

WHAT IS McCARTHYISM?

(See Editorial, Page 3)

THE MILITANT

PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKING PEOPLE

Vol. XVII - No. 51

NEW YORK, N. Y., MONDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1953

PRICE: 10 CENTS

High Court Gives Employers New Anti-Labor Club

The U.S. Supreme Court has given a new powerful anti-union weapon to the labor-hating corporations. On Dec. 8, the court ruled by a six to three vote that "disloyalty to employers" is legal grounds for dismissal of workers under the Taft-Hartley Act.

"There is no more elemental cause for discharge of an employe than disloyalty to his employer," pronounced Justice Harold Burton, speaking for the court majority.

This decision was made in the case of nine technicians of a television station at Charlotte, N. C., members of an AFL Electrical Workers Local. During a strike in 1949, they distributed a handbill criticizing the station's program and facilities. They were fired for "disloyalty."

In a union appeal to the Court of Appeals in the District of Columbia, an NLRB decision in favor of the company was reversed. Now the Supreme Court has reversed the lower court. In doing so, it has given legal status to a formula that employers have used since the beginning of capitalism in firing unionists and strikers.

Has there ever been a strike in which the scabs who cross the picket line have not been described by the company and the capitalist press as "loyal employes," while the union men have been called "disloyal trouble-makers" and "reds"?

SHARP DISSENT

In a sharp dissent from the majority of the Court, Justice Frankfurter, joined by Justices Black and Douglas, noted that "many of the legally recognized tactics and weapons of labor would readily be condemned for 'disloyalty' were they employed between man and man in friendly personal relations. . . . To float such impious notions as 'disloyalty' and 'loyalty' in the context

of labor controversies as the basis for the right to discharge, is to open the door wide to individual judgment by board members and judges. . . . Every employer considers an employe "disloyal" who is not ready to devote himself body and soul, day and night, to making profits for the employer. Under the Supreme Court ruling the worker is supposed not only to be robbed daily of the surplus value he produces, but to be "loyal" to the capitalist who robs him.

WHAT THEY MEANT
This Supreme Court decision now helps make clear what all the current witch-hunt shouting about "loyalty" really means. It means "loyalty" to the corporations and the Big Business ruling class. For their part, the corporations are making "disloyalty to the government" equivalent to "disloyalty to employers" and grounds for firing militant unionists, as General Electric has recently announced. Thus, "disloyalty" — either to the capitalists or their government agents — becomes an all-sided, all-inclusive formula under cover of which to break unions.

Who isn't covered by this total formula? The worker who wants to get higher wages even if this means cutting company profits is "disloyal." The worker who joins a union when his boss tells him not to is "disloyal." The worker who refuses to conceal and lie about the company's inferior or adulterated products is "disloyal." Workers who shut down a plant and cut off the employe's profits are "disloyal." And they are "disloyal" if they criticize government policies or advocate higher taxes on corporate profits.

GE Adopts M'Carthy Formula For Union-Busting Campaign

At Segregation Hearing



Hundreds of people lined up outside U.S. Supreme Court in hopes of getting one of the 50 available seats at the hearing on the constitutionality of racial segregation in public schools. The court may withhold a decision for months. Attorney General Brownell's brief evaded the crucial segregation issue.

Los Angeles Papers Incite Lynch Hysteria

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 13 — The Mexico-American community here has been aroused over an attempt by the Hearst press to whip up a lynch hysteria against them because of an incident in which a wealthy manufacturer died as a result of an altercation in downtown Los Angeles.

The facts of the incident can be summarized very briefly. A group of Mexican-American teenage youth became involved in an argument with several marines last Sunday evening in downtown Los Angeles. A bystander, William D. Cluff, 56, a wealthy businessman, injected himself into the dispute on the side of the soldiers. In the ensuing scuffle Cluff dropped to the pavement and when the ambulance arrived he was dead.

Chief autopsy surgeon Dr. Frederick E. Newbarr, who examined the body, reported that Cluff died of a massive cerebral hemorrhage "precipitated by a sudden elevation of blood pressure" and denied that the hemorrhage was caused by a blow. He added that Cluff was found to have diseased blood vessels at the base of the brain and an enlarged heart and death was probably due to the excitement attendant on the altercation.

These are the bare facts as reported by the police and recorded in the press. The next morning following the incident, the Hearst rag, the Herald-Express, came out with screaming headlines: HEART OF CITY INVADDED BY RAT PACK KILLERS. The lead story screamed that William D. Cluff "was beaten to death last night by a rat pack gang," and that "three wild-eyed young pachucos" had been charged with the crime.

OPEN THE SLUICES
For days after, the columns of the Herald-Express were studded with epithets. The word "pachuco" (a slang expression applied to Mexican-American youth) was equated with "rat pack," "mad dog," "yellow jackal," "wild-eyed punks," etc. "The time has come," raged the Herald-Express in a front page editorial, "for the Los Angeles Police to be given a free hand in driving from our city streets the young thugs who have created an intolerable situation."

"Law-abiding citizens must be defend that against any and all helpless people. It is a question of standing up against the career-breaking demagogue. . . . It is absolutely true that no one among the capitalist politicians has stood up against McCarthy. Certainly no one among the Army brass has. As a matter of fact, the Army started the spy scare at Fort Monmouth under the instigation of McCarthy. Then he took it out of their hands and used it to serve his own political interests.

As the investigation proceeded, the kind of "evidence" McCarthy was using to smash the careers of these scientists gradually came to light. For example, one scientist was accused of "attempting to transmit" information to an enemy power. When the facts on this were established, it turned out that a routine request had been received from a Czechoslovak source for an article which had been made public by the Army. Even then, influenced by the witch-hunting atmosphere of the country, the scientist who received the request prudently referred it to his superior. From this McCarthy deduced, "attempting to transmit" information to an enemy.

Walter Millis, in the Dec. 8 N. Y. Herald Tribune, speaks of the "witch-hunting, bigotry, cowardice, race prejudice . . . strong elements of racial and religious bigotry and prejudice" in McCarthy's "investigation." This is actually an understatement.

ANTI-SEMITISM
One of the most ominous overtones of the spy-scare of the 40 scientists is the anti-Semitic inference involved in the whole affair. According to Mitchell Levitas, of the N. Y. Post, who exposed the whole Fort Monmouth Hoax in a series of articles, "Of 40 scientists now suspended or declassified, 35 are Jews and one is a Negro. This proportion is in contrast to the percentage of Jews among the total number of engineering personnel at Fort Monmouth. Out of 600 specialists only 100 or 125 are Jews — less than 25%." But the scientists smeared by McCarthy are 88% Jews.

Levitas reports that this anti-Semitic element in the McCarthyite investigation was very disturbing to the defense attorneys. All the rabbinic and number of Jewish organizations met Sunday, Nov. 15 to consider this question. Rabbi Hersheon, for 14 years the Jewish Welfare Board chaplain at the fort, called upon Maj. Gen. Kirke B. Lawton, Monmouth com-

San Francisco Dockers Force Velde to Retreat

By Paul Williams

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 12 — Six thousand longshoremen "hit the bricks" last week, Dec. 3, when Velde's House Un-American Committee opened a red-baiting attack against their union. Local 10, of the International Longshoremen's & Warehousemen's Union (Independent) had served notice to Velde when he arrived in town that it would not tolerate witch-hunt attacks on the union.

Velde, an ex-FBI cop, and now one of the wheel horses in McCarthy's witch-hunt stable, started his hearings Dec. 1. The hearing was preceded by the usual press build-up designed to create panic and fear. Velde announced his committee was "deeply concerned with the red menace" in the Bay Area. The press was full of rumors of subpoenas and sensational revelations of "red" control of waterfront unions.

Elaborate preparations were made for the hearings. The San Francisco City Hall chambers were placed at the disposal of Velde. The stage was set for what many believed would be another victory for the McCarthyite witch hunt.

But things turned out differently. The action of Local 10 of the Longshoremen's Union, warning they would strike at the first hostile move against their union's security, set the stage for a battle between the McCarthyites and the labor movement.

When Velde, after some preliminary sparring, cautiously opened the smear attack on the Longshoremen's Union through the voice of a stoolpigeon witness, the union acted without hesitation. It paralyzed the waterfront in a 24-hour protest strike. Despite the fact that the whole San Francisco Bay Area labor movement did not rally in solidarity action with the Longshoremen, the protest stoppage of the ILWU had a profound effect.

The Alameda CIO Council also went on record against the Velde Committee as an enemy of democratic rights.

This action of the CIO unions in the industrialized East Bay Area showed how widespread the sympathy of the workers was for the militant lead taken by the longshoremen.

When the San Francisco long-

Here's the Way To Fight Fascism

An Editorial

The San Francisco Longshoremen's Union has taught the labor movement and the anti-McCarthyites of the whole country a valuable lesson.

There is much talk against McCarthyism, but very little action. The San Francisco longshoremen acted and thereby showed how the fight against McCarthyism must be waged.

The McCarthyite House Un-American Activities Investigating Committee, headed by Congressman H. H. Velde, barged into San Francisco like a pack of bloodhounds. Ex-FBI agent Velde singled out the labor movement as the main target of his witch-hunting attack.

Velde was given a hot reception. The Independent Longshoremen's Union of San Francisco, the battle-wise founder and backbone of the modern labor movement on the West Coast, warned Velde that any overt move against their union's security would be met with strike action. They made clear that they would tolerate no tampering with their union hiring hall.

The Alameda CIO Council in the East Bay area followed suit and blasted the Velde committee as a foe of civil rights.

When Velde, after some hesitation, began to rebait the Longshoremen's Union, the reply was swift and decisive. The waterfront was paralyzed by a 24-hour protest strike. Hundreds of longshoremen massed at the doors of the witch-hunt committee.

With this kind of inspiring, militant leadership, the whole anti-McCarthyite movement in the San Francisco Bay Area went into action. The warehousemen organized a powerful protest meeting. Large meetings of students, professionals and civil liberties groups took place all over the area.

Instead of the usual field day for hysteria and fear, an impressive counter-movement gave courage and voice to the great majority of people who hate the witch hunt.

The result was a serious set-back for the Velde committee and a step forward in the struggle against McCarthyism. Out of 36 witnesses called to testify, 31 were unfriendly. Velde had to threaten to clear the hall and actually did at one point. The hearings were scheduled to last 11 days. They were cut short and concluded after five days.

The Bay Area example can well be followed by the national labor movement. McCarthyism can be routed by the independent, unified action of labor and minorities. But to accomplish this it is necessary to learn the lesson of action from the San Francisco longshoremen. Their conduct is the kind that built the labor movement. It is the only kind that will defend it against McCarthyism.

Amid the universal fear and crawling before the witch hunters, the San Francisco longshoremen have sounded a courageous note of defiance. We hope that it will be heard throughout the labor movement and that it will find an early echo.

Senator's Drive Gains In Power

By Art Preis

Senator Joseph McCarthy, leading candidate for the American Hitler, is pressing his offensive to capture the White House by 1956 and establish a fascist state. He has been demonstrating within recent weeks an ominous growth of power in private industry as well as in the apparatus of the federal government.

Following McCarthy's personal hearings in Boston on "Communist infiltration" of General Electric plants, that huge corporation quickly announced it will purge all employes on whom the McCarthyites put the smear finger. Workers who stand on their Constitutional rights not to answer the "when are you going to stop being a Russian spy?" questions of the Congressional witch-hunters will be victimized.

McCarthy has also publicly challenged Eisenhower himself on foreign policy without a single Republican member of Congress daring to take up the cudgel for the President.

Moreover, McCarthy's first nationwide action in his drive to mobilize a mass movement for his fascist aspirations — his telegram and letter drive on the White House for a blockade of China — served to reveal the decline of popular support for Eisenhower, who in 1952 won a sweeping victory over the Democratic regime that had held power in Washington for 20 straight years. While Eisenhower and Dulles were flailing at the air on this move McCarthy was off elsewhere, grabbing headlines and pushing his drive on other fronts.

"GE is 'McCarthyized'" is how the Dec. 11 Labor's Daily headline describes the adoption by the country's largest electrical equipment firm, with 131 plants and 230,000 employes across the country, of the McCarthyite formula for purging militant unionists and destroying unions.

R. J. Cordner, GE President, on Dec. 9 proclaimed that the company will fire all those who "admit" being "Communists" or engage in "any form of espionage or sabotage." But the company won't stop there. It will summarily suspend for 90 days and then, if no government clearance is given, will dismiss any worker who invokes the Fifth Amendment to refuse to answer McCarthyite questions cleverly framed to entrap innocent persons.

McCarthy himself promptly hailed GE's acceptance of his union-busting scheme as "fine" and said the anti-labor corporation "certainly should be commended." He indicated that he aims to extend his formula throughout all industry, stating: "If the Government does not keep employes on the job who refuse to answer questions about Communist activities under protection afforded by the Fifth Amendment against self-incrimination, there is no sense in not carrying the same principle over into firms doing work for the government."

Thus, McCarthy plans a monstrous extension of the purge that began with government employes under Truman's 1947 executive order, extended into all the schools, colleges and professions and now, finally, is thundering down on the unions and the workers in private industry.

McCarthy showed his muck-rummaging power inside the government when his arrogant public thrust at Eisenhower and Secretary of State Dulles did not evoke a peep of protest from Republicans in Congress. Instead, even those presumed to be close to Eisenhower remained either "neutral" or voiced openly their approval of McCarthy's views about "Communism in govern-

(Continued on page 2)

Anti-Semitism Tinging Radar "Spy" Case

By Manuel Rodriguez

A little boy, the son of a scientist at the Fort Monmouth, N. J., radar research center, came home from school tearful and a little roughed up: "They told me they don't want to play with any spy's kid." His father was among the 40 spy-smeared scientists at Fort Monmouth who have been given a taste of McCarthyism.

Not one charge, insinuation, smear or innuendo broadcast by McCarthy against the 40 suspended or declassified scientists has been proved after months of scare-headlines and promises by McCarthy of shocking and sinister revelations to come.

McCarthy began his investigation back in October with statements about "a case of current espionage of an extremely dangerous nature." The McCarthyite press took up the theme and gave these hand-outs the "full treatment." The stories in the N. Y. Daily Mirror, for example, gave the impression that radar secrets were being all over the world and that dozens of spies were being rounded up.

But after months of screaming, not one suspicious fact, let alone a spy, has been uncovered. Secretary of Army, Robert T. Stevens announced Nov. 13, that the army

ELIZ. BENTLEY SPILLS BEANS ON WIRETAPPING

Back in Jan. 1950, following disclosure of FBI illegal wiretapping in the Coplon case, FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover tried to minimize the criminal activities of his secret police by stating that at the time "fewer" than 170 persons were having their telephones tapped in violation of Section 2071 of the Federal Criminal Code.

Since Hoover's damaging admission of FBI lawlessness, the Department of Justice and the FBI have been attempting to get Congress to pass a law legalizing wiretapping by the FBI.

They claim that the secret police should be allowed to listen in legally on the private phone conversations of the American people because the government needs "wire-tap evidence to prove its espionage cases," in the recent words of Attorney General Brownell.

The idea that real spies would do business over a telephone, or if they did would speak in language comprehensible to any eavesdropper, is fantastic. This is confirmed by none other than Elizabeth Bentley, whom Brownell and Hoover cited as their chief witness against Harry Dexter White.

Bentley, who claims she was once part of a Russian spy ring and has lived for years on her juicy pickings as a professional stoolpigeon, was asked about wiretapping on "Meet The Press," Dec. 6, by Raymond P. Brandt of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch. Her startling answer did not get into the press. Here are the significant portions of the NBC transcript of the program:

DAMAGING ANSWERS
Q. Attorney General Brownell recommended to the Jenner Committee that there be legislation on wire-tapping. In your contact with these people [alleged spies] do you think wire-tapping, had (it) been legalized would have helped make a stronger case against them?
A. Probably not in the case of my Soviet agents, because we were so frightened of telephones

Rate Kutcher Book One of Year's Best

James Kutcher's book, The Case of the Legless Veteran, was chosen as one of "the most interesting books published in 1953" by Prof. H. H. Wilson of Princeton. The selection is included in the Christmas Book List published in the Nation of Dec. 12.

Prof. Wilson's opinion of the book was more fully expressed in a recent letter to Kutcher, quoted in last week's Militant. He called it "a good piece of work, told effectively and with a most attractive modesty and dry sense of humor that should win you an appreciative audience. . . . I hope that thousands of Americans" will read it.

we never said anything over them. That's been my own experience.

This answer, so at variance with what Brownell and Hoover have claimed, surprised Brandt. He repeated the question.

Q. The real agents did not use the telephone?

A. We used the telephone, yes, but our code was so mixed up that an outsider could not have gotten and understood it.

Although the answers vary (they were too frightened to use the phone and they used only code language over a phone), both contend that wiretapping would have provided no proof of espionage.

Brownell and Hoover want the wiretap law not to catch foreign spies, but to snoop on political opponents and dissenters.

"BLOODY" JEFFREYS -- A McCARTHY OF 1685

By Lynn Marcus

The odious reek of McCarthyism is not new to history. Our Bill of Rights, including the Fifth Amendment, was written because of our ancestors' experience with the

McCarthys of their time. We may understand the real meaning of the witch hunt better by comparing the McCarthys of our time with one of the foulest and most corrupt judges in the history of England, Sir George "Bloody" Jeffreys, Chief Justice of England under James II.

England in 1685 was in the depths of a period of reaction. Justice had become a museum piece. Thousands of innocent Catholics were executed, together with their friends and families, on the charge of taking part in a "Jesuit conspiracy."

To convict the innocent, legions of professional informers, like the notorious perjurer, Titus Oates, were always ready to appear in court or write a "revealing" book. Anyone accused of being a Catholic was given merely the formality of a trial and then beheaded, hanged, or burned alive.

The witch hunt against the small and unpopular Catholic minority widened, becoming directed against the larger group of Presbyterian and Baptist small businessmen and workers.

THE REAL CULPRIT The terrible irony of it all was that the real "Jesuit conspirator" was James II, himself. The king was paid an annual pension by England's mortal enemy, Louis XIV of France — for services rendered to France.

"Bloody" Jeffreys had tried hard for high position under James' older brother Charles II. But even that boon companion of pimps and prostitutes would have nothing to do with him. Why, then, did James II promote Jeffreys from a minor judgeship to the position of Chief Justice? In the words of the historian, Macaulay: "Work was to be done which could be trusted to no man who revered law or was sensible of shame."

Jeffrey's job, and he did it well, was to direct a reign of terror against the English tradesmen, working class, and poor farmers. James, while himself selling out his country to its enemies, used Jeffrey and the issue of "loyalty" to keep the country suppressed with smear, the whip, the axe, the rope, and the stake. Under James II and Jeffreys, judicial murder was the order of the day.

From behind the "Congressional immunity" of his office, Jeffreys abused defense counsels, refused to allow defendants to testify in their own defense or cross-

examine accusers. If an accused denied a charge, Jeffreys would howl, "Thou impudent rebel, to reflect on the King's evidence! I see thee, villain. . . I see thee already with the halter around thy neck!"

Anyone who criticized this kind of justice was smeared. The Jeffreysism of that day, like the McCarthyism of our own, held that anyone who disagreed with Jeffreys' methods of dealing with "subversion" was "obviously subversive." However, Jeffreys was not so occupied with these crimes that he did not have time for bribe-taking and extortion on a grand scale.

The dates are different; the plot is in part the same. To-day, in place of James II, we have the corrupt Wall Street bosses, with their conspiracy to drag us into atomic war. In place of "Bloody" Jeffreys and his infamous touring side-shows of legalized horror, we have the McCarthyite Congressional goon squads. In place of the "Jesuit conspiracy" and the "Presbyterian conspiracy," we have the "Communist conspiracy."

Unless McCarthyism is stopped, we too may expect legalized murder of the innocent.

WALL STREET'S AIM Some of America's ruling 60 families may despise the McCarthyism personally. But we should not be fooled — James II despised his hireling, Jeffreys.

It is Wall Street that sent the old goons of yesterday against the workers — the same Wall Street that is sending the McCarthyite inquisitors out in new attacks on the labor movement. And the aim is much the same: to suppress all opposition to low wages, impoverishing taxes, and the atomic war which Wall Street is preparing for us. For this work, Big Business fosters McCarthyism, as James II fostered Jeffreys, and, as, in our time, German Big Business fostered Hitlerism.

The English people in 1688 ended Jeffreys and the reign of James II. Out of the victorious struggle against the McCarthyism of that time came the tradition of civil rights which the McCarthyism of to-day would destroy. It is up to the American working class, potentially the most powerful political force in the country, to lead the fight. The working class that has defeated Wall Street on the picket-lines of the past will be victorious over the Jeffreysism that has been re-born in America.

World Events

By Paul Abbott

IN GREAT BRITAIN an estimated 4,000,000 workers in key industries are demanding pay increases to meet the rising cost of living. On Dec. 2 the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions staged a 24-hour nationwide token strike in support of a demand for a 15% wage boost. It turned out to be the largest and most effective strike action since the general strike of 1926. The National Union of Railwaymen has called an unlimited strike to begin Dec. 20 if their demand for a 15% increase is not met. James Campbell, the union's secretary general, said: "This is not just a talking strike or anything like that. The last time we went on strike was 27 years ago in the general strike."

ITALIAN UNIONS reported that 6,000,000 men walked off their jobs in a 24-hour nationwide protest strike Dec. 15. The action was taken to emphasize demands for fringe benefits. This is the second of a series that began with a 24-hour strike of 1,000,000 civil servants Dec. 11. A third strike, involving the nation's farm hands, has been called for Dec. 21.

HO CHI MINH, head of the Indo-Chinese government which French imperialism has been trying to smash since the end of World War II, has made two offers to the Paris authorities for peace talks. The first offer was made through a cable published in the Stockholm newspaper Express Nov. 29. The second offer came over the Vietnam radio Dec. 10. The French despots have not indicated whether they are ready to negotiate although it is reported that their military position has been steadily deteriorating.

MRS. JANET JAGAN, wife of the Prime Minister of British Guiana who was despotically thrown out of office by the British after they landed troops in the South American colony, was arrested Dec. 13 together with nine other members of the Progressive People's party. The

authorities appointed by Churchill charged they had held a meeting without permission of the people. Jagan flew to England some time ago seeking help in reinstating his democratically elected government. Later he went to India where he is now.

VICE-PRESIDENT NIXON, while visiting Iran on his around-the-world tour, was given the heaviest security guard for anyone since Mossadegh was ousted from office. The road from the airport to the Shah's palace was lined with soldiers every 100 feet. Troops and police watched crowds for any sign of a demonstration that might break out in consequence of the extreme unpopularity of the Eisenhower administration for its help to the British in the oil dispute and to the Shah in his recent coup d'etat.

THE TERROR IN IRAN has now spread to other parties beside the Stalinist-dominated Tudeh. Police of the British — and American-backed Shah closed down the only important opposition paper in Teheran. The editor, Dr. Mozafar Bahai, head of the Toilers party, had demanded the arrest of government leaders for the "horrible massacre" Dec. 7 of university students. Police announced 11 arrests Dec. 15 of persons charged with distributing leaflets denouncing the government's decision to resume diplomatic relations with Britain. On the same day, the government suppressed demonstrations that had been planned. According to a Dec. 15 dispatch to the N. Y. Times, "it was clear" that the government "was prepared to adopt as stern repressive measures against its non-Communist opponents as it has used against the Tudeh (Communist) party."

The sweep of reaction in Iran followed a betrayal by the Iranian Stalinists, who slavishly followed Kremlin orders restraining them from installing a workers and farmers government during the two years they enjoyed the backing of the majority of the Iranian people.

Letters from Our Readers

Did Stalinists Support McCarthy?

Editor: I was told that the Communist Party at one time supported the election of Senator McCarthy. Is that true? I would appreciate if you would reply in one of your issues. Thank you.

Sec'y of Defense, at Eisenhower's elbow. Is GM anti-McCarthy? Gen'l Wood of Sears Roebuck & Co. is mentioned by the Militant as one of McCarthy's prime backers. Certainly Sears Roebuck, which does a volume of business in Japan and the Philippines, could appreciate a vast Chinese market.

L. B. Brooklyn, N. Y.

One source that can be cited on this question is the book, "McCarthy, The Man, The Senator, The Ism." In Chapter 17 the authors, Jack Anderson and Ronald W. May, report that in the 1946 election in Wisconsin the Stalinist vote helped to elect McCarthy. The account must be read critically. It should be noted that in 1946 the nature of McCarthy as a fascist leader was by no means evident. Granting that they threw their vote to McCarthy in 1946, the crime of the Stalinists was to support a capitalist politician. That is always injurious to the interests of the workers. — Ed.

Points to Strange Difference Coughlin Has With McCarthy

Editor: The Dec. 7 Militant which directs McCarthy and his backers raises some interesting questions. I cannot make head or tail of McCarthy's ranting about "Blood trade with Red China" at the present time when sections of Big Business, which finance McCarthy, seem to be seriously considering opening up profitable trade with China.

Most intriguing of all is the "position" of the Catholic Church. While "that great Catholic" Joe McCarthy, strikebreaker Spellman's hero, fulminates against trade with China, Father Coughlin, the veteran fascist makes his first public appearance in 13 years, obviously with the Pope's approval and . . . pronounces himself in favor of trade with China!

Then take the feud between McCarthy and Dulles-Eisenhower. Is this and the China-trade mish-mash a genuine split between conflicting sectors of finance capital, a popularity contest between demagogues, or just a cynical diversion of labor, working both sides of the street?

Lastly, if McCarthy is a fascist, how is it that he has not as yet directed any serious barrages at the minorities and the labor movement, as all fascists worth of the name are bound to do?

The auto manufacturers in particular are eyeing China trade. GM's man, Charles E. Wilson, is

Fascism, by its very nature, does not openly represent the policy of Big Business on all questions. Fascism has come to power in Europe while proclaiming anti-monopoly, anti-capitalist slogans. The stated program of fascism is based on demagoguery and hysteria. Thus, on the question of trade with China, direct correspondence between the utterances of McCarthy or Coughlin and the basic policy of Big Business need not necessarily follow.

Moreover, Big Business is itself not united on many critical questions of foreign policy. Coughlin's support of "trade with China" is a good example of fascist demagoguery which appeals to the interests of the Detroit auto workers who are suffering layoffs. Trade with China would increase auto production. Coughlin's "difference" with McCarthy on this question is easy to understand once we grant the possibility of a number of fascists contending for leadership. — Ed.

Would Like to See McCarthy Shown as Polished and Shaven

Editor: I would like to commend and thank the editors and staff of the Militant for the very fine issue of Dec. 7 devoted primarily to McCarthyism and the growth of fascism in the United States. The articles covering all aspects of the question — what is fascism, why McCarthyism falls into this category, review of the trend toward fascism, and most important, what can be done — were excellent.

However, I have one minor criticism: not of the articles but of the front-page cartoon. Gray has portrayed McCarthy as an unshaven, unkempt, generally disreputable character. I feel that such a characterization can be dangerous and can lead to an underestimation of McCarthy and McCarthyism.

McCarthy is very smooth, polished and conscious, as his tactics to date have indicated, and it would be a serious mistake to consider him in any other light. McCarthy should not be pictured as a wild-eyed rabble rouser on the fringe of lunacy to be lightly brushed aside. The Dec. 7 issue

of the Militant does not do so with the possible exception of this one cartoon. J. Booth Chicago, Ill

Urges Labor Party Be Formed Now

Editor: Glad to notice the attention you are paying to the formation of a Labor Party. With 15,000,000 votes, what on earth is labor waiting for?

Your recent editorial on the matter was excellently done. C. E. G. Fairview, N. Y.

Was Assembly Line An Unhappy Idea?

Editor: In the course of neighborhood visits to get new subscribers to the Militant, we talked to a worker in the electronics industry who is on strike. He told us that his plant turns out 500 television sets a week, and that since these cannot all be sold, he will probably be laid off before long. He said, "I'll tell you what the trouble is. The assembly line does it. If they had never invented the assembly line, there would be more work because it would take longer to make the sets."

We said that we felt the solution was the 30-hour week at 40-hour pay. He thought that was a good idea, but he kept returning to the idea that modern technological advances were what caused unemployment.

Could you please answer this worker on why the assembly line and such modern methods are actually a benefit to the workers in that they could shorten their working time considerably? C. W. New York

Dockers Force Velde to Retreat

(Continued from page 1)

shoremans struck on Dec. 3, they marched to the Civic Center to hold a stop-work meeting. Germaine Bulcke, vice president of the ILWU, reported that more than 2,000 longshoremen participated in the demonstration. They were massed in the Civic Center, at the doors of the City Hall, in the corridors and hearing chambers.

history. Also in Berkeley, the "Student Civil Liberties Union" packed Styles Hall with a panel of professors speaking against the Velde committee.

In Oakland, the auditorium of Willard High School had an overflow meeting, sponsored by the "East Bay Committee for American Activities." The Alameda County CIO sound truck was actively used in the organization of the student meetings on the University of California campus. The hearings didn't go too smoothly for Velde. The audience was hostile to him. Time and again he had to resort to threats to clear the hearing chambers.

Two Greyhound bus-loads of pickets came over from Oakland, where Local 6 of the ILWU had voted a solidarity action with the San Francisco longshoremen. A bus-load of pickets came in from Stockton representing Local 54 which had also voted its solidarity.

In the days following the Dec. 3 protest strike, four meetings against the Velde committee took place in the Bay Area. These meetings provided an eloquent demonstration of the mounting public opposition to McCarthyism and the undemocratic methods of Velde.

In San Francisco, the "Callifornians for the Bill of Rights" held a well-attended meeting.

In Berkeley, the "Students' Committee Against Velde" held a session that filled Barrington Hall with the largest audience in its

BALKY WITNESSES Following the usual pattern, Velde brought some former "radicals" out of the woodwork. They were patiently coaxed by the committee into "telling all." Yet, even this backfired somewhat. One of Velde's main witnesses against the Longshore Union insisted on clearly establishing the highly democratic and militant character of the union. . . this, in spite of the committee's constant prodding to do otherwise. Reaching onto the campuses, Velde achieved a brief success by victimizing teacher Robert Mass

of San Francisco State College, Assistant Prof. Niebold of the University of California and a nursery teacher in a Walnut Creek co-op nursery school.

Mass issued a statement to the press denying participation in any activities of a "violent conspiratorial" nature. He refused to testify before the committee, or to even give them information about his former radical affiliations, although he had freely given this to the school authorities. His grounds were that once he talked to Velde, he would lose his legal rights and be forced to become a stoolpigeon or else be sent to prison for contempt of Congress.

This example demonstrated quite clearly, as did many other examples that came out of the hearings, the growing determination of all who have not become creatures of the witch hunt to refuse to cooperate in any way with the Congressional inquisitors.

The broad opposition to Velde, sparked by the longshoremen's action, was surprising to all political parties and organizations that had been sitting back waiting for the axe to fall. Even though the boss press

played down the overflow crowds that came to all the protest meetings, it was becoming apparent that Velde was getting a little more than he had reckoned with. Individuals who had, up to now, stayed in the background, convinced that McCarthyism was unopposed, suddenly came forth to speak their piece; and they found support in places where they never thought it existed.

Velde ended the hearings on the fifth, instead of on the announced eleventh day. He talked of returning to Washington for "urgent Congressional duties." The committee left with a vague threat to "return again sometime in the future."

Incite Lynchers In Los Angeles

(Continued from page 1)

prepared to back up police officers in the use of forceful measures," echoed the open-shop Los Angeles Times. This refrain was repeated over and over again by the kept press, radio and television. Those who led the campaign against police brutality last year were blamed for making the streets of Los Angeles unsafe for "respectable" citizens.

CALL FOR VIOLENCE

"In fairness to the police," asserted the Herald-Express, "they have been actually prevented from taking steps to make our city safe by organized criticism of their so-called brutality." The Hearst rag complained, "we have become too soft," and added, "The lash and the club would do a lot of good . . . it's time to take off the gloves and let these criminals, teen-agers though they be, feel the mailed fist."

The import of this lynch campaign was well understood by those concerned. Last year the Mexican-American community, backed by the labor movement, civil liberties and minority groups, waged a successful campaign against police brutality. The use of "clubs and mailed fist" against national and racial minorities had been a common police practice: An aroused community succeeded in curbing such brutality.

The yellow press, smarting under the "restraint" imposed upon the use of lawless physical violence against minorities, have pounced upon a sensational incident in an effort to reestablish the rule of the "lash and the club." And all of this in the course of a mock celebration by the same press and radio of "Civil Rights Week."

The Seattle comrades moved ahead of Los Angeles this week to take fourth place on the national scoreboard. Literature Agent H. Baker sums up on recent sales: "In the month of November we sold 120 single copies door to door, 24 at union meetings and 18 at one of the local churches. The comrades who have sold the most single copies are our new friends, Ann and Leon. They sold 15 on recall work this Sunday and have

recalled work this Sunday and have

recalled work this Sunday and have

recalled work this Sunday and have

recalled work this Sunday and have

THE MILITANT ARMY

This week reports are in from the fifth in the series of mobilizations organized by Militant salesmen throughout the country to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the paper. A total of 212 subscriptions and 1,724 single copies have been sold so far in the campaign.

New York campaign Director Tom Denver reports an excellent response to last week's issue of the Militant. "A group of comrades sold 103 copies at the New School. Twelve copies were sold at a District 65 meeting. House-to-house work and other sales brought the total to 405 copies in one week. Comments from friends and readers of the paper indicate that the Militant's analysis of McCarthyism fills a genuine need."

Literature Agent Janet MacGregor reports continued good reception to recent issues of the Militant in Detroit. She writes, "On Saturday Edie, Sherry, Bob, Elaine, A. Winters and Bea went to the project and sold 49 copies of the paper and one six-months sub. Most of us were covering our friends of last week's mobilization and giving them the second issue. Others were speaking to new people."

"Most everyone is talking about the layoff here and looking for the answers to the high cost of living. We found the articles on the 30-hour week, the NACCP work, Jomo book review, and the article on women made it very easy to sell the paper. It was an excellent issue all the way around for every type of reader."

"On Sunday Elaine and John Allen went to a union meeting to sell the paper. Since it was snowing, some of the union fellows told Elaine to go inside the union hall. The response was so favorable, she sold the last copy she had."

"Pat Stall and Kev were also out on Saturday to a housing project and they sold 13 copies of the paper and one six-months sub. They found the subscriber a fellow who was just waiting for someone like us to get around to him. Both of them felt it was one of the best days they had seen in Militant selling."

"Frank and Fred did some call-back work and got a six-months sub. They found one other fellow who is laid off from work, but wants the paper and as soon as he has the money will let them know. Frank and Bea were also out to visit some old friends and sold some copies of the Militant and Fourth International."

"Even after we had sold all of our papers at the housing project on Saturday, Al Winters and I found that people were stopping us and asking what we had been selling. One fellow who was a coal driver had a long talk with Al and he said if he sees us next week there he will buy a copy. I ran into an insurance salesman who had recently quit the factories because he couldn't live on the short work weeks and lay off. We had a long talk with him too and he wanted a copy of the paper but we had just sold them all. It sort of reminded me of the stories Dunne has told of selling socialism everywhere."

The Seattle comrades moved ahead of Los Angeles this week to take fourth place on the national scoreboard. Literature Agent H. Baker sums up on recent sales: "In the month of November we sold 120 single copies door to door, 24 at union meetings and 18 at one of the local churches. The comrades who have sold the most single copies are our new friends, Ann and Leon. They sold 15 on recall work this Sunday and have

a good route established having gone back to some of these same people now for five Sundays."

Literature Agent Marianne Moore also reports a good response in door to door work. She writes, "We did pretty well in our Militant sales in Pittsburgh the past two weeks. We were able to sell 50 copies house to house in a fairly short time. Please keep our bundle at the increased amount!"

Milwaukee Literature Agent Francis Barrow writes, "Since the Anniversary Campaign began we have held regular Sunday mobilizations with a lot of comrades going house to house with the paper. We have built up a substantial list of readers for call backs. Also we sell regularly at union meetings. Our three top comrades on the campaign scoreboard are Al C. with 66 points; Fred H., 46; and Paul R. with 39 points. Commendations go to Kenneth K. for coming up with Militant sales and a possible sub during his first time out."

From St. Louis Dick Carter reports, "Selling single copies is not difficult and I am building a route of steady customers, many of them young workers."

"New York had better start looking to their laurels!" writes Minneapolis Literature Agent Helen Sherman. "The Minnesota Militants are coming down the home stretch in this campaign on their heels. It looks like Los Angeles, Seattle, Cleveland and Chicago will be giving us a run for our money in the effort to outdo the great Eastern competitor. We don't discount Detroit, by any means, which is already up in seventh place — and having a great deal of success with Militant sales according to Comrade Janet's inspiring report."

"Minneapolis Militant salesmen brought in nine subscriptions and sold 32 single copies of the paper for this week's score of 344 points. It's a good time to go out into neighborhoods and make new socialist friends by selling the Militant, distributing leaflets for meetings, and getting subs — that is the conviction of Fanny, Bill, Helen, Bob W., Ralph, Donald and Chester."

"Alice brought in the most subs this week — three renewals, all from Militant readers who bought subs for the first time in last spring's campaign. Other subs were sold by Chester, who is leading on the local scoreboard with 216 points; by Ray and Ralph, who are in second and third places, and by C. R., Charles and Louise."

Table with 2 columns: Name and Points. Includes New York (2361), Twin Cities (1270), Chicago (941), Seattle (685), Los Angeles (628), Detroit (606), Cleveland (526), Buffalo (330), Philadelphia (333), Newark (243), San Francisco (223), Milwaukee (176), Oakland (163), St. Louis (161), Boston (130), Youngstown (52), Pittsburgh (50), Akron (10), General (182).

Chester of the Twin Cities continues to hold first place among the pace setters nationally, with 216 points to his credit. Cleveland subgetter Jean S. is second with 159 points and New York's high scorer Ethel B. holds third place with a score of 151. Other top Militant salesmen are Ray, Twin Cities, 135 points; Pat, New York, 120; Winifred, Twin Cities, 116; George, Seattle, 114; Harold R., New York, 110; Dick, St. Louis, 109; and Frank, Seattle, 107 points.

Advertisement for 'America's Road to Socialism' pamphlet by James P. Cannon. Includes a portrait of James P. Cannon and a list of 6 topics: 1: America Under Eisenhower, 2: The International Prospects of Capitalism and Socialism, 3: Prospects of Capitalism and Socialism in America, 4: The Coming Struggle for Power, 5: America Under the Workers' Rule, 6: What America Will Look Like Under Socialism. 80 pages, 35 cents. Pioneer Publishers, 116 University Place, New York 3, N.Y.

Subscriptions: \$3 per year: \$1.50 for 6 months. Foreign: \$4.50 per year; \$2.25 for 6 months. Canadian: \$3.50 per year; \$1.75 for 6 months. Bundle Orders: 5 or more copies @ each in U.S. 7c each in foreign countries.

THE MILITANT Published Weekly in the Interests of the Working People THE MILITANT PUBLISHING ASSOCIATION 118 University Pl., N. Y. 3, N. Y. Phone: AL 5-7468 Editor: GEORGE BREITMAN Business Manager: JOSEPH HANSEN

Signed articles by contributors do not necessarily represent The Militant's policies. These are expressed in its editorials. Entered as second class matter March 7, 1944 at the Post Office at New York, N.Y., under the act of March 3, 1879.

Vol. XVII - No. 51

Monday, December 21, 1953

4th International Rallies Against Pablo

The Fourth International, the World Party of the Socialist Revolution founded by Leon Trotsky, has recently been affected by an internal crisis. The power and mass influence of Stalinism in the Soviet Union, Eastern Europe, Asia and Western Europe overwhelmed a small faction in the leading committee led by Pablo and caused it to veer in the direction of becoming a "left" wing of Stalinism.

Such a political symptom is extremely dangerous. If it engulfed the International it would mean its certain death as a revolutionary force. But the Fourth International can not easily be derailed. The genuine Trotskyists are now meeting Pabloite revisionism in a struggle that has every promise of success.

We are pleased to report that the Fourth International is moving ahead with sure and firm steps to assert the will of the overwhelming majority of the world Trotskyist movement against the usurpation of the Pablo faction.

The French, British, Swiss and New Zealand sections have formed an International Committee of the Fourth International. They have issued a declaration to all sections reaffirming the basic Trotskyist program and calling on the cadres of the world movement to struggle for the life of Fourth International against ruin at the hands of the Pabloites.

The International Committee charges the Pabloites with the crime of covering up the current betrayals of Stalinism and attempting to foist a dictatorial rule on the International in the interest of the new revisionist doctrine of Pablo.

The International Committee condemns the Pabloites for having dared to speak to the

East German workers in the name of Trotsky's Fourth International as nothing but luke-warm "critics" of the Stalinist counter-revolutionaries, and for having refused to demand the withdrawal of the Kremlin's troops from East Germany although Moscow used these troops to suppress the East German workers.

The International Committee condemns the Pabloites for covering up the betrayal of the Stalinists in the French general strike of last August, and the betrayal of the Stalinists in Iran in the same month.

The organization of the International Committee signifies that the Fourth International has once again proved its historic viability. It shows that no force on earth external or internal, can destroy it.

Reactionary enemies and cynics may try to gain comfort from this struggle within the Fourth International. These people cannot understand that the International is a living revolutionary organism that can mature and measure up to its historic responsibility precisely through such internal struggles. They are part of the hard school of preparation for the greatest step forward humanity has yet taken — the world socialist revolution.

We hail the formation of the International Committee of the Fourth International. Because we are compelled to remain outside the International organization due to the reactionary Voorhis Law of 1940, we are all the more interested and concerned with the development of the Fourth International. The International Committee insures the line of revolutionary continuity that extends from Lenin, through Trotsky and into the future victory of socialist mankind.

What Is McCarthyism?

The term "fascism" is accepted by a fairly wide section of the labor and liberal movement as a description of McCarthyism. But the acceptance of this term unfortunately is not accompanied by the necessary understanding of what it implies.

We, unlike the Stalinists, do not label any and every reactionary capitalist politician as "fascist." Fascism is a definite form of capitalist reaction. It differs vitally from other forms. It can be a costly error to lump all capitalist politicians in one convenient basket for the sake of using strong words.

The fascist movement arises when capitalism has suffered such a prolonged and unresolved social crisis that the middle class, unable to find leadership from the workers, turns to the fascist demagogue.

This demagogue utilizes the very anti-capitalist sentiment of the middle class to hurl it against its natural ally, the workers, in the interest of monopoly capital.

The rise of fascism always implies the inability of capitalism to rule by the old democratic methods and the absence of a resolute working class leadership to usher in the new socialist system of production and political rule of the workers.

The United States has experienced a profound social, economic and political crisis for many decades. In the Thirties this manifested itself in two forms. First, in the dramatic appearance of the industrial working class on the union arena through the organization of the CIO. Second, in the growth of a whole range of native fascist movements, (Hague, Coughlin, Pelley, Smith, etc.) This was a result of the failure of the unions to move

forward on to the political arena by organizing an independent Labor Party.

The Second World War cut across these developments. For the middle class it provided an economic outlet in the war prosperity. It assuaged the discontent of the working class by providing full employment. The post-war prosperity continued, to provide a measure of equilibrium to the internal mechanics of American capitalism.

But as the world revolutionary movement spread and confronted American capitalism with insoluble difficulties, the political situation in the United States changed step by step.

The mounting witch hunt and tendencies toward formation of a police state are symptoms of the serious crisis in the system. The whole country is pessimistic about economic prospects. The slightest economic dip sends a groan of apprehension throughout the country. The farmer is no longer prosperous, the worker is beginning to suffer lay-offs. The capitalist fears what they might do.

Under these conditions the symptoms of the late Thirties are returning with a vengeance. The McCarthyite movement, growing out of the witch hunt, begins to take on marked fascist characteristics.

We are paying for the long delay in the organization of a Labor Party. The political equilibrium of the country is upset and it tends to fall to the right as long as only timidity and craven subordination to the shattered Democratic party appears on the working class left.

These are some of the implications of the recognition of McCarthyism as a fascist movement. A broad discussion of these implications is urgently needed in the labor movement.

Coughlin Raises His Head

When the Militant declared on Dec. 7, that the fascist menace in the U.S. is grave we didn't fully realize the rapidity with which events are moving. As we were preparing the Dec. 7 issue, Father Charles E. Coughlin, the outstanding fascist demagogue of the Thirties, reappeared on the scene, speaking to the Friday club in Detroit on Dec. 4.

This speech confirms our diagnosis of the gravity of the fascist danger. Coughlin is a practiced fascist demagogue. Just note the program Coughlin opened up with in his new crusade against "Communism":

He came out for the guaranteed annual wage, trade with India and China, and the lifting of all taxes from production line workers.

Each one of these points appeals to the needs of the Detroit auto worker. With mounting unemployment in the auto industry the workers feel that trade with China would boost employment in the auto field. The annual wage is the demand of the CIO. And what could be more appealing and popular than the lifting of taxes?

We have McCarthy as candidate number one for American Hitler. But we also have Coughlin. And Gerald L. K. Smith is beginning to stir again in New York.

We warn that unless labor acts in time,

the fascists will be in position to move swiftly into the political arena with the first major turn toward depression.

The fascists, once they get rolling, will quickly take on all the trappings and techniques that are required by an American fascist movement. The danger is to wait until fascism gets rolling in high gear.

The task is to crush fascism in the egg. Detroit is a dynamic center of the American labor movement. Can the Detroit unionists let the challenge of Coughlin go unanswered? Can they afford to ignore Coughlin, hoping that he will be defeated by indifference?

The Socialist Workers Party is emphatically opposed to such a suicidal policy. We propose that the labor movement move quickly and decisively on the McCarthyite-Coughlin menace.

There is no time to waste. Every day we wait means more victims in the costly and desperate struggle to come.

Illusions, soft-headedness, smug bureaucratic complacency will be paid for in workers blood.

Let the voice of the rank and file be raised and let the officials of the unions know that the workers demand action right now against McCarthyism and all its allies.

Once Again -- Stalinism's Betrayal in France

By Murry Weiss

Since the August general strike in France, evidence accumulates showing the depth of the betrayal of this momentous workers struggle by the Social Democratic and Stalinist leaders. The causes and consequences of the betrayal of this historic general strike are also illuminated by the further course of events.

A profound difference in attitude toward the French general strike became one of the great issues in the struggle between the orthodox Trotskyists of the world and the Stalinist-conciliatorist faction of Pablo. This is as it should be. Differences in theory among Marxists have always received their acid test in the laboratory of the class struggle. The colossal French general strike of August was such a laboratory test of the difference that had been growing between Pabloism and Trotskyism.

Pabloism pictures Stalinism as a kind of unwilling vehicle of the revolution. In effect the Pabloites accept the doctrine that Stalinism, despite its past betrayals and criminal acts, has been caught up inextricably in the world revolutionary process and regardless of subjective Stalinist intentions is performing a revolutionary function.

Events and facts do not conform with this "new" theory. First, the East German general strike of June 17 struck a body blow to the theory. The counter-revolutionary role of Stalinism has never been so nakedly revealed as in the opening stage of the political revolution of the East German workers against Stalinism.

Next, the monstrous betrayal of Stalinism in the French general strike of August pulled the props from under the Pabloite conception.

Then the events in Iran, where the Stalinist Tudeh party betrayed a first class revolutionary opportunity and allowed it to become transformed into a catastrophic defeat for the Iranian workers and peasants, added to the evidence.

On top of this, the counter-revolutionary role of the Stalinists in Bolivia, the cynical betrayal of working-class independent political action in the United States where the Stalinists are orienting toward the Democratic party, the unmasking of the repressive nature of the Stalinist "new course" in Eastern Europe, have all contributed to the undermining of the theory of a "new" progressive Stalinism.

What is at issue with the Pabloites is not differences over secondary peculiarities in the post-war evolution of Stalinism, but a conflict over a basically new evaluation that substitutes petty bourgeois prostration for the powerful orthodox Trotskyist conception.

The test of the French general strike makes this unmistakably clear.

BONDY'S ANALYSIS

In the Oct. 12 issue of the New Leader, Francois Bondy, described as "a veteran Swiss journalist and leading member of the Congress of Cultural Freedom," writes on France's "Hour of Decision." Bondy is a Social Democrat of the New Leader school. In other words, he

belongs to the school that depicts Stalinism as a bearer of the program and practice of world revolution.

These gentlemen seldom miss an opportunity to hammer away on the theme that the Stalinists, always and everywhere, are conscious revolutionaries bent on overthrowing capitalism by Leninist methods.

But Francois Bondy tells the readers of the New Leader that this was not the case in France. The anti-revolutionary conduct of the Stalinists in France was so obvious that the Swiss Social Democrat had to take note of the facts even though they violate the pet thesis of the Social Democrats as to the nature of Stalinism.

Bondy states bluntly, on the basis of the facts as he sees them, that the French Stalinists are a power piece, in the Kremlin's diplomatic game with the French government. He shows how the French Stalinists can be moved effectively on the diplomatic board because they can "offer, indirectly, a great deal — namely social peace."

Then he goes on to demonstrate how the Stalinists proved this in the French general strike. "They were careful not to let the crisis progress beyond the boiling point," Bondy says. And he adds: "Strange behavior indeed."

POST-STRIKE POLICY

Bondy establishes the fact that the Stalinists soft-pedaled all the revolutionary aspects and potentialities of the general strike and confined themselves to maintaining their position in the mass organizations of the workers.

An Answer to Slander Against Ceylon LSSP

One week before the Cochran-Pabloite minority split away 18% of the Socialist Workers Party by an organized boycott of its 25th Anniversary Meeting in New York, the splitters were forced into a debate on their pro-Stalinist orientation. The subject was the role of Stalinism in the French General Strike of last August. The Cochran-Pabloites undertook to cover up the Stalinist betrayal.

During this debate, the two main minority spokesmen, Frankel and Bartell, slandered the Ceylon Trotskyist party, the Lanka Samasamaja Party (LSSP), by falsely identifying the LSSP policy in the Ceylon August Hartal (general strike and community stoppage) with that of the Stalinists in the French strike. Murry Weiss, as speaker for the Trotskyist majority, exposed this slander of our Ceylonese comrades, whose party has likewise been split by a pro-Stalinist minority who cited Pablo's views as justification for their own.

The Dec. 3 issue of the Samasamajist, organ of the LSSP, carries an analysis that confirms the position taken by Murry Weiss. It is a devastating answer to the slander that the Ceylon Trotskyists acted no differently than the French Stalinists.

The Samasamajist article, "The Defense of Capitalism — French CP's Right Turn," first explains the basis for the French Stalinist policy in French Communist Party leader Maurice Thorez's statement: "We are determined to associate ourselves with all Frenchmen whoever they may be, who are opponents of the Bonn and Paris agreements." (Original emphasis.)

This is the enunciation of a "national front" policy instead of a class struggle program. The Samasamajist comments: "Already Mr. Daladier, wartime Premier of France, has accepted the Stalinist offer of class collaboration. This alliance with the right-wing conservative Daladier requires only the co-operation of Gen. de Gaulle to complete the sordid picture of Stalinist treachery in France."

This treachery "has been characteristic of Stalinist policy in France, especially since the end of the last imperialist world war," when the Stalinists joined the DeGaulle government "to give it stability" and a Stalinist Minister of Defense "sent French troops into Indo-China to crush the colonial revolution there."

But "never was the reactionary role of Stalinism more apparent than in the French General Strike," writes Samasamajist. "This coincided with the mass upsurge in Ceylon and affords a significant comparison between the Stalinist leadership of the French movement and the Trotskyist, that is to say the revolutionary, leadership of the struggle of the Ceylonese masses."

STALINIST CRIMES

The French Stalinists "vigorously stifled any signs of revolutionary initiative on the part of the workers and the rank and file of the CP. When the entire regime



THOREZ

party (the Lanka Samasamaja Party) to the left of it, the Ceylon CP has been hampered seriously in its efforts to follow the Kremlin directives for collaboration with the 'progressive capitalists,' that is to say any capitalist party that is willing to remain neutral in the forthcoming war against the Soviet Union."

THEIR PRICE

The Stalinists in Ceylon are willing to support any capitalist government, "if that government follows a policy of neutrality in the cold war and the hot war as well when it comes."

"It is for this reason that the Stalinists oppose the Lanka Samasamaja Party's demand for an Anti-Capitalist Government and refuse to form a United Front with us for achieving this objective. Instead, they are calling for a United Front of the SLFP [left-liberal capitalist party] and the 'progressive capitalist' branch of the UNP [the ruling United Nationalist Party] on the one hand, and the working class parties on the other, for the purpose of installing a 'progressive capitalist' government which will follow a policy of neutrality. Such a proposition . . . is thoroughly opportunist and treacherous to the cause of the mass movement."

This "thoroughly opportunist and treacherous" policy, when followed by the French Stalinists, was characterized by Frankel merely as "inadequate." And, he stated flatly, the Ceylon Trotskyist policy did not differ much from it. As if in direct reply to this base lie, the Samasamajist replies:

TROTSKYIST POLICY

"The great August struggle, which was led by the Lanka Samasamaja Party on an anti-capitalist basis, posed before the masses the question of what kind of government was capable of solving the present capitalist crisis. It was the call for an Anti-Capitalist Government that made the August Hartal a struggle for the overthrow of the Capitalist UNP Government and its replacement with an Anti-Capitalist Government. It was this reorientation of the mass mind that violently closed a chapter in our history and inaugurated another. It crystallized in the minds of the people the fact that the UNP is unable to solve their problems because it is a Capitalist government."

The Ceylon Trotskyists conclude: "It is only an Anti-Capitalist Government that can take the necessary measures to lift the burdens from the backs of the working and middle classes. That is why the LSSP strives for a United Front of Working-Class Parties for the replacement of the Capitalist UNP Government with an Anti-Capitalist Government."

Thus, the "only" difference between the Stalinist policy in the French General Strike and the Trotskyist policy in the Ceylonese General Strikes was that the former betrayed the revolutionary aspirations of the masses and the latter advanced and urged on these aspirations.

Then he traces the post-strike policy of the French Stalinists.

"It seems, rather clear," says Bondy, "that the French Communists are prepared not to make trouble for even a 'reactionary' government, so long as it adjusts its foreign policy toward the Kremlin. And to those who desire a government more to the left, the Communists place only one condition: renunciation of the European policy."

Why does this Social Democrat characterize the Stalinist policy in France so plainly even though it violates the Social-Democratic picture of the Kremlin and the Stalinist parties as revolutionary forces? The answer is quite simple. The Stalinists are following the same policy as the Social Democrats with this important difference: The Social Democrats maneuver with the French capitalists to support the American imperialists. For these maneuvers they sacrifice the revolutionary interests of the French workers. The Stalinists on the contrary, maneuver with the French capitalists to support the Kremlin and betray the revolutionary interests of the French workers for that purpose.

The real policy of the French Stalinists — and not the fictitious legend assigns them — must be dealt with because it represents a real threat to the orientation of the international Social Democracy. They are afraid that the French capitalists will find the Stalinist offer tempting and take them up on it.

DEEPEN ERRORS

The Stalinist conciliationism of the Pabloites was deepened by the results of the French general strike. Having flopped over to the role of apologizing for the Stalinists, they took one step after another to justify this course. Thus they attempt to cover up the monstrous betrayal of the Stalinists with a hundred-and-one sophisticated rationalizations.

SITUATION IN FRANCE

The situation in France remains pre-revolutionary in character. Notwithstanding signs of a reactionary mobilization all evidence shows that the French workers will have another chance to solve the crisis, through taking power. This next chance must not be missed!

The ferment in the Communist Party, the deep dissatisfaction of the communist worker with Stalinist policy will bear fruit only to the extent that the revolutionary nucleus of the French Trotskyists are totally free of all illusions concerning Stalinism.

The genuine Trotskyists of France have demonstrated clearly on this question in the test of August. They have shown their capacity to forge connections with the masses in struggle. The work of the Trotskyist newspaper La Verite (The Truth) is evidence of this. The worker militants in the Trotskyist movement have rejected the pro-Stalinist rationalizing of the Pablo faction and are moving forward in the great work of building a revolutionary leadership of the French working class.

The Pabloites refuse to call the Stalinist policy during the strike a betrayal. And they refuse to

For the real meaning of McCarthyism — For a working-class program to fight it Read the new pamphlet McARTHURISM: American Fascism On the March Contents The Grave Danger of the Fascist Menace — Statement by the Political Committee of the Socialist Workers Party What About the "Communist Menace"? Box Score of the McCarthyite Witch Hunt Fascists See Their Biggest Chance Since the 30's Life-and-Death Struggle for Negroes and Minority Peoples The Men Behind McCarthy, by Art Preis McCarthy's Use of the Hitler Big-Lie Technique, by Murry Weiss 16 pages 10 cents Order from PIONEER PUBLISHERS 116 University Place New York 3, N. Y. NEW YORK have a good time on New Year's Eve at the MILITANT HALL Thursday, December 31, from 8:30 P. M. on Dancing Buffet Supper Entertainment 116 University Place (near Union Square)

For "Whites" Only

By Jean Blake

This column is for whites only. Just for once, imagine yourself an American Negro, born and raised anywhere in the United States, North or South. All your life you've been made unmistakably and unforgettably aware that you are different. You may be dark brown, light tan, black as ebony, or fair-skinned, blue-eyed or red-headed, but you are black. You may have gone to a Negro school, or a mixed school. You most likely went to a Negro church at some time or other. You probably have ridden in Jim Crow trains or busses once or many times. You have either not gone into some restaurants because you know you're not wanted, or you have been refused service in them.

Now, if you think you've been properly conditioned as a Negro, read these headlines and items taken at random from daily newspapers of the past few weeks:

Gifts Expressing Regret of Error

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Nov. 22—Mrs. Nina Hardman greeted a floodtide of well-wishers today, a gratifying turn of events. Last night she was gripped by fear.

Some of the residents of a neighborhood signed a petition trying to prevent Mrs. Hardman from moving in.

She said she was panic-stricken over what the petitioners might do.

Many of those who signed the paper went to Mrs. Hardman today to express their regrets. . . Many brought flowers, fruit and other gifts.

The petitioners had learned that Mrs. Hardman was a native of the Philippines.

Sees White Race Periled
WERL, West Germany, Nov. 25 — A Rome Carmelite priest, Father Svoboda, told an international conference here that low birth rate was threatening the existence of the white race.

Of every 110,000 births in the world today, only 35,000 are white, he added.

New Army School for Whites Flayed
FT. HOOD, Tex., Nov. 24 — A new segregated school for white pupils was dedicated by Maj. Gen. William S. Biddle today despite a "vigorous" protest to the Pentagon by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. . .

Britain Fires Buganda King for Pressing for Independence

LONDON, Nov. 30 — Britain booted the 29-year-old king of Buganda off his throne today for insisting upon a definite date for independence within the British Commonwealth for his 900,000 subjects. . .

Stevenson in Capital Hails Democrats Unity in South

Rep. Bolton Urges UN to Use Our Race Solution

Well, are you convinced there is a "Negro Struggle" that requires special consideration and action?

Detroit's No. 1 Problem

By Patricia Stall

Recently Detroit was shocked by the death of a 3-year-old boy, who was trapped in raging flames that swept through a "bootleg" rooming house.

Originally built to accommodate two families, the house had been divided and sub-divided until eight families totalling 36 persons were crammed in. Complaints cited against the landlord included lack of toilet or washing facilities, converting sleeping rooms into "apartments" by putting in illegal hotplates, and conversion of a cellar storage room into an "apartment" that inspectors condemned as totally unfit for human habitation.

Such complaints are commonplace in areas termed "trouble spots" by city inspectors. As one official put it, "These operators will lease as many as four and five big old-fashioned homes, and bootleg them into apartments and sleeping rooms; installing plumbing, kitchen equipment and partitions without building permits or inspections."

Many operators comply with the demands of inspectors. For instance, the woman operating the house in which Billy burned to death complied with the law. She was ordered to remove hotplates from her "apartments" and she removed them — until after the final check-up by inspectors. The day Billy died the hotplates were back again, mute evidence of "cooperation" with the law.

Uncooperative landlords are fined. We can judge what this means when we read the record: In the last six years, the fine for over 9,600 reported violations averages out to little more than \$2 each! Last year, after checking 1,721 buildings in "trouble spots," 1,119 violation notices were served.

One firm owning extensive real estate in these areas has been cited 47 times since 1948 for violating health and safety laws. Another landlord was cited 20 times between 1947 and 1953. The firm paid a total of about \$500; the landlord's penalty amounted to \$150.

These facts have been known for a long time. During the recently concluded election campaign a series of articles exposed fine-evasive landlords, rent-gouging, bootleg housing, children bitten by rats, and so on. Officials were "appalled." They were "outraged" and "sympathetic" to the victims. Then the storm died.

With Billy's death another storm stirred up the headlines in the press. But after the storm comes the long silence.

Does it seem unnatural that the usual order of nature has been turned topsy-turvy and in Detroit the storm comes before the calm? The truth is that this is quite natural under capitalism. The operator of the building where Billy died admitted that she violated health and safety codes to "make more money." She was afraid she couldn't "make ends meet" so she charged Billy's family \$80 a month for a two-room attic with no heat and with only orange crates for furniture. That is also natural under capitalism — violate all codes of decency to "make more money."

When the "operators" of all housing are put under the scrutiny and control of committees of housewives, architects, safety engineers and others interested in decent, adequate living quarters, then the calm of the landlords' day will be followed by the storm of activity necessary to rebuild Detroit and make housing its No. 1 Pride instead of its No. 1 Problem.

Notes from the News

STEEL PRODUCTION IS DOWN moderately in industry as a whole and sharply in many sections. The Dec. 16 Wall Street Journal reports: "The extra-sharp curtailments have been made mainly by small and middle-sized producers." Among these producers, cuts in production go as deep as 30% in many and 70% in extreme cases.

THE PRICE OF STEEL SCRAP is sliding "because steel mill production is on the way down. . . steel makers themselves no longer need much steel since their huge postwar and post-Korean expansion program is near its end." (Wall Street Journal, Dec. 14.)

AUTO LAYOFFS. The headline in the Wall Street Journal, Dec. 11, reads: "Car Collie, Nash, Like Chrysler, To Lay Off Thousands; Dealer Stocks Are High; Clean-up of '53 Models Is Uncompleted, Though the '54s are Crowding In, Optimism Remains Official."

CIGARETTE SALES DIP are cutting Federal and state tax revenues to 6.2% less than last year.

FARMERS ARE GLOOMY. They have "a general feeling that good times are well-nigh over and it's best to prepare for harder going." (Wall Street Journal, Dec. 15.)

RAYON MANUFACTURERS are operating at 61% capacity. "The textile trades generally are in the doldrums." (Wall Street Journal, Dec. 14.)

EMPLOYMENT FIGURES REVEAL a drop of 300,000 from October to November. This drop is six times as fast as is usual for this time of year. The Wall Street Journal calls this trend a "growing abundance of manpower."

COTTON GROWERS in California are getting orders from the Government "to slash 1954 plantings to half of this year's level. The growers'

reaction: Fight to soften the cutbacks, squeeze every last bale of cotton out of the reduced acreage." (Wall Street Journal, Dec. 10.) The field workers' reaction to squeezing more cotton out of less acreage is not reported.

"COMMUNISM... COMMUNISM... COMMUNISM... COMMUNISM... COMMUNISM... COMMUNISM..." That's the beginning of an article in the Dec. 7 International Oil Worker, official newspaper of the CIO Oil Workers Union. "The Big Lie boys are not out to destroy communism. They are out to destroy democracy. To destroy democracy they must destroy free trade unions. An example of their real intentions, behind this phony facade of 'anti-communism,' is found in Senate Bill 1616, known as the Butler Bill, which is now pending before Congress. . . Under the definition of the Butler Bill a union would be 'communist' if it supported higher wages, for the Communist Party also claims to believe in higher wages"

SOUTHERN JUSTICE AND THE FBI. Olga Moranski, organizer for the AFL United Garment Workers, was denied the right to walk down the streets in Falmouth, Kentucky. She was also prohibited by the city authorities from speaking to the workers at the Falmouth Co. textile plant without a solicitor's license. When she inquired about such a license the city attorney told her they were not being issued. The Kentucky State Federation of Labor called on Attorney General Brownell to authorize the FBI to investigate the violation of Olga Moranski's constitutional rights. Herbert Brownell refused the request. The State Federation expressed shock at this refusal: "It is the position of the Kentucky State Federation of Labor that the 14th amendment to the Constitution was violated. The amendment prohibits any state from abridging the privileges of U.S. citizens. . . We have every right to assume that if the request made by this labor organization had been made by an association of management, the investigation would, in all probability, already be under way."

THE MILITANT

IUE Wins By Slim Vote At Lynn GE

By Lynn Marcus

BOSTON, Dec. 11 — Yesterday's NLRB election in the Lynn and Everett plants of General Electric resulted in only a slim majority vote of 5,546 for the CIO International Union of Electrical Workers, just 740 more than the 4,806 votes cast for the independent United Electrical Workers, expelled four years ago from the CIO as "Communist dominated." In the same bargaining unit, IUE had won by 760 votes in 1950 and 1,153 in 1951.

On the eve of yesterday's election the corporation threw its weight behind the IUE by announcing its plan to fire or suspend any employees fingered as "reds" by the McCarthyite Congressional committees or other witch-hunting bodies.

Today, the Boston Herald claimed: "There was little doubt that the company-wide get-tough policy, perhaps the most sweeping loyalty crackdown ever instituted in a major U. S. industrial firm, had its effect on balloting."

But GE was not using the new "McCarthy Formula" merely to influence the outcome of the NLRB election. The "McCarthy Formula" is designed, like the old infamous union-busting "Mohawk Valley Formula," to destroy all unions or debase them to the level of company unions.

SECRET MEETINGS

After McCarthy's recent hearings in this city, local GE manager Ross engaged in secret transactions with the Massachusetts Commission on Communism. Following several closed-door sessions, the Commission let it be understood that they would conduct "red raids" on local unions after the NLRB elections. An officer of the Commission said yesterday he had developed "writer's cramps" from writing out subpoenas for the forthcoming kangaroo court-type hearings.

The large minority tally for the UE is considered a protest vote against the Association of Catholic Trade Unionists' misleadership of the local IUE that has driven a large section of GE workers away from the CIO union into the Stalinist-influenced UE. This big protest vote is considered especially significant because those workers who voted UE did so in spite of McCarthy's hearings, the "fellow-traveler" tag and all the pressure that GE, the McCarthyites and the local press could bring to bear.

One strong united union in GE, under a fighting leadership with a program that can defeat the company's union-busting campaigns, is needed. Such a program against the unholy alliance of GE and McCarthyism would include: a United Congress of Labor to end union-busting McCarthyism; an all-out campaign for the 30-hour week at 40 hours' pay to meet the threat of mass layoffs.

Youngstown Group Hears Talk on Depression Threat

YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio, Dec. 13 — The Militant Forum held another successful meeting here last night when an audience of 30 heard John Black explain the "Meaning of the Present Recession."

The American economy is "helplessly dependent on war," the speaker asserted. He predicted that without a war, the economy would inevitably continue its present decline.

This area has already been hard hit by the cutbacks. Only 55 out of 81 open-hearth furnaces are operating and indications are that more will be in mothballs by the end of the year. Some local unions are already discussing sharing the work by reducing the work-week.

The audience was well aware of the situation, some of them in fact having already been hit with the axe.

"Only the Socialist Workers Party," declared the speaker, "offers an effective program for leading the struggle against unemployment and hard times. We must start fighting right now for the 30-hour week at 40 hours' pay."

The dramatic and often humorous presentation was followed by over a half-hour's discussion from the floor. The steelworkers present showed great confidence in their strength, and optimism about the ultimate success of the "thirty-forty" fight in the area.

A One-Year Subscription to THE MILITANT Only \$3
116 University PL. N. Y. 3, N. Y.

West Coast Dock Conflict



San Francisco police (top) intervene when Harry Lundberg sent hundreds of members of the Sailors Union of the Pacific (AFL) in an attempted raid on a pier picketed by the National Union of Marine Cooks & Stewards. At bottom, AFL Atty. John P. Hanson, who led invasion, is escorted away by cop.

SAN FRANCISCO ILWU HALTS LUNDBERG RAID

By E. Harris

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 6 — A 24-hour work stoppage by Local 10, International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union has stopped cold an attempted raid by the Sailors' Union of the Pacific, AFL, upon the jurisdiction of the ILWU and the National Union of Marine Cooks and Stewards, Independent.

The passenger steamer, Aleutian, which was to inaugurate a new "all AFL" passenger service between the mainland and Hawaii, today lies tied up at Pier 56 in San Francisco. Its sailing date, Dec. 6, is today but its crew has been paid off and its disappointed passengers have found other means of travel.

The dispute began in Seattle, Wash. The SUP, under the guidance of Harry Lundberg, a notorious red-baiter and jurisdictional raider signed a back-door agreement with the newly organized Pacific Hawaiian Co., taking over the steward department jobs of the NUMCS members who had held them while the Aleutian was in the Alaska service.

The NUMCS established a picket line which the Seattle ILWU longshoremen refused to cross. Whereupon the SUP, supporting its subsidiary union, the AFL Stewards, and under cover of U.S. Coast Guard protection, broke through the NUMCS picket line and loaded supplies aboard.

The Aleutian then moved to San Francisco, where it was to enter into the Hawaiian passenger service: The picket line, manned by the Independent Marine Cooks and Stewards who had been ousted from their jobs followed the ship. Again the picket line was observed by the ILWU.

Harry Lundberg now declared that if the ILWU longshoremen would not load the ship with stores and baggage the SUP would. He made three attempts to crack the picket line. The first two tries were stopped by the pickets.

In the third try, 500 sailors, AFL stewards and AFL Marine Firemen, armed with clubs and lengths of chain, marched up the Embarcadero to Pier 29 where the Aleutian was moored. Their declared object, according to their leaders, Harry Johnson, Assistant Secretary of the SUP, and Vince Malone, Secretary of the Marine Firemen's Union, was to remove the 200-man picket line and "drive the commies off the waterfront."

When ordered to stop by the 200-man police force stationed at the pier, the marchers attacked the police with clubs and chains. In the melee, the police counter-attacked and dispersed the AFL marchers. The NUMCS pickets did not enter into the battle.

On the following day, Dec. 4, as both sides, AFL and Independent unions massed for a showdown fight, the officials of Longshore Local 10, ILWU, pulled all longshoremen off all Bay Area piers

N.Y. Union Hits Mayor Wagner Witch-Hunt Act

NEW YORK, Dec. 15 — The AFL union of municipal workers this week denounced the new witch hunt launched by Mayor-elect Wagner against the city's 100,000 civil service workers. Wagner's order that all city employees fill out a "loyalty" questionnaire was characterized by the AFL Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees as an invasion of their civil rights. The union took the first legal steps to fight the measure.

Jerry Wurf, local president of the AFL union said, "The scope, wording and ultimate effects of this questionnaire are such as to force public employees into unconscious perjury and give aid and comfort to communists and put the official seal of the City of New York upon McCarthyism."

Mayor-elect Wagner has not yet occupied his office but begins this first act of his new administration in anxious haste lest anyone accuse him of not measuring up to McCarthyite witch-hunt standards. He appointed Peter Campbell Brown, former chairman of the Federal Subversive Activities Control Board, to the post of Commissioner of Investigations.

The proposed questionnaire to be circulated by the new commissioner in eighteen of the city's agencies will undoubtedly be extended to all the other agencies at a later date. This blow at civil rights from a politician who was supposedly a liberal democrat has given the Daily Worker, Communist Party organ, a great deal of embarrassment.

The Daily Worker had urged support to Wagner as an effective political way to challenge McCarthyism. According to their present tortuous reasoning, Wagner is now giving in to the pressure of the reactionary wing of the Democratic Party and this must be countered by increased liberal pressure.

Wide-spread resentment and confusion was aroused in Stalinist circles by the Daily Worker's support of Wagner and the editors went to some lengths during the election trying to justify its "reacherous line. This latest development brings home to indignant and resentful followers of the Daily Worker, the full treachery of the paper's position.

15 PITTSBURGH UNIONS STRIKE 5 DEPT. STORES

By Josh Lossa

PITTSBURGH, Dec. 13 — The strike of 15 unions against five major Pittsburgh department stores entered its third week today. The strike was initiated in the midst of the strategic Christmas buying season by AFL Teamsters Local 249, which has a militant history in the Pittsburgh labor movement.

Typical of the "get tough" policy of Big Business in negotiations, the Labor Standards Assn., bargaining agent for the department stores, has adamantly refused to consider any of the Teamsters' demands.

The 2,000 AFL Retail Clerks, also at a dead end in negotiations with the same stores, voted to go on strike at a mass meeting called three days after the beginning of the Teamsters' strike. But a few days later, local officials called all but 700 Gimbels clerks back to work as a result of separate, inconclusive negotiations with the Labor Standard Assn.

Milton Weisberg, president of the CIO Clerks, publicly supported management's proposal that the strike and further negotiations be postponed until mid-February so that "all can have a peaceful Christmas."

Such an action, of course, would permit the stores to rake in all the Christmas trade with no reduction in sales due to the strike.

Weisberg further criticized the Teamsters' leadership for not submitting their demands, alongside management's for "public" appraisal before calling the strike.

Charles C. Levey, international vice president of the AFL Building Service Employees (also involved in the dispute), vehemently attacked the role of Weisberg as "companyism" rather than "unionism," and threatened to ask the Pittsburgh AFL Central Labor Union to sever its ties with the CIO in this city.

Disregarding public support for the strike, Gimbels boldly runs large ads for scabs in the local papers, offering permanent jobs for sales clerks, office workers, and porters to fill the jobs of those on strike, and stressing that "business as usual" is the order of the day.

Last Monday, solidarity with the strikers was demonstrated by approximately 150 men joining the picket line at Horne's. This was not continued, however, because of the company's threat to get an injunction against mass picketing. Fearing use of the Taft-Hartley Law, the union acquiesced in calling off the extra pickets.

There have been a few incidents in this strike. The companies alleged that one of their scabs was beaten so badly that hospitalization was necessary. The newspapers hastened to play up this and similar items.

TWIN CITIES
25th Anniversary
New Year's Celebration
Thursday, Dec. 31, 8:30 P.M.
10 So. 4th Street
Minneapolis
Favors, Refreshments
Auspices:
Socialist Workers Party

III. CIO Discusses Growing Problem Of Unemployment

By J. Booth

CHICAGO, Dec. 15 — Seven hundred delegates to the 11th Annual Convention of the Illinois CIO held this weekend, expressed great concern over the growing problem of unemployment in Illinois.

The convention projected a conference on unemployment to be held early in January by the Cook County CIO Industrial Union Council and also mapped plans for a similar state-wide unemployment conference.

The delegates supported proposals for a guaranteed annual wage, an increase in unemployment compensation benefits, and a public works program to provide jobs.

Jacob Potofsky, president of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America CIO, told the delegates that a downward drift of the national economy has developed under the Republican administration. He reported that business failures are increasing, farm income has fallen off 17% since June, unemployment compensation claims have risen and surveys indicate that firms in many areas foresee smaller payrolls.

The number of applicants for unemployment compensation payments throughout Illinois rose to 75,810 on Nov. 28, as compared to 39,964 in 1952. This figure does not include the tens of thousands who are not eligible to receive compensation, or whose insurance has run out, or who have had cuts in hours with no compensating raise in pay.

Those attending the unemployment conference next month would do well to study the Nov. 21 issue of Ford Facts, newspaper of UAW-CIO Local 600 in Detroit. This union of 60,000 auto workers has proposed the practical program of a 30-hour week with no reduction in take-home pay as a means of fighting unemployment.

CHICAGO
NEW YEAR'S EVE FROLIC
Dancing, Entertainment, Refreshments, Favors and a special New Year's Day Breakfast
Thursday, Dec. 31, 9 P.M. to 7
SWP HALL
734 South Wabash
Donation \$1.00