

# SWP Supports ALP Candidate For Congress

NEW YORK, Feb. 11—The New York Local of the Socialist Workers Party today announced its support of Johannes Steel, American Labor Party candidate for Congress in the 19th Congressional District in the special election to be held on February 19.

The text of the SWP statement on the election follows:

The New York local of the Socialist Workers Party is supporting the candidate of the American Labor Party, Johannes Steel, in the special election in the 19th Congressional District. The Trotskyists call upon the workers of this district to cast their votes for Steel on February 19 for the following reasons:

1. The Socialist Workers Party has been in the forefront of the growing movement for an Independent Labor Party based on the trade unions.

2. The American Labor Party, which is supported by the bulk of the CIO unions in New York City, is running Steel as a candidate for Congress in opposition to the candidates of the boss-controlled Republican and Democratic Parties.

3. Despite the lack of a real labor candidate and program, the Independent ALP campaign in this by-election represents a break with the boss parties and is, therefore, a step in the direction of genuine independent labor politics.

While supporting the ALP candidate, the Socialist Workers Party emphasizes the glaring deficiencies of the ALP program and candidate. The radio commentator, Steel, does not come from labor's ranks. At best, he is a rank opportunist with a shady political record, acting for the moment as a hand-picked tool for the Stalinists who dominate the ALP.

## The Stalinist Role In New York

This ex-Browder gang, now following the new "leader" Foster, have for years been sabotaging the movement for labor's independent political action by making foul-smelling deals with the corrupt boss-ridden political parties of the capitalist class. For example, in the Mayoralty elections last November, they aided in shackling the workers of New York City to Tammany by palming off O'Dwyer as a "labor-progressive coalition" candidate pledged to support the "Roosevelt-Wallace-Truman" program.

The Stalinist-ALP candidate, Steel, who calls himself a "militant" Democrat also proclaims his allegiance to the "Roosevelt-Wallace-Truman" program. On the basis of this program, O'Dwyer has already demonstrated his open anti-labor bias by marshalling an army of police against the Western Union strikers and offering police protection for scabs to break the tug boat strike. On the basis of this program the poll-tax Democrats in Congress filibustered the FEPC bill to death while the "militant" Democrats stood meekly by and then joined in lynching the measure.

## A Timid Gesture

The strikebreaking role of Wall Street's Democratic and Republican political agents has become so flagrant and the policy of supporting so-called "progressive" capitalist candidates has been so discredited, that the Stalinist-ALP leaders are compelled at this time to make a timid and half-hearted gesture toward labor political action by running an independent candidate.

Instead of the phrase-mongering and false promises of "militant" Democrats, labor requires a fighting program to defend the interests of the workers against the corporations, and to defend the rights of the persecuted and oppressed national and racial minorities. Only such a program of militant action can arouse the enthusiasm and support of the people of New York's lower East Side, who are called upon to select a representative in this election.

Despite these serious objections to both the ALP candidate and his program, a victory of the ALP candidate would strengthen the movement for a genuine independent labor party which would run labor candidates for office on a labor program. It is for this reason that the Socialist Workers Party calls upon the voters of the 19th Congressional District in New York to go to the polls on February 19 and cast their ballots for the ALP candidate, Johannes Steel.

## Negro GI Brothers Slain By Jim-Crow Freeport Cop

By Bill Morgan

(Special To The Militant)

FREEPORT, N. Y., Feb. 9—Murder in cold blood, assault with intent to kill and Jim-Crow justice—all these crimes were committed in this Long Island community last Tuesday night by an assassin employed by the Freeport police department.

The victims are four Negro brothers, all veterans of World War II. Dead are Charles and Alfonso Ferguson. Wounded by a bullet from the murderer's gun is Joseph Ferguson. In jail, serving a 100-day sentence is Richard Ferguson. The killer, a cop named Joseph Romeika, is still at large.

The four brothers were celebrating their reunion after several years' separation in the armed services. Pvt. 1st Class Charles Ferguson, 27 years old, had been in the Army Air Corps. His brother Alfonso was also in the Army. Richard was discharged last October from the Army. Joseph, the fourth brother, was in the Navy, a Seaman 3/c. They were preparing to say "So long!" to Charles who had just re-enlisted in the Air Corps. And they were on the way to see their mother, Mrs. Minnie Ferguson, who lives in Roosevelt, a nearby village.

### TRAILED AND SLAIN

On the night of February 5 the brothers went to the bus terminal in Freeport to board a bus for Roosevelt. While waiting for the bus the boys entered a tea room in the terminal for something to eat. They were refused service and an argument ensued. The boys demanded their democratic rights but were denied service. When they left in search of another place to have some food, they were followed by a policeman named Joseph Romeika.

About two blocks from the bus terminal Romeika grabbed Charles Ferguson and kicked him in the groin. Romeika then drew a gun and ordered all the boys to raise their hands above their heads. They obeyed this order at once. Romeika opened fire. The first to fall was

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# Workers Of The World, Unite! THE MILITANT

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# TRUMAN YIELDS TO PRICE DEMANDS OF BIG BUSINESS

## Chicago Police Protect Fascist Spokesman



When Fascist demagogue Gerald L. K. Smith came to Chicago on February 7 to speak before a women's club, 1,500 Chicago workers militantly demonstrated against the spreading of Smith's anti-labor, anti-Negro and anti-Jewish lies. Even the swinging night sticks wielded by picked police reinforcements failed to break up the anti-Smith demonstration. Smith and several of his lieutenants had to be given a large police escort to leave the hall.

## 1,500 Chicago Workers Picket G.L.K. Smith's Fascist Meeting

By Robert L. Birchman

(Special To The Militant)

### IN THE NEWS

#### Just Keep It 'Decent'

George Fielding Eliot, describing the "sadistic savagery" against American GIs confined at the Lichfield, England, Guardhouse comments: "There seems to have been a consistent Army policy to make detention so dreaded that men would avoid it like a plague, that combat duty would be infinitely preferred to falling into the hands of the guards at a detention center. That policy is all right, within decent limits." (N. Y. Herald-Tribune, Feb. 4.)

#### The Devil Is A Saint

"Iran's newly appointed Premier, Ahmed Ghamaw Sultaneh, widely heralded as 'pro-Soviet,' is nothing of the sort, the Daily Worker learned today." (Daily Worker, American Stalinist organ, January 28, 1946.)

"Premier Stalin has telegraphed to Prime Minister Ahmed Ghamaw of Iran that he is 'grateful for his friendly attitude toward the Soviet Union.'" (N. Y. Times, February 4, 1946.)

#### Didn't Read

##### Between Lines

"TOKYO, Feb. 1—The American occupation of Korea got off on the wrong foot from the start, virtually from December, 1943, according to linguistic experts here, because the Koreans misinterpreted the phrase in the Cairo Declaration concerning their independence." (N. Y. Times, February 2.)

#### Hard At Work

"LONDON, Feb. 5—A short story of tonight's meeting of the UNO Security Council runs: 8:30—Meeting scheduled to start. 9:05—Meeting started. 9:13—Meeting adjourned 'for five minutes.' 11:05—The 'five minutes' ended. 11:10—Meeting adjourned until 9 P. M. tomorrow." (N. Y. Times, February 6.)

CHICAGO, Feb. 7—In the first effective demonstration here against fascist Gerald L. K. Smith, 1,500 workers, veterans and youth formed a militant picket line before the West Side Women's Club where Smith was permitted tonight to voice his poisonous anti-labor, anti-Jewish, anti-Negro propaganda. He addressed an audience of only about 800 people although almost 300 Chicago police were on hand to help escort Smith's followers into the meeting.

The pickets formed in close single file, militantly shouting "Down with Fascism," "Drive Smith Out of Chicago," and singing "Solidarity Forever." Every Smith follower who appeared had to be carefully escorted through the picket line by the police. They were indignantly denounced as "fascist rats," "Nazi scum," etc. But the same Chicago police who so courteously guided these

## CHINESE TROTSKYIST PARTY SURVIVES JAPANESE TERROR

The Communist League of China, Chinese section of the Fourth International, has now answered in the roll-call of Trotskyist organizations which have survived the war. Cut off from all contacts abroad for the past four years, isolated by battlefronts and censorship, our Chinese comrades have maintained their organization, according to brief word received from them last week.

In a letter from Shanghai dated January 12, they proudly tell us: "We still exist despite all losses."

The nature of the losses—the deaths of comrades under the Japanese occupation—is indicated by the report that comrade Chen Chi-chang, a member of the Central Committee and a veteran Trotskyist, "died in the hands of the Japanese gendarmes three years ago."

Thus the Chinese section of the Fourth International, felt the bloody hand of Japanese imperialist persecution just as its sister parties in Europe experienced the bestial killings of the Nazis. DATES BACK TO 1928 Survival of the Chinese Trotskyist organization under the most trying and difficult conditions is once again testimony to the vitality of the world-wide movement which grew up under

## Stalinists Deal A Stab In Back To GM Strikers

SPECIAL TO THE MILITANT

DETROIT, Feb. 10—Members and leaders of the CIO United Auto Workers are seething with indignation at the latest treacherous stab in the back dealt by the Stalinists to the striking 225,000 General Motors auto workers.

Without a word of warning, the leaders of the Stalinist-dominated CIO United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers yesterday announced an agreement to settle the strike of 30,000 UE members in the GM Electrical Division for an 18 1/2-cent an hour wage increase, while the GM auto workers are continuing their bitter 12-week strike to win at least the 19 1/2-cent increase recommended for them by Truman's fact-finding board.

Not only does this settlement encourage General Motors to continue its resistance to the 19 1/2-cent increase for the UAW strikers, but the return of the UE members to work will strengthen GM's ability to hold out against the auto workers.

UAW President R. J. Thomas met the news of the secret deal between the UE Stalinist leaders and GM with undisguised consternation. He expressed "a terrible shock" and stated that it "puts us in an awful spot since GM now will come to us insisting that we settle on the same terms."

Thomas revealed that the Stalinists (Continued on Page 6)

## Tugmen Resist O'Dwyer Drive To Break Strike

By Art Sharon

(Special To The Militant)

NEW YORK, Feb. 9—For the second time this week New York's 3,000 striking tugboat men have rejected by a two to one vote the paltry settlement offered by the owners and recommended by their union leaders. Their vote to continue the strike was a militant defiance of Truman's "seizure" of the tugs and attempts to operate them, which the workers denounced as "government strikebreaking."

Bitter and angry strikers milled around union headquarters during the voting, suspicious of a possible fraudulent count of the ballots. It was freely predicted by many that Joseph Ryan, president of the AFL International Longshoremen's Association, would announce the result as "Yes," because no union member opposed to the proposed phony settlement was allowed on the balloting committee.

But the temper of the striking tugboat men was such that the union leaders did not dare pull any tricks.

**O'DWYER HYSTERICAL** After the strikers' first rejection of the operators' terms earlier in the week, Truman "seized" the tugboats in prompt response to an hysterical strikebreaking appeal by Mayor O'Dwyer. O'Dwyer attempted unsuccessfully to arouse a lynch spirit against the strikers by fantastically picturing the city on the verge of "starvation" and "freezing to death" because 400 tugs were not operating.

After the "seizure" the men were "invited" to man the boats and "work for Uncle Sam." But the strikers' reply to this thinly disguised attempt to break their strike was: "The owners will still get the profits and we'll be working for the same lousy wages and under the same lousy conditions."

Conditions on the tugboats are notoriously bad. Unlicensed (Continued on Page 7)

## Huge Inflation Is Planned To Rob Labor Of Pay Gains

By Art Preis

A gigantic price steal is being engineered behind the scenes in Washington to rob the workers of the benefit of any wage gains won during the present great strike struggles.

An unprecedented inflationary increase in prices will be unleashed in the interests of the profiteers and monopolists, according to all indications from the capital.

The Truman administration last week revealed that it is preparing to settle the steel and other current major strikes on the basis of granting the corporations most of the scandalous price increases they have been demanding.

**ANOTHER FORMULA** This policy, it appears, will be wrapped up in some new "wage-price stabilization" formula which will leave the door wide open for unrestricted prices while attempting to fix wages at some new frozen level.

That the administration is seriously contemplating such a policy was indicated last week when William Green, AFL president, following a conference with Truman revealed that he had heard reports of a new "Little Steel" formula in the making. Green stated that labor "could not acquiesce in another wage formula like the Little Steel formula" which would become "both a maximum and a minimum."

What the administration is preparing to do to aid the price steal long planned by Big Business is indicated by the recommendations of the government's "fact-finding" panel in the meat-packing case.

The panel on February 7 proposed a 16-cent instead of the demanded 25-cent wage increase for the packinghouse workers (Continued on Page 7)

## Akron Rubber Unions Vote Strike For Wage Increases

By Milton Genecine

(Special To The Militant)

AKRON, O., Feb. 4—At a special meeting held here yesterday, CIO United Rubber Workers Goodrich Local 5 voted overwhelmingly to strike if wage increases and other demands were not granted by the company. The vote was 2,695 in favor of striking with only 60 opposed.

This is the third major rubber local here to vote in favor of striking, the Firestone and Goodyear locals having taken strike votes a few weeks ago.

It is reported that the "Big Four" rubber corporations, Goodrich, Goodyear, Firestone and U. S. Rubber, are now willing to conduct industry-wide negotiations with the union over the question of wage increases. The union's International Executive Board has discarded its previous policy of dealing with the rubber companies on a "one at a time" basis.

### NEGOTIATIONS SOON

The first meeting of the union negotiating committee with the companies may be held within the next few days. Failure of the corporations to grant sizeable wage increases will almost certainly result in an industry-wide strike involving the four major producers of rubber.

The union is demanding a 30-cent an hour increase; a basic 30-hour week with time and one half for hours worked in excess of six per day and 30 per week; time and one half for Saturday work; double time for Sunday work; six designated holidays and straight time pay for holidays not worked, and a 10-cent an hour night-shift differential.

### STAGGERING PROFITS

That the rubber companies are able to grant the union's demands is graphically illustrated

by the Goodrich company's profit figures, published in The Air Bag, Local 5's newspaper. Profits garnered by this company increased from 24 million dollars in 1939 to the staggering figure of \$6 million dollars in 1943.

The corporation has been setting up RESERVES OF OVER 100 MILLION DOLLARS A YEAR FROM 1939 TO 1943 INCLUSIVE. This is a favorite method of hiding profits. It can safely be assumed that depreciation of plant and equipment did not come to 562 million dollars in the Goodrich empire in the five years, 1939-1943, for which figures are available.

### DRASTIC WAGE CUTS

Knowing that the corporations have fattened themselves immensely during the war, the rubber workers are determined to obtain substantial wage increases. Most rubber workers in this area have had their take-home pay reduced from 33 to 50 per cent through the reduction in working hours from 48 to 36 per week.

Should the coming negotiations prove unsuccessful in winning the union's demands, there is strong likelihood of an industry-wide strike that will bring the rubber workers out on the picket lines to join the giant army of industrial workers now fighting for higher wages from one end of the country to the other.



# Red-Baiting Slander -- Stalinist Style

By The Editors

The Communist (Stalinist) Party has become notorious for its abrupt zigzags and somersaults. Repeatedly in Stalinist politics the devil of yesterday becomes the saint of tomorrow, and vice-versa. For example, in 1933 the American Stalinists called Roosevelt a "fascist," only to embrace him soon afterwards as their spiritual guide and leader. In 1945 the Stalinists supported the same Tammany candidate O'Dwyer for Mayor of New York whom they had previously denounced for following the "divisive Hitler technique."

Politics often makes strange bedfellows—but the record of Stalinism is unsurpassed for its shameless political promiscuity.

There is hardly a party or political tendency in the camp of capitalist reaction with whom the Stalinists have not at one time or another entered into an active or tacit alliance. Who has forgotten the period of the Stalin-Hitler pact, when Molotov declared that "fascism was a matter of taste" and the Stalinists here echoed the same sentiment?

## Only One Consistency

But throughout all the Stalinists' twists and turns, in one thing they have remained consistent—their hatred and fear of the genuine communists, the Trotskyists. The Stalinist pack denounces the Trotskyists as vigorously and slanderously today under Foster, as during the recent reign of Browder.

In fact, the Stalinists are stepping up their vicious attacks upon the Socialist Workers Party and The Militant. Almost every day their paper, the Daily Worker, carries some lying piece against the Trotskyists. In a number of localities Stalinist goons have assaulted distributors of The Militant while other Stalinists have tried to prevent its distribution to union members. Finally, the Stalinists have sought to whip up a Trotskyist-baiting "red scare" in Flint, Detroit and other strike centers, thereby aiding corporation attempts to divide workers on the picket lines.

The Stalinist leaders themselves declare that these vile actions form part of a concerted campaign to "oust the Trotskyites from the labor movement." An article bearing this title has just appeared in the February Political Affairs, "theoretical" organ of the U. S. Communist Party. One of its editors, Max Weiss, writes: "In all districts a properly planned campaign must be worked out to guarantee the realization of this objective."

## Clue To Lynch-Campaign

Why do the Stalinist leaders find it imperative to speed up their lynch-and-kill campaign against the Trotskyists? Weiss himself provides the first clue. The Socialist Workers Party and The Militant have been gaining influence and prestige among the workers while the Stalinists have been losing ground. Weiss complains that the Trotskyists "have succeeded in the past period in penetrating into certain key labor and mass organizations, that in many cities throughout the country and in many fields of the people's movement there is a constantly expanding Trotskyite activity..."

This Stalinist poison-pen artist does not, or rather dares not, suggest any explanation for this great expansion of Trotskyist influence in the labor movement, among the Negro people, among all the most progressive elements. He does not tell how the Trotskyists consistently defended the interests of labor and the oppressed minorities against reactionary attacks throughout the war while the Stalinists supported and abetted these reactionary attacks.

By their advocacy of labor management committees and of piecework and incentive system speedup on the production lines, the Stalinists aroused enormous indignation among the workers. Above all the workers were outraged by the Stalinist strikebreaking role in every wartime strike including the Montgomery Ward struggle and the titanic wartime strike battles of the coal miners. Through these and many other abominable strikebreaking acts, the Stalinists stabbed labor in the back.

## Stalinists Embraced Big Business

Furthermore, in their zeal to sell the imperialist war to the workers as a holy crusade, the Stalinists painted the picture of Big Business and organized labor cooperating to build a bright, harmonious future in the post-war world. Their leader, Earl Browder, openly sought to clasp the hand of J. P. Morgan. One of their union stooges, Harry Bridges, urged a permanent No-Strike Pledge. Foster and all the other present CP leaders helped to peddle this sell-out policy which they characterize today as "the capitalist essence of Browderism."

Only a year ago, in January 1945, the Daily Worker "labor specialist" George Morris, published an anti-Trotskyist pamphlet called "The Trotskyite Fifth Column in the Labor Movement." Here are a few "crimes" of the Trotskyists, in this indictment framed according to the Stalin-Browder line of that period.

The Trotskyists, says Morris, "ridicule a post-war outlook of unity and full employment" and look for "a sharp crisis." Moreover, "they refuse to recognize the trend towards a common effort of organized labor, agriculture, sections of business and the government, for a post-war order of full production and full employment."

Yes, while the Stalinists were snuggling up to Big Business and its government agents, The Militant and the Socialist Workers Party advised the workers to prepare

## What Did We Fight For?



CIO steel worker pickets before Carnegie Illinois Steel plant in Chicago demand to know for whose benefits World War II was fought. Picket signs read, "World War II was fought for what? Freedom from fear? Freedom from want? Or only to protect Big Business? What about us? Who won the war?" These union militants have learned that victory in the war meant profits for the monopoly capitalists but wage cuts and inflation for the workers.

for Wall Street's offensive against labor. While the Stalinists sowed the worst illusions about the post-war period, we told the workers the truth. The present colossal wave of strike struggles proves that we were right and that the Stalinists deceived the workers.

We urge every rank-and-file Stalinist to re-read today this pamphlet by Morris. In itself it constitutes a deadly exposure of the deceit and treachery of Stalinism. Let us cite one more choice example. Morris assails the Trotskyists for designating the U. S. Army as "the greatest open shop institution in the country." Isn't that what the GIs who are today fighting to get out of this Prussianized Army think about it? Let the Stalinists today defend this U. S. Army regime and see how far they get with the millions of workers who know from experience its brutal anti-democratic setup.

## Try To Drown Out Questions

The dumping of Browder has led many a rank-and-file Stalinist to ask: Haven't the Trotskyists been right all through the war when the CP was nothing but a pliant tool of imperialism? Wasn't it the Trotskyists who from the first branded Browder's line as a betrayal of Marxism and the working-class while Foster declared in a national broadcast on January 9, 1944: "Communists do not believe it would be of benefit to national unity to make proposals of a specific communistic or socialist nature at this time or in the immediate post-war period."

This is a second reason for the intensified Stalinist attacks. They must redouble their mud-slinging and name-calling in order to drown out such questioning and to counteract, if they can, this growing tendency of CP members and followers to give a more sympathetic hearing to Trotskyism.

Thus Weiss himself states that the anti-Trotskyist campaign is "necessary in order to overcome tendencies to-

ward a rotten liberalism toward "Trotskyites" within the CP itself.

But the Stalinist hatchmen cannot use honest, democratic working-class methods of counterposing their ideas and arguments to our political program. Instead, they falsify our ideas and resort to the reactionary methods of abuse, slander, frame-up and physical violence.

Here is one typical Stalinist attack upon the Trotskyists taken from the March 1, 1945 People's World, West Coast Stalinist daily. Listen to the ranting and raving of its editorial comment on the Socialist Workers Party platform for the Los Angeles mayoralty election:

"For instance it (the SWP platform) charges that President Roosevelt is trying to 'Hitlerize America' by asking for a national service act."

"In a virtual call to rebellion against the war it raises the slogan: 'Stop the terrorization and slaughter of the European workers.'"

"It charges that the 'reactionary rulers of America... are in league with the bandits of British imperialism'."

"We maintain that this stuff, under the guise of elect-

ioneering, is propaganda 'Made in Berlin'..."

"This should not be tolerated. The FBI and the United States District Attorney should act at once to clamp down on the Trotskyite saboteurs of our war effort."

Because they themselves advocated forced labor legis-

lation, supported the imperialist war aims and demanded unconditional surrender to Wall Street, the Stalinists

labeled anyone who stood up for labor's rights and, above

all the Trotskyists, as "Hitler agents."

And the Stalinist method of answering our revolu-

tionary socialist position on capitalist conscription and

the imperialist war aims was to slander the Trotskyists

and call upon the American Gestapo, the FBI, to throw us

into jail.



# IN MEMORIAM

## Chen Chi-chang

By Li Fu-chen

With the arrival of the first word from our Chinese comrades in more than four years, comes the tragic news of the death of Comrade Chen Chi-chang, veteran revolutionist and a leading member of the Chinese Trotskyist organization from its inception.

I came to know Comrade Chen well during the many years I spent in China. He was the authentic type of professional revolutionist who devoted his entire life, all his energies, to the emancipating struggle for socialism. Perpetual grinding poverty and the need to provide for a wife and five young children — did not deter him. He gave part of his time to translation work from English to Chinese in order to gain a bare livelihood and the rest of his time was given to the movement. I never knew him to complain of his personal difficulties.

### REVOLUTIONARY FIGHTER

Like his comrades, Chen lived the life of an underground revolutionary fighter, always in the shadow of capture by the bloodhounds of Chiang Kai-shek's police. He developed special skill in the multifarious activities of an illegal political organization.

It was largely due to his ingenuity and never-flagging vigilance that the underground Trotskyist printing press was maintained without interruption during the years before Pearl Harbor to bring out the party organ *Doh Tseng* ("Struggle") and other publications. This press was operated under the very noses of the Kuomintang and British imperialist police.

Often it became necessary to move the printing apparatus with great speed from one hiding place to another. It was Comrade Chen Chi-chang who made arrangements and saw that they were carried through. He not only guarded the printing apparatus



CHEN CHI-CHANG

but also wrote for the party press. At intervals he engaged in transporting Trotskyist literature from the center to branch organizations in Hongkong and elsewhere — one of the most hazardous undertakings.

### A GRIEVOUS LOSS

Comrade Chen managed by great vigilance and caution to evade the ever-spread dragnet laid for the Trotskyists by the Kuomintang and imperialist po-

lice. As a member of the Central Committee he was especially sought after by the authorities. Only now do we learn of his death at the hands of the vicious gendarmes of Japanese imperialism.

The Trotskyist movement has suffered a grievous loss in the death of Comrade Chen. His name is added to the roll of honor of Trotskyist martyrs. We salute his memory!

## Nicola Di Bartolomeo

By Carlo

(The following letter has just been received by us from a comrade in Italy.)

News has reached us of the death of Comrade Nicola Di Bartolomeo, National Secretary of the Partito Operaio Comunista (Workers' Communist Party), Italian Section of the Fourth International. His death robs the Italian party and the Fourth International of one of its ablest leaders and most courageous militants.

Comrade Di Bartolomeo spent more than two and a half decades of his life in the service of the revolution. As a young communist, he was forced into exile on the advent of Fascism. This only transferred his activities in behalf of the working class movement to other countries.

His experiences in Italy, Belgium and France convinced him that the Stalinist leadership of the Comintern could only lead it to new defeats. The writings of Trotsky, with which he became acquainted during his exile, confirmed the lessons of life. Nicola Di Bartolomeo joined the ranks of the Fourth International.

### ON THE BARRICADES

Soon after the outbreak of the Spanish Civil War, Comrade Di Bartolomeo made his way to Barcelona, where he assisted actively in the organization of the Lenin Column, of which he became Political Commissar. In the "May Days Insurrection" in 1937, he took his place on the barricades, defending with rifle in hand the last vestiges of proletarian power against the assaults of the Stalinist — Republican reaction.

When France was overrun in 1940, Comrade Di Bartolomeo was handed to Mussolini's fascist thugs by the Petain government. For the first time in years he found himself back in the land of his birth — behind the stone walls and iron bars of Naples Jail. From here he was transferred to the Tremonti Isolator. To Comrade Di Bartolomeo this simply meant that his work had to be carried on under more difficult conditions.

Within a short time he had organized a group of revolutionaries and they were discussing and elaborating programmatic documents. Here in this fascist concentration camp, the Partito Operaio Comunista was born. The courageous little band of revolutionaries even succeeded in smuggling their documents out of the camp into other camps and prisons. In this way the Italian Trotskyist movement was founded. Its first calls were right inside the concentration camps and prisons, under the very

## Dutch Trotskyist Congress Backs Javanese People

The Dutch Trotskyists, organized in the Revolutionary Communist Party, held a Congress December 23-24, 1945. As reported in their weekly newspaper *De Rode October* (Red October), the Congress marked an important step forward in the revolutionary socialist movement of the Netherlands.

One of the principal points on the agenda was the struggle of the Indonesian people for their freedom from Dutch imperialism. The Dutch Trotskyists have stood in the vanguard of the battle of the workers in Holland to grant the Indonesians their independence. The RCP has waged a militant, inspiring campaign around the slogan: Hands Off Indonesia! Free Indonesia from Holland Now!

The Congress reaffirmed support of the Indonesians in an important resolution on freedom for the colonial peoples.

Other resolutions passed by the Congress dealt with the present economic and political situation and the tasks and perspectives

of the Trotskyist movement.

Now began the long struggle for a legal press. In the course of this struggle, the POC attracted to it the best elements in the Socialist Party, the Socialist Youth, and from the Bordighists. Even the Stalinists were not immune and not a few joined the ranks of the Trotskyists. Before his death, Nicola Di Bartolomeo had the satisfaction of seeing this campaign victorious. Under his editorship, the first three issues of *IV Internazionale* made their appearance.

Nicola Di Bartolomeo is dead. The spirit of the party which he founded is reflected in this quotation from a letter from his wife and comrade, Rosa Guadino: "You will want to know what Nicola's end signifies in this moment. One thing is certain—we will not give up... We are determined to continue the struggle initiated by my poor Nicola and to build the Party to which he devoted his life."

Fourth Internationalists everywhere dip their flag in salute to our departed comrade. For a moment we pause to mourn our loss. Then, with closed ranks we march forward to the goal for which he strove — to the victory of the worker's revolution!

of the Revolutionary Communist Party. In a resolution on the Soviet Union, the Congress pointed out how the Stalinist bureaucracy with its false formula of building socialism in only "one country" had betrayed the October 1917 revolution and undermined the workers' state. The Congress declared that the October revolution led by the Bolsheviks must serve as a model for the workers of other lands.

The Congress adopted a number of proposals for intensifying party activities and stepping up the rate of recruitment. *Red October* has already launched a drive for 1,000 subscriptions by May 1.

The delegates expressed great optimism over the perspectives for the growth of the RCP in the Netherlands and for the growth of Trotskyism throughout the world.

The Congress reaffirmed its allegiance to the program of Bolshevism and the Fourth International.

# Nation-Wide General Strike Protests Massacre In Chile

By Diego Henriquez

(Special to The Militant)

SANTIAGO, Chile, Jan. 31 — The general strike organized by the Chilean Workers Federation achieved a smashing success. The demonstration was called in solidarity with the striking nitrate workers of Tarapaca, against the state of siege, imposed by the government, in defense of democratic liberties, and as a protest against the shooting of workers on January 28. (Reported in last week's Militant.)

Some 800,000 workers, small business men, artisans and small industrialists answered the call of the Federation. The economic life of the entire country was paralyzed for 24 hours. All transportation — railway, maritime, busses and street cars — ceased. Public utilities, the mines, the industries, etc., were shut down.

I do not recall ever having seen a general strike as complete and successful as this one. And workers who participated in the struggles following the First World War say that the number of persons participating in this strike surpasses anything previous.

### ECONOMIC LIFE HALTS

Here in Santiago, the capital of Chile, financial and economic life was halted. Every business house closed its doors. The railway workers had already gone out on strike a day ahead of the time set by the Federation. Street car operators and bus drivers refused to move their vehicles.

The employees of the banks and government services stopped work. All the men and women workers in the industries and big commercial houses warmly complied with the call for a general work stoppage.

With its closed doors and shuttered windows, the city appeared dead.

But from early morning thousands upon thousands of people, came on foot from the farthest reaches of the city, converging toward the headquarters of the Chilean Workers Federation. There they formed ranks for the funeral march for the seven who

were killed in the Monday massacre.

About 200,000 participated in this march. In accordance with the directives of the reformist leaders of the Chilean Workers Federation they marched in silence—an immense human sea. Not one carabiniere (Chilean police) appeared in the streets. Despite the government order prohibiting standards, every workers' political and trade union organization carried its banners high.

### RED FLAGS WAVE

The national flags which the Stalinists and Socialists usually order carried in parades were nowhere to be seen. Only red flags waved in the wind on this unforgettable morning of proletarian action!

The bourgeois Radical party, the political axis of the government, did not attend. (Radical Ministers were in the government on the day the workers were massacred!) The funeral march was notable for its essentially proletarian composition. If at other times workers were called and headed in parade by the Democratic Alliance (Popular Front), this time the order originated with the Workers Federation. In addition to the numerous banners of the trade unions, the flags of the Stalinist and Socialist parties could be seen.

The Workers Revolutionary Party, Chilean Section of the Fourth International, which up to then had not participated in mass demonstrations, because they were either organized by the Democratic Alliance or because the reformists prevented it, joined the funeral march with their red and black flag unfolded to the wind.

### TROTSKYISTS SALUTE

At the head of their small, disciplined column of 300 workers marched the Executive Committee. When the chiefs of the Workers Federation prohibited the

## "Don't Break GIs' Bones," Army Officer Tells Guards

By Charles Carsten

"Just don't break too many bones." This was the instruction of Colonel James A. Kilian, former commanding officer of the Lichfield (England) U. S. Army Reinforcement Depot, when he ordered a subordinate to beat up American soldiers imprisoned there.

Apparently the War Department decided to reward Kilian by recommending him to the permanent rank of full colonel in the regular U. S. Army. Truman approved the list on which Kilian's name appeared. On February 6 the Senate confirmed the nominations.

However, because of recent exposures in the press, certain Senators decided on the following day to "reconsider" their action. Chairman Elbert D. Thomas of the Military Affairs Committee, which had approved the list prior to Senate confirmation, indicated that the Committee would withdraw Kilian's name and again submit the other 349 nominations to the Senate.

Testimony in the London courts-martial of nine enlisted guards and two officers, accused of brutally beating GIs imprisoned in the Lichfield guardhouse, has conclusively proven Col. Kilian's direct responsibility for the savage treatment of GIs imprisoned for minor infractions of harsh Army regulations.

### CONCLUSIVE PROOF

The overwhelming evidence against Col. Kilian forced the court to request preparation of charges against him. But the appointing authority of the court, Brig. Gen. Claude M. Thiele, rebuked the court for making the request and refused to prefer charges against the colonel.

These charges listed by the court were (1) subordination of perjury (bribing or persuading witnesses to commit perjury), (2) intimidation of witnesses, (3) conspiracy and dereliction of duty. Gen. Thiele admonished the court that it had exceeded its authority in requesting preparation of charges against Col. Kilian.

The high command not only refused to place the Prussian-minded colonel on trial but has assigned him to "special duty"

near London. He is thus enabled to continue "fixing" the witnesses who appear before the court. And, as one of the guards facing trial testified, Kilian's presence in the London area proves "the post was really behind" the guards in the beating of prisoners.

Thus the evidence piles up that the policy of subjecting imprisoned combat veterans to inhuman terror and brutal treatment originated in the high command of the U. S. Army. The big brass is shielding Col. Kilian because it fears further compromising revelations if he is brought to trial.

### WIDESPREAD POLICY

Col. Kilian told First Lieutenant Granville Cubage, one of the officers facing trial, that Lichfield "can be just as tough as any detention training center." This remark proves that the policy of brutality was widespread.

After referring to "the way they used to do it in the cavalry," Col. Kilian explained to Cubage how to handle a wilful prisoner: "I'd take him down to the rifle range where it couldn't be seen and work him over. Just don't break too many bones."

These instructions were given by an officer high in the command of the U. S. Army. They flowed from a coldly calculated Army policy. As a result U. S. reinforcement depot stockades subjected American soldiers to treatment scarcely exceeded in barbarity by Nazi concentration camps. Here is but one of countless examples of the savagery practiced on Lichfield prisoners.

John Ayers testified that when he was at Lichfield he saw two prisoners beaten up and seriously injured by guards. One man was left lying unconscious on the floor "with blood pumping out of his mouth." For 25 minutes the guards tried to revive him. Then they sent for medics who took him away on a stretcher. The other prisoner was on his bunk coughing up blood.

## Banner Of Their Martyrs



Standing on a monument in Plaza Bulnes, Santiago, this Chilean worker holds aloft a banner of newspapers soaked with the blood of nine comrades murdered and over 100 wounded by the capitalist police. Last month the Chilean government ordered two striking nitrate unions dissolved. When 5,000 workers gathered at Plaza Bulnes to protest this suppression, carabinieri fired on the peaceful demonstration.

column of Trotskyists and all the other workers from singing the "Internationale," the Executive Committee gave the signal to march with fists raised in the communist salute of international solidarity. During the entire march not a single voice was heard against Trotskyism.

The working class has now returned to work. The government has retreated a step. It has promised to displace the pro-Peronist military chiefs and to constitute a civilian cabinet from members of the Democratic Alliance but without Stalinists or Socialists. The government has ended the state of siege and is more cautious in its attitude toward the working class.

### POLITICAL CRISIS

In this situation the Socialist Party, the Stalinist Party and the Workers Federation displayed open hostility toward the government. The Radical Party, which adopted a "leftist" pose in its recent national convention, now stands at the crossroads — uneasy and suspicious. The extreme right manifests a stubborn disposition to march openly to the conquest of total power.

Based on the government bureaucracy and the armed forces, facing the antagonistic forces of the extreme right and of the working class, the new government is typically Bonapartist.

The political crisis will undoubtedly experience a new explosion very shortly. The presidential election is only a few months away. And the election will oblige the workers' parties to come out openly either for reconstituting the broken Democratic Alliance or for organizing proletarian unity.

### CHARGED ATMOSPHERE

The leaflets and the paper of the Revolutionary Workers Party, *El Militante*, distributed on the day of the general strike calling for "United Action of the Communists, Socialists and Workers Federation," were snatched up by the workers. Conversations are now under way between the Stalinist and Socialist leaders to carry out united action.

But while this mood fills the heart of the proletariat of Chile, the reformists seek to head off the struggle. They tried to paralyze the general strike before the government conceded the workers' demands. Now the government holds them in contempt.

They do not dare launch the workers into a new strike. They vacillate. They fear a proletarian tempest.

But despite the reformists' cowardice and fears, the proletarian fist will again be raised. The atmosphere is charged with the growing political radicalization of the workers.

## Exclusive Report On Big Strike Of Paris Printers

SPECIAL TO THE MILITANT

PARIS, France, Jan. 31 — The mechanical staffs of the daily newspapers here called a city-wide strike on January 25. Their principal demand was an increase in wages to meet the sky-rocketing cost of living.

Not a single daily paper has appeared in Paris since the strike began.

Interestingly enough, the owners of the press are as a whole willing to grant the wage increase — but the government opposes it!

The printing trades workers are dissatisfied with the attitude of the trade union heads who speak about "the poverty of France." The workers are aware that Parliament this very month voted 126 billion francs for the Army.

One can say that this strike was called despite the leadership of the union, which is dominated by the Stalinists and inclined more and more toward "national unity" with the capitalists. Certain Stalinist weeklies attacked the strikers, advancing the lie that the strike is led by former "collaborators!" Needless to say, the workers are indignant over the methods employed by the Stalinist Party against their strike.

### ASKS TROTSKYIST AID

Here is an interesting indication. Sunday, January 27, at a general meeting of the strikers, members of the Internationalist Communist Party (Trotskyists) distributed leaflets supporting the strike. Subsequently, one of the strikers, an old Stalinist militant, visited Trotskyist headquarters to talk about the strike. He asked the Trotskyists to print another leaflet. Tuesday he returned for a bundle of leaflets to distribute among the strikers. He furnished the paper for the leaflets. (Paper is very scarce in France.) He wants to keep in contact with the Trotskyists for future help.

Today the President of France, Felix Gouin, announced new restrictions against the workers. "Wages will not be increased," he said. But naturally he made no guarantees about prices!

The Stalinist Party announced its agreement with the declaration of President Gouin.

Thus dissatisfaction grows among the workers, including those organized in the General Confederation of Labor.

The possibilities for the growth of the Internationalist Communist Party are rapidly widening.

## Officers Revelled While GIs Sweated It Out, Says Editor

A few of the scandalous privileges granted U. S. Army officers are cited by Joe McCarthy, former managing editor of *Yank*, in the February *Cosmopolitan*. McCarthy's post on the Army publication gave him unusual opportunity to observe conditions in the armed forces. His revelations are all the more significant in that he limits himself to asking only the mildest reforms of the military caste system.

High priority lumber and screening sent to the Persian Gulf Command for the construction of a hospital was used to build an elaborate officers' Club. This club was completed long before the hospital. As a protest, enlisted men, sweating it out in tents, cashed in their war bonds.

Water coolers mean a lot in Iran. Summer heat there goes up to 149 degrees. In that heat you can't touch the blade of an airplane propeller or the hand rail of a locomotive cab without gloves. One morning a truck picked up the only water cooler in each barracks. That afternoon each officer had a water cooler in his private room.

### NO GENTLEMEN!

At Camp Gruber, Oklahoma, a colonel issued a mimeographed code of conduct, warning the officers in his infantry regiment that no enlisted man could ever be considered a gentleman and therefore could never be trusted.

On a destroyer one night at Hollandia, each of the ship's officers brought aboard a nurse for a gala steak dinner. The sailors, who had not spoken to a girl in several months, listened to the music and laughter and ate C-rations.

At a California airfield a few months ago, a soldier hurrying home from the Pacific on an emergency furlough because his wife had gone insane, was removed from an eastbound Army plane to make room for a Major General's wife.

The movie-star, Eddie Bracken, was asked to leave Saipan because he stopped his show and invited the enlisted men, who were straining their ears 'way up back, to come down and fill up the vacant places in the officers' section near the footlights.

OFFICERS' COUNTRY

At Two Jim's a sign on the edge of the officers' area of the Army air force outfit read: "Officers' Country. Restricted." The officers' country was located between headquarters where the enlisted men worked, and the tent area where the enlisted men lived. This restriction forced the enlisted men to detour an extra quarter of a mile around the officers' country on their way to and from work, four to six times a day.

The irritated soldiers put up a sign in their own area. It said: "God's Country. No Restrictions." They were ordered to take it down.

## Cairo Police Arrest Egyptian Trotskyists

The December 22 *La Bourse Egyptienne* (The Egyptian Stock Exchange) printed the following item on police repression of Trotskyists and Stalinists in Egypt:

"The Cairo police have carried out numerous raids and arrested about a dozen youths."

"Under cover of socialist propaganda, the prisoners, some Stalinists and others Trotskyists, carried on communist propaganda. The Trotskyists founded a school for pure communism which was frequented by soldiers in the army. The two groups published magazines and the editor of one of them recently made a trip to the Sudan."

The Egyptian Trotskyists stood in the forefront of the workers' struggle against imperialism and for a socialist society. During the war they were persecuted for their uncompromising opposition to the imperialist slaughter.

Official confirmation of these arrests has not yet been received by The Militant.

READ  
"THE FOURTH  
INTERNATIONAL"



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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

## Case Bill

Congress further exposed its function as the legislative agency of Big Business when the House of Representatives on February 7 passed in record time and by an overwhelming vote the anti-labor Case Bill.

This bill now goes to the Senate, a body that has equally vicious measures of its own in the hopper. The Case Bill would outlaw strikes, set fines and jail sentences for strikes declared "in violation of contract," impose compulsory arbitration and, in effect, deal a death blow to the Wagner Act.

The House's passage of the Case Bill is part of a general Big Business-government drive against labor. Truman himself gave the green light for action on such anti-strike legislation when he demanded adoption of his semi-compulsory arbitration "fact-finding" proposition.

Against the Congressional labor-baiters there is not a single effective voice being raised in Congress. The feeble House minority who opposed the Case Bill in the main did not oppose anti-strike legislation as such but only protested that this particular bill might be "going too far."

What a shameful state of affairs where the whole apparatus of government is being utilized for the benefit of a handful of rich monopolists against the interests of scores of millions of working people! This is the direct consequence of the bankrupt political policies of the labor leaders, and those like the Stalinists and Social-Democrats who have supported these policies.

Time and again the union leaders have misdirected the workers into supporting so-called "friends of labor" of the capitalist political parties, Democratic and Republican. These labor leaders have done all in their power to keep labor from forming its own independent political party and effectively fighting the political rule of Big Business.

So long as labor has no party of its own it will stand, as it does now, virtually helpless before the reactionary agents of the capitalists who control the state and its governmental administration.

The passage of the Case Bill by the House is one more imperative warning signal: THE TIME TO BUILD THE LABOR PARTY IS NOW!

## "Friend Of Labor"

General O'Dwyer's actions in the brief weeks since he assumed office as mayor of New York offer an instructive lesson in politics.

O'Dwyer ran in the election as the representative of Tammany Hall, one of the most corrupt political machines in the United States. The Tammany machine, however, is not simply a political gang out to feather its own nest through control of public offices. It represents the economic and political interests of the small clique of bankers, landlords and industrialists who dominate the largest city in the world.

O'Dwyer also received support from the Stalinists and the American Labor Party, who ballyhooed this political stooge of Wall Street as a "friend of labor."

No sooner did he take the mayor's chair than O'Dwyer began dealing heavy blows against the labor movement. In the Western Union strike, his police force acted as a guard for scabs and strikebreakers. O'Dwyer mobilized the largest army of cops against a single strike in New York history—750 cops against 20 pickets.

In the tug boat strike, the mayor came out even more brazenly against labor. He issued proclamations declaring a state of "emergency" which were deliberately designed to create panic and generate public hysteria against the strikers. The strike could have been quickly ended if the Mayor had put pressure where it belonged—against the employers. But O'Dwyer did not do that because he is the political representative of the employers.

The political lesson is clear. Labor only loses when it backs the political stooges of the bosses. The Stalinists and the ALP betrayed the labor movement when they called on the workers of New York to vote for O'Dwyer.

To complete this lesson, it is necessary to recall the platform of the Socialist Workers Party candidate for mayor, Farrell Dobbs. On

October 26, 1945 the Trotskyist candidate stated flatly:

"As a working class mayor I would use my powers of office to the hilt, not to protect the profiteering employers, not to defend gangsters and strikebreakers, but to uphold the right of the workers to strike and picket."

"In a strike, I would say to such an employer: 'You say you want to settle this strike peacefully? Good! But you say you can't pay higher wages? We'll see about that. While the strike remains unsettled, you are forbidden to operate with scabs or strikebreakers. Meanwhile, we will appoint a commission including representatives of the strikers to examine your books and records. We will publish a report of your profits. We will expose every fraud you may have committed. We demand that your employees receive just treatment. That's what a labor mayor would say to an employer in a strike.'"

## Secret Diplomacy

C. L. Sulzberger, correspondent of the N. Y. Times, reported February 6 that "a secret British-Soviet agreement" was made "in the spring of 1944." According to Sulzberger, the pact established "spheres of influence in southeastern Europe." The Stalinist bureaucracy got Rumania and Yugoslavia while "Britain, in exchange, received control of Greece."

Washington, moreover, was a "tacit partner in this arrangement."

Sulzberger's report is undoubtedly authentic. When the labor movement throughout the world protested Britain's slaughter of the Greek people last year, both Churchill and Eden swore that Stalin had agreed to the landing of British troops in Greece.

Stalin never denied this revelation. Moreover, in the debates in the UNO, Vyshinsky admitted February 1 that "it is true . . . the Soviet Union approved of the presence of such troops on Greek soil . . ."

Why was the division of the Balkans into spheres of influence carried out under cover of secret diplomacy?

The British imperialists wanted to secure their "life-line" to India. In accordance with traditional British policy this meant exclusion of other major powers from the Mediterranean and domination of all areas facing this sea route, especially in Greece.

The Stalinist bureaucracy in return wanted to extend its control beyond the former borders of the Soviet Union in anticipation of future struggles. The Kremlin in addition sought to get closer to the Mediterranean and world sea routes. Of even more immediate concern, Moscow wanted direct control over the areas touching the Soviet Union to prevent socialist revolution from flaring up which could spread to the workers of the USSR and serve to unseat the Stalinist totalitarian regime.

But the Second World War was still raging. The Anglo-American imperialists contended they were fighting for freedom and democracy. The Stalinist bureaucracy supported them in this contention.

Publication of the sordid deal over the division of southeastern Europe would have proclaimed to the entire world that the real aims of the Allies were the exact opposite of those noble ideals they professed. It would have been a confession that the Second World War was a reactionary war fought over markets, colonies, spheres of influence and the protection of profits and special privileges.

That was something neither the imperialist diplomats nor their Stalinist agents cared to disclose to the peoples who were being asked to fight for "the four freedoms."

## FEPC And Freeport

After a three-week filibuster, the Fair Employment Practices Commission bill has finally been lynched by the Senate. Once again the ultra-reactionary minority of Southern Bourbons in the Big-Business dominated Senate have won a sweeping victory for their vicious anti-Negro, anti-labor policies.

Equally guilty of complicity in this crime against 13,000,000 Negro people is President Truman. He made no move to rally support to break up the filibuster and secure passage of the FEPC bill. How could he when the fight against it was headed by leading Senators of his own Democratic Party?

As for the Senate majority, they were only too glad to quit the sham battle in which they gave nothing but cheap lip-service to the FEPC bill. After the Bilboe and Eastlands had succeeded in slaying the measure, these "supporters" helped give it speedy burial. Thus, after the motion to close debate was defeated by the Democratic-Republican coalition, Senator Chavez, who introduced the bill, quickly moved that the Senate proceed at once to other business.

The successful filibuster against the FEPC has given the go-ahead signal to the most savage race-haters not only in the South but in the North as well.

Last week in Freeport, New York, four Negro brothers, all World War II veterans, were brutally assaulted and two of them murdered in cold blood by a policeman.

The lynching of FEPC legislation by one of the highest government bodies has served to encourage such outrageous acts of violence against the Negro people. By upholding and enforcing the Jim Crow system and shielding the practitioners of race hatred, both the Republican and Democratic parties must be held accountable for such crimes as that committed in the name of capitalist "law and order" in Freeport.

The fate of the FEPC proposal again demonstrates that the oppressed minorities cannot rely upon the Big-Business dominated political parties to defend their democratic rights.



"I do hope the President won't set up rationing again. It's much more pleasant to eat with the shades up."

## Workers BOOKSHELF

LEON SEDOV, Son, Friend, Fighter, by Leon Trotsky, 1938. 32 pp., 10 cents. Pioneer Publishers, New York, N. Y.

This exquisite tribute was written in farewell to the ardent young revolutionist, who was the son of Leon and Natalia Sedov Trotsky. Sedov had become "as no one else on earth" a part of their life, writes Trotsky, "entwined in all its roots, our co-thinker, our co-worker, our guard, our counselor, our friend."

Leon Sedov was born in February, 1906, while Trotsky was confined in a czarist prison for his leading role as chairman of the Petrograd Soviet in the 1905 Russian Revolution. Sedov's entire life was to be bound up with the ebb and flow of the revolutionary movement, in which he participated with wholehearted zeal.

At the age of eight, Trotsky relates, Sedov "conversed in sign language about the revolution" with a Catalan stoker on a ship transporting the family into exile. And although young Leon was just eleven years old when the October Revolution of 1917 established the first Workers' State, "for him, the revolution was no abstraction. Oh, no! It seeped into his very pores."

The young boy worked diligently in the ranks of Komsomol, the Communist Youth organization, teaching workers to read and write. He joined the "labor mobilizations" to clean the snow from the Moscow streets. He grew up with an unalterable sense of duty and loyalty to the working class.

When the Left Opposition to the Stalinist bureaucracy was formed in 1923, Leon Sedov was instrumental in uniting its followers in the Komsomol.

But it was above all in the following years of Trotsky's exile—from 1927 on—that the stature of Leon Sedov was tested and proved. Trotsky writes in greatest detail of this period, describing "how this little boy had imperceptibly grown up, how well he could judge people . . . how reliable was his revolutionary instinct which enabled him, without any hesitation, to distinguish the genuine from the false, the substance from the veneer."

Exiled in Alma Ata, "four thousand kilometers from Moscow, two hundred and fifty kilometers from the nearest railway," wrote Trotsky, "he spent a difficult and never-to-be-forgotten year which remains in our memory under the sign of Leon."

There Sedov was Trotsky's guard, collaborator and secretary, as he was later to be in Turkey, Berlin and Paris. "Vast in point of quantity, his collaboration was by no means of a 'technical' nature," said Trotsky. "Such collaboration was made possible only because our ideological solidarity had penetrated our very flesh and blood. My son's name should rightfully be placed next to mine on almost all my books written since 1928."

In addition to his vast work of literary research, Leon Sedov found means of maintaining connections with co-thinkers even inside the Soviet Union. This was

no small part of the reason that Stalin's secret police, the GPU, hounded him mercilessly.

The heroic Ignace Reiss, a former GPU agent who joined the Fourth Internationalists in 1937 and was also slain by Stalin's assassins, related their estimation of Sedov: "The Little Son does his work cleverly. The Old Man wouldn't find it so easy without him."

Sedov was the first to expose the infamous Moscow frameup trials of the Russian Revolution, in which he and his father were the principal targets. His "Red Book on the Moscow Trial," published while Trotsky was a captive in Norway, firmly established Sedov as an outstanding and independent figure.

In his brief span of thirty-two years, Sedov had seen the brutal power of czarism and capitalism overturned by workers of Russia; he had helped to build the Workers' State. He saw the reactionary bureaucratic clique of Stalin stifle democracy within the Soviet Union, and commit crime after crime against the working people of the world. But Sedov fought on for the cause of the socialist revolution, the building of the Fourth International, until he died, a victim of Stalin's GPU on February 16, 1938. Trotsky's powerful story of Sedov's life is fittingly dedicated to those who will carry forward that struggle: The Proletarian Youth whom Sedov so excellently typified.

Reviewed by  
Ruth Johnson

## Congressmen At Work

The filibuster against FEPC began on January 17 — one of those dull drowsy days habitual to Wall Street's leisure-loving Congressmen. Senator Eastland of Mississippi, for instance, was peacefully minding his own business, not harming anyone in his speech except the labor movement. Legislators with something important on their minds slipped out.

"I think the Congress of the United States should rise to the occasion," droned Eastland "and speedily consider anti-strike legislation." He took a lazy poke at the Committee on Education and Labor for not yet reporting out an anti-strike bill introduced December 6, 1945. "We must act to settle the question who is boss in this country — the American Congress or the CIO. I believe the Senate knows what it will do with these bills and that they should be reported to the floor and speedily acted upon."

This was the moment Senator Chavez of New Mexico chose to move that the Senate consider the FEPC bill which has been pending ever since May 24, 1945, the day it was reported out by the same Education and Labor Committee just denounced by Eastland.

Chavez couldn't have changed the atmosphere quicker if he had batted open a nest of yellow jackets. The Senators who represent the Southern Bourbons, none from their seats as one man, and by the time they came back down to the floor they were shouting out points of order and parliamentary maneuvers like fireworks.

A roll call stalled action while the five-alarm emergency warning brought the absentee Southern Senators scrambling back into their seats.

Senator Bankhead 2nd of Alabama stormed that he had "left the Senate Chamber without any suspicion or thought, or suggestion from any source, that the bill would be taken up." He had



just stepped out, in his ignorance of what was coming, and had gone down to the "Raleigh Hotel" where — he was careful to explain — he discussed measures of "great importance to the farmers."

Eastland, bouncing up and down like a rubber ball, tried one parliamentary stratagem after another to cut the throat of FEPC real quick, including a motion to recommit the bill to the despised Committee on Education and Labor.

Senator George of Georgia complained most bitterly that FEPC was brought up in violation of the request of majority leader Barkley of Kentucky to Congress that "nothing be done until the President's message was submitted . . ." And then he foamed at the mouth: "We are called upon to go 'Nazi.' We are called upon to go totalitarian."

Chavez, weaving through the barrage, argued that the Democratic Party had pledged passage of FEPC, that Roosevelt had promised it and Truman too had committed himself. He intimated that many Democrats could not be re-elected without passing FEPC and thus appealing to the Negroes and other minorities, particularly veterans of these groups who had been forced to fight on foreign battlefields for "democracy."

Eastland pulled the stops right out. FEPC, he yelled, is "unconstitutional," on top of that, it is backed by "communists," and besides, among "those

who think," FEPC is the "very last thing the Jews or other minority groups in the United States would want."

Overton of Louisiana then scaled the heights of Congressional oratory proving that the "Negro voter makes a grave mistake in voting the Democratic ticket."

When Overton ran out of wind, Eastland prompted him with a stooge question: "The Senator does not think the Democratic party is friendly to the Negro, does he?"

Overton handled this insulting thought in the manner it deserved: "Certainly not the backbone of the Democratic Party." He raised his voice accusingly: "If the Senators from the doubtful States who required the Negro vote in order that they might be elected to and maintain their seats in the Senate had not pursued the course they followed, the Democratic Party would have remained what it ought to be, the white man's party."

But the Southern Bourbon Senators were not yet out of the woods, for Chavez who still held the floor was asking for an immediate vote. They solved their problem in accordance with Bourbon ethics.

In the chair was none other than Senator "Pass-the-Biscuits - Pappy" O'Daniel of Texas. O'Daniel intervened to lay before the Senate a message from the House on disagreement over amendments to the bill passed just before Christmas giving the shipowners \$10,000,000,000 in surplus ships. After this message, O'Daniel completely disregarded the FEPC proponents who were on their feet first. He handed the floor over to Eastland.

The backbone of the Democratic Party mopped their brows and relaxed. With the genial gallantry of the old slave - holding Southern aristocracy, Eastland started the filibuster, prepared to talk, if necessary, for "two years."

## PROBLEMS FACING WAR VETERANS

By CHARLES CARSTEN

### The Fight For Decent Housing

Mrs. M. D., writing from Cleveland, Ohio, says that she has been clipping this column and sending it to her husband who is overseas. In the course of her interesting letter Mrs. M. D. states:

"It is my conviction that there is no such thing as a veterans' problem as such, that it is inalienably bound up in the class struggle and exhibits all the familiar symptoms — sharpened and heightened, but not qualitatively different. The question of homelessness, for instance — the whole working class is homeless."

It is certainly true that the veterans' problems are bound up with and are part of the class struggle. Veterans have a keen interest in the broad struggle of the labor movement. The overwhelming majority of the union veterans are in the forefront of the struggle for higher wages and better conditions. But, besides this struggle, veterans have some special problems. Here are only a few:

Most veterans have been handicapped in one way or another by their service in the Army or Navy. All of them lost precious years of their youth. Many lost the time during which they might have been learning a trade or getting established on a job. On return to civilian life they can qualify for only the lowest paid, unskilled jobs.

A great many veterans have had their health impaired. Other thousands have been disabled for life. All GIs are vitally concerned with adequate medical care both for the wounded and those suffering from poor health. They have a special interest in this question, since their comrades and themselves are affected.

It is true, as Mrs. M. D. says, that the whole working class suffers from the housing shortage. But both in the opinion of the veterans and many non-veterans, ex-servicemen have an especially pressing problem of decent housing.

### No Roof At All For Veterans

While workers are suffering from slum housing, high rents and threats of eviction, for many returning veterans the problem is one of getting any kind of a roof over their heads. After years of privation and unusual hardship, these men return to find they can't even get a place to sleep. This is a glaring example of the government's complete failure to pay off on the most elementary of the promises made when men were drafted. The housing problem of the veterans exposes in all its viciousness the utter indifference of the government to the crying needs of the ex-servicemen.

Ex-GIs believe they have a right to some of the benefits promised them by capitalist politicians, and most of the non-veterans agree they are entitled to special consideration.

Under the pressure of universal demand for fair treatment of the veterans, Wall Street's legislative agents in Washington passed legislation supposed to aid veterans, but actually callously designed to give veterans as little as possible. The same capitalist politicians who generously grant huge tax refunds to big corporations, contemptuously toss a miserable crumb to the ex-GIs.

To overcome the handicap resulting from service in the Army and Navy, veterans must organize and fight for their special needs. They must do this as an integral part of the working class and in alliance with the unions. Just as only the labor movement supports the demands of the GIs overseas for speedy demobilization, so the union movement here at home fights for decent wages, job security and better working conditions for veterans.

The veterans' problems, which surely do exist, can only be solved in close alliance with the working class of which they are an important part. To do this they must have an organization of their own tightly bound to the union movement. Such an organization will not only fight most effectively for the special needs of the veterans but will also be a powerful ally of the labor movement and a bulwark against Big Business reaction.

## Widows, Orphans Suffer After Mine Disaster

The full tragic toll of the Kentucky Straight Creek coal mine disaster on December 26, in which 24 mine workers were killed through the operators' criminal neglect of safety precautions, is disclosed in the February 1 United Mine Workers Journal. In this single typical instance of MURDER FOR PROFITS, a total of 96 dependent women and children have been left widows and orphans.

The average age of the dead miners was 42½. They left 69 under-age children, 23 widows and four dependent grandchildren. Eleven of them left five to eight dependents each. More than two-thirds of the dependent children are 12 and under.

Two of the widows, Mrs. Tom McQueen and Mrs. Henry Horeycutt, mother of six, are expecting children. One of the miners, father of three, died together with his 24-year-old son. The only victim who left no dependents was a youth of 18, unmarried. He had been employed at the mine for only five months.

These cold statistics cannot convey the vast extent of the misery and suffering of these helpless widows and orphans. They are in "desperate circumstances," reports the miners' Journal. Neither the coal company, nor the state and local officialdom has done anything at all for them.

Kentucky has no compulsory workmen's insurance laws. Although operators have been warned that "employment of members of UMWA at mines not covered by compensation insurance would be prohibited," this prohibition is obviously not enforced. Moreover, for the hapless victims of the Straight Creek disaster, there isn't even a "slim chance of winning compensation through the courts" from this "fly-by-night" company.

Federal safety requirements have been flagrantly ignored by the mine owners of Kentucky. State inspectors, with the power to enforce safety regulations are corrupted by the mine operators through the latter's domination of local political machines. Immediately after the Straight Creek disaster, a spokesman for UMWA President John L. Lewis declared that "Kentucky has the poorest-enforced inspection of any state in the union. The inspection service is notoriously dominated by the coal companies."

Officers of the Kentucky districts of the UMWA declare they intend once again making a "full-scale fight to insure in case of future disasters in the state, that surviving widows and children will not be placed in the same desperate circumstances as the families left by the Four Mile tragedy." They are demanding that prompt action be taken to "improve and modernize state mining laws."



# 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.

## Veteran Calls On Buddies To Aid All Striking Workers

Editor:  
On the front page of the N. Y. Daily News on January 18 there was a picture of seven cops beating a union worker and dragging him down the street. Beneath the picture in bold letters was the line "Striker battles police." This line is too obvious to go unnoticed.

As I see it, the cops are beating a worker whose taxes help pay their wages. Reminds me of the dog that bit the hand of the guy who fed him. If the cops had to fight on the picket line for a living wage as we do, we would have no trouble from them.

The same article in the News goes on to say that the cops threw gas bombs at the workers, and some of the workers threw the bombs back.

I am a veteran, and I've talked to lots of other veterans since being discharged. We all agree that the day the cops attack an all-veterans' picket line will be a day to remember in the history of American police brutality. When all the vets get back from this war, Mr. Cop, we are not going to take this kind of shoving around from you or anyone else who stands in the way of our getting a better way of life.

The Big Shots told us we were fighting for a better life. Those of us who have come back so far, haven't found that "better life" they spoke of so freely over there. But when we are all organized with the labor movement, we'll get it if we have to take it — which we probably will.

As a veteran who is now a trade union worker, I want to urge all veterans and soldiers to support any and all picket lines, and to support the workers when strikebreaking cops attack picket lines. This is our fight as well as anyone's.

We know how to fight fascism. We'll fight it at home with more vigor than we fought it abroad, because this is our fight — the Second World War was Wall Street's. We fought for those money-crazed vultures while they squeezed billions of dollars profit out of our buddies' blood. I'm sure we won't flinch at the job we have ahead of us here, helping our fellow workers defend themselves against Wall Street's cops.

Remember the slogan "A Government of the people, by the people and for the people" — or should it read "A government of Washington, for Wall Street, by the cops?"

Johnny Eager  
New York

## "There's Never A Mine Blown Skyward"

Editor:  
On January 14, in a mine explosion at Welch, West Virginia, 14 men were killed and 38 others injured.

On January 14, the same day, on the New York stock exchange, according to the United Press: "Stock prices soared more than \$1,000,000." And "United States Steel gained more than three points to a new high."

An unknown poet once penned the following lines. Would you reprint them?

## LABOR

We have fed you all for a thousand years,  
And you hail us still unfed,  
Tho' there's never a dollar of all your wealth

But marks the worker's dead.  
We have yielded the best to give you rest,  
And you lie on crimson wool:  
For if blood be the price of all your wealth,

Good God, we have paid in full!  
There's never a mine blown skyward now  
But we're buried alive for you!  
There's never a wreck drifts shoreward now

But we are its ghastly crew;  
If blood be the price of your cursed wealth  
Good God, we have paid it full!  
Go, reckon our dead by the forges red,

And the factories where we spin  
We have fed you all for a thousand years,  
For that was our doom, you know,  
From the days you chained us in your fields

To the strike of a week ago,  
You ha' eaten our lives and our babies and wives,  
And we're told it's your lawful share:  
But if blood be the price of your lawful wealth,

Good God, we ha' bought it fair!  
The poem is a parody on one written by Rudyard Kipling in praise of capitalism.

C.  
New York

## Army Hospital Negligence Revealed By Wounded GI

Editor:

I just visited a wounded combat soldier who is belling with anger because of the Army's criminal delay in treating his broken leg.

He has been in Army hospitals for a total of eight months. Army doctors have finally decided that different treatment is necessary. But, for some reason known only to them, they claim they will have to wait another six months before they can begin the treatment.

This soldier sustained a compound fracture of the leg as a result of a motorcycle accident while on duty in Germany. This occurred in June, 1945. He was transferred from a hospital in Germany to one in France where he was "treated" for two months. He was then moved to the Deshon General Hospital, Butler, Pennsylvania. He has been in Deshon since the first part of August.

Army doctors have broken and reset his leg seven times. Still, x-rays show that the bones are not knitting properly. There is a gap between them. Doctors at

Deshon say bone must be grafted. Without explanation, they assert this operation cannot be undertaken for months.

This wounded soldier has been in the Army for a total of four years. Three of those years were spent in Europe — first in England and then, after the invasion of the continent, in France, Germany and Austria.

He doesn't have any confidence in the medical staff at Deshon because, he says, the doctors "don't care what happens to the men." He has heard many men bitterly complain about treatment in the hospital. A wounded veteran having a bone grafted in his leg, lost the grafted bone. After long and painful treatment, it all had to be started over again.

A member of the soldier's family showed me pictures of three men in the family: "They were all killed in the war," she said. "All three of them. What do the higher-ups care about our boys? Look how miserably they treat the fourth who was wounded in the war."

C. C.  
New York City

## Praises Article On Homestead Steel

Editor:

The article by Art Preis in the February 2 Militant, for sustained impact, clarity and feeling surpasses anything of the like nature I have ever read. He agonizes with the workers, exults with them, and with magnificent dramatization provides them with an armor of solidarity which they themselves are rapidly becoming militantly aware of.

Eddie Damaine  
Buffalo, N. Y.

## Asks Column On Stalinist Role

Editor:

I am writing this to suggest an additional column in the paper which today, I am sure the staff and readers will agree, is more imperative than ever! We need a regular exposure of Stalinism! The utter bankruptcy and political treachery of these slavish lickspittles of Stalin in America and their counterparts abroad, calls for a consistent, week-by-week exposure in The Militant.

A column, the most effective for its "eye appeal," in the journalistic sense, should be devoted exclusively to these scoundrels. They stand today as the biggest obstacle in the labor field to the revolutionary education and organization of the advanced workers, as well as leftward moving elements generally.

Better still, in my opinion, would be two columns, side by side (again, for "eye appeal") entitled "International Stalinism" and "Revolutionary Internationalism," the former consistently exposing these fakers in every land, where their perfidy and betrayal of the workers know no bounds, the latter counterposing the work, programs, activities, and achievements of the sections of the Fourth International or independent groups and organizations of militant workers.

For instance, in the column exposing international Stalinism, could be used items from the press to show how eager the bourgeois and its journalists are to advertise these counter-revolutionists as good, bourgeois democratic defenders, of the rule of capitalism, albeit the "liberal," pro-Stalin variety. For example:

Anne O'Hare MacCormick, — discussing the situation in Italy, by wireless to N. Y. Times: "Rome, Italy, Jan. 1, 1946: The Communist (Stalinist) leader (Togliatti) is an adroit and able campaigner. His estimate of the Italian state of mind is revealed

## The Worker Speaks

The war of the classes is raging.

The final conflict is here.

The fight that we workers are waging

Is destined to be very dear

We realize that we cannot ignore

The real task that's at hand:

And that Bourbons will always

roar

When wage slaves join the band.

We are fighting for higher wage

A greater share in the take.

A chance to get out of our cage

For our liberty is at stake.

The bosses may win the first

battle,

But they will not win the war

We workers are not just dumb

cattle,

For we know what we're

fighting for.

Our brothers in every land will

back

Our struggles in old U. S. A.

Their dearest thoughts they'll

stack

On victory in our own day:

And plutocrats will be fazed,

And so will every zany,

When the scarlet banner is raised:

In every nook and cranny

And happiness will reign

In every land on earth,

And only buffoons will complain

Of the workers' world in birth.

Robert Rolland

In the party platform, which is extraordinarily conservative, favoring private property, individual liberty, religious freedom and no change in the Lateran Treaty with the Vatican.

"Save as it exalts Premier Stalin and glorifies the Soviet Union as a powerful friend, it carries no suggestion of a Communist program. It goes so far as to welcome any member without distinction of ideology."

I could quote any number of revealing items in the press. I trust that the above quotations will suffice to show how imperative it is to hammer away in a regular column at the Stalinist cancer in the ranks of the working class.

S. T.  
New York, N. Y.

## Trotsky's eloquent memorial tribute to his son and comrade

### Leon Sedov SON, FRIEND, FIGHTER

A pamphlet

"Dedicated to the Proletarian Youth"

32 pp

10 cents

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Pioneer Publishers

116 University Place, N. Y. 3, N. Y.

## The Capitalist Lie-Machine



## Capitalist Propaganda Methods And A Labor-Publicity Program

Editor:

As you know, it is practically impossible to find any news analysts or commentators who are not slanted, biased or prejudiced against labor, labor's problems, and/or unions.

The most biased of these commentators in the Middle West, in my opinion, are H. V. Kaltenborn who broadcasts over NBC for the Pure Oil Company, and Earl Godwin on ABC, for the National Board of Fire Underwriters of U. S.

My idea is to urge the unions to pass resolutions, and write letters to the companies protesting the use of these brass check artists. The Kemper interests in the insurance business and the Parker Pen Company, had to fire Upton Close because of so many cancellations and protests. They were thus forced to discontinue having him on the air.

I think it would also be good to (1) ask unions to put on strong organizational campaigns to organize office workers; (2) establish regular daily papers with comic strips, news features (including AP and UP features, etc.), with these papers subsidized by all unions, and under a policy board controlled by the unions.

All of these things would aid in the politicalization of the workers, tend to unite the unions, and aid in the necessary steps to the Labor Party.

Yours for socialism,  
B. H.  
Chicago, Ill.

## Audience Hostile to Army Propaganda

Editor:

The other day I was watching a series of newsreels—the latest doings of Hollywood celebrities, a few shots of Truman, a few scenes of Atlantic storms, etc.

A Vet  
Newark, N. J.

## Wall Street Press Urges Intervention In Argentina

Editor:

Wall Street's campaign to establish its domination over Argentina appears to be stepping up considerably. Leading this campaign to date has been the well-known figure of Spruille Braden, former ambassador to Argentina, who has been made Undersecretary of State in reward for his hypocritical speeches about democracy. No small role has been played in this infamous business by the N. Y. Times, an influential newspaper that faithfully and capably reflects the designs of America's 60 Ruling Families.

In the Times, January 23, I ran across a very interesting analytical article, under the name of Frank L. Kluckhohn, Reading this piece, which drips with the poisonous ideology of America's rulers, is sufficient to fill one with indignation at this latest attempt of Wall Street to bend another country to its will.

The article begins: "The developments of the past 10 days in Argentina seem to have strengthened Col. Juan D. Peron, and it appears that if the United States announced policy of getting rid of him is to be executed, WORDS WILL HAVE TO BE BACKED BY ACTION."

Later on Mr. Kluckhohn banishes all ambiguity as to the kind of action he meant: "And there is no use in fooling ourselves that such action can be anything SHORT OF THE EMPLOYMENT OF ARMED FORCE to be effective."

At the behest of whom is this action to be taken? Kluckhohn answers this one too. "American BUSINESS MEN in

Right in the middle of it all we saw flashed upon the screen the picture of a young man. He began to tell us that he had just re-enlisted in the army. Then he proceeded to tell how wonderful it was. Also he urged everybody else to do the same.

The audience, which had been very quiet until then, now began to manifest its hostility in various ways. During the entire course of the scene there was open heckling, cat-calls, jeering, and loud and contemptuous laughter. It was easy to see that the audience did not like it at all. This very crude attempt to propagandize them fell flat—even the most naive person could see through it.

This crude attempt indicates that the ruling capitalists do not give the masses credit for having any brains at all. To me this newsreel is indicative of the fact that they are encountering real difficulties in their task of trying to foist upon the American people their program of universal peacetime military training.

The January 21 issue of Time magazine pointedly begins its article on the GI demonstrations by citing a quotation from Lenin to the effect that the Russian Army of 1917, "decided the question of war and peace with its feet." They are worried about just how far the American army has gone along in the path of Lenin. They go on to slander the GIs by saying that they had not yet completed the job which they were organized to do.

The bourgeoisie is able to draw correct political conclusions from these events. It is encountering increasing difficulties in its program of trying to bring the whole world within its sphere of influence. In the end it is bound to be engulfed in the new tide of workers' upsurge.

## Youth Group Activities

NEW YORK — The Trotskyist Youth Group, 116 University Place, holds its weekly four every Friday at 8 p. m. Dancing and refreshments after every meeting. Send name and address for weekly announcement.

PHILADELPHIA — Youth forums held on 1st and 3rd Saturdays, 8 p. m. at 405 W. Girard Ave.

LOS ANGELES — Write to SWP headquarters, 145 S Broadway, for information on Youth Group activities.

Watch this column for further details on youth activities.

## Pioneer Notes

The Toledo branch of the Socialist Workers Party has instituted a new sales method based on the slogan "BUILD YOUR MARXIST LIBRARY!" which should be of interest to other branches of the SWP. The literature agent writes:

"Included in the agenda of every business meeting is a short 5-minute book review and talk given by various members of the branch. The particular book reviewed each week is known as the 'Book of the Week.' It is attractively displayed throughout the week under the slogan: Build Your Marxist Library!"

"Borrowing a method from bourgeois retailers, we are selling the book during that week only at cost to the branch; that is, for all books upon which we receive 25 per cent discount, a similar discount is given to the branch members during that week. Also I intend to send letters to close sympathizers of the party informing them that they can build their Marxist library in this manner."

"So far this has been a very successful method of selling literature. The first book reviewed was The Revolution Betrayed, and we completely sold out the paper-bound copies. We took the money and re-ordered immediately."

And from Los Angeles we hear:

"Our literature sales at the Lenin Memorial Meeting amounted to \$3.25. Sales at the weekly forum series now run by the branches usually run between one and two dollars. . . . The new books are being sold quickly. The greatest demand is for the cloth-bound editions."

THE REVOLUTION BETRAYED by Leon Trotsky, cloth bound \$2; paper-bound \$1. Order from Pioneer Publishers, 116 University Place, New York 3, N. Y.



The response of our subscribers both to our callback visits and renewal mail is a positive indication of the way they feel about The Militant.

The following report is typical of the many we've received from various sections of the country.

Harry Gold of Local New York: "On Sunday we launched the first of our four callback mobilizations and the results were very encouraging."

"We organized the work in our usual campaign fashion, that is, assigned each branch a particular area to revisit. Then we armed our comrades and friends with portfolios containing the popular Pioneer pamphlets, copies of the Fourth International, renewal blanks, etc., in order to acquaint our readers with all our other literature. On their return, many of the portfolios were empty except for filled-out renewal slips. The following is the results of this first day's activity:

118 six-month and 23 one-year renewals;  
13 six-month and 4 one-year new subscriptions;

2 one-year combination subscriptions (renewals) to The Militant and the Fourth International."

P. Mertens of St. Paul writes: "On Sunday, the comrades took over 1200 papers to a mass meeting of all the Packinghouse Workers' Locals. The meeting hall was so jammed that the workers, their friends, and relatives had to line up to enter the American House where the meeting was being held."

"Distributing the paper was as easy as dealing cards from a deck. The only workers who refused to take it were those who said: 'I've got that paper at home,' or 'I have a subscription to The Militant.' None were thrown away."

"The next morning on the street car I started to read my Militant and before I'd more than got it opened, I saw that the man next to me was eagerly reading The Militant. It was the January 19 issue and he was reading the news of the GI demonstrations. We got into a dis-

cussion. He told me he'd never seen the paper before, that it had been given to him at the meeting the night before where he had gone with his son who was on strike at Armours."

"He had another son in the service which accounted for his vital interest in the GI demonstrations. We'd spoken only a few minutes when I saw his eyes wandering back to the article I'd interrupted, so I kept still and we both fell to reading. He was still reading the paper very intently, column by column when I got off several miles away."

Alan Kohlman of Newark cites the following interesting experiences: "Comrade Russell Richards, one of the leading pacifists in our renewal campaign, reports the youngest Militant subscriber, a Negro boy, John K., age 9. When Russell came around for a renewal, John said: 'I know that's the anti-Jim Crow paper.' He told his mother he wanted to renew, and went to his bank to pay half the cost of the renewal."

"Russell gave him a copy of Charles Jackson's reprinted pamphlet 'A Practical Program to Kill Jim Crow,' so that Johnny could learn more about the best way to fight against Jim Crow."

January was a banner month for The Militant. The Militant was introduced to 749 new readers. In addition many renewals and combination subscriptions were obtained. The many reports from the field have completed squeezed out the usual weekly date, therefore, we give you instead the January totals: 682 new six-month subscriptions. Approximately 400 of these were obtained from striking workers.

87 one-year new subs.  
186 six-month and 38 one-year renewals.

13 new and 4 renewal combinations to The Militant and the Fourth International.

22 of the new subs., of which over half are for one year, were sent to us on The Militant coupon clipped from page 2.

## 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. Build an 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!

### 9. For a Workers' and Farmers' Government!

## Join the Socialist Workers Party!

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I would like:

☐ To join the Socialist Workers Party.

☐ To obtain further information about your organization.

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# In Memory Of Leon Sedov-- Heroic Revolutionary Fighter

Today the thinking youth of the United States, turning from the ugly morass of capitalist crisis and wars, seek a new road to a better world. They can have no better guide than the martyred Leon Sedov whose name is inscribed on the banner of the Fourth International as a symbol of the revolutionary youth of the world.

Leon Sedov was the eldest son of Natalia Sedov Trotsky and Leon Trotsky. Only thirty-two years old at the time of his death, he had lived his entire life in the international socialist movement, giving it all of his energies, talents and devotion.

The GPU, Stalin's secret police, hounded Sedov, laid trap after trap in attempts to kill him. On February 16, 1938, while Sedov, apparently recovering from an operation for appendicitis, lay helpless in a Paris hospital, they finally succeeded. When the bitter news of Sedov's sudden death reached Leon Trotsky, exiled in Mexico, he wrote the stirring tribute "Leon Sedov—Son, Friend, Fighter," from which we reprint the following excerpts:

## By Leon Trotsky

While but a child—he was going on twelve—he had, in his own way, made the transition from the February revolution to that of October. His boyhood passed under high pressure. He added a year to his age so that he might more quickly join the Komsomol (Communist Youth), seething at that time with all the passion of awakened youth. The young bakers, among whom he carried on his propaganda, would award him a fresh loaf of white bread which he happily brought home under his arm, protruding from the torn sleeve of his jacket. Those were fiery and cold, great and hungry years.

## SCORNED PRIVILEGES

Of his own volition Leon left the Kremlin for a proletarian student dormitory, in order not to be any different from the others. He would not ride with us in an automobile, refusing to make use of this privilege of the bureaucrats. But he did participate ardently in all Red Saturdays and other "labor mobilizations," cleaning snow from the Moscow streets, "liquidating" illiteracy, unloading bread and firewood from freight cars, and later, as a polytechnic student, repairing locomotives.

Leon's chief literary work was his book, *The Red Book on the Moscow Trial*, devoted to the trial of the sixteen (Zinoviev, Kamenev, Smirnov, et al.). It was published in French, Russian and German. At that time my wife and I were captives in Norway, bound hand and foot, targets of the most monstrous slander. There are certain forms of paralysis in which people see, hear and understand everything but are unable to move a finger to ward off mortal danger. It was to such political paralysis that the Norwegian "Socialist" government subjected us. What a priceless gift to us, under these conditions, was Leon's book, the first crushing reply to the Kremlin falsifiers...

## INDEPENDENT FIGURE

How his eyes must have glowed with pleasure as he read our warm praise! Several newspapers, in particular the central organ of the Danish Social Democracy, said with assurance that I apparently had, despite

the strict conditions of internment, found the means of participating in the work which appeared under Sedov's name. "One feels the pen of Trotsky..." All this is—fiction. In the book there is not a line of my own. Many comrades who were inclined to regard Sedov as merely "Trotsky's son"—just as Karl Liebknecht was long regarded as only the son of Wilhelm Liebknecht—were able to convince themselves, if only from this little book, that he was not only an independent but an outstanding figure.

Leon wrote as he did everything else, that is, conscientiously, studying, reflecting, checking. The vanity of authorship was alien to him. At the same time every line he wrote glows with a living flame, whose source was his unflinching revolutionary temperament.

Material difficulties and privations Leon bore lightly, jokingly, like a true proletarian; but of course they too left their mark. Infinitely more harrowing were the effects of subsequent moral tortures.

The Moscow Trial of the Sixteen, the monstrous nature of the accusations, the nightmarish testimony of the defendants, among them Smirnov and Mra-chovsky, whom Leon so intimately knew and loved; the unexpected internment of his father and mother in Norway, the period of four months without any news; the theft of the archives, the mysterious removal of my wife and myself to Mexico; the Second Moscow Trial with its even more delirious accusations and confessions, the disappearance of his brother Sergei, accused of "poisoning workers"; the shooting of countless people who had either been close friends or remained friends to the end; the persecutions and the attempts of the GPU in France, the murder of Reiss in Switzerland, the lies, the baseness, the perfidy, the frame-ups—no, "Stalinism" was for Leon not an abstract political concept but an endless series of moral blows and spiritual wounds.

Whether the Moscow masters resorted to chemistry, or whether everything they had previously done proved sufficient, the conclusion remains one and the



LEON SEDOV

same: It was they who killed him. The day of his death they marked on the Thermidor calendar as a major celebration...

## IRREPROACHABLE

Goodbye, Leon, good-bye, dear and incomparable friend. Your mother and I never thought, never expected, that destiny would impose on us this terrible task of writing your obituary. We lived in the firm conviction that long after we were gone you would be the continuer of our common cause. But we were not able to protect you. Good-bye.

Leon! We bequeath your irreproachable memory to the younger generation of the workers of the world. You will rightly live in the hearts of all those who work, suffer and struggle for a better world.

Revolutionary youth of all countries! Accept from us the memory of our Leon, adopt him as your son—he is worthy of it—and let him henceforth participate invisibly in your battles, since destiny has denied him the happiness of participating in your final victory.

## General Motors Still Stalls In UAW Wage Negotiations

(Continued from Page 1)

pressing the UAW into a speedy strike settlement was quickly blasted. The nine-man union negotiating committee, made up of representatives of GM locals from all parts of the country, insisted on taking part in all of the negotiations. Because of the presence of the full union negotiating committee, General Motors Corporation president, C. E. Wilson, refused to attend the sessions.

Wilson, who had absented himself from all the discussions between the union and the corporation since the first meetings last September, had promised Deway that he would attend. But he withdrew his promise when the vigilance of the nine-man union committee prevented Deway from following through on his plan to slash the negotiating committee to three or four top union officials.

## GM'S DEMANDS

From the first days of the renewed negotiations, the corporation has made it clear that it is sitting tight until the new government wage-price formula is announced. Only if assured of sufficiently high price increases, will the greedy GM officials, like the equally greedy U. S. Steel officials, consent to raise wages. Meantime, the GM corporation's negotiators are attempting to use Deway's presence at the negotiations to make some gains for the company. Their chief demand has been that the maintenance of membership provision, which was ordered into preceding contracts by the War Labor Board, be eliminated from the new union contract.

Like the Ford Motor Company and Chrysler Corporation, General Motors is also attempting to obtain "company security" against so-called wildcat strikes and "interruptions of production."

"COMPANY SECURITY"

Agreements for an 18-cent an hour increase for the Ford workers and 18½ cents for the Chrysler workers were obtained because of the courageous fight put up by the General Motors strikers. However, these wage concessions have been tied in with dangerous contract provisions dealing with "company security."

Considerable opposition to any such "company security" provi-

sion has developed among Ford workers and no final action has been taken on their contract as yet.

But most of the Chrysler locals have already accepted the Chrysler contract which contains this clause:

"The Union agrees that it will not oppose the discharge or discipline of anyone who instigates, leads, or induces another employee to take part in any unauthorized strike."

## POSITION OF UAW TOPS

No opposition has been expressed to this insidious clause in the Chrysler contract by any of the UAW-CIO top leaders nor by the Stalinists. In fact, the well-known Stalinist follower, C. G. Edelen, is a member of the Chrysler top bargaining committee.

But in 1937 every leading member of the UAW's left wing, from Reuther on down to the Stalinists, joined in denouncing the reactionary UAW official, Homer Martin, for a very similar "company security" proposal.

Martin's proposal at that time was directed against the General Motors workers who had been forced to strike in order to compel the corporation to live up to the contract signed only a few months before. Martin said:

"The International Union is determined to end, once and for all, unauthorized strikes. The International Union is ready and willing to accept full responsibility and will make every effort, not only to fix responsibility for unauthorized action on the part of members of the union, but will gladly recommend joint penalties by the union and the corporation."

"COMPANY SECURITY" PROVISIONS ARE JUST AS DANGEROUS IN UNION CONTRACTS IN 1946 AS THEY WERE IN 1937.

## No Loopholes

The "GI Bill Of Rights" not only bans compensation to veterans on strike, or "directly interested" or who "belong to the group or class of workers" involved, but even to the veteran who returns and finds that the plant in which he "was last employed" is on strike.

## PAC-Endorsed Mayor Vetoes CIO Tag Day

CLEVELAND, Feb. 9.—Exercising his veto power this week for the first time during his 13 months of office, PAC-endorsed Mayor Burke refused to endorse the City Council's approval of a CIO Tag Day to raise funds for the relief of needy strikers.

Last year when Burke squeezed into office thanks to the aid of the Stalinist-dominated Cleveland PAC, the Stalinist-controlled CIO weekly Union Leader complained bitterly over the lack of enthusiasm manifested for Burke by the Cleveland workers.

## Negro Veterans Murdered By Jim-Crow Cop

(Continued from Page 1)

Charles, Alfonso, standing behind Charles, was the next to fall. Thereupon Romeika deliberately took another shot and wounded Joseph. The fourth brother, Richard, was then taken to the Freepoint police station where within six hours, by six o'clock in the morning, he was given a "trial" and sentenced to 100 days for "disorderly conduct."

## OFFICIAL WHITEWASH

The next day the officials of Freepoint issued a statement that Romeika had acted in "self-defense" that the brothers had been armed and that one boy "reached for a .45" when ordered to halt. No gun was produced and the police have since stopped mentioning this as evidence against the boys.

A full military funeral for Charles Ferguson was held last Friday. He was accorded a funeral with all the trimmings after being murdered by a representative of the social system that denied him the most elementary democratic rights. His brothers are killed, wounded and jailed despite their sacrifice for the promised "Four Freedoms."

An obviously organized conspiracy of silence about this murder is revealed by the boss-controlled press. But large sections of the Negro community and many labor posts of veterans and trade union organizations have already been aroused. A Citizens' Committee has been set up in Nassau County where Freepoint is located. An investigation has begun with a defense attorney seeking to release Richard Ferguson from jail and secure him a new trial.

Next Tuesday, February 12, a mass meeting will be held in Freepoint to hear the defense attorney and a report by the Citizens' Committee on its findings.

## ROOTS OF CASE

The roots of this case are deep. The whole ruling class incitation to anti-Negro violence, reflected in the legal lynching of the FEPC by a reactionary Congress undoubtedly helped embolden the officer-assassin to wreak his race hatred upon four defenseless Negro boys. There may be more such cases unless action is taken now to bring an indictment of murder against policeman Joseph Romeika, and a housecleaning of public officials in Freepoint.

Freepoint has long been known as a center of reaction. Rumors of Ku Klux Klan activity in Nassau County are wide-spread. Nassau County has been a stronghold of followers of Gerald L. K. Smith, the would-be fascist "fuhrer." Meetings are being held there under the auspices of the Hearst-inspired Youth-For-Christ movement that has all the earmarks of a pro-fascist organization.

Unless labor and civil liberty organizations take steps now to fight this case, Jim Crow and anti-labor reaction will be given further tremendous encouragement.

The organized labor movement must take the offensive on this case to demand justice, to smash the police terror and to bring the guilty to their deserved punishment.

## BALTIMORE Militant Labor Forum Sunday, Feb. 17

"The Colonial People's Struggle for Freedom"

Workmen's Circle Lyceum  
1029 E. Baltimore St.  
Room 5 8 p.m.

## Bevin And Vyshinsky — A Study Of Hypocrisy Within The UNO

By Joseph Hansen

The Stalinist press is vociferously applauding a new champion of peace and democracy. This champion is none other than Andrei Y. Vyshinsky, chief prosecutor for Stalin in the notorious Moscow frame-up trials that liquidated Lenin's generation.

Vyshinsky has donned the toga of a tribune of the little nations and the oppressed colonial peoples. In the United Nations Organization he has demanded the withdrawal of British troops from Greece and an "investigation" of the use of British and Dutch troops in Indonesia.

But certain unfortunate facts cast doubt upon the high motives and shining idealism of the frame-up artist Moscow sent to the UNO.

First of all this champion of democracy in far-off places exhibits a singular lack of concern about democracy in his homeland. Stalin counts his working class political prisoners by the millions. Vyshinsky himself is a pillar of support to the reign of terror waged by the GPU secret police. His hands are red with the blood of the Old Bolsheviks he helped frame up.

## PRISON HOUSE

Stalin's totalitarian regime has converted the Soviet Union into a vast prison house. So undemocratic is Stalinist rule that candidates for office in the "elections" this very week are limited to one per office—even with articulate oppositionists in prison or in their graves—and these candidates are carefully hand-picked.

In assessing the real worth of this Stalinist defense of democracy, another fact must be noted. Moscow's charges against Britain were filed January 21. The British troops did not leave Greece; the British did not cease supporting reaction; they did not stop constituting a threat to world peace. Yet on February 6 the Stalinist champion suddenly withdrew his charges and shook hands with his opponent Bevin like any professional wrestler after a put-up bout!

This is not all. The champion of democracy in places far away from home did not even raise his charges until after the Iranian delegate accused the Stalinist regime of intervening in the internal affairs of Iran! Since the Iranian government has long been notoriously under the influence of the British, it is self-evident its charges were filed only in consultation and agreement with the British imperialists. Thus observers at the UNO would seem justified in their conclusion that in bringing up Greece and Indonesia, Moscow was simply conducting a diplomatic counter-offensive.

## WHY THE DELAY?

This all appears damaging enough to the champion of democracy far beyond the borders of the Soviet Union. But there is still more. Britain's brutal slaughter of the Indonesian people has been in the headlines for months. Why did Stalin wait until the Iran accusation before noticing Indonesia? It can scarcely be argued he didn't know about the bloody campaign of the British and Dutch,

for the Indonesian Government sent a special appeal to the Soviet Union for help. But Stalin did not even deign to answer—until Bevin's Iranian friend filed charges against Moscow.

## PICTURE OF PERFDY

To complete this picture of Moscow's perfidy and hypocrisy, let it be recalled that in the spring of 1944 Stalin made a secret agreement with Churchill, the watchdog of British imperialism. This secret agreement divided up the Balkans into spheres of influence. Stalin OK'd British troops moving into Greece. Stalin's agents in Greece even welcomed these armies sent into Greece to put down the people. What hypocrisy to now point a finger at the crimes of the British bandit!

For his part Bevin is running neck and neck with Vyshinsky in the struggle for chief honors in hypocrisy. This Social-Democrat who replaced the Tory Anthony Eden as Foreign Minister fits Eden's imperialist shoes better than Eden. His record in office begins with harsh blows against the trade unions of Nigeria and continues with the landing of troops to secure Hongkong from reverting to China. It is highlighted by the repression of Indian nationalists, the ferocious slaughter of the Indonesian battlers for independence, and the continuation of Churchill's imperialist policy in Greece.

In the light of these facts, both Bevin and Vyshinsky are clearly nothing but cynical hypocrites

in their protestations about democracy and peace.

But there is a most sinister aspect to these squabbles in the UNO. Vyshinsky accused the British of endangering peace by their actions in Greece and Indonesia. Bevin on the other hand charged "the danger to the peace of the world has been the incessant propaganda from Moscow."

## WAR PREPARATIONS

This is nothing but diplomatic preparation for the Third World War. At this stage of the conflict the future foes are simply jockeying to unload the blame on the antagonist. The Bevin-Vyshinsky exchanges are reminiscent of the diplomatic preparation for the Second World War in which first Finland and then Poland became the excuse for starting the holocaust, just as "little Belgium" and Serbia were utilized in World War I.

Who can say when the diplomatic sparring in the UNO will give way to atom bombs? The truth is that the world has been divided into two great spheres, one dominated by Anglo-American imperialism and the other by the Stalinist bureaucracy. The basic differences between the economic system of the Soviet Union and that of London and Wall Street makes conflict inevitable. It is this basic antagonism in the economies which is reflected in the squabbles in the UNO. All the talk about democracy, peace and the rights of the little nations is simply hypocritical camouflage to cover this fundamental fact.

## Boss Courts Hit Strikers With Flood Of Injunctions

By Jeff Thorne

Feudal-robed judges are flocking to the aid of Wall Street's anti-union drive by issuing a flood of injunctions which ban mass picketing but glorify scab-herding and assaults on pickets as "lawful occupation."

The federal Norris-LaGuardia Anti-Injunction Act and similar state restrictions on the use of court orders to break strikes are being passed in local court actions from coast to coast. At the same time Congress is considering legislation such as the Case Bill, to restore the anti-labor injunction to legality and to practically outlaw strikes.

Injunctions against the workers have been issued in all the major strikes to aid such labor-hating profiteers as General Motors, the steel barons, the electrical cartels and the meat trusts.

## GRANTED FREELY

Threats of injunctions have also been used to force or try to force unions into "compromise" agreements with the war profiteers who refuse to pay decent wages. The courts have granted virtually every strike-breaking injunction sought by the very corporations which were exposed during the war as defrauding the government with faulty materials, price-kiting and violating anti-trust laws.

For example, courts have ordered pickets reduced to as few as five to a gate, 10 feet apart, at Phelps-Dodge, Elizabeth, N. J.; At Kansas City, Kansas, Swift & Co. did not even have to appear in court to obtain an anti-picketing injunction.

Most sweeping and voluminous injunction so far was that issued last week to restrict the rights of strikers at the Carnegie-Illinois steel plant at Homestead, Pa. Common Pleas Judge Sarah M. Soffel of Pittsburgh, without testimony, granted every single demand by U. S. Steel in an injunction ex-

pected to establish a precedent for every steel company.

At the very first hearing of Western Union's injunction suit in New York, Supreme Court Justice Levy ordered police to open picket lines at once. "Labor's Friend" Mayor O'Dwyer's cops proceeded to bash a few pickets' heads.

## VICTIOUS SLANDER

New Jersey courts took quick action against the striking Western Electric Employees Association (independent) and CIO United Electrical Workers locals on strike against General Electric and Westinghouse at Newark, Bloomfield and Jersey City. Vice-chancellor John O. Bigelow at Newark dared to slander the UE workers by comparing mass picketing to Nazi SS Guards, that is, to those who helped smash the German labor movement. But UE Local 426 continued its same rotation of 200 pickets.

Other recent injunctions were for General Motors at Cleveland, Flint, Mich., and Trenton, N. J.; Armour & Co. at St. Paul, Minn.; Westinghouse (16 plants) near Cleveland, and SKF at Philadelphia.

While in most instances these injunctions have not succeeded in their immediate objective of breaking strikes, they have served as the legal pretext for police assaults on picket lines, for intimidating strikers and attempts at scab-herding.

Moreover, the present sweeping use of injunctions, if the workers submit to them, will establish a body of precedent that will be used in further strike-breaking actions.

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## STALINISTS DEAL GM STRIKE TREACHEROUS STAB IN BACK

(Continued from Page 1)

ist deal was secretly consummated, without prior knowledge of the UAW leaders. The UE conferences were going on in the very same building in which the UAW - GM negotiations have been in progress.

What gives the conduct of the Stalinist UE leaders an especially odious character is that they have violated their pledge to the

UAW to sign no separate settlement without agreement of the UAW.

Their double-cross stands out in especially glaring light in view of the criticism made by Communist (Stalinist) Party's Daily Worker of the AFL Meat Cutters who agreed to end their strike before the CIO Packinghouse Workers also decided to return. George Morris, in the January 27 Worker, attacked the AFL Meat Cutters because "they did not act jointly with the CIO but jumped the gun with a notice that they would return unconditionally."

The Stalinists, by their UE deal with GM, climaxed their whole treacherous policy in the GM situation. Previously for eight weeks, the UE leaders refused to pull out the UE members in GM despite the public plea of the striking GM auto workers.

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**FEBRUARY 24, 3 p.m.**  
Socialist Workers Party 6108 Linwood Avenue



# Pauley Nomination Taps A Gusher Of Oil-Smeared Washington Graft

By Evelyn Atwood

President Truman's nomination on January 18 of his intimate friend and political henchman, Edwin W. Pauley, as Under-Secretary of Navy, has tapped a gusher of oil-smeared graft and corruption in highest government circles rivaled only by the notorious Teapot Dome scandal that rocked the Harding administration following World War I.

Shocking revelations before the Senate Naval Committee, which is investigating Pauley's nomination, involve the very top government officials, including Truman and the late President Roosevelt as well as leading figures in the Department of Justice, Congress and the State Department.

Even Cabinet member Harold Ickes, who spilled the beans and precipitated the scandal, is himself implicated in this exposure of governmental skulduggery. On February 1, Ickes publicly accused Pauley, head of the Petrol Oil Company in California and former Treasurer of the Democratic National Committee, of attempting to horse-trade big financial contributions to the Democratic Party campaign fund in exchange for government concessions to big oil concerns.

Ickes charged that on September 6, 1944, while Roosevelt was running for his fourth term, Pauley told Ickes that he could raise \$300,000 for the Democratic Party campaign fund from the oil men in California who have interests in off-shore oil, if they could be "assured" that the Federal Government would not try to assert title to these oil lands.

## RAW PROPOSITION

This, said Ickes, was the "rawest proposition that has been made to me." But strangely enough, this "guardian of the public welfare" said not a word about it publicly when the proposition was made to him. Pauley then went ahead and raised \$500,000 from Big Business, \$300,000 of it from these oil interests in California.

This slush fund was intended to bribe the Democratic administration to continue to keep its hands off the rich underwater coastal oil lands, estimated to be worth billions of dollars. In California, where these lands are richest, the state has a perpetual lease from the California state authorities. He has been pumping out 1,000 barrels of oil a day. Naturally he and the other West Coast oil men want to continue their profitable racket.

In recognition of services rendered to the Democratic party machine, for five years the Roosevelt administration postponed filing suit of a "test case" to determine the Federal government's rights to these tide-lands. According to testimony by Norman Littell, former Assistant Attorney General, the suit was filed only last year on May 29, 1945. He said that immediately after this action was instituted Pauley began forming a powerful oil lobby in Washington to stop the Supreme Court action and surrender Federal claims to the land. But Littell admitted that in 1940 he himself arranged a meeting between Pauley and former Atty. Gen. Francis Biddle which helped to smother the suit.

Through friends in the State Department and Congress, Pauley and his oil lobby were able to slip a tide-land oil bill into Congress last September to head off federal legislation. Naturally the tide-land oil prize was not mentioned in this move. The bill was supposedly based on the "rights" of states to control dock and harbor areas of the cities. The bill, with virtually no publicity, passed the House last fall. Hearings which were being planned in the Senate are now temporarily halted by the raging scandal.

## PAULEY'S "WARNING"

Ickes further charged that subsequently Pauley, apprehensive that the government might file the suit, told him "it would be a great mistake to disturb those interests" which had contributed \$500,000 to the Democratic Party campaign fund. Ickes complained that Pauley "had the hardihood to ask me what I proposed to do about off-shore oil" right after Roosevelt was buried and they were on their way back from Hyde Park. Bringing the matter up at that time, Ickes

added, "more than confirmed my bad opinion of him."

But Ickes did not always have such a bad opinion of Pauley. In fact, they were close collaborators in the War Petroleum Administration which Ickes headed during the war. One of the witnesses at the Senate investigation, Max Easton Thornburg, formerly Petroleum Adviser to the State Department and a former vice-president of Standard Oil of California, revealed the previous collaboration between Ickes and Pauley. Thornburg's sensational testimony about this hidden episode disclosed a scandal within a scandal.

## FAST SCANDAL

Back in 1942 Pauley tried to promote a deal with the Mexican government for the erection of a refinery for the development of Mexican oil, in which Pauley and two associates would get a contract for most of the oil produced over a 30-year period. In that same year Pauley accepted the post of Treasurer of the Democratic Party's National Committee at a time when it had a deficit of \$600,000. Ickes commended him then for taking that difficult job.

Thus, the "Pauley Project" got the green light from Ickes who pressured the State Department in an attempt to get its support for Pauley. Heavy pressure was also brought to bear upon Cordell Hull, then Secretary of State, by Roosevelt and other high officials. Among these was Jesse James who, it was rumored, was financing the Mexican deal through the Reconstruction Finance Corporation of which he was head.

But the "Pauley Project" was blocked. Thornburg testified, through the outcry raised by the Mexican government and opposition forces here. Thornburg further claimed he was "liquidated" in 1943 and forced to resign because his presence embarrassed the State Department.

After Thornburg's damaging evidence against both Pauley and Ickes, the latter temporarily made a truce in their own feud to do a joint hatchet-job on Thornburg. Pauley charged that Thornburg was testifying against him because Thornburg "never at any time wanted anybody to fool with Mexico except his company and its affiliated companies, Standard of New Jersey and the Shell Group."

## HATCHET JOB

Ickes, for his part, bitterly assailed Thornburg for exposing the attempted Mexican steal and complained that Thornburg was "dealing some cards under the table." He reiterated that all Thornburg wanted to do was open the way for return to Standard Oil of the expropriated Mexican oil companies.

Thoroughly embarrassed by these scandalous exposures, the Senate Committee is now reported trying to get Truman to withdraw his nomination of Pauley. The Senators, particularly the Democrats, are motivated not by opposition to the practices revealed but by fear of possible political repercussions. The Senate has approved numerous appointments of big oil men and thousands of other "dollar-a-year" corporation officials in all the government agencies responsible for handing out scores of billions in juicy contracts.

Truman, the loyal machine politician and graduate of the Boss Prendergast school of graft in Missouri, responded to the suggestions for withdrawing Pauley's nomination by lauding this briber, crook and perjurer as "honest," "magnificent." Truman's main complaint was that Ickes did not confer with the administration before shooting off his mouth and thus exposing the connections between the government, the Democratic Party and the big oil interests.

The Pauley case, brought to light by the conflict between rival oil corporations and their respective political agents, is primarily significant as a further disclosure of the complete control by Big Business over the capitalist government and the utter corruption of the capitalist politicians from top to bottom.

## Chicago Fighters Against Jim-Crow



Scene during the latest and largest picket line demonstration against the Jim Crow policies of the White City Skating Rink in Chicago. This is the fifth, and more are scheduled. The picket captains are: (front row, left to right) Michael Bartell, Chicago Organizer, Socialist Workers Party; Gerald Bullock, Chicago Committee for Racial Equality; Norman Martin, President, American Veterans Committee; Willoughby Abner, Vice President, Chicago CIO Council; Rev. Archibald Carey, Pastor of Woodlawn A.M.E. Church; Rev. Homer A. Jack, Chairman, Council Against Racial Discrimination; and Eugene Shands, Executive Secretary, Chicago NAACP; (back row) Wesley Thompson, International Organizer, UAW-CIO; and Henry McGee, Vice President, NAACP.

## Mass Meeting Demands Attorney Investigate Fontana Death Fire

By Lois Saunders

(Special to The Militant)

SAN BERNARDINO, Cal., Feb. 7.—Demands that Attorney General Robert W. Kenny make a thorough investigation of the mysterious fire following threats of Jim-Crow vigilante violence that claimed the lives of all four members of the O'Day H. Short family in nearby Fontana on December 16, were made at a mass protest meeting of more than 250 people here last Sunday.

On the day following the meeting Kenny, who has been angling for the Democratic nomination for Governor of California and who for months has been assiduously courting labor and Negro votes, advised a committee from the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People that his office is making an investigation.

More than seven weeks have already elapsed, however, since the disaster. No one known to have been connected with the threats has yet been brought before the county grand jury. Sheriff's deputies who admitted warning Short he was "out of bounds" are still on the force.

## OVERFLOW CROWD

The overflow crowd which attended the meeting despite a steady, all-day downpour, amply demonstrated the widening interest in the case and the insistent demand that authorities take some action.

Principal speakers were Rev. Dan Marshall, chairman of the Catholic Interracial Committee, and Myra Tanner Weiss, Los Angeles organizer of the Socialist Workers Party, who announced that she was starting a West Coast tour from San Diego to Seattle, to publicize the Short case.

Comrade Weiss pointed out that the labor movement is becoming aware of the importance of the case for labor itself as well as for minority groups, and cited the recent action of the

## IAM Aircraft Lodge Asks Fontana Action

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 7.—Aeronautical Industrial Lodge 727-B of the International Association of Machinists (Lockheed Burbank) last night passed a motion calling on States Attorney General Robert Kenny to investigate the "burning of the Negro family at Fontana," and requesting that their district council and other locals pass similar motions.

Ford Long Beach local of the CIO United Automobile Workers and the AFL Lockheed Machinists union in setting up committees charged to investigate and report.

Rev. Marshall contrasted the lack of action on the part of the authorities in the Short case with what would have happened had similar threats been made to the family of a Hollywood star, or some other rich Beverly Hills resident. "Imagine what the newspapers would have done and what the district attorney would have done to discover the perpetrator of so terrible a crime," he said.

Sunday's meeting was sponsored by the San Bernardino Central Council and supported by the Council for Human Rights and the local NAACP. J. Robert Smith, editor and publisher of the Tri-County Bulletin of San Bernardino, who served as chairman, was appointed head of the committee delegated to visit Attorney General Kenny.

## O'Dwyer Launches Vicious Drive To Break Tug Strike

(Continued from Page 1)

personnel work a 48-hour week for 67 and 72 cents an hour. All during the war, when the owners made unprecedented profits working their boats around the clock, the tugboat men were prevented by the no-strike pledge from gaining any improvements.

They are demanding \$1.35 an hour for unlicensed men and \$1.52 and \$1.83 for licensed men, plus a 40-hour week and two weeks' vacation with pay. The terms negotiated by top officials of the IILA and turned down by men offered a 15-cent an hour increase and two weeks' vacation with pay only after three years' service.

The Office of Defense Transportation, which is in charge of the "seizure," has called upon the United States Employment Service and the War Shipping Administration to furnish strike-breakers. Mayor O'Dwyer has

promised police protection to any scabs.

A few Navy tugs manned by Navy men and guarded by armed marines are operating. But no privately owned tug has yet left its berth. Any attempt to use scabs is expected to meet bitter resistance from union longshoremen and seamen.

Mayor O'Dwyer's flagrant and unbridled strikebreaking offensive has come as a shock to many strikers who voted for him in the November election. "We were told he was a 'friend of Labor' and now he's trying hardest to cut our throats!" was the expression of tug boat men whom I interviewed.

Among the most vociferous supporters of O'Dwyer in the election were the Stalinists, whose Daily Worker today is the only newspaper in New York City playing down the news of Mayor O'Dwyer's strikebreaking.

## Truman Yields To Big Business Price Demands

(Continued from Page 1)

whose national strike was halted by government plant "seizures" several weeks ago.

## STEEL HOLDS OUT

The steel corporations are continuing to refuse to settle the steel strike and pay the 18 1/2-cent increase the government recommended, unless they also get the outrageous prices they have been demanding.

Although the OPA originally rejected any price increase over \$2.50 a ton, the administration subsequently offered \$4 and is now reported to be agreeing to between \$5 and \$6 a ton price increases for the steel industry. Such price increases would not only absorb any proposed wage increases but would actually provide profits on a scale never before reached by the steel moguls.

The administration's readiness to yield to the hi-jacking demands of the steel and packing bosses has been an open invitation for every big corporation in the country to blast away at the already wide breach in the price-control dike. Among the corporation big-shots in behind-closed-door sessions with Truman last week was General Electric's C. E. Wilson, who declared his corporation would make no wage increase offer to settle the CIO United Electrical Workers strike because "the price consideration is the one hurdle we can't get over."

The forces behind this concerted assault on price ceilings and workers' living standards are revealed by nation-wide full-page ads appearing this week, in which the National Association of Manufacturers threatens that "full production isn't possible" because of "frozen prices" and "price ceilings limit production."

Unable to break labor's strike struggles for higher wages to meet the wartime inflation already imposed on the wage-earning consumers, Big Business sided by the capitalist government is heading for all-out inflation under what one correspondent called Truman's contemplated "Big Steel Formula."

## The NEGRO STRUGGLE

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

—KARL MARX

by CHARLES JACKSON

## Why We Must Battle Anti-Semitism

Negro workers have made progress in more than one way during the past decade. Having become more class-conscious, they now almost invariably stick with the unions and line up on the side of all workers instead of with the boss as of old. In addition to that—and definitely related to it—is the noticeable elimination of many of their own prejudices.

This is particularly true in regard to the strong anti-Jewish prejudice that used to be so prevalent among the oppressed Negroes. No longer is a backward Negro able to get much of a receptive audience with the old-time tirades about the "damn Jews are keeping us down." The vast majority of Negro workers are now so politically advanced in their thinking that they will immediately point out the incorrectness of such a statement.

Whether in steel, auto or any other major industry, the Negro worker knows that the boss class is the boss class and that those belonging to this class act and react in essentially the same way, whether they happen to profess Jewish, Catholic or Protestant faith. He has seen, furthermore, that among the big capitalist exploiters there are only a small percentage who happen to be Jews.

## SAME PRACTICE

He also now realizes that condemning all members of the Jewish faith as being gyps, finaglers and shysters is the very same practice that has been carried out against himself. Negroes have been labeled as shiftless clowns through stereotyping caricatures and have been portrayed as the most petty type of sneak thieves by such ruling-class-inspired expressions as "There must be a nigger in the woodpile." Such slanderous generalizations are not true for the Negro and they are also not true for the Jew.

Under American capitalist society the Negro and the Jew face the same menace of the fascist-minded race-hate mongers. The Ku Klux Klan, the America Firsters and all other groups of fascist gangsters invariably aim as their first targets at both the Negro and the Jewish minorities.

In this connection it is interesting to observe the type of treatment received by both groups in that most reactionary of present-day organizations, the U. S. Army. Most of us are well acquainted with the fact that Negroes have been segregated and persecuted at the hands of the big brass in the Army and Navy. Not so widely known is the fact that Jews are also discriminated against in many cases in the services.

We know that a well-calculated program has been carried out

World Jewry includes not only a few Jewish exploiters but also millions of Jewish workers and farmers—yes, and hundreds of Jewish revolutionists who are devoting the major part of their energies to organizing and leading the world's workers toward the new realm of a Socialist society.

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## Socialist Workers Party Branch Activities

AKRON — Visit The Militant

Club, 405-6 Everett Bldg., 39 East Market St., open daily except Sunday, 2 to 4 p. m.; also Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 7:30 to 9:30. Current events discussion Wednesday evenings. Fridays at 7:30, class on "Forward March of American Labor."

Feb. 22, 7:30 p. m., "The Great Struggle For The 8-Hour Day," by Mary Clark.

ALLENTOWN - BETHLEHEM — Open meeting every Friday, 8 p. m., at Militant Labor Forum, 8 E. corner Front and Hamilton Streets, Allentown.

Public Forums—First Sunday each month, 2:15 p. m.

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 St., 317. Open 11 a. m. to 8 p. m. every day except Sunday. Tel. Dearborn 7662.

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

DETROIT—Forums on topical questions every Sunday, 8 p. m. at 6108 Linwood. Office open daily 10 to 6. Phone Tyler 7-6267.

Thursday classes: "How to Prepare A Speech" at 7:30. "History Of Russian Revolution" at 8:15 p. m.

KANSAS CITY — SWP Branch meets Saturday, 8 p. m. Rm. 203, Studio Bldg., 418 E. 9th St., for study and discussion.

LOS ANGELES — Visit SWP headquarters, 145 E. Broadway, San Pedro, 1008 S. Pacific,

Room 214.

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. Forum every Sunday, 3:30.

NEWARK — Open forum every Friday at the Socialist Workers Party, 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.

Sat. Feb. 23—Social evening.

NEW YORK — Downtown: 116 University Place, GR. 5-8149.

Saturdays at 4 p. m., rehearsals of Trotskyist chorus. Militant readers invited.

Sundays at 10:30 a. m., Militant subscription mobilization.

Sundays at 8. Open forum. Bronx: 1034 Prospect Ave., 1st floor.

Sundays at 8, discussions on labor problems.

Brooklyn: 635 Fulton St. Open 1 to 9. Phone ST. 3-7433.

Saturday, Feb. 16, 8 p. m., Valentine social; refreshments.

Sundays at 8, Militant Discussion Group.

Harlem: 103 W. 110th St., room 23. Phone MO. 2-1866. Office open Monday through Thursday, 1 to 4:30; Fridays and Sundays, 7:30-10:30 p. m.

Sundays: Discussion group, 7:30 p. m. Feb. 17—"What Is Communism?" Speaker Dave Stevens.

PHILADELPHIA — SWP Headquarters, 1303-05 W. Girard Ave., 2nd floor. Open forums every Friday, 8 p. m., on current topics.

Classes on Lenin's "State and Revolution," every Sunday, 7

p. m. Office and bookshop open every day.

PITTSBURGH—Militant Reading Room, Seely Bldg., 6905 Penn. Ave., corner Penn. Ave. & Beatty St., E. Liberty. Open Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 6:30 to 9:30. Sundays at 7:30: Round Table Discussion on "News of the Week in The Militant."

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—Visit our Headquarters, 1919 1/2 Second Ave.

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., James Apartments, 213 Michigan St. 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.

Wed., Feb. 20, "The Negro in the Reconstruction Period."

## Toledo

Delicious Home-Cooked Duck Dinner

and Gala Housewarming

Saturday Night, February 23 at the New SWP Headquarters 213 Michigan Street

Duck Dinner at 7 p. m., .....\$1 (Includes Social)

(Tickets by reservation only. Call AD 2304 or write 213 Michigan not later than Feb. 21)

Housewarming at 8:30 p. m., no reservation needed.....50c



## Diary Of A Steelworker By T. Kovalesky

Jimmy and I stood shivering, hugging the orange-glowing salamander. It was very dark. A bitter wind tore at the fence next to No. 2 Gate, whining through the woven wire, rasping at our faces, rocking us back on our heels in sudden gusts, making us over-balance and start forward on the balls of our feet in sudden lulls. A steamy, warm smell rose from the lower parts of our overcoats as they caught the red-hot glare of the glowing sides of the salamander — but we shivered with the cold of our backs.

Around us as we hugged the fire a shadowy ring of forms circled slowly and monotonously. Before long we too would join that circle and two others would come gratefully to warm their stiffening fingers at the red coke blaze.

Jimmy spoke, and I saw him smiling gently in the fire glow. He said, "You know, this ain't hard at all."

I said nothing. I looked at Jimmy, waiting for him to tell me what he meant. A sharp blast of wind whipped my face, and Jimmy's red and white cloth picket badge flapped on his chest. A passing picket grumbled, "When the hell they gonna send that goddam coffee around here?"

Jimmy continued, smiling: "This ain't hard! They talk about fighting, about struggling and suffering, but this ain't hard at all."

"We got to stay out here all night on the picket line — but we been working bad hours all our lives. We couldn't ever live right, because we had to work at night, and we couldn't be like other folks. We got to picket long hours, but we

had to work doubles to get enough money so we could live.

"We get cold out here in the wind and snow, but we used to get cold on the job. We get cold in the winter all the time when we can't buy warm clothes. We can't have warm houses to live in and nice warm cars to ride around in. So this ain't much different."

"We get hungry, and we can't buy good food when we don't work. But we always been hungry! The poor people ain't never had enough to eat. We ain't never had good food like we ought to. But we always been working and struggling to make a living, or looking for a job in hard times, and we been suffering all along."

"So this ain't hard now. It ain't any harder than it's ever been. And now we're fighting for a chance to live like human beings and trying to get an even break for our kids. We could catch a lot more hell, and — and — well, it still wouldn't be hard, so long as we were fighting for our kids."

Jimmy stopped speaking and smiled into the glowing salamander. The wind whimpers about the dead open hearth stacks and yelped down at us in sudden, savage bursts. But I had forgotten to feel the cold.

A picket yelled over to me, "Hey, captain, you gonna hug that fire all night?"

I stepped away with a feeling of guilt, and Jimmy joined me in the slowly, monotonously circling ring of pickets that plodded chain-like in front of No. 2 Gate. Two others stepped from the line and stretched their gloved fingers gratefully toward the glow of the coke fire.

The cold wind tore at our faces, but Jimmy was right: it wasn't hard. We could stand so much more in this fight!

## Notes Of A Seaman By Art Sharon

The press this week has carried the tragic story of the wrecking of the passenger liner Yukon on a rocky cliff in Alaska. For several

days millions have followed details of the rescue efforts to get the 495 human beings safely off the doomed ship. And at this writing it appears that a number of men will never come back.

When the survivors of the crew finally gather together back in Seattle there will be an investigation and a trial by the Bureau of Marine Inspection and Navigation to determine the reason for the loss of the ship, the cargo and the lives of those who drowned. Detailed testimony will be taken and, in all likelihood, the skipper of the ship or the pilot will "take the rap" and lose his license for some mistake in judgment; that is, unless it appears that there was some unforeseeable failure in the ship's power plant or running gear.

But whatever the verdict of the board of inquiry you can be sure that those who will collect the insurance on the loss of the Yukon will be very little concerned.

I am referring to the owners of the Alaska Steam Ship Co. who operated the Yukon and numerous other ships of the same type in their extensive fleet.

Consider the story of the Yukon. The Yukon, like the Columbia, the Aleutian, the Alaska, the Denali, the Victoria, was a ship that long ago was ready for the bonnyard. Many of these ships were given up by other shipping lines as no longer really seaworthy.

Alaska Steam purchased these ships for a song and used them quite profitably all through these years. Having an exclusive franchise on

the passenger and freight service to most of the Alaska territory there was not even the factor of competition to force them to improve their equipment. The extremely favorable rates were agreed to by various government commissions with the understanding that Alaska Steam would continually improve their carrying equipment — that is to say, their ships.

Instead, Alaska Steam became a golden stream — a kind of private Alaska gold rush. Money that supposedly was to have gone into new ships found its way into nice fat dividends for the owners.

Alaskans who had to journey between Alaskan ports or to Seattle had to travel by Alaska Steam. They had no choice. They paid Alaska Steam's price and enjoyed Alaska Steam's ancient ship accommodations. Squawk as they might, and they did and are continuing to do so, the voyagers are at the complete mercy of this private franchise that considers the run to Alaska as its private "grave train."

And who is there to compel Alaska Steam to replace its fleet of ancient passenger liners with more modern ships? Should the demand be made, Alaska Steam will plead "bankruptcy" and ask for higher rates, increased subsidies and virtual donations of new ships from the pool owned by the government. Only under such terms will these profiteers agree to provide more seaworthy vessels on the Alaska run.

The handsome profits grabbed by Alaska Steam over a period of years and its future prospects of increased profit are the only concern of the ship owners. If ships like the rust-bucket Yukon sail with their cargoes of human lives at the mercy of any unexpected marine danger, that's just "part of the business." Even the tragedy of the Yukon will be turned to sweet profit. That's what ship insurance is for.

## Funeral In Peoria

PEORIA, Ill., Feb. 9 — "Dying as soldiers, fighting for labor, so did they fall..."

Irwin Paschon, railroad striker, was buried today as 500 mourners watched tensely in the cold beams of an early winter sunset. Thus in a bleak hill-top cemetery, high above this smoke-grayed city, one more labor martyr was laid to rest.

Like a scarlet arrow across the black pattern of their grief was the bitter hatred of the 500 men and women, as they thought of George P. McNear, President of the Toledo, Peoria and Western Railroad — the calculating murderer who had taken this and another human life to protect his profits.

Mute tribute was offered to Irwin Paschon by hundreds of his fellow-strikers of the Railroad Brotherhoods. Some had been with him on February 6 when, utterly defenseless, he was murdered by four heavily armed guards in a for-redded locomotive. Now, after services at Bethel Lutheran Church in Bartonville, they stood tattered in the mournful wintry air.

Near them, erect and controlled, stood Mrs. Gloria Paschon, Irwin's young brunette wife and mother of his six-month old daughter, Lark. Like her husband, an active trade-unionist, she had been secretary of his local.

Something bigger than sorrow for the powerful young life lost bound these people together. The pastor called it love. "Greater love hath no man than that he died with his friends."

"That's one way of saying it," an old-time unionist muttered.

"Solidarity?" I suggested.

His hard eyes softened and gleamed with a hint of a smile. "You're darn right, Miss. He died for us. His brothers, for all of us. It was right there when it happened..." His voice grew hoarse.

"What happened?" I whispered.

A muscle in his cheek twitched. He jerked his

## By Clara Kaye

head in the direction of the brown wooden coffin. "That happened," he said through clenched teeth.

"Sweetest guy we ever knew," a union official murmured to me. "Wasn't one guy didn't like Paschon."

Irwin Paschon fell in the war of class against class. His name will go down along with the name of Arthur Brown, his fellow worker, among the ranks of heroic labor martyrs who died that men might be free.

A city-wide work stoppage may be called here to protest the murder of Paschon and Brown and the wounding of three Toledo, Peoria and Western Railroad strikers by company-armed gunmen last Wednesday. This action grew out of yesterday's meeting of 25 local trade union representatives, including CIO, AFL, United Mine Workers and Railroad Brotherhoods.

Bruce Brown, President of the UFEW-CIO, said: "Our members, like all Peoria area citizens, are outraged by this callous shooting and determined to prevent its repetition and to bring about a settlement of the TPW strike on the basis of the strikers' just demands."

George P. McNear, president of the railroad, deliberately paved the way for this crime by smuggling in arms and ammunition for use against the strikers. W. C. Kaiser, vice-president of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen, stated that on January 29 the union learned McNear had personally handled the purchase of a huge shipment of firearms and ammunition from the Korean Jobbing Company in Peoria.

The union immediately notified Governor Dwight Green of Illinois, demanding that he investigate this arms transaction, and pointing out that the strikers were unarmed and defenseless. The governor made no reply.

The union then got the State Police to stop the car filled with these deadly weapons before it reached the railroad terminal. The car and its contents were taken to the police station in East Peoria. But the following day, obviously upon instructions from the state capital, the weapons were turned over to McNear's representative.

The instruments of murder were then loaded onto a train which had been converted into a virtual "armed car." The front caboose and two cabooses in the rear were reinforced with thick steel plates. Fourteen armed "guards" — professional gunmen and strikebreakers — occupied the train in addition to the six scab trainmen. All the dead and wounded men were shot in the back.

The Railway Brotherhood is demanding that George P. McNear also be indicted and tried for the murders. It is also appealing to the federal government for an immediate investigation of the arms purchase which led to the cold-blooded slaughter of these union members.

# Strikers At Detroit Transmission Welcome "Militant" Despite Leaders' Attempted Ban

## Typical Of Strikers' Wives



Mrs. Wilfred Baines marches on the CIO United Steel Workers' picket line before the huge Bethlehem Steel plant in Lackawanna, New York, while her husband catches up on his sleep after long hours of night-shift picketing. Typical of hundreds of thousands of strikers' wives, she plays a vital role in labor's struggle for living wages.

## Striking Youngstown Vets Parade In Campaign For Unemployed Aid

### Bulletin

YOUNGSTOWN, O., Feb. 6 — The Mahoning County CIO Council last night called for a March on Columbus to demand a special session of the State Legislature to provide unemployment compensation for strikers and veterans. A special committee will go to Columbus next Monday to map out plans with the State CIO Council and then to interview Governor Lausche on the subject of a special legislative session.

By George Weissman

(Special to The Militant)

YOUNGSTOWN, O., Feb. 3 — A colorful parade of workers and veterans followed by an overflow mass meeting of approximately 2,400 today heard CIO leaders and veterans demand an immediate special session of the Legislature to provide unemployment compensation for strikers and veterans.

Despite the frigid weather, 800 workers and veterans paraded through the downtown district of Youngstown to the mass meeting.

Tom Hood, a former master sergeant in the air corps, recently returned from overseas, led the parade in his capacity of Grand Marshal. Flanking him was a color guard composed of former soldiers, sailors and marines in uniform. Next came officers of the Mahoning County CIO Council. Behind them

## Back-To-Work Move Halted By Strikers' Wives

By Jerry Kirk

(Special to The Militant)

FLINT, Feb. 8 — A back-to-work movement started by two Flint women for the purpose of halting the General Motors strike fizzled out before it could even get under way. The two women announced a special meeting for Flint women. Some 300 attended, but they were almost unanimous in support of the strike.

After wives of the striking workers explained the purpose of the strike and the necessity of backing it, the two women reversed their position and volunteered for strike and kitchen duty. A collection was taken to send President Truman a telegram asking him to take immediate steps to make General Motors Corporation bargain collectively with the CIO United Auto Workers. The remainder of the collection was turned over to the UAW-CIO strike fund.

A Buick union investigating committee this week discovered foremen working on hourly rated jobs. Although the corporation is seeking an injunction against the local for so-called illegal picketing, the local decided to keep foremen out of the plant.

All 15 gates were blocked by Buick pickets. Only the personnel office was left open, for office help. As a result of the reinforced picketing an agreement was reached with the company, to be submitted at the membership meeting of the local this Sunday.

## Legion Head Smears GIs In Speech

John Stelle, National Commander of the American Legion, denounced as "completely unjustified" the world-wide GI demonstrations to get back home. On Jan. 28 in Boston, Stelle told Legion officials that "these men who are gripping are most of them less than 30-point men."

Later, at a sumptuous dinner in his honor, Stelle expressed his hearty approval of Wall Street's compulsory military training program.

meeting of the State CIO Council he would propose plans to organize a march on Columbus, and urged all other CIO Councils in the state to start making plans immediately. At this point the mass meeting set up a tremendous roar of approval.

### VETERAN SPEAKS

Tom Hood, Chairman of the CIO Council's Veterans' Committee, was the last speaker. He emphasized the veterans' stake in the struggle for compensation. He pointed out that "while the Democrats and Republicans made nice promises to the veterans, nobody is doing anything for them except the unions."

Referring to veterans as the nation's "orphans," he urged them to get together with their fellow-workers in the labor movement. Showing that corporation attempts to use veterans against strikers had failed, Hood said that the veterans allied with the unions would be an unbeatable combination in the struggle for a better standard of living as well as for adequate compensation.

## FEPC-Supporter Assaulted By Stalinist Goon

NEW YORK, Feb. 7 — The Stalinists took another step in their organized campaign against the Socialist Workers Party when a member of the Trotskyist Youth Group was assaulted here today outside St. Phillip's Church in Harlem by a Stalinist leader of the "American Youth for Democracy."

The young Trotskyist was engaged in distributing a leaflet proclaiming the Trotskyist Youth Group's support of a permanent FEPC!

Thus do the Stalinists aid the worst reactionaries in their attacks upon the democratic rights of labor.

## NEW YORK

Open Forum

on the

## 19th District Congressional Election

The significance of Johannes Steel's Candidacy The Stalinist "Third Party" Maneuver

Speaker:

Art Sharon

Sunday, February 17

Militant Labor Forum, 116 University Place 8 p.m.

### SPECIAL TO THE MILITANT

DETROIT, Feb. 9 — Despite Stalinist slanders, threats and a ban on The Militant passed by their Stalinist-dominated executive board, GM strikers of Detroit Transmission Local 735, UAW-CIO, continue to receive The Militant eagerly.

At the last Local 735 membership meeting, three-quarters of the 200 workers present openly defied the Stalinists by taking the paper. Many made a point of asking for The Militant, carefully folding it and placing it in their pockets.

The Stalinists in Local 735 resorted to every dirty device imaginable to prevent The Militant from being distributed. First they tried to drive the distributors away. When the distributors stood their ground, the Stalinist crew spewed their usual filthy slanders, such as "fascist sheet." Panicky when most of the workers insisted on taking the paper, the Stalinists urged them to tear it up. But only two complied.

### STALINIST FRUIT

This Trotskyist-baiting bore its inevitable fruit. One of the most vociferous Stalinist supporters belittled out several times, "We don't want any Jews around this local." This Hitlerite stink-bomb proved too much even for some of the Stalinist stalwarts who dejectedly slunk away into the meeting. Only one Stalinist hack, Fred Fish, continued his filthy vapors.

Challenged by a distributor to produce a single item in The Militant opposed to the best interests of the working class, Fish could only whine: "You want an independent labor party; I favor a coalition party." Finally asked why he did not fight Jew-baiting in his own local, Fish had no answer. With a sickly smirk he hastened inside.

Half an hour earlier, Arthur Burch, Militant representative, asked the officers of Local 735 for permission to speak at the membership meeting against the anti-labor action of the executive board in attempting to ban The Militant from the picket line. This modest request was denied him by the Stalinist leadership. Hoping to confine the issue within the top circles of the local, they finally granted Burch permission to appear before the executive board February 9.

### FARCEFUL HEARING

The hearing today before the board was a farce. The Stalinist leaders had tried to justify their ban on The Militant on three false grounds: an alleged inaccurate report in the January 12 issue, of happenings on the Detroit Transmission line; the lie that The Militant was backed by corporation funds; and that its criticism of the leader-

ship was hurting the strike. Burch proved conclusively that the January 12 article was completely accurate, a fact confirmed by one of the board members present. The Militant's readers, Burch showed, were the paper's sole support and, far from hurting the strike, The Militant's constructive criticism of the UAW top leadership has had a strong influence in correcting some of the leadership's mistakes.

So completely were the original charges refuted by Burch, that the Stalinists made no further mention of them. Instead, they switched into a vicious attack on Trotskyism, slandering it as "fascism."

Fish, charged that the Trotskyist opposition to the imperialist war and the demand now to bring the GIs home, constitute "support of Hitler." When Burch showed that American forces overseas were being used not against the fascists but to subjugate the workers and poor people in the interests of the same American profiteers who are now trying to crush American labor, Fish once more lapsed into silence.

### A NEW LIE

One Stalinist then falsely claimed that other UAW locals had banned The Militant. Fish added the even bigger lie that a member of Fleetwood Local 15 had made a motion at the Citywide Strike Committee to ban The Militant.

The fact of the matter is that Fish himself made the motion before a small, loose Citywide Strike Committee meeting to "discourage the distribution of The Militant." The motion was vehemently opposed by the only Fleetwood delegate present, John Anderson. There were five Local 735 members present at this meeting, instead of the legal representation of two for each local. Fish's motion carried by a voice vote because the meeting was packed with Stalinists. In addition to refuting the Stalinist lies, Burch laid special stress on the democratic right of freedom of the press. The working class movement has shed blood in defense of that right, he pointed out, and it is not to be trampled upon lightly by a handful of Stalinists in control of a local union.

Burch made it clear that irrespective of the decision of the Stalinist-dominated board of Local 735, The Militant would continue to be distributed on all GM picket lines.

## AFL-CIO Massed Pickets Defy Alameda Injunction

By J. Marshall

(Special to The Militant)

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 28 — In defiance of court orders limiting pickets, 3,000 AFL and CIO unionists massed before the scab-operated Bethlehem Alameda shipyard this morning and closed it tight. The action was the most inspiring show of labor solidarity this area has seen since the days of the great strikes in the '30's.

CIO Steelworkers Machinists Local 1304 has been on strike for the past three months. During this period Bethlehem with the aid of court orders and fully equipped riot squads has continued mine operations with scab labor. The situation had become a serious threat to the closed shop conditions won and maintained during the past decade.

The workers were in full agreement with Joe Roberts, business agent of AFL Shipfitters Local 9, when he announced over the union loudspeaker: "Unless this yard is closed 100 per cent there will be a rapid spread of open shops in the Bay area."

A large mass of workers surrounded him and the police, calling to him to return home. During the excitement a cop swung on one of the pickets, missed, and landed solidly across Endig's face, opening a gash above his eye. Pandemonium broke loose for a moment and somehow Endig slipped, falling full length into a nearby drainage ditch. He emerged covered with oil and water. He returned home.

### WOMEN PICKETS

The pickets displayed a strong militancy in their solid-packed lines which barred every entrance. Squads of women workers blocked the path of office personnel attempting to enter the yard, and insisted that they return home until the strike was settled. With only few exceptions they readily agreed. Only Maritime Commission workers and doctors authorized by the striking union were permitted to enter.

The scene fairly bristled with cops. Forty-five Alameda police, backed by 15 members of the riot squad armed with clubs and tear gas, stood ready to carry out the strikebreaking orders of the bosses. Police of seven other

cities of Alameda County were prepared to "move in" on the strike scene. Nearly Oakland held 100 fully equipped riot squad thugs in readiness. State highway patrolmen were also "alerted." This was accomplished through the county sheriffs' "mutual aid" organization.

When a scab, William Endig, assistant outfitting superintendent, insisted upon driving through the lines despite the workers' request that he return home, his car tipped over. Police immediately converged on the scene and extricated him. He still insisted upon entering the yard.

HOLD THE FORT! After this incident truck loads of riot squad reinforcements converged on the scene and "stood by." Finally at 9:30 a.m. they moved off in a long caravan as the picketers waved and cheered them off.

As the union song, "Hold the Fort," roared over the sound system, the workers took up the words and hurled them in defiance at the bosses.

**NEW YORK**  
Lynch Law in New York  
Hear a Discussion of the  
**FERGUSON MURDERS**  
Socialist Workers Party  
Open Forums  
Sunday, Feb. 17, 8 p.m.  
Harlem—103 West 110th St. R. 23  
Bronx—1034 Prospect Ave.  
Brooklyn—635 Fulton St.