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Washington Shuffles Quislings in Greece

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Labor-Negro Slate Wins In Dayton

Independent Candidates Nominated In Primaries

A Labor-Negro coalition slate of independent candidates opposing both the Democratic and Republican machines in Dayton Ohio, on Aug. 25 swept to victory in the primary elections to nominate two candidates for the City Commission election next November.

Charles E. Sims, president of the local CIO Council and business representative for United Electrical Workers Locals 754 and 768, received the top vote among the four candidates nominated in the field of seven and the highest ever won by a primary candidate for City Commission. His vote was 6,698.

His running-mate, C. Josef McLin, Negro businessman and former CIO member, won the third highest vote. The 5,936 ballots cast for McLin were just 87 short of second place. Neglect and malfeasance by the Election Board, which failed to provide ballots for some 350 people standing in line to vote just before the polls closed, is believed to have cheated McLin of the second highest vote.

POLITICAL VICTORY

This political victory was won because the workers and Negro people were inspired by the opportunity to vote for independent labor and Negro candidates free from both the Democratic and Republican machines. The working people turned out in record numbers to back their own candidates and program.

In spite of a terrific heat wave, 16,000 voters went to the polls as against the highest previous primary turnout of just 10,300.

The victory is all the more impressive because all three Big Business-controlled newspapers in Dayton and the Democratic and Republican parties joined in a savage re-baiting, anti-labor, anti-Negro campaign against Sims and McLin.

Labor's candidates answered with a program pledging a city ordinance to control rents, an improved municipal transportation system, better city-wide recreational facilities, a comprehensive housing program and expenditure of the city funds in the interests of the people rather than special business interests.

The CIO Political Action Committee played a primary role in organizing the campaign for Sims and McLin. The heaviest vote in the city and the largest vote for the Labor-Negro slate was cast in the four wards where PAC is most strongly organized.

Hundreds of union members and shop stewards were mobilized by PAC as "Volunteer Vote-Getters." Various local unions were assigned responsibility for getting out the

N. Y. State CIO Board Rejects Attack on American Labor Party

By a four to one vote, the New York State CIO Executive Board rejected an attempt on Sept. 3 to force the CIO to withdraw its support from the American Labor Party. The anti-ALP move was made on the eve of the State CIO convention starting Sept. 4 in Saratoga Springs.

The right-wing minority making the attack on the ALP contended the CIO should not commit itself to any one political party. An overwhelming majority opposed this position.

The Executive Board voted unanimously to set up a permanent Political Action Committee in every union local.

workers' votes in particular wards. Every home was visited at least twice, early in the campaign and just before elections. "Division coordinators" were assigned to major areas and these "coordinators" in turn designated block and precinct captains to direct the campaigns in every neighborhood.

Dozens of street corner and plant gate meetings were held. Sound trucks toured the city. Just before elections, block workers got Sims-McLin supporters to sign campaign cards, enabling a check-up at the polls if any failed to show up. Telephone calls and a fleet of autos brought many additional voters to the polls.

Voting was light early in the day, and the newspapers began to crow. But when the plants let out, the workers rushed by the thousands to the polls to chalk up a record-breaking vote and ensure a Labor-Negro victory.

Now PAC is busy getting the people to register for the November election. A campaign such as Dayton has never before seen is being planned to out the Democratic and Republican incumbents opposing the two CIO-backed candidates.

Dayton labor and the Negro people are looking forward to dealing a smashing blow at the local capitalist parties next November through genuine independent labor political action.

Cite SWP Nominee for "Contempt"

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 2.—Contempt charges were ordered filed against Irene P. LeCompte, Socialist Workers Party candidate for City Council from the 7th District, and two members of her campaign committee, Mrs. Pauline Goldenberg and Mrs. Naomi Berlan, for their refusal to answer improper questions at an Election Board hearing today on a challenge to bar the SWP candidate from the ballot.

Similar charges were filed against Jack Rader, Workers Party councilman candidate from the 5th District, and his committeeman, Francis E. Carner.

This action of the County Commission sitting as the Election Board climaxes an attempt by the Democratic machine here to deny the right to a place on the ballot in the coming city elections to all candidates of minority parties. A Communist Party candidate from the 1st District had previously been ruled off the ballot by the Election Board. The Republican machine appears to be cooperating with the Democrats who initiated the challenges.

Mrs. LeCompte was the first to be cross-examined by County Commission Chairman Morton Witkin and the Commission's counsel, William T. Connor, who openly demonstrated their hostility and partiality. She refused to answer all but one question on "the advice of counsel." David H. H. Felix, attorney for both candidates at the hearing.

In reply to a question whether the SWP is "just another name for the Communist Party," Mrs. LeCompte said briefly, "There is no connection."

Attorney Felix informed the Board at the outset of the hearing on the legality of the parties' nominating papers that the Board lacked jurisdiction because a prior action had been filed before Common Pleas Court No. 1.

"My clients," he said, "are willing to answer questions before the proper tribunal, but this board is not that tribunal."

Within attacked Felix's conduct as "effrontery" and said refusal to answer his illegal questions was "un-American and improper" and seemed to have a "foreign tinge."

Plans are being made to set up a broad defense committee to fight for the right of the SWP, WP and other working class parties to a place on the city ballot.

Military Pact Signed at Petropolis Ties Latin America to War Machine

Quitadaha Hotel in Petropolis, Brazil, was the scene last week of a far-reaching diplomatic victory for Wall Street in the "cold war" it is waging against the Soviet Union. On Sept. 2 the Latin American satellites of Wall Street signed a military pact that embraces two continents, reaches from the north pole to the south pole, and includes every part of the earth where American Big Business has planted its house flags. It is the most extensive "peacetime" military pact in world history.

President Truman flew down to Brazil to hail the new military agreement. In veiled terms he indicated that the principal prospective victim of the Western Axis powers is the Soviet Union. And although he did not openly call for war, he made clear that his administration will not hesitate at the use of armed force. "Our military strength will be retained," he declared, "as evidence of the seriousness with which we view our obligations."

The new Petropolis military pact deprives the Latin American countries of one of the most essential attributes of national sovereignty—the right to judge a conflict between other powers on its merits and then decide whether it is better to remain neutral or become embroiled in war.

That sovereign right has now been abrogated. All Latin America is committed in advance to place its resources at Wall Street's free disposal in the projected atomic war.

The pact is proof once again that the main enemy of the Latin American people is Wall Street. The Monroe Doctrine has been replaced by the Truman Doctrine. The boasted shield of protection from foreign attack has changed into an M-Day plan. The Western Hemisphere has become Wall Street's military base in a power-crazed scheme of world conquest.

In the event of "aggression," all Latin America is obligated under terms of the pact to: "Recall of chiefs of diplomatic missions, breaking of diplomatic relations, complete or partial interruption of economic relations or of rail, sea, air, postal, telegraphic, telephonic and radio 'elephonic communications.'" The "use of armed force" is included if the signatories "consent."

"Aggression" is defined specifically to include "an invasion affecting a region which is under the effective jurisdiction" of any of the signatories. Under this provision a conflict between border patrols of the USSR and the USA in Korea, China, Germany or Austria could at once involve all Latin America in war. Argentina, backed by Brazil, Colombia, Mexico and Peru, objected

to being dragged into a war that might flare from such disputes outside the Western Hemisphere, but this opposition was completely flattened by the Marshall-Vandenberg steamroller.

Even this far-reaching provision is not all, however. Wall Street need not wait for "invasion" of areas in Europe or Asia under its "jurisdiction," for the treaty includes "other acts which the organ of consultation may characterize as aggression."

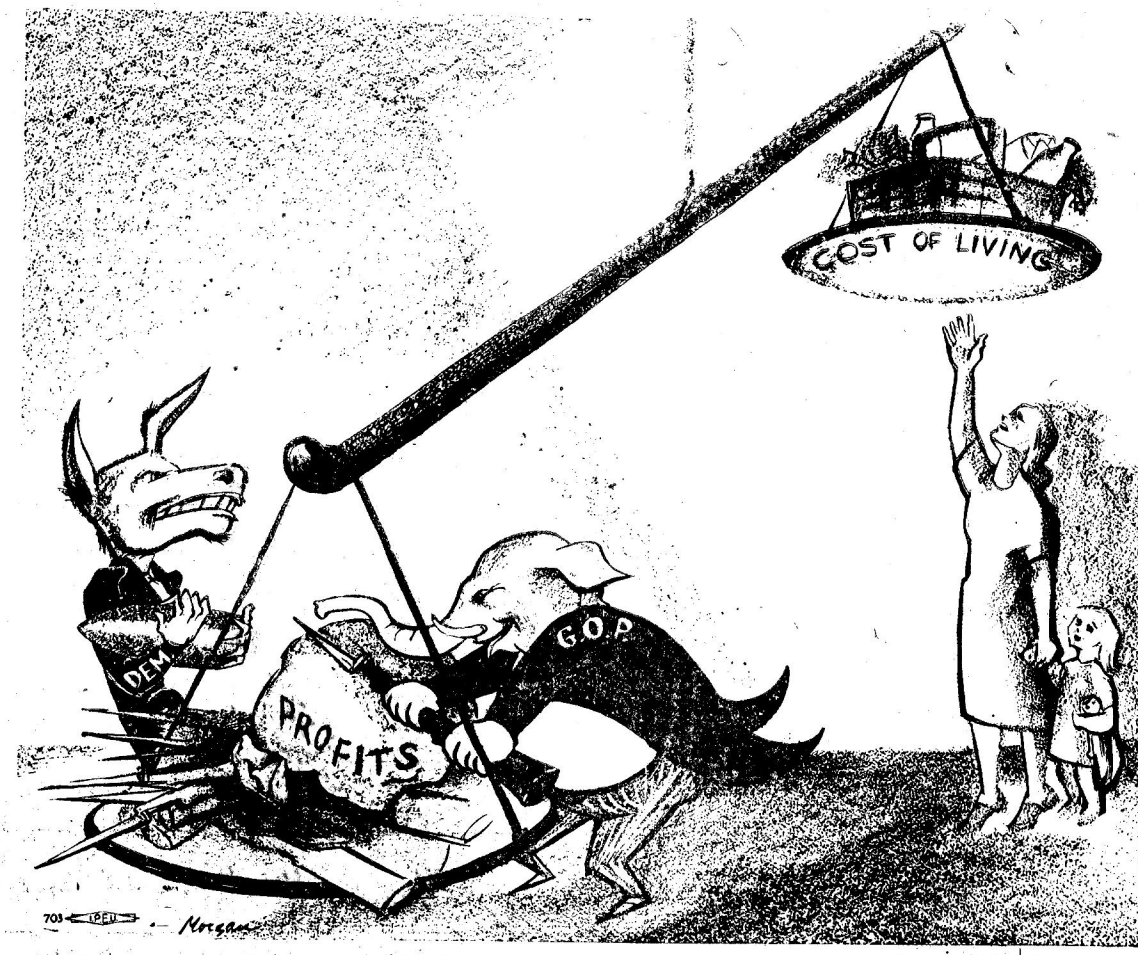
The Wall Street-dominated "organ of consultation" set up to carry out the treaty, is thus free to label any act it wishes as "aggression."

This would seem to be sufficient to cover all contingencies. But Wall Street wanted a completely free hand. Article 6, therefore, calls for implementation of the military pact if "any American state should be affected by an aggression which is not an armed attack or by an intra-continental or extra-continental conflict, or by any other fact or situation that might endanger the peace of America."

The capitalist press has already interpreted this clause as giving the "organ of consultation" such wide powers that it could, for example, use armed force to crush any regime in the Western Hemisphere designated as "communist."

While stating that the union lead-

Tipping the Scales



Popular Anger Mounts Against Big Profiteers

Popular anger at the high cost of living is being further inflamed by awareness of capitalist profiteering and thievery. Corporation "earnings" are at such fantastic heights, monopoly price-fixing and price-gouging have become so open, that the government and press can no longer hide the direct link between rising living costs and profits.

In recognition of this fact, Wall Street's Republican and Democratic agents in Washington are now in a political duel of "probes" and counter-"probes," trying to shift sole blame for inflation on each other.

GROWING WRATH

The uneasiness and concern of the capitalist press at the growing wrath of the people is reflected in a special article by Harold Fleming in the Aug. 23 Christian Science Monitor. Fleming notes that corporation net profits for April, May and June were the "biggest on record."

"They nearly reach to the Nathan Report (CIO) predictions of six or eight months ago"—the report that the corporations and Big Business press denounced.

"The public has become sensitive on the subject," warns Fleming. "Business managements do not

seem to have realized that the public, reasonably or unreasonably, is bound to put these things together — the lush earnings statements now coming out and the persistent inching up here and there of living costs."

Indeed, the low-income consumers are becoming "sensitive," and not "unreasonably" either. Fleming's own figures show why. He cites the National City Bank's August bulletin on "Net Income of Leading Corporations" which shows that for the first six months of 1947 their profits were double those of the first half of 1946.

Especially the increase over the second half of 1946, says Fleming, has "much meaning. The increase is about the same as the increase in prices — about 15 per cent."

The biggest profits increase was in the steel, iron and coke industry — 155.3%. Last month this industry boosted steel prices again and gave a new spurt to the inflationary spiral.

50 CENT DOLLAR

These profits are being amassed while production has been on a steady decline for the past five months and retail sales fell off. Price rises have cut the buying power of the dollar to 50 cents, according to a recent Associated Press

NON-OPERATING RAIL WORKERS GET 15½-CENT WAGE INCREASE

A wage increase of 15½ cents an hour was awarded to 1,000,000 union non-operating railroad workers on Sept. 2 by a six-man tri-partite arbitration board.

The board rejected the demand of the 17 non-operating rail unions for retroactive pay to April 25 when negotiations were started.

Even this slim increase in terms of price rises was opposed by the two railroad operators' representatives on the board. They dissented from the award and refused to sign the arbitration report.

The 17 unions had originally asked for a 20-cent raise as an "absolute minimum" to offset the increased cost of living since the 16-cent increase in June 1946 and the subsequent additional 2½ cents obtained after the strike of operating workers won 18½ cents.

While stating that the union lead-

ers would recommend acceptance of the award, G. E. Leighty, president of the Railroad Telegraphers and chairman of the union conference committee, said the workers are disappointed with the outcome of the arbitration, particularly denial of retroactive pay.

In granting the increase, the board took into account the fact that workers in most major industries have already received similar raises and that the rail workers have been in a very resentful mood. The board was also mindful of the increased militancy of the rail workers as reflected in the great national strike last year.

The five operating railroad brotherhoods are now reported to be considering wage demands in addition to their demand for 44 rule changes.

Republicans, Democrats Push Militarist Program

By Art Preis

As prices go higher and the housing shortage gets worse, the Truman administration and the bi-partisan Republican-Democratic gang in Washington are beating the imperialist war drums louder than ever to distract the people from their troubles.

"Guns instead of butter" was Hitler's slogan. "Atom bombs instead of homes" is the program of Wall Street's agents in the Capital. Last week heard the war whoops sounding at a shriller pitch.

The capitalist press gave top billing to the American Legion convention in New York City where Truman and Dewey, speaking for the Democratic and Republican machines respectively, joined in demanding the imposition of universal military training upon the American people.

NOT A WORD

Not a word did they speak upon the desperate needs of the veterans, whom the American Legion presumes to represent. They voiced only incitations to war against the Soviet Union, bellicose challenges to "communism," threats of military intervention on behalf of "democracy" everywhere and anywhere Wall Street chooses to stake out its claims.

Simultaneous with the flood of war-mongering, anti-communist propaganda pouring from the American Legion convention and overflowing newspaper headlines, Wall Street's diplomatic agents were down in Brazil lining up their Latin American satellites for a pledge of joint military action whenever American Big Business decides to again plunge the world into a shooting war.

After the Latin American governments were brow-beaten into this war pledge by Marshall and the Democratic and Republican delegates with him, Truman flew down to Rio. He climaxed the occasion by a blustering speech dedicating J. S. dollars and arms to Wall Street's "peace" program of world conquest.

COMPLETELY BURIED

Under this avalanche of militaristic and war propaganda, the needs of the people are completely buried. Gone from the newspapers are the brief headlines about "probes" of the monopoly price-fixers and the real estate associations. Washington has something "more important" and "vital" to offer the people—war preparations and the "fight against communism."

This is the classic answer of the

"Fortune" Poll Shows 35% Find It Harder To Make a Living

The war wages have lagged behind price jumps, no working class family needs to take a poll to find out how difficult it is to make ends meet in the post-war world. The editors of the lush Fortune magazine, however, live in a different bracket. They decided to check up on the reports by taking a poll.

Their survey showed 35% of the people find it harder to make a living than before the war, 34% "easier," and 25% "about the same." The surprised Fortune editors commented: "With unemployment low and production at a peacetime high, it is remarkable that there should be so many reports of discontent."

ruling capitalists when the people demand a solution to their economic and social problems. American capitalism, refusing to yield an iota of its profits, privilege and power and grasping for more, has no solution but war and repression.

PAY THROUGH THE NOSE

The American people, the vast majority of them wage-earners, are paying through the nose for this imperialist war program. Underlying the inflation and housing shortage are the terrific war debt of \$260 billion for World War II and the tens of billions being spent yearly in preparation for World War III.

The intolerable conditions are being aggravated by the insatiable greed of the capitalists. Profits pile ever higher as prices are boosted by monopoly-induced scarcity and price-fixing.

To halt their living standards, to halt U. S. imperialism's mad drive to atomic annihilation, the American people must declare war on the war-mongers. They must demand that the tens of billions for war purposes be reallocated by the government for building low-cost, low-rent housing. The monstrous tax burden must be lifted from the backs of the working people by eliminating all taxes from individuals earning less than \$5,000 a year. A labor party must be built to drive the war parties, Republican and Democratic, out of the government.

Legion Ignores Veterans' Needs In Rabid War-Mongers Confab

NEW YORK, Sept. 1.—The gravest problems facing war veterans and their families are the housing shortage and the high cost of living.

You would never know it, though, from the actions of the American Legion convention here, which yesterday wound up its scheduled four-day orgy of drunken brawling, vandalism and rabid war-mongering.

The convention, strictly controlled and manipulated from the top by brass-hat and business interests, was a whooped-up jingo rally for war preparations against the Soviet Union. Its big theme, repeated in every shape, form and manner, was that "communism" is the biggest, in fact the only problem facing the American people.

Most sinister of the convention's actions in support of this pro-war, anti-communist program was its resolution to amend the Bill of Rights of the U. S. Constitution by denying all civil rights to "communists" and to destroy the Constitution's clearly-stated safeguards for free speech, free press, freedom of assemblage, trial by jury, etc.

Although the American Legion is a private organization, the capitalist

press, high brass and Truman Administration tried to give it the trappings of a semi-official veterans' agency. Truman spoke for the Democrats, Dewey and Stassen for the Republicans. Gen. Eisenhower, Admiral Nimitz and Gen. Spaatz represented the Army, Navy and Air Forces. The latter lent a display of bombers to the occasion.

Thus, both major parties and the biggest Wall Street politicians combined with leading spokesmen for the military caste to make the convention a united front of reaction for the Truman Doctrine and Marshall Plan.

Truman and Dewey demonstratively addressed the convention on the same day, declaring their solidarity on the government's foreign policy of imperialist war preparation.

Stassen led the drive that drowned a small opposition of some isolationist midwest delegates and pushed through without a single opposing vote the resolution boosting the Truman-Marshall war program.

Some dissent was expressed on the action of the Legion leaders in opposing even such mild housing legislation as the Taft-Ellender-Wagner bill. Even this bill, which

bears the name of Republican Senator Taft, co-author of the Slave Labor Act, was denounced as "socialistic." The majority report against support of the housing bill was steamrollered through by a vote of 2,796 to 722. That's how the Legion "represents" the veterans.

Most of the claimed 51,000 delegates were aging small businessmen, insurance agents, real estate operators, lawyers, small-town bankers and similar middle class elements. Few World War II veterans were in attendance, despite the claim of the Legion officials that it has signed up over 2,000,000 ex-GIs.

Only a tiny fraction of the registered delegates actually participated in the convention. Less than 4,000 were present to vote on resolutions, all reeled off on the last day of the convention.

This convention was a deliberately-staged affair intended to spread the false impression that the Legion represents the veterans and that the veterans are hot for a new war. What the mass of veterans are really hot for is decent low-cost housing and a halt to the soaring cost of living. The American Legion doesn't speak for them.

A Mighty Labor Day Rally in Chicago

CHICAGO — On the broad expanse of Chicago's Outer Drive we were edging our way, literally inch by inch, toward Soldiers Field on Labor Day. We were heading for the Labor Day demonstration sponsored by the Chicago Federation of Labor.

We had started out in good time; the demonstration was scheduled to begin at 1:30 P.M. Caught in the terrific jam of automobiles we did not know that radio announcers had already at noon warned people to stay home since the 100,000 capacity at Soldiers Field was overcrowded.

When arriving at the field we were simply told by the cops to move on: "No parking space; no standing room," they shouted. Tens of thousands of Chicago unionists, and their sympathizers, milled around outside the closed gates. Thousands of automobiles had to move on. Street cars, buses and elevated trains unloaded new thousands in the vicinity. Said the radio announcers: "Conductors simply gave up collecting fares from the mighty onrush of people."

But this story should start at the beginning.

DEMAND FOR PROTEST ACTION

Shortly before the Taft-Hartley Bill faced the final showdown in Congress, demands became more insistent in the Chicago Federa-

tion of Labor that some manifestation of protest be made. At least a mass meeting. But, pleaded the officials, it is now too late; we may not get a good turnout. Some delegates reminded them that a resolution calling for a protest meeting had been submitted two months earlier and had been shelved in committee.

It is true that the Federation had taken the initiative for a joint session with CIO and Railroad Brotherhood representatives to explore the possibilities of protest against the vicious bill. One such session was actually held. But nothing further happened.

Finally the Federation leaders got up enough courage to sponsor a Labor Day demonstration and to let it be known as a protest against the Taft-Hartley Act. The response from the affiliated unions was swift and overwhelming. The idea of a resounding protest stirred the imagination of these working men and women. Throughout the local unions the talk struck that particular keynote — a mass protest demonstration.

A SEA OF HUMANITY

Labor Day arrived, and, as already described, we had to move on past Soldiers Field. But we were determined to try again. And finally a couple of hours later when we made our way past the many closed gates,

one opened enough to carry out several women who had fainted in the great crush. We barged in. There we faced a veritable sea of humanity, seated, standing in the aisles, and hanging on the rails, occupying every inch of space.

The Chicago Tribune said that 110,000 people were jammed into the Field while an even greater number had been turned away. And the Tribune, as is well known, always plays down on numbers for such an occasion.

William Green was speaking as we entered between circus acts. He admonished a "disciplined protest"—i.e., on Election Day — while affirming that the AFL "stalwartly supports our American free enterprise system." But this gigantic outpouring of protest brought even this old gent's condemnation of the vicious and reprehensible Taft-Hartley Act to climatic heights of emphasis.

ITS SIGNIFICANCE

What is the significance of such a mass outpouring? Shall we believe the well-trenched means of propaganda and so-called information at the disposal of capitalism? Let us cite one example, and perhaps not the worst one. The "liberal" Chicago Sun editorialized on labor's case.

"Labor greets its traditional holiday," it said, "in a mood of frustration and insecurity

... The trouble was that labor somehow failed to get its case across to the public ... So labor took it on the chin ... It suffered a loss of public confidence from the strikes ... What labor has to think about today is the gulf between itself and the public."

Who is the public anyway? Is it the newspaper publishers? Is it the Sixty Families who own most of America's wealth; or is it the huge throng that headed for the Labor Day protest demonstration?

A TRULY MASS DEMONSTRATION

For this was truly a mass demonstration. It was a mass demonstration of working men and women, those who make the wheels of industry move, those who produce everything that our society needs and receive so little in return. They are the ones who are really indispensable in our system of production. They now begin to speak with the voice of mass numbers. They represent already an organized mass movement of fifteen million with more millions to be added.

In this day and age of mass production all really decisive questions, economic, political and social, will finally be settled by force of mass numbers, by force of a mass movement. In such a situation labor need not at all feel frustrated. It has the best chances of winning.

TRADE UNION NOTES

By Art Preis

Wallace supporters and Stalinists in California have launched a state union party. This is not a labor party based on the unions, but is called the Independent Progressive Party. Most of the 34-man committee heading the petition drive to put the new party on the state ballot are union officials. The chairman is Hugh Bryson, president of the CIO Marine Cooks and Stewards.

From all present appearances, the Stalinists intend to use this new party as they have the American Labor Party in New York—as a bargaining stick for deals with the Democrats. Bryson is quoted in the Aug. 26 Daily Worker as stating the new party is designed to "strengthen the position of progressives in the Democratic Party" and "help send a Wallace delegation to the Democratic National Convention in 1948."

Justice, organ of the AFL International Ladies Garment Workers' Union, states that "labor's influence in Congress is close to its lowest point for the last decade and a half—lower, in fact, than in the days of Harding, Coolidge and Hoover." This is quite an indictment of the political policy of the union leaders, since the labor movement is five times as large today as 14 years ago. But David Dubinsky's paper concludes that now is still not the time for a labor party!

Phillip Murray's machine at the recent Illinois State CIO Council convention took control away from the Stalinists. Joseph Germano, District 31 Steelworkers Director, was elected State CIO President. The attack on the Stalinists was based on red-baiting and anti-communism. Germano's supporters were not above the use of rough stuff against the opposition. The Stalinists, who are no novices in bureaucratic and terrorist methods, sent up a wall.

Militant unionists will fight, however, for union democracy against the Murray machine and the Stalinists. The red-baiters attacked the Stalinists by methods that in-

fringe on the rights of all union members. For instance, they reduced the executive board from 23 to nine members, totally excluding such large unions as the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers from representation.

Attention has been directed to the practice of union leaders inviting anti-labor politicians to speak from union platforms by the action of Paul E. Seymour, UE Boston regional director, who asked the CIO electrical workers last week to boycott a CIO Labor Day Rally in protest against the appearance of Lieutenant Gov. Arthur W. Coolidge as a speaker. We might not endorse Seymour's boycott proposal in this instance — but we certainly agree it's about time union workers put a stop to these disgraceful exhibitions where labor's enemies are "honored guests" at union affairs.

The 35th Convention of the Brotherhood of Firemen and Enginemen voted to seek affiliation with any union organization that may be formed by an eventual merger of the CIO and AFL. The resolution deprecates the "weakening of American labor" by "disunity." This disunity has been preserved in part by the BLF&E officialdom itself. It has helped to obstruct rail labor unity for 75 years. Their sentiment about eventual merger of all unions is commendable. They can demonstrate their sincerity now by speeding a merger of the BLF&E and Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers (BLE) which they have sabotaged for years. Like charity, labor unity begins at home.

Police violence against union pickets has increased sharply since passage of the Taft-Hartley Act. Even the police in Detroit, where the CIO auto workers are so powerful, are beginning to push the workers around again in strikes. It is a warning sign that Detroit police recently dared to attack a UAW picket line at the Huck Mfg. Co. and rough up and arrest UAW Executive Board member Emil Mazey along with five other prominent UAW members.

Workers in The Revolutionary Party

By J. R. Johnson

The revolutionary party is a study by itself. In this column I have already shown that in its structure it is based upon the factory. The factory is a place of exploitation and regimentation by capital and labor. But a factory also is a place of socialized, collective labor by workers. The domination of capital transforms an occupation that should be useful to society and a means of physical and intellectual development to man into the degradation of capitalistic labor. The party models itself upon a collective and social, i.e., the revolutionary proletarian aspects of factory production.

Lenin and all the great Bolsheviks were always sensitive as litmus paper to what they called the social composition of the party. They wanted in the party workers, and workers who had been trained in large scale capitalist production. Lenin, in particular, went to extraordinary lengths in this direction.

In 1922, the Russian Bolshevik party was admitting workers into its ranks after a probation period of six months. The probation period for others was one year. Lenin proposed that the probation period of six months should be allowed only for those workers who had actually been workers in large industrial enterprises for a period of not less than ten years. For all other workers the probation period should be three times as long, 18 months. For peasants and Red Army men, the probation period should be two years, and for all others three years.

SOMETHING VITAL

Lenin wrote this on March 24. On March 25 the plenum of the Central Committee decided against him. He immediately gave notice that he was going to challenge the decision at the party congress. A political leader does not challenge the decisions of his leading committee before a congress so speedily unless he feels that something vital is at stake.

Lenin was willing to go along with the six month probation period for workers. But he proposed to define the term worker in such a way as to include only those who could have acquired "a proletarian mentality" from their very position in life. This is not possible without having worked in a factory for many years. And, he added, the worker must have worked in this

factory not for ulterior motives, but because of the general conditions of his economic and social life. This is the position of revolutionary socialism. It is opposed to the concepts of bourgeois society. Revolutionary socialism believes that the raising of the discipline, the feeling for organization, the outlook upon the world and the capacity for action of a revolutionary proletarian are the forces which are to lead in the overthrow of the old society and the reconstruction of the new. The Bolshevik party consists of those proletarians who have consciously grasped what must be the role of the proletariat in the struggle for the socialist revolution. They constitute the vanguard of the class.

But even when the proletariat is not revolutionary in the sense that it does not in its millions accept the leadership of the revolutionary party, yet it contains within itself the proletarian qualities and the proletarian mentality which make it the vanguard of the whole social order.

DIFFICULT TO LEARN

This is an extremely difficult thing to learn and to act upon constantly. Many genuine enemies of capitalist society live in the revolutionary movement for years and never get to understand this. They believe that the discipline of a revolutionary party is something that leaders apply or administer to rank and file. They are perpetually concerned with the fear that under socialism a new group of leaders might be able to reimpose a bureaucratic domination upon society. They fear that the workers will not be educated enough to protect themselves against the new technicians, intellectuals and bureaucrats. They therefore are perpetually eating themselves out about democratic safeguards, rules, forms, and methods of democratic procedure.

In reality the degeneration of the Russian Revolution took place because Russia did not have enough workers who had been through the hard school of large scale capitalist production. There were over a hundred million peasants and only a few million proletarians and their families. If those figures had been reversed, if the large majority of the population had been proletarian, the whole course of Russian and world history would have been different.

Scientific socialism is the conscious expression of the unconscious historical process; namely, the instinctive and elemental drive of the proletariat to reconstruct society on communist principles. These organic tendencies in the psychology of workers spring to life with utmost rapidity today in the epoch of crises and wars. —Leon Trotsky, 1940

In the letter in which Lenin explained his views he made this essentially clear. He warned that the peasantry of Russia was rapidly awakening to independent class politics. These millions would soon be bringing an enormous pressure to bear upon the Bolshevik party as the leader of the proletarian state. Petty-bourgeois intellectuals and proletarians of a few years standing could not be depended upon. They were not firm enough. They were not hardened and disciplined to resist all pressures. They could be stamped and thrown off their balance by sudden shocks. They could be seduced by new doctrines.

WORKERS STAND UP

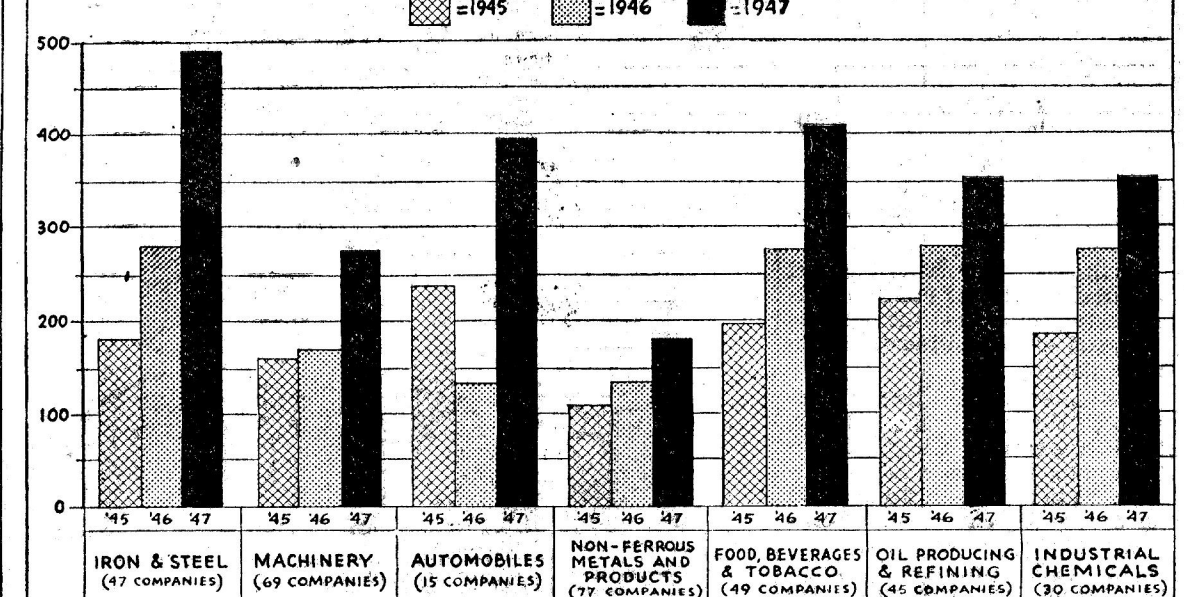
But men who had been through ten years of life in a large factory were of a different type. They had fought capital. They knew its treachery and its strength. They knew the meaning of discipline and solidarity. They were not lightly thrown from a course that had been embarked upon. They were not given to compromises with the class enemy. This was the type that Lenin wanted in the Bolshevik party.

The great Bolsheviks have always known this and tried to act upon it under all circumstances. What is of more significance for us is the fact that their bitter enemies knew it too. One of the reasons that Lenin gives for his insistence on the 18 months probation period was precisely this understanding by the counter-revolution of both the strength and the weakness of Bolshevism.

The White Guards and all the fascistic elements were coldly calculating the number of petty-bourgeois elements in the Bolshevik party. They were depending upon these to corrupt the proletarian character of the proletarian dictatorship. Thus the fascistic elements, most contemptuous of the worker in bourgeois society, recognized him as their most deadly and powerful enemy once their society had been overthrown.

The petty-bourgeois intellectuals believe that their contribution is necessary to develop and to educate the proletariat in socialism. Lenin, the extreme revolutionary and his counter-revolutionary enemies both thought exactly the opposite. In the penetration of the proletarian vanguard by petty-bourgeois and pseudo-proletarian and intellectual elements, each saw the corruption of the proletarian mentality and danger for the revolution.

CORPORATE PROFITS after taxes. (Millions of dollars)



This chart from the CIO Economic Outlook tells a consistent story. In 1947 (to date) Big Business has reaped the largest profits in American history. And high prices continue to swell them.

CCE Resolution Passed At BLF&E Convention

Amalgamation of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Engineers (BLF & E) and Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers (BLE), long advocated by progressives of both unions as a major step toward eventual unification of all railroad labor, was overwhelmingly endorsed by the recent 35th Convention of the BLF & E in San Francisco.

The resolution adopted by the convention was introduced by delegates representing the Consolidation Committee of Engineers, a progressive caucus that has met the most bitter opposition from BLF&E President D. B. Robertson and his machine.

Robertson has paid lip-service in the past to the amalgamation idea, but consistently sabotaged it in practice. The resolution of the CCE delegates took the power of negotiations with the BLE from the top BLF & E officers and placed it in the hands of a convention-elected nine-man committee limited to members "engaged in actual engine service at the time of election to this Committee." Full-time salaried officers or agents of the union are barred from this committee.

A convention committee had been set up to consider ways and means of achieving consolidation of the dual unions of the men in the engine-cabs. This committee was dominated by Robertson men.

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENT

However, according to the CCE paper, *The Consolidator*, "the progressive forces were able to get 650 delegates to appear before this committee. Most of these delegates told the committee, in no uncertain terms, that if they brought out a recommendation to the convention that did not call for rank and file control of the committee, they would fight it out on the floor."

"The administration became conscious of the tremendous job the CCE had accomplished: that in spite of all secondary questions, the overwhelming majority of the convention delegates would insist upon a consolidation conference committee on which no Grand Lodge of-

fers could serve. The administration was forced to accept our program!"

The achievement of the CCE caucus on this major point of its program was all the more significant in view of the ruthless and iron-handed conduct of the convention by Robertson and his machine. On other important convention issues, Robertson was able to shove through a number of resolutions consolidating his powers and dictatorship over the union.

At the start of the convention, Robertson had denied seating to delegates representing the CCE position. This action was based on a previous ruling he had made in expelling members without trial for participation in the CCE. The convention voted to hear both the administration and the unseated delegates. Robertson spoke for an hour and a half attacking the unseated delegates, and then shoved through a motion approving his actions without the progressives being given the floor.

By this action, the convention gave Robertson virtually unrestricted power to expel members without trial.

Despite his machine-control of the convention, bureaucratic manip-

AFL Organizer Cites Need for Labor Party

CHICAGO, Sept. 1 — "Organized labor has been participating in a game of 'Company Union' politics," states Sam Pollock, General Organizer of the AFL Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen of North America in an article in the August issue of *The Butcher Workman*.

"Labor has permitted the parties of Wall Street to select the candidates for whom labor was then 'privileged' to vote. This is no different than the unions set up and controlled by the employers to keep their workers from setting up their own independent unions. "We called such unions 'Company Unions' and labor did not hesitate to fight such unions through the establishment of unions that would truly represent their wishes. "Today, labor is fighting with one fist, its economic strength. Its

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! Repeat 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!

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Wall Street Presses Drive For Domination of Europe

While Secretary of State Marshall was busy at Petropolis, Brazil, tying Latin America to Wall Street's war chariot, three other conferences worked out further details of the Marshall Plan for Europe.

The most important conference was one in Washington between British and American delegates. This conference has been conducted in such secrecy that it has dropped almost completely out of the press.

Yet when it began Aug. 12, it was characterized as "decisive" in determining "the scope and success of the Marshall Plan."

The subject of this conference behind locked doors is the Ruhr. Officially the delegates are discussing how to raise production there. What they are really discussing is ownership of the 40,000,000,000 estimated tons of coal that lie under the industrial basin, ownership of the great steel mills that even after war's destruction and two years dismantling are still capable of producing 19,200,000 tons of steel a year, and ownership of the other enterprises in the fabulously productive industrial network known as the "forge of Europe."

SECRET LEAKED OUT

This became known when a "top secret" leaked out in Essen, Germany, that the U. S. had made an offer to the British for the Ruhr mills. It was confirmed by the declaration of an unnamed official of the U. S. Military Government in Germany that "We are having to fight the British out of the coal mines now."

These mines, mills, factories, railways, etc., were formerly held by giant cartels that were linked with a thousand threads to the colossal trusts and monopolists of American Big Business. On Aug. 19, 1945, the British took over control.

The British capitalists, weakened by the war, are not strong enough to exclude profit-hungry American Big Business from decisive control. The Wall Street economic royalists see a golden opportunity to divert a major share of the future possible profits from the Ruhr into their own bank vaults.

It is a question of the price the British can succeed in wringing out of their former war allies: a question of setting up a smooth transition to American control; and other high items of a thieves' deal that is under discussion at Washington. This is the reason for the secrecy surrounding this meeting.

SECOND CONFERENCE

The second conference took place in London between American, British, and French delegates. This meeting was staged to give the French a public opportunity to protest the decisions of the American and British capitalists on stepping up industrial production in the two zones of Germany they control.

The French capitalists want a lion's share of the Ruhr coal. They want the Ruhr steel industry to

remain completely paralyzed. They want German industrial production kept far below French levels. They insisted on their fear that revival of German industry meant revival of German war potential.

They indicated, however, that if they were assured of huge deliveries of Ruhr coal, and of military security, they might see fit to be less fearful. The London conference agreed to discuss the French demands for coal at a subsequent meeting, but refused to concede anything else—at least publicly. The French had to be satisfied with that.

Then the British and American governments on Aug. 29 released the text of their agreement to step up German production.

The American capitalist press hailed this agreement as a "great step forward—the key to ending the economic and political crisis that is rending Europe. This jubilation is natural, since Wall Street wishes to build up German capitalism. It views the class that spawned Nazism as the keystone of the Western Bloc it is organizing in preparation for the projected assault on the Soviet Union.

The Stalinists denounced the agreement as a violation of the Potsdam agreement which set German steel production at 5,800,000 tons. They howled about "German production" being permitted to "outstrip all Western Europe." And the Kremlin protested the fact it was not consulted.

STALINIST TREACHERY

The Stalinists did not defend the interests of the German workers who are most directly concerned in this matter. They did not demand withdrawal of Allied troops. They did not call for handing the German industries to the German workers. They did not defend the vital interest of the world working class in bringing German production to the highest possible level in the shortest possible time, nor did they call for the establishment of socialism in Germany as the most effective means of achieving this end.

The agreement offers nothing to the German workers but a continued perspective of misery and hunger. For Europe as a whole it offers no hope of reconstruction, the scale required to assure the masses even the minimum basic necessities. Consider the following facts:

The goal set for the German standard of living is 75% of the 1936 level. This means that even if the plan is realized in full the most the masses can expect is a living standard much below the starvation level imposed by the Hitler regime when it demanded "guns not butter."

Steel production is set at 10,700,000 tons—barely more than half of capacity.

The following percentages of industries are still earmarked to be dismantled and shipped out of the country as reparations: light machinery, 35%; machine tools, 35%; chemical industry, 40% to 50%; organic and inorganic chemical industry 17%; miscellaneous chemical groups, 15%; plastics industry, 25%. In addition to this a number of miscellaneous factories, mills and plants are scheduled to be destroyed or torn down for reparations.

And as if this were not enough to cripple industry, the production of the following key materials is still banned—aluminum, beryllium, vanadium, magnesium, ball bearings, synthetic ammonia, rubber, gasoline and oil.

THIRD CONFERENCE

The third conference convened in Paris. This parley of the representatives of the 16 members of the Western Bloc is the one officially designated to draw up a survey of Europe's needs under the Marshall plan.

The conference completed a list of requirements by Sept. 1, the deadline. The cost was put at some \$30,000,000,000 for the next four years. After that, Europe would still be running up a deficit of \$4,000,000,000 a year, according to the survey.

The capitalist press reported that the delegates were horrified at the size of their own figures. This "horror" was probably somewhat exaggerated. As reported in the June 21 Militant, \$30,000,000,000 was the amount tentatively suggested in Washington at the time the Marshall Plan was first announced.

RIDICULOUS COMEDY

However, the State Department, which has been conducting a ridiculous comedy of pretending to let the Paris conference reach its conclusions without any interference or suggestions whatever, at once dispatched a crew of diplomats to intervene directly and bring these figures down "within reason."

In response to severe criticisms of their work by these State Department spokesmen, the Paris parley "acted quickly" to revise its estimates, which had been "calculated as scientifically as possible." They decided to take another two weeks on their report and to begin by knocking off the \$4,000,000,000 deficit they had foreseen would continue after four years. And they decided at the same time to reduce Europe's all-over needs to \$21,000,000,000 or even \$15,000,000,000 if the State Department demanded.

Truman's envoys explained to the representatives of the 16 western European powers that after all they had "to sell" the Marshall Plan to Congress and the public. In their opinion about \$5,000,000,000 a year was right for the next four years and that, moreover, had to put Europe on its feet and able to begin paying dividends.

Strangely enough, \$5,000,000,000 also happens to be the amount of the deficit in trade with Europe, the amount of dollars Europe lacks and which it must secure somewhere if the present rate of exports to the United States is to be kept up and a depression in America staved off.

It has not yet been revealed where the Paris conference expects to do the paring. In its Sept. 1 forecast, \$20,000,000,000 was for food alone during the next four years. The Wall Street delegates probably saw no reason why the European masses shouldn't begin tightening their belts at once and may have indicated a slash in the food ration as the logical place to cut. What better way to start Europe on the austere life blueprinted in the Marshall Plan?

Attempts of the authorities, governmental and union alike, to herd the men back to the mines, have thus far proved unavailing. The union chieftains "cannot even get more than a small minority of strikers to attend mass meetings or to vote on whether or not to return to work." N. Y. Times correspondent Herbert L. Matthews reported on Sept. 1. This disreputable of the official labor leadership in the eyes of the rank and file will become more and more widespread in the days ahead.

The strike of the Grimethorpe men has aroused deep response throughout the whole Yorkshire area. By Sept. 2, despite the frantic efforts of the Laborite misleaders and betrayers, sympathy walk-outs had spread to 29 pits, involving more than 30,000 miners. Some 50,000 are employed in Yorkshire.

Meanwhile, the coal industry faces additional difficulties. The clerical workers, with a membership of 10,000, served notice that they would go out on strike after Sept. 7, because of the stalling of the National Coal Board. The clerks demand recognition of their union, as a body separate and apart from

the National Union of Mineworkers. The next day, Sept. 3, 46 collieries in Yorkshire were shut down as 50,000 miners walked out. The men, increasingly bitter against their own union officialdom, were determined to defy both the National Coal Board and the Laborite Ministers. The depth of their resentment is apparently not appreciated in London.

A London cable to the N. Y. Times, Sept. 4, states: "A tour of this south Yorkshire area between Doncaster and Barnsley, including Grimethorpe, and talks with many people, showed that the situation is even more dangerous than it looked from London."

The Laborite ministers and union chieftains, who have been vilely attacking the Yorkshire strikers, are afraid lest the movement spread over the whole Yorkshire area and beyond it.

This highly explosive coal strike occurs precisely at a moment when the Attlee government has announced that after Oct. 1 it will drive the workers' living standards below those in the darkest war days.

The meat ration has been slashed another 15%, permitting workers only 20 cents worth a week. Bread which remained unrationed during the war is to be doled out in starvation portions of 63 ounces a week. Sugar will be slashed to the wartime low of 8 ounces weekly; bacon to 2 ounces (as against the wartime low of 3 ounces); cheese, 2½ ounces (wartime low was 2 ounces).

While determined to keep wages frozen, Attlee and his friends have taken the initiative in boosting prices. By government decree, coal has been hiked more than 10%, with another increase coming on Oct. 1 when rail freight charges will also be raised.

Higher coal prices and freight rates will not only deprive millions of the main fuel for cooking and warming themselves in winter, but it will set off a general price rise.

While the Laborite leaders blame higher coal prices on the miserable wage increases, on the "inefficiency" of the coal miners, "absenteeism," and so on, they keep mum about the millions of pounds in dividends annually guaranteed to the erstwhile coal operators, who are now bondholders of the "nationalized" coal industry.

Truman Administration Shuffles Quislings in Greek Government

By Joseph Hansen

Refugees in Floating Cages



Caged on British ships, these orphans are en route to Palestine from Cyprus where they have been held for months. Thousands of refugees aren't "fortunate," however, and 4,400 are being shipped back to Germany after having reached the very shores of Jerusalem. Federated Picture

The Truman Administration has been intervening in the internal affairs of Greece "like a bull in a china shop and just as effectively," according to "British remarks" reported Aug. 30 by N. Y. Times correspondent Dana Adams Schmidt.

The exposure of the crude lies about "red plots" and "international brigades" spun by Minister of Public Order Napoleon Zervas to cover up the Wall Street-sponsored reign of terror in Greece proved uncomfortable to the Truman Administration. An attempt was made to oust Zervas and give the cabinet a "liberal" front.

American Ambassador Lincoln MacVeagh and Dwight Griswold, head of the U. S. "aid" mission, succeeded in jerking puppet Zervas off the stage. But they ended up with a government dangling from their fingers that differed in no essential respect from the former one headed by Maximos, which even the reactionary editor of the N. Y. Times was forced to describe as "a government of revenge, inefficiency and division."

Headed by Tsaldaris, boss of the former cabinet, the new cabinet is composed solely of members of the pro-royalist Populist Party. Tsaldaris triumphantly announced that the American Ambassador had "agreed nevertheless to tolerate his nominees 'temporarily.'"

The first act of the new Tsaldaris cabinet was a declaration it would outlaw all strikes and press the witch hunt purge of suspected "reds" among government workers.

MacVeagh and Griswold manipulated their puppets so clumsily that their strings got tangled. Griswold, for instance, told Tsaldaris that too "narrow" a government would be "inadmissible." American Ambassador MacVeagh, put on the spot by Tsaldaris, had to issue a public statement "explaining" that Griswold only meant "inadvisable."

The State Department rushed Loy Henderson, one of its top officials, to untangle the strings. It was announced that Henderson may have all the top puppet politicians appear before him in a body for a "stern warning" on American policy. Presumably he will explain what it takes to succeed as a quisling for Wall Street.

During the shuffle, Zervas was made a scapegoat for the reign of terror. Hauled on the carpet by the American Ambassador, Zervas was told that in the United States it was considered he had "dictatorial and fascist tendencies" because of the recent mass arrests.

The ex-bandit lamely asked what he could do to change the opinion of the United States, but he won no stay of sentence. "It seems unlikely," declared Schmidt, "that Zervas can hold public office again while Americans are in Greece."

Zervas' real crimes in Wall Street's eyes were two: (1) his lies were too crude; (2) he didn't succeed in crushing the political opposition to the puppet dynasty.

The mass arrests organized by Zervas were utilized by the American capitalist press at the time to beat the drums for war against the Soviet Union. His lies about "plots" and "brigades" were headlined as "proof" of foreign intervention in Greece.

Zervas was only applying the Truman Doctrine. He took his cue from Congress and the Truman Administration. As Schmidt pointed out, the Greek puppets believe "that American 'Red scares,' the purge of Communists from the State Department and what they imagine to have been a 'prohibition of strikes' (a reference to the Taft-Hartley Slave Labor Law) imply 'right-wing policy similar to their own.'"

The real views of the Truman Administration toward the reign of terror in Greece can be gathered from the fact that it has not lifted a finger to secure the release of the tens of thousands of victims railroaded to prisons and concentration camps. Schmidt observed in passing that Zervas' "ideas for fighting guerrillas coincide with the Americans."

Anyone who has read about Murder, Inc., or similar gangs, can easily understand why Tsaldaris and his fellow puppets resisted "broadening" the regime.

These political gangsters handle anything in the quisling line and their prices could be called suspi-

ciously low, considering the number of murders called for. But once the cash is on the line (say a \$300,000,000 "loan" from Congress) what about blackmail?

"Greeks are convinced," explains Schmidt, "that Americans could not shut off aid, that it would disrupt their entire program and that American interest is far too deeply committed in Greece" for Mr. Henderson or Mr. MacVeagh or Mr. Griswold to take a chance on indulging in any such gestures" as shutting off funds.

So Truman's representatives in Greece suddenly felt the puppets jerking back on the strings with more than a hint about laying a few more grand on the line. Whether British diplomacy in Greece had a hand in inspiring these puppets to embarrass the rich Communist-fearing Wall Street cousins of the British is not clear.

Ironically, the Truman Administration now finds even the election rigged by the Allied powers in Greece Mar. 31, 1946, an embarrassment. Schmidt was permitted in the columns of the N. Y. Times to call the election results a "bitter obstacle" in manipulating the Greek puppets, and to admit that "American efforts to 'broaden' or obtain a more workable government appear to be calculated to . . . get around the results of the election."

What keeps the hated Greek monarchy in power is the Allied armed force that installed it. Withdraw the British troops who are now in Greece and the puppet government is threatened with speedy collapse unless American troops replace the British.

That is why, as Neal Stanford, Washington correspondent of the Christian Science Monitor, explained Aug. 28, "Top-ranking Washington officials today are wrestling with a politically explosive subject: Under what conditions should American troops be sent to Greece?"

The British have been persuaded twice so far to postpone withdrawal of their troops. Now they again maintain that they can't afford the expense any longer. The Truman Administration is asking for another postponement.

However, the British imperialists, who are themselves acquainted with the art of blackmail, are proving difficult to convince. They are "resisting the heaviest possible pressure from the State Department," N. Y. Times correspondent Mallory Browne reported Aug. 29 from London.

What they are holding out for is "relief somewhere else—perhaps in Germany or Palestine—then Britain might find it was still not quite 'practical' to call her troops home from Greece this year."

If the price asked by the British imperialist bandits to keep their troops in Greece is too high to suit the imperialist bandits on Wall Street, then to quote Neal Stanford, "Washington may decide to take the fateful plunge and replace the British with Americans."

Dutch Despots Spurn Second "Cease Fire" Order in War on Java

In its handling of the Dutch war on Indonesia last week, the United Nations gave an instructive demonstration of its ability to serve the Allied imperialists at the expense of freedom-seeking colonial peoples.

On August 1 the Security Council issued a "cease fire" order. The Indonesian government abided by this order. The Dutch despots, however, paid no attention to it. They went right ahead methodically bombing villages and murdering Indonesian patriots in the areas they had seized since July 20, the day they launched all-out war.

Finally on Aug. 25 the Security Council considered a Russian motion for a commission to check up on compliance with the "cease fire" order. The French delegation vetoed even this feeble gesture. French imperialism is conducting its own war of pillage and colonial conquest in Indo-China. Consequently the French see eye to eye with their Dutch fellow-bandits.

As a substitute, the UN Security Council on Aug. 26 passed another "cease fire" order. Van Kleeffens, representing the Dutch throne, contemptuously told the UN that its action "will be considered at The Hague." Nothing more than that is expected to result from the new order.

In the debate on the motion, Van Kleeffens was strongly backed by Herschel V. Johnson, delegate of the United States. "I do not think," said Johnson, ". . . that it is a fair attitude to assume that everything the Dutch do has evil motives and that the people who suffer because of the incompetence and inability of the Indonesian Government to afford them police protection do not matter."

Johnson's "zeal" in defending the Dutch should be judged in the light of the concern displayed by the State Department for Wall Street's holdings in Indonesia. This concern likewise explains why the Truman administration refuses to recapture the American-owned arms and munitions being used by the Dutch murderers against the Indonesians.

One observer remarked during the UN debate on Indonesia that "the shadows of Morocco, the subject states of Africa, and of Puerto Rico are hovering over the Security Council table today."

While the UN Gen of imperialist thieves did what it could to keep the hands of the Dutch generals and admirals free for action, Queen Wilhelmina's armed forces appeared to be preparing for an assault on Jogjakarta.

Since the Aug. 1 "cease fire" order the Dutch have repeatedly denied any intention of attacking the capital of the Indonesian Republic. To judge from past Dutch propaganda, however, this very insistence should be taken as a warning that their real aims are quite different.

In addition, Dutch troops have been inching steadily closer to the beleaguered city. And on Aug. 30 van Mook, head of Dutch forces in Indonesia, openly called for "an end to the authority" of the Republican government.

The Dutch imperialists want to bring their war of conquest to a speedy conclusion—an aim with which the imperialist powers in the UN are in perfect agreement.

International Notes

BATTLE AND POT: Despite widespread fraud and disfranchisement which gave them the highest number of votes in the Hungarian 31 elections, the Stalinists were able to claim only 21½% of the votes. This was an increase of less than 5% over the last election, which was held in 1945. If the fraudulent ballots are discounted, it is clear that Stalinist influence among the masses in Hungary, far from growing, has actually declined since the end of the war.

Nevertheless, the Stalinist grip on the government has been tightened by the election results, for the government coalition (Communist, Small Landholder, Social Democratic, and National Peasant Parties) received over 60% of the vote.

Even though the Social Democrats bitterly protested the election frauds and threatened to resign from the government, the Communist Party's control of both the coalition and the police apparatus seems to assure Stalinist domination over the government for the time being.

When Washington complains about election fraud and terror in Hungary or when Moscow complains about election fraud and terror in Mississippi, it is a case of the kettle and the pot.

TERROR IN PERU: The government of Peru suspended civil liberties guarantees on Sept. 2 in an effort to break a five day old general strike in Lima and its port of Callao. The government arrested 48 labor leaders in connection with the strike, which union leaders announced had been settled by direct negotiations with management half an hour before the issuance of the draconian decree by President Bustamante Rivero.

WANT JUSTICE FOR FASCISTS: Casale Monferrato, a city of 30,000 people in northwestern Italy, was last week reported occupied by partisans, who seized the town to protest the government's

freeing of six local fascists who had been condemned to death by Popular Tribunals after the German troops had been driven from the area.

STALIN RATIFIES—The Kremlin's ratification of the "peace" treaties with the five minor satellites of the Axis—Italy, Rumania, Hungary, Bulgaria and Finland—opens the way for the withdrawal of occupation troops from these countries within 90 days after the deposit of the ratifications.

However, Stalin will be able to keep troops in Rumania and Hungary "to guard supply lines" until a treaty with Austria is agreed on—and that is still a good way off. Similarly, the joint occupation forces may be kept in the Territory of Trieste, according to the Italian treaty.

So the demand for the withdrawal of all occupation forces from south-eastern Europe will remain just as valid and urgent as before.

FOR WHITES ONLY—Australia's carrying on a drive to attract a million new settlers to that country. An Australian propaganda booklet makes it clear however that he offer is limited only to white British subjects and others of European descent and "United States x-servicemen and women of white European race." As in Mississippi industry, Negroes need not apply.

REAL INITIATIVE—In Japan, he Aug. 29 Wall Street Journal reports, "the post office workers on their own initiative decided to work only a half day during the summer; the cautious government expresses 'hope' that they'll soon return to a full day schedule."

ONE OUT OF TWO: Half of the world's population is chronically underfed, according to the UN Food and Agriculture Organization. Europe, Asia and North Africa face a grain deficit of about 38 million tons in the year ending next June.

UNSCOP Plan Sets Trap For Jews, Arabs Alike

On Aug. 31 at Geneva, the United Nations Special Committee on Palestine (UNSCOP), the sixth commission to take a junket to Palestine since the Balfour declaration 30 years ago, officially filed its recommendations for solving the conflicts convulsing this country, so long a pawn in imperialist power politics.

UNSCOP has emerged from months of deliberation with two reports. Seven delegations (Canada, Czechoslovakia, Guatemala, the Netherlands, Peru, Sweden and Uruguay) supported the majority proposal to partition Palestine into

two politically autonomous, yet economically federated, Jewish and Arab states. The Jewish section would embrace more than 60% of the total area, including virtually the entire coastal region, plus the ports of Haifa and Jaffa, which are predominantly Arab in tradition and population.

The heart of the country, the area around Jerusalem, including the little town of Bethlehem, would constitute a "trusteeship" under the permanent administration of the League of Nations, that is to say, of Wall Street.

The minority report, supported by the Moslem delegations (Iran and India) and Yugoslavia, is opposed to partition, favoring instead a federated Arab-Jewish state, guaran-

English Miners Strike As Mass Unrest Rises

The dissatisfaction of the British workers with the perfidious Attlee government, which is saddling monstrous privations upon the masses in order to preserve capitalism in Britain, flared into the open last week, when the full crew of 2,700 coal

miners walked out of the Grimethorpe pits in protest against the firing of 140 men. Thousands of other Yorkshire miners joined them.

The fired men had struck on Aug. 14 in refusal to accept the new speed-up regulations of the government's coal board, approved by the union officials.

Attempts of the authorities, governmental and union alike, to herd the men back to the mines, have thus far proved unavailing. The union chieftains "cannot even get more than a small minority of strikers to attend mass meetings or to vote on whether or not to return to work." N. Y. Times correspondent Herbert L. Matthews reported on Sept. 1. This disreputable of the official labor leadership in the eyes of the rank and file will become more and more widespread in the days ahead.

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A London cable to the N. Y. Times, Sept. 4, states: "A tour of this south Yorkshire area between Doncaster and Barnsley, including Grimethorpe, and talks with many people, showed that the situation is even more dangerous than it looked from London."

The Laborite ministers and union chieftains, who have been vilely attacking the Yorkshire strikers, are afraid lest the movement spread over the whole Yorkshire area and beyond it.

This highly explosive coal strike occurs precisely at a moment when the Attlee government has announced that after Oct. 1 it will drive the workers' living standards below those in the darkest war days.

The meat ration has been slashed another 15%, permitting workers only 20 cents worth a week. Bread which remained unrationed during the war is to be doled out in starvation portions of 63 ounces a week. Sugar will be slashed to the wartime low of 8 ounces weekly; bacon to 2 ounces (as against the wartime low of 3 ounces); cheese, 2½ ounces (wartime low was 2 ounces).

While determined to keep wages frozen, Attlee and his friends have taken the initiative in boosting prices. By government decree, coal has been hiked more than 10%, with another increase coming on Oct. 1 when rail freight charges will also be raised.

Higher coal prices and freight rates will not only deprive millions of the main fuel for cooking and warming themselves in winter, but it will set off a general price rise.

While the Laborite leaders blame higher coal prices on the miserable wage increases, on the "inefficiency" of the coal miners, "absenteeism," and so on, they keep mum about the millions of pounds in dividends annually guaranteed to the erstwhile coal operators, who are now bondholders of the "nationalized" coal industry.

coal industry.

THE MILITANT

Published in the Interests of the Working People

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"Fascism in the United States will be directed against Jews and the Negroes, but against the Negroes particularly, and in a most terrible manner."

Leon Trotsky

Bill of Rights Imperiled

For 156 years the American people have regarded the U. S. Constitution's first ten amendments, commonly called the Bill of Rights, as an inviolable legal guarantee of their democratic rights and liberties.

The rulers of this country have lawlessly invaded these cherished rights on many occasions. But never before have they dared openly to advocate alteration or abridgement of the Bill of Rights itself.

So arrogant has the ruling capitalist class become, that it is now engaged in a direct assault upon the Bill of Rights. This is the ominous meaning of the resolution, adopted last week by the American Legion convention, calling for amendment of the Bill of Rights as such.

This frontal assault upon the Bill of Rights is naturally represented as a defense of "democracy" against "communism." The Legion demands a constitutional amendment to deprive of basic constitutional rights anyone CHARGED with "promoting the overthrow of the government of the United States by force."

How easy it would be for the government to drag union leaders and labor militants into court on the charge of "promoting the overthrow of the government by force" and thereby automatically deprive them of any and all constitutional rights. What a field day this would give labor's enemies!

That the American Legion, controlled by the ruthless Big Brass and fascist-minded business interests, should advocate such a blow at the Bill of Rights is not surprising. But what makes this move especially ominous is that not a single leading government official or spokesman of the Democratic and Republican parties, not a single major capitalist newspaper has assailed it.

Such a resolution should have immediately raised a great hue and cry. Instead, the capitalist press has given bare mention to it. Truman, Dewey, Stassen, Eisenhower, Nimitz and Spaatz, who helped steam up the American Legion convention for the imperialist Truman Doctrine and Marshall Plan, have been silent, where silence bids consent.

The American Legion is notorious as an anti-labor organization. It helped to spearhead the vigilante terror against unions and labor militants after the First World War. Its present attack on the Bill of Rights is directed not alone at communists. It is aimed squarely at everyone who speaks against Wall Street's war program. Above all, it is designed to destroy the democratic rights of Wall Street's greatest opponent, the labor movement.

Let labor be forewarned. The Bill of Rights is seriously endangered. Once the Legion's amendment is passed, other amendments would soon follow. All the rights of free speech, free press, free assembly, would be wiped out. The American working class must expose and denounce the Legion's action and fight it.

Wallace's Tricky Formula

While Henry Wallace hints every once in a while that he may bolt and form a third party, he continues to leave the door wide open for support of Truman in 1948.

A recent example is his Labor Day editorial in the Sept. 1 "New Republic." Here Wallace undertakes an answer to his fellow-liberals who agree that Truman's record is bad but who feel the Republicans are worse and therefore wonder whether Truman should be supported in 1948 as the "lesser of two evils."

"These are the questions earnest liberals are asking," Wallace states. "I don't think they are well timed. . . ."

"On this Labor Day, 1947, we should not be discussing which is the lesser of evils. We should be planning to avoid the necessity of such a choice by winning control of the Democratic convention. . . ."

"We can still avoid the necessity of trying to pick the lesser of evils. . . ."

In other words, Wallace has no fundamental difference with the "earnest liberals" who are getting ready to back Truman, the strikebreaker and imperialist; his main objection is to their timing. As he puts it elsewhere in the editorial: "Some progressives . . . are dissipating their power with PREMATURE pledges to an

Administration which has not earned the support of progressives." (Our emphasis.)

It is not yet necessary to choose the lesser evil, Wallace maintains, because such a choice can be avoided by winning control of the Democratic convention. That is, put off a decision on this question until after you have entered the corrupt Democratic Party and fought to give it a liberal coloration.

But suppose Truman and his city machine bosses and Southern Bourbon henchmen control the Democratic convention — which is 99% sure — what then? By that time it will be too late to launch a third party capable of winning the election. What will Wallace do then? Obviously, if his arguments have any logic, he will then be willing to take up and accept the choice of the so-called lesser evil.

Workers who want a party of your own in 1948: Beware of those who advise you to stick to the Democratic Party! You cannot defeat the capitalist parties so long as you nurse illusions about reforming them. The only way to beat the two Big Business parties next year is by breaking from them now and proceeding without delay to the formation of a new party based on the trade unions. Any other course will guarantee a victory for Wall Street in 1948.

Prepare for the Boom-Bust

In the adjoining columns the reader will find an article by John G. Wright, analyzing the main economic factors driving this country into another boom-bust.

It is beyond anyone's power to fix precise dates in so dynamic a process as the current economic situation. Wright's forecast is a rough approximation, and nothing more. Actual developments may postpone the disaster for an additional six months and even more.

Regardless of whether the depression breaks in its full fury a few months sooner or later, its coming is unavoidable. The capitalist press and the most prominent capitalist spokesmen are doing everything in their power to lull the masses into a dangerous feeling of false security.

If the labor movement waits with folded hands until the fateful hours of the actual depression, it incurs the danger of being caught off guard and unprepared.

The time to arm the organized labor movement with a program that will meet the needs of the critical days ahead is—RIGHT NOW!

We of THE MILITANT have long ago projected such a rounded program. The key immediate measures to ensure full employment and job security are:

1. The sliding scale of hours. Labor must renew in earnest its drive for the 6-hour day, 30-hour week with no reduction in take-home pay. All work must be shared equitably so that there are no lay-offs and unemployment.
2. All idle or partially-idle plants must be taken over by the government, to be operated under workers' control.
3. Unemployment insurance equal to trade union wages must be provided all unemployed for the duration of their unemployment.
4. All war funds must be reallocated for federal housing projects and other public works of benefit to the workers to provide jobs at trade union wages.

The Ruhr Agreement

The Anglo-American imperialists claim that the new production levels they have decided upon in the two zones they occupy in Germany are high enough to revive Europe's economy. This is nothing but propaganda designed to cover up their real aims.

What they have agreed upon is a limited revival of the Ruhr. The goals set are far below top capacity. Steel production, for instance, is set at slightly more than half the capacity left after the destruction of war and two years dismantling of plants.

And instead of providing for normal expansion and improvement of industry in this vital region, crippling restrictions are still retained not to mention continued removal of plants as "repairs."

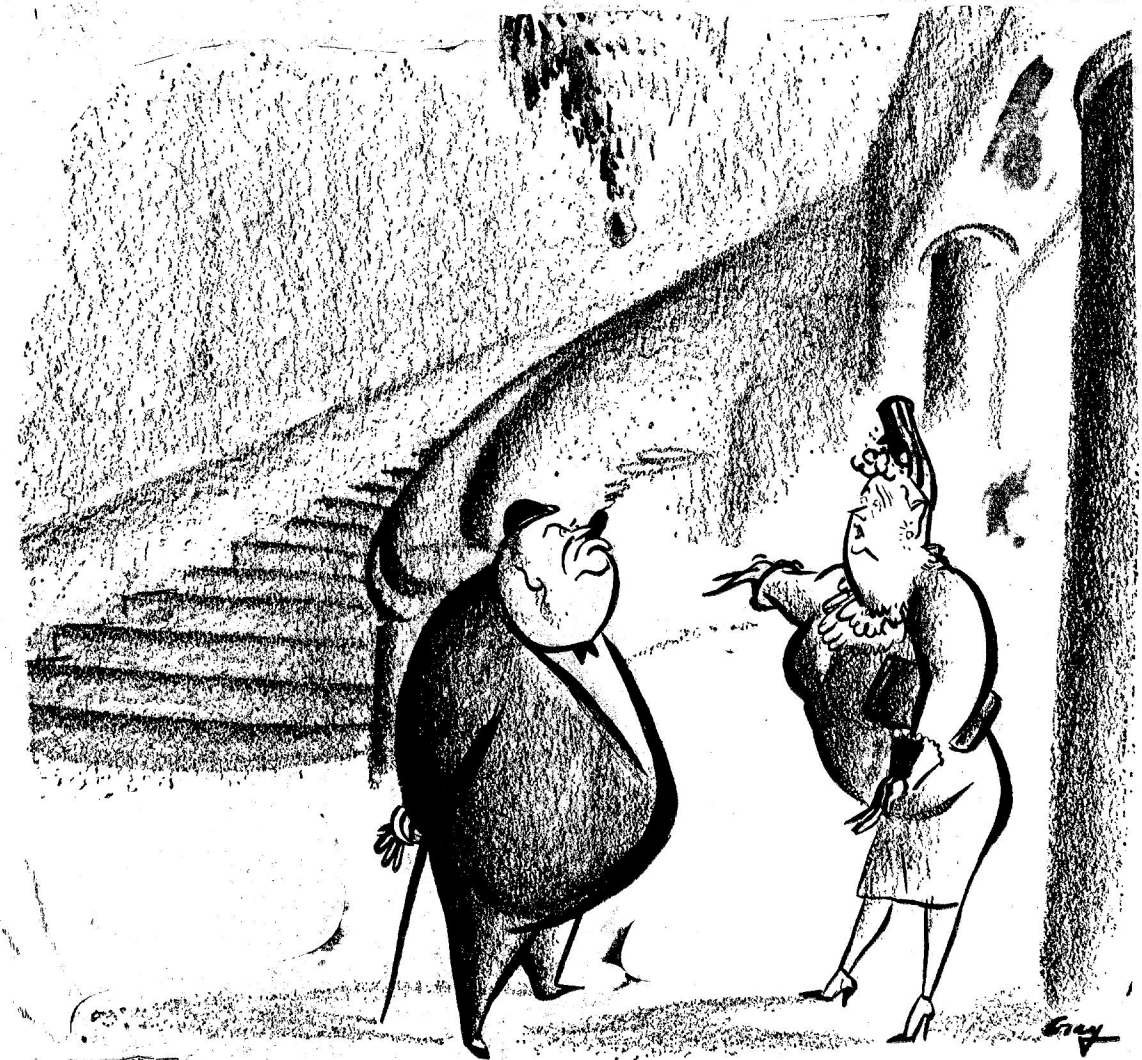
The truth is that Anglo-American imperialism is not interested in revival of European economy except insofar as it is politically advisable, in their opinion, to operate it like a WPA project to stem mass unrest.

Their long-range objectives are (1) to establish a military bridge-head in the heart of Europe; and (2) to place the Ruhr under the political and economic domination of American Big Business with the British capitalists as junior partners.

They want monopoly control over the Ruhr. This control will enable them first of all to absorb a former dangerous competitor the way the giant American monopolies customarily absorb competitors. It will give them power to fix prices throughout Europe, thereby tightening their grip on the world market. It will enable them to siphon the profits. Above all it will give them decisive control over Europe's productive capacity.

Under capitalism, this is the power to limit capacity, cut down production and destroy goods already produced. At present Anglo-American imperialism uses this power to hold back the Ruhr industrial machine and even to rip out essential parts. In the event of depression, American Big Business would use this power to shut down the Ruhr factories just as they shut down American factories during the Thirties.

The new agreement on the Ruhr is one more bit of evidence that capitalism is incapable of restoring economy anywhere on a scale adequate to ensure a decent living for the working people. It is one more proof that only under socialist economy can Europe hope to restore its economy and heal the wounds of war.



"But with the housing shortage this is the best I could do!"

Workers' BOOKSHELF

LITERATURE AND MORALITY by James T. Farrell, Vanguard Press, 1947, 304 pp., \$3.

Literature and Morality is a collection of literary essays, most of which Farrell has already published in various magazines and newspapers. The title of the book is derived from that of the opening essay, in which Farrell discusses the smugness of the Partisan Review intellectual who regards himself as the appointed custodian of morality, which can only be attained through the reading of Henry James and the Partisan Review. But the title has a further and broader significance.

In one of the essays Farrell writes, "War and Peace is a novel which explores and sets down moral consequences—moral consequences in the sense of what happens to human character." It might be said that the essays in Literature and Morality explore the moral consequences of literature and the literary consequences of social morality—that is to say, they analyze how literature affects human personality, which is formed and determined by its entire social environment, and how it portrays and expresses human personality and in doing so reflects that social environment.

The longest and best of the essays, "The Fate of Writing in America," discusses the probable effects upon writing of recent developments in the book trade. For, as Farrell

says, in a society based upon commodity production works of art become commodities.

Farrell shows how the publishing business is becoming more and more centralized and is increasing its ties with Hollywood and how this is bound to have deleterious effects on the writer's freedom of expression and on the quality of his writing. The channels of communication have narrowed for the writer of serious literature; they have narrowed even more for the writer working in the realm of ideas and of political thought. They will probably continue to narrow.

However, the nature of the industry and of its market make it likely that the tendency to centralization and standardization will not be carried to the same degree that it has been carried in the movies and in radio. Above all, the writer himself need not play a passive role in the situation if he is ready to defend his integrity against the dictates and blandishments of the entrepreneurs of the book industry.

In other essays Farrell discusses the sentimental patterns which Hollywood imposes upon its films and the moral attitude which underlies these patterns, an attitude which regards the audience as children who are not to be exposed to life-and-death reality. He takes up the moral censorship of the Hays office and shows how it leads to stultification, hypocrisy and falseness. He examines James M. Cain's novel, *Mildred Pierce*, and the film based upon it as examples of

"movie-tone realism," a spurious realism which gives the surface impression of reality but sacrifices it for glamor and melodrama.

He traces the development of genuine American realism, its depiction of the human consequences of the expansion of capitalism in America—the declassing of members of the middle class, the atomization of human beings, the standardized commercialization of leisure and culture—and finally its concern with the bottom-dog, which Farrell differentiates from Norman Corwin's and the other neo-populist sentimentalized glorifications of the "common man" inspired by the New Deal. He studies the problems of radical writers and the effects of Stalinism upon them.

Farrell has many weaknesses as a writer of critical prose. His style lacks flexibility. When he tries to rise to emotional heights, as in his tribute to Dreiser, he plunges into bathos. When he attempts irony, as in his essay on Will Hays, it is weak. His summaries of books and movies are often drawn-out and uninteresting. The concluding third of his book, which consists of essays on Tolstoy, might well have been consolidated and re-worked. However, his observations are intelligent and his judgment sound. Above all, he approaches literature neither as a dilettante nor as a religious devotee who would make it a cult but as one who is aware of its intimate connection with human society, of which it is an expression.

—Paul Schapiro

Does Boom-Bust Lie Ahead?

By John G. Wright

Amid the ominously gathering cloud banks on the economic horizon, several thunderheads have suddenly appeared. The darkest of these represents the sag in American foreign trade.

The 13% decline in June from the May peak is not an episodic manifestation but the product of profound dislocations of the world market. Future trends in foreign trade are definitely downward. Not a single capitalist expert is so bold as to forecast any other variant.

The main reason for the inescapable down-plunge of foreign trade is this: In addition to the fearful ravages of war, the world market is now being ripped apart by the new set of relationships which dominate the world economy, and which have likewise resulted directly from the war.

The U.S. has replaced England as the world's greatest trading nation. But while she has been elbowed out of her centuries-old preeminence as a trader, England still has remained the world's largest importing country. This contradiction is beyond the powers of American capitalism to solve.

Every cut in English imports tends to set off a veritable chain reaction, compelling one country after another, even those most remotely dependent on English trade, to impose drastic curbs on their own imports, while simultaneously seeking to step up their respective exports.

The crisis of English economy thus inexorably precipitates an even sharper crisis in such war-exhausted countries as France or Italy. It affects not only the rest of Western Europe, but countries like Australia, Canada and India. This, in turn, reacts upon England, as well as the United States which stands today at

the center of the capitalist world, subject to every shock throughout the perimeter.

The most immediate danger is that the already enormous inflationary pressures—which are world-wide—will now begin mounting as rapidly and explosively as to engulf the already tottering financial systems of England, France, Italy.

Should this occur, not even the gigantic resources of the United States, if actually thrown into the breach, could avert a world economic catastrophe which by comparison would make the collapse of the Thirties seem like "good times."

At all events, the unfolding crisis of the world market, with France, Italy and England as the weakest links, must unavoidably drag down American foreign trade and with it the rest of the American economy. The world market is unquestionably the Achilles heel of the capitalist colossus of the Western Hemisphere.

This external threat comes at a time when the country's internal economic condition, notwithstanding all the outward appearances of extraordinary vigor, is itself revealing its chronic diseased condition.

To cite only a few outstanding symptoms: Production, while remaining at levels above pre-war, has been declining for the last five months at the rate of 1% to 2% a month. This is a trend and not a fluctuation.

The shrinking domestic market has now reached a critical point. Retail trade recorded in August a decline of 8 to 9%, a drop sharper than at the inception of the 1920-21 depression following World War I. Here, too, a down trend is now clearly being delineated.

after another, in the wake of the Steel Trust, rushes to reap as much profit as it can before the storm breaks.

There has been no reversal of trend in all the other factors which we have analyzed week by week in *The Militant* (the accumulation of inventories, lag in the construction industry, sagging soft-goods production, incipient decline in the durable goods sector, shrinking mass purchasing power, dwindling savings, and so on).

Under these conditions, it is out of the question for the internal market to absorb, with a few exceptions, more than an insignificant fraction of the goods that have hitherto found their outlets abroad. Once these start backing up into the already glutted channels of distribution, sharp cutbacks in production must ensue.

A continuation of these trends in the days ahead signifies nothing else but a boom-bust cycle of unprecedented power and proportions. If the capitalist rulers do not intervene swiftly and deliberately, the eruption will come toward the end of this year or the early part of 1948, so swiftly is the process now unfolding.

Should the process be permitted, as it has been, to develop virtually unchecked, the full impact of this disaster can then be mitigated only by pumping scores of billions of dollars into Europe, pouring additional billions into the domestic economy, and the ultimate conversion of the latter into a war-economy of the type instituted in Germany under Hitler.

We repeat what we have so often said in recent months, the time for labor to prepare for the oncoming economic maelstrom is NOW!

Hemlines Go Down As Dress Prices Go Up

By Jeanne Morgan

Out of the hubbub from the fashion front, through the groans of despair and the shouts of approval about the new dress style, one fact is all too clear—virtually everything women are currently wearing is outmoded.

When this year's Easter sales fell extremely flat and the manufacturers and retailers discovered that women have had increasingly less and less money to spend on apparel, they decided that the whole style act needed a shift in scenery. The only way they saw to boost lagging sales and grab a bigger share of the people's income was to force women to buy complete new wardrobes.

The drastic changes in style are absolutely all-inclusive. If you buy a new dress, it says far below your old coat; that means you need a new coat, too. The flat-heeled shoes we have been wearing are called "very incongruous" with drooping hemlines; that means at least a few pairs of new shoes.

And not just dresses, coats and shoes! This time they've really gone all the way. The new style is so radically designed that in order to wear it, one must have an iron-clad torso. Thus the corset is back—to "mould your bosom, belittle your waist, emphasize your hip-line," as one New York fashion center coyly puts it. They're putting the squeeze on not only this way but economically as well.

For while hemlines go down, prices go up. Even a percale house dress that sold for \$1.15 in 1941 costs \$3.12 today.

Protests are beginning to roll in. Seeing the serious economic result of replacing entire wardrobes, groups of housewives in Texas, veterans' wives on the West Coast and American Airlines stewardesses have sounded a call for revolt.

But New York's Saks Fifth Avenue is quick to dispel fears of "fashion regimentation" with the declaration that the new trend "makes it possible to achieve precisely the degree of formality you want. It's all part of a new era in fashion—an emancipation from fashion dictatorship." If that's emancipation, Taft and Hartley are friends of labor.

When the whole world is half-clothed and half-fed, when we are almost afraid to go to the grocery, knowing our living standard will be whittled down another notch this week; when the morning mail brings a request for a 15% rent increase; when inflation is creating a bigger and bigger vacuum in the family pocket-book—how can we go out and buy a new wardrobe?

They forget that for the vast majority of people food comes before fashion.

Hold that hemline!

War Crime Trial Calls U. S. Trusts Innocent Lambs

By George Lavan

The names of the Duponts and Standard Oil were heard in the war crimes courtroom in Nuremberg, Germany, last week.

Officials of I. G. Farben, the giant cartel that dominated German economy, were on trial for having aided Hitler in his war plans and for extensive use of slave laborers in Farben plants. The corporation's records showed that in 1933 and 1934 alone it had given \$12,000,000 to the Nazis.

The charges involving the American monopolies, bound to Farben by cartel agreements, pictured them as innocent corporations that didn't know what they were doing. No mention was made of the immense profits which accrued to these trusts as a result of the cartels, dividing the world's markets and restricting production.

The prosecution at Nuremberg fell all over itself protecting the "good names" of the American monopolies. The sharks of Dupont and Standard Oil were represented as "duped" by the wily Nazis into revealing industrial secrets for worthless "scraps of paper."

Correspondence from I. G. Farben files was read showing that all benefits of Standard Oil of New Jersey laboratory research were turned over to the Nazi company. Among the data turned over were developments in producing high-octane aviation and synthetic gasoline, as well as improvements in making synthetic rubber. This information was no doubt of great use to the Nazi war machine.

The war crimes prosecution also revealed that Ivy Lee Associates had a contract to improve the reputation of the Nazi regime and the I. G. Farben Company in the United States. Ivy Lee is the little known but immensely powerful propaganda outfit of American Business. It was Ivy Lee who, as "public relations expert" for John D. Rockefeller, Sr., wooed and bribed the American press. So successful were his methods that in a decade the popular conception of Rockefeller had changed from "The Octopus" to a kindly old gent who gave shiny dimes to little boys.

A study of the cartel agreements reveals that American Big Business was hand in glove with the Nazi industrialists. It, too, is guilty of building the Nazi regime and deserves to be on trial in Nuremberg. As early as 1942 it was officially announced in Washington that there were 162 known agreements between American corporations and I. G. Farben. All the big corporations of this country had cartel arrangements with Nazi industrialists.

The Washington stooges of the trusts are now trying to explain away these cartels with the fable that the American businessmen were innocent country boys taken in by the slick Nazi confidence men. Those who know how the American monopolies operate and how they hung on to these cartel agreements to the bitter end will not fall for this fairy tale. They know that American Business had its eyes wide open and its nose on the scent of greater profits.

Home-Builders Victims Of New Lumber Racket

The veteran tramping the streets looking for a decent home for his family, or the one who has used up his savings buying or building a home, will be interested in another racket of the lumber barons which adds hundreds of millions to the country's annual construction costs.

Lumber production is at its peak. Sawmills in the Northwest are glutted. Some have had to lay off workers and shut down because they lack more storage space. All the lumber cannot be shipped because of the freight car shortage. Instead of this cutting into the profits of the lumber corporations, it has served to increase them.

This is how it works. The company gets freight cars assigned to it, then notifies customers it can deliver their back orders if they pay not only the listed high price but a "bonus" on top of that. If they don't agree to the bonus price, their order is once more buried in the files. Naturally any bonus price is passed on with something more added to the vet or worker who is buying or building a home.

That is the story behind the latest increase in lumber prices. That is why lumber prices now are higher than they were in April, the previous post-war high. Under capitalism this proves once again, increased production does not necessarily mean lower

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 want your name printed.

Welcomes Proposal to Print Book Serially

Editor:
I am glad to hear that you are thinking of running an interesting book as a serial in *The Militant*. I think it is a first-rate idea, and I think the other readers will feel the same way.

If you are considering subjects, may I recommend *The Iron Heel* by Jack London? This was a novel written about 40 years ago, giving an account of how Big Business brings fascism to this country. If I remember correctly, Leon Trotsky once wrote about it, giving it warm praise.

Subscriber,
New York City

What Life is Like In a Mining Camp

Grays Landing is a little mining camp in the Monongahela Valley. My husband came from the South as he had been promised a lot of money and gentle bosses and the right to social equality. But this was what we got for these last 17 years living handicapped for a decent home and happiness.

For the last few years we have lived in a house which is so broken down that it is necessary that I have to board it up inside with cardboard and don't have a privy to go to but have to use my neighbor's.

Also I'm in poor health as the ditches need draining and the camp needs cleaning and the health officers need to investigate but never do anything. Also water is much needed and I mentioned it to my landlord and we were refused by many harsh words.

The relief authorities built up a wall of prejudice against me and tried to overthrow my right to live in my home as I told them I must have a modern house and it can be done and it must be done. I know it can be done.

My husband has been deprived of his money and has been set aside whenever the job has started to close down. He will be the one to be fired with the boss telling him that "I ain't the cause of your being fired," yet hiring a white man in his stead.

My husband worked a while laboring on the coke yards when he had a statement from the doctor telling them it was against his health. Then the Republic Steel Company sent up a white man and the boss said we don't want no colored men. So they laid him off. It was a miracle we lived through that.

Then Comrade Morgan came along and introduced *The Militant* to me and I noticed something in this paper that interested me and that was that if we would all come together and fight that we could break down the wall of prejudice and win Socialism and social equality.

Now the happiest time of my life was on my 51st birthday when I received my membership card in the Socialist Workers Party and I am proud of it.

I enjoy working and talking socialist to my neighbors and everyone I talk to is beginning to see the light and know the only way to peace and plenty and justice for all.

D. N.
Grays Landing, Pa.

A Miner's Chanty

By KARL MINER

On a pay day almost always, They my hard earned wages take;
With the check-off and deductions, They just always leave a snake.

With the straw boss I do argue, And he often calls me Red;
This is the name applied to any one, Who by the nose cannot be led.

Organizing mines I am a dandy, On Frick's blacklist I'll always be;
I can get a job most any place, If I change my name, you see.

John L. Lewis our known leader, Lots of miners want to tar;
With a militant union leader We could have gone twice as far.

Calls for Action Now On Wages and Prices

Editor:
When are we American working people going to wake up and quit taking it in the neck?

We have been treated like real suckers by the powers that be. Despite Labor's great strength, we are getting less and less of the wealth we produce and the capitalists are getting more and more.

Last year they granted us a wage increase after first raising prices more than the amount of the wage increase, and then they raised prices again.

This year they did the same. Except that this year the prices seem to be going up faster than last year.

There is something wrong with our union leaders if they can't even help us to protect our highly boasted American standard of living.

It's time for more wage raises and if our union leaders are so afraid to fight for them, let's get rid of them and get new ones who won't be afraid.

It's also time to do something about prices and profiteering. And the place to begin is in Washington.

L. C. McW.
San Francisco, Calif.

"Another Rat Is Dead And Probably Frying"

Editor:

Your article on Bilbo last week was all right, but the headline over it, "No Tears for Bilbo," was a little conservative in my opinion. Why didn't you say: Hurray, Another Rat Is Dead and Probably Frying in Hell.

I was in my union hall when the news came through, and when it was announced a big cheer went up. I know, I know, you don't have to tell us that Bilbo is dead but Bilboism is very much alive. Still and all, things look so gloomy in the world today we ought to get some satisfaction out of the few good things that happen, even if they are accidental.

I'll bet a lot of cheering went on down South too.

"Happy for a While"
Newark, N. J.

Recommends 3 Books On Sacco-Vanzetti

James P. Cannon's reprinted article commemorating the deaths of Sacco and Vanzetti was refreshing; that is, if legal murder can be euphemistically referred to in that way. It is refreshing in that it jolts the serenity and complacency of today's generations who, if they remember the crimes perpetrated upon civilization in general, would rather think that such things cannot or will not happen again.

The infamous role played by the ruling class in America in aborting anything which was progressive and humane is chronicled amply in the field of American letters. I think it apropos that *The Militant* and other papers in the interests of labor should give the workers reference material so that they might enrich their understanding of the system in which they live; so that they might have as background the horrendous history of American capitalism to stand them in good stead. Particularly when in this present epoch we find 99% of our newspapers the subservient tools and accomplices of that class.

It is in papers like *The Militant* (of disregard factional or theoretical differences as between them and *The Militant*) which are tools in the making of an alert and class conscious working class.

In consonance with this, I would like to take the opportunity in recommending for study three books which I found useful and edifying in their candor in the light that they shed upon the Sacco-Vanzetti case.

"Jake Home," written by Ruth McKenney, quondam Communist, whose efforts in this book brought wrath upon her head from the cultural front in the Communist (Stalinist) Party for not bringing in Earl Browder and eulogizing him out of context with the material in the story.

"Boston" by Upton Sinclair. This work comprising two volumes also depicts the utter depravity of the courts when they are hell-bent upon offering up scape goats on the altar of Christian piety.

And also "Twelve Years After" by Henry Musmanno who served as counsel for the accused. It is in this latter work that the reader gains a more intimate understanding of the deviousness and chicanery which passes as justice for the ruling class when it suits their ends. Any of these books may be obtained from a first class library and are well worth the time spent in assimilating their contents.

Norman Johnstone
Westville, N. J.

"Free Enterprise" and The Housing Crisis

Editor:

Unlike some other people, I am fond of my father-in-law and mother-in-law. But when they start parroting that propaganda about the wonderful "free enterprise" system, I find it hard to keep my temper. If this system was really so wonderful, my wife and I would be able to find an apartment and move out of their's.

Veteran,
Chicago, Ill.

It Was Necessary to Disregard The President's Solemn Advice

By Albert Parker

Everybody said I should not do it. The President of the United States solemnly urged me not to do it for my own sake. The editors of all the papers in my city wrote special editorials to prove that my family and the country as a whole would be better off if I did not do it. I even heard that one of the local preachers prayed for divine intervention to keep me from doing it. All this advice became as monotonous as the remark: "Is it hot enough for you?" I stayed away from the radio because I suspected it would sing the same refrain.

Generally, when all the statesmen and their propaganda stooges tell me not to do something, I have a strong urge to do it, just as when the screen announces "No Smoking" I find it hard to resist lighting a cigarette at once.

This time, however, I would have liked to do as they advised. I am sorry, but I just couldn't help myself.

So, on Sept. 2, I went down to the bank along with hundreds of thousands of other veterans and cashed my terminal leave bond.

The hold-your-bond campaign had a special slogan: Save it for a rainy day!

Atmospherically, the weather was dry on Sept. 2. But economically, I was soaking wet and had been for a long time. So far as finances go, I hope the weather never gets any wetter.

A reporter was at the bank where I stood in line. He started to ask some of the men why they didn't wait and draw that good old 2 1/2% interest on their bonds.

The third man in line must have thought it was a stupid question, because his answer was: "The reason must be that I am stupid and don't know a good deal when I see it."

The reporter got the point and went away without any further questions, so I didn't have the chance to tell my story. But here it is:

In the first place, I have some

debts to pay off. Morally, I don't claim to be any better than the next man but sometimes it seems advisable to pay your debts and re-establish your credit unless you are thinking of leaving town.

I haven't had a new suit or coat since I reluctantly entered the Army. Prices seemed too high when I got out, I needed my mustering out pay to tide me over until I got a job, and I decided to wait until the depression came and forced prices down somewhat. But my prediction was wrong, and prices went up last year instead of down, and they have been going up ever since. Meanwhile, I have worn to a frazzle both my two old suits and the one I got from George Clarke last year.

My landlord did not have the nerve to come around and ask me to voluntarily sign a lease providing for a 15% rent increase. If he had come, I would have stuck a paint brush into his hand and told him to get busy covering up five years of grime and falling plaster. As it is, someone in my family is going to have to wield that brush pretty soon, and paint costs money.

When my wife was a kid, she ate too much candy or she didn't know how to brush her teeth or maybe she had the wrong ancestors. But any way, she has been visiting the dentist pretty regularly lately, and he wants some money to replace the teeth he took away from her.

Some people have been spreading the word around that I am getting too stuck up to say hello to my friends. But they are wrong. The truth is that my eyes are going back on me again and I need both a new eye examination and a new set of glasses.

While I was in the Army, some of my "friends" used to visit the house and soft-soap my wife into lending them some of our books which, unfortunately, they somehow never remembered to return. Certain of these must be replaced without too much delay, and there are a lot of other books I need for my work and my studies.

Finally, there is the Militant Sustaining Fund which will be launched on Sept. 15. Neither my wife nor I will feel right if we don't offer a decent-sized sum to make possible the continued publication of the best labor paper in the United States.

I hesitate to add together the cost of even this partial list of "extras" or "luxuries." But I don't need either an adding machine or a crystal ball to get the answer: My bond won't cover half of it.

They urged me to wait for a rainy day. But the weather forecast for a long time to come seems to read nothing but: Stormy Weather. And the bond I cashed was a mighty unsubstantial umbrella.

Canadian Stalinists Bow To "Red" Ban on Ships

TORONTO, Canada, Aug. 22—The Stalinist-dominated Canadian Seamen's Union has become the first union in the country to ban "communists or communist agents" from the right to represent their fellow workers. It has capitulated to

has struck a blow against Pat Sullivan. Pat Sullivan is the former Stalinist leader of the CSU. Last March he deserted the union in a corset of red-baiting, urged the seamen to tear up their CSU cards, and formed a company outfit, the Canadian Lake Seamen's Union.

Three months ago, the shipping companies refused passes to CSU delegates in violation of existing contracts, and issued passes instead to Sullivan's red-baiting gang. When the CSU threatened to strike, Sullivan assembled 150 thugs in Cornwall at \$12 a day wages, ready to scab.

STRIKES BLOW AT LABOR
Still blustering that they would fight to the finish against the companies' arrogant actions, the CSU leaders ran to Ottawa with pleas for government enforcement of their contracts. They got an arbitrator, who swiftly brought the cowardly Stalinists into line. They accepted the pledge system proposed by the government, a precedent that strikes a blow at the rights of the entire labor movement.

The Stalinist class collaboration policy, which turned one-time militant Sullivan into a company rat, has spread confusion in the ranks of the seamen and left the union seriously weakened.

Today the seamen are faced with the urgent necessity of kicking the Stalinists out of control, in order to regain the most elementary union right—the right to elect their own representatives, without dictation from the company or the government. Only in this way can they clear the decks for future struggles against the ship owners.

MILWAUKEE, Aug. 30 — "Leon Trotsky was not only a Russian workers' leader. In the midst of all of his labors in the new-born Soviet State he took the time to study the development of economy and class relations in England and America. He foresaw the bankruptcy of England as we find it today and the emergence of the United States as the most powerful imperialism," declared V. R. Dunne, National Labor Secretary of the Socialist Workers Party, before an audience of Milwaukee workers at the Trotsky Memorial Meeting here last Wednesday.

Trotsky early recognized the important role of the American workers in the world struggle and was concerned to prepare the revolutionary workers for their tasks in America. The blind alley which the American ruling class has led itself into — with only world-wide chaos, depression and the atomic third world war before it — hastens the powerfully organized American proletariat on the road to its historic political role," Dunne said.

The workers assembled responded with a fine collection and stayed on to continue the discussion until the late hours. More than a half-dozen indicated their readiness to join the Socialist Workers Party. Followers of other workers' parties were particularly impressed by the Trotskyist role in building independent working class political action in America.

Dunne was interviewed by both capitalist daily papers and his views were given press notice.

Ship Workers Strike Enters Eleventh Week

NEW YORK, Sept. 3—Bethlehem Steel Company, largest shipbuilding and repair company in the nation, was still the main target of the union as the strike of the CIO Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers of America against

the major shipbuilding companies entered the eleventh week.

Round-the-clock picket lines were maintained at Bethlehem's four repair yards in the Port of New York, at U. S. Steel's Federal yard at Camden, N. J., and the New York Shipbuilding Company's ways in Camden, N. J. Pickets were also marching at other yards stretching down the Atlantic Coast from Boston to Florida and out to the west coast and Bethlehem's San Pedro, Calif. yard.

With the capitulation of many of the smaller repair and construction concerns, it became clearer as the strike progressed that the large steel companies are the leaders of the fight to break the union. Notwithstanding their alibis, the many negotiation meetings held thus far have failed to wrest any major concessions from these companies and it is obvious that in holding to their original counter-proposals, they are doing so to prolong the strike and smash the union.

TEST OF STRENGTH
The present strike is the first test of strength between the union and the industry since 1937 when the union was defeated in a series of struggles along the Atlantic Seaboard. The union in this period is much better prepared for a fight of this sort and the organization seems prepared to stick it out until the strike is won.

The morale of the men is also good and after this week they will

Dunne Appraises Role of Trotsky In Milwaukee

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NEW YORK ACEWU Housewarming

At New Headquarters of American Committee for European Workers Relief
Dancing Entertainment
There's a Cool Terrace, too
Saturday, Sept. 13, 9 p. m.
130 W. 23rd St.

THE MILITANT ARMY

Warm Response Pleases Subgetters in St. Paul

The 21 Militant subscriptions obtained by five St. Paul comrades are certainly reason enough for an enthusiastic report. "These subs," says Winifred Nelson, Militant Agent, "were secured by five comrades who went out for subs Sunday morning. These represent about two hours' work on the part of each comrade—with a final average of four apiece.

"We are all very pleased," continues Comrade Nelson, "about this experience Sunday. This is the first time in quite a while that we have gone out for new subs, and we were all feeling a little uncertain about it. But all of us who went out feel tremendously encouraged by our experiences.

"We feel that this marks a new stage in sub-getting, or at least, we hope it does. This score for Sunday shows, according to the amount of territory we covered, that we averaged about 1 1/4 subs per single block — which is not at all a bad score."

The Milwaukee Branch of the Socialist Workers Party will begin its sub-getting mobilizations with a Sunday breakfast. Carol Andrews, Militant Manager, reports: "A one-monthly Sunday morning mobilization is planned now for the work in the future. Each one of the active Militant solicitors is responsible for getting at least two subs per month, either new or renewed. We started off the work last Sunday, Aug. 17, with a waffle breakfast planned at my home at 8:30 A.M. We had a good turn-out. We obtained 10 subs. S. T., the Militant whiz from Madison, with a friend, aided us in the work. We plan these breakfasts for the future. During the breakfast we can discuss technique and approach; also we can discuss the Militant articles."

Ed Smith tells us how the Militant boosters in Unit A, Southside Branch, Los Angeles Local are doing. "Eugene P. is the high scorer in the branch with a total of 37 subscriptions; the branch total is 781. Unit A is building a branch in the Negro section of Watts, and it is largely due to Comrade Eugene's persistence and ardor that this endeavor is proving successful.

"The rest of the comrades who consistently go out to get subs are Babe, mentioned in the August 4 Militant Army, Judy Miller, also a rubber worker and myself, an aircraft worker, ex-combat serviceman and ex-college student."

The following over-all report covering the Los Angeles Local campaign for subscriptions was submitted by Al Lynn:

"Militant subscription work picked up sharply this week with some interesting experiences living up to the activity. In the Southside, Harry (a steel worker) set a record, selling 10 subs in 40 minutes, or one every four minutes. His selling point was, 'Read the worker's point of view in a worker's paper.' Hollywood Branch sold 28 'Fight the Slave Labor Law' pamphlets in their Monday evening sub mobilization. East Side went over an area covered twice with Militant distributions and got two subs, both very good ones. One subscriber started out with a definite Jim Crow attitude which our comrade successfully broke down."

Comrade Lynn gives us the branch scores:

Southside	78
San Pedro	57
Hollywood	40
East Side	38
West Side	34
247	

Comrade Eugene of Southside leads individual scores in the local with 37 subs.

The Boston comrades mailed in three renewals with a promise that they "have more renewals for next week."

El Snyder of Flint explains that the three subs mailed in "were obtained at the shops and one at the forum."

J. W. C. Militant booster in Kenance, Ill, sent in another subscription. This makes a total of 12 new readers to whom J.W.C. has introduced *The Militant*.

Literature Agents should make sure that all subscriptions sent in show the postal zone number. The post office has advised us that an address is not complete without the zone number and that delivery may be delayed.

Buy 'The Militant' Here:

- AKRON: News Exchange, 51 S. Main. S.W.P., 8 So. Howard St. La. Sales Confectionery, 620 S. Main. Kallas Cigar Store, Main & Howard, N.W. corner.
- BOSTON: Sam's Corner, Central Ave., Lynn. Uptown News Co., 234 Huntington Ave., Boston.
- BUFFALO: N. W. corner, Main & Chippewa. Delaware Ave. & Chippewa S.E. Cor. CAMPBELL O. Eidelman's Newsstand, Wilson Ave. near Sheet and Tube Employment Office.
- CHICAGO: Ceschinsky's Book Store, 2750 W. Division. Confectionery, 777 W. Adams.
- CLEVELAND: G & M. Newsstand, 9th and Superior. "Militant" Bookshop.
- DETROIT: "Militant" Bookshop, 6108 Linwood Ave.
- LOS ANGELES: 316 1/2 West Pico Blvd., Room 1, near Olive St. Downtown — NE corner 5th and Main; 326 W. 5th St. Socialist Workers Party, 316 1/2 Pico Blvd., near Olive St. Tesslers' Newsstand, 335 1/2 South Hill Street. Ted's Stand, P.E. Station, 103rd and Graham. Weichel's Record Shop, 97th near Graham. 2210 1/2 Brooklyn Ave. Hollywood: Stand at Hollywood and Chabunga, Hollywood and Los Palms.
- MINNEAPOLIS: Labor Book Store, 10 S. 4 St. Shinder's News Agency, Hennepin Ave. and 6th St.
- NEWARK: Socialist Workers Party, 423 Springfield Ave. S. W. Corner, Broad & Market. Broad & Academy St.
- NEW BRITAIN, CONN.: Ideal Cut-Rate, 423 Main St. Rossi's Store, Stanley & Church St.
- NEW HAVEN: 106 Church St.
- NEW YORK: Manhattan, near 14th St.: 101 University Pl. 116 University Pl. 42 E. 14th St. 92 E. 14th St. SR 4th Ave. and 14th St. SW 4th Ave. & 14th St. NE 4th Ave. & 14th St. SW 3rd Ave. & 14th St. 94 W. 14th St. SW 3rd Ave. and 14th St. NE 6th Ave. and 14th St. Near Astor Place
- NE Broadway and 8th St. Broadway and Astor. Broadway and Waverly. SW Cooper St. and Waverly. NE Third Ave. and 8th St. Uptown Side Astor and 8th St.
- Lower East Side: NYE cor. Delancey and Essex. NW cor. Delancey and Suffolk. NW cor. Delancey and Clinton. Manhattan, near 42nd St.: SW 5th Ave. & 42nd St. S Bet. 5th & 6th Ave. & 42nd St. SE 6th Ave. & 42nd St. SW 6th Avenue & 42nd St. SW 7th Ave. & 42nd St. SW 8th Ave. & 42nd St. Manhattan, at 125th St. Lenox St. N.W. Corner 8th Ave. S.W. Corner 8th Ave. N.W. Corner St. Nicholas Ave. N.W. Corner St. Nicholas Ave. N.W. Corner Bronx: S.E. cor. Allerton Ave. and White Pl. Road. N.W. cor. Freeman St. and Wilkins Ave.
- PHILADELPHIA: N.W. corner 13th St. & Market. Labor Forum, 1303 West Girard. Broad and Arch. Penn Station, 15th and Market. N.E. Corner, Broad and Race. 1325 Girard Ave. S.E. Corner, 13th & Filbert. 11th and Market Sts. 11th and Walnut Sts.
- PITTSBURGH: P. & A. Newsstand, 220 Federal St. M. Rose, 1832 Fifth Ave. Good Luck Shoe Repair, 1922 Centre Ave.
- PORTLAND, ORE.: Rich's Stand, cor. S.W. Washington and S.W. 6th Ave.
- SAN DIEGO, CAL.: Grocery at 2896 Clay St. SAN FRANCISCO: MacDonald's Book Store, 867 Mission St.; Golden Gate News Agency, 81 - 3rd St.; San Francisco School of Social Science, 395 Grant.
- NEWARK: Militant Pub. Assn., 1005 S. Pacific, Room 214.
- SEATTLE: Ecker's, corner Washington St. and 1st Ave.; Bishop's Drug Store, 307 Jackson St.; Raymer's Book Store, 905-3rd Ave.
- ST. PAUL: 540 Cedar St. FACOMA, WASH.: Amusement Center, Between 11 and 12 Sts., on Pacific.
- TOLEDO: De Luxe Hat Shop, 403 Indiana Ave. B & G Shoe Repair, 456 Indiana Ave. Herbetson's Beauty Shop, 2926 Canton. Hirsch Newsstand, 319 St. Clair.
- YOUNGSTOWN: Terrace Confectionery, 1947 Jacobs Road.

Come and meet other 'Militant' Readers at these Local Activities of THE SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY

- AKRON—2nd floor, 8 S. Howard St. Open Mon. through Friday, 3 to 5 p.m.; Saturdays 2 to 4 p.m.
- BOSTON—30 Stuart St. Open Saturday 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.; Tuesdays 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.
- BUFFALO—Militant Forum, 629 Main St., 2nd floor. Phone MAdison 3960. Open every afternoon except Sunday.
- CHICAGO—777 W. Adams (corner Halsted). Open 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., daily, except Sunday. Phone 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., 316 1/2 W. Pico Blvd. Open daily, 12 noon to 5 p.m. Phone Richmond 4644.
- SAN PEDRO—Militant publishing Assn., 1008 S. Pacific, Room 214.
- LYNN, Mass.—44 Central Square, Room 11. Discussion every Tuesday 7:30 p.m.; open Saturdays 1-5 p.m.
- MILWAUKEE—Militant Bookshop, 608 S. 5th 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. Phone Main 7781 Library, bookstore. Sunday Forums, 3:30 p.m.
- NEW HAVEN—Labor School, 855 Grand Ave., 3rd floor. Open 1st and 3rd Monday, 7:30-9:30 p.m. Sunday forums, 2nd and 4th of month, 8:30 p.m.
- NEWARK—423 Springfield Ave. Phone Bigelow 3-2574. Library and reading room open week nights, 7-10 p.m. Friday night forum, 8:30.
- HARLEM: 103 W. 110 St. Room 23. MO. 2-1866. Every Thursday Open Discussion, 8 p.m.
- BRONX: 1034 Prospect Ave., 1st floor, phone TI 2-0101.
- 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—1302-05 W. Girard Ave., 2nd floor. Open daily, Friday forum, 8 p.m. Phone Stevenson 5820.
- PITTSBURGH—1418 Fifth Ave., 2nd floor. Open Forum 2nd and 4th Mondays 7:30-9:30 p.m. Marxist Study Class every Thursday 7-9 p.m. 1418 Fifth Ave.
- SAN DIEGO—Headquarters 432 F St., R. 213. Open Tuesdays, Thursday & Saturday, 1 to 5 p.m.; Monday, Wednesday & Friday, 7 to 9 p.m.
- SAN FRANCISCO—1739 Fillmore St., 4th floor, San Francisco 15. Open noon to 4:30 p.m. except Sunday.
- SEATTLE—1919 1/2 Second Ave. Open 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Mon. through Fri., 12 to 5 p.m. Sat. Phone SE 0453 Library, bookstore. Wednesdays, 8 p.m. Basic Training Class.
- ST. LOUIS—1023 N. Grand Blvd., Room 312. Forums, Fridays, 7:30-10 p.m. Phone Jefferson 3642.
- ST. PAUL—540 Cedar St., St. Paul 2, Phone Garfield 1137. Open daily 2:30-9:30 p.m.
- TACOMA, Wash.—Meetings every Wednesday, 8 p.m., at Odd Fellows Hall, 6th and Fawcett. Discussions on current topics. For information, write P.O. Box 1079.
- TOLEDO—113 St. Clair St., 2nd floor. Open daily.
- YOUNGSTOWN—35 1/2 South Ave., Youngstown 3, O. Open 12-5 p.m., Monday through Saturday, Phone 3-1355.

The Long Hot Spell

By Theodore Kovalesky

Day after day, week after week it's been the same. The newspapers said "Muggy weather," they said "Sultry with possible thundershowers," but it was just sultry, and the thundershowers didn't come. When there were a few scattered raindrops, they pattered into the red-brown dust of the steel town and were smothered in it, and they left it dusty and dry as a desert. And every morning as we started work we saw the sun rising like a hot copper ball in a haze of heat.

When it started, the gang made jokes about it. Slim said, "When Harry went out there to fix the north monkey, that monkey was just dancing there. I told him he better throw his lunch in the iron runner, and then maybe the furnace'd let him live till it gets cool again."

"When you get in that trough after cast," Harry retailed, "you gonna stay right there till someone gets the crane and hauls you out."

We knew summers on the blast furnace line. We knew the sharp scorching rays that leaped out at us from the molten iron and cinder in the trough and the runners. And we knew the terrible dull heaviness of the dead heat that hung about the furnace floor during the cleanup. We knew what it was to stagger from our work to the drinking fountain or to a seat in the shanty or on the stairs, to finish work at the end of the shift wondering how we'd ever find the strength to go home. But how could we have known how long it would last this year?

As the days piled into weeks, and the weeks began to add up, we stopped joking about the heat. Men became angry at little things, raged exhaustingly a moment or two and grew sluggish and sullen again. It was too much, it was stretching a thing too far. How could a heat spell last so long?

And after work it was little better. How can a man eat when he's sweating his life out in a steel

plant? And how can he work in the heat if he hasn't eaten? How can a man sleep when the sun eats through the walls and ceilings of his old flat or tenement, fills his chairs and even creeps into his bed reeking with the dull, dead heat that is left over from the day and doesn't leave until the copper sun is starting up for the next day?

Oh, we know the steel workers aren't the only ones who feel the heat. Not only the steel workers live in crowded dusty neighborhoods, in firetrap shacks and heatbound tenement buildings.

All over the land from coast to coast workers have been sweating in ninety degree temperatures this summer. Across the continent the aged poor have been dying in stuffy rooms behind yellow-glowing window shades. Who ever heard of a millionaire dying from heat prostration in these days of air-conditioned mansions?

Perhaps the day will come when man will be able to control the weather. Under Socialism science will be unfettered to give the people things that we little dream of today.

But whether or not that will ever happen, we can be sure that the people of that not-so-very-distant tomorrow, our own children and many of us as well, will certainly be able to live decently in all the seasons.

The secrets of air conditioning have been discovered, its mechanisms invented. Good: it will be used in the workers' homes and in the factories. The national economy will be planned, and there will be more vacations and more places the workers will be able to spend them. The Maine woods, the lakes of northern Canada, Rocky Mountain streams filled with fish, America's thousands of miles of sea and lake coast, its hundreds of parks, all these will be opened to the workers and their families under Socialism.

No, we don't say Socialism is one great picnic. Men will still work in the summer time. But then they'll work like MEN . . . no longer like ants scurrying through the sun-baked dust.

The Negro Struggle

A Visit With Sister Jones

By Albert Parker

The night before Labor Day I finally found my way to the home of Sister Jones, one of the old militant members of the unemployed movement whom I had not seen since my return from the Army. She is over 60 years old now, but she retains the same fighting spirit that endeared her to us when we first met her over ten years ago. Her children were not at home, and she was taking care of her two grandchildren. Despite her advanced age, she still works out every day, cleaning and keeping house for various middle class white women who are far younger than she is and have far more time on their hands.

First she forced me to drink some coffee and then she chatted about the old days and exchanged the latest news about mutual friends. Most interesting of all, however, was her reply to my question: "What is the mood of the Negro people with whom you are in touch?" I place a lot of stock in her opinion on this matter, because she is shrewd, wide awake and very observant. I don't have the room here for her full answer, nor will I try to repeat her exact words, but this is the gist of it:

"Today the people are mighty dissatisfied with their lot. The harder they work, the harder it seems it is to make a living. Some people thought things would be better after the war, but the colored person is just as badly off as ever. My son-in-law was laid off when his plant shut down. He's been going around three weeks now and no luck. Next thing we'll have to go back on relief."

"I hear a lot of people talking about the kind

of life they make us live, and it is all serious talk. Some say it is no use, they got us hemmed in and trapped, we might as well make the best of it and get as much pleasure as we can. There's no hope or faith in them. But others, especially the young ones, they say before they get done, there will be no second-class citizens around. They say they are waiting for the chance and then they will grab hold of it and turn things around.

"You can push a body just so far. That's where they've pushed us now. We want things quiet and peaceable, but they won't let us alone. People are saying things can't go on this way, and they're right."

"You know I used to vote Republican all the time, except when I voted for your party. And my son-in-law used to vote Democrat. Well, last year we just didn't vote at all, either of us. Seemed like a waste of time."

"People are complaining about our leaders. They say some are a pack of rascals, looking to feather their own nest, and the others don't have any more spunk than a rabbit. My son-in-law says we'll have to put the fear of God in them or get some other leaders who know how to lead. And that's the truth."

"I'm an old woman now, about twice your age, and too worn out to walk on the picket line any more. But I've got great hopes in the young folks. My father was born a slave, but I expect before I die to see these grandchildren of mine standing up straight and free and recognized to be a man like the next man. We're all through with being pushed around."

Tomatoes at 2c a Pound

By Joseph Hansen

During the war people were told to sacrifice for the sake of the Atlantic Charter and "Four Freedoms." Tightening our belts, the propagandists declared, would win us a post-war world free from want—streamlined refrigerators packed with good things to eat in the homes-of-the-future.

Today staples are somewhat easier to find than the promised homes. But the prices! Are they moving food out of the working class bracket into the luxury level?

Take fresh tomatoes, for instance. Last spring they soared to 29c in New York. That was for the midsize picked green in California or Florida and ripened in a carton, best-side-up under the cellophane. Now they've dropped temporarily to 17c for two pounds since the local crop filled the pipelines to the sidewalk stands.

With prices like that the city worker wonders if there isn't something to the propaganda about how well off the farmers are. He thinks maybe he should take up a piece of land—until he hears about be-devilled farmers plowing under crops because they can't make cost of production.

Why are food prices so high then if the dirt farmers aren't making anything?

The Greater Newark City Council in cooperation with the South Jersey Local of the Farmers Union indicated the answer to that in a practical way the other day. The Farmers Union loaded a truck with 400 packages of fresh vegetables and sold them on the sidewalk in front of the Westinghouse Meter

Co., just as the members of Local 426, United Electrical, Radiac and Machine workers came off work.

Here were the prices: Tomatoes at 2c a pound; peppers at 3 1/10c a pound; peaches at 4 1/2c a pound; and eggplants 4 1/2c apiece. These prices gave the farmers a good profit, being above what they get from commission merchants of the food trust.

This was only one truckload. Yet it illustrates very well how socialism would work. In a socialist society the farmers would be well paid for the raw materials and food supplies they produce, but the elimination of the profit-hungry capitalist in the middle would make it possible to deliver these products at low prices in the cities.

The workers in turn would then be able to produce the manufactured products needed by the farmers and deliver them at prices well within reach. Cooperation in producing goods would pay off in unlimited plenty for the great mass of people.

This rationally organized kind of society, unfortunately cannot be achieved under a capitalist government, because such a government is controlled by the profiteers; and they see to it that the men they put in office fight tooth and nail against any proposal or development that cuts into their profits or system of running things.

Consequently the workers and the farmers must unite against the capitalists who stand in the middle. They must unite to put their own government in power: a Workers' and Farmers' Government.

When that is accomplished then all of us can be assured that not only will the price of tomatoes be brought down to reason but likewise the prices of all the basic necessities of life—and the prices of a good many items that today are classified as luxuries.

Notes from the News

CIVIL LIBERTIES DECLINE—The American Civil Liberties Union finds that during the last year there was a "sharply unfavorable change" in the state of civil liberties, producing "an atmosphere increasingly hostile to the liberties of organized labor, the political left and many minorities."

ONLY TWO INDICTED—Six of the seven members of the mob who tried to lynch Godwin Bush in North Carolina last May were again let loose by a judge last week. The seventh and the jailer who took them to Bush's cell were held for trial. A grand jury had previously let them all go.

JUST A LITTLE LATE—Two years after V-J Day, Herbert Hoover finally concedes that the war with Japan resulted from U.S. "provocation."

LEGION STAND HIT—The American Veterans Committee through its national chairman, Chat Paterson, sharply opposes the Legion's attack on the Bill of Rights as a slash at the heart of American civil liberties.

RAILROAD PROFITS ZOOM UP—During the first half of 1947, Class I railroads had an "estimated net income, after interest and rentals, of \$204,000,000 compared with a deficit of \$20,600,000 in the corresponding period of 1946," according to the Association of American Railroads.

COVENANTS TO COURT—Two cases involving restrictive housing covenants—one from Detroit, another from St. Louis—are already on the docket of the U.S. Supreme Court, and two more—from Columbus and Washington, D.C.—are headed there although they have not yet been accepted for review. In the past, the Supreme Court has always dodged a clear-cut stand on restrictive covenants.

THE MILITANT

Cops Assault and Jail Pickets for Protesting Against Jim Crow

N. Y. Test Case Scores Victory Over Jim Crow

Result of Picket Lines At Park Inn Bathhouse

NEW YORK, Sept. 1—A test case made last week at Curley's Bathhouse, Rockaway boardwalk and 116th Street, extended the decisive victory won against Jim Crow discrimination at the Park Inn Bathhouse on Aug. 9 after two weeks of intensive mass picketing. The test case was organized by the Coordinating Committee for Social Action, which is supported by the N. Y. State Conference of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

On August 18 two white girls and one Negro girl applied for tickets to Curley's Bathhouse. The two white girls received their tickets, but the Negro girl was refused on the pretext that she was not a "guest" or a "member."

When the two white girls protested this action, the manager grabbed their wrists and tore their tickets out of their hands. The girls went to a policeman and demanded that an arrest be made on the ground of violation of Section 14 of the N. Y. State Statute Bill of Rights against discrimination. The policeman refused.

URGED SAME ACTION

The Coordinating Committee, after hearing the story, sent a letter to Benjamin Fielding, Commissioner of Licenses, informing him of the events and urging him to take the same action that he had taken against the Park Inn Bathhouse which was ordered to cease discriminatory practices or lose its license.

A hearing was held on August 28 in Fielding's office with the manager of Curley's Bathhouse. Carrying out his promise to the Coordinating Committee, Fielding ordered the manager to admit to the bathhouse all persons regardless of color and warned that failure to do so would result in revocation of his license.

The following day a test was made to see whether Curley's Bathhouse was complying with the order. Two white and two Negro girls, applying for tickets, were admitted without question. Since then, the Committee has received reports that other members of the Negro community have also been admitted.

Detroit SWP Backs Negro to City Council

DETROIT, Sept. 3—Howard Lerner, mayoralty candidate of the Socialist Workers Party, today announced full support for Rev. Charles A. Hill, as the only Negro councilman candidate in the field to date, and urged the official labor movement to work for Hill's election.

A combined banquet and election rally will be held Sunday, Sept. 7, 3 p.m., at the Socialist Workers Party headquarters, 6108 Linwood Avenue (corner Marquette). This affair will be the opening gun in an all-out drive to bring the Trotskyist candidate and program before the workers of Detroit.

Manuel Terbovich, former district director of the United Mine Workers, former regional director of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee, and at present organizer for the SWP in the Chicago area, will be the guest speaker.

SWP PLATFORM

The SWP has issued a printed platform for the coming elections. On the housing front, 500 million dollars is demanded for permanent low rent homes. "Only by freezing rents, halting evictions, organizing tenant groups, opening the books of the banks and real estate interests, and investigating the housing lobby, can the people of Detroit effectively combat the present housing crisis," said Howard Lerner.

The SWP program calls for 30 million for medical care, with 4,000 more beds in the hospitals of the city. Lerner stated, "Medical insurance for all the Detroit workers financed by the corporations should be put into effect immediately."

Further the program demands the repeal of taxation that bores a hole into the workers' pocketbook: the cigarette tax, sales tax, and payroll tax.

After Brutal Assault



Detroit police crashed a picketline outside the Huck Co. where the CIO United Auto Workers were on a strike and arrested six pickets. There are only five in this picture taken immediately after the arrest because one man was brutally beaten and had to go to a hospital. Left to right: Russ Baril, Frank Virzi, George Schuster, UAW Regional Director Emil Mazey and his brother Ernest, chairman of the strike committee. See story below.

Police Attack Strikers At Detroit UAW Plant

DETROIT, Sept. 1—The eight week old strike of the 60 workers of the Huck Manufacturing Company, members of UAW-CIO Local 212, took on new life this past week with the brutal assault of the Detroit police against the picket line of some 60 workers last Monday.

The picket line of the Huck workers had been augmented by a number of Briggs workers, members of the same local union, to put pressure on a number of sales and clerical workers who had begun to scab on the Huck strikers. When Ernest Mazey, chairman of the Huck Strike Committee, and several other strikers approached one of the salesmen who had been observed working on the assembly bench, in an effort to persuade him to discontinue his scabbing activities, the scab struck one of the pickets in an apparent attempt to invite police intervention.

The charges placed against the arrested union men varied from "disorderly conduct" and "simple assault" to "interference with an officer in the performance of his duty." The latter charge was placed against the two Mazey brothers, Upper and Frank Virzi. This charge is ranked as a high misdemeanor and carries a maximum penalty of two years' imprisonment.

OPEN INVITATION

The presence of more than 25 policemen was in itself an open invitation for this kind of conduct and the events of the next few moments gave evidence that their presence was more than just a coincidence.

During the brief skirmish that

followed Peter Upper, Vice-President of Local 212, was struck on the head with a blackjack by one cop while two others pinned his arms to his side. When the skirmish ended, the police had arrested six union men including Peter Upper who had been injured, Ernest Mazey and Emil Mazey, Regional Director of the UAW.

The police assault served to focus the attention of the entire Detroit labor movement on this minor struggle. The strike had been called last July 3 after months of unsuccessful negotiations on wages, and after several attempts by the company to force an incentive pay scheme down the workers' throats. When the Huck workers rejected the proposed "bonus plan" by a two to one margin, negotiations became stalemated.

CIO BATTLEGROUND

Since the police intervention, the picket lines have seen many new faces present from the various local unions. The continued presence of unusually large numbers of police, reaching a high point of more than 100 on Thursday afternoon, has made this strike a battleground for the whole Detroit CIO.

Demands are being raised by the Detroit labor movement for an investigation into the brutality of the police on the picket line as well as to the relationship between the Huck Manufacturing Company and the City Administration which has made possible such exceptional police aid.

The arrested workers will go into court this coming week. The eyes of all the Detroit labor movement will be focused on this attempt by the police department to frame these militant workers and to place the blame on them for the brutal conduct of the Detroit police strike-breakers.

NEW YORK, Sept. 1—New York police yesterday joined with the race-hating cops of Cliffside Park, N. J., in vicious attacks upon peaceful pickets protesting the Jim Crow policy of Palisades Amusement Park, which bars Negroes from its swimming pool.

Determined at all costs to smash the fight against these discriminatory practices, which is now in its fourth week, the police are using bloody violence as well as mass arrests against the pickets.

Yesterday morning the Committee for Racial Equality organized two picket lines, one at the gates of the Park in New Jersey and the other on the New York side of 125th Street Ferry, which is used by New Yorkers visiting the Park. The first 35 pickets on the New York side volunteered to proceed across the river.

CRASHED THE LINE

No sooner had these pickets established their picket line than policemen from Cliffside Borough, together with goons paid by the Park owners, crashed into the line, tearing down the banners and driving the pickets into buses bound for the Ferry.

Undaunted, the pickets telephoned New York for new placards, stating that they were determined to continue their protest picketing. When the new placards arrived, the pickets took their line to a different entrance to the park.

As the pickets stepped off the bus, a waiting policeman turned in a phone call for reinforcements, while the Park's gorillas followed the pickets walking to their destination.

The picket line was re-formed, but before one turn-around had been completed, the Cliffside police and strong-arm men jumped the line, smashing and clubbing women and men alike, in an orgy of Jim Crow terror.

SADISTIC BRUTES

The white girls particularly seemed to be the target of these sadistic brutes. One male picket was beaten into unconsciousness but the police continued to kick him as he lay there, blood streaming from his face. Even after the defenseless pickets were lined up against the walls, the strong-arm men kept beating them.

When the police cars arrived, 19 pickets were taken to Cliffside police station where they were booked on charges of "disorderly conduct," and held on \$10 bail each. Despite the objections of the police chief, a doctor was finally brought to assist the unconscious man. Their case is to be heard on Oct. 15.

Meanwhile, on the New York side,

Labor Party Need Stressed in Labor Party Rally

By O. George

ST. PAUL, Sept. 2—Unions of the local Northern Pacific railroad shops celebrated Labor Day yesterday with the Brainerd Local Shop Federation, AFL, as hosts at a Labor Day parade and picnic in that city.

A real demonstration for a Labor Party was made by St. Paul Local 209 and Brainerd Local 62 of the Sheet Metal Workers, who carried banners in the parade reading: "Build a Labor Party to Fight for Your Rights in Congress;" "Don't Be Slaves—Smash the Tart-Hartley Bill;" "Tax the Rich, Not the Poor—No Taxes under \$5000 Income;" and "A Sliding Scale of Wages Will Meet the Rising Cost of Living."

During the parade a leaflet was passed out by the Sheet Metal Workers, stating: "If we are going to have anything to say, we must organize an independent political party of labor based on the trade union movement. 'BUILD A LABOR PARTY NOW!' must be the cry of all the unions in the U.S.A. Otherwise we are licked for a long time to come."

Comments from union men in Brainerd expressed approval of the Labor Party slogans. Typical remarks were: "Labor Party—that's what we need" and "Yes, we must smash the Taft-Hartley bill—that's the way to do it."

Twenty thousand working men and women of St. Paul, Brainerd and surrounding communities took part in the Labor Day festivities.

Carlson Scores Realty Interests on Shortage

MINNEAPOLIS, Sept. 2—More than 700 men and women who jammed the City Council chamber at a hearing on eviction and rent controls last Wednesday night heard Minneapolis SWP organizer Grace Carlson charge the Minneapolis Property Owners Association with "blocking the path to a real solution of the city's housing problems."

Although maintaining that only "a huge low-rent government housing project" could solve Minneapolis' acute housing shortage, Grace Carlson supported the proposed ordinance to control hotel rents and to lengthen the eviction period from 30 to 90 days.

Robert Wishart, president of the Hennepin County CIO Council, Roy Wier, Central Labor Union Organizer, George Murk, president of the Musicians Union, and Hubert Schoen, state president of the American Veterans Committee, also supported the proposed ordinance.

Chief opponents of the measure were landlords from the Property Owners Association. Landlord arguments centered around the theme that rent controls took away their "freedom" and that politicians should not be permitted to tell them how to run their business.

Canadian Pickets Aid Indonesian Fight

Canadian seamen and shipyard workers in Vancouver halted work on a Dutch freighter the week of Aug. 22 in support of the Indonesian struggle for independence, according to the Sept. Labor Challenge. Members of the AFL Seafarers' International Union threw a picket line around the Burrard Drydock, where the Dutch ship Madoera was undergoing repairs. Their action won prompt sympathy from members of the Marine Workers and Boiler-makers Industrial Union (CCL) who refused to cross the line.

Labor Day Speeches Stress Political Action

Political action to repeal the Taft-Hartley Slave Labor Law and combat the monopoly price-gougers was the main theme of union Labor Day rallies throughout the country.

Both AFL President William Green and CIO President Philip Murray stressed the necessity for a political struggle to oust all federal and state legislators who have voted for anti-labor laws.

AGAIN DISAPPOINTED

But the millions of workers eager to hear a positive program of inde-

pendent labor political action from the two top American union officials were again disappointed.

Green and Murray were explicit about the politicians whom labor must oppose. They said nothing about the specific candidates labor must support. It is no secret, however, that they intend to pursue the political policies of the past, to support Democrats or Republicans whom they can palm off as "friends of labor."

Green made so bold as to state "we will seek to establish a holiday on election day" to permit all un-

ion workers to vote. He didn't say just whom they would vote for.

Murray stated that labor could solve its problems only by "organizing politically as we've never organized before." He didn't state just what the positive objectives of such organization would be, other than to get all qualified voters to register.

HOW THEY WIND UP

It takes no special foresight to see that Green and Murray are going to wind up next November by endorsing a bunch of capitalist machine-politicians, Democratic or Re-

publican, wearing the usual misleading label, "friend of labor."

Most of such "friends of labor" elected in previous elections have been disqualified for labor's support by winding up openly on the side of anti-labor reaction. It's getting harder for the Greens and Murrays to line up some new ones. It's a messy job trying to find a few good apples in a barrel of rotten ones.

Once again the top union leaders reveal their political lunacy. And once again they show that labor has only one progressive course open—to build its own party.