to trade union wages during the entire period of unemployment!
- 2. Independence of the trade unions from the government!**
No restriction on the right to strike!
- 3. Organization of the war veterans by the trade unions!**
- 4. Full equality for Negroes and national minorities!**
Down with Jim Crow!
- 5. Working class political action!**
Establish the workers' and farmers' government! Build the independent labor party!
- 6. Tax the rich, not the poor!**
No taxes on incomes under \$5,000 a year!
- 7. A working class answer to capitalist militarism!**
Military training of workers, financed by the government, but under control of the trade unions! Trade Union wages for all workers in the armed forces!
- 8. Solidarity with the revolutionary struggles of the workers in all lands!**
For the complete independence of the colonial peoples!
Withdraw all American troops from foreign soil!

Join the Socialist Workers Party!

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New York Open Forums Sunday, Jan. 20

- Downtown:**
"The Meaning Of The Strike Wave And The Soldiers' Demonstrations"
Speaker: William Warde
116 University Place 8 p.m.
- Harlem:**
"The Indonesian Struggle for Independence"
Speaker: Mr. Andu, President of Indonesian Club of America
103 West 110th St. Room 23 7:30 p.m.

Pioneer Notes

The new second, enlarged and revised edition of Charles Jackson's very popular pamphlet, A Practical Program to Kill Jim Crow, is now ready for distribution.

The eagerness with which the branches of the Socialist Workers Party have been awaiting this pamphlet is demonstrated by the many advance orders we have on file.

Toledo wants 200; Kansas City 50; Buffalo, which never got its full quota of the first edition, has an order on file for 100 copies. New York Local had a standing order for 1,000 copies and took the first bundle of pamphlets as soon as they were delivered. Philadelphia has an order for 300; San Francisco wants 200. Youngstown has had an order on file since October 3.

We have a score or more individual orders waiting delivery, some of them from the deep south.

The first edition of the pamphlet, published in August 1945, had an exceptional response. The entire edition of 10,000 copies was sold out three weeks after the date of publication. The day after the National Red Sunday Mobilization of the Socialist Workers Party, held September 11, we received more re-orders than we could fill!

The Los Angeles branch of the SWP sent copies of the pamphlet to the Negro press for review. Three days later they received a letter from an editor of one paper, asking for information about the party and the conditions of membership. The Los Angeles Sentinel recently reprinted the entire pamphlet in its columns.

A Practical Program to Kill Jim Crow, by Charles Jackson, second enlarged and revised edition, 10c.
Order from Pioneer Publishers, 116 University Place, New York 3, N. Y.

Lenin, International Leader and Teacher of Labor, Left Rich Heritage to Aid U.S. Workers' Struggles

By Ruth Johnson

"This epoch is the epoch of gigantic catastrophes, of violent mass military decisions, of crises," said Lenin in March of 1918. "This is only the beginning."

Today, on the twenty-second anniversary of Lenin's death, colossal new crises arising out of the Second World War make Lenin's words and deeds of vital importance to the workers of America. Today the most powerful imperialist force the world has ever known — American capitalism — is being shaken. While nation-wide strikes show labor's determination to resist the hunger plans of Big Business at home, vast demonstrations in its far-flung armies threaten to loosen Wall Street's grip on the spoils of the Second World War.

When this militant working class of America learns the road of Lenin, it can serve to free not only itself, but the whole world from capitalist bondage.

Lenin, who led the workers of Russia to victory in the October Revolution of 1917, had supreme confidence in the world working class. Born in 1870, he was the son of a director of elementary schools in the Volga provinces, and the brother of a revolutionist hung by the Czar. Within a month after he entered law school at Kazan University, Lenin was expelled for revolutionary activities. From Kazan he went to Petrograd to build the first working class circle of revolutionists.

Lenin founded the "Union of the Struggle for the Emancipation of Labor" in Petrograd, wrote its leaflets, and published his first illegal pamphlet "On Fines." He strove to raise the workers from economic struggles to revolutionary socialist political action.

Imprisoned by the Czarist government and sent into Siberian exile in the 1890's, Lenin studied and wrote, pointing always to the need of building the working class party. In 1901, still in exile, he, together with other revolutionists, began the publication of *Iskra* (The Spark). Simultaneously he worked toward the formation of an underground organization.

In the Russian Revolution of 1905, Lenin played a leading part although he lived in Petrograd illegally. He was quick to see that the Soviets, the Workers' and Peasants' Councils, which sprang up spontaneously in the 1905 revolution, would be the form of rule in the workers' state. He regarded them as the greatest contribution of the 1905 events to the revolutionary struggle.

Lenin Fought For Marxism

Years of reaction followed the 1905 revolution, but Lenin never lost heart. In emigration again in 1907, he helped to establish underground papers at Geneva, Paris and later at Cracow. Lenin fought tirelessly for Marxism, against all those who sought to revise, modify, and soften the theory of the class struggle leading to the dictatorship of the proletariat, which will insure genuine workers' democracy.

When the parties of the Second International capitulated to support of their capitalist governments at the outbreak of the First World War, Lenin and a handful of other true internationalists met at Zimmerwald to reaffirm the principles of Marxism. At Berne and in Zurich, he rallied a little group of workers to the banner of inter-

national socialism, writing joyously of every tiny gain.

Then came the February, 1917 revolution, overthrowing Czarism in Russia. Lenin returned from exile, to take his place at the head of his Bolshevik Party. For him the seizure of power by the working class was the only way to win peace, bread and land for the people.

During the July Days of 1917, the provisional government under Kerensky launched an assault against the Bolsheviks, falsely accusing them of being paid agents of German Kaiserism. Lenin was again forced into hiding. When a new revolutionary upsurge came in September, Lenin saw that the time had come for the workers to take power from the capitalists and their agents. Lenin won over the party majority; the Bolsheviks took the leadership of the insurrection; the revolution triumphed.

But there was grave danger to the young Soviet Republic. England, France, America, Japan, threw armies of intervention against the workers' state. Counter-revolutionary armies were launched with Allied aid; by 1918, acute famine gripped the country. The left Social Revolutionaries began a policy of terrorism against the government. On August 30, Lenin was shot and severely wounded by an SR terrorist, Fanny Kaplan. After many days of lingering between life and death, his powerful constitution and iron will prevailed. Lenin lived, although his health was impaired, until January 18, 1924.

The Lessons Of October

The Russian Revolution had shown the workers of the entire world the way to power. The masses led by the Bolsheviks had overthrown the capitalist property system, nationalized industry, and instituted a planned economy. Lenin, however, never envisaged this as the completion of the task. He was above all an internationalist. To him the October Revolution in Russia was only the first in a chain of uprisings which would sweep away capitalist privileges and power everywhere, and create the conditions for a socialist world. That is why he, together with Trotsky, founded the Third International to provide the necessary leadership for that struggle.

The wave of reaction which followed the defeats of other revolutions in Germany and Hungary inevitably had serious effects upon the Soviet Union and the Third International. After Lenin's death a gang of bureaucrats who spoke in Lenin's name but trampled upon all his teachings and practices, rose to the top in the isolated workers' state. They consolidated their totalitarian rule. The monstrous crimes and betrayals of Stalinism — the opposite of Leninism — have greatly imperilled but not wiped out the basic gains of October — nationalized property and planned economy. These remain.

Lenin's Concept Of Party

Lenin's greatest contribution to Marxism — the example of the kind of party which will lead the revolutionary workers — also remains.

Lenin's party was based upon democratic centralism; complete democracy within the party, iron discipline and centralism in the struggle against all other forces. In 1904 Lenin wrote, on



NICKOLAI LENIN 1870 — 1924

the nature of the Bolshevik party: "The proletariat is not afraid of organization and discipline! The proletariat is trained for organization by its

whole life, much more radically than are many puny intellectuals." And again, in 1920: "I repeat, the experience of the victorious dictatorship of the proletariat in Russia has clearly shown even to those who are unable to think, or who have not had occasion to ponder over this question, that absolute centralization and the strictest discipline of the proletariat are one of the fundamental conditions for victory over the bourgeoisie."

It is the Trotskyists alone who under the banner of the Fourth International today carry forward the program of real communism which led the Russian workers to victory. In this country, only the Socialist Workers Party offers Lenin's road and his Bolshevik methods as a guide to the American workers.

"Regardless of victories or defeats in one country or another, or even on a continent or another," said James P. Cannon, National Secretary of the SWP, on the 28th anniversary of the Russian Revolution, "the central issue of our epoch — capitalism or socialism — will not be finally decided until it is decided in the United States of America."

Describing the party which must lead the struggle, Comrade Cannon continued: "This means a party that is orthodox Marxist in its theory, that is firm in principle and strong in its unity and its discipline. Only such a party is fit to organize and lead a revolution."

"We are striving to build such a party in the United States, and we invite you to join us in the task," to join in preparing for "the socialist victory throughout the world." That will be the only kind of memorial our Lenin would have wanted.

Chicago SWP Joins Militant Demonstration Against Jim-Crow Policy at Skating Rink

By Clara Kaye

CHICAGO, Jan. 10—The Chicago branch of the Socialist Workers Party joined forces last Saturday night with the local Committee on Racial Equality to stage a 3-hour picket line in front of the White City Skating Rink at 63rd and South Parkway, a

notorious Jim Crow establishment in the heart of the Negro community. The picket line was composed of both whites and Negroes, many of them World War II veterans.

The CORE, an interracial organization dedicated to the fight against racial inequality, had two weeks previously conducted a successful demonstration in which Negroes, upon being denied admission, refused to leave the ticket window, thus preventing the sale of tickets to anyone. The management was forced to close the ticket office on that Saturday, one of its busiest nights, consequently losing hundreds of dollars.

Hearing of the struggle launched by the CORE against the rink's brazen violations of Illinois civil rights laws, the SWP promptly announced its willingness to participate in a united action. The CORE eagerly accepted the offer at their meeting late Friday night. By Saturday night at 8 p.m., 25 members of the SWP, armed with placards and leaflets entitled "Smash Discrimination!" had been mobilized into the joint demonstration, together with an

Nazi Rule And Allied Rule

The following item is translated from the December 22 *La Verite*, organ of the French Trotskyists. It is a letter from a reader:

(1) In 1940 I saw a notice posted on the walls in Warsaw—"Any person found carrying arms will be court-martialed. (Signed) Oberkommando, Warsaw."

(2) On November 28, 1945, I read in the press—"The Command of the British Military Forces in Batavia warns that any person found carrying arms after 24 hours will be shot."

I am enclosing a contribution of 50 francs for your work.

One of the Underground Fighters of the Warsaw Ghetto.

Chicago Stalinists in Attack On Distributors of 'Militant'

By Clara Kaye and Florence Hayes

CHICAGO, Jan. 13—Militant distributors were viciously attacked today by Stalinists in front of the Chicago Coliseum, where the local Communist Party was holding a Lenin Memorial Meeting.

As five Militant distributors approached the entrance, Communist Party members in a head-on attack attempted to wrest a bundle from a woman's hands. Clutching the papers tightly, she kicked and bit as they shoved her. Seventeen additional comrades rushed to her defense. A wild melee ensued, with fists, shouts and Militants flying in the air.

As the crowd dispersed, the distributors reorganized into strategic groups. Several more

at which time a jury trial was scheduled for February 4 at the Criminal Courts Building, 26th St. and California.

The rink management was visibly shaken by the diminished attendance caused by the pickets, whose determination found full reflection in their protest signs: "The SWP Fights For Social Equality," "The Draft Boards Did Not Exclude Negroes," "Veterans Want Democracy Here," "White City Hate Program Must Stop," and many others.

TO CONTINUE FIGHT

Passersby not only paused to read all the signs but some remained to help picket. When the rink management turned off the marquee lights in an effort to reduce the effectiveness of the picket line, neighborhood youths appeared with flashlights to illuminate the picket signs, while the line circled on, singing, undaunted by the semi-darkness and the cold rain.

The CORE and the SWP are determined to continue the fight. Another demonstration, which promises to be the largest yet, will be held this Saturday, January 12, at 8 p.m. A leaflet signed by both organizations will be distributed to the high school students and the people of the community on Friday and Saturday, urging them to join the demonstration. In addition, the support of other Negro, labor and progressive organizations is being enlisted.

The struggle against White City is considered to be the opening gun in a campaign to smash discrimination in all skating rinks and amusement centers in the city of Chicago. The SWP is giving wholehearted support to this fight and will continue to do so until it is won.

Ask Your Shopmate To Subscribe to The Militant

Fire in Fontana "No Accident," Declares Expert

By Jean Simon

(Special to The Militant)

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 10—The too simple "accident theory" of the cause of the mysterious fire which destroyed Mrs. Helen Short and her two small children in Fontana, California, December 16, was rejected by an arson expert this week.

Paul T. Wolfe, expert investigating the case for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, reported that the type of explosion and degree of heat shown by his analysis of specimens of the earth and debris at the scene of the fire indicate that some more explosive substance than kerosene was present.

On the basis of his findings, the NAACP is demanding a grand jury investigation into the cause of the injuries and deaths.

San Bernardino County authorities — sheriffs, coroner, district attorney and fire chief — from the first have treated the deaths and fire as a routine accident caused by a kerosene explosion while O'Day H. Short was filling a lamp.

They refused to pay any attention to the fact that Short, a Negro, had been threatened with violence by a vigilante committee two weeks prior to the fatal fire. At the coroner's inquest held only on the insistence of the family of the dead woman, officials barred all evidence dealing with the threats.

Meanwhile, the first public meeting on the Fontana case will be held this Sunday evening at the Embassy North Hall in Los Angeles by the Socialist Workers Party. Comrade Myra Tanner Weiss, organizer, will speak on "Vigilante Terror in Fontana." She will describe the facts of the case and the lessons to be learned from the tragedy.

A further development this week was the demand by a Citizens' Committee in San Bernardino, county seat near Fontana,

Cable "Grab" Reveals Sordid Allied War Aims

Among the wealth of facts proving the sordid character of Allied aims in the second World War, a particularly revealing item is the cable "grab" at Gibraltar.

The only direct cable line between Italy and the United States formerly passed 65 miles offshore from Gibraltar. During the war, British naval engineers cut this cable and towed it to the British fortress.

Now the British refuse to give it up. In fact they have turned over the cable to a private concern, Cable and Wireless. Consequently all cable messages between the United States and Italy are now under control of this concern. If it wishes, it can route all messages to Italy via London — which would give the British a higher cut in the share of tolls.

Before the war, this cable paid its holders about \$1,500 a day. Not a big item in the light of the billions poured into the war machine, but pocket money just the same for the British capitalists.

And so Cable and Wireless now refuses to give up the cable. At a private hearing before an Allied Commission on the matter, a company official argued that his company had suffered war damages, and consequently was entitled to reparations.

Apparently the argument convinced the Commission. On January 4, Cable and Wireless announced it is now prepared to accept messages to Italy, subject of course to re-routing through London.

'The Four Freedoms'



Los Angeles CIO Demands Return Home of China GIs

By Al Lynn

(Special to The Militant)

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 9 — Meeting in front of City Hall on Saturday, January 5, at the call of the Los Angeles CIO Council, 100 workers demanded immediate withdrawal of all American troops from China.

From the City Hall demonstrators marched almost a mile to picket the Chinese consulate. Along the way they distributed leaflets demanding: "Bring the Boys Home!"

In support of the demonstration, the Socialist Workers Party distributed thousands of leaflets calling for solidarity with the revolutionary struggles of the workers of all lands and for the complete independence of the colonial peoples.

The small size of the demon-

strated the demonstration, were placed in a very awkward position by negotiations between Dictator Chiang Kai-shek and the Chinese Stalinists. At any moment they expected a sell-out by Stalin which they would have to greet with loud hurrahs. Not liking to be caught in the usual abrupt about-face, they played it safe. Leading Stalinists in the CIO were conspicuous by their absence.

The role of the official organ of the Stalinists, the Peoples World, was the same. The demonstration received only brief mention.

The Stalinists once more revealed their complete incapacity to organize demonstrations in support of international solidarity. Only the Trotskyist program can give correct direction to the struggle against imperialism.

Protest The Massacre Of The Colonial People!

Demand The Withdrawal Of Allied Troops From China, Indonesia And Indo-China!

TOLEDO MASS MEETING

Sunday, Jan. 20, 3:00 P.M.

Speakers:

CHARLES JACKSON M. WALKER
Writer of 'Negro Struggle' SWP Organizer

FREDERICK DOUGLAS
COMMUNITY CENTER

201 Pinewood Auspices: Socialist Workers Party

Akron Lenin Memorial Meeting
Friday, Jan. 25
Speaker
Grace Carlson
Akron Militant Club
405-6 Everett Bldg. 8 p.m.
39 East Market St.

DETROIT
Lenin Memorial Meeting
featuring
"CZAR TO LENIN"
Famous Documentary Film Showing Actual Scenes of the Russian Revolution
Speaker: ARTHUR BURCH
Chairman: GRACE CARLSON
5108 LINWOOD SUNDAY, JAN. 27
8:00 P.M.

Lenin-Liebkecht-Luxemburg MEMORIAL MEETING

Friday, Jan. 18

Featuring:

'Czar To Lenin'

Famous documentary film showing actual scenes of the Russian Revolution.

Speaker:

C. Thomas, New York Organizer, SWP
Chairman: ROSE KARSNER

Cornish Arms Hotel New York
311 W. 23rd St. 8 P.M.
Auspices: Socialist Workers Party

World-Wide Protests Climax Long GI Drive for Prompt Demobilization

By Charles Carsten

The world-wide GI demonstrations climax a long campaign of the veterans to get back home. With the declaration of "V-J Day," the millions of men dragooned into the armed forces considered the war over. When Congress continued to keep them overseas, unrest among the soldiers swiftly mounted.

The 97th Division, for instance, redeployed from Europe to the Pacific, protested while crossing the country.

"We're being sold down the river while Congress vacations," the men told a Militant correspondent. They plastered the sides of the railway cars with slogans: "They're Shanghaing us."

Other divisions, treated in a similar manner, likewise protested. Washington ignored them and continued to send veterans of the European war to the Pacific.

GIs wrote their friends and relatives. "Put pressure on Congress," they said. "Force Congress to act!" The GI's folks responded. A letter-writing campaign reached large proportions. Yet, Congress took no action.

LETTERS POUR IN

Servicemen then began to write Congressmen themselves, demanding immediate demobilization. Writing to Congressmen by servicemen is forbidden by the Brass Hats and is likely to entail reprisals against the men. But despite the efforts of officers to stop the campaign, letters by individual GIs and groups poured into Congress from all parts of the world.

The Congressional Record contains many letters of angry protest. A typical serviceman's warning was read into the September

14 Record. "If conditions continue as they are," he said, and if the announced program is carried out, "there is literally going to be hell to pay."

An apologist for the Army, Representative Short, admitted Congressmen were meeting the demands of servicemen by a "lot of demagoging" and said that "as members of Congress" we are "swamped by an avalanche of mail from naturally disgruntled and discontented people all over America."

HANDED 'SILLY' JOBS

In letters to Congress men said they were "like drones in a beehive" and complained about the useless work. "Our minds are slowly being killed by the way the Army is throwing us around," a soldier bitterly wrote. "We are doing such details as sweeping the ground, day after day, which is not only depressing but silly," he concluded.

As Congress failed to act, the GIs became more indignant. Army Air Force men held a protest meeting in Sioux Falls, South Dakota on September 1, 1945. They sent a letter to the press signed "The Voice of the 2,000," which concluded with the terse demand: "These men want out. Out of the Army and fast."

The GIs abroad began rubber-stamping slogans on envelopes of letters sent to the States: "WRITE YOUR CONGRESSMEN"—"GET US HOME."

Worried Congressmen began to question the War Department.

Army Brass Hats replied there weren't enough ships to bring the men home any faster. Trying to throw the blame on labor, they brazenly asserted that waterfront strikes were delaying the redeployment of troops.

SHIPS LIE IDLE

Men in the Far East and in Europe knew this was not true. They had seen ships leave ports for the United States without passengers. They saw ships lying idle in the harbors. GIs wrote to the newspapers and Congress exposing the lies of the Brass Hats.

They demanded action from the stalling Congressmen. Letters were stamped: "NO BOATS—NO VOTES." This slogan echoed the sentiment of every GI in service. It struck at Wall Street's lackeys where they were most tender. Congress replied with more demagoguery, but did nothing to meet the demands of the marooned men.

Now Brass Hats admit the delay in demobilization is not due to a lack of shipping space. On January 4, Lt. Gen. Lawton J. Collins, director of Army Information, announced that men overseas with sufficient points could be returned within three months. He said ships will become surplus because of the slowdown in demobilization.

GIs ORGANIZE

This came as no revelation to men overseas. They knew long ago there were enough ships. While the Brass Hats and Congressmen lied and stalled, the GIs organized. Mimeographed form-letters demanding immediate demobilization were distributed among the men. These were sent to Congressmen. Circular letters repeated the same demand. Letters to Washington reached flood proportions.

Cables signed by individuals and groups of hundreds and often thousands of soldiers poured into Washington. The pressure mounted.

GIs were now boiling over with anger. They could see no reason for policing the Philippines which have been promised independence on July 4, 1946. They saw no reason for remaining in China to bolster the ruthless dictator Chiang Kai-shek. They had no desire to remain indefinitely in Germany and Japan. They felt they were doomed to spend years in the hated Army and Navy, away from families and friends.

In the face of this situation the Brass Hats announced on January 4 they were going to slow down demobilization. This was the spark that touched off demonstrations wherever GIs are stationed.

High Officials and Generals Maneuver Against Soldiers

The world-wide protests of the GIs have thrown government officials and Brass Hats into a panic. Generals denied charges of "double talk" by the War Department, said the reason for the slowdown was "a changing international situation" and spoke guardedly of "International commitments."

On January 8, under pressure of universal GI protests, President Truman was forced to concede that there should be no reprisals. But he supported the War Department's action slowing down demobilization. Truman said there was "a critical need for troops overseas." Disregarding the unanimous claims of GIs to the contrary, he declared demobilization was proceeding "with commendable efficiency and with justice to all concerned."

Then General Dwight D. Eisenhower, Chief of Staff, issued an order on January 9 in which he directed commanders "to cut

their manpower requirements to the minimum." As though the War Department had never ordered a slowdown, he authorized commanders in a treacherously worded statement to "continue to return to the United States without delay any men for whom there is no military need."

Even General Douglas MacArthur, who ordered veterans driven out of Washington at bayonet point during the Bonus March of 1932, felt constrained to state the men were not "challenging discipline and authority." With Eisenhower he approved the policy of Lieut. Gen. Styer, commander in the Philippines, who said "no mass disciplinary action has been initiated."

TALK OF CONCESSIONS Following the same policy as bosses and government officials in a powerful strike, officers speak of concessions. They hope promises will stem the surge of resentment and place them in a more favorable position to retaliate later.

However, even during the demonstrations, the iron hand of Prussian militarism appeared. Col. Charles A. Mahoney brazenly admitted he "broke up" a demonstration in Yokohama. He described the GI protests in Japan as "near mutiny."

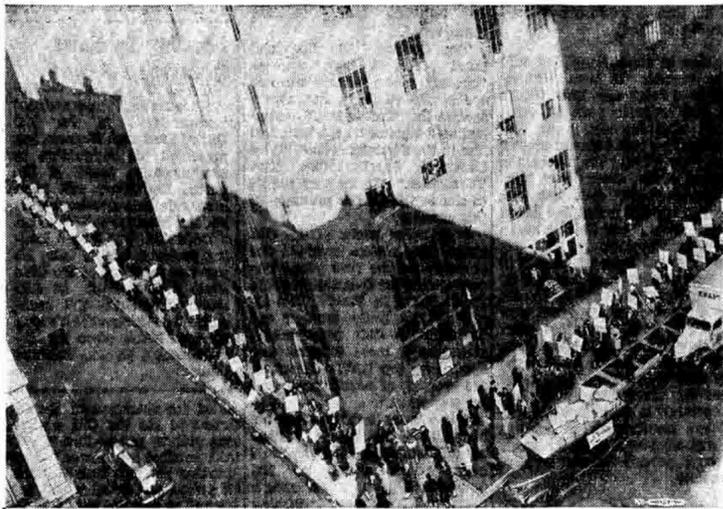
This arrogant Brass Hat threatened the men: "If you want to go home I'll take you home. I'll see that you get to my Yokohama prison."

In Frankfurt on the Main, fixed bayonets and leveled rifles stopped GIs attempting to present their demands to General Joseph T. McNarney. Armed paratroopers dispersed the GIs. About twenty soldiers were arrested for "disorderly conduct" during the march on headquarters.

In Honolulu, Lieut. Gen. Robert C. Richardson forbade discourteous reference to high authorities by the staff of the Mid-Pacific Stars and Stripes. He barred publication of gripe letters "containing discourteous or derogatory statements against any authority." Violation of this order, he said, would bring disciplinary action.

These are warning signs that Brass Hats are prepared to carry out a policy of harsh reprisals if Washington gives them the green light.

Picketing Western Union in Manhattan



This is a bird's eye view of the picket line thrown around the main building of Western Union in New York City. The CIO American Communications Association tied up Western Union in the country's financial center in protest against a War Labor Board reduction of a previous wage award made by the Regional WLB.

Huge Profits Fatten Up Meat-Packing Barons

By Robert L. Birchman

In his pre-World War I novel, "The Jungle," exposing the vile conditions in the meat packing industry, Upton Sinclair wrote of the packinghouse barons: "What they wanted from a hog was all the profits that could be got out of him; and that was what they wanted from the working-man, and also that was what they wanted from the public."

This is just as true today, as proved by the admitted wartime profits of the meat barons who cry they "cannot bargain to raise wages above the company's ability to pay" (George A. Eastwood, president of Armour & Co.)

Here are the war profits of the "Big Four" in the packing industry: Swift & Co. profits soared from \$24,901,133 in 1941 to \$59,752,937 in 1944, an increase of 140 per cent; Armour & Co. from \$27,123,362 to \$49,361,764, or 82 per cent; Wilson & Co. from \$11,240,000 to \$19,573,019, or 82 per cent; Cudahy & Co. from \$6,083,022 to \$14,132,047, or 116 per cent.

For the eight largest packinghouse companies, sales volume rose from the prewar 1936-39 average of \$2.2-billion to \$4.5-billion in 1944, an increase of 120 per cent. At the same time, their net profits, after all taxes, "were up 154 per cent, considerably more than the percentage increase in sales volume." (The Meat Of It, CIO United Packinghouse Workers Research Bulletin September-October, 1945.)

For every dollar of actual or claimed capital investment, these same eight largest companies in 1944 grabbed a 25 per cent return as compared to "only" 3.9 per cent in 1936-39. Even after taxes, this return was two and a half times greater than before the war.

Repeat of the excess profits tax will mean additional tens of millions in profits for 1946 and thereafter. Swift alone, despite its huge net profits, paid \$34,000,000 in 1944 excess profits taxes. This will now go into the pockets of the owners.

PRODUCTIVITY SOARS The future looks bright for the meat profiteers, due not only to a vast demand for meat products combined with high prices, but to various plans to increase labor productivity and cut unit costs.

Thus, according to the U. S. Department of Labor, during the last three war years, man-hour productivity increased nearly 12 per cent. In some meat canning departments, reported the War Production Board, output per man-hour rose 50 per cent! Increased productivity alone, according to the union "provides for upping wages 12 per cent without costing the companies a cent."

Between 1919 and 1941, output per man-hour of labor in the industry increased 75 per cent. From 1937 to 1940, for instance, while hourly earnings rose only three per cent, unit labor costs fell 16 per cent due to increased productivity. In the coming period, the companies admittedly anticipate similar reduced labor costs in terms of increased productivity.

Elimination of overtime wages

workers will receive less than \$30 per week—and many much less."

The entrenched, and for years unchallenged, barons of the packing trust, are preparing for war against the workers. They have a long history of brutal union-busting. They want to return to the days of the "Packers' Heaven"—to the open shop days of "if you don't like it, you're fired"; to the "no overtime," "no seniority," "no guaranteed work week," the "25 and 32 1/2 cents an hour" days.

WORKERS LEARNED

But the workers have learned well the lessons of the past, of 1886, 1894, 1904 and 1921, when the packers succeeded in dividing them on racial and nationalistic lines, imported strikebreakers and used troops to break their union.

VILE CONDITIONS

What of the position of the workers in an industry which requires extremely hard toil under the most dirty and dangerous conditions imaginable?

This can be seen from one fact alone: THE MEAT PACKING INDUSTRY PAYS OUT ONLY SEVEN PER CENT OF ITS EXPENSES FOR WAGES—THE LOWEST PERCENTAGE OF ANY INDUSTRY.

Even if every penny of a 25 per cent wage increase were passed on to the consumers in higher prices, this would add but 38 cents to the cost of each hundred pounds of dressed meat, or a third of a cent per pound. The meat packers' lobby, even without raising wages, has been clamoring for removal of OPA price ceilings and sky's-the-limit prices.

In the worst years of the 1929-39 depression, a 1938 Federal Trade Commission report showed, "the packers did not fare so badly," with all companies averaging a 4.43 per cent profit annually from 1929 to 1935. By 1934, the 11 largest firms enjoyed the quite handsome return of 7.22 per cent on investment.

But for the workers, in the "best" years, there have been no general wage increases in the packing industry since 1941, before Pearl Harbor, despite a 50 per cent hike in living costs.

Within a few months the prewar average of 38 hours per week will again prevail in the packing industry. At present wage rates what would 38 hours a week mean?

Existing straight time average earnings per hour are 87 cents—in an industry that has one of the highest accident rates of any in the country, one out of every 12 workers in 1944 suffering a disabling injury on the job.

LOW WAGE-RATES

At the prewar average of weekly working hours, 38, the average packinghouse worker will earn at present wage rates only \$33.06 per week. Since at least half of the packinghouse workers are on straight time rates of 80 cents an hour or less, the union reports that "two-thirds of the

The NEGRO STRUGGLE

"Labor with a white skin cannot emancipate itself where labor with a black skin is branded."
—KARL MARX

by CHARLES JACKSON

The Anti-Negro Pogrom in Manila

According to a United Press release from Manila, January 9, an anti-Negro pogrom has been initiated in the armed forces. A Negro GI was shot dead by a sentry after, it is claimed, he "refused to halt" while emerging from the 10th Quartermaster Depot "with a bundle."

To indicate their resentment against such brazen persecution taking place in the "postwar" period and in "our own" colony, the Philippines, the other colored soldiers from the dead man's camp "seized weapons from their supply room and fired them for an hour as a demonstration against his death."

United States Military Police announced that they had arrested 80 Negro soldiers from this camp for firing guns into the air. They made no mention of holding the white sentry who ruthlessly took the life of the Negro GI.

Before we write this off the books as simply another example of the rabidly anti-Negro policy of the Southern-dominated brass hats and military police, it would be well to further examine its character and timing.

During the last few days and weeks there has been a series of outbreaks, characterized by militant mass protest action, as thousands of GI's, white and colored, attempt to crystallize their determination to get back home. The demonstrations against demobilization delays, beginning in Manila, have spread to the India-Burma Theatre, Germany, France and Hawaii. In Frankfurt the pitch has risen to such a degree that the Big Brass was forced (and this is an extent to which they do not like to go) to send armed paratroopers against the demonstrators in order to disperse them.

These soldiers have been held in the army for several years; their buddies have been killed and wounded; they have been told that we have now "won the war." They now resent being held in these foreign countries for the sole purpose of keeping the native people subjected and protecting the properties and investments of American capital.

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TIMED MURDER

The murder of this Negro GI by the white sentry seems perfectly timed to cause inter-racial friction and rioting in an attempt to stymie the common cause of both white and colored GI's—that of getting back home. It is calculated to divert their natural ire against the military tops into the fruitless channel of white against black and black against white.

That is the same tactic which is used in this country against the labor movement. Invariably when the working class is engaged

LIKE DETROIT

The anti-Negro terror in Manila is comparable to the Detroit pogrom of 1943. At that time labor was showing signs of throwing off the chains of government "arbitration" boards and the no-strike pledge, in order to better defend itself against the increasing onslaughts of the profit-bloated corporations.

Now it is the GI's who are using the same militant methods as the civilian workers. They are directing their protests today against the top Brass, as they did before against the corporations and their governmental agents. In Detroit the cops started off by shooting innocent Negroes and then arresting still more, to put the blame on the victims. Now the sentry kills a Negro and the Military Police arrest 80 Negroes who protested this act. They thereby inferentially blame the victims for the "riot." The Detroit "riot" was timed to cause interracial strife and thereby divide the rising workers. Now the Manila incident is timed to cause increased racial hatred and thereby weaken and divert the common struggle of all GI's to get home.

The Brass even utilized the GI's legitimate protest as an excuse to launch a red-baiting campaign, just as the bosses do when the militants in the labor movement demand a better deal for the workers. Col. Charles A. Mahoney in Yokohama charged that "Communists and Bolsheviks" were responsible for this mass action on the part of the homesick GI's.

Here as on the picket line the only answer to such tactics of divide and rule is the call by the leading militants for tighter and tighter solidarity between all races, religions and nationalities, and increased struggle against the common enemy—monopoly capitalism and its governmental and military agents.

Socialist Workers Party Branch Activities

AKRON — Visit The Militant Club, 405-6 Everett Bldg., 39 East Market St., open Tues. and Thurs. 2 to 4 p.m.; Mon., Wed., Fri. 7 to 9 p.m.

ALLENTOWN — BETHLEHEM — Branch meeting every Thursday, 8 p.m., at Militant Labor Forum, S. E. corner Front and Hamilton Streets, Allentown.

BOSTON — Office at 30 Stuart St. Open Mondays and Saturdays from noon until 5 p.m., Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

BUFFALO — Every Saturday night, Current Events Discussion and Open House, at Militant Forum, 629 Main St., 2nd floor.

CHICAGO — Visit SWP, 160 N. Wells, R. 317. Open 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. every day except Sunday. Tel. Dearborn 7562.

CLEVELAND — Militant Forum every Sunday, 8:30 p.m. at Peck's Hall 1446 E. 82nd St.

DETROIT — SWP Open House every Saturday at 6108 Linwood. Forums on topical questions every Sunday, 8 p.m. Classes every Thursday: 'How To Prepare A Speech' and 'History Of Russian Revolution.'

"Profits," Jan. 25; "Prices," Feb. 1; "Jobs," Feb. 8.

East Side, Folks Hall, 424 N. Soto; "Profits," Jan. 23; "Prices," Jan. 30; "Jobs," Feb. 6.

San Pedro, 1008 S. Pacific, Room 214; "Prices," Jan. 25; "Jobs," Feb. 1.

MILWAUKEE — Visit the Milwaukee branch of the SWP at its headquarters, 424 E. Wells St., any evening from 7:30.

MINNEAPOLIS — Visit the Labor Book Store, 10 South 4th St., open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily.

NEWARK — Open forum every Friday at the Progressive Workers' School, 423 Springfield Ave., at 8:30.

Reading room and office open Mondays-Thursdays, 4 to 10 p.m.

Militant Readers' Discussion Group meets every Sunday, 7:30 p.m. Round table discussion.

NEW YORK — Registration open at 116 University Pl. for classes in Principles of Marxism, Public Speaking and Parliamentary Procedure.

Harlem Discussion Group meets every Sunday 7:30 p.m., 103 West 110 St., Room 25.

Office open Monday to Thurs., 1 to 4:30, also Fri. and Sun., 7:30 to 10 p.m.

Brooklyn House-warming social, 635 Fulton St., Sat., Jan. 19 at 8:30 p.m.

PITTSBURGH — Militant Reading Room, Seely Bldg., 5905 Penn Ave., corner Penn. Ave. & Beatty St., E. Liberty. Open evenings, 6:30 to 9:30, also Saturday 2-9 p.m. Circulating library. Class on fundamentals of Marxism every Sunday evening.

PORTLAND, Ore. — Visit the SWP headquarters, 134 S. W. Washington, 3rd Floor. Tel. ATwater 3992. Open 1 to 4 p.m., daily except Sunday, and 6 to 8 p.m. on Tuesday and Friday.

SAN FRANCISCO — Visit the San Francisco School of Social Science, 305 Grant Ave., corner of Grant and Sutter, 4th floor; open from 12 noon to 3 p.m., Monday through Saturday, and 7 to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Friday night study groups: 'Introduction to Trotskyism,' 7:30 p.m.; 'History of Democratic Centralism,' 8:40 p.m.

SEATTLE — Study groups every Friday, 7:45 p.m., at Seattle School of Social Science, 1919 1/2 Second Ave.; 1. Imperialism; 2. Introduction to Socialism.

ST. LOUIS — Visit our headquarters, 1023 N. Grand Blvd., Rm. 312, open Monday through Saturday from 12 to 2 p.m.; Monday, Wednesday, Friday from 8 to 10 p.m.

TOLEDO — Forums every Tuesday, 8:00 p.m., Rol Davis Bldg., Room 304, 905 Jefferson Ave. Open evenings, 7-9.

YOUNGSTOWN — Youngstown School of Social Science, 225 N. Phelps St., open to public Tuesday and Saturday afternoon from 2 to 5; also 7:30 to 9:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday.

Diary Of A Steelworker By T. Kovalesky

(We reprint this week, one of the early columns by Comrade Kovalesky, which appeared in The Militant on August 17, 1944.)

Dear Joey: We just received your last letter, and we're both as enthusiastic as you are about your fur-



lough. We hope it comes through soon. There is just one thing that I wish, though (I guess your dad is never satisfied), and that is that you had something a little better to come home to.

I don't know whether or not you saw it, but a little while ago in the papers there was a picture of Commando Kelly's homecoming, banner and crowds to welcome him... but what struck me was the shabby looking shack, a typical firetrap of a house for him to come back to. It was something like our house.

It seems a shame, an awful shame, for a fellow to be over there going through hell every day, and then to come home to what the social workers and the "upphah classes" would call "the slums." It seems a terrible shame that when the fellows come home at last into unemployment and all sorts of privations, that these old frame shacks will be a little shabbier, a little squalid and saggier, than they were before all of you left.

Sometimes you forget about these things. Mom and I have lived so long in this place that we don't notice very much any more how crummy it is. But last week on my day off we thought we'd have an outing. We packed a lunch and took a streetcar to the park. (You know, Joey, it did my heart good to see Mom out in the open air. She forgot all about everything and just enjoyed herself, got about ten years young-

er). I hated to take Mom home again to our house after the day was over.

Out there, near the park, there are a lot of beautiful homes, big lawns with smooth, soft grass, tall trees, long driveways... everything to make a home beautiful. That is the way men should live. When you get out of the factory, out of the noise and grime, you want a clean, cool place where you can relax and live a little, where you can take a breath without smelling the coke oven, where you can go outside with a clean white shirt on, and it won't get covered with brown dirt in ten minutes.

With all the riches in the country, I should think it would be possible to have workers' homes some place where there were trees. That's what I wish you had to come back to, Joey, a little white place with shutters, trees, and maybe one of those white wooden fences around it. Mom would have roses all over the fences. She even managed to get a few sickly ones here, but they get all covered with dust and look pretty bad, although I always praise her about what swell roses she raises. Poor Mom tries so hard to get a little beauty here.

Well, Joey, there are two ways of looking at a thing like this. You can gripe, or you can do a little punching and fight for what you want. I've been punching for so many years now that I guess I'll have to keep it up. You can't teach an old dog new tricks, you know. Yes, I'm planning to keep on plugging, and maybe we'll wind up that way, with a little fresh air and cleanliness for the workers and their wives and kids. It certainly is worth fighting for.

Well, Joey, we can hardly wait to see you again... and I suppose you feel pretty much the same way about getting home, even if "home" is pretty shabby.

Notes Of A Seaman By Art Sharon

Several weeks ago The Militant reported the clash within the top Stalinist clique of the CIO National Maritime Union leadership. The split in this clique was revealed when Ralph Rogers, NMU National Organization Director, in a letter of resignation charged other national leaders with "selling out" to the ship operators during the war.

The NMU membership was caught completely by surprise. They had been told all along through the official union organ and in meetings that they had the best set of union leaders in the labor movement.

Now they learned that their National Council was split, with Hedley Stone, Ralph Rogers, Tommy Ray, Alexander and Jack Lawrenson on one side and Blackie Meyers, Howard McKenzie and Joe Stack on the other. These latter apparently had the whip hand. The others either had resigned or were tendering resignations. All of them were doing this quietly. Were it not for the accidental letter of Rogers, they might have carried out their one common concern: KEEP THE DIFFERENCES QUIET AND ABOVE ALL AWAY FROM THE MEMBERSHIP!

Attempting to silence the corridor gossip and waterfront rumors, as recently as July, 1945, they issued a common statement of principles which ALL members of the National Council signed. This is a common statement of Stalinist organizational policy. Whenever differences develop inside the bureaucracy, those who hold the upper hand strengthen themselves by getting the inside opponents to issue a public statement denying any differences.

This of course is aimed against the ranks, who above all must be kept from having any doubts about the bureaucracy.

Well, the game was somewhat spoiled when the Rogers letter to Curran had to be published in the NMU Pilot, since the letter was part of the National Council minutes. The NMU conven-

tion had decided that the minutes of the National Council were to be published in The Pilot. The leadership sweated a good deal during the National Council meeting trying to figure out how to keep their minutes from being published, but the argument that defeated them was NMU President Curran's assertion that copies of the letter were already in the hands of leading rank and filers in the union. Incidentally, since then the Council has published only a meaningless digest of decisions instead of its minutes.

The question that immediately arises is: Where does Curran stand in this internal struggle? Curran, in a speech to a membership meeting, spilled the beans. He traced the fight to the differences existing between the Foster and Browder factions inside the Communist Party and pleaded with the party bosses not to bring their disputes inside the union. He also gave as his explanation the bad personal relations between members of the National Council, and told several ludicrous tales of their squabbles.

Curran has had a difficult time trying to play a game of standing above the struggle without incurring the open wrath of the Communist Party machine. But he need not fear much. The machine apparently now needs him as much as he needs it.

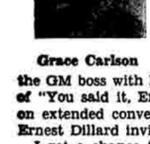
The membership, or rather a very small section of it, had the luxury of hearing a discussion on the dispute at one meeting. But it has since been neatly shunted into a small committee, composed exclusively of National Council members, for investigation.

The report that will come out at the end of this month, we can be sure, will attempt to further cover up the entire labor-betrayal record of the leadership during the war.

But the record is against the Stalinist NMU leaders. They said so much during their past period of super-patriotism and said it so loudly that it is remembered widely and well in the ranks of the union. Nothing they said even six months ago can now be repeated—an unenviable position to occupy.

A GM Striker's Story By Grace Carlson

I talked with Ernest Dillard, a UAW militant, on the Fleetwood picket line on one of the early days of the General Motors strike. There was an icy wind blowing down Detroit's West End Avenue that November morning, and the pickets, marching back and forth in front of the plant's gate, were stamping on the ground to keep their feet warm.



"My feet are just about as cold as Sloan's heart," Dillard exclaimed. The pickets near him greeted his wisecrack about the GM boss with laughs of approval and shouts of "You said it, Ern!" It wasn't easy to carry on extended conversation on the picket line, so Ernest Dillard invited me to visit his home.

I got a chance to visit the Dillards last Sunday afternoon. We had a fine, two-hour talk, which was all the more pleasant because most of it took place in the Dillards' friendly kitchen over an almost endless series of cups of coffee.

After 11 years of married life, the Dillards have become a real team—and attractive, 27-year-old Jessie Dillard is not a silent member of that team! The mother of two growing children, Marilyn, nine, and Ernest, Jr., eight, Mrs. Dillard has found time outside of her household duties to take an active part in trade union and political work.

In the course of the interview I learned the story of how the Alabama-born Dillards had come to Detroit and become active in the union movement. Both Jessie and Ernest Dillard were born and raised in Montgomery, Alabama. When I questioned them about their education, Ernest said with a smile, "Well, I guess that 'education' is what they call what goes on in the colored schools in Alabama. But we got most of our education in the CIO here in Detroit—and it's been a good education, too."

When he was 12 years old, Ernest had to quit school and go to work. First as a dairy truck helper and later as a private chauffeur, he was paid \$4 per week! In fact, this was all he was earning when he married 16-year old Jessie Dawson on Christmas Day, 1934. But after their marriage, Ernest did odd jobs on the side, and raised his income to \$5 a week. Jessie got a job

as a cook for \$1.50 a week, and the Dillards managed to get along on their combined income until their first baby was born in 1936.

Then Ernest Dillard decided to go up North to get a job. He arrived in Detroit in June, 1937, and went to work as a houseman at the Gotham Hotel for \$14 a week. Most of his wages were sent back to Jessie in Montgomery. She needed all the money that Ernest could send, and more, because her second baby was born in November, 1937.

It wasn't until May of the following year that Ernest was able to arrange to have his family move to Detroit. But it wasn't until 1942, when he went to work as a welder in the Fleetwood plant and received union wages, that he was able to provide his family with a semblance of decent living. That is why the Dillards are such union patriots!

"You can easily see," Jessie Dillard said, at one stage of the conversation, "why the Southern bosses don't like to have their \$4-a-week Negro workers go up North and join unions and 'get spoiled.'"

"Yeh, and these GM bosses would sure like to push us back to those starvation wages," Ernest Dillard broke in. "But we're going to fight this thing through."

I pulled out a clipping from the Detroit News, which reported that 801 GM strikers had applied for relief and asked whether they had been receiving relief. "No, we're luckier than the others," answered Jessie Dillard. "Ernie has been getting a little unemployment compensation. He was laid off at Fleetwood after V-J Day, so he was eligible for it. \$24 a week compensation isn't much but it's better than \$10 a week relief."

No, \$24 a week isn't much for a family of four in 1946! The Dillards have had to cut their food allowance to less than half. Where they used to order two and a half quarts of milk a day, they now get only one quart. The whole quart goes to the children despite the fact that the doctor has ordered Jessie Dillard to drink more milk and eat more fresh fruits and vegetables.

And even the inadequate \$24 a week compensation won't last much longer. But the Dillards aren't whining. They think that the union will win the strike and that Ernest will be back at Fleetwood, earning union wages.

This is the kind of faith that will move capitalist mountains!

"Daily Worker" Smear Of Flint Militants Boomerangs; Repudiated By Union Officer

By Jerry Kirk (Special to The Militant)

FLINT, Mich., Jan. 9.—A red-baiting "anti-Trotskyite" attack on the Flint auto union militants in the Stalinist Daily Worker, January 5, has aroused great indignation among the General Motors strikers here and boomeranged against the Stalinist slanderers.

Tex Owens, UAW Chevrolet Local president here, who is "quoted" in the Daily Worker as one source of its "information" against the "Trotskyites," has repudiated statements attributed to him in the Stalinist article. "Why Chevrolet Local Fights The Trotskyites," Owens gave the lie to the article in the presence of this reporter.

After seven weeks of the GM strike, this article provided the occasion for the first public appearance of the Communist (Stalinist) Party in Flint. This issue of the Daily Worker was distributed to CIO auto workers attending a mass meeting addressed by top UAW officers on the progress of negotiations with the corporation.

It is obvious that the Stalinists hoped that this article, written by William Allan, a professional hack writer, would lay the groundwork for a campaign against the Flint progressives, the Trotskyists and The Militant, which has gained great popularity among the GM strikers for its accurate and sympathetic reporting of the strike.

Allan's article is based on statements allegedly made by Tom Kelly, recording secretary of Chevrolet Local, and confirmed by Tex Owens. Interviewed by Allan, Kelly is reported as saying, "He would be glad to tell us about the Trotskyites."

HORREDOUS TALE Then comes a horrendous tale, attributed to Kelly, about some "Trotskyites" posing for newspaper pictures before the Chevrolet gate, with copies of The Militant in their hands. Kelly stated, according to Allan, "I checked up later on this quartet and found that they had sent the workers home. Let me tell you some more about these people because we are sick of them in Flint and we are going to do a job on them, right, Tex?"

Tex Owens is then said to have replied, "That's right, Tom, tell him about the meeting." Throughout the article Owens is quoted as a chorus to Kelly.

The article continues with a harassing account about the "Trotskyites" allegedly disrupting a Chevrolet Local meeting. Kelly is then quoted as saying, "In conclusion we passed a motion in our local that their lousy sheet, The Militant, shall not be allowed to be distributed... They are the fifth column alright and it's time we stopped ignoring them throughout the union and take the bull by the horns like we did in Chevrolet. Our next move is to boot them out if they continue to disrupt and we know they will."

Allan then writes, "We asked Tex Owens, union president, what he thought of Kelly's statement. Text said, 'Tom speaks my sentiments about these birds, exactly.'"

ANSWERS STALINISTS Immediately after the mass meeting at which the Daily Worker with this lying account was distributed, I sought out Tex Owens and found him surrounded by Chevrolet workers. One executive board member was questioning Owens in regard to the article. He asked, "Was it true that there was any disruption at the last meeting of the local?" Owens replied, "No. There was none."

He was then shown a copy of the Daily Worker. In answer to a question from this reporter about the other statements attributed to him in Allan's article, Owens said:

"I never confirmed any of these statements in this paper. I don't recall Kelly making any such statements to Allan. You can quote me on that."

Kelly did not deny giving the report to Allan. However, he sheepishly dissociated Owens from his own remarks to Allan!

The statement about the Chevrolet Local barring The Militant by passage of a motion is a pure Stalinist invention. One wonders how even the brazen Stalinists hoped to palm off such a piece of outright fiction on the Chevrolet workers.

PURE INVENTION No ruling against The Militant has ever been passed by the local. Even Kelly has admitted to this reporter that this is the real fact of the matter. On the contrary, The Militant is being distributed, and has been each week, to thousands of Chevrolet pickets, who receive it eagerly.

As for the truly fantastic charge that Trotskyists, who fought the no-strike pledge throughout the war and have

The Line Held Firm!



On the second day of their strike against the Western Electric trust, picketing members of the Western Electric Employees Association at the huge Kearnys, N. J., plant were subjected to a company-inspired assault by 1,000 non-striking supervisory employees. The pickets fought back with determination and only 14 supervisors got past the picket line.

1,000 Detroit Veterans Parade In Solidarity With G.M. Strikers

By Kay O'Brien

DETROIT, Jan. 12.—A thousand veterans of World Wars I and II, many of them still in uniform, paraded to the General Motors Building today in a demonstration of solidarity with the GM strikers. For nearly an hour they circled the huge building, carrying union banners and placards to show that the union fight is also the veterans' fight.

The parade was organized by the veterans' bureau of the CIO United Automobile Workers. Calling on local unions and veterans organizations for support, it received a fine response. With almost no advance publicity and in spite of bad weather, several hundred veterans were on hand before the appointed hour for the parade to assemble. Several local unions also sent their sound trucks, including Murray Local 2, Ford Local 600, and Detroit Transmission Local 735.

The parade assembled at Second Ave. and Warren and marched north on Second nearly a mile to the General Motors Building.

At the head of the parade were an army captain and sergeant, both in uniform. They were followed by a large color guard of soldiers and sailors of all races carrying the colorful banners of the local unions, including UAW locals 2, 3, 7, 42, 155, 190, 400 and 600. In the center of the color guard marched an army nurse and a crippled navy veteran.

The main body of the parade, some in uniform and some wearing UAW caps, spread out for a distance of several blocks as the men marched northward. Behind the huge banner reading "VETERANS OF WORLD WARS I AND II SUPPORT UAW-CIO PROPOSALS," the marchers carried scores of picket signs.

"FROM FOXHOLE TO PICKET LINE" said one sign. Others

included "GI VS. GM"; "WE WANT UNION SECURITY NOT GM GOLDBRICKS"; "I DIDN'T FIGHT OVER THERE TO PROTECT GM BILLIONS HERE"; "REHABILITATED VETS WITHOUT CLOTHES OR HOMES"; "FROM V-J DAY TO VETS' UNION DAY"; and "WE MARCHED TO WAR. NOW WE'RE MARCHING ON GM."

Whereas: The demand for a 30 per cent wage increase being pressed by the UAW is a legitimate and just demand and is a demand which is fundamental to all labor, and

Whereas: The strike being waged by our Union against the General Motors Corporation for this demand is one of the most important ever waged by workers in this country, and

Whereas: The proposal of Richard Leonard (UAW Ford Director) to the Ford Motor Car Company offering "security" to the management through the form of penalization of our membership is a union-busting measure and violates our Constitutional provisions for trial of persons accused of violating the Constitution and policies of our union, and

Whereas: This proposal was a stab in the back to the General Motors workers as evidenced by the cancellation of the GM contract immediately by the GM management,

Therefore Be It Resolved: That the Executive Board of Local 212, UAW-CIO, go on record condemning this proposal and demanding that the International Executive Board and Officers of our International Union withdraw all such proposals and conduct a firm policy against any such measures when proposed by management, and

Be It Further Resolved: That copies of this resolution be sent to the International Officers, Executive Board, to all UAW Locals in the Detroit area, and to the press.

READ THE FOURTH INTERNATIONAL

Western Electric Pickets Cheered By Phone Strike

(Special To The Militant) KEARNY, N. J., Jan. 12.—Entering the eleventh day of their strike, the 17,400 workers of the Western Electric Co. exuberantly greeted the giant phone strike which rallied to their aid, as well as the Association of Communications Equipment Workers' aid.

After last Friday's vicious attempt by Western Electric to smash the picket lines at the main Kearny plant, the union strengthened its lines with mass picketing and defeated all company attempts to enter.

Frank Fitzsimmons, president of the Western Electric Employees Association, affiliated with the National Federation of Telephone Workers, directly accused the company of having incited and attempted a riot. He presented over a hundred affidavits of workers who had heard superintendents order their people to break through the picket lines.

While the main plant here is sewed up tight, police in Newark and New York have engaged in strikebreaking, escorting management scabs through the lines at the Ferry and Center Street Newark plants and at the 42nd St. New York plant. But nowhere in the 21 struck plants is a single wheel turning. This independent union has brought the giant Western Electric manufacturing unit of the American Telephone and Telegraph trust to a standstill.

Earlier this week WEEA officials proceeded with their plans, if the nation-wide phone strike did not materialize, to throw their own picket lines around phone exchanges in the metropolitan area and, by agreement with various affiliates of the NPTW, thus extend their strike. The nation-wide telephone strike has extended such support on a coast-to-coast scale, and now the WEEA is planning to lend its own pickets to reinforce those of the numerically-small ACEW lines.

Buffalo CIO Sponsors New Pro-Labor Veterans' Group

BUFFALO, N. Y. — A veterans' committee has been set up by the CIO Council here to organize returning veterans, both union and non-union, into a real force solidly united with an integral part of the labor movement.

Called the Veterans' Committee of the Greater Buffalo Industrial Union Council, CIO, the new organization has met several times. Already representatives from veterans' committees in several local unions are participating, and a campaign is under way to get all the local unions in this area to set up similar committees.

A three-point program has been adopted. The committee will fight discrimination against veterans, who are not granted unemployment insurance while on strike; it will fight the practices of employers who attempt to cheat returning vets by forcing them to accept poor conditions and lower wages than they are entitled to. And last, it will demand immediate improvement in the terrible housing situation.

The committee is preparing a series of leaflets on these issues, for distribution by local vet com-

mittees in the plants and also to unemployed and non-union vets at the USES offices. Resolutions for immediate action on these questions were sent to Governor Dewey. Plans have been made for participation of the National CIO Demonstration Day for the GM strikers. The Buffalo demonstration will be held at the United States Employment Service office, Saturday, January 12, at 10 a.m.

Establishment of this area committee is a big step forward in a vital task for the labor movement. Formation of veterans' committees in the union locals on a fighting basis will guarantee that the interests of the ex-GI will be protected by union action. It will assure the unity of the vet and non-vet worker in the fight for security. Militant unionists should lose no time in getting behind this important job in their own local unions, by sending delegates to the area veterans' committee.