

THE MILITANT

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World Famine And American Labor

See Page 3

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UAW DELEGATES FACE KEY ISSUES

Administration Urges Congress To Extend Draft

Taking advantage of the war fever it has been provoking, the administration last week bore down hard on Congress to continue the draft indefinitely.

In view of the forthcoming elections and the tremendous popular opposition to further forced military service after V-J Day, Congress was inclined to let the Conscription Act die.

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reverse this trend and keep the youth of the nation at the mercy of the Brass Hats.

GROW BOLDER

Growing bolder and more arrogant as the war-mongering mounts, the Brass Hats are already well along the road to securing a prolonged conscription system which further Prussianizes the American people.

Within a single week they moved from asking Congress for a short-term extension of the draft period to what amounts to permanent conscription.

On March 13 Secretary of War Patterson, General Eisenhower and Air General Spaatz told a

session of the House Military Affairs Committee that "a continuance of Selective Service" is necessary to assure Army strength of 1,070,000 as of July 1, 1947. The "continuance" was indicated to be something like six months.

To buttress their demand, Secretary of State Byrnes told the same House committee a story which was kept "secret as to detail," but which was characterized by committee members as "confirmation of what the world situation is, as the press has told us."

HERSHEY'S FORMULA

Hershey's formula for "indefinite" extension of the draft now replaces the campaign for peace-time universal military training which, begun even before the war was over, proved so unpopular that its highly-placed sponsors have temporarily shelved it.

With all this heat upon it the recent opposition in Congress to

Wounded Veterans Put In Ship's Hold

Forty-four Hawaiian war veterans of Japanese ancestry, all wounded while fighting in the U. S. Army in Europe, were forced to travel to Hawaii in the hold of the transport President Hayes while civilians occupied the staterooms and cabins, according to Associated Press, March 9.

Nine of the veterans had lost arms or legs. One was paralyzed from the waist down.

All the men were assigned to the hold at the beginning of the trip, said one of the veterans. "But when we eked up a fuss the captain put all amputees in the sick bay."

Veterans Picket Realty Board In New York City

SPECIAL TO THE MILITANT

NEW YORK March 22. — Over 400 indignant veterans of World War II, including many wives, marched upon the offices of the Real Estate Board of New York, 12 E. 42 St. at 4:30 p.m. today. They carried placards denouncing the big real estate interests and their powerful lobbies in Washington and demanding immediate action to provide housing for veterans and their families.

Over 100 veterans, members of the American Veterans Committee, invaded the offices of the Board, while the others continued picketing. They declared they would bed down for the night in the spacious offices unless immediate sleeping accommodations were found for them.

In written and verbal denunciations, the veterans charged the Board with conspiring through their lobbies in Washington to defeat price controls on housing and rents as well as the provision in the Patman bill which aimed to grant government subsidies to relieve the housing crisis. They demanded that Arthur D. Koppell, vice-chairman of the Metropolitan Fair Rent Committee, a building owners' group, explain his action. Before the House Banking and Currency Committee Koppell had called for a 15 per cent increase in rents.

Declaring that they were sick and tired of fake promises and run-arounds, the veterans threatened to seize empty mansions on Fifth Avenue and to march on Washington.

"It's Your Turn Now"



Wall Street Wields Iranian Issue To Promote Anti-Soviet War Drive

By Charles Carsten

IN THE NEWS

He Maketh Glad The Nazi Heart

"We ourselves have only one daily newspaper to read, Stars and Stripes, which gave us the startling headline 'Unite to Stop Russians, Churchill Warns' . . . In Nuernberg, all we know is what we see and hear. In court, we saw the German lawyers hold the Stars and Stripes high in their hands so that Goering and their other clients in the prisoners' box could burst into smiling animation at the glorious good news." (A letter from Nuernberg in the current New Yorker.)

15 Servants Enough?

"A general quite obviously could not properly carry out his duties if he were billeted in a squad tent. But neither should he live in a ten room house with thirty servants, as one high officer in the Philippines was accused of doing by the demobilization demonstrators last January." (N. Y. Times editorial, March 20.)

Unanimous For Wall St.

"The unanimity of all the final votes taken on steps here tells the story as clearly as it can be told. Imagine a conference of nations reaching decisions unanimously . . . Yet every vote here was 'unanimous' . . . The other countries tried to put over as many of their demands as possible — and then, for diplomatic and financial reasons, fell in line with the U. S. viewpoint." (March 18 N. Y. Post report on the International Monetary Conference at Savannah, Ga.)

Except For India, Egypt, Malaya, Palestine, Etc.

"Thus, walking forward together, with no aims of conquest, subjugation, or material profit, or advancement of the sordid interests, marching forward together, we may render at this juncture services to humanity which never before has any country had the honor to do." (Speech of Winston Churchill at Columbia University ceremonies.)

In the latest move in Wall Street's campaign to prepare public opinion for World War III, the Iranian imperialists, last week called for UNO-Security Council intervention against the Soviet Union in the dispute over the continued presence of Russian troops in their country.

Iran's protest was no sooner placed with the Secretary of the Security Council than Wall Street's spokesmen began clamoring for immediate action. Edward R. Stettinius, U. S. dele-

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gate to the Council, demanded placing Iran's formal complaint at the head of the Council's agenda. President Truman rejected the Kremlin's plea for

San Francisco Machinists End Bitter Four-Month Strike

By J. Marshall (Special to The Militant)

SAN FRANCISCO, Mar. 18 — Members of both Independent Machinists Lodge 68 and East Bay Machinists Local 1304-CIO, voted yesterday in full membership meetings to accept an 18 per cent wage increase and return to work this morning. This ends a four-month old strike which closed down all shipyards and 150 machine shops in the Bay Area.

The main feature of the machinists strike has been the magnificent solidarity between leaders and members of the local unions and their unity in action. Lodge 68, which was forced to secede from the International Association of Machinists, had to conduct its struggle not only against the bosses but also against the reactionary leadership of the International.

The rank and file revolt of the 17,000 machinists against the sell-out efforts of the top IAM bureaucrats has been raging for the past month. During February, Harvey Brown, IAM International President, working in "cooperation" with local bosses and city officials, moved into San Francisco. He ignored the rank and file and their leadership and attempted to compel the machinists to accept the terms of the bosses.

Uphold Democratic Unionism In First Two Sharp Debates

By Art Preis (Staff Reporter, The Militant)

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., Mar. 24.—Hot from the battlefronts of the greatest labor upsurge in American history, some 2,000 delegates of the mighty CIO United Automobile Workers have been meeting here at the Civic Auditorium since

General Motors Still Tied Up On Local Issues

SPECIAL TO THE MILITANT

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., Mar. 23.—Despite the national contract agreement reached a week ago between the CIO United Automobile Workers and General Motors Corporation, the 175,000 GM production workers are being kept from a return to work by the still-arrogant corporation. The company has refused to re-open operations in any of its plants while 12 local unions remain on strike because local plant managements have refused as yet to settle important local grievances.

UAW Vice President Walter Reuther, leader of the GM strike, reported on the status of the settlement here tonight before a meeting of the "Reuther for President" caucus at the Civic Auditorium, where the UAW today began its 10th National Convention. He told the approving 800 delegates at the meeting, many of them GM workers who have been out now more than 17 weeks, that "we are ready to stay out until the other 12 plants settle."

GETTING RESULTS

The decision of the GM Delegates' Conference last week in Detroit to permit local unions to remain on strike until local grievances are satisfactorily settled was defended by Reuther. He said that this policy is getting real results. In most instances the corporation has already been forced to make major concessions and settle some of the oldest and worst local grievances.

Among the plants where the company has been forced to yield on key local issues are Termosted and Cadillac in Detroit and Fisher Body in Pontiac. At the Fisher plant the union secured equal pay for women, which netted them as much as

yesterday in their scheduled week-long 10th National Convention.

Dispensing with the usual practice at most union conventions, including the CIO, of wasting the delegates' time with numerous wind-bag guest speakers and elaborate ceremonies, the convention got down to business quickly yesterday afternoon. Before the first recess it had acted on a number of important resolutions, including the plan for a big "Organize the Unorganized" campaign.

KEY ISSUES

However, many of the key issues that developed out of the great strike wave, which was spearheaded by the General Motors workers, have not yet hit the convention floor. These include such questions as "company security," government "fact-finding" boards and the launching of an independent labor party.

Much of the interest and attention of the delegates is being centered on the struggle for the presidency of the union, between Walter Reuther, UAW vice-president and GM strike leader, and UAW President R. J. Thomas. This issue will come to a head Wednesday, when the election of officers is scheduled.

This afternoon saw the first real outbursts of debate and controversy on vital questions.

The delegates vociferously and overwhelmingly voted down the unanimous proposal of the Constitution Committee to amend the UAW constitution to pro-

Big Business Speeds Assault On Price Control

By Evelyn Atwood

Spearheaded by the National Association of Manufacturers which embraces 15,000 of the nation's biggest industrialists, profit-mad Big Business last week launched an assault of unprecedented ferocity upon the living standards of the American people.

In testimony before the House Banking and Currency Committee which is considering a year's extension of the Office of Price Administration, prominent representatives of the big corporations threatened that they would continue to keep consumers' goods off the market unless Congress agreed to lift all restrictions on prices by abolishing its price control agency.

Robert Ross Wason, president of the NAM, after cynically claiming that "freer" prices would "benefit" 140,000,000 people, was forced to admit under questioning that the manufacturers would profit by the rise in prices.

In reality, the abolition of the OPA would remove the last flimsy obstacle to a whirlwind of soaring prices which would bring super profits to the corporations and speculators at the expense of the nation's consuming masses.

Flanking the NAM's drive to

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UAW Delegates Face Key Issues

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vide for the election of national officers every two years instead of annually.

The convention also referred back to the Constitution Committee a proposal to establish a Fair Practices and Anti-Discrimination Department after delegates insisted the proposal be strengthened to include provisions for greater representation for the Negro members in the top councils of the union.

STORM OF BOOS

As in previous conventions, the proposal to extend the terms of the top officers beyond one year was immediately greeted with a storm of boos and other strong expressions of disapproval. Shouts of "sit down" met the spokesman of the Constitution Committee, Ben Garrison of Ford Highland Park Local 400, when he tried to sell the convention the top leadership's unpopular proposal—which none of the latter had the guts to openly and personally advocate.

After the chairman, Thomas, pleaded to "give the speaker a chance," Garrison made a demagogic plea for the longer term in order to "limit politics" and because, he claimed, "if we permit continuation of internal politics we are not going to have a union." Shelton Tappes of Ford Local 600, another member of the committee, who has been known as a close follower of Stalinist policies, also spoke for two-year terms in order to "eliminate politics from the union."

Although the floor was flooded with the upraised hands of delegates, principally those who opposed the proposal, Thomas managed to give the floor mainly to those who favored the proposal. This brought loud and strident objections.

VOICE OF RANKS

One delegate, from Local 365, who clearly voiced the true sentiments of the ranks, pointed out that "if the officers do a good job they will be elected again without picketing. But if they don't do their job we want to be in a position to eliminate them as quickly as possible."

The call for the vote was soon made from the floor. The proposition was then voted down almost unanimously to the accompaniment of a great outburst of applause and cheers. This action reflected the mistrust of the auto militants, steeped in the tradition of union democracy, of

any move that might help the top leaders to entrench themselves in a bureaucratic position over the union ranks.

The very next proposal of the Constitution Committee brought forward the question of providing representation for the Negro members, who constitute a sizable and very active portion of the union, on the top bodies of the UAW. This proposal has repeatedly been supported by most Negro delegates. They wish to protect the interests of the especially oppressed Negro workers and to secure a demonstration by the union of its earnest desire to show the world it takes its no-discrimination policy seriously.

The debate arose after the Constitution Committee reported out its proposal for the establishment of a Fair Practices and Anti-Discrimination Department to be headed by the International President.

A proposal was made from the floor by Nat Ganley, Local 155, that an additional amendment be added to provide for the election of a Negro to the International Executive Board. This idea was supported by several representative Negro delegates, as well as several white members.

EXAMPLES CITED

Opposition was voiced to the representation proposal giving the stock argument that officers should be elected strictly on the basis of "qualifications" and that if you start with guaranteeing Negroes representation, then "every other group" will want special provisions. This argument evaded the significant factor that it is only the Negroes who lack, even in the democratic UAW, full and equal opportunity to gain key offices because of still remaining, underlying currents of discrimination.

Examples of this discrimination, as well as the failure of both factions of the top leadership to seriously implement the fine anti-discrimination resolutions passed at previous conventions, were cited by several Negro delegates, including Hodges Mason, of Local 208.

The Stalinists, whose spokesmen were Ganley and Hodges, had at previous conventions introduced this proposal. Their purpose has always been demagogically to exploit the sentiments of the Negro delegates in a factional maneuver against Reuther. They did this in 1943 when Reuther opposed their speed

The Next Task



"TO THE MEN AND WOMEN OF G.M. . ."

Defying surrender, impervious to shock, Embattled, heroic, you stood like a rock. A fortress of Labor unshakably strong, Protecting the weak from cruel injury and wrong . . . With one mighty voice raised in thunderous acclaim, We hail your great victory, proclaiming its fame; Each heart filled with pride in the triumph you've won— We hurl forth the challenge, "We've only begun!"

Eddie Dumaine

up "incentive pay" plan. This maneuver was made possible because of Reuther's incorrect position on this question and his catering to certain Jim Crow elements in his caucus.

Erwin Baur, Detroit Budd Local delegate, summed up the issue most clearly when he stated: "It is quite obvious from observing the action of the Negro delegates that they want to have more than what the Constitutional Committee proposes. This question can be solved here only in one of two ways. Either the two caucuses, neither of which has nominated a Negro candidate, must combine to elect a Negro to the top committee, or we must adopt an article to the constitution which will provide a post for a Negro representative."

REAL SITUATION

This statement brought out into the open the real situation. Neither the Thomas-Addes group nor the Reuther group has nominated and fought to elect some of the unquestionably qualified Negro members. In this respect both groups are catering to the more backward and prejudiced minority of delegates.

The convention voted to refer the committee's recommendation back to the committee for further consideration and to bring back a proposal with "more teeth" and greater assurances of a sincere desire to give the Negro members proper representation.

The "keynote" speech of the convention was delivered by President R. J. Thomas yesterday afternoon. His remarks created scarcely a ripple in the convention. He spoke in broad generalities about the problems facing the workers, briefly outlining the numerous attacks which the employers and

their agents are aiming at the workers. His one positive point, which no one could possibly contest, was his plea for the organization of the unorganized in line with the big campaign being mapped by the CIO.

THOMAS SKIRTS ISSUES

He skirted all the key issues, however, such as "company security" and government boards. Although he attacked Truman as "weak and spineless" and asserted "we must strengthen our political action," he wound up by proposing the same old bankrupt policy of tying labor to the political parties of Big Business, simply pleading that "we must demand that both major political parties in this country have more progressive candidates." The present reactionary Congress is made up of many of those "progressive" capitalist candidates whose election was hailed by CIO-PAC leaders as a "great progressive victory" in November 1944.

The real intent of the speech was factional, as was revealed when Thomas made an underhanded and concealed attack on Reuther, whom he tried by implication to link to a "plot" allegedly being engineered by AFL Ladies Garment Workers' President David Dubinsky to swing the UAW into the AFL.

Thomas took a slanderous attack directly from the Stalinist

Daily Worker and tried, without naming him, to smear Reuther. He sought to throw suspicion on the splendid contribution of \$86,000 which the ILG made to aid the GM strike. Thomas referred back to the time in 1939 when Dubinsky is reported to have aided Homer Martin with \$25,000 when Martin tried to split the UAW into the AFL. He said he "was worried about the situation" and by innuendo tried to cast doubts on Reuther's CIO loyalty because the ILG, like many AFL unions, contributed to the General Labor Committee to Aid the GM Strikers, which was supported by both AFL and CIO leaders including CIO President Philip Murray.

Thomas' speech was met by only a brief flurry of polite applause and widespread boos.

REUTHER RALLY

Reuther has the support, it is quite apparent, of most of the more militant and progressive elements. Last night his caucus held a "Reuther for President" rally, which attracted about 800 delegates.

Reuther, at this rally, spoke generally in defense of his leadership of the GM strike, which is the main reason for the support he is now receiving for the union presidency.

Although there is a tendency among a section of his followers to resort to red-baiting

against the Stalinists, Reuther in his speech avoided red-baiting. He sharply assailed the underhanded secret deal of the Stalinist leaders of the CIO United Electrical Workers who violated an agreement with the UAW and settled the strike of 30,000 UE members in GM Electrical Division for less than the GM auto workers were demanding.

Reuther correctly attacked Thomas for his conduct during the GM strike, such as Thomas' proposition to reopen GM parts plants during the strike, his attempts to settle the strike on less favorable terms, etc. Reuther went back to the wartime period of "wild-cat" strikes before V-J Day and accused Thomas of not having "the guts to take a stand" in support of the Kelsey-Hayes and other strikers.

Reuther admitted that the responsibility for so-called unauthorized strikes lay with the leadership for its failure to defend the interests of the workers. He also admitted that the huge pile-up of local grievances whose settlement has prolonged the GM strike came during the period of the no-strike pledge.

REUTHER'S OWN PAST

Reuther, however, failed to recall his own support of the no-strike pledge and how he helped to enforce it. Reuther avoided discussion of many of the main issues growing out of the GM strike, such as the now-clearly false "one-at-a-time" strategy which he authorized and which the entire UAW Board voted to follow.

He also neglected to explain his capitulation on the issue of Truman's "fact-finding" boards, in whose proceedings he participated, although he had previously denounced the "fact-finding" procedure as aimed to whittle down the union demands—which it did.

He referred pointedly to the fact that the GM contract contained no "company security" clause, a positive achievement of the GM strike. But he did not mention the fact that the UAW Board, with his participation, approved unanimously the original and worst proposal for "company security" offered by the UAW leaders to Ford Motor Company.

Reuther in his talk avoided the question of program. Because the meeting was conducted solely as a "hurrah" rally, members of the Reuther caucus who desired to, did not have the opportunity to make proposals on program. But, aware that this question was foremost in the minds of a number of those present, Reuther concluded by saying he would "discuss the question of program at another meeting."

However, his program was released in a convention paper issued by his group following the meeting. Except for language and phraseology, it scarcely differs from the program of Thomas-Addes. It contains no proposals for action on such vital questions as "company security" and the withdrawal of union support from government wage-freezing and wage-fixing bodies like the "fact-finding" boards and Wage Stabilization Board.

On the question of labor political action, the key to labor's most crucial problems, Reuther proposes "an aggressive program of political action to elect candidates pledged to this program within the existing party structure." This means to back capitalist vote-catchers of the Democratic or Republican machines who give cheap pre-election promises to "support labor's program."

The need for a real political instrument of labor, a labor party, is recognized in a number of resolutions submitted by important locals to the convention. But Reuther does not propose any concrete steps whereby the UAW might advance the formation of a labor party now. He merely asks labor to "join hands with farmers, professionals, small business and other functional groups" to "build the base" for what he vaguely describes as a "new progressive party."

It remains to be seen whether the convention will have the opportunity to come to grips with the major questions or whether, as has happened in previous conventions, the delegates will be sidetracked into preoccupation with a narrower factional struggle around posts.

UAW Delegates and Visitors!
Subscribe to "The Militant" and "Fourth International" Atlantic City at Pioneer Book Stall 2227 Boardwalk

TRADE UNION NOTES

By Joseph Keller

Small Steel Locals Still Out On Strike

From steel workers still on strike in fabricating plants in Pittsburgh, northern Jersey and other areas, *The Militant* has received reports that they have been forced to continue their walkouts for many weeks after the CIO steel workers' leaders settled the strikes in basic steel last month.

Apparently, Philip Murray secured a settlement for the 400,000 workers in basic steel and sent them back, but secured no real assurances of settlement on the same terms for nearly 350,000 other strikers in the smaller fabricating plants. It didn't help the latter workers any when Truman declared that the 18½ cents an hour increase in basic steel did not apply to the smaller companies.

Thus, there are hundreds of the smaller and weaker steel locals which have had to pull their belts tighter and tighter and continue their strikes. The March 18 CIO News reports that up to the week of that issue there were still 426 plants employing 160,000 workers which had not signed up.

One steel striker writes us from Pittsburgh that "as soon as the strike vote was taken last fall, we raised the following questions to the International: 'We're all going out together will we all go back together? Or will the big companies sign up and leave us stranded? Murray's representatives threw a lot of words around on this to avoid saying yes or no. . . . Now we certainly are left holding the bag, or you might say, holding empty bellies.'"

The same worker informs us that in an effort to sign up the hold-out firms, Murray's district directors, contrary to the instructions of the union's wage policy committee, are making agreements for less than the full terms of the U. S. Steel "master" contract. "Some of the nut and bolt factories started signing up for 18½ cents, but without the 9½ cents back pay."

It is clear that there is a great deal of indignation among the remaining steel strikers at what they consider Murray's failure to sufficiently consider their interests and to fight for them at the time the basic steel agreement was secured.

Some Stalinist Fakery About the GM Strike

From the first moment of the GM strike, *The Militant* pointed out the incorrectness of the "one-at-a-time" strategy authored by UAW Vice President Walter Reuther. *The Militant* pointed out the need to combat the concerted offensive of Big Business by a planned extension of the CIO strikes and a unified CIO strategy.

The Communist (Stalinist) Party, whose members in the UAW are very discredited, has seized upon the "one-at-a-time" strategy as a club to belabor Reuther, who is an anti-Stalinist and therefore an opponent of the CP in the unions. *The Stalinist Daily Worker* is running big

articles attacking Reuther.

But the Stalinists, in order to attack Reuther and still cling to the coat-tails of the other UAW and CIO leaders, have to resort to a piece of real fakery. Thus George Morris, the *Daily Worker's* leading hatchet-man and labor "expert," writes that "Reuther jumped the gun with the GM strike with a 'one-at-a-time' theory in defiance of the CIO's strategy of concentrating its major strikes for an all-at-once quick show-down."

This is sheer fraud. What CIO "strategy" is Morris talking about? When was it determined? Who determined it? How was it supposed to operate?

The plain truth is that the CIO unions had no unified strategy. It was the GM strike which first forced the Truman administration to recommend a 19½ cent increase. Only after this did the other unions, steel, packinghouse, UE, go out on strike—and they settled for less than 19½ cents.

In fact, Murray once called off the scheduled steel strike without consultation of his own membership. He certainly did not consult the CIO packinghouse workers who were scheduled to go out one day after the steel union, but who were forced to go out, like the GM strikers, on their own.

It is unlikely that the strike wage would have taken on such scope and power if it had not been for the initiative and inspiration provided by the GM strikers.

Reuther's "one-at-a-time" strategy was in fact the policy of the entire UAW leadership, who voted for it and supported it. It was also the strategy, if one can call it such, of the whole CIO leadership.

What the Stalinists have to answer for is the conduct of the CIO Electrical Workers leaders in making a back-room settlement for 30,000 UE members in GM's Electrical Division which undercut the demands of the GM auto workers.

"Incentive Pay" Comes Home to Roost

The Stalinists who complain about Reuther "prolonging the GM strike" are having a tough time with Westinghouse Electric, which refuses to grant an 18½ cent settlement to its 75,000 striking workers despite such a settlement in General Electric. The Stalinists dominate the UE-CIO which is conducting the Westinghouse strike.

Last week, Westinghouse contemptuously offered a 9½ cent raise, according to the UE leaders. Its proposal, which "shocked" the UE leaders, was contained in a lengthy 25-page document. Of particular interest is the fact that Westinghouse attempts to justify its miserly wage offer on the ground that its "incentive pay" system permits its workers to make more than in other sections of the industry. This is the notorious speed-up plan which the Stalinists themselves ballyhooed during the war, and which they put into effect wherever they could shove it down the workers' throats.

"Pioneer" Display Attracts UAW Convention Delegates

SPECIAL TO THE MILITANT

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., Mar. 24.—Something new has been added to the famous Boardwalk fronting the ocean here. That is the Pioneer Publishers Book Stall which is offering a splendid display of labor and socialist literature at 2227 Boardwalk, just a few doors from the huge Civic Auditorium where the CIO-United Auto Workers Union is holding its convention. The display will continue throughout the week of the convention.

Many UAW delegates and visitors are stopping before the attractive display front of the store, looking over the many fine pamphlets and books and purchasing literature. A mailing service to their homes is provided. A big sign, red on white, across the entire store front announces: "Pioneer Publishers—Books and Pamphlets of Interest to the Labor Movement." Signs greet strolling UAW members from either direction: "Welcome UAW-CIO Delegates." Other large signs announce: "We take subscriptions for *The Militant* and *Fourth International*."

During lunch recess of the convention, and in the evenings when the display is brilliantly lighted up, many UAW delegates can be seen looking over the

pamphlets and other literature. Scores of delegates who have become acquainted with *The Militant* back home on the picket lines stop to give a friendly greeting to the display attendants and to purchase literature. Almost the only unfriendly comment comes from a few Stalinist elements, who nevertheless cannot conceal their surprise and envy at the enterprise of the Socialist Workers Party and Pioneer Publishers for providing this display.

SCORES OF GREETINGS

Today, several thousand militants containing articles on the GM strike and an analysis of the UAW convention issues were distributed before the Convention Hall to the UAW delegates. The reception was very friendly. Many on accepting the paper expressed their appreciation of *The Militant* and told the distributors about having become acquainted with it on the picket lines in Detroit, Flint and elsewhere.

San Francisco Machinists End Bitter 4-Month Strike

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effort to shove the meeting along, was compelled to recognize Harry Scher, chairman of the Lodge 68 strike committee. Scher raised a point of order demanding to know by what authority the meeting had been called.

Brown quoted the Grand Lodge Constitution as authority and ruled Scher out of order. This brought a wave of catcalls and stamping of feet. Scher then moved that DeMatta, Lodge 68

President, take the chair in place of Brown. Brown then huddled with members of the IAM Executive Council and again ruled Scher out of order.

Ed Dillon, militant Lodge 68 business agent, then grabbed the "mike" and moved the meeting be adjourned until the next Sunday at 10 a.m., when they were scheduled to conduct a regular meeting. He, too, quoted the constitution in support of his motion. Brown ruled Dillon out of order.

At this point, when feeling was running high, DeMatta secured the "mike" and called for a vote on Dillon's motion. It was carried by an overwhelming vote. The machinists then stampeded from the hall and, with the exception of a few stragglers, cleared it in a few minutes. Outside the air was filled with remarks against Brown such as "strikebreaker," "scab herder," and "fink."

One thing that especially aided the machinists in opposing this high-handed move of Brown and his Executive Council was that the floor "mikes" throughout the hall were "hot." Officials were at a loss to understand this, as orders had been given to kill all "mikes" except that used by Brown.

NEW MOVE FAILS

After this meeting, Lodge 68 moved their regular scheduled meeting up a day and invited Brown and the Executive Council to be present. They refused.

Brown, having thus failed in his first effort, tried next to break the rank and file solidarity by mailing out secret ballots to 68's membership, asking them to vote in favor of the bosses' offer. This move, also made over the heads of the lodge officials, received practically no response.

Shortly after this move failed, Brown once again ordered the machinists to accept the bosses' offer and return to work. He also set a date for a "trial" of the leadership of 68, where he filed charges calling for suspension and revocation of the local charter.

On March 10, the membership of Lodge 68 answered this threat by seceding from the IAM and setting up their own independent union. Brown immediately obtained a court order enabling him to take over the offices and records of the Lodge. In large ads in the daily newspapers he began to appeal to the machinists to "remain loyal" to the international and to go back to work this morning. He also announced that he would begin a "loyalty check" of all machinists on the jobs.

Under these circumstances, the independent union voted to return to work this morning and conduct a fight to retain their jurisdiction over jobs. They have announced that they will ask for an NLRB election to prove that the men want to be represented by the militant local leadership rather than by Brown and his IAM Executive Council.

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FRIDAY, MARCH 29, 8 p. m.
"Workers Need Labor Party"
United Steelworkers Local 1843 Hall
4829 Second Avenue, Hazelwood
Auspices: Socialist Workers Party, Pittsburgh Branch
SATURDAY, MARCH 30, 8 p. m.
"Rising Tide Of Colonial Revolt"
Militant Readers' Club
5905 Penn Ave. East Liberty
Auspices: Socialist Workers Party, Pittsburgh Branch

No City Safe From New Air Weapons

This is the second of a series of articles on the death-dealing weapons in the hands of the imperialist war-mongers who in their just for world-domination, threaten the destruction of modern civilization. The first article, published last week, showed how the destructive powers of warfare multiplied from the beginning of World War I to the end of World War II.

By Eugene Varlin

If World War III comes, there isn't a spot on this planet that will be safe from aerial attack. Ocean barriers, no matter how wide, are no longer a guarantee of security against bombing. This fact was dramatically demonstrated last September when three generals of the United States Army Air Force made a non-stop flight from Japan to Chicago in B-29's.

On October 2, 1945, in an address to the Wings Club at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, General Le May, one of the three generals who made the flight, declared: "I believe we could fly from the States to Europe in a B-29 right now, drop an atomic bomb and return safely. And, of course, if somebody in Europe had a B-29 or a better plane, they could do it to us."

The B-29 will not be the last word in long-range bombers for very long. In his biennial report to the War Department on October 9, 1945, General Marshall stated: "Development of even greater bombers capable of operating at stratospheric altitudes and speeds faster than sound and carrying bomb loads of more than 100,000 pounds, already is a certainty. These aircraft will have a sufficient range to attack any spot on the earth and return to a friendly base."

If piloted aircraft capable of making round-trip bombing missions anywhere on earth are already "a certainty," then pilotless rocket bombs able to make a one-way trip to any point on the globe are doubly certain. Rocket bombs, known as V-2's, were used by Germany in her air war against England. Their effectiveness was limited because they could not carry so heavy a bomb load as airplanes and they were not sufficiently accurate.

ROCKETS PLUS A-BOMBS

These limitations have already been overcome. The first handicap of the rocket bomb has been overcome by the use of atomic energy. Despite its enormous destructive power, the atom bomb is extremely light in weight, far lighter than the bomb load of the V-2.

Secondly, highly accurate pilotless bombing is now possible. During World War II the V-T bomb fuse was developed. This fuse, an electronic device, explodes the bomb at the point in its flight nearest the target. New electronic devices, based on the same principles as the V-T fuse, are capable of guiding rockets to their targets.

In his report to Congress last October, General Marshall said: "We can direct rockets to targets by electronic devices and new instruments which guide them accurately to sources of heat, light and magnetism. Drawn by their own fuses, such new rockets will streak unerringly to the heart of big factories, attracted by the heat of the furnaces. They are so sensitive that in the space of a large room they aim them-



ever, every major power is racing to build up an air-force of long-range bombers and rocket bombs. No scientist believes that either the V-T fuse or the atom bomb will remain an American monopoly for more than five years. Every major power will strive to manufacture a sufficient quantity of aircraft and atom bombs to wipe any or all of its potential military enemies off the map.

General Marshall has said, "With the continued development of weapons and techniques now known to us, the cities of New York, Pittsburgh, Detroit, Chicago or San Francisco may be subject to annihilation from other continents in a matter of hours."

If World War III comes, whatever country is attacked will retaliate by launching its robot rockets. This war of robots can only result in mutual annihilation. And what were once the great centers of civilization will become enormous graveyards.

Famine Strikes Chinese Farmers; 10,000,000 Eat Grass And Clay

The Heritage Of Imperialist War—Starvation



In the photograph above, children of France hunt through garbage pails for scraps of food. Here is a small part of the misery and hunger ravaging all of Europe and the Orient today.

Imperialists Use Food As Weapon To Aid Reaction

After World War I, the food relief policy of the United States government was based, not on any desire to help the starving European masses, but on the determination of American imperialism to crush the rising tide of working class revolt.

In requesting a \$100,000,000 appropriation from Congress on February 24, 1919, President Wilson declared: "Food relief is now the key to the whole European situation and to the solution of peace. Bolshevism is steadily advancing westward. . . . It cannot be stopped by force, but it can be stopped by food. . . ."

Congress was convinced by the President's arguments. The American Relief Administration, headed by Herbert Hoover, was established to carry out this policy.

The American Relief Administration withheld food from all areas in which the workers had taken power. A stringent blockade of the Soviet Union was enforced from 1917 to 1921. The Allies imposed a blockade on making Hungary when the Hungarian workers established their own government in 1919.

Hoover's director for southeast Europe, T. C. C. Gregory, refused the requests for supplies made by the Bolshevik food administrator of Hungary. At the same time he promised the counter-revolutionary forces to supply Hungary with food and coal once the workers' government was overthrown.

The same methods were used against the Finnish workers who had taken power in November, 1918. When Finland was under workers' rule, the masses were starved by a tight blockade. However, once the workers' government was defeated by General Mannerheim with the aid of German troops, Hoover authorized the shipment of food to Finland.

In December 1918, the War Trade Board declared that the United States government was "prepared to extend material help to all parts of Russia which succeed in driving out the Bolsheviks. . . ."

Units of Hoover's American Relief Administration accompanied the advance of the counter-revolutionary White Armies and withdrew whenever these armies were beaten back.

The food policy of the United States serves the same reactionary ends today. In 1944-1945 UNRRA agents withheld food from the areas held by the Greek workers and shipped food to the areas held by the monarchist forces.

Starvation And Disease Scourge Of All Europe

AID TO THE STARVING

By The Editors

In the wake of the appalling devastation wrought by World War II, famine and disease are killing millions of people throughout the world, and menacing millions more.

The imperialist bandits plan to ruthlessly exploit this misery of the masses for their own reactionary ends. There is ample evidence that food is again being used as a weapon against the working people of Europe and Asia.

The imperialists hope today to repeat their performance of 1919-1922 when Herbert Hoover directed the American Relief Administration. Under his direction ARA forced millions of European workers to accept counter-revolutionary governments simply to survive.

The appointment of Hoover as honorary chairman of the Famine Relief Committee indicates that food will once again be used to impose brutal dictatorships upon the workers and peasants of Europe.

Early in the Second World War, the International Transport Workers' Federation correctly warned that food would be used for reactionary purposes after World War II. In its May-June 1942 bulletin the Transport Workers declared that only the labor movement could guarantee against the use of food for reactionary political aims.

American workers have a deep fraternal interest in aiding the starving masses of other countries. American labor and farmer organizations must undertake collection of food and medical supplies to rush abroad immediately.

But collection of food and supplies in the United States and their distribution in foreign countries cannot be entrusted to capitalist-dominated agencies.

It is necessary to make certain that relief supplies go to the workers and farmers and not to their enemies. This can only be guaranteed if control over the supplies remains in the hands of labor and farmer organizations, from their collection to their distribution in foreign lands.

War, then famine and pestilence—and then war again. That is humanity's pattern of life under the capitalist system. Now that capitalism's greatest and most bloody war has ended, Europe's millions are faced with capitalism's greatest famine and disease epidemic.

There is not a single country in Europe, whether victor or vanquished, whose people are not dying from hunger or being twisted and stunted by the ravages of disease.

Europe's "Black Belt" of death from starvation runs through Poland, eastern Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, and Greece. Italy is also a "blighted country" according to officials of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration and is now gripped by the "worst wheat shortage in the world."

DISEASE RIFE

Entire generations of Europe's children will never know a healthy and normal adulthood. The housing crisis has forced millions of them to live in the open and thus boosted terrifically the rate of lung disease. UNRRA statistics reveal that deaths caused by tuberculosis rose 300 per cent during the first six months of 1945. Infant mortality showed a rise of 80 per cent over the 1940 figures.

Europe's ancient plagues—typhoid fever, malaria, dysentery and typhus—are again raging through the middle east. Venereal diseases have risen steadily and particularly virulent forms have developed. Syphilis, gonorrhea, cancer and all the other by-products of war and famine, are now rife throughout Europe. The general disease index has jumped 500 per cent since 1940.

Though wonderful strides have been made by medical science in the creation of new life-giving drugs, such as the various sulfas and penicillin, newspapermen report that few sufferers have received the benefit of such discoveries.

Mrs. Cecilia Davidson, welfare worker of New York City, spent eight months in France working among liberated children. She reported to UNRRA that they ". . . are dwarfed from years of malnutrition. Physically they look half their ages with faces that are tired and old. One little girl carried in what we thought was a baby about seventeen months old. His little arms and legs had not developed and he was tiny in size. You can imagine how eerie it was to have this baby turn around and talk to us like an old man. He was over five years of age and he could not walk."

Despite the fact that starvation stalks Europe, UNRRA officials announced this week that Europe's food rations will be even further cut in the near future. U. S. Assistant Secretary of State William Clayton told the UNRRA meeting in Atlantic City this week that after January 1 the United States will cease participation in organized relief. He generously offered to make available to Europe's starving millions a "fair share of grain, fats and foodstuffs" provided they are purchased on the open market.

By Mike Cort

Millions of Chinese farmers, located on the country's richest rice lands, are today slowly starving to death. 10,000,000 people in Hunan Province rely for sustenance on grass and a native clay which they refer to as "kwan-yin" (Goddess of Mercy). This appalling news was reported this week by Dr. Ting-fu F. Tsiang, Chinese delegate to the Atlantic City meeting of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration.

INDIAN PEOPLE WILL DIE LIKE FLIES

Over 100,000,000 people in India will be affected by the developing famine there, said Khwaja Sir Navimuddin, former Prime Minister of Bengal, in New York on March 12. If help is not immediately forthcoming, "people will die in the streets like flies," he predicted.

After years of sacrifice in the war against the Japanese imperialists, the Chinese people find that peace brings them the gift of starvation. And if they had any illusion that succor in their final extremity would be forthcoming from their Anglo-American "allies," this illusion is now dispelled. For official UNRRA figures reveal that contemplated relief for China's starving millions amounts to \$1.35 per capita—hardly sufficient to displace clay as a diet staple.

All of China has been allocated 47,800 tons of relief grain for 1946, according to Dr. Tsiang. But Hong Kong, the British crown colony, has been allocated 23,000 tons, nearly half the amount for the whole of China.

NO AID AT HOME

Nor can the Chinese people look to their own government for aid. Chiang Kai-shek's corrupt regime is today spending more money for military purposes than it has earmarked for food for the starving.

Dr. Tsiang gave a vivid description of the plight of his people to the Atlantic City meeting. He said, "The people are eating grass. The farmers and peasants now have marked up the grass into lots. This lot belongs to my family, that lot to your family. They also eat a kind of clay which is a greyish, tasteless business."

These conditions mean that in Hunan province alone, according to a March 22 dispatch from Chungking to the N. Y. Times, 4,000,000 Chinese will die of starvation unless adequate relief is provided.

A representative from Hupeh declared that conditions in his province were far worse than those reported in Hunan. In Hupeh, he said, there is only dirt to eat.

Imperialists Plan Starvation For Japanese People

Although World War II is supposedly ended, the Anglo-American victors have decreed that after May 1 millions of Japanese peasants will be left to die. This time they will not be victims of atomic bombs but victims of a plan for slow starvation.

Maj. W. H. Leonard, chief of the agriculture division of Allied Headquarters' natural resources section in Tokyo, warned on March 10 that by the end of the month Japan would be "virtually without food." Nine days later, N. Y. Times correspondent Burton Crane wired from Tokyo that the Combined Food Board was still "determined" to grant Japan 600,000 tons of food, which is half of the minimum figure sent to Washington by Maj. Leonard's department.

"Headquarters officials are arranging to have the too scanty stocks sent to Sapporo, Sendai, Tokyo, Yokohama, Nagoya, Kyoto, Osaka and other areas where American troops are stationed," wrote Crane on March 19, "the idea apparently being to prevent absolute starvation where food riots are likely to disturb Americans, and to let the Japanese elsewhere starve quietly, bothering only their own authorities."

OUR MARTYRS

Under the heading: "Killed in the Struggle for Communism," the March 9 La Verite, organ of the Parti Communiste Internationaliste, French section of the Fourth International, publishes the following tribute to four of the heroic German Trotskyist leaders murdered in the Nazi concentration camps:

The long list of militants of the Fourth International who have fallen victims of the bloody Hitler dictatorship is not yet closed.

After recently honoring Marcel Hic, General Secretary of our French Section and L. Lesoil, leader of our Belgian Section, both martyrs of the Fourth International, we salute today the memory of four of the most outstanding fighters of our German Section, about whose murder in Nazi prisons we have just learned.

WEINER SCHOLEM, leader of the German Communist Party until 1923 and editor-in-chief of the paper: Red Flag in Berlin, member of the Executive Committee of the Communist International at Moscow. He joined the Trotskyist movement at an early age. After Hitler seized power, he was sent successively to the concentration camps of Sichtenburg, Esterwegen, Dachau, and finally to Buchenwald, where he was assassinated in 1940 by a shot from the revolver of an S.S. officer.

WALTER . . . (whose full name we withhold, since his family is living in the Russian zone) was a functionary of the German Communist Party for many years before joining the Fourth International together with Scholem. He was arrested in 1933, and after 11 years of suffering in Nazi concentration camps, he was mortally wounded on August 24, 1944, during an aerial bombardment.

EDWARD KOLISCHER, a delegate of the (German) Soldier's Councils in 1918, who soon thereafter placed his military talent at the disposal of the Bolshevik Red Army. He was assigned to Leon Trotsky's General Staff. After the expulsion of Trotsky, Comrade Kolischer was retained on the top General Staff of the Red Army and at the same time represented the Austrian Communist Party on the Executive Committee of the Communist International. He finally joined the Communist Left Opposition led by Leon Trotsky and took part in the underground struggle against the Schuschnigg dictatorship. Arrested in 1936, he was deported to Buchenwald and then Auschwitz. He was murdered there in 1942, at the age of 49, by a series of blows dealt by a prison guard.

FRITZ REUTER, a baker by trade and one of the oldest German Bolshevik-Leninists, was imprisoned in Buchenwald, then in Dachau, where tuberculosis quickly carried him away.

Comrades, the example of your lives as militant fighters and as working class prisoners, the example of your sacrifices will not be in vain. Your heroic struggle will serve as a striking refutation of the capitalist lie that would have us believe in the solidarity of the German people with Hitler.

A Dutch Worker's Letter To "Militant"

(We recently received the following interesting letter to the readers of The Militant from a Dutch revolutionist.) Dear Friends:

I know The Militant is a genuine workers' paper, and rather than give you an extensive report about the developments of our organization, I prefer to write you some glimpses of the life of the workers in Holland.

Holland is not a very important country. To tell you the truth, you often hear curses about its bad climate, its petty-bourgeois conditions, its smallness and sectarianism. We are envious of you American workers, who live in a nice big country, which is the heart of the world. But we do not forget that you, too, must toil for your daily bread, just as we have to do.

We always knew that your country is a nicer one than ours. But we know that you cannot enjoy its beauty, as you must pass your days in a mill, a workshop, the mines and the docks, just as we do. We know that you live in the big towns, which are prisons of stones heaped upon stones. We know that we can find you in the worst, darkest, most unhealthy parts of these cities, just as it would be easy for you to discover in which parts of Rotterdam, Amsterdam, etc., the Dutch workers are living.

But, you might ask me: "Why do you complain about petty-bourgeois conditions in Holland? As you tell us yourself, the Dutch workers are the same as we, and for heaven's sake we are no sectarians and petty bourgeois! We learned the importance of discipline, of united struggle of our class, right in the workshops where you can find us together by the tens of thousands. We can

literal and the figurative sense of the word.

The people of Indonesia broke their chains and are fighting now against the parasitic Dutch colonial oppressors. "I get fear around my heart," said the Dutch "socialist" Prime Minister Schermerhorn, in connection with the courageous fight of the Indonesian masses. He spoke in the name of the bourgeoisie. They are all afraid, to lose their dividends, their enormous profits, their privileged position.

The sympathy of the Dutch workers, on the other hand, is entirely on the side of the Indonesians. The war put an end to the patience of our brothers in the colonies. It destroyed at the same time a good deal of the reformist illusions of the Dutch laborers. And that is a good thing!

Holland may not be a very important country. But the fight of the Indonesian masses made it an important one! For the Dutch proletarian parties showed the working class of the whole world what they have to expect from their parties if "their" imperialism is in a crisis. And then I must say to you that our party, the Revolutionary Communist Party of the Fourth International, is the only one in Holland which fights for the entire freedom of Indonesia. Perhaps you think! "It is far from here and we cannot check on his words. He is a party patriot and maybe he boasts about his party." But I tell you the truth. And I shall cite the words of the Stalinist leader Koenen (at the same time secretary of the United Committee of Trade Unions—EVC)

on the congress of the Dutch Communist Party, reported in the Stalinist paper "De Waarheid" of January 10, 1946:

"It is of no use for the communists (Stalinists) in the EVC to hide their faces because they think to serve thus the unity in the trade unions. On the contrary, when doing so they render the Eenhedsvakcentrale a very bad service, as Trotskyist elements try to make themselves master of the movement, make an eager use of it. IT IS THOSE ESPECIALLY, THE SO-CALLED REVOLUTIONAIRE COMMUNISTISCHE PARTIJ, WHO TRY TO PULL THE WORKERS OF THE EVC OVER TO A MASS STRIKE IN THE INTEREST OF INDONESIA."

Yes, we do so, and it is our duty! The Stalinist leaders warn against us, as THEY don't want to fight for Indonesia. Paul de Groot, the general secretary of the CPN wrote in The Waarheid on October 9, 1945:

STALINIST BETRAYAL "The unity and the cooperation with Holland create the only conditions for the freedom, and the political and economic development of the Indonesian people. We, communists, withdrew in 1937 our former slogan 'Free Indonesia From Holland Now!' as the Japanese menace made necessary the unity of Holland and Indonesia. This we maintain. Therefore in the interest of the safety of the bond between Holland and Indonesia, we act with so much force and firmness for the execution of the promises made to Indonesia. Holland is weak, it does not possess a considerable army nor a navy

nor an air force of such importance that it could make its influence felt to others. All depends on a courageous and wise stamenship."

This is the language of the bourgeoisie which is too weak to smash the Indonesian revolution and now says: "We must make concessions, else we lose Indonesia." I am sure the Stalinist leaders in America use other words in relation to Indonesia. Why not? If their bourgeoisie is in danger they can always change their terminology. They learned to change for many, many years. . . .

LEARN FROM US!

You will believe that if the Stalinist leaders speak thus, the Social-Democrats do it in the same way. And the other groups, the centrists (those who use a revolutionary language to hide their opportunist purposes), like "de Vlam" and the ultra-left like "Spartacus," have "principled" objections against our slogan: "Free Indonesia From Holland Now!" and do nothing, nothing to help our colored brothers against the imperialists. I repeat: We and we only are fighting for the total independence of Indonesia.

American workers, learn from this! Only the parties of the Fourth International are real fighting parties against the oppressors. In America, the Stalinists, Social-Democrats, "ultra-left" bawlers and centrists will betray you too at the decisive moment. Your place is in the Socialist Workers Party! Fraternally, Nol Bose

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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

Time For Action

The question of labor political action is one of the most important problems confronting the CIO United Automobile Workers at their convention.

At the very moment they are meeting in Atlantic City, Congress is busy in Washington wrecking price controls, knitting minimum wage legislation, and threatening to pass more stringent anti-strike laws. This is the Congress elected in 1944 with the aid of the CIO-PAC and which Murray and Hillman hailed as a "victory for labor." In their battle with the corporations during the past few months, the workers have found out how subservient the present administration and Congress are to Big Business.

Will American labor remain shackled to the Democratic and Republican political machines of Wall Street? Or will the UAW take the lead in politics, as it has on the industrial battleground, and decisively break with company unionism in politics by championing the cause of an independent labor party?

The UAW delegates will have to make that decision themselves, for it is clear that their present leaders oppose this progressive proposal. Although Thomas and Addes criticize Truman and complain about the Congressional anti-labor drive, they obviously intend to pursue the same disastrous course which has rendered labor politically defenceless before the onslaught of the corporations and their Democratic-Republican agents in Washington. Reuther is skating all around the issue.

The need for genuine labor political action is recognized by the UAW militants. A number of key locals have introduced resolutions to the convention urging the formation of a labor party.

This is the time to pass from talk to action. The eyes of all American labor are centered upon the UAW convention. If the delegates there would call upon the CIO to convoke immediately a national conference for the launching of a labor party and for the running of labor candidates in the 1946 Congressional elections, this action would arouse a mighty response from the rest of organized labor.

Army Reform

Insistent demands for democratic reform of the Army were voiced by tens of thousands of GIs during their world-wide demonstrations protesting the slowdown in demobilization. The high point in soldier criticism of the Army's caste system came in the mass meeting at the Trocadero in Paris on January 13.

There, more than 500 soldiers elected a "GI Liberation Committee" and approved a list of demands which included abolition of officer messes, clubs and other special privileges for the Brass Hats.

The "GI Liberation Committee's" program contained many key demands which had been expressed by GIs throughout the Army.

If the War Department were seriously interested in reforming the Army it would have paid close attention to the program advocated by the Trocadero meeting and chosen men elected to GI committees during the demonstrations to form a board of investigation.

Instead of this the War Department has exiled such GI spokesmen to Okinawa, the Siberia of the armed forces, and taken other harsh measures of reprisal against them.

In place of a representative committee chosen from the ranks, Secretary of War Patterson has appointed a handpicked board composed of four former officers and two former enlisted men. This board will study relations between officers and men in the Army and "determine what changes, if any, should be made" in Army practices.

At the very same time that the War Department makes this gesture toward reform of the caste system, actions by high ranking Brass Hats show just how far they intend to go in making any real changes in the Army set-up.

Lieut.-Gen. John C. H. Lee, commander in the Mediterranean theatre, imposed a rigid censorship which extended even to soldiers' letters to the Mediterranean edition of Stars and Stripes. Censorship of Army newspapers in other parts of the world has been intensified.

Furthermore in recent months Brass Hats have imposed a more autocratic discipline on soldiers. Privileges for officers have increased since V-J Day.

In view of these actions by the high com-

mand, it is clear that the board set up by the War Department is delegated to whitewash the Army's caste system. The board will lay down a smokescreen to cover continuation of officer privileges.

Only a committee composed of men chosen from among the GI leaders of the protest demonstrations will really represent the soldiers. Only such a committee could expose the vicious caste system and formulate a plan for Army reform satisfactory to the GIs. Only such a committee could command confidence and respect from the veterans and labor movement.

Role Of UNO

As the United Nations Organization meets on March 25 in New York City, the whole apparatus of capitalist propaganda is again engaged in depicting this association of bandits as an "instrument of peace and international collaboration" that will bring "world prosperity" and prevent the outbreak of a Third World War.

There is no limit to the falsehoods employed by Wall Street propagandists to sell the UNO to the public. But events of the past few months have begun to lay bare the real character of the organization.

Instead of promoting peace, it can now be seen that UNO is one of the principal instruments wielded by Anglo-American imperialism in its campaign to prepare public opinion for World War III.

Instead of a "free association of peace-loving nations" UNO is simply the facade behind which a diplomatic bloc is being formed for war against the Soviet Union. In this respect it is performing the same function as the old League of Nations.

Whoever covers up this infamous role of the UNO thereby renders aid to the warmongers. But this is precisely the role Stalin assumes today.

In an interview with an Associated Press correspondent on March 22, Stalin cynically painted up the UNO as "a valuable instrument of preservation of peace and international security," and declared that he attributes "great importance" to the United Nations Organization.

By these pronouncements Stalin is aiding the imperialists in deceiving the people into thinking that UNO can halt the march toward war. Stalin is diverting attention from the fact that UNO is a forum for whipping up public sentiment against the USSR.

Stalin hopes thereby to make another deal with the imperialist powers. By this policy he is paving the way for World War III just as he helped pave the way for the outbreak of World War II.

The United Nations Organization is completely under the domination of the Wall Street and London brigands. It can no more guarantee peace or protect the Soviet Union from assault by world imperialism than could the old League of Nations.

Strikebreaker O'Dwyer

Buried in the columns of the March 20 N. Y. Times was a belated admission by Herbert L. Pfaff, area manager of the Solid Fuels Administration, which serves to expose the strike-breaking conspiracy against the tugboat men: conducted last month by President Truman and Tammany Mayor O'Dwyer on behalf of the tugboat operators.

Here is the tell-tale declaration. "Loss of local receipts of coal during the tugboat strike last month was much less than had been reported at the time by some sources, Mr. Pfaff declared. He said that increased rail shipments and trucking from Jersey City had been responsible for the delivery to this city of 90 per cent of its normal supply of anthracite during the strike. The other 10 per cent was made up by increased shipments within five days after the strike ended."

The people of New York well remember how O'Dwyer attempted to arouse a lynch spirit against the 3,000 striking tugboat men by picturing the city as on the verge of "starvation" and "freezing to death" because the tugs were not operating.

In response to his strikebreaking appeal, Truman stepped in, "seized" the boats, and ordered the men back to work. This move failed because the strikers refused to return without any settlement of their demands.

In desperation O'Dwyer then tried to smash the strikers' resistance by shutting down the entire city on the ground that coal supplies were in danger of being completely choked off. Now Pfaff's statement proves, as The Militant insisted at the time, that O'Dwyer's edict was nothing but an out-and-out strikebreaking action designed to panic the people and turn the heat on the tugboat men.

This was obvious even at that time, when public protest forced O'Dwyer to revoke his order the day after it was issued. There were no dire effects except for the operators who had to agree to arbitration with the tugboat workers.

In these anti-labor moves O'Dwyer naturally received eager cooperation from the big business press, the monied interests and labor-baiters. They understood that this Democratic politician was acting on their behalf.

All these developments underscore the crime committed against the workers by those labor leaders who were responsible for putting this servant of the bosses in City Hall. Foremost among them are the heads of the Communist (Stalinist) Party and the Stalinist-dominated American Labor Party who opposed the running of an independent labor candidate for Mayor and urged the workers to support O'Dwyer as the "labor-progressive coalition" candidate.

As a result of this sordid Tammany-Stalinist deal, the New York City workers have been saddled for the next four years with a Mayor who in his first three months of office has claim to the title of "America's No. 1 Strikebreaker."



"I just got the most wonderful idea for world peace — and it's so SIMPLE! All you have to do is corner the atom market."

WORKERS BOOKSHELF

THE PARIS COMMUNE, By V. I. Lenin; International Publishers, 1934; 64 p., 20 cents.

Seventy-five years ago, on March 18, 1871, the first workers' state in history, the Paris Commune, rose out of the Franco-Prussian war. For seventy-one days the Commune recorded magnificent achievements which forecast the road for all future working-class revolutions. It was crushed by the armies of the capitalist counter-revolution and a hundred thousand of its men and women murdered or exiled in brutal revenge.

"The Paris Commune," by V. I. Lenin, is a compilation of speeches and articles, with extracts from longer writings, analyzing the lessons of this first workers government. Lenin, co-leader with Trotsky of the October Revolution of 1917, gave careful study to the history of the Commune, and again and again pointed out its vital teachings.

"The cause of the Commune is the cause of the social revolution," he wrote; "the cause of the complete political and economic emancipation of the toilers. It is the cause of the proletariat of the whole world. And in this sense it is immortal."

LESSONS TO LEARN

Lenin urged careful examination of the Commune. "In deriving lessons for ourselves," he declared in 1905, "... we must imitate, not its errors (they did not seize the Bank of France, they did not undertake an offensive against Versailles, they had no clear program, etc.), but its practically successful measures, which indicate the correct path."

First of the Commune's successful measures was the establishment of people's councils, the forerunners of the Soviets. These councils were a new kind of governing body, combining both executive and legislative functions. The members were elected by

universal suffrage and served at working men's wages. This government Lenin called the form "under which the economic liberation of labor can proceed."

"The Commune is the first attempt of a proletarian revolution to 'break up' the bourgeois state machinery and constitute the political form, 'at last discovered,' which can and must TAKE THE PLACE of the broken machine." (State and Revolution).

Lenin pointed out that "The Russian Revolutions of 1905 and 1917 in different surroundings and under different circumstances, continued the work of the Commune and confirmed the historic analysis made by the genius of Marx."

REVOLUTIONARY CHARACTER

Many actions of the Commune showed its revolutionary working class character. First, it abolished a standing army, replacing it by the arming of the people; it abolished the system of fines by which workers had been penalized by the bosses; it abolished night work in bakeries. It issued a decree turning over to the control of the workers all factories abandoned or closed by their owners.

The Commune, however, proved to be historically premature. "For the victory of the social revolution," said Lenin in an article of 1911 memorializing the Commune, "at least two conditions are necessary: a high development of productive forces and the preparedness of the proletariat. But in 1871 both of these conditions were absent. French capitalism was still slightly developed, and France was at that time mainly a country of petty bourgeoisie (artisans, peasants, shopkeepers, etc.)." "On the other hand there was no workers' party. THERE WAS NO PREPAREDNESS AND NO LONG TRAINING OF THE WORKING CLASS which in the mass, did not even clearly visual-

ize its tasks and the methods of fulfilling them. There were no serious political organizations of the proletariat, no strong trade unions and cooperative societies.

"But the main thing which the Commune lacked was the time, the free time to look around and undertake the fulfillment of its program. It hardly started working, when the Versailles government, supported by the entire bourgeoisie, opened military operations against Paris. The Commune had to think first of all of defense. Right up to the very end, May 21-28, it had no time to think seriously of anything else."

FOUGHT FOR ALL

"The memory of the fighters of the Commune," Lenin continued, "is not only honored by the workers of France but by the proletariat of the whole world, for the Commune did not fight for any local or narrow national aim, but for the freedom of tolling humanity, of all the down-trodden and oppressed. As the foremost fighter for social revolution, the Commune has sympathy wherever there is a proletariat struggling and suffering."

"The picture of its life and death, the sight of a workers' government which seized the capital of the world and kept it in its hands for over two months, the spectacle of the heroic struggle of the proletariat and its sufferings after defeat—all this has raised the spirit of millions of workers, aroused their hopes and attracted their sympathies to the side of socialism."

"The thunder of the cannon in Paris awakened the most backward strata of the proletariat from deep slumber and everywhere gave impetus to the growth of revolutionary Socialist propaganda. This is why the cause of the Commune did not die. It lives to the present day in every one of us."

Reviewed by Ruth Johnson

Congressmen At Work

Robert Ramspeck recently spoke feelingly of the oppressive working conditions suffered by Wall Street's Congressmen. He ought to know. He was in the House of Representatives 18 years, three of them as Democratic whip. Finally he could stand it no longer and last January 1 he resigned "because of the low pay."

A Congressman only gets \$10,000 a year, plus an odd \$2,000 for expenses. With pay so miserably low, it's common practice to put a near relative on the pay roll. This brings in another \$4,500 or so, but it's still woefully inadequate. As Ramspeck said, "At least half—and in many cases a larger proportion—of the salary is expended for things incident to holding the job. For the usual living expenses he has little left."

Ramspeck painted a touching picture of the hardships and tribulations of a Congressman: "They are overworked and underpaid. They have no security. When they proposed, four years



ago, that they participate in the Retirement system which applies to your letter carrier—and on the same terms—they were held up to public ridicule by the press and denounced by many citizens."

This is only a typical instance. If the Congressmen hadn't been denounced for trying to get a lifetime extension of wages after being kicked out of office, they would have been denounced for something else: "It is always open season on Congress. Just let one

of the 531 men who compose that body do a foolish act, and like the hounds after the fox, many people seem to take pleasure in baying at the Congress."

Ramspeck is one sly fox who finally gave the public the slip. He took a plushy job as Vice President of the Air Transport Association of America. But he still remembers the tough time he had in office with the public baying at his heels: "Unless you have served in the Congress you cannot understand the terrific pressure to which the members are subjected."

Ramspeck is now making so much money he can afford to do a little social service work for his former fellow Congressmen. He recommended to the American Management Association, where he was explaining these things, that they "encourage Congress to increase its pay." Ramspeck even backed up such a radical idea as an old-age pension—naturally a pension confined to Congressmen only and not extended to the millions of aged poor people. And on top of this he asked that "each member of the Congress should have an able, well paid assistant"—no strings attached on naming the "assistant."

That sounds like a fighting minimum program any Congressman would want to back. Unless, of course, chances look good to pay off in the immediate future with a fat job like Ramspeck's in return for legislative services rendered.

NEW YORK FORUM
O'Dwyer: Labor's Friend or Wall Street's Servant
 Speaker:
SAM RYAN
 Organizer of Bronx Branch, Socialist Workers Party
Sunday, March 31
 116 University Place 8 p. m.

PROBLEMS FACING WAR VETERANS

By CHARLES CARSTEN

Packing Union Forms Vet Committee

Since we aim to give publicity in The Militant to the formation, activity and plans of union veterans' committees, we welcome reports from our readers containing such information. The latest report to come to our attention is contained in the March 8 Packinghouse Worker, official publication of the United Packinghouse Workers of America, CIO.

The Veterans' Committee of the UPWA District 3 Conference, held recently, submitted a report which was published in the Packinghouse Worker and should be of interest to worker veterans and union militants.

The objective of the UPWA Veterans' Committee, states the report, is to assist veterans in solving their varied problems and "to mobilize in an organized fashion the strength and influence of the veteran behind progressive and constructive legislation." The Committee urges the local unions to "also recognize the extra problems confronting their members who are war veterans" and take steps to implement the general program of the UPWA Veterans Committee.

The majority of the local unions in District 3, continues the report, have established active and functioning local veterans' committees that "are proving to be of real value to the veteran and to the union as well."

"The need of such local veterans' committees is so great and their work so important" that the conference committee recommends that the international office take the necessary steps to make the establishment of local committees mandatory.

Step In Right Direction

The Committee points out that the veteran is "a unionist, who, because of his military service, has accumulated problems other than those generally encountered by the non-vet."

A proper approach to their problems must be made if the full participation of the veterans in union work is to be obtained. To achieve this, the Committee suggests "an exchange of ideas and experiences... between the veterans' committees of the various local committees."

Generally speaking, the UPWA Veterans' Committee report discloses a good step in the right direction. It shows a genuine concern for the special needs of the veterans, points out some of their most pressing problems and calls for the initial move in organizing the veterans, that is, formation of veteran committees in the local unions.

However, the UPWA Veterans' Committee does not point the way beyond the usual type of small local veterans' committees. It gives no indication of the next step toward organization of the worker-veterans on a broader scale.

Such broadening of union veteran committees was accomplished in some places during the recent nation-wide strike wave. The most significant development occurred in Detroit during the General Motors strike. There the United Auto Workers organized a city-wide mass committee composed of UAW-GM veterans, which proved of great value in blocking the corporation's attempts to use veterans against the union.

The Buffalo Industrial Union Council recently called for formation of an area-wide, mass veterans' committee. This organization was projected to embrace not only CIO union veterans, but also other veterans sympathetic to the labor movement.

Through such a veterans' organization the political strength of the veterans can be most effectively mobilized. It will make the "exchange of ideas and experiences" possible on a wide scale. Such a veterans' organization will block all attempts to isolate the veterans from the rest of the union movement and will be a powerful labor ally.

CIO Demands Action On Tennessee Terror

Among the resolutions passed by the CIO Executive Board, which met in Washington, D. C., March 15 and 16, was a condemnation of the recent Jim Crow police terror and brutality unleashed against an entire Negro community in Columbus, Tennessee. The resolution declares:

"It appears quite clear that the Negro community of that city was forced by threats of an impending lynch mob to take action within their own residences and business for self protection.

"Nevertheless, the State Police authorities embarked upon a course of conduct, resulting in the destruction and devastation of the physical property of the Negro community and followed these activities with mass arrests in complete violation of basic principles of civil rights of Americans.

"This activity reached its high point in the killing of two of the arrested Negroes in the jail house by the police officers themselves."

Pointing out that such terroristic acts against Negroes and other minority groups are also directed against the whole labor movement, the resolution states:

"It is extremely important, therefore, that the Attorney General of the U. S. rise to the very special responsibility imposed on him by these developments and undertake vigorous prosecution of public officials who engage in violations of the Federal Rights Act."

Pledging the support of the entire CIO, the resolution further declares:

"Our own organization and all others alive to the need for carrying on an active defense of civil rights should make every effort by messages, public meetings and mutual cooperation to make their voices heard by those public officials who have been involved in these incidents or who may be tempted to follow the examples set in these incidents.

"We pledge our every effort to assure proper defense for the persons involved in these arrests and for the rights of the victims of police action."

As a result of the nation-wide protest by labor, Negro and civil rights organizations against the savage Jim Crow atrocities and bloody warfare unleashed on this segregated community, the 101 Negroes arrested and held incommunicado were released on March 8 upon payment of \$46,000 bail. Legal measures for their defense are being prepared by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

TWIN CITIES BAZAAR

Saturday, April 6

Good Food, Fun, Good Company!
 Socialist Workers Party Headquarters
 10 So. 4th St. Minneapolis

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.

AS SEEN IN A FOLLANSBEE, WEST VIRGINIA PICKET SHANTY

Did you ever brave as a steel mill slave
The heat from a furnace door,
That takes from your soul such a hellish toll
That you wish to live no more?

Have you bent your back in the coal mines
black
Where death plays a winning hand,
With gas as his trump and you as his chump
Your life to spare or demand?

On a railroad train in the sleet and rain
Where lives are cheap as dirt,
Have you slipped and fell toward the jaws
of Hell
And escaped to live unhurt?

If you have, then speak for the low and weak
Who strike for the cause of right,
And in accents strong try to right the wrong
Imposed by the force of might.

Tell of those whose hire is to stab and mire
The truth in the daily sheets
Of the bawdy press in the foul caress
Of the earth's exalted cheats.

For the poison pen in the hands of "men"
Who for gold their honor sell,
Is a sneaking dart in the worker's heart
From the fangs of capital.

In no other way can the masters slay
The rights of the working man,
For the trusting mind is so often blind
To the guilt of press and pen.

So the steel mill man and the mining clan
And the trades of all allies,
Should in hate unite and the "free" press
smite,
Till it tells the truth or dies.

Soldier Describes Misery in Germany

The German workers are suffering great hardships. In Marburg, where I spent 12 days, and which is a typical small German town, all the shops were empty, mostly closed. Beer is nothing but colored water. Everything could be bought on the black market, however.

The black market is running wild. Sample prices are: \$150 (1,500 reichsmark) for one carton of cigarettes. Cameras, good ones, come as high as \$2,000. And that's not a typing mistake—it's two thousand dollars!

In Berlin, even on the outskirts there is plenty of damage. I haven't seen the center of town, which was hit even worse. In Potsdam and San Souci, there isn't a single undamaged house left standing.

Offers Suggestions To Improve 'Militant'

I suggest that The Militant be made into tabloid form, like PM or the Daily Worker. This would have the advantage of making the paper more compact, easier to handle when reading, easier to show to prospective subscribers, and presenting the appearance of a real newspaper (which could give serious competition to the capitalist newspapers in size as well as ideas), for all of which the present form is not quite adequate.

Furthermore, if The Militant expands, the "Congressmen at Work" column should have a sister column alongside, titled something like "The Congressional Record" which would have some brief record of the careers of Congressmen mentioned.

This would give some factual strength to the present column, whose aim seems to be ridiculing Congress in a very lax manner. Don't get me wrong. I think The Militant is a swell paper; but I also think there is room for improvement.

L. Miller, Baltimore, Md.

Socialism And Initiative Which Capitalism Now Stifles

Due to the fact people of all walks of life have been bitterly disillusioned about the Four Freedoms which the imperialist war was supposed to have been fought for, the horror and destruction it created, the chaos and the problems of peace it has left, they are naturally beginning to wonder and ask questions about the capitalist system.

Just recently I had a conversation with one of these people, a small business man, and naturally being a firm believer of true Marxism, I got on the topic of socialism. During the conversation the old question was asked by him, "What about initiative, the incentive to go forward, under socialism?"

It occurred to me to use the discovery of the means to harness atomic energy, to answer his question, and this is what I want to point out. I explained to him that the capitalist system has so deteriorated that it answers this question itself. The great scientists of the world today fear greatly what they have brought forth. Several of these men have made statements to that effect. What is the reason for this fear? They know that under the capitalist system their discovery will be used only for destruction, even to the extent of destroying civilization, because of the greed of the dominating imperialist powers for world markets, greater spheres of influence, and of exploitation—the only method by which capitalism can survive. These men worked with great fury to achieve this wonderful discovery and realize now that it will be used only as a weapon to bolster Wall Street's conquests.

I explained to him that under world socialism this great discovery as well as past and future discoveries and inventions would not be suppressed so that the coal barons, the power trusts and the oil magnates could still cling to their means of enormous profits, but would be utilized and developed for the benefit of all mankind. In the socialist world man would truly be given the incentive and initiative to go forward.

A Reader Reading, Pa.

Southern Negro Tells Of Terror

I was sorry to read about the cold-blooded murder of the Ferguson boys. It is so sad. I wish I could be there at those mass meetings to help fight such dirty acts. And to think it happened in New York.

I am a Negro in the deep south, and there is no Socialist Workers Party branch here at all—only me alone in my home town. These southerners stop the Negroes from taking the Pittsburgh Courier, so I would advise you to discontinue some of my mail. And please seal my paper. If they put me in jail I would not have a chance; they will lynch me at at once here without a trial.

Brooklyn Youth Stabbed In Attack By Anti-Semites

Early in March, in the Bensonhurst section of Brooklyn, Irwin Berman, a 17 year old Jewish boy, and two of his friends were walking down the street minding their own business. They were attacked by a gang of young, anti-Semitic hoodlums. This gang threw stones and cried, "Get the dirty Jew bastards!"

Berman and his two friends decided to get out of the way as soon as possible. However, since the gang was out for blood the Jewish boys weren't able to move fast enough. The result: Irwin Berman was stabbed—his right lung was punctured and it was necessary for him to be hospitalized for a week. He was on the critical list for two days.

Both the Police Department and the principal at the school that Berman attends, have attempted to whitewash the incident by saying that both the mother and son believe that the stabbing was accidental.

I believe that this attack and whitewash must be recognized as an example of the "justice" working for those with fascist inclinations. It must be fought accordingly.

We must be more militant in our fight against the fascist elements that continue to commit these crimes against minority groups.

P. Carlton, Trotskyist Youth Group

Ask Your Shopmate To Subscribe to The Militant

PHILADELPHIA "Soviet Russia In The Post-War World" Friday, March 29

John G. Wright Associate Editor of "Fourth International" Militant Labor Forum 1303 W. Girard Ave.

Issue Is Stalinism, Not Browderism, Says Ex-Communist Party Member

EDITOR:

I am one of a number of former members of the Communist Party, who, disillusioned by Stalin's twists and turns, recently joined the Trotskyist movement. Every passing day proves anew that the Trotskyists were right. Under Foster as under Browder, the Communist Party has departed from Marxism.



STALIN

Nevertheless, the Stalinists are doing everything in their power to try to persuade their declining membership and circle of sympathizers that with the expulsion of Browder, the Communist Party has returned to the principles of Marx and Lenin. This is a complete fraud.

The Stalinists are trying to convince their followers that Browder's "revisionism" was his own deformed brain-child. They want to cover up the truth—that Stalin, not Browder, was the author of the policies for which Browder is "eviled, and that as long as Stalin lays down the line, there will be new betrayals of Marxism.

WHAT STALIN SAID

When Hitler attacked the Soviet Union, it was Stalin who looked for new imperialist allies, instead of turning to the working class of the world for aid. Stalin declared, in his speech on the 24th Anniversary of the October Revolution (Nov. 6, 1941):

"To cover up their reactionary blackguard essence, the Hitlerites are branding the Anglo-American imperial regime as a plutocratic regime. But in England and the United States there are elementary democratic liberties, there are trade unions of workers and employees, there are labor parties, there is a parliament, whereas the Hitler regime has abolished all these institutions in Germany."

Thus Stalin painted Anglo-American imperialism as "progressive," and Browder dutifully repeated his words. Stalin said more: "If to this is added the fact that recently the United States decided to grant a billion dollar loan to the Soviet Union, it can be confidently said that the coalition of the United States, Great Britain and the USSR is a real thing which is growing and which will continue to grow..."

Unlike Hitler Germany, the Soviet Union and its allies are waging a war for the liberation of the enslaved peoples of Europe and the USSR from Hitler Germany. Therefore, all honest people must support the armies of the USSR, Great Britain, and the other allies, as armies of liberation."

KEY TO REVISIONISM

The key to Browderism, then, lies in the words and deeds of Stalin himself. Stalinism was the source of the "revisionism" which took place not only in America, but in Communist Parties throughout the world.

British and American capitalism, as soon as victory over German imperialism was certain, turned their diplomatic guns against the Soviet Union. And with the growing friction between the USSR and its "allies," Stalin changed his tactics.

He gave the signal to the Communist Parties outside the USSR, to criticize the same capitalists whom he had previously called peace-loving, progressive and democratic. He is not "reverting to Marxism," not calling for international socialism, but only using the Communist Parties to pressure Anglo-American imperialism into halting preparations for war against the Soviet Union.

Stalin now declares, to explain this new tactic, that "the capitalist system of world economy conceals elements (my emphasis—MB) of crisis and war, that the development of world capitalism does not follow a steady and even course, but proceeds through crises and catastrophes." With this new pronouncement, Stalin needed whipping-boys to take the blame for his previous line, and different spokesmen to applaud the new one.

FOSTER ECHOES STALIN

In the United States, Browder, the public defender of the old line, was kicked out for having said what Stalin said in 1941-1945. And Foster is chosen to echo Stalin in 1946, by threatening Anglo-American imperialism.

What kind of a Marxist is Foster? We have a good example of his thinking—and the thinking of other leading Stalinists today—in a recent statement by the National Secretariat of the Communist Party.

The day after Churchill beat the war-drum in Fulton, Missouri, the Daily Worker (March 6, 1946) ran the Party statement under a headline: "DEFEAT ANGLO-U.S. IMPERIALIST WAR DRIVE—RESTORE BIG 3 UNITY TO PRESERVE WORLD PEACE."

What a far cry from the precise and careful analyses made by Marx and Lenin! How can "Big 3 Unity" be "restored" when in fact it never existed? When two of the three are imperialist na-

third World War which may annihilate the human race!

Has Stalin changed his method? Has he urged the Communist Parties now to fight for socialism, and bring working class aid to the Soviet Union? Far from it! He and Foster, who like Browder before him only echoes Stalin, want to use the workers again as pawns in the same futile game of power politics.

WHY I LEFT THE CP

No party which deserts the fight for socialism is a Marxist party. No party that deserts the fight for socialism, can truly fight for the defense of the Soviet Union as a workers' state. That is why I left the Communist Party and joined the Socialist Workers Party, the only party in America today which has a program for achieving socialism. I urge other Communist Party members to contrast that program with Stalin's and Foster's. If you are revolutionary socialists, you must join the Trotskyist movement.

MURRAY BURNS New York City

Pioneer Notes

Letters from Socialist Workers Party branches this week indicate a diversification of literature sales which is very good. From H. Baker of Seattle we have this letter:

"From January 1 to February 27 we sold \$29.65 worth of literature from the stand in our office and by distributions. We sold six copies each of The Revolution Betrayed and The First Five Years of the Communist International. Four copies of the pamphlet A Practical Program to Kill Jim Crow were sold at our distribution at the time of the Stalinist rally for F. B. Davis, an independent Negro candidate."

A letter from Akron also indicates a step-up in the work of literature distribution. They write:

"We have met with some success in selling literature recently. Last week a veteran friend of one of our members bought J. P. Cannon's History of American Trotskyism, and Socialism on Trial. In visiting Militant subscribers for renewals, we have sold quite a few assorted pamphlets. Two of us visited a sympathizer and sold her the only four pamphlets we had with us. Yesterday another comrade and I visited a Stalinist sympathizer who works in the plant with him and she bought the six pamphlets that we had with us."

Jack Miller from Philadelphia sends us an interesting report, part of which reads:

"It is our impression that a great many workers, incensed by the shameful role which the capitalist parties are playing in defense of company interests in strikes, are seriously thinking about organizing a labor party. Reflecting this attitude, 25 copies of the pamphlet American Workers Need a Labor Party were sold at a recent meeting called by the local Strike Strategy Committee of the United Electrical Workers to protest the police terror and violence in the General Electric strike."

Order these pamphlets and books from Pioneer Publishers, 116 University Place, New York 3, N. Y.

Youth Group Activities

NEW YORK — The Trotskyist Youth Group meets at 116 University Place. Send name and address for information.

Sunday forums at 4 p.m. Harlem: Every Monday, 8 p.m., class on "Fundamentals of Socialism," Dick Guerrero, instructor, 103 W. 110 St., R. 23.

Bronx: Youth class on "What Is Socialism?" begins Thursday, April 4, 8 p.m., at 1034 Prospect Avenue.

BUFFALO — Militant Youth Club meets every Sunday, 7 p.m. Discussion, music, dramatics. Refreshments served. Militant Forum, 629 Main St., 2nd floor.

PHILADELPHIA — Youth Forums held every Saturday, 8 p.m. 1303-05 W. Girard Ave., 2nd floor.

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

Watch this column for further details on youth activities.



As reported on other occasions, one of the most popular features in The Militant is Comrade Charles Jackson's column, "The Negro Struggle."

One of the Florida Negro papers, The Tampa Bulletin, has reprinted three of his columns this past month. These included the columns entitled: "Support The Strikers," "Why We Must Battle Anti-Semitism," and "Mr. Rockefeller and His Negro Colleges."

Herb Cappy, organizer of the newly formed Tacoma Branch, sent us this interesting item: "We placed The Militant on two newsstands—the first time in the history of this city. We gave each stand 5 copies, and inside of a couple of days both stands were completely sold out. Therefore, be sure to increase our bundle order this week."

Libby Jones of Buffalo writes: "Am enclosing a batch of new subscriptions. One of the one-year subs was sold on Saturday evening to a man who was sitting on the steps of our headquarters when we came to open up. He had read our leaflet and The Militant when we had a distribution at the Foster meeting of the Communist (Stalinist) Party several weeks before. The leaflet was the one explaining the Stalinist change of line. He was so impressed with The Militant that at his very first opportunity he felt he had to come up to the headquarters and meet us and get a subscription."

Many of the branches have sent in reports on their renewal activity.

Max Goldman of Philadelphia sent us their plan of work, which other branches of the Socialist Workers Party might find very helpful in organizing their own renewal work; "We have divided the branch into pairs, assigning 10 call-backs to each pair per week, as a start. The comrades are free to arrange their own time, but must report back each week on all assignments."

"In addition to obtaining renewals the comrades are prepared to get new subscriptions, interest Militant readers in the Fourth International, sell our

popular pamphlets and be alert for potential party recruits.

"There is every indication that the branch will throw itself into the renewal campaign with the same energy that was shown in the last sub drive. While we are going to stress one year renewals, we won't scorn fifty-centers either."

Fred Martin of Milwaukee sent us the results of their renewal campaign: "We wound up our renewal work having obtained over 40 per cent renewals. We found many of our readers were good working class people employed in varied industries. In addition, there were many veterans, a number of students and entire families and households who read and like The Militant."

One of our enthusiastic subscribers in Paterson sent us the following note: "I am enclosing \$1 for which please send a six month subscription to two of my friends who I am sure would enjoy reading your paper, The Militant, as well as I do."

We hope many of our subscribers follow the above example.

George Weissman of Youngstown writes: "Enclosed are five more subs from strikers at Timken in Canton, Ohio. The boys feel that the company is lickered, and although they haven't collected any pay for some time, they feel they can spend 50 cents for a six-month sub for something as worthwhile as The Militant. You would be tickled pink to see how well known The Militant is among these pickets."

Lackawanna, N. Y.
Hear
"A Fighting Program For American Workers"
Speakers
Bill Gray, Buffalo SWP organizer
Wednesday, April 3
CROATIAN HALL
Simon Ave. 7:30 p.m.
Admission free

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!

SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY
116 University Place
New York 3, New York

- I would like:
- To join the Socialist Workers Party.
 - To obtain further information about your organization.
 - To attend meetings and forums of the Socialist Workers Party in my city.

NAME _____ (Please Print)
STREET _____
CITY _____
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Fourth International

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

'MILITANT' FUND GOES UP TO \$1,617 IN WEEK

Reach Ten Percent Of \$15,000 Goal

By Justine Lang
Campaign Director

At the close of the first week of the Militant Sustaining fund drive, a total of \$1,616.94 has been sent in to give our campaign a bang-up start, with 10 per cent of our \$15,000 goal achieved. Of this nearly half was sent in even before the campaign officially opened March 15, by a number of Socialist Workers Party branches that "jumped the gun."

In addition to Rochester, which has already completed its quota, special mention must be made of the achievement of the San Francisco branch. San Francisco has the fifth highest quota to meet, \$1,000. At the end of the first week of the campaign it has sent in \$445, attaining thereby 45 per cent of its quota.

Duncan Conway, director of the Local New York campaign fund committee, announced this week that at a meeting attended by all branch directors, detailed plans were mapped out for the campaign. "The New York Militant fund campaign," he said, "will be a joint campaign to raise not only \$5,000 for The Militant, but an additional sum not yet established, which will be used for Local New York expansion purposes. We hope that a total of \$6,000 will be raised for these combined purposes."

Comrade Conway informed us that special stress will be laid on the circulation of collection lists. Plans are now under way to organize several city-wide socials. In addition to this, there will be branch socials and house parties at which funds will be raised for the Militant fund campaign.

A former member of the Socialist Labor Party pledged \$75 to the Militant campaign. This sympathizer declared that unlike the SLP which "has merely an academic interest in the problems facing the workers, the Socialist Workers Party and its organ, The Militant, are actively engaged in fighting for the interests of the working class. For that reason I am proud to help sustain this important revolutionary socialist paper."

YOUTH OVER-SUBSCRIBES
Grace Wayne of the New York Trotskyist Youth Group writes: "In a letter sent last week, I stated that the New York Trotskyist Youth Group hoped to surpass their \$50 quota as soon as possible, as we realized the money was badly needed. "At our recent membership meeting the Militant campaign fund was greeted with wonderful enthusiasm, both by comrades and sympathizers. We have already received \$130 in pledges. Our comrades and friends realize what The Militant means to them, what it's fighting for, and why it must continue fighting. We want to do everything in our power to help make this a

most successful campaign and we intend to distribute and fill the collection lists very rapidly."

From Toledo, Louise Hunter writes: "Please send us 50 more Militant collection lists. We intend to distribute them among our close sympathizers."

In aiming for our total goal by June 15, we want to call to the attention of the branches and Militant readers, the necessity of raising a minimum of \$1,000 a week. In order to do this, we recommend that each branch determine what its own weekly quota should be and aim to meet that amount consistently. This in turn will guarantee the reaching of \$1,000 per week nationally.

We are putting a weight of \$1616.94 on the scale this week. Let's all rally behind the worker swinging the hammer and really sound off!

Bronx Meeting Protests Murder Of Fergusons

BRONX, N. Y., Mar. 24.—Despite inclement weather, over 100 Negro and white workers attended a meeting at Elks Hall, held under the auspices of the Bronx Branch of the Socialist Workers Party, to protest the Jim Crow murder of two Negro veterans, Charles and Alfonso Ferguson, shot down by a Freepost cop on February 5.

Comrade Louise Simpson related the story of the Ferguson murder. Reverend Hawkins and John N. Griggs, Jr., representing neighborhood Bronx groups, supported the action of the meeting in condemning the vicious Jim Crow policies of the administration. Comrade Gloria Wall, representing the Trotskyist Youth Group, spoke of the necessity for youth and adults, black and white, joining to fight vicious discrimination in the schools, in job opportunities and in government.

David Weiss, a veteran stated: "The Ives-Quinn law against discrimination has not been applied by the State Commission against Discrimination in this case. What we must press for is a public investigation. Only the united action of all sections of the labor movement, the veterans, Negro and other minority organizations can effectively put a stop to the spreading anti-Negro terror."

At our recent membership meeting the Militant campaign fund was greeted with wonderful enthusiasm, both by comrades and sympathizers. We have already received \$130 in pledges. Our comrades and friends realize what The Militant means to them, what it's fighting for, and why it must continue fighting. We want to do everything in our power to help make this a

\$15,000

Ring the Bell!



NEGRO CANDIDATE IN SEATTLE RECEIVES IMPRESSIVE VOTE

SEATTLE, Wash., Mar. 15 — The Seattle Negro community struck a strong blow against racial discrimination at the polls last Tuesday, March 12 when they rolled up 27,000 votes for F. Benjamin Davis, Independent Negro candidate for City Council.

Although Davis was not elected, the vote cast was an impressive show of strength.

There are 16,000 Negroes in Seattle who poll a maximum of 7,000 votes. Thus at least 20,000 white votes were cast for Davis. Of these, the overwhelming proportion were undoubtedly cast by white workers mobilized in support of the independent candidate of the Negro community by the CIO Council and other union bodies, the Seattle branch of the Socialist Workers Party, and the Stalinists.

The strong showing in support of F. Benjamin Davis could have been converted into full victory and election if he had received united support from the entire labor movement here. As the SWP explained before the elections, it was the elementary duty of all organized labor to support the candidacy of Davis.

In a letter to all Seattle union bodies, calling on them to back the independent candidate of the Negro people, the SWP stated: "Big Business and its political agents, the Democrats and the Republicans, are the common enemy of both organized labor and the Negro people."

"COMMON CAUSE WITH THE NEGRO MINORITY AGAINST THE COMMON EN-

EMY! This should be the slogan of organized labor in the city elections."

But most of the top union officials — once more betraying the best interests of organized labor — lined up the labor movement, either behind the Democrat Meyers or the Republican Devin, the two candidates for mayor, instead of uniting the ranks of labor behind the independent Negro candidate.

Davis in turn made little attempt to mobilize labor support in back of his candidacy. Had he centered his campaign on winning over the labor movement by raising the issue of class solidarity between white and Negro workers, he would have been able to win many more white workers' votes.

Thousands Fired As Packers Plot To Raise Prices

By Leigh Ray
(Special to The Militant)

CHICAGO, Mar. 22 — Thousands of workers were laid off last week and working hours for many others slashed to a minimum, as the nation's biggest packing plants here joined the National Association of Manufacturers' attack on price controls.

This action follows by only two weeks the payment of the 16-cent hourly wage increase won by the CIO United Packinghouse Workers. Local unions of the UPWA are calling noon mass meetings to protest the lay-offs, and the reduction of working hours from 48 and 54 to as low as the minimum guaranteed work-week of 36 hours. They are also demanding retention of price-controls on food, clothing and rent.

The union is exposing the packers' lie that "black market operators get all the livestock." To kill and prepare all the animals processed by even a single one of the "Big Four" plants in a single week, every block in every town and city of the country would have to employ black market butchers. The profit-hungry meat barons are simply spreading this lie in an attempt to force removal of all price-controls.

SCOREBOARD

CITY	QUOTA	PAID	PER CENT
Rochester	50	50	100
San Francisco	1000	445	45
Baltimore	25	10	40
Newark	300	85	21
Akron	300	60	20
New York City	3500	672.44	19
Minneapolis	500	75	15
Philadelphia	500	70	14
Connecticut	100	13	13
Milwaukee	100	10	10
Flint	100	20	5
Detroit	1250	50	3
Los Angeles	2000	55	2
Allentown-Bethlehem	75	0	0
Bayonne	75	0	0
Boston	400	0	0
Buffalo	500	0	0
Chicago	1500	0	0
Cincinnati	25	0	0
Cleveland	250	0	0
Los Angeles Youth	75	0	0
New York Youth	50	0	0
Philadelphia Youth	25	0	0
Pittsburgh	100	0	0
Portland	25	0	0
Reading	100	0	0
St. Louis	50	0	0
St. Paul	250	0	0
San Diego	100	0	0
Seattle	500	0	0
Toledo	200	0	0
Youngstown	475	0	0
General	575	21.50	4
TOTAL	15,000	1,616.94	10

Youth Crowd Harlem Meeting To Protest Ferguson Murders

NEW YORK, Mar. 15—A capacity crowd of young workers and students, Negro and white, tonight met at the Harlem headquarters of the Socialist Workers Party to protest the wanton murder of Charles and Alfonso Ferguson in Freepost, L. I.

All seats were filled and many young people were standing, as Sandy Robertson, organizer of the Trotskyist Youth Group, opened the meeting. He told how the two Negro brothers had been slain, a third wounded, and the fourth railroaded to prison by

policeman Romeika, who has been whitewashed by an all-white jury. Robertson then explained what action has already been taken by the Socialist Workers Party to publicize and protest the murders and frame-up.

Newark Meeting Hits Murder Of Ferguson Boys

By Bob Blaine

NEWARK, N. J., Mar. 17—Over 130 Negro and white workers assembled at the Thirteenth Avenue Presbyterian Church here today to protest the Jim Crow murder of the Ferguson brothers in Freepost, L. I.

Chairman Louise Simpson, Socialist Workers Party candidate in the New York 1945 Councilmanic elections, pointed out that the meeting was held to protest all the manifestations of anti-Negro terror now sweeping the country. She called for a broad committee to bring the murder of the Fergusons, Patrolman Romeika, to justice.

Lou Horowitz, New Jersey CIO Executive Board member, pledged CIO support. "As long as discrimination exists in any form," said Horowitz, "the fight of the CIO is a losing one."

Troy Jones, a Negro unionist, urged unity of Negro and white workers to bring an end to Jim Crow. He warned against placing any confidence in capitalist politicians.

"No man can be secure while any man is insecure," said Reverend H. Beecher Jackson, in whose church the meeting was held. He condemned the "Uncle Toms" who attempted to divert the fight against Jim Crow. The Negroes must organize, he pointed out.

Speaking for the Socialist Workers Party, Newark organizer Alan Kohlman exposed as fraudulent the claims that the Second World War was a "war for democracy." Military Jim Crow, sanctioned by the government, has intensified discrimination. Workers of all races must organize mass action, said Comrade Kohlman, to strike back against Jim Crow terror.

Dick Guerrero, 17-year-old worker, emphasized youth's stake in the Ferguson case. He cited the bitter discrimination faced by Negro and Jewish youth in schools and on the job.

Tamar Fish, President of Club Equality, an interracial youth organization, spoke of the campaign which they had conducted in the Ferguson case. Club Equality sent a delegation to Albany to protest to Governor Dewey; wrote letters and telegrams to the New York State Legislature. But no official action resulted. "Now we know that Dewey and the state government will do nothing," she said. "We cannot trust them. The workers, Negro and white, are the only ones to be relied on to take action."

The last speaker, Gloria Wall, declared "I speak not only as a representative of the Trotskyist Youth Group, but as a Negro youth."

"Join us," she concluded, "in the struggle for a society of free men, a society of plenty, a socialist society." The hall resounded with applause.

A collection of \$14.54 was taken and a resolution unanimously passed condemning the Ferguson murders and calling for a public investigation committee formed by labor, Negro and progressive organizations.

Tacoma SWP Branch Formed

Proof of the growing influence of The Militant and the Socialist Workers Party in the industrial Northwest, has come in the formation of a new SWP branch in Tacoma, Washington.

The branch plans a series of public meetings to which all Militant readers are invited. Discussion groups and informal gatherings will also be held regularly. Until a permanent headquarters can be secured, Militant readers interested in the program and activities of the party are urged to secure information by addressing letters or cards to the Socialist Workers Party, P. O. Box 1079, Tacoma, Washington.



By V. Grey

Why We Should Study Marxism

The economics of Karl Marx is a science. Marxian economics is in fact the only scientific study of capitalism. It is the only complete and correct explanation of how the bosses make their profits.

But no working man or woman should think just because it is a science that he can't hope to learn it. The worker can learn the most important elements of this science a thousand times easier than his educated boss.

This is so first because Marxism is an honest study of the system we live by. Second because it is a revolutionary study, and third, because it is a study of the everyday things that working people know more about than anybody else: the factory, where they spend all their working hours; the machinery, which they become almost a part of; and the products which they, and only they, produce.

Marx proves that capitalism is doomed—sentenced by its own laws. He shows how capitalism is different from other systems in the past. And the working poor today are entirely different from, even though they are the descendants of the ancient slaves. They have the possibility of running the world to benefit the majority. The ancient slaves, for all their rebellions, never had that chance.

Many people remark, and most people believe, that "We've always had capitalism." But this is not so. Capitalism had a beginning and it's going to have an ending. Again these same people say, "Well, even before capitalism, there were always rich and poor. Doesn't the Bible say, 'The poor ye have always with you?'"

No. The "poor" did not always exist. There is no record of class society beyond 6,000 years ago. In other words we workers have a background of oppression only about 300 generations long. A good bit longer than the snooty family trees of the capitalist aristocrats, to be sure, but very short indeed compared to the age of man.

Our remoter ancestors lived hundreds of thousands of years without being divided into rich and poor. We might call them all "poor," because they didn't have good clothing or regular meals—not to mention limousines and servants. But they were also all equally "rich" because none called another "boss."

Our ancestors in Europe, Asia and Africa lived at one time or another very much like the American Indian lived a few generations ago. Many African tribes still preserve the remains of this kind of life, where the European and American capitalists have not battered it away.

Equality Under Primitive Communism

In this form of society there was an equality and spirit of fellow feeling that disappeared as humanity progressed to the stage of producing more goods, and it became possible for one man to get a little more at the expense of many others.

For the primitive communism (you could call it that) of early man was based on scarcity. People were compelled to help each other to live. When they advanced to a higher stage, they paid for the advance with social inequality.

Now after 6,000 years of accumulation and newer systems, of production, we have built enough factories and developed enough technique for everybody to have everything he needs and more. But again we will be compelled to work together, not only in operating the factories, and building them, as we do now—but in running them ourselves, if we want to enjoy the full benefits of factory production.

Capitalism was the highest stage of man up to a couple of generations ago. With its factory system of production it accomplished miracles that put the seven wonders of the world to shame. Under its sway people were educated and the working slaves got a little elbow room to look around in.

In a very short period, there has been more material progress than in all the other stages of history. Railroads, automobiles, airplanes, telegraph, wireless, radio. Capitalism has developed much faster than any previous system.

But it has also worn itself out faster. It is running down like an old machine. Bigger and bigger wars, deeper and deeper depressions, are its chief product in this period of running down.

The next stage in history is socialism. This is a system which eliminates depressions and wars because it operates the factories in a different way than capitalism. It operates them directly for the benefit of the people. It produces for use and not for profit.

To be real socialists we should understand why capitalism is dying, and why socialism will inevitably be born. And to begin at the beginning let us see where capitalism came from. Let us see how we got where we are.

Next week: "How The Factories Were Born."

YOUNGSTOWN

"Will The U.S. Fight The Soviet Union?"

Speaker:

Grace Carlson

SUNDAY, MARCH 31

MILITANT LABOR FORUM

225 N. Phelps St.

8 p. m.

BROOKLYN

Ferguson Case Protest Meeting

SUNDAY, MARCH 31, 8 p.m.

Speakers:

Wm. S. Farrell, 'Militant' reporter in Ferguson Case
Maude B. Richardson, Four Freedoms Committee Chairman

Fred Turner, President, Brooklyn NAACP

Gloria Wall, Harlem Trotskyist Youth Leader

PARAGON HALL

6 Brooklyn Ave. (Corner Fulton St.)

Auspices, Brooklyn Branch of Socialist Workers Party

A Southern Reader Tells How She Subscribed To 'Militant'

Editor:

I received your letter. You wanted to know how I came to learn of your paper. I will gladly tell you.

You see, I love to read. A friend of mine borrowed a book from me, and when she returned it to me she had the book wrapped up in your paper. I saw the headlines of the paper and I put it away.

When I got time that night I looked over my paper. I got the address and sent you my subscription. My friend had told me about this paper, but I had always let it slip my mind when I was at her home.

I know I am going to like my paper, for she likes it of course. We poor people here in the South don't get such papers as you in the North.

Sincerely yours,

I. J.,
Mississippi.

I Want To Help!

I like The Militant because it tells the truth. I know that it depends entirely upon workers like myself for support. That is why I want to do my part in contributing to The Militant's \$15,000 Fund Campaign.

I enclose \$..... toward your work

I want a contribution-list to circulate among my friends and fellow-workers, so they can help The Militant.

Name..... (Please Print)

Street..... Apt.....

City.....

Postal Zone No..... State.....

Read: "Vigilante Terror In Fontana"

The Tragic Story of O'Day Short and His Family, who were burned to death after Jim-Crow threats by California vigilante gangsters

Written By

Myra Tanner Weiss

Organizer, Los Angeles SWP

Price 10 Cents

If you live west of Rockies order from
Socialist Workers Party

145 S. Broadway Los Angeles, Calif.

East of Rockies: Order from
Pioneer Publishers

116 University Place New York 3, N. Y.

Why War Department Seeks Easing Of Terrorism Against The Nisei

By William Van
(Special to The Militant)

LOS ANGELES, March 8—In a revealing letter mailed December 21, 1945, Lt. Col. Wallace H. Moore of the Los Angeles War Relocation Authority pleaded with various business organizations to show mercy to the terrorized Japanese-Americans who have lately returned to the West Coast from wartime imprisonment in government concentration camps.

At the beginning of the war, however, this same War Relocation Authority was strangely silent concerning the welfare of the persecuted Japanese-Americans.

For several years the white big landowners and farmers on the coast, organized in the Associated Farmers, had desired to be rid of their successful Japanese farming competitors. The war with Japan gave them their chance.

Always responsive to the interests of its masters, the press here immediately opened a barrage of anti-Japanese-American propaganda. Portraying the Nisei as spies planted here by Japan to sabotage the war effort, it demanded their prompt removal from the coast.

Not a word was raised then by the War Department in defense of the Nisei.

LOOKED AWAY

In fact, the accommodating War Department herded the Nisei into foul concentration camps. Moreover, when the banker friends of the Associated Farmers then began to foreclose on the Japanese farms, whose imprisoned owners could not continue payments, the War Department conveniently looked the other way.

At the end of the war, when the Nisei began returning to the coast, they were greeted with anonymous threats to stay away—or else. Several of their homes were shot into, and other houses burned to the ground by "unidentified" individuals.

Moore's document tells why the War Department has now suddenly decided to scold these anonymous vigilantes for their terrorization of this helpless minority.

CYNICAL REASON

"Specifically, I aim to point out the direct relationship between the Army's successful performance of current duties in

the Orient, and the necessity for non-discriminatory treatment of returning loyal evacuees of Japanese ancestry," begins Moore.

"It can be revealed now that one of our most potent weapons in the Pacific is a force of between four and five thousand Nisei—American soldiers of alien Japanese parentage. These men have been declared indispensable under combat conditions in the Pacific" by General Douglas MacArthur.

"But here's the point that needs stressing: These same Nisei soldiers in the Pacific are indispensable now, in the occupation of enemy territories, as they were secretly in the long, victorious, island-hopping march from New Guinea to Tokyo.

"Our Pacific armies of occupation are dependent to an enormous and rather unique degree upon the continued high patriotism and performance of our Japanese-American soldiers. Destroy the Nisei's effectiveness, and you destroy the language bridge between our Army and the eighty million people in Japan. . . . No Caucasian counter-intelligence operative can disguise himself as an Oriental.

"Concerning the Pacific, those are the facts.

"They make it clear why, here on the home front, the War Department now sets forth information which will assist community leaders in thinking the problem out, and reaching decisions along the line of enlightened self-interest. (I don't mean the dollars-and-cents angle, obvious to men of business concerned with inevitable expansion of trade to embrace the two-thirds of the world's raw materials, and the three-fourths of the world's people in countries bordering on the Pacific.)"

Having established this ticklish point, the writer proceeds to disclose the real reason why "community leaders" here must try to refrain from hounding the Japanese-Americans so much in the future.

These Nisei returning to the coast are "parents, relatives and friends of our overseas Nisei," and . . . "home front hoodlumism . . . and other manifestations of prejudice against a Japanese-American soldier's family or friends, create disturbing newspaper stories, radio broadcasts and letters from home" for the overseas Nisei.

Moreover, "Selective Service is still drafting the sons and husbands of resettling evacuee families for language and intelligence training at Fort Snelling, and sending them "immediately on graduation, to the Orient."

REFUTES SLANDER

In his cynical appeal to Big Business, Moore incidentally refutes the vicious wartime propaganda depicting the Japanese-Americans as spies, traitors and nasty barbarians. "The Army's



Reproduction of the cover illustration on the pamphlet "Vigilante Terror in Fontana," just issued by the Los Angeles branch of the Socialist Workers Party.

most decorated unit in this war is an all-Japanese-American regimental combat team, and it did its most heroic fighting when West Coast terrorism was at its height."

Further, "I can tell you officially there has not been one single traitor among the more than 20,000 Nisei serving in our armed forces around the world."

Although the War Department, for imperialist purposes, is beseeching West Coast capitalists to please stop burning Nisei homes if they want to dominate the Orient, the Japanese-Americans will obtain no enduring assistance from the War Department. For it has long since been convincingly established, at least biologically, that a wolf in sheep's clothing is nevertheless a wolf, and still eats the sheep.

Brass Hats Scheme To Keep Control Of Atomic Energy

(Continued from Page 1)

a summary of that paper had already been published in the meeting program—a perfect commentary on the futility of trying to suppress such data.

Ostensible justification of military control is to speed development of militarily-important aspects of atomic energy and to prevent "leaks" to other controls. It is already clear, however, that neither one of these goals is reached by military control.

One of the most authoritative atomic scientists, Harold C. Urey, said what should be the final word on the effects of military control. Asked by a Senate committee how much Maj. Gen. Leslie Groves, head of the project, had contributed to advancing the atomic bomb, Urey made the devastating reply: "He didn't retard it more than 18 months."

Urey was particularly referring to the compartmentalization whereby scientists working on one aspect were not permitted to learn what other scientists were achieving on another subdivision of the project. This compartmentalization, Gen. Groves has boasted, enabled him to prevent such people as Alan Nunn May, British physicist now arrested for giving atomic information to the Russians, from learning all aspects of the bomb.

However, Gen. Groves himself admitted, in a letter read on the Senate floor March 19, that the physicist had managed to learn a great deal about the construction of the bomb. Others in a position to know, such as Walter Lippman, Chancellor Robert M. Hutchins of the University of Chicago, and most of the atomic scientists, testify to the futility of attempts to guard the secrets of the atomic bomb.

So the main justifications for military control are untenable.

Indeed there is a growing awareness of this fact and, as a result, more and more opposition to military control. Last week's denunciation of it as "military fascism" by Secretary of Commerce Wallace expressed this fact. The CIO is strongly on record against it.

The CIO News of March 18 storms against military control. Very good. But what alternative does it propose?

The civilian board it proposes would provide "full public information in the U. S. immediately on all aspects of atomic energy, subject to the retention of military secrets. . . ." This is simply another version of military control all over again.

For the rest the CIO program for atomic energy would depend on the "United Nations," which would "outlaw the use of atomic energy for military purposes, and all production of atomic bombs." This is pacifist claptrap.

A civilian board under President Truman is no solution of the menace of the atom bomb. For the CIO to limit itself to demanding a civilian board as against a military board is, in reality, simply to line up with one capitalist faction as against another capitalist faction. The CIO's proposal does not contain one ounce of independent labor politics.

What class shall control the atom bomb? That is the key question of our epoch.

The way to convert atomic energy into the savior of mankind instead of its executioner is to take it away from the war-makers—the defenders of privilege against the working people. The CIO's answer should be the immediate launching of an Independent Labor Party.

Only when Labor is the governmental leader of the nation and the world—only then will atomic energy serve humanity instead of threatening it with extinction.

This lobby is reported ready to shell out \$5,000,000 to prevent measures designed to relieve the housing crisis for the workers, veterans and their families.

The big industrialists' voracious appetite for profits has not been appeased by the huge subsidies already granted by the administration to the meat, clothing and textile, construction and real estate interests. The magnates who monopolize the production of these basic commodities are determined to smash every obstacle to their uncontrolled plunder of the American people.

So brazen is this assault upon the living standards of the consuming public that Stabilization Director Chester A. Bowles was last week forced to blast out at these "irresponsible, reckless, greedy organizations" which are pressuring Congress to "eliminate or wreck the only controls between our people and inflation. We are on the eve of a crisis which cannot be exaggerated," he said.

As a matter of fact, despite wage gains won by many workers through bitter struggles on the picket lines, the majority of wage earners are already beset by intense anxiety arising from the constantly mounting cost of living. According to the conservative Bureau of Labor Statistics, it takes a minimum of \$40 a week today for the average family of three to break even, with nothing left over for savings or insurance. But in 1945, when there was still full employment and overtime pay, three out of five wage earners earned less than \$33.70 a week.

Moreover, these official estimates fail to take into account the higher and illegal prices charged by the black market, the thousands of overcharges achieved by the upgrading of lower-priced merchandise, through shortweighting, and other price-boosting devices.

Big Business Speeds Assault On Price Control

(Continued from Page 1)

smash all remaining price controls is an army of powerful lobbyists, well-heeled with millions of dollars. They have been rushed into Washington by the corporate interests to insure the defeat of any legislation which might curb the greedy industrialists, and to aid in the hatchet job on the OPA.

Among these lobbyists are agents from the National Retail Dry Goods Association and big food monopolies such as General Foods and Standard Brands. Landlord lobbyists are demanding a flat 15 per cent increase on all rentals. One of the most powerful gangs ever to descend on Washington is a combined lobby of big builders, real-estate men and lumber and materials interests which has virtually smothered any government program for emergency large-scale housing.

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The NEGRO STRUGGLE

by CHARLES JACKSON

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

Spotlight On Fontana

One of the most revealing and challenging pamphlets to come off the press in the last few weeks is entitled "Vigilante Terror in Fontana." It is published by the Los Angeles Branch of the

Socialist Workers Party (145 South Broadway, Room 201) and was written by the fighting organizer of this local, Myra Tanner Weiss. The introduction is by Mrs. Carrie Stokes Morrison, sister of Mrs. Short. The pamphlet is worth many times the dime for which it sells.

This is the first complete exposure of the tragic story of the murder of O'Day H. Short, his young wife and their two beautiful children by vigilante gangs in Fontana, California. These citizens of "the land of the free and the home of the brave" were burned to death as the result of an explosion and fire of mysterious origin which consumed their new home on December 16, 1945.

After buying a lot in Fontana, 50 miles from Los Angeles, and building a house there, Short brought his family out there to live. Comrade Weiss explains in the pamphlet how Short was soon visited by two deputy sheriffs who told him that he was "out of bounds" and that to avoid "disagreeableness" he should move his family to the other side of Baseline, which is a segregated Negro area.

Subsequently, J. Sutherland, the real estate broker who sold the lot to Short, visited the latter and delivered the following threat:

"Short, the vigilante committee had a meeting on your case last night. They are a tough bunch to deal with. If I were you, I'd get my family off this property at once."

DEATH FOLLOWS THREATS
Short asked Sutherland if this threat meant violence if he did not comply. Sutherland answered "Yes." It was about two weeks later that the home of O'Day Short was burned to the ground.

The type of protection that is given to a worker as compared with a member of the upper crust exploiting class is clearly brought out by Myra Weiss in this way:

"What might one expect the authorities to do when a man and his family are threatened with violent and illegal action? We might answer this question by imagining what would happen if Henry J. Kaiser, owner of the steel mill in Fontana were threatened. First, all the daily papers would publicize the threat, thus making perpetration of the crime hazardous and difficult. The two deputy sheriffs who delivered the threat would be removed from office. Sutherland would be arrested as a party

to a criminal conspiracy and made to reveal the identity of his fellow-conspirators. The steel magnate would be furnished guards at government expense and probably before the day was over he would be safe, with all the conspirators behind bars.

"But Short was not Kaiser. He didn't make millions out of the blood, agony and tears of the second world war. He was just an obscure member of the persecuted Negro minority. So the capitalist press was silent. The deputy sheriffs continued in office. Sutherland was not disturbed. The vigilantes could proceed with their plans unhindered. The only aid Short was given, if we can call it that, was the advice by the FBI to report any further developments."

"Vigilante Terror in Fontana" outlines the tasks to be accomplished as threefold:

1. MASS PRESSURE TO FORCE ACTION BY THE AUTHORITIES.
2. A BROAD LABOR COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT ITS OWN INVESTIGATION IN ORDER TO PREVENT A WHITE-WASH
3. DEFENSE ORGANIZATION TO PREVENT ANY FURTHER VIGILANTE VIOLENCE.

All in all, this is one of the most heartrending cases of persecution of the Negro minority in the whole recent string of such events. It has been criminally hushed up by the capitalist press and even by so-called working class organizations which claim to be in the forefront of the fight for Negro rights. The coroner's jury backed by the other officers of capitalist "law and order" have listed it officially as an "accident."

The organizer and the entire Los Angeles Local of the Socialist Workers Party are to be highly commended for the fight they have put up in this case both to expose the vigilante gangs in that section and to mobilize the labor movement behind a concerted action to drive these fascist thugs back into their holes.

Flint, Mich.
Socialist Workers Party
Meeting
EVERY SUNDAY
YWCA
First Street and Harrison
8 p.m. Admission Free

Introductory Subscription Campaign Launched by "Fourth International"

To meet the growing interest of Militant readers in the ideas of revolutionary socialism and the Marxist answer to the basic problems of the working people, Fourth International, theoretical magazine of the American Trotskyists, has issued a new offer of six-month introductory subscriptions for the low price of \$1.

These special subscriptions will be available during a two-month campaign, from April 1 to June 1, which is expected to secure 500 new regular readers for the magazine.

Pointing out the advantage of subscribing to Fourth International instead of buying individual copies on newsstands, Campaign Director Connie Locke said:

"Although our magazine is sold on stands throughout the country, we receive many requests for recent back-issues from readers who have inadvertently missed some copies. This is especially true when articles are published in serial form, as was the important study by T. Cliff, 'The Middle East at the Crossroads.' This analysis of Zionism and socialism, which ap-

peared in the December, January and February Fourth International, received widespread favorable comment. Issues containing it were rapidly sold out at the newsstands."

Fourth International has attracted more and more readers she pointed out, as "the harsh experiences of the war have made disillusioned veterans look for a truthful explanation of world events, and the recent strike struggles have made many workers question the capitalist-ruled society under which we live."

Fourth International presents the Marxist viewpoint in its analyses of current events. It deals with political and economic developments on a world scale, relating them to the needs and interests of the working class in its fight for a better life.

For the convenience of Militant readers, we have printed a subscription blank at the bottom of this page. Tear it out and mail it today.

HOW CAMPAIGN WILL BE CONDUCTED

By Connie Locke
Campaign Director

Following the example of the current Militant campaign, quotas have been assigned to each of the large cities in which we have a Fourth International agent. We have already received an enthusiastic answer from Chicago: Clara Kaye writes: "Even before receiving the proposed quota of 40 for Chicago, we had decided on a quota of 50."

Philadelphia has also accepted their quota of 20. Herbert Newell is Philadelphia's campaign director. New York has the largest quota of 100 subscriptions. Next comes Los Angeles with 60, Chicago with 50 and Detroit with 40.

Minneapolis and San Francisco each have a quota of 25. Buffalo, Newark, Philadelphia, Seattle and Youngstown all have quotas of 20 subscriptions each. Akron, Bayonne, Boston, Cleveland, Flint, St. Paul and Toledo each have a quota of 10. Allentown-

Bethlehem, Connecticut, Milwaukee, Pittsburg, Reading, St. Louis, San Diego and Tacoma have quotas of five each.

We would like to see cities with the same quota challenge each other officially, on the basis of reaching 100 per cent in the shortest time. How about it?

General Motors Still Tied Up On Local Issues

(Continued from Page 1)
15 cents an hour more in addition to the general 18½ cents raise won in the national agreement. At Cadillac the vicious "merit" wage-spread (which gave some workers as much as 20 cents more an hour for the same work as others) has been eliminated, with all getting the top rates.

It was revealed that at 10 of the 12 plants still on strike, the chief unsettled local grievance is the "incentive pay" piece-work system which the Stalinists had foisted on some locals under their control during the war. A notorious example of this is the Fisher Body plant in Cleveland where the workers are now fighting to get rid of the "incentive pay" system the Stalinist Local 45 leaders had shoved down their throats.

Reuther admitted that the intolerable local grievances had been piled up during the war when the workers were shackled by the no-strike policy. Reuther failed to recall the fact that he, along with the entire union leadership, had supported the no-strike pledge and helped enforce it.

However, he defended the present policy of full support by the International Union for the local GM strikes and assailed UAW President R. J. Thomas and other UAW top officials who wanted to end the strike without settling the local grievances. In many instances these are of extreme importance to the workers and a major issue in their bitter

BRAZEN ASSAULT

So brazen is this assault upon the living standards of the consuming public that Stabilization Director Chester A. Bowles was last week forced to blast out at these "irresponsible, reckless, greedy organizations" which are pressuring Congress to "eliminate or wreck the only controls between our people and inflation. We are on the eve of a crisis which cannot be exaggerated," he said.

As a matter of fact, despite wage gains won by many workers through bitter struggles on the picket lines, the majority of wage earners are already beset by intense anxiety arising from the constantly mounting cost of living. According to the conservative Bureau of Labor Statistics, it takes a minimum of \$40 a week today for the average family of three to break even, with nothing left over for savings or insurance. But in 1945, when there was still full employment and overtime pay, three out of five wage earners earned less than \$33.70 a week.

Moreover, these official estimates fail to take into account the higher and illegal prices charged by the black market, the thousands of overcharges achieved by the upgrading of lower-priced merchandise, through shortweighting, and other price-boosting devices.

Come and meet other 'Militant' Readers At these Local Activities of The Socialist Workers Party

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.'

April 5, 7:30 p. m. "The CIO & Sit-Down Strikes" by Mary Clarke.

Afternoon sessions on same series of lectures every Friday.

ALLENTOWN - BETHLEHEM — Open meeting every Friday, 8 p. m., at Militant Labor Forum, S. 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; Militant Forum, 629 Main St., 2nd floor.

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

Classes every Wednesday, 7:30 and 9:00 p. m.

SOUTH SIDE: 354 W. 63rd St. Meetings every Thursday evening.

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

DETROIT—Forums on topical questions every Sunday, 3 p. m. at 6108 Linwood. Office open daily 10 to 6. Phone Tyler 7-8267.

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 S. Broadway, San Pedro, 1008 S. Pacific, Room 214.

MILWAUKEE — Visit the Milwaukee SWP branch, 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—Branch meeting every Friday at 423 Springfield Ave., at 8:30. Reading room and office open Mondays-Thursdays, 4 to 10 p. m.

Militant Readers' Discussion Group Sunday, 7:30 p. m.

NEW YORK — CENTRAL, 116 University Place, GR. 5-8149. Sun., March 31, 8 p. m. Forum on O'Dwyer.

Sat., 4:30 p. m., rehearsal of Trotskyist chorus. Militant readers invited.

HARLEM: 103 W. 110 St., Rm. 28. MO. 2-1866.

Sun., Mar. 31, 8 p. m. "Condition of Transport Workers."

BROOKLYN: 1034 Prospect Ave., 1st floor, Sun., Mar. 31, 8 p. m. "How Wall Street Plunders the Nation."

Friday Class, 8 p. m. "State and Revolution."

BROOKLYN: 635 Fulton St., Phone ST. 3-7433. Thurs., Mar. 28, 8 p. m. "The Paris Commune."

CHELSEA: 130 W. 23 St., Fri., Mar. 29, 8 p. m. "India's Struggle for Freedom."

YORKVILLE: Discussion Group, 146 E. 84 St. Meets second and fourth Fridays.

PHILADELPHIA — SWP Headquarters, 1303-05 W. Girard Ave., 2nd floor. Open forums every Friday, 8 p. m., on current topics. Classes on "State and Revolution," every Sunday, 7 p. m.

Office and bookshop open every day.

PITTSBURGH—Militant Reading Room, Seely Bldg., 5905 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 Week in 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.

Fridays, 8 p. m., Open House and Round Table Discussions.

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.

EAST BAY BRANCH—P. O. Box 1618, Oakland, Calif.

Meetings 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, I.O.O.F. Hall, 410 Eleventh St.

SEATTLE—Visit our Headquarters, 1919½ Second Ave.

ST. LOUIS—Visit our headquarters, 1023 N. Grand Blvd., Rm. 312, open Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 7:30 to 9 p. m. Forums every Thursday, 8:30 p. m. Phone Jefferson 3642.

TACOMA, Wash.—For information, write P.O. Box 1075.

TOLEDO—Forums every Tuesday, 8:00 p. m., 213 Michigan St. Open evenings, 7-9.

YOUNGSTOWN — Youngstown School of Social Science, 233 N. Phelps St., open to public Tuesday and Saturday afternoon from 2 to 5; also 7:30 to 9:30, Monday to Thursday,

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WORLD EVENTS

IN THE LIGHT OF MARXIST ANALYSIS

Diary Of A Steelworker By T. Kovalesky

The room was large and gleamed with polished stonework, modern columns, polished counters and smooth, shining floors.

There were desks in the room, scattered here and there, and around them and along the endless lines of people were young men in uniform carrying pistols strapped to their sides.

"Near and on the fifteenth, the lines of people kept coming. In the morning they were there. At noon, others replaced them. In the long afternoons there were still others standing, waiting patiently and fearfully, moving slowly like a long caterpillar, a part at a time, toward the desks and the stern little officials behind them.

In our line we inched slowly forward, and an old man behind me, weary of the silent monotony, began to talk to me. "You got to pay something?" he asked me.

"The way I figure it," I answered, "I have to pay \$37."

"You got dependents?"

"My wife. The boy's grown up and in the army."

"Me, I got to pay, I guess," the old man said ruefully. "They no take out enough money where I work so I got to pay now."

We moved forward another few inches toward the desk and the thin man behind it, who looked like a crabby arithmetic teacher.

The old man added in a rather bewildered tone, "I no got money to pay," and his eyes asked the question, what will they do to me, what do they do to old men who don't have money to pay taxes?

"You earn much last year?" I asked.

"Oh, no. About \$1800. My boy, Dominic, he earn lots more than that."

"Maybe Dominic will lend you some money to pay your tax?"

"Oh, no. Dominic, he's married. Got two babies. Dominic got to pay the doctor, no got money."

"Let's go, buddy," said one of the uniformed men. "You're holding up the line."

I moved up a foot or two, the old man trailing after me, and the rest of the line dragging up into place. "They take too much money," the old man muttered at the back of my head. "Ah, they take too much money!"

I was very close to the desk now, and I could

hear most of what went on there. A tall Negro was standing angrily before the desk looking down at the thin official behind it. The official spoke coldly and pedantically in the tone of an arithmetic teacher asking why some homework was not done.

"Why," he inquired in an offensive tenor, "haven't you got it? It seems to me that you made quite enough last year to have saved enough money to pay your obligations to the government." Only, he didn't say "government"; he said, "Government," with a capital G.

The Negro's eyes glinted down at him. "I got a wife and three little kids. It costs money to live nowadays. I didn't make hardly enough to get by as it was." His big, brown hands were rolled into fists, and his voice was strained. It was easy to see that he would have liked to strangle the tax collector, and that he was restraining himself with effort.

"I can't help how many wives and kids you have," the official said irritably. "Take this slip to Room 303. Next."

The Negro hesitated a moment, glaring, then snatched the slip and stalked away. The young man in uniform eyed him narrowly, his hands on his hips, just a few inches from where the gun hung.

The woman ahead of me was at the desk now, speaking in a low, apologetic tone. "What? What?" the official barked. "I can't hear you. You'll have to speak louder!"

The woman reddened and began all over again her flow of broken English, even more indistinctly than before.

"Give me that!" He snatched her form. "You owe the Government \$21.19. Have you got it?"

Once more the abashed stream of words. The woman hung her head and broke off suddenly, twisting a soiled handkerchief.

"Here," his tone was flat with disgust and boredom. "Take this slip to Room 303." She began to speak, but he interrupted her curtly, "I don't know, I don't know. Take it to Room 303. NEXT."

He took my form and the bills that had been so painstakingly saved for a better occasion than this.

"Well," he smiled up at me, "it's a relief to have somebody with sense enough to prepare." His tone was confidential, and so was his smile. "Those foreigners. Work all year, and when it's time to pay their taxes, they haven't a cent for them."

I didn't smile back. It was good to get out into the air once again.

Notes Of A Seaman By Art Sharon

She was an old "rust bucket" that made about eight knots with a fair wind and tide. Her gear was held together mostly by baling wire and rope yarns. And, to complete the picture, we had a skipper who had only recently taken to deep water after thirty years in the Florida swamps.

Yet, despite the very poor conditions we had to put up with, the ship was quite "happy." This was made possible by a harmonious crew of white and colored seamen.

We hit a number of very small ports in the Caribbean. None of them offered much in the way of recreation aside from a few gin mills. And it was quickly apparent in the first port we hit that the color line of the great United States was something incomprehensible to the people in these ports.

And if there was a bit of hesitation at first among some members of the crew to go ashore together with colored members of the crew, the very atmosphere soon overcame that.

The good will and warm hospitality of the natives to white and colored crew members alike had a beneficial effect upon the crew in turn.

Every port provided an occasion for a party. This lasted until we came to Panama, site of the Panama Canal, owned by the United States Government. And here in the midst of an entire hemisphere where the color line was unknown, stood a little lily-white oasis of made-in-America Jim Crow.

Just as the British colonial administrators in the heart of their imperial empire maintain the ritual and taboos of upper class John Bull, so here in a small sector of Wall Street's Empire was preserved the sacred principle of "white supremacy."

It came to us with a sudden shock. We had

docked at the army docks in the Canal Zone and most of us were rushing ashore to spend the evening in Panama's famed night clubs. I was with my drinking partner, a colored seaman.

On the way out of the Canal Zone we came to the American Commissary. Needing a hat I suggested going in. We entered the large air-conditioned building that offered various services to the Canal Zone employees.

I was slightly puzzled by a sign over the entrance that read "Gold only!" I thought to myself that this was an unusual condition of payment.

Once inside I immediately became aware of something out of place. For a few minutes I couldn't rid myself of the uncomfortable feeling that something was wrong. Suddenly it came to me. Here in a country where the whites are a minority were several hundred exclusively white men and women sipping food drinks.

I had been away from the States so long that I had almost forgotten the existence of Jim Crow. But here it was where you would least expect it along with Ford cars, Coca Cola, and other world-famous United States products.

It remained for the barber who refused to cut my partner's hair to explain the workings of a very intricate Yankee system. Every establishment in the Zone, he informed us with something like haughty condescension, had signs indicating who was permitted entrance. The designation "Gold" was for the white man, and "Silver" was for the black man.

But not for every black man. It wouldn't do to discriminate against the upper class Panamanians who were dark themselves. So "Silver" was the exclusive label reserved for the black worker and no other.

Thus in the heart of Central America, Yankee Jim Crow showed its ruling class purpose and class dividing line even more clearly than in the United States.

Must 17 Million Die? By Larissa Reed

"Six months ago my wife was apparently one of the healthiest and happiest women in our community," wrote S. L. J. from Altoona, Pa., on March 15 to the N. Y. Times. Then the terrible scourge of incurable cancer invaded his home. "I took her to one of the largest hospitals, where they cut part of her body away . . . I watched her go blind. She has now a few hours, or perhaps days, to live . . . now she is irrational, can no longer tell me of her tortures and there is nothing left for me but to await her death."

The dozens of doctors who examined his wife and tried to help, he wrote, always gave him the same answer: "I am very sorry, just try to make her comfortable." For the dread disease of cancer, which ranks second as the cause of all deaths, and from which twice as many Americans died as were killed on the World War II battlefields, remains a still unsolved medical enigma.

"My wife is no longer a part of this world," writes this agonized husband. "But there are thousands of wives, husbands, fathers, mothers, sons and daughters who may be the next victims of this scourge. I, also, was most complacent until cancer hit my happy home, but no man, rich or poor, white or black, knows when cancer may strike next."

"The cure for cancer is no more inconceivable than the discovery of the cure for other dreaded diseases," continues S. L. J. "Our nation has spent over two billion dollars to discover the atomic bomb . . . We can conquer cancer, but the public must be aroused . . . For the 17,000,000 Americans alive today that are destined to die of cancer there must be an answer."

There is an answer! But for S. L. J. and "the seventeen million Americans alive today that are destined to die of cancer," it is a shocking answer. A murderous answer.

The murderers are the brutish Army Caste who, since the discovery of atomic energy, have clamped down their Army-imposed secrecy on

medical research. They have deliberately barricaded the progress of science along recent sensational new paths of discovery leading toward the cure of cancer and many other still unconquered human diseases.

Despite the conspiracy of the Army High Command to conceal their crime from the public, it was revealed by Albert Deutsch in the March 19 PM that the Army tops have dictatorially shut off free use of the new development "Carbon 14"—the most hopeful avenue of cancer research yet developed.

Carbon 14 was discovered in 1940 at the Radiations Laboratory of the University of California by two young bio-chemists, Drs. Martin Makin and Samuel Rubin. This element permits science through "tracers" to find out what happens to living cells under different conditions in the human body.

Hundreds of laboratories in universities and other medical research centers throughout the country have been clamoring for Carbon 14 as an invaluable aid to help them solve the cure for cancer and other diseases. But the military autocrats decreed otherwise. The High Brass has thereby placed its own arbitrary sentence of death upon these seventeen million victims-to-come.

"Give our great doctors and scientists the means to study . . ." pleads S. L. J.

But Wall Street's Brass Hats remain deaf to these agonized pleas. They are depriving the scientists of these very means. They are withholding the marvelous achievements developed in the research of atomic energy which can extend man's health and life span. They are utilizing this epochal discovery solely for the most horribly destructive military purposes.

If the scientists are to obtain the means to find the cure for cancer, they must first be freed from the monstrous prison which these militaristic barbarians are erecting around them.

War Department Picks 'Board Of Inquiry' To Whitewash Own Military Caste System

Administration Urges Congress To Extend Draft

(Continued from Page 1) extension of the draft seems to have melted away. Senator Elbert D. Thomas, chairman of the Senate Military Affairs Committee told the press on March 19: "I wouldn't be surprised to see the Senate committee favoring a year's extension."

Until recently pacifist opponents of draft extension were pinning their hopes on a Congressional proposal to seek abandonment of universal military training by all the "United Nations." But the Congressional proponents threw this pacifist proposition overboard last week.

The voice of organized labor has yet to be heard in this critical situation. The top AFL and CIO leaders are lying low, taking no position while a Congressional majority for draft extension is rapidly being crystallized.

The representatives of labor should be registering vigorous protest against extension of the draft and denouncing the aid to militarism given by Wall Street's Congress. Here is one more urgent reason for the immediate launching of a Labor Party.

But labor cannot limit its fight against capitalist conscription solely to the fact that the Brass Hats are conspiring to foist Prussian militarism on America.

On the other side is the stark reality that the conquest of Germany and Japan has brought neither peace nor disarmament to the world. Six months after V-J Day the victorious powers are arming to the teeth—against each other and against the peoples struggling for their emancipation from imperialism and oppression.

Under these conditions the workers in America need a program of struggle against Wall Street militarism which will not leave them helpless and untrained in a militarized world.

The Socialist Workers Party and The Militant advocate: Military training of workers, financed by the government, but under control of the trade unions!

This means that instead of being drafted into an army run by Brass Hats, young workers would be trained in the use of arms in training camps, or during working hours, under direct supervision of the workers' own organizations. Military instructors could easily be chosen from labor's own ranks which now include millions of ex-GIs and skilled officers.

Labor's own military program would serve to bar the use of a conscripted army as strikebreakers against the unions. It would also enable labor to thwart Wall Street's drive to drag America into a Third Imperialist World War.

Wall Street's Men



Edward R. Stettinius, Jr., ex-President of the U. S. Steel Corporation and permanent U. S. delegate to the United Nations Organization, shown above at the San Francisco Conference which set up the UNO. The man to whom Stettinius is listening so attentively is Nelson Rockefeller of the Standard Oil family.

Iranian Issue Utilized In Anti-Soviet Drive

(Continued from Page 1) postponement of the Council meeting until April 10, pending the outcome of negotiations with the Iranian government.

These actions accompanied by a noisy fanfare in the capitalist press, were obviously calculated to focus attention on the Iranian issue and thereby augment the anti-Soviet propaganda that has deluged the country in recent weeks.

The Anglo-American imperialists are trying to give the impression that the Kremlin is the only power using force to gain its objectives.

However, the Wall Street and London brigands are coming to the meeting of the Security Council with equally bloody hands. British troops, using American-donated arms and with Washington's sanction, are shooting down Indonesian fighters for freedom.

British and American troops remain in Egypt despite the vigorous protest of the people. British troops with Washington's agreement, keep an oppressive pro-monarchist regime in control of Greece. The U. S. forces stationed in Iceland for over five years show no intention of withdrawing from that strategic small country.

Both Britain and the United States have troops stationed throughout the world. Both of these imperialists hold millions of people in the most brutal enslavement.

Thus, the "concern" of Washington and London over the fate of the Iranian people is clearly

Apple Polishers

The most hated man in the army or navy is the one who "lords it over" or threatens his subordinates merely to create a favorable impression in the eyes of his superior officers. He becomes known as an "apple-polisher" in a surprisingly short time.

The army boasts of Sgt. Jake Lindsey, 100th infantryman to win the Congressional Medal of Honor, who was appointed to this board. It is also known that Congressional Medal of Honor winners are given free trips to various localities in behalf of war bond drives, and in some instances are presented before Congress and other Washington bigshots to create an air of patriotism. Home town papers cash in heavily on such publicity. Such coddling is above and beyond any treatment accorded the non-decorated men. In effect, they automatically assume officers' privileges. Certainly such soft treatment could induce Lindsey not to criticize a system he knows is demoralizing and unjust. Neither could Lindsey afford to jeopardize his position with the Veterans' Administration by making critical observations of a much publicized situation.

Lindsey hails from Mississippi, a breeding place of Jim Crowism. Certainly there is no question regarding Sgt. Lindsey's attitude

The following letter to The Militant from an "ex-Navy GI" exposes the hand-picked "board of inquiry" recently appointed by the War Department to investigate officer-privileges. The letter is typical of servicemen's reactions to the military caste system. Editor:

After months of heated protests from enlisted men of both the army and navy against the notorious "caste system," the army "Brass" is making an all-out attempt to stop unfavorable publicity toward their age-old "Prussian" military caste system once and for all.

The board of inquiry set up by top army officials to investigate the long-standing complaints of thousands of GIs, is an artful attempt to whitewash the whole rotten situation in the eyes of the public.

To realize this, one has but to look at the background of the six members of the committee. The army loudly boasts that all, excepting General Doolittle, are ex-GIs. It has been long recognized by all enlisted men that in most cases it takes more than just military ability to advance from the ranks to a commission, battlefield commissions excepted.

CAREFULLY SELECTED Secretary of War Patterson and his Brass Hat cohorts were careful to select a board of inquiry that had every reason to be sympathetic in their attitude towards the "aristocratic tradition" of the armed forces.

The remaining members of the board are in just as far-re-moved positions to give accurate criticism. They may be compared to a group of stool-pigeons, appointed by the boss, arbitrating a labor dispute.

No one is protesting the idea of such an inquiry. Soldiers and sailors have long and loudly clamored for investigation of the unfair barriers between officers and enlisted men, such barriers extending even into off-duty hours.

But until a committee is formed from the anonymous ranks of the GIs, the men who bore the brunt of the battle with no fancy medals or promotions as a reward, the men who were accorded no favors or privileges, then, and only then, will such a committee accomplish its true purpose. That is, abolishing the most out-dated and undemocratic system imposed upon the American youth.

The army big-wigs with their board of inquiry aren't going to fool the average GI. Who then, is it attempting to fool? YOU, the public — the workers and their sons who will be drafted to form the army.

Harold Joseph
Ex-Navy GI

Flint UAW Locals Accept GM Contract With Reservations

By Jerry Kirk
(Special to The Militant)

FLINT, Mich., March 19 — All GM locals here have overwhelmingly accepted the new contract negotiated between the CIO United Automobile Workers and General Motors Corporation.

However, while accepting the national contract by a 40 to 1 margin, the members of Buick local 599 voted 2,767 to 1,510 to continue the strike until local demands were settled. This demonstration of the fighting power and stamina of the GM workers was expressed at the largest mass meeting in the history of the Buick local. Over 9,000 of the 15,000 members attended.

Art Case, acting chairman of the Buick Bargaining Committee, informed this reporter that "the membership showed in this meeting that they are solidly behind us. We have a dozen demands that have to be settled. We want the elimination of the reprimand system, reinstatement of workers fired during the war for union activity, elimination of piece-work in the foundry. These are the most important demands."

At the Buick membership meeting the local leadership came in unitedly with the proposal to continue the strike until agreement had been reached. This has been backed up by the largest picket lines around the 15 gates of the Buick plant since the beginning of the strike.

CHEVROLET RETURNS Chevrolet local 659 voted to return to work despite the fact that some of the leaders of the local had asked the membership to continue the strike on the basis of the local demands.

Both Chevrolet and Buick Locals here submitted resolutions to the UAW convention in support of the immediate formation of a Labor Party.

The GM workers are returning to work with renewed confidence in their power which was tested time and again during the 118 day strike. Hundreds of new leaders rose up from the ranks and thousands of workers participated in union activities for the first time. This is a good omen for the future.

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GM Fisher Body Workers Vote To Extend Strike

By D. Lands
(Special to The Militant)

CLEVELAND, March 21 — While ratifying the national agreement by an overwhelming majority, the workers of General Motors' huge Fisher Body plant here voted more than 20 to 1 to continue their 121-day strike until their demands for elimination of the company's piece-work system have been met.

In a separate secret ballot conducted by the Fisher Body Local 45 of the CIO United Auto Workers on the question of returning to work, 941 favored continuance of strike action until piece-work is abolished. Only 44 voted to go back. Day work members voted overwhelmingly to support their brothers on piece-work.

The Fisher Body workers are determined never again to be subjected to the inhuman speed-up, brow-beating and rate-cutting which are among the outstanding features of the damnable piece-work system. Their morale is wonderful and they are confident that they can win this fight against the corporation.

One interesting aspect of the situation is that Stalinists, principal pushers for "incentive-pay" piece-work in the auto plants during the war, are now trying to repair their damaged reputations by opposing it. But the militants have not forgotten the treacherous role of the Stalinists in helping to fasten the company-sponsored speed-up on them.

feeling against the USSR.