

## The Truth About Greece And Turkey

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Workers Of The World. Unite!

# THE MILITANT

PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKING PEOPLE

VOL. XI — No. 12

NEW YORK, N. Y., SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 1947

401

PRICE FIVE CENTS

# TRUMAN'S FOREIGN POLICY SPEEDS WAR MOVES AGAINST SOVIET UNION

## Ask Grand Jury To Investigate Trotsky Murder

Delegation Demands Probe of Stalin's Agents  
Who Plotted Assassination in New York City

NEW YORK, Mar. 17.—District Attorney Frank J. Hogan was today urged to summon a special grand jury to investigate the conspiracy to murder Leon Trotsky, which was hatched in New York City by Stalin's secret police. A delegation headed by Socialist Party leader Norman Thomas, N. Y. City Councilman Louis P. Goldberg, and novelist James T. Farrell, held a 45 minute meeting with Jacob Grumet, assistant District Attorney, to demand action on the sensational revelations made by Louis F. Budenz in his recently published book, *This Is My Story*.

In his autobiography, the former *Daily Worker* editor and Communist Party national committee member, testifies from personal knowledge that GPU agents, aided by American Communist Party leaders, plotted their moves here which ended in the murder of Trotsky in Mexico City in 1940.

The delegation handed the District Attorney a statement signed by scores of prominent citizens asking that "Earl Browder, Jack Stachel, Budenz himself, and all other Communist Party leaders, past or present, who are known to have been involved in the activities of the Soviet secret police in our community, or who are declared to have had knowledge of such activities should be subjected to official examination and such judicial action as the facts may warrant."

The statement pointed out that "Budenz adds new and

hitherto missing links to the chain of evidence presented during (the assassin) Jackson's trial in Mexico, which showed him to be a Soviet police agent." In his book, Budenz states that he himself was used by GPU agents to weave their web around Sylvia Ageloff, a trusted friend of Trotsky's household. The murderer, Jackson, used Sylvia Ageloff to gain access to the house and commit the crime.

"Terrorism from any quarter is incompatible with the free life of the labor and progressive movements and their democratic functioning," the statement read. "Such abhorrent methods must be exposed and fought without compromise to the very end."

During the interview, Thomas said that the assassination of Trotsky is not the only act of political murder on American soil in recent years which has been charged to the Russian secret police. He referred to the mysterious disappearance in 1937 of Julius Stuart Poyntz, former Communist Party leader. In his book, Budenz discloses that he was told by "Comrade H," a national committee member of the Communist Party.

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## New Anti-Red Bills Imperil Civil Rights

Through laws to ban the Communist Party and other working class parties that allegedly plan to "overthrow the government by force and violence," Congress and the Department of Justice are preparing a reign of terror against all opponents of Wall Street's war drive and anti-labor offensive.

The notoriously anti-labor House Un-American Activities Committee has announced that hearings will begin March 24 on bills to "curb or outlaw Communism in the United States." These bills include far-reaching measures to suppress the civil and democratic rights of the American people.

A key bill before Congress is H.R. 2122, introduced by Democratic Representative Sheppard of California. It would provide five years imprisonment and \$10,000 fine for anyone who belongs to the Communist Party (Stalinist) or any other group which has "any direct or indirect" relations in any way with international political movements.

### SWEEPING LAWS

Other bills are being drafted to embody the proposals of Secretary of Labor Schweikert that "Communists should be excluded from any type of public activity, including the right to run for office, to sit in Chambers of Commerce or to hold office in trade unions." He told the House Labor Committee that he thought employers should have the right to "fire Communist or subversive elements."

The inspiration for these bills to persecute political opponents of the capitalist politicians and to give the employers power to victimize labor militants as "communists" comes directly

In 1940 an internal struggle in the Socialist Workers Party resulted in a split, the minority forming the Workers Party as an independent organization. The split has continued up to the present time.

Attempts made in recent times to find a basis for the unification of the two parties satisfactory to both sides, given the existence of the recognized disagreements on a number of important questions, did not meet with success and the discussions of the project were discontinued.

In recent days the question was opened again. New discussions between the leading committees of the two organizations have taken place. On February 10, the National Committee of the WP presented a written declaration in favor of unification.

### Wall Street's Helping Hand



## A Program Of Action To Halt The War Drive

An Editorial

Truman's ominous message to Congress shows how far down the road to World War III Wall Street has already gone in the short time since V-J Day. What can the working class do to oppose this headlong drive for another imperialist slaughter?

First of all, it is necessary to get a clear understanding of what Wall Street is after. The Second World War eliminated Germany and Japan as contenders for world mastery. France was knocked out of the running. Great Britain was dislodged as mistress of the seas. But Wall Street, while victorious in the war, did not gain unchallenged domination of the world. To establish its dictatorial rule over our planet, American Big Business must accomplish the following:

1. Smash the power of the working class in the United States. This is the objective of the current red-baiting hysteria and the anti-labor drive in Congress.
2. Crush the colonial and semi-colonial peoples who are fighting for their independence. This is the objective of Wall Street support to dictator Chiang Kai-shek, armed occupation of Korea, 99-year military bases in the Philippines, and so on.
3. Remove the Soviet Union as an obstacle to Wall Street's domination of Eurasia and open up the vast resources there to capitalist exploitation. As can be seen from Truman's speech, the war plans of U. S. imperialism are directed foremost against the Soviet Union.

To carry out this monstrous plan, Wall Street is using its monopoly of atomic energy to stockpile atomic bombs as rapidly

as they can be produced.

We must understand that the fight against war is world-wide. The workers in every land confront a common enemy in monopoly capitalism headed by Wall Street. American labor must therefore strengthen its bonds with the workers and colonial people overseas. This means active support of the anti-capitalist struggles of the European and colonial masses.

Withdraw all American troops from foreign soil! For the complete independence of the colonial peoples! Hands off Greece and Turkey! Let the Greek and Turkish people choose their own government.

Truman is trying to put over Wall Street's reactionary schemes abroad without consulting the American people. The American people should answer this brazen attempt by demanding that the war-making powers be taken away from Wall Street's Congress. Let the people vote whether they want war or peace!

The fight against capitalist conscription must be stepped up. The officer caste hopes to rush legislation through Congress in the next weeks to Prussianize American youth and convert the United States into the biggest peacetime military camp the world has ever seen.

To halt the anti-labor drive and Wall Street's war program, the workers must close their ranks and begin organizing their own political party. Put labor candidates in office! Throw out Wall Street's political representatives! Organize a Labor Party to put a Workers' and Farmers' Government in power!

## Wants To Bolster Rule Of Dictators In Greece, Turkey

Truman's demand for authority to send military supplies and missions to Greece and Turkey represents a long step down the road to war with the Soviet Union. Truman has served notice that U.S. imperialism will stop at nothing, including atomic war, to secure world domination. Hereafter no nation will be free from the threat of intervention by Washington. Workers struggling to establish socialism in other countries will have American imperialism as well as their own capitalists to contend with.

### Congress Is Cautious On Truman Plan

Although Congressional leaders rushed into action to push through legislation granting Truman the funds and authority he had asked for intervention in Greece and Turkey, most members of Congress soon began to show caution on the legislation.

More sensitive to mass pressure than the White House, the members of Congress are displaying hesitancy because most of the letters sent to them during the last week show considerable opposition and reservations about Truman's program. Not even the White House could report a majority of favorable reactions in its mail.

The N. Y. Times, which completely endorses Truman's line, printed in its Mar. 16 issue ten letters of comment on the president's speech. Only ONE of the ten expressed full support; the others were opposed in whole or in part, some branding it as a move to war, others deploring the crippling effect it will have on the UN.

Government spokesmen and the Big Business press took recognition of this trend of slow but rising opposition by altering the emphasis of their propaganda. They hastened to explain that the number of military men sent to Greece would probably not exceed 40; that the government had no interest in upholding the Greek dictatorship and would be only too happy to see the Greek government broadened, etc., etc.

Vandenberg, head of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, promised a full and open hearing in an effort to satisfy reluctant Senators. And in an unprecedented move designed to put pressure on Congress, the Democratic National Committee asked the Republican National Committee to sign a joint statement endorsing Truman's program.

Truman's speech, and the haste of Congressional leaders to comply with his demands, mark a new stage in Wall Street's drive to become undisputed master of the globe.

The get-tough policy of Byrnes has been replaced under Marshall by a policy that just stops short of an open declaration of hostilities.

The period of anti-Soviet political propaganda and psychological preparations, dramatized by Churchill's speech in Fulton, Mo., a year ago, is followed now by open and unmistakable action directed against both the Soviet Union and insurgent masses everywhere.

### WHAT WALL ST. WANTS

This development has the same relation to World War III that Roosevelt's 1937 "quarantine the aggressor" speech and 1941 lend-lease program had to World War II. These two steps are combined in Truman's statement of policy on March 12.

Coming just two days after the opening of the "Big Four" Foreign Ministers conference on a "peace" treaty with Germany, Truman's speech was undoubtedly intended to strengthen the pressure being exerted by Marshall for further concessions by



TRUMAN

the Stalinist bureaucrats. What Wall Street wants are political concessions in the Balkans, the occupied countries in Eastern Europe, Germany, the Far East, and economic concessions inside the Soviet Union itself.

But it was pressure by action rather than by negotiation. It showed that Washington was impatient with discussion and determined to go ahead and get its own way, without too much regard for the consequences. It

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## Anti-Labor Offensive Linked To War Drive

Wall Street's offensive against the American working class is part and parcel of U.S. imperialism's intensified drive toward war and subjugation of the rest of the world.

Truman's proclamation of U. S. economic and military intervention against the Greek people has brought with it the immediate threat of further militarization, regimentation and repression of the people at home.

It means a tremendous increase of the intolerable economic burdens imposed on the American working people, already borne down by huge taxes and inflation caused by the 262 billion dollar federal debt from World War II.

Promptly following Truman's sabre-rattling speech, the Senate Armed Services Committee voted demonstratively to maintain the machinery of the Selective Service System. They rejected Truman's previous recommendation for immediate liquidation of the county draft offices, although conscription is formally scheduled to end March 31.

The retention of the draft machinery means that the ending of conscription is just a formality. In actuality, the threat that American youth will be dragged into the military machine is greater than ever.

### NEW IMPULSION

The latest move toward war has given a new impulsion toward the attempts of the Big Brass, with Truman's support, to Prussianize America through universal compulsory military training. This is the keystone of Wall Street's plan to militarize and regiment the American people.

All prospects that the tax bur-

den will be relieved and that the monumental national debt will be lessened are thrown out the window. The American people are going to pay in sweat and blood for the intensified war preparations and financing of capitalist reaction throughout the world.

Republican Senator Styles Bridges, chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee, affirmed right after Truman's speech that "it knocks budget plans askew." John W. Snyder, Secretary of the Treasury, informed Congress that it would be impossible now to reduce federal expenditures in order to cut taxes. His reference was clearly directed to the ever-mounting cost of American imperialist aspirations, of which the Greek and Turkish ventures are but the beginning.

This need to regiment the workers for war and to foist on them new onerous economic burdens directly dictates the need for American capitalism to cripple the labor movement. The standard of living of the masses must be driven down still further to feed the omnivorous war machine.

Part of this drive is to destroy the political liberties of the American workers through anti-communist laws. Wall Street's war against the revolutionary peoples of other countries who are fighting capitalist reaction, is being waged simultaneously against any attempts of the American workers to break the rule of monopoly capital.

## Joint Statement On Unification Of The SWP And WP

In 1940 an internal struggle in the Socialist Workers Party resulted in a split, the minority forming the Workers Party as an independent organization. The split has continued up to the present time.

Attempts made in recent times to find a basis for the unification of the two parties satisfactory to both sides, given the existence of the recognized disagreements on a number of important questions, did not meet with success and the discussions of the project were discontinued.

In recent days the question was opened again. New discussions between the leading committees of the two organizations have taken place. On February 10, the National Committee of the WP presented a written declaration in favor of unification.

In this declaration the National Committee of the WP obligated itself to accept the decisions of an Extraordinary Party Convention projected for the coming fall.

This obligation was undertaken with the understanding that the WP, like the SWP, would have the right to participate in the pre-convention discussion and to be represented at the EPC with full rights and in proportion to its numerical strength; and that fusion of the two organizations into a united party would be achieved. On this basis, the WP pledged itself to abide by the discipline of the united party, politically as well as organizationally, even if the EPC should adopt decisions which would place the members of the WP in the position of a minority.

The plenum of the National

Committee of the SWP, meeting in New York, February 15-16, accepted this declaration as providing a realistic basis for unity and unanimously voted in favor of unification on this basis. In view of the WP declaration, the plenum of the SWP on its part agreed that the WP should have the right to participate in the preparatory discussion of the EPC in a special discussion bulletin which will be distributed to the members of both parties. This discussion is to be completed in the branches of the separate organizations before the formal unification.

As to the specific forms of the proposed unification, it has been agreed by both sides that the members of the WP and the SWP, as of February 10, 1947, as well as all those recruited by each party subsequent to that

date, shall be admitted into the ranks of the united party as a body, without prejudice or discrimination. However, while the unity negotiations are in progress, neither party will admit into its ranks any individuals or groups who are now or who have formerly been members of the other party, except by agreement. During the same period it is agreed that no exclusive measures will be taken by either party against any members or groups in its ranks in disciplinary cases arising out of the discussion on unity without consultation with the other party.

On the basis of the agreements and conditions outlined above, the two National Committees are recommending the unification of the two parties. If this recommendation is approved by the membership of the two parties, as preliminary consultation in-

dicates is most probable, the formal unification will take place as soon as the discussion now proceeding in the ranks of the two organizations is concluded. In the meantime a joint committee of the two organizations has been established, which is empowered to organize and arrange a program of cooperation and joint activities of the two parties in all possible fields of the class struggle, designed to lead up to and prepare the way for the formal unification.

James P. Cannon,  
For the National  
Committee of the  
Socialist Workers  
Party.

M. J. Schachtman,  
For the National  
Committee of the  
Workers Party.

New York, Mar. 11, 1947



# UAW Briggs Local 212 Urges Mass Rally To Start Defense Against Anti-Labor Drive

DETROIT, March 18—CIO—United Auto Workers Briggs Local 212, one of the largest UAW locals, this week called on the UAW International Union and Wayne County CIO Council to initiate a joint action conference of all local unions to stage a huge demonstration here in Cadillac Square against anti-labor laws.

This proposal was contained in a resolution adopted this week by the Local 212 general membership meeting. The resolution was introduced by Ernest Mazy, who warned that organized labor is "in the most dangerous position in the last decade."

"We have gone beyond the stage of letter-writing and button-holding our Congressmen. Now we must bring our people by the thousands into the streets to demonstrate to our enemies that we will not tolerate any legislation that will rob us of our hard-won gains."

The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS: It has become clear that Congress not only will not pass progressive legislation needed by the people such as a Federal FEPC Act, adequate housing legislation, etc., but is instead engaged in an all-out campaign to put through legislation which will cripple the labor movement, and

WHEREAS: The U. S. Supreme Court this past week handed down a decision upholding the injunction against the AFL United Mine Workers, which was a clear-cut strikebreaking act and one which has serious implications for the entire labor movement, and

WHEREAS: In spite of the great numerical strength of the organized labor movement, now more than 15,000,000 strong, the attempts to prepare action to resist the reactionary attacks have not passed beyond the talking stage, and

WHEREAS: The AFL has answered the CIO proposal for joint action to fight the anti-labor campaign with a proposal for organic unity, which at best will take a considerable time to achieve, and

WHEREAS: It has become clear if action is to be started to ward off this sinister threat to the life of organized labor, it will have to be started by the local unions and city organizations;

THEREFORE, Be It Resolved: That we call upon the International Union UAW-CIO and the Wayne County CIO Council to invite the Detroit and Wayne County AFL, the MESA and the Railroad Brotherhoods to a joint city-wide conference for the purpose of staging a monster mass rally at Cadillac Square. Such a rally would constitute a clear warning to labor's enemies that organized labor will not tolerate the lynch-labor campaign. Such action will furthermore inspire other localities to take similar action and will thus facilitate a campaign on a national scale.

## Veteran Protest In Washington



Ex-GIs, representing 19 different Michigan colleges, preparing to leave for Washington, D. C., carrying petitions bearing thousands of signatures. They are demanding more subsistence pay for students which today is only \$65 a month for single veterans, \$90 for a married couple.

—Federated Pictures

## Seattle Boilermakers Win Restraining Order

SEATTLE, Wash., March 14—Efforts of the top bureaucracy of the AFL Boilermakers to establish a dictatorship over progressive Local 104 here received a set-back this week.

On the appeal of Local 212 members and officers, Judge Donald A. McDonald of the King County Superior Court has issued a temporary restraining order that provides for a restoration of the "status quo" prevailing before International President MacGowan tried to kick out the local officers and seize the local.

### NO INTERFERENCE

The international officials are required to restore to office the duly-elected local officers and cease interference with their administration of the union. Local meetings must be restored. There must be no interference with the Local publication, the 104 Reporter. Funds of the local must be released under the control of the local union. The local membership has the full right to run its own affairs. Five members arbitrarily suspended by the international of-

ficials are restored to membership.

This restraining order is the latest development in a bitter struggle of the Local 104 members to safeguard trade union democracy against the dictatorial attack of the top international machine.

### SEIZURE ATTEMPTED

In a drive to curb the progressive policies and leadership of Local 104, the international officials tried to seize the local and its properties. They ordered the suspension of its officers and meetings "without notice, charges, trial or other opportunity to be heard."

The restraining order will stand until the legal issues involved in the seizure are settled.

Despite MacGowan's ban on Local 104 meetings, more than 350 members held their regularly scheduled membership meeting last week. None of the International's hand-picked "governing board" were present. The orderly conduct of the meeting, one of the best ever held by the local, completely disproved the International's claim that the local supporters of democratic unionism are troublemakers keeping the local in turmoil.

### A HOT FIGHT

The 104 Reporter is appearing regularly and all "deposed" local officers are continuing at their posts.

Prior to Judge McDonald's restraining order, the local received one setback when by a vote of 29 to 20 the Seattle Metal Trades Council refused to seat the delegates elected by the Local 104 membership and voted instead to seat the two delegates chosen by the "governing board." Pressure from the Boilermakers top officials and other AFL bureaucrats pushed the motions through after a hot fight.

## Maritime Unions Agree On Joint Defense Action

A conference of seafaring unions, AFL, CIO and independent, agreed in Washington last week on a series of proposals for joint action against the shipowner-government attack on the seamen.

The conference, by unanimous decision, agreed on the following proposals:

A demand for the removal of military control over the seamen by the hated Coast Guard and the substitution of a civilian supervisory agency.

Elimination of the practice of transferring American vessels to Panamanian and Honduran registry to escape inspection requirements and avoid paying the higher American wage scales.

Extension of citizenship privileges to alien seamen who sailed American ships during the war and who are now threatened by anti-alien legislation.

Adequate health protection and hospital facilities for sick and injured seamen.

Consideration of a joint contract termination date for all seafaring unions to eliminate the danger of a repetition of the one-after-another strikes of 1946 and a number of other proposals for joint action on common problems.

### ACTION MARRED

The positive action of the conference was marred by the adoption of a red-baiting resolution calling on "all seagoing unions to reject Communists as traitors to the nation and a detriment to the solid permanency of the United States Merchant Marine." Representatives of the four CIO unions at the conference dissociated themselves from this resolution, which was carried by

the five AFL and one independent union.

The CIO representatives protested that the "communist issue" did not appear on the agenda and was arbitrarily injected into the conference. It was just such an abuse of an arbitrary majority which contributed to the dissolution of the erstwhile Stalinist-dominated Committee for Maritime Unity.

The Washington conference

was the first in over a decade of inter-union hostility to bring all of the seafaring unions together in an effort to reach agreement for joint action on common problems. At this stage, only agreed upon joint actions on problems concerning all seamen regardless of affiliation can lead to unity in the struggle against the shipowner-government combine. The resort to red-baiting can only strengthen those who seek to disrupt such unity and destroy the possibility of united action in defense of the seamen against their main enemy.

## Three Labor Candidates To Run In Flint Election

By Douglas Snyder

FLINT, Mich., March 16—Labor Party Committee representatives of CIO United Auto Workers Local 659 from 49 districts of the Chevrolet plant here today nominated three independent labor candidates and drafted a labor program for the coming city elections.

The first general meeting of the Labor Party Committee and its plant delegates named Carl Johnson, Lawrence Jones and Jack Palmer, well-known Chevrolet union leaders and members of the Labor Party Committee, to run as Independents in the non-partisan city elections.

### RESOLUTIONS PASSED

Resolutions were passed on two important planks of the election program. One resolution opposed any increase in the tax on home-owners, who in this city are mainly workers and low-income earners. It calls for taxation of the rich, particularly the billionaire auto corporations, and not the poor.

The other resolution supported a wage increase for the public school teachers, one of the major issues before the voters in the Spring elections.

In the discussion it was pointed out that General Motors and other corporations, as well as the Chamber of Commerce and National Association of Manufacturers, are behind the move here to increase home-owners taxes on the grounds of a city "deficit."

### FACTS AND FIGURES

Facts and figures were presented to show that General Motors' vast property holdings here are assessed at a rate 75% lower than the rate for all other property for the purposes of taxation. By doubling GM's tax assessments and those of a few other big property holders more than enough taxes could be raised to cover city deficits and pay more wages to city employees.

Nomination of three candidates by the Labor Party Committee marks the first attempt at independent labor political action in this city where the auto corporations have so long dominated the municipal government. Leaders of the Committee and the candidates stressed the significance of this development in view

of the drive nationally and in the state to pass anti-labor laws. It is believed the action of Chevrolet Local here will inspire similar moves in other industrial cities.

## Ask Grand Jury Probe In Murder Of Trotsky

(Continued from Page 1)

that Juliet Poyntz was "liquidated" by the GPU.

Thomas further pointed out that the Anarchist leader, Carlo Tresca, who testified to a Federal Grand Jury that Juliet Poyntz was abducted and slain, was himself shot and killed by unidentified assassins in 1943.

### MANY MURDERS

"There are many others," Thomas added. "The so-called 'suicide' of Krivitsky in Washington—a phony if ever there was one! There is the murder of Ignace Reiss in Switzerland; the series of murders of Trotsky's

secretaries and members of his family. We think the situation is so grave that immediate action is imperative to halt these political murders."

Grumet admitted that the New York County District Attorney's office is "under an obligation" to uncover the perpetrators of murders in New York. He agreed that the Budenz book could "provide many leads." He stated that two kinds of examinations were possible: a grand jury investigation conducted in secret, or a "John Doe" investigation in which all witnesses would be questioned in public. Thomas and Goldberg said that either action would be satisfactory.

"A public warning has now been issued to the District Attorney," said James T. Farrell. "If harm comes to any more Americans, the responsibility must be placed directly on those who have thus been warned."

Among the signers of the statement calling for the special grand jury investigation are: Dr. John Dewey, head of the International Commission of Inquiry into the Moscow Trials; Dorothy Thompson; Oswald Garrison Villard; Frank R. Crosswaith, Negro Labor Committee; John F. Finerty; Varian Fry; Paul F. Brissenden; Dr. John Haynes Holmes; Professor Sidney Hook; Layle Lane; Ferdinand Lundberg. Also A. J. Muste, Professor Allan Nevins, Rev. John Paul Jones, Max Shachtman, George Novack, and many others.

CLEVELAND, Mar. 10 — The first convention of the Ohio branches of the Socialist Workers Party met here all day Sunday at the Cleveland Auditorium and set up a permanent state organization to of the Trotskyist movement in this key industrial region of the United States.

Large worker delegations were present from many of the principal cities of Ohio, including Youngstown, Akron, Toledo as well as the host city of Cleveland.

The convention adopted a program of action centering around three main tasks.

1. To build new SWP branches in a series of industrial centers throughout the state.

2. To double the membership of the state organization within the next year.

3. To run a state-wide ticket and place the SWP presidential candidates on the ballot in 1948.

"This is the first state-wide body formed by four national party," said Ted Selander in his keynote speech on the tasks and perspectives of the Ohio SWP. "Our impressive gathering here is not only a sign of the growth of revolutionary socialism in Ohio but also of the progress made by our political movement throughout the country. The entire party will follow our work with keen interest in an effort

to learn both from the successes and shortcomings of our pioneering.

"We aim to put the SWP squarely on the political map of Ohio," Selander declared. "We propose to participate in every progressive move on the vital social and economic problems affecting the working people of this state, and to initiate them where necessary. Our party must be in the front rank of the forces fighting for higher living standards, better housing, and beneficial legislation."

### SHOW IN ACTION

"We must show in action that the SWP has the only program to guide the workers in their struggles against Big Business misrule, against all forms of injustice, against the countless evils of capitalism. To accomplish this, we must weld together our scattered branches. By collective, planned, state-wide work we can multiply the striking power of our forces and become the recognized champion of the working people in this great industrial and agricultural state."

The delegates engaged in a probing discussion of their problems in branch-building. Special reports were given on work among the high-school youth and in the Negro organizations. Fraternal delegates from Detroit and Pittsburgh reviewed recent developments in their localities.

The trade union reports were among the highlights of the convention. In his main address T. Wilson of Youngstown pointed out that the prevailing lull in the union struggles would not be long-lasting. "The industrial workers," he said, "are today, in a mood of watchful waiting. They are thinking over the experiences of the past year and seeking a way out of the present deadlock. They are beginning to think more and more in broad political terms

and this opens favorable opportunities for the spread of our slogans for action and our socialist ideas."

Supplementary reports were presented on work in all the important industries of Ohio, steel, rubber, auto, railroads, as well as a special survey of the AFL unions. These informative reports showed that the SWP membership was firmly rooted in every concentration of industrial production within the state.

The convention elected a state committee of 14. Enthusiasm greeted the announcement that Comrade Kingsley had donated \$100 to start off the work of the new state organization.

"The communist and socialist traditions in Ohio are over a hundred years old," declared Comrade Andrews of Akron in his closing remarks. "This state has long been the home of great revolutionary and socialist labor movements. Robert Owen planted some of the first Utopian communist settlements here. John Brown made his home in this center of abolitionism and the underground railroad."

### OUR TRADITIONS

"After chattel slavery was abolished, the fight against wage slavery was carried forward by such leaders as William Sylvis, who organized the first National Labor Union in Ohio. Marx's First International had its affiliates in Cincinnati where three socialist papers were published in the 1870's."

"During the First World War Eugene V. Debs was railroaded to Atlanta prison for the anti-war speech he made in Canton. These facts show that socialism is no alien doctrine imported from abroad but a living growth of American soil. All these glorious traditions belong to us of the Ohio Socialist Workers Party. We are determined to add to them by our collective contributions in the coming struggles in this state for the socialist liberation of mankind."

## Our Program:

1. Defend labor's standard of living!  
A sliding scale of wages — an escalator wage clause in all union contracts to provide automatic wage increases to meet the rising cost of living!  
Organize mass consumers committees for independent action against profiteering and price-gouging!  
Expropriate the food trusts! Operate them under workers' control!
2. Full employment and job security for all workers and veterans!  
For the 6-hour day, 30-hour week! A sliding scale of hours — reduce the hours of work with no reduction in pay to prevent layoffs and unemployment!  
Government operation of all idle plants under workers' control! Unemployment insurance equal to trade union wages for workers and veterans during the entire period of unemployment!
3. Against all anti-labor laws and government strike-breaking!  
No restrictions on the right to strike and picket!  
No injunctions! No compulsory arbitration!
4. Build an independent labor party!
5. Tax the rich, not the poor!  
Repeal the payroll tax! No sales taxes!  
No taxes on incomes under \$5,000 a year!
6. An 18 billion dollar appropriation for government low-rent housing!
7. Full equality for Negroes and national minorities!  
End Jim-Crow! End Anti-Semitism!
8. For a veterans' organization sponsored by the trade unions!
9. A working class answer to capitalist militarism and war.  
Take the war-making powers away from Congress! Let the people vote on the question of war or peace!  
Against capitalist conscription!  
Abolish the officer caste system!  
Full democratic rights in the armed forces!  
Trade union wages for the armed forces!  
Military training of workers, financed by the government, but under control of the trade unions!
10. 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!
11. 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 \_\_\_\_\_  
STREET \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_  
POSTAL ZONE \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_

NEW YORK  
A Spring Dance  
Saturday, March 22  
116 University Place  
Charlie Chaplin Movies  
Dancing, Refreshments

PITTSBURGH  
'Militant' Labor Forum  
Speaker:  
BERT COCHRAN, Former CIO Leader  
'The Employers' Offensive Against Labor  
And How To Beat It'  
Sunday, March 30, 8 p.m.  
1413 Fifth Ave. (Between Price and  
Stevenson Streets, 2nd floor)

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## THE MILITANT

A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER  
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# The Truth About Turkey And Greece

By George Lavan

The Turkish government, which is to receive financial and military support from U. S. imperialism, is a brutal military dictatorship by a tiny group of industrialists, large land owners and generals over millions of impoverished Turkish peasants and workers. Truman in his speech to Congress spoke of helping "free peoples maintain their free institutions." The Turkish people have no free institutions.

Kemal Pasha emerged in the early Twenties from the War of Turkish Independence as a dictator who set up a one-party system of government. This despotism and its official party, the "Republican Peoples' Party," still rule. For 23 years only this party was permitted to exist. Membership in this party was obligatory for all government and municipal employees, teachers, etc. All minority groups were excluded. This party was merely a facade and tool for the tiny inner clique of the militarists, industrialists and land owners. All candidates for office were appointed by the dictator.

## THOUSANDS EXECUTED

In 1926 Kemal Pasha used the occasion of the revolt of the Kurdish tribes, an oppressed minority, to purge the country and his own party of all possible opposition elements. So-called "Tribunals of Independence" were set up and thousands executed or exiled. In 1930 an opposition party was formally permitted to come into existence, only to be quickly suppressed.

Last year, to ease the internal unrest and to "qualify" as a democracy, Kemal's successor, Inonu, decreed a "free" election, the first in modern Turkey's history. A party representing a dissatisfied section of the owning classes quickly was formed. The whole machinery of the government and army was used to assist the government party's campaign and to hinder that of the opposition. Local leaders of the opposition were murdered by policemen and government party gangs.

Finally the government announced that its party had won 346 seats out of the Chamber of 416. The opposition party protested 300 of the seats claimed by the government and produced documentary evidence. Needless to say, the protest was fruitless.

The new cabinet, formed immediately after the election, represents the most reactionary elements in the government party. Its first act was to alter the press and libel laws so that any criticism of the government is severely punishable by law.

## DESPOIS RULE TURKEY

In his speech to Congress, Truman denounced governments based "upon the will of a minority forcibly imposed upon the majority" and governments relying "on terror and oppression, a controlled press and radio, fixed elections and the suppression of personal freedoms."

One might have thought that Truman was denouncing the dictatorship of Turkey — but no. For a capitalist politician on the road to war it is customary to palm off an authoritarian dictatorship like Turkey as a "free people" with "free institutions."

The Turkish despots maintain a standing army of about one and one-half million. This expense consumes 50% of the state budget. And Turkey has one of the lowest national incomes in the world.

The impoverished peasantry, who compose three-fourths of the population, are ground down by the double burden of landlordism and super-taxation. Officially it is admitted that at

least 50% of the peasants own no land, but impartial observers put this figure much higher. Taxes are high and varied; there is a tax even on hens.

## WORKERS POLICED

The working class of Turkey is young and small. It is very carefully watched and policed by the government. Revolutionary Marxist parties are, naturally, forbidden by law. So are any trade unions with international affiliations. While local unions have been formed in the face of terrific obstacles, the government has prevented the formation of unions, on a national scale. Strikes are forbidden by law and severely punished.

During the war the Turkish ruling class reaped enormous profits. While the Nazis had the upper hand, the Turkish capitalists established close and profitable bonds with the German capitalist class. The Turkish leaders found that their philosophy of government had much in

common with the Nazis. Ninety per cent of Turkish exports went to Germany.

When the Allied imperialists began seriously to challenge the Nazis, the Turkish rulers found themselves in an even more favorable position. Both sides courted them with favors and bid against each other for their products. As the Nazis began to lose, the Turkish ruling class discovered that its philosophy of government was, after all, more "democratic" than fascist.

Today Turkey is in the throes of an economic crisis. Wartime prosperity has vanished. Inflation has increased the cost of living to five times what it was in 1939. The workers and peasants are in ferment. It is significant that the government met with the greatest opposition and lost most seats last year in urban proletarian sections. To maintain its rule and its enormous army it is indeed in urgent need of "outside assistance."

U.S. imperialism now proposes to rush to the rescue, killing two birds with one stone, gaining a strategic military and naval base against the Soviet Union and strengthening a bankrupt despotism in the explosive Near East.

## Truman Foreign Policy Speeds Moves To War

(Continued from Page 1)

is only in this light that one can understand Truman's contemptuous by-passing of the United Nations, a procedure which deals the prestige of that body a fatal blow.

Truman reported to Congress that Britain's economic crisis necessitated withdrawal or reduction of her "commitments" in many countries, including Greece and Turkey. He therefore asked for 400 million dollars to be used in propping up their governments and armed forces until July, 1948. He also asked for the authority to send American military and civilian personnel to supervise the use of this money and to train Greek and Turkish personnel.

He made no bones about his unqualified support of the Greek and Turkish governments. Disregarding the well-known facts about the brutal dictatorships in these countries, he went out of his way to paint them up as free and democratic regimes.

## IMPERIALIST LIES

The Greek partisans' struggle for democratic rights, which is supported by the overwhelming majority of the population, was dismissed as the "terrorist activities of several thousand armed men." The rigged election that gave the monarchists control of Parliament was endorsed as "a fair expression" of the Greek people's views.

(Truman particularly saddened his liberal critics by refusing to even request some democratic reforms in these governments as a condition for U.S. aid. Both the Greek and Turkish tyrants expressed their unbounded delight over the speech.)

To strengthen support for his new foreign policy, Truman then took up a discussion of some of its "broad implications." The world is engaged in a struggle between totalitarianism and freedom, he declared, and the U.S. government should "support free peoples who are resisting attempted subjugation by armed minorities or by outside pressure."

This should be carried out "primarily through economic and financial aid" — but not by

them alone, as Truman indicated when he asked for the right to send military missions along with the money.

Thus the new policy applies not only to Greece and Turkey but to any part of the world where Wall Street finds it expedient to press it. The 400 million dollars requested last week is just the beginning. Truman more than hinted at this when he promised to consult Congress again if further funds or authority were needed to fulfill his program.

## CHIEF TARGET

The Soviet Union was never once mentioned by name in the speech, but it was perfectly clear that it was Truman's chief target. When he condemned specific instances of coercion and intimidation, he named only Poland, Rumania and Bulgaria.

He made no reference at all to coercion and intimidation in fascist Spain, Portugal, Argentina, Palestine, Indo-China, the Philippines or the many other countries where these are widely practiced but where the Soviet Union cannot be directly implicated.

While this program is thus an announcement of readiness to go to war with the Soviet Union, it is not aimed against the Soviet Union alone. It is aimed also against the workers of any country who rise up in revolt against their oppressors and try to create a government of their own choosing. That is the clear meaning of the words about "attempted subjugation by armed minorities."

## REAL PLANS UNMASKED

Thus Washington openly becomes the greatest defender of reactionary governments throughout the world. Every dictatorial regime outside of the Soviet Union's orbit can now turn to U.S. imperialism for support, above all, against the insurgent masses at home.

Truman's speech completely unmasks the real plans and purposes of the Wall Street gang who dictate Washington's foreign policy and who now proclaim their readiness to unleash World War III in their drive to subjugate the world.

## Which Side Are You On?



This mother and her starved, barefoot children (left) are typical of the suffering masses in Greece. They want bread and freedom, and they are denied both by the monarchist police dictatorship headed by King George II (above).

British money and troops have helped to keep the monarch and his anti-labor regime in power, but because of trouble at home the British imperialists will have to reduce this "commitment" after March 31. Truman wants the American government to take over this job then. Those who want to continue to prop up King George's dictatorship will support Truman's plan. Those who want to help the starving Greek masses will oppose it.

## Stalinists Find 'Bitter Taste' In Truman's Sabre-Rattling

By Joseph Hansen

Truman's warmongering speech left a "bitter taste," according to the March 14 Daily Worker. "It is a feeling of hangover," says the Stalinist editor, "when things that happened the day before suddenly become brutally clear. What President Truman proposes is not only clear but brutal: that we Americans shall build an empire, that we shall attempt what Hitler and Hirohito combined could not dominate the world."

This "feeling of hangover," as the Daily Worker puts it, is undoubtedly widespread among rank and file Stalinists. They have good reason for a "bitter taste" in their mouths.

Under the delusion that it would help the defense of the Soviet Union, and help end fascism and war, the Stalinist rank and file supported Wall Street in World War II. They were the loudest hucksters of the no-strike pledge. Where workers were forced to defend their standard of living and their hard-won union gains from the attack of arrogant capitalists raking in the lush profits of war, the Stalinists even went so far as to engage in strikebreaking.

The Stalinists became a by-word throughout the labor movement as Wall Street's most blatant and shameless apologists.

## PAVES WAY FOR WAR

The Stalinist ranks discounted this ignominy as a necessary sacrifice in a worthy cause. Now Truman's "undeclared declaration of war" on the Soviet Union, as one Congressman puts it, makes the results of Stalinist policy during the war "brutally clear."

Far from bringing an end to the danger to the Soviet Union, this policy has paved the way for an atomic bomb assault. Far from uprooting fascism, this policy has given world reaction a new lease on life. Wall Street, mightiest capitalist power on earth, has replaced Italian and German capitalism as the principal bulwark of political reaction. And far from securing enduring peace, Stalinist policy has helped prepare for a Third World War that can extinguish civilization.

How did the Stalinist ranks happen to find themselves supporting the second imperialist slaughter the way the Social Democratic renegades from Marxism supported the first one? The official answer of the Kremlin's American lieutenants is: Earl Browder. It was this Judas goat, they explain, who led them from the straight and narrow path of Marxism into the crime of supporting Wall Street's war.

The sacrifice of Earl Browder as a scapegoat undoubtedly satisfied the more glib sheep in the Stalinist fold. Today they are trotting behind Foster and Dennis with the same touching trust they displayed in the war years following "enemy of the

working class" Browder.

But the real author of Stalinist wartime policy was not Browder — he was never anything more than one of the Kremlin's front office boys. The real designer of Communist Party strategy in the war was Joseph Stalin.

## STALIN'S POLICY

Here, for instance, is how Stalin himself characterized Wall Street's war aims in a speech on Nov. 7, 1942:

"Abolition of racial exclusiveness; equality of nations and integrity of their territories; liberation of enslaved nations; and restoration of their sovereign rights; the right of every nation to arrange its affairs as it wishes; economic aid to the nations that have suffered and assistance to them in attaining their material welfare; restoration of democratic liberties; destruction of the Hitlerite regime."

After swallowing stuff like that, is it any wonder that Stalinists wake up after Truman's speech with a "bitter taste" and a "feeling of hangover"?

Even as late as Sept. 2, 1945, when Japan lay prostrate, Stalin solemnly assured the world:

## U. S. Imperialism Climaxes Series Of Greek Moves

The present crisis over Greece is only the latest in a series since the British invaded Athens in 1944. In each flare-up, Washington has become more deeply involved.

Only six months ago, for instance, when Greece was holding a plebiscite on the return of King George II, a 45,000-ton aircraft carrier and six other warships steamed off the Greek coast in a bristling display of military power.

"Bull" Halsey, in command of the fleet, responded to criticism about this imperialist political move with the notorious remark: "It's nobody's damn business where we go. We will go anywhere we please."

Besides the revealing declaration of this Prussian-minded Admiral, other utterances at the time indicate how Wall Street was deliberately moving down the road to a Third World War. The Aug. 30 U. S. News, which is widely read in business circles, called for attack on the Soviet Union:

"We know when we are threatened. We know what is needed now to assure our own defense. We must take those steps now... Let us prepare to finish the job if need be... There can be no nobler cause for which to die than in defense of the ideal of world peace. Let us not shirk the task."

Truman's message to Congress indicates how far Wall Street has gone in its preparations "to finish the job."

"Now we can say that the conditions necessary for the peace of the world have already been won... the long-awaited peace for the nations of the whole world has come."

## REEKED WITH LIES

Under Browder, the Daily Worker reeked with lies like that. Browder, however, was only faithfully recording what the "genius" in the Kremlin was broadcasting.

As recently as March 22, 1946, Stalin told the Associated Press, "I am convinced that neither the nations nor their armies are striving for a new war." And he coolly added that the UN is a "valuable instrument of preservation of peace and international security."

Within a year, capitalist statesmen studying Truman's "declaration of war" were calling the UN a "corpse."

Today it is "brutally clear" how Stalinist policy tended to disarm the working class, how it played into the hands of reaction, how it weakened the defense of the Soviet Union, and how it helped pave the way for another war.

## TROTSKYIST POLICY

Contrast the policy followed by the Trotskyists during the war: We told the truth about Wall Street's war aims. American Big Business, we said, was after profits, colonies, and eventual domination of the world. For opposing imperialism and advocating socialism as the only road to enduring peace, 18 of our leaders were sentenced to federal prison during the war. We were isolated and persecuted. But we continued to tell the truth about the war. We repeated thousands of times that an imperialist conflict could only undermine civilization and pave the way for barbarism and still worse conflicts.

In our defense of the Soviet Union as a workers' state we opposed Stalinism because it was responsible for the degeneration of the USSR, for weakening the defense of the USSR, for alienating the sympathies of the masses of the world for the USSR, and above all for blocking the development of socialist revolution in other lands.

Because we fought for the revolutionary program of Leninism, the Kremlin joined the imperialists in persecuting us. The Stalinists howled for harsher penalties when the Roosevelt regime sentenced our leaders to prison. And in the first days of the war, a GPU assassin drove a pick-up to the brain of Leon Trotsky, co-founder with Lenin of the Soviet Union.

In examining the fruits of Stalinist policy, the rank and file members of the Communist Party should compare Stalin's declarations during the war with those of the Trotskyists. Then they can judge for themselves in the light of the present world situation who defended and applied Marxism and who betrayed the working class.

A lie that will rank with any of Hitler's falsifications was Truman's designation of the present Greek government as "democratic." Truman needs this lie because the truth about the blood-stained police dictatorship in Greece exposes the reactionary character of his plan to bolster the Greek government with American dollars and military forces. Here, in order to show why it is necessary for the labor movement to energetically oppose Wall Street's new foreign policy, *The Militant* reprints excerpts from a number of dispatches from Athens:

## A Barbarous Program

Shortly before the Sept. 1, 1946 plebiscite on the return of King George II, the Greek Trotskyists issued "An Appeal to the Workers of All Countries," describing conditions in Greece and calling on the world working class to come to their aid. The following is taken from this appeal, which was printed in its entirety in *The Militant*, Sept. 28:

For months now our country has been transformed into a horrible hell. Gangs — both official and otherwise — have invaded the towns and villages and are spreading death and terror everywhere. Full-scale military operations with the most modern weapons are being carried out against the poor peasants in all sections of the country. Those houses that the war had spared in devastated villages are today being burned by the hordes of the monarchist government.

Extraordinary courts-martial are functioning without pause. Every day death sentences are pronounced and the firing squads execute by the dozens the most heroic sons of the laboring people. Dragnets, raids and patrol by the police keep the working class quarters in unceasing anguish and terror. The Slavomacedonians are literally exterminated by fire and sword. All through the country mass arrests are being carried out.

## Trade Unions Smashed

Fully corroborating this report was an eyewitness account from Athens by Jean Paul Martin on Aug. 23 (*The Militant*, Sept. 7 and 14):

In this small, terribly ravaged country, the Greek capitalists and the British imperialists collaborate with cold determination to consolidate their "order." The series of measures they have undertaken make the terror of the despotic Metaxas regime look pale. They can be paralleled perhaps only by the measures of Franco in fascist Spain.

The Tsaldaris government, which came to power last March through rigged elections that were boycotted by all left-wing parties, on June 6 decreed a series of exceptional laws. These laws in effect legalized the white terror waged up until then in an extra-legal way by the police, army and fascist-like groups...

## Terror In Elections

Under these conditions a plebiscite on King George II was held on Sept. 1. With large numbers of British troops in the country, Washington showed where it stood by dispatching a fleet of seven American warships into Greek waters just before the plebiscite and announcing that American war planes would stage a flight over Athens after it. The government of course announced that the voters had favored the return of King George. An American newspaperman, Robert Conway, sent the following dispatch to the N. Y. Daily News (Sept. 17), describing how the plebiscite was conducted:

Not only Communists, but democrats, socialists, liberals and republicans were disfranchised. Some were forced to flee into the mountains before the elections, while some lived in districts where the polls were never opened.

The greater number were intimidated and terrorized when the officers of the Greek army told the inhabitants that only those who vote for the king can escape being classified as Communists...

These were the conditions after the plebiscite, according to Conway's report:

## British Imperialist Role

In "An Appeal to the Workers of England and Europe," the Executive Committee of the Fourth International together with the British and Greek Trotskyists gave the following report (*The Militant*, Oct. 19):

A terrible repression, reminiscent of the methods that Mussolini, Hitler and Franco used to crush the labor movement, has been smashing down on Greek labor and grows steadily worse...

So that the country will welcome in "calm" and "order" the royal dictator whom the trumped-up September referendum has put back on his blood-stained throne, martial law has been extended throughout all Greece, and combined operations by the army, the police and the reactionary armed gangs of the cities and mountains have been launched for a final "mop-up."

The Greek capitalists, who emerged from the war exhausted and politically and economically decomposed, would never have been capable of undertaking such a reactionary offensive if it had not been from the beginning actively supported by British imperialism.

The revolutionary assault of the Greek masses against native reaction in December, 1944 was broken by British tanks, guns and Spitfires.

Since then the Greek capital-

ists have been able partially to reconstruct their own forces of repression, thanks to the security inspired by the presence in Greece of the troops of British imperialism, and thanks also to its financial help, to the arms it delivered, and to the instructors who took in hand the organization of the army and police.

Those who are arrested, if they are not assassinated outright, are submitted to torture, which makes one shudder.

The trade unions are practically dissolved, their offices forcibly occupied by police and provocateurs. Labor printshops are daily attacked by the savages. The labor newspapers are hit by the unbridled repressions of the state and fascist gangs.

A barbarous pogrom is unleashed against the entire working class, against the poor peasants and the national minorities. There is not the slightest exaggeration in this appeal. On the contrary, no written report can come anywhere near describing the terrible situation in which we are living...

The strawmen of the pro-monarchist government were called on to "temporarily" take the leadership of the trade union movement, and in reality to prepare to integrate it into the state apparatus under the direct control of the police...

ands of women and children in a desperate effort to halt a growing rebellion and wipe out not only Communists but all democratic, liberal and republican elements.

This correspondent is compelled to state that the supporters of King George II are now staging a total civil warfare of the cruelest and most inhuman sort. In the struggle to starve all anti-monarchists into submission, UNRRA food, trucks, shoes and clothing, as well as UNRRA malaria-fighting planes are being unscrupulously used, not only by Greek army gendarmes and civil officials, but also by royalist bands composed of former Nazi collaborators...

lists have been able partially to reconstruct their own forces of repression, thanks to the security inspired by the presence in Greece of the troops of British imperialism, and thanks also to its financial help, to the arms it delivered, and to the instructors who took in hand the organization of the army and police.

The fact that the present British Labor Government supported in Greece — by the presence of British occupation troops, by its material and technical aid, by its diplomacy — the forces of the worst reaction against the exploited masses of the country, will remain on its record as a stain of blood that nothing can efface.

In order that Greece may serve as a springboard in the Balkans of the Anglo-Saxon policy against the USSR, in order that it may remain a strategic and military base of British imperialism in the Eastern Mediterranean Basin, protecting the route of Middle Eastern petroleum and the route to the Indies via Suez, the Labor Government has undertaken to consolidate a new dictatorship in Greece.

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# THE MILITANT

Published in the interests of the  
Working People

Vol. XI — No. 12 — Saturday, March 22, 1947

Published Weekly by  
THE MILITANT PUBLISHING ASS'N  
at 116 University Place, New York 3, N. Y.  
Telephone: ALgonquin 4-9330  
FARRELL DOBBS, Editor

THE MILITANT follows the policy of permitting its contributors to present their own views in signed articles. These views therefore do not necessarily represent the policies of THE MILITANT which are expressed in its editorials.

Subscriptions: \$1.00 per year; 50¢ for 6 months.  
Foreign: \$2.00 per year; \$1.00 for 6 months.  
Single copies: 3 cents per copy for 5 copies or more  
in the United States,  
4 cents per copy for 5 copies or more  
in all foreign countries.

Entered as second class matter March 7, 1944, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879.



"The arrest in the economic development and, even more, its regression, signify that the capitalist system of production is definitely worn out and must give way to the Socialist system."

Leon Trotsky

## Defend Labor Month

Every worker and every labor organization should respond wholeheartedly to the "Call To Action" issued by the CIO National Executive Board meeting in Washington on March 13.

The CIO has designated the month of April as DEFEND LABOR MONTH. It has addressed an urgent appeal to the entire labor movement to unite in mass action to halt "the grave threat that pending anti-labor legislation represents not only to the continued existence of organized labor but to the whole well-being of the American people."

This appeal includes a program calling for mass labor demonstrations and rallies; shop and plant gate rallies; plant gate and neighborhood leaflet distributions and petition campaigns; delegations to public officials, local, state and national; a campaign of resolutions, letters and telegrams to Washington.

Such a program, if taken up eagerly by every local union, could provide a splendid beginning for a resolute and militant nationwide labor struggle to stop Wall Street's anti-union offensive.

This program should be regarded as an important first step toward an even broader program of labor unity in action. It should help pave the way for a National United Labor Conference, with delegates from all local unions, to map out a program of nation-wide mass action and independent labor political action. The most effective answer to the anti-labor drive would be the launching of labor's own party to clean the capitalist rascals out of Washington and put real representatives of the workers in Congress.

We are mindful that too often the top CIO leaders have put forth good programs that remained on paper. It is up to the rank and file in the local unions to take the CIO's program for DEFEND LABOR MONTH and put real life into it. They must set up committees, invite in the local AFL and railroad unions, work out careful plans and preparations.

The local AFL unions should reject the criminal refusal of the AFL top leaders to undertake joint action with the CIO. They must take the initiative by joining the CIO workers in a mighty demonstration during DEFEND LABOR MONTH.

## The 'Truman Doctrine'

Wall Street's cynical publicity experts are buttering up Truman's demand to take over Greece and Turkey with all the slick technique they used in selling the "Four Freedoms" and Roosevelt's Atlantic Charter to a dubious public.

Remember how they compared the Atlantic Charter with the Magna Carta? Roosevelt's name, they said, would ring down the corridors of history for what he proclaimed in that document.

Now they have baptized Truman's message to Congress, giving it the resounding title of the "Truman Doctrine." They connect it with the Monroe Doctrine. Wall Street's authoritative mouthpiece, the N. Y. Times, says it will take its place "in the niche of history once reserved for the Atlantic Charter." And its author, the graduate of the corrupt Kansas City Pendergast machine who hit the White House jackpot, is being molded in a "brand-new image" to use the lyric phrase of Anne O'Hare McCormick, well-known commentator on foreign affairs.

The comparison between the Atlantic Charter and the Magna Carta ended in the wastebasket along with the "Four Freedoms." But the association of the "Truman Doctrine" with the Monroe Doctrine happens to contain a grain of truth.

Enunciated in 1823, the Monroe Doctrine called for America to keep clear of entangling alliances in Europe and for the European powers to stay out of the Western Hemisphere. This foreign policy covered the aims of American capitalism up to the turn of the century. The robber barons who amassed the great fortunes needed a free hand to seize and monopolize the resources of our continent. They wanted no interference from the European capitalist powers.

Under the Monroe Doctrine, American capital then established its domination over Latin America. By the time of the Spanish American war, however, the drive of U. S. imperialism passed beyond the frame of the Monroe Doctrine. The seizure of Hawaii and the Philippines, indicated the explosive pressures

accumulating in American Economy.

Roosevelt could still use the Monroe Doctrine to cover Wall Street's moves into Greenland and Iceland, but by the end of the Second World War the realities of American foreign policy were obviously in outright contradiction to their formulation by President Monroe in 1823.

Truman's declaration fits closer to Wall Street's present-day aims. That policy is now avowedly one of consolidating their power over Europe, Asia and Africa.

Under the banner of the Monroe Doctrine, Wall Street extended its grip over two continents. Now the imperialist rulers of America have nailed a new pirate flag to the mast. Under the "Truman Doctrine" they are setting out to subjugate the earth.

## A Real Success!

The three-month Emergency Fund Campaign of the Socialist Workers Party came to a successful conclusion this week with a total of \$19,438.17. This is 97% of the \$20,000 goal.

For a while the campaign lagged quite a distance behind schedule. However, the comrades and friends of the Socialist Workers Party were mindful of the task. In the last week, letters and telegrams sending the final contributions poured in from all over the country. The Trotskyists had a deadline to make!

The raising of this fund bears witness to the capacity of the advanced workers in America to make sacrifices for the advancement of revolutionary socialism. Almost every cent of that total came from workers and sympathizers in the lowest-income brackets. It is this group which has been squeezed the hardest between sky-rocketing prices and wages that remained stationary or lagged far behind the rising cost of living.

To contribute to the Emergency Fund meant in most instances scraping pennies together and giving up even necessary things. The Trotskyists and their friends were willing to do this because they understand that humanity has no other hope of escaping atomic destruction in a Third World War outside the victory of the program of the SWP.

The contributors also understand that the socialist reorganization of economy will lay the basis for a decent world for our children to live in. And the great goal of building a new civilization of enduring peace and plenty inspired them to give all they could from their modest budgets.

We want to especially congratulate those branches that made their goals and even went over the top. We know what this meant in the way of persistent effort. That's the spirit which will guarantee the final victory of socialism against all odds.

We consider the campaign a real success. It provides funds necessary to take the Socialist Workers Party across another stretch of the difficult road leading to a Socialist America.

## Anti-"Red" Laws

Red-baiting and labor-baiting are Siamese twins. They are linked organically and always travel together.

Such bloody butchers of capitalist totalitarianism as Hitler, Franco and Chiang Kai-shek sought to wipe out the revolutionary opponents of capitalism as a first great step toward obliterating organized labor and all progressive movements and ideas.

Here in America after the first imperialist world war, the open-shop drive was spearheaded by a brutal reign of terror against radical workers. Many a union was wrecked, many a union man was murdered under Wall Street's war-cry: "Smash the Reds!" Today again, as the American capitalist rulers hurl their legislative assault against labor and prepare to drag the nation into a war of world-conquest, they simultaneously wage an offensive against the "reds" that daily mounts in ferocity.

Wall Street's Congress is rushing to enact additional anti-"red" laws, including an outright ban on all political parties that can be labeled "communist." These proposed bills directly violate constitutional guarantees of freedom of speech, press and assembly. They would pave the way for abrogating the civil and political rights of any group that dares to raise its voice against Wall Street's anti-labor and pro-war conspiracy.

The Communist Party, an agency of the Stalinist bureaucracy in the Soviet Union, is directly named in these anti-"red" bills. This party is not revolutionary; it does not fight for socialism. But the American ruling class is trying to ban the Stalinists because they are servants of the Kremlin, against whose policies and influence American imperialism is fighting all over the world in preparation for war against the Soviet Union.

These anti-communist bills are also aimed against the real anti-capitalist fighters for international socialism, the Trotskyists of the Socialist Workers Party. The Trotskyists are recognized as the consistent working-class opponents of imperialist war. Eighteen SWP leaders were imprisoned by the Roosevelt administration during the last war for opposing the war and militantly defending labor's rights.

But it would be wrong and extremely short-sighted for the labor movement to regard the anti-communist bills as aimed exclusively at the Stalinists or real revolutionaries like the Trotskyists. Working-class political minorities may be the first victims—but the final victim will be the whole labor movement.

That was the case in the countries where fascism, the naked dictatorship of the capitalist class, triumphed. That was the case in 1919-21 during the post-war persecutions of American labor radicals. It is the case today.

Any law that abridges the rights of any working-class organization is a law to undermine the rights of all workers. Such anti-democratic laws must be fought with utmost vigor and militancy by an aroused labor movement.



## THIS IS MY STORY by Louis F. Budenz

Whittlesey House, 371 pp., 1947, \$3.

This autobiography by the ex-editor of the Daily Worker who deserted to the Catholic Church should not be taken as objective self-portrayal. It is of interest to the social scientist—that is, the Marxist—as the case history of one type of soul-sick petty-bourgeois.

Budenz was warped in childhood by religious superstition. In his youth, he was drawn away from the Catholic Church "not only from the weakness of my heart, but also from a rising impatience with the slowness of reform." But his mind had already been shaped beyond change in the Catholic mold.

Through all the years when he participated in the labor movement, flirted with socialism and served the party of Stalinism, he felt the pull of the Church. In every crisis of his life, his mind turned back to the "peace" of his childhood; he longed for the escape offered by religious mysticism from the complex social conflicts of our times and the demands of the class struggle.

He is, as he shows himself in this book, a classic example of the Jesuit boast: "Give us your child until he is eight years old, and it does not matter who has him thereafter."

But he is also an illustration of what Stalinism can do to complete the conversion of a radical intellectual into an open agent of American imperialism and a peddler of reactionary superstition.

Explaining his relapse to Catholicism, Budenz writes: "My return to the Church was not a negative act. I was not a Catholic because I was anti-Communist; it was the other way around." It was the grip of religious obscurantism on the mind of a self-centered petty bourgeois which made Budenz a consistent opponent of the scientific doctrine of Marxism.

That does not prevent him from referring to himself as a

"communist" when he was a Stalinist. He speaks of the press "heralding his abandonment of Communism." But he could not abandon what he never believed. And this he confirms when he emphasizes with great heat: "I had never been a Trotskyite"—that is, a real communist.

He describes his futile efforts in 1934 to prevent a fusion of the American Workers Party, of which he was a leader, and the American Trotskyists then organized in the Communist League of America. Budenz venomously asserts: "In the Trotskyites I saw crudely expressed those evils which only later I discovered were also present in the Stalinists." Budenz never had any doubts about the uncompromising Marxism of the Trotskyists. He spent ten years with the Stalinists before he began to fight them on the grounds of their "communism."

Thereby he continues to serve Stalinism by upholding the very fiction it uses to cloak its anti-communist and counter-revolutionary crimes against world labor.

Indeed, what mainly attracted Budenz and the leaders of the American Communist Party to each other—what they still have in common today—is their mortal hatred of the real communists, the Trotskyists.

For the purpose of smearing and discrediting the very idea of communism, this "moral" man now stoops to lie about the nature of communism by identifying it with traitorous, totalitarian Stalinism.

How is this anti-communist could serve Stalinism so long, through all its twists and turns, as an admitted accomplice of its GPU murder machine? He himself asks the question, why in 1935 "did I persist in finding ways and means to work with the Communists?" He claims it was his "desire for unity," "the desire not to be labeled a 'Red Baiter,'" and "the constant breast-beating of the Reds, which took me in pretty badly."

But he was not taken in by

the Stalinists' self-applied label of "Communist." This he confirms when two pages later he tells his real reason for joining the Communist Party. "The more I recoiled from the Trotskyites . . . the more I inclined toward conciliation with the Communists" (Stalinists). He joined the Stalinists—and they embraced him—to fight the real communists, the Trotskyites.

The Stalinists accepted Budenz and used him because he was also an American jingo who could be counted on to carry out their line of conciliation with American imperialism. And ten years later, when the Communist Party leaders turned on Browder as a "revisionist" and rejected his proposal that they pledge to "support the development of American markets in the world scene," Budenz made his definitive decision to break with the Communist Party. He determined to continue his service of American imperialism as an avowed enemy of communism.

Budenz claims that his "final" decision to break was dictated when the CP leaders rejected his proposal for a "commission on democracy" in the party. But one has the right to suspect the democratic aspirations of a man who obediently collaborated with Stalin's secret police for 10 years and then jumped to the camp of the Catholic hierarchy that supports Fascist Butcher Franco in Spain and is a main prop of capitalist reaction and monarchism in Europe.

At the very end of his book, Budenz makes an ominous statement. He tells the American ruling class that it "could learn something from Stalin. At the time of the Trotskyite-Bukharin trials, Stalin said, 'It takes a hundred men to build a bridge, but one can blow it up!'"

Budenz has adopted the politics of the Vatican, but he continues to admire one thing about the Kremlin—its use of frame-up and murder against the Bolsheviks.

—ART FREIS

## Congressmen At Work

### "A Declaration Of War"

How thoroughly Wall Street's Congressmen understand the ominous implications of the move into Greece and Turkey can be judged from the following comments, all made on March 12, the day Truman announced Washington's new turn in foreign policy:

Sen. Johnson (D., Colo.): It "sounded like an undeclared declaration of war."

Sen. O'Daniel (D., Texas): "This maneuvering has all the earmarks of a plot to rush us into another war."

Rep. Case (R., S. D.): "I know that if Stalin, or any other country proposed to send a military mission to train 'selected personnel' in Mexico, we would mobilize at once. We would regard it as tantamount to a declaration of war."

Sen. McCarran (D., Nevada): "Money alone won't be enough to sustain Greece and Turkey. We will have to go in there with men and materials, if we go at all."

Sen. Kem (R., Missouri): "President Truman has asked Congress in effect to declare an American frontier on the Hellespont to be held, if need be, by American blood."

Rep. Van Zandt (R., Pa.): "I guess I may as well get my Navy uniform out of storage."

Sen. Taft (R., Ohio) as boss of the Republican machine in the Senate spoke cautiously: "I do not want a war with Russia."



Whether our intervention in Greece tends to make such a war more probable or less probable depends on many circumstances.

Sen. Wherry (R., Neb.): "I think this means a virtual declaration of war on totalitarian forces in all quarters of the world. I don't know that there is any alternative."

Sen. Capper (R., Kansas): "We have to go along with the President. There seems to be no alternative."

Rep. Reed (R., N. Y.): "It's very much like a declaration of war covered with relief veneer." Rep. McCormack (D., Mass.): "If we fail to assist Greece and Turkey . . . will not the Mediterranean become a Soviet lake, and will not the security of the United States then be imperiled? . . . It is my opinion . . . the nation that controls the Mediterranean controls Europe, and the nation that controls Europe controls Asia and Africa."

Sen. Brooks (R., Ill.): "Now we have got to fight Russia. There is nothing else before us at this hour than the appropriation of \$400,000,000 to stop Russia in Greece or in Turkey. If the Republicans had prevailed . . . and had let the Germans eat up Russia, we would not be in the predicament we are in now."

Sen. Pepper (D., Fla.): "It has been said here this evening that we may have to fight Russia. I do not know whether we will have to fight Russia or not . . . Had Hitler conquered the Soviet Union, and England and all Europe, America probably would not have had the atomic bomb to fight a war against Russia, if we ever have to fight one."

Rep. Hoffman (R., Mich.): "The President today did not tell us . . . how much of an effort we are going to make, how many dollars are involved, how many tons of munitions and supplies for war will be needed, how many men we are going to send into World War III."

Rep. O'Konski (R., Wis.): "The speech . . . should make every red-blooded American citizen demand that it is time for a rendezvous with destiny . . . It seems that the only destiny that our President has indicated for our country is more blood, sweat and tears."

Sen. McCarthy (R., Wis.): "I think it's a sensible policy if we adopt it all over the world."

## Dictatorships Hail Truman's New Axis

Fascist, militarist and monarchist dictatorships everywhere have hailed Truman's latest move toward war against the Soviet Union in order to establish what he called a "way of life . . . based upon the will of the majority."

Among the regimes of blood-drenched capitalist reaction that have answered "present!" to U. S. imperialism's roll-call for a new Axis against "Bolshevism" are Franco's Spain, Kuomintang China, Greece, Turkey, and Hirohito's Japan.

Naturally, King George II and Premier Maximos of Greece have expressed "profound satisfaction" and "sincere thanks" for Truman's offer of economic and military aid in suppressing the Greek workers and peasants. They are proceeding with renewed vigor to massacre, imprison without trial and otherwise extend the blessings of "democracy" to the Greek masses.

Premier Recep Peker in militarist-ruled Turkey proclaimed that Truman has been "inspired by a point of view both realistic and fully humanitarian." The regime that has outlawed all working class political parties and organizations is ready to do its bit for "democracy."

In Spain and China, the fascist butchers have taken Truman's pronouncement as a signal for renewed atrocities and repressions.

Chiang Kai-shek, who has slaughtered millions of revolutionary Chinese workers and peasants, two days after Truman spoke announced total war against "the Communists." The dictator whose atrocities rival Hitler's greeted Truman's message as the go-ahead signal for new "democratic" frightfulness against the Chinese people.

In Madrid, "President Truman's speech aroused enthusiasm here such as no American public utterance has evoked in Spain for a very long time . . . The press, which may be taken as official reaction, leaped on the speech as one of the rare cases where an Anglo-Saxon statesman's views coincided with Spain's." (N. Y. Times, March 14.) Franco's enthusiasm was expressed concretely by new arrests and executions of "communists."

The old allies of Hitler in Italy and Japan have welcomed Truman's speech. Robert P. Martin reports from Tokyo in the March 15 N. Y. Post that "Japanese officials are quietly jubilant over the implications of President Truman's request for aid to Greece and Turkey . . . One official said, 'Truman is doing now what we tried to do years ago with the anti-Comintern pact with Italy and Germany.'" Emperor Hirohito, kept in power by MacArthur's bayonets, is no doubt pleased to find U. S. imperialism adopting a program so much after his own heart.

Mussolini's old followers in Italy have expressed their gratification. The Monarchist and fascist press approved Truman's speech. "Right-wing newspapers are openly jubilant," reports the March 15 N. Y. Times. . . . The Rightist Corriere della Nazione says the United States has established its frontiers at all points where the freedom of peoples is in danger." This is praise indeed, coming from experts on "freedom of peoples."

## Mass Of State Laws Menace Labor Unions

A steel web of anti-labor laws is being woven around organized labor in at least 35 states, including the major industrial areas.

Every state legislature now in session is speeding through special bills to throttle the rights of labor. Last week two more states, New York and Delaware, rushed through drastic anti-union laws.

New York's legislature in Albany pushed through in two weeks, without public hearings, a bill prohibiting public employees from striking. It affects several hundred thousand civil service employees, including school teachers who are fighting for higher wages.

Delaware's House of Representatives adopted bills barring the closed shop, forbidding the "prevention" of work in a struck plant, requiring state incorporation of unions and prohibiting the union dues check-off system. Both New York and Delaware bills are expected to be signed soon.

The most concentrated drive of Big Business in state legislatures is against the closed shop. Bills against union security contracts are designed to permit employers to hire non-union and anti-union elements to undermine union organizations and conditions. Complete bans on closed shop contracts already exist in seven states, Virginia, Tennessee, Florida, Arkansas, Nebraska, Arizona and South Dakota. Extreme restrictions on the closed shop are law in Colorado, Kansas and Wisconsin.

Almost every other state legislature now in session is considering similar open shop bills, with the likelihood of passage in a majority of cases.

Along with proposed bills against union security contracts, many states are pushing through bills to restrict picketing, limit the right to strike, require special licenses and other measures to impede and harass union workers. Most of the bills provide heavy fines and prison sentence as penalties for violations.

In addition to the 10 states with restrictions on the closed shop, ten other states—Idaho, Texas, Minnesota, Michigan, Louisiana, Georgia, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, Alabama and New Jersey—have passed restrictive labor laws in the past year or two.

Union actions against existing closed shop bans have been limited almost entirely to court appeals seeking to have such laws ruled unconstitutional. An appeal is being pushed through state courts, but is not expected to reach the U. S. Supreme Court before another year.

Because of the over-all danger of anti-labor bills before the U. S. Congress, insufficient attention has been paid by the labor movement to the growing mass of state union-busting laws. The alarm is now being sounded, however, as shown by the increasing clamor in local union papers and by the wide number of state, regional and local conferences being called by AFL and CIO unions, both separately and jointly.

There is obviously a unified strategy in the concerted and simultaneous character of the drive to put over anti-labor laws in the various states. Most of the closed shop bills are virtually identically worded. They are sponsored by Democratic and Republican legislators alike and are invariably backed by the national corporations and employer organizations.

Through the state legislatures the capitalists plan to put through piece-meal those drastic anti-labor laws which they are not certain they can push through Congress in Washington. In this fashion, the reactionaries in Washington and the state capitals have established a division of labor in the general legislative drive to cripple the unions.



# 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.

## Wishes Negroes Could Win Rights

I am glad to get this opportunity to say I have read a lot about the Southern states and know every word you say is true, because I lived in Mississippi where the Negroes can't have a chance to speak for their rights. Why don't they have any rights? The Negroes went into the Army and fought. Still they can't have their rights. I wish that the Negroes could have their rights in the South. Likewise in the North, they don't have any rights to speak of, living under terrible conditions. Can you tell me, will there ever be a chance for that to come to pass?  
Eddie R.  
New York

## Send Financial Aid To Trinidad Strikers

The following is a copy of a letter we have just sent to Rupert Hannibal, Secretary, Negro Social Cultural Workers Union, 1, St. Paul Street, Port of Spain, Trinidad, B. W. I. "Dear Comrades and Brothers: We read your appeal for financial aid in The Militant of March 1 to help defray expenses in your defense struggle in the courts of Trinidad. As a result of a special collection at our branch meeting of March 8, in which 20 comrades participated, we enclose \$16.80 toward your cause. Long live the unity of the persecuted striking workers of Trinidad."

L. Becker, Organizer  
Bronx Branch,  
Socialist Workers Party.

## Youth Activities

AKRON. — Socialist Youth Club meets Fridays, 7 p.m. followed by refreshments, dancing, 8 South Howard St., 2nd floor. CHICAGO. — Youth meeting Fridays at 8 p.m. Discussion on pamphlet Socialism On Trial. Games and refreshments. 777 W. Adams, 2nd floor. LOS ANGELES. — Socialist Youth Club meets every Tuesday, 8 p.m., at SWP headquarters, 316½ W. Pico Blvd. Educational after every meeting. Refreshments served. NEW YORK. — For information on the Trotskyist Youth Group send name and address to 116 University Place, N. Y. 3. Open Forum: Every Friday 8 p.m., 116 University Pl., Dancing, refreshments. Saturday Night House Parties: call GR 5-8149 for information. For information about Queens Youth Group, write Mr. Kevin, 116 University Pl., N. Y. 3. PHILADELPHIA. — For information call ST. 4-5820, from noon to 6 p.m.



STALIN  
Praises "Militant"  
For Exposing Stalin

Received The Militant today reporting Budenz's confirmation that it was Stalin who organized the assassination of Leon Trotsky.

A bang-up issue with some solid anti-Stalinist material which makes this Old Bolshevik's heart feel good.

As we chant at college football games: "Hit 'em again, harder, harder!"

S. T.  
Wisconsin

## Lauds Robeson As Great Artist

Paul Robeson came to our town last night. The moving quality of his voice together with the superb intonation of a veteran artist brought encore after encore.

Aside from the grace and charm he lent to the standard classics, his rendition of the Negro spirituals gave dignity and achievement to the consciousness of an oppressed and great race. Generally spirituals serve to put the Negro in a ridiculous light.

Robeson's expressive interpretation of "Four Insurgent Generals," a Spanish-Loyalist battle hymn, and "Joe Hill" brought an ovation never before heard in the Russ Auditorium. In this degenerate capitalist society where the greatest of the arts is prostituted, such a rare performance by a great artist was refreshing and cleansing.

However, his unstinted praise of Stalinism and its stooges, Wallace and Pepper, in the face of the Stalinist betrayal of the working class, lately seen in the part the French Stalinists have taken in the oppression of colonialists, manifested an unfortunate petty-bourgeois political blindness.

I hope this reflects pretty well the thoughts of all of us San Diego comrades; but as for myself I can only say: Paul Robeson came to our town last night.  
D. M. Steelquist  
San Diego

## Suggests Song On Labor Party

In view of our agitation for a Labor Party and the present mood of the workers, who are showing the first signs of response to our slogans, I suggest a song be composed with the Labor Party as its theme. If such a song already exists, we should popularize it.

I also suggest that professional talent should be sought through the Socialist Workers Party and The Militant.

Manuel Sunshine  
Los Angeles, Calif.

## Reports Success In Conn. Sub Drive

We have just completed a three-month campaign for 300 subscriptions to The Militant. We were out to introduce our paper to the workers of New Haven, and we did.

Our over-all average for time spent in getting each subscription was 55 minutes. Last year our average was 45 minutes.

We found that although many workers subscribed because of an awakening interest in unions and in labor generally, the more advanced ones had to be convinced that The Militant was really a political paper before they would subscribe.

Many of these new readers are Italian. They suffer considerable discrimination because of their nationality. Their encouraging response to our campaign shows that they are looking for a militant political answer to their problems.

M. C.  
New Haven, Conn.

## Urges Action To Lick The Anti-Labor Drive

Chevrolet Local No. 659 UAW-CIO is not taking the anti-labor drive laying down.

By unanimous vote the membership decided to carry the fight to the enemy. As reported in our paper The Searchlight the local went on record for the following:

1. To support municipal ownership of the transportation system.
2. To put up a strong fight for a State FEPC.
3. To demand united action by all organized labor against government by injunction and to open up a drive against anti-labor legislation.
4. To urge the UAW to take the lead in forming a nationwide Labor Party.

If other locals will start the ball rolling like this we can lick the labor-haters in Congress.

P. F.  
Flint

# SWP National Fund Reaches 97% Of Total In Final Week Of Campaign For \$20,000

By William F. Warde  
National Fund Campaign Director

The \$20,000 Emergency Fund Campaign for the Socialist Workers Party has closed with a magnificent show of strength. Contributions amounting to \$19,443.17 poured in during the final week of the three-month campaign. The grand total collected from December 15 to March 15 is \$19,443.17. Although a little short of the goal, the attainment of 97% must be considered a noteworthy achievement for the American Trotskyist movement.

Telegrams and special delivery letters from the branches containing jubilant reports of the fulfillment of quotas streamed into the national office during the past week. Here was powerful evidence of the determination of the SWP members to make personal sacrifices for the cause of Socialism. 27 branches, three-quarters of the list, met or surpassed their obligations!

First a message from Chicago: "Over the top, \$332 in mail." Organizer Mike Bartell writes: "I think special note should be made of the fact that the Calumet branch has contributed \$414.25 toward our quota, which is remarkable considering the size of the branch." The Chicago Youth keeps in step by mailing in the rest of its \$25 quota.

From the West Coast, San Francisco telegraphs: "We have made our 100% just in time." Oakland across the bay sends in the final payment on its \$250 assignment.

Los Angeles through Julie Miller, Fund Director, declares: "Oversubscribed quota, \$1,517 has been raised. Check will go into mail tomorrow."

Seattle comes through with \$800 to its credit. Under great handicaps, Tacoma manages to make 75% and Portland 50% of their quotas. San Diego was the first West Coast branch under the wire in the campaign.

St. Louis encloses another \$6.50 which keeps this banner branch at the head of the country. But the pace-maker is hard-pressed by the New York Youth and by Cleveland. Thanks to an exceptionally generous donation and excellent response from its other members, Cleveland doubled its \$300 pledge. "I can assure you that we are all quite proud of this record," writes Alma Kingsley.

Several of the smaller branches deserve special commendation for their achievements in going over the top. Among these are Pittsburgh, Reading and Allentown-Bethlehem. This puts all Pennsylvania in the 100% class. Rochester also put on a burst of speed and finished the job.

Connecticut State wires: "Can finish paying. Money on way." From Milwaukee Carol Andrews writes: "Enclosed is a money order for \$18 which completes our pledge of \$200. I am truly sorry we couldn't make over 100% as promised."

"It looks like rank discrimination to place New York so far down on the scoreboard when it has been responsible for collecting so much money," declared a leading member of the local. We admit that percentages, like appearances, are deceiving. So we herewith pay due tribute to the New York local which not only went beyond its \$6,000 quota by \$346.18 but accounted for almost one-third of the national total.

Akron mailed in \$170 on the last day, but fell somewhat short of the mark. The Philadelphia Youth Group, however, surged forward and took its place with the Los Angeles and Chicago Youth.

M. Jones of Youngstown writes: "Last week we sent a check for \$50 which gave us a total of 110% of our quota, but this does not tell the complete story of our campaign. When we accepted our \$500 quota, we also set ourselves the goal of raising an additional \$200 for local needs. I am happy to report that at our last meeting we went over the top, with \$702.22."

"The largest amount of this was of course contributed by the comrades, but we also had a very successful banquet and New Year's Social which helped us make that sum."

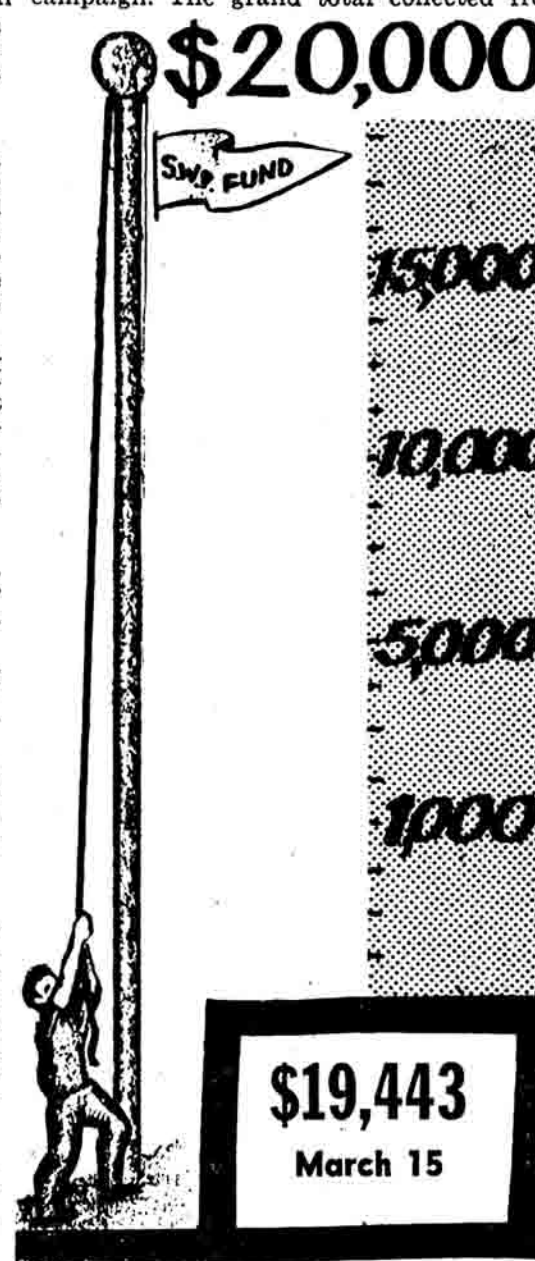
Warmest thanks to the many supporters who came to our aid in this financial emergency. And congratulations to all the comrades on work so well accomplished!

## CHICAGO

Michael Bartell  
Candidate for Mayor  
Station WJJD  
1160 on your dial  
Sunday, March 30  
2:30 to 2:45 p.m.

## CHICAGO PUBLIC FORUM "Greece—Base for Wall Street's War On the Soviet Union"

Speaker:  
Michael Bartell  
Saturday, March 29, 8 p.m.  
777 West Adams  
Auspices: Socialist Workers Party



## SCOREBOARD

Branch	Quota	Paid	Percent
ST. LOUIS	\$ 50	\$ 110.00	220
NEW YORK YOUTH	25	53.00	212
CLEVELAND	300	606.00	202
ALLEN TOWN-BETHEHEM	75	87.00	116
YOUNGSTOWN	500	550.00	110
LOS ANGELES YOUTH	25	27.00	108
ST. PAUL	330	358.00	108
NEW YORK LOCAL	6,000	6,346.18	106
MILWAUKEE	200	210.00	105
FLINT	200	206.57	103
LOS ANGELES LOCAL	1,500	1,517.00	101
MINNEAPOLIS	670	675.00	101
NEWARK	300	302.00	101
BOSTON	400	400.00	100
BUFFALO	700	700.00	100
CHICAGO LOCAL	1,500	1,500.92	100
CHICAGO YOUTH	25	25.00	100
CONNECTICUT STATE	120	120.00	100
OAKLAND	250	250.00	100
PHILADELPHIA	500	500.00	100
PHILADELPHIA YOUTH	25	25.00	100
PITTSBURGH	150	150.50	100
READING	150	150.00	100
ROCHESTER	75	75.00	100
SAN DIEGO	100	100.00	100
SAN FRANCISCO	1,250	1,250.00	100
SEATTLE	800	800.00	100
Akron	400	347.00	87
Tacoma	50	37.50	75
Baltimore	20	15.00	75
General	1,800	1,111.00	62
Toledo	300	179.50	60
Detroit	1,000	574.00	57
Portland	150	75.00	50
Bayonne	25	5.00	20
Texas	25	5.00	20
Akron Youth	10	0	0
Total	\$20,000	\$19,443.17	97%

## LOS ANGELES

### The Socialist Workers Party Urges You to Vote Labor on April 1

#### For City Council

District 2—Russell L. McKnight  
Labor Candidate

District 6—Harry C. Brown—Labor Candidate  
District 7—Jonathan L. Caston  
Independent Negro Candidate

District 15—Louis Kisner—SWP Candidate

#### For Board of Education

Office 5—Walter J. Turner—Labor Candidate  
Office 7—H. Claude Hudson  
Independent Negro Candidate

## THE MILITANT ARMY

### Lynn And Boston Branches Launch 'Militant' Drive

Militant subscription campaigns were successfully launched during the week by the Lynn and Boston Branches of the Socialist Workers Party. Both campaigns got off to a good start according to reports from branch literature agents.

The Boston comrades secured 16 subscriptions. "Many new members went out for the first time," says Rena Breshi, "and they feel pretty enthusiastic about it. I feel sure that we will get better results as we go along."

Hilda Webster reports for Lynn: "We started our six-week sub campaign this past Sunday. Our goal is 100 subs. A Militant Squad of three comrades went out; they got a total of 12 subs."

Flint and Connecticut State tied for first place this week in sub-getting. Each branch obtained a total of 29 subscriptions to The Militant.

"The Flint comrades," writes El Snyder, "obtained these 29 subs while out on a mobilization. One of the subs is a consolation prize to Comrade N. The comrades are doing a wonderful job, not only on mobilizations but on other functions and activities of the branch as well."

Connecticut State's subscription campaign will finish next week. The record so far shows that the comrades have done a bang-up job. "We're in the final week of our campaign," reports James White, Literature Agent. "We should hit the 300 mark by Friday, as we have only 18 subs to go. Clara Raymond should get over 100 subs by the end of the drive. We will give you the pleasant details next week."

Pittsburgh subscription campaign is getting under way. Justine Lang sent in 5 subs, stating, "This is part of our six-week drive and these subs were obtained quite easily."

The Buffalo comrades have raised their sights in sub-getting. "At a recent branch meeting," reports Charles Carlson, "a quota of 100 subs per month was set by the membership instead of the previous 50 per month already reported to you."

M. K. Kessler of Buffalo renewed his subscription to The Militant with these welcome words: "Thank you for letting me know my subscription has expired so I can renew as I like The Militant very much."

## Campaign Forces Bread Co. To Hire Negroes In Chicago

By Robert L. Birchman

CHICAGO, Mar. 15 — Victory was announced last week in the campaign to force the Continental Baking Company, distributors of Wonder Bread, to employ qualified Negroes as driver-salesmen on its bread trucks. Continental announced it would immediately hire at least five Negroes as driver-salesmen.

The news of the victory came at a conference of nearly 200 delegates representing over 30 labor and community organizations, that was called to extend and intensify the fight. W. H. Murphy, South Side Branch manager of the Continental, stated to the meeting that the campaign "really knocked our ears off" and that they had no other choice than to hire Negro drivers.

Those stores that refused to cooperate were picketed daily until they agreed to cooperate. During the bread shortage last summer, the campaign was somewhat relaxed, only to be renewed more vigorously later. Even during the bread shortage thousands refused to buy Wonder Bread.

This victory against the discriminatory policies of Continental, whose bread sales on the South Side used to be greater than all other companies combined, will shortly lead to a campaign to force all the other bread companies to hire Negroes as driver-salesmen.

The campaign led by the NLRL and CORE was actively supported by various organizations, including the Socialist Workers Party, the NAACP, the Afro-American Congress, the National Negro Congress, the Washington Park Forum, the Ministers Alliance. Resolutions of support were passed by many trade unions in the Chicago area.

## NEW YORK

### Motion Picture "Spanish Earth"

FRIDAY, March 28, 8 p.m.

## CARAVAN HALL

110 East 59th St.

Auspices: American Committee For European Workers Relief

## Come and meet other 'Militant' Readers

### At these Local Activities of

## The Socialist Workers Party

AKRON—2nd floor, 8 S. Howard St. Open daily except Sunday, 2 to 4 p.m.  
BALTIMORE—For information write Box 415, Baltimore 3, Md. Monthly forums.  
BAYONNE—62 W. 23rd St. Open house 2nd and 4th Saturdays. BOSTON 30 Stuart St. Open Saturdays 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.; Tuesdays and Fridays, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.  
BUFFALO — Militant Forum, 629 Main St., 2nd floor. Phone MADISON 3960. Open every afternoon except Sunday. 100 Years of Marxism 1847-1947, Thursday nights, 8 p.m. Open house and current events discussion every Saturday, 8:30 p.m. Admission free.  
CHICAGO—777 W. Adams (corner Halsted). Open 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, except Sunday. Tel. Dearborn 4767. Library, bookstore.  
CLEVELAND — Militant Forum every Sunday, 8:30 p.m. at Peck's Hall, 1446 E. 82nd St. (off Wade Park Ave.).  
DETROIT—6108 Linwood Ave., phone TY. 7-6267. Open Monday through Saturday, 12 to 5 p.m. Current events forum and open house, Saturday from 8 p.m.  
FLINT—215 E. Ninth St., Flint 3, Mich. Open Monday through Friday, 5 to 9 p.m.  
LOS ANGELES—Militant Publishing Assn., 316½ W. Pico Blvd. Open daily, 12 noon to 5 p.m. Phone Richmond 4644. Friday, 8 p.m. — Militant Workers Forum, 466 E. Vernon.  
SAN PEDRO, Militant Publishing Assn., — 1008 S. Pacific, Room 214.  
LYNN, Mass., 44 Central Square. Room 11. Discussion every 2nd and 4th Monday, 7:30 p.m., open Saturdays 1-5 p.m.  
MILWAUKEE — Militant Bookshop, 608 S. 5 St., open 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.  
MINNEAPOLIS—10 South 4th St., open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily except Sunday. Tel. Main 7781. Library, bookstore.  
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NEW HAVEN—Labor School, 855 Grand Ave., 3rd floor. Open Mon., 7:30-9:15 p.m.  
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NEWARK—423 Springfield Ave. Phone Bigelow 3-2574. Library and reading room open week nights, 7-10 p.m.  
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NEW YORK—CITY HQ., 116 University Place, GR. 5-8149.  
HARLEM: 103 W. 110 St. Rm. 23. MO. 2-1866.  
Every Thursday Open Discussion, 8 p.m.  
BRONX: 1034 Prospect Ave., 1st floor, phone TI 2-0101. Discussion on the SWP Program every Wed. 8 p.m.  
BROOKLYN: 635 Fulton St., Phone ST. 3-7433.  
CHELSEA: 130 W. 23 St., phone CH 2-9434.  
OAKLAND, Cal.—Meetings Wednesday, Odd Fellows Temple, 410 - 11th St. For information write to P.O. Box 1351.  
PHILADELPHIA — 1303-05 W. Girard Ave., 2nd floor. Open daily. Friday forum, 8 p.m. Phone Stevenson 5820.  
PITTSBURGH—1418 Fifth Ave., 2nd floor. Office hours: Wed. 7 to 9:30 p.m.; Sat. and Sun. 3 to 9 p.m. Open forums Sun. 3 p.m. Tel. Court 6060.  
PORTLAND, Ore. — Write to Socialist Workers Party, c/o C. M. Hesser, P.O. Box 3711.  
SAN DIEGO—Headquarters 623 Sixth Ave., open 7 to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday.  
SAN FRANCISCO — School of Social Science, 305 Grant Ave., cor. of Grant and Sutter, 4th floor open from 12 noon to 4:30 p.m., daily except Sunday. Phone EXbrook 1928.  
SEATTLE—1919½ Second Ave. Open Monday through Saturdays, noon to 6 p.m. Tel. SE-0543. Library, bookstore. Friday forum—8 p.m.  
ST. LOUIS — 1023 N. Grand Blvd., Room 312, open Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 7:30 to 9 p.m. Forums Thursday, 8:30 p.m. Phone Jefferson 3642.  
ST. PAUL—540 Cedar St., St. Paul 2, Phone Garfield 1137. Open daily 2:30-9:30.  
TACOMA, Wash. — Meetings every Wednesday, 8 p.m., at Oddfellows Hall, 6th and Fawcett. Discussions on current topics. For information, write P.O. Box 1078.  
TOLEDO—108 Summit St., Toledo 4, O. Open daily, Phone Main 8919.  
YOUNGSTOWN — 35½ South Ave., Youngstown 3, O. Open 12-5 p.m., Monday through Saturday. Phone 3-1355.



## An Item Truman Left Out

By Joseph Hansen

One of our hobbies on *The Militant* is running a fine-tooth comb through Presidential messages to Congress. It's surprising what you can sometimes pull out of the verbiage put together by the professional ghost-writers on the White House payroll. In the latest message we even found a red herring, smell and all. But our patient work failed to find a single hint about the relation of Greece and Turkey to the fabulously rich empire in the Middle East stalked out by the American oil trust as spoils of victory in World War II.

Our disappointment was all the sharper because we've been waiting since March 1944 to see if a prediction we clipped out of the newspaper about these oil holdings would come true. This prediction was made by Bainbridge Colby, Secretary of State under Woodrow Wilson and an authority on oil policy.

When Roosevelt cooked up a project in 1944 to spend \$165,000,000 of the taxpayers' money building pipelines and refineries for the oil trust in Arabia, Colby sounded off: "If such policies are pursued in oil and other fields our country appears committed definitely to future wars in bewildering places and to constant maintenance of American armed forces all over the world."

Truman didn't say anything about oil, but he did mention military forces going into Greece and Turkey.

A headline in the March 16 *N. Y. Times* is more explicit: "Oil is big factor in aid to Greece." In 1940, it seems, when the British were held down by Nazi bombs, Standard Oil raced with the Texas Company to grab up as much as they could in the Middle East where half the world's known oil resources are located.

### The Negro Struggle

## Greece And The Negroes

By William E. Bohannon

In my opinion the overwhelming majority of the Negro people will condemn and reject Truman's big step



to war which is camouflaged under the title of a defense of democracy against communism. We haven't forgotten how the Negro fared in and after the first two world wars, which also were designated as wars for "democracy" and the "four freedoms." Twice in one lifetime is enough, thank you.

The thing that must have struck most Negroes who heard or read Truman's speech to Congress was its utter and complete hypocrisy. Especially when he said there were two ways of life which every nation had to choose between, and described them as follows:

"One way of life is based upon the will of the majority and is distinguished by free institutions, representative government, free elections, guarantees of individual liberty, freedom of speech and religion, and freedom from political oppression.

"The second way of life is based upon the will of a minority forcibly imposed upon the majority. It relies upon terror and oppression, a controlled press and radio, fixed elections, and the suppression of personal freedoms."

If Truman really wanted to fight against this second way of life, then instead of helping the Greek monarchy and the Turkish dictatorship, he would be trying to overthrow them. Because in both these countries the ruling class is a small minority which is forcibly imposing its will on the majority of the people by the most

brutal and obvious kind of terror and oppression. If the British would get out of Greece, the masses would overthrow the government inside of a month.

But leaving aside the question of Greece and Turkey, there is another test, much closer to home, of how much Truman wants to fight against the second way of life. And that test is the status of the Negro here in the United States.

You don't like terror and oppression, Mr. Truman? Then why haven't you done anything to stop it when it is directed against the Negro people? Why haven't you called Congress together to give you special authority to do something about lynchings, the way you ask for special authority in the Mediterranean?

You dislike fixed elections, Mr. Truman? Then how come you haven't even spoken out against the efforts of your Southern Democratic comrades to fix elections by depriving Negroes of their right to vote?

You are opposed to the suppression of personal freedoms, Mr. Truman? Then how about the city you live in now, the capital of the country, where Jim Crow is the official pattern? What have you ever done to preserve the Negro people's personal freedoms there?

Just to pose these questions is enough; the answers aren't necessary. Truman's actions speak louder than his most pious words. The new world war they are getting ready to drag us into has nothing to do with preserving democracy. On the contrary, the only way we will gain recognition of our democratic rights is by fighting for them unrelentingly against the very same people who are trying to drag us into a new war.

carving up the Soviet Union and opening it up to capitalist exploitation. He knows that every retreat on the part of the Stalinist bureaucracy will only embolden and encourage new demands by the imperialists.

The threat of war in the near future results from the tension developing out of this increasing imperialist pressure on the Soviet Union. This threat is ever-present, even though both Stalin and Truman might prefer another outcome than war.

Another factor—and one far more decisive than the plans of Truman and Stalin—will be the reaction of the working class both in the U. S. and throughout the world. The great majority of them are opposed to any new blood-bath. But mere opposition is not enough, as was shown when they were plunged against their will into World War II.

Will their opposition to the new danger be passive—or will it take on an active, militant form? That is, will they permit the ruling powers to destroy civilization in an atomic war, or will they intervene, sweeping aside the warmongers and establishing Workers and Farmers Governments which alone can secure peace?

Speculation about what date the next world war will begin may be interesting but it is certainly not the task that lies ahead for the anti-war fighters. The stark reality is: The war danger is here, and it is getting greater all the time. The job to be done is to arouse the working class to this danger, to mobilize and organize it for a fight to end this danger forever.

Upon graduating from Roosevelt High in 1930, Kisner, who was then an ardent Zionist, went to Palestine. After three months in Palestine his Zionist aspirations vanished, and instead he joined the Marxist Circles, an international socialist youth movement.

Returning to the U.S. in 1932, he joined the Young Communist League. His first shock came when a YCL leader held an "educational" on Leon Trotsky, which Kisner knew was a falsification of history. Then, on the day that Hitler took power in Germany, without opposition from the C.P. of Germany, he bought his first copy of *The Militant*.

Disappointed in the Third International, Kisner decided to revisit Palestine. On his way through New York he visited the offices of Pioneer Publishers and asked for every piece of Trotskyist literature available. "It all amounted to only five

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# THE MILITANT

NEW YORK, N. Y.

SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 1947

# Detroit Tenants Demand City Freeze All Rents

## CIO Pickets Defy Arrests



While picketing the Brooklyn YWCA, these members of CIO Local 19, United Office & Professional Workers were arrested and charged with disorderly conduct. The union immediately announced another picketline for the following day and intends to continue picketing until the YWCA settles.

—Federated Pictures

## Trotskyists Commemorate Revolt Of Royal Indian Navy

BOMBAY, India, Mar. 8—Under the initiative of the Bombay Unit of the Bolshevik-Leninist Party of India (Trotskyist) and the Forward Bloc (Subhas Bose's Party) a fitting program was chalked out to celebrate the first anniversary of the Royal Indian Navy Revolt and to commemorate the 300 martyrs killed in Bombay one year ago.

It was Feb. 23, 1947. The Congress Ministry got panicky and banned all demonstrations, processions and meetings. In defiance of this action by the so-called "Popular" Ministry, the Bolshevik-Leninist Party militants, who had initiated and helped in the formation of the RIN Revolt Day Celebration Committee, took up the challenge along with other groups and some of the ex-RIN cadets discharged from the Navy for their heroic role in the mutiny.

### DEFY BAN

The Committee decided to hold the meeting in defiance of the ban on Feb. 23. All the might of the Congress police was mustered strong on the Chhatrapati that evening. Speaker after speaker from the ranks of the Forward Bloc and the Trotskyists came on the platform only to be physically dragged away by the police under arrest.

The huge gathering could not tolerate this physical violence of the erstwhile "non-violent" Congress. Lathi charges followed and the masses were repelled by the masses with the only weapon at their disposal, stones. Lathi charges followed

er peaceful meetings inside private premises, BUT NO BREAKING OF THE CONGRESS BAN. Of course, the Stalinist-sponsored Indian People's Theatre Association held a concert in a local fashionable hotel! What a fitting memory to those who mixed their blood with their comrades in the armed forces!

In spite of these obstacles, the working class of Bombay did register its protest silently, however, by striking work in 6 cotton mills and some more factories. They were helped as usual by the limited strength of the Bolshevik-Leninists of Bombay. The working class in Bombay as elsewhere will know by their own bitter experience whom to approach for leadership. They are slowly but steadily building up their own party—the BLPI.

### ROLE OF STALINISTS

Another point to be noted is the attitude of these above groups and parties toward the RIN Day celebrations. The demonstrations were staged against the wishes of the Congress bosses, against the directions of the Congress Socialist Party leaders and the Stalinists. The Congress Socialists did not want to embarrass their capitalist masters.

The Stalinists openly stated that they could not come into the Committee for fear of illegalization of their party. They called upon the Bombay working class to "OBSERVE" the day. How? No directions . . . or rather

## Chicago SWP Plans Wind-Up Election Rally

CHICAGO, March 16—The mayoralty election campaign in Chicago is now in its final weeks. In the absence of a Labor Party movement, the labor bureaucrats of both the AFL and CIO are corraling the workers to support Martin Kennedy, Democratic candidate for mayor. Kennedy is the candidate of Big Business and is a big business man himself. He is a director of Wilson Co., one of the Big Four meat packers and an owner of several business concerns of his own. He in no way represents the interests of the workers.

The write-in campaign for Michael Bartell, Socialist Workers Party candidate for mayor, offers the class-conscious workers in Chicago an opportunity to express their opposition to the candidates and parties of capitalism.

### SWP POSITION

Bartell will deliver two radio broadcasts presenting the SWP position on issues facing the workers today. On March 23 he will discuss "Greece—Wall Street's Base for War on the Soviet Union." On March 30 he will speak on the local and national issues in the campaign. The broadcasts on both Sundays will be at 2:30 P.M. over station WJJD, 1160 on the dial.

Thousands of copies of the leaflet containing the Socialist Workers Party election program are being distributed and hundreds of stickers urging the voters to write in Bartell's name have been pasted up throughout Chicago.

There will be a final election rally on March 29 at the SWP headquarters, 777 West Adams St., at which Bartell will speak on "Greece—Base for Wall Street's War on the Soviet Union." The lecture will be followed by dancing and entertainment.

DETROIT, Mar. 13—At a hearing today with Acting Mayor George Edwards, a group of 50 aroused tenants representing the housing projects of Detroit, as well as UAW-CIO representatives, local UAW officers, housewives and their children, demanded that the city Council pass legislation which would immediately freeze rents locally, regardless of any decision which Congress would make regarding the OPA.

Jack Lesnik, chairman of the Joint Projects Tenants Committee, opened the hearing by demanding: 1. That the City Council pass an ordinance which would immediately freeze all rents at their present level; 2. That the City Council instruct the police authorities to halt all evictions; and 3. That the city immediately start building more low-cost housing.

### PASS THE BUCK

Edwards attempted to pass the buck by saying that it was impossible for the city to legally pass rent control measures. He claimed that it was necessary for the State to pass an enabling law before the cities could do anything.

Tenant after tenant rose to his feet to say that now was not the time to consider legal technicalities but that now was the time to think of human rights and the necessity of people having homes at the rentals which they could afford to pay. Besides, the City Council had no right to anticipate the decision of the courts in this question.

Ben Probe, secretary of the CIO Wayne County Council, warned that "when rent control is taken off and evictions begin, lawlessness will step in." He further stated "many union locals have gone on record guaranteeing that as soon as tenants were evicted, the flying squadron would proceed to move the people back in."

While the hearing was in progress, a group of landlords representing the major real estate interests of Detroit were

attempting to break into the Mayor's chambers and disrupt the hearings.

The hearing was the climactic point of the organization of tenants throughout Detroit, especially in the housing projects. Last night a mass meeting was held under the auspices of the Wayne County CIO Council, the UAW-CIO Housing Department, and the Detroit Joint Projects Tenants Committee.

At this meeting, chaired by Brother Lesnik of Local 306, R. J. Thomas, National UAW housing director, pointed out that the real estate interests were attempting to destroy rent control. He quoted statistics which proved that the real estate owners are making more money than they ever did before.

### MEAN BUSINESS

Thomas was followed by Ernest Dillard, chairman of the Brewster Project Rent Committee. He said, "If necessary, we will stop traffic to show these people that we mean business. The time is here for militant action." Dillard also stated that the tenants of his project were wholeheartedly behind the program of the Joint tenants council.

Patrick MacNamara, Detroit City Councilman, and Sam Sage of the Wayne County CIO Council, also made brief addresses.

The same group of organized landlords under the leadership of Gerald L. K. Smith, attempted to disrupt the meeting. The chairman announced that they would be evicted from the hall if they didn't stop their disruption.

The meeting went on record unanimously in support of the three point program of no evictions, no rent increases and more low-rent housing, which was presented to the Acting Mayor today.

## Rubber Union Sets Deadline For Strike Against "Big 4"

By Milton Genecin

AKRON, March 17—A nation-wide strike of rubber workers affecting 42 plants of the "Big Four" rubber corporations was set for midnight of Sunday, March 23, as negotiations between the union

and the companies collapsed. The time for the strike was set by the union when the corporations stubbornly refused to offer anything better than a 10 cent an hour increase in wages.

The CIO United Rubber Workers demanded a 26-cent an hour increase to make up for the steep rise in the cost of living during the past year. However, URW President L. S. Buckmaster stated today after negotiations collapsed that the union negotiators had offered "to shave 10 cents an hour off our original wage demand . . . The best company offer was for 10-cent increases, which we couldn't accept."

Other demands were reported to have been withdrawn or modified in an effort to reach an agreement on the wage question. Buckmaster accused the corporations of "stalling and delaying which began last Oct. 28 when we first informed the companies of our request for a wage increase to meet the rise in living cost."

The four corporations involved in the current negotiations are the Goodrich, Firestone, Goodyear and U. S. Rubber companies. These four corporations control virtually the entire rubber industry in the United States. Together they showed a huge profit of 102 million dollars for the year 1946, an amount more than twice as great as that of any other year in the history of the industry.

In anticipation of the strike, the Akron plants of the corporations have been scheduling short work-weeks so that the workers would feel the pinch as soon as they walk out. The unyielding attitude of the corporations is undoubtedly due to the fact that they feel the entire governmental apparatus, the President, the Congress and the courts, to be on their side leading a sustained and vicious anti-labor drive.

On the other hand, the labor movement as a whole has not fought back with the same militancy and determination that characterized the strike upsurge

of 1945-1946. This has emboldened the profit-bloated capitalists who have their knives pointed at the union movement.

A strike of the rubber workers in the "Big Four" will bring out more than 100,000 workers completely. It will be the first strike of the United Rubber Workers on such a broad scale. With a tradition of militant struggle in the great sit-down strikes of the 1930's, it can be taken for granted that the rubber workers will put up a first class battle to win their justified demands.

A victory in rubber can very well reverse the trend of retreats and galvanize additional sections of the American workers into action against the Wall Street trusts that have plundered the country of billions of dollars in profits at the expense of the overwhelming majority of the people.

## Urge Mass. CIO To Set Up Joint Action Committee

BOSTON, Mar. 15—A State CIO Legislative Conference, attended by 350 delegates here last Sunday, unanimously adopted a resolution calling for joint action by all sections of the labor movement against the vicious anti-labor legislative drive.

The resolution called upon the State CIO to form a state-wide joint committee with the AFL, the Railway Brotherhoods, and independent unions. In addition, it urged establishment of similar committees on a local basis throughout the state.

In the discussion on the resolution, it was pointed out that in Lynn and Springfield, joint committees of the CIO and the AFL have been set up and are functioning. The Greater Boston CIO had adopted a similar resolution and joint committees are in the process of formation there.

## The Drive Toward War

By George Breitman

In his war-like speech last week, Truman promised to call on Congress for "further authority" if it was needed to carry out his new policy. Everyone understood that such "authority" will include a demand, when the time is ripe for it, for a declaration of war.



When will that be? How close is the world to a new war? Will the time interval between Truman's speech and World War III be as short as it was between Roosevelt's "quarantine the aggressor" speech in 1937 and the outbreak of World War II? Nobody can give a final answer to these questions—not even Truman or Stalin—because it depends on too many unknown factors.

Truman's speech is a declaration of readiness to resort to war; its most immediate purpose is to force further concessions from Stalin. How will Stalin react?

It is well known that the Soviet Union, devastated by the war, is in no position to wage a major war at this time. This is one factor which drives Stalin to seek new compromises with the imperialists.

But Stalin—despite his public reassurances that the Soviet can live in peace in a capitalist encirclement—knows that world imperialism, faced with the breakdown of European economy and the upsurge of revolt in Asia, hopes to stave off its downfall for a time by

carving up the Soviet Union and opening it up to capitalist exploitation. He knows that every retreat on the part of the Stalinist bureaucracy will only embolden and encourage new demands by the imperialists.

The threat of war in the near future results from the tension developing out of this increasing imperialist pressure on the Soviet Union. This threat is ever-present, even though both Stalin and Truman might prefer another outcome than war.

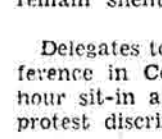
Another factor—and one far more decisive than the plans of Truman and Stalin—will be the reaction of the working class both in the U. S. and throughout the world. The great majority of them are opposed to any new blood-bath. But mere opposition is not enough, as was shown when they were plunged against their will into World War II.

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## Notes From The News

David Dubinsky, ILGWU president, was the first labor lieutenant of capitalism to endorse Truman's new war program. The Social Democratic New Leader begged its readers to write Truman, "giving him the praise he deserves for his courageous stand." Most union leaders, knowing what the workers thought about it, preferred to remain silent.



Delegates to the CIO National Education Conference in Columbus this week staged an 8½ hour sit-in at the Nelli House's coffee shop to protest discrimination against Negro delegates.

The Communist Party last week demoted Secretary of Labor Schweinfach to the status of a "FORMER Roosevelt supporter" after his demand that the CP be outlawed.

The Michigan referendum to decide on a state FEPC, scheduled for April 7, has been ruled off the ballot by the Michigan Supreme Court on the ground that it lacked a title.

Miners in Pennsylvania and West Virginia are passing the hat to help pay the fine imposed by the Supreme Court on the UMW and John L. Lewis.

"Sympathy" with communism is ground enough for discharge of government employees, according to a Supreme Court ruling this week.

A total of 113 anti-labor bills is in the hopper of the California State Legislature.

Secretary of Navy Forrestal has promised to consider possible deletion from the Navy budget of such items as \$97,252.50 for silver-plated finger-bowls bearing different engraved emblems to distinguish admirals from rear admirals, etc.