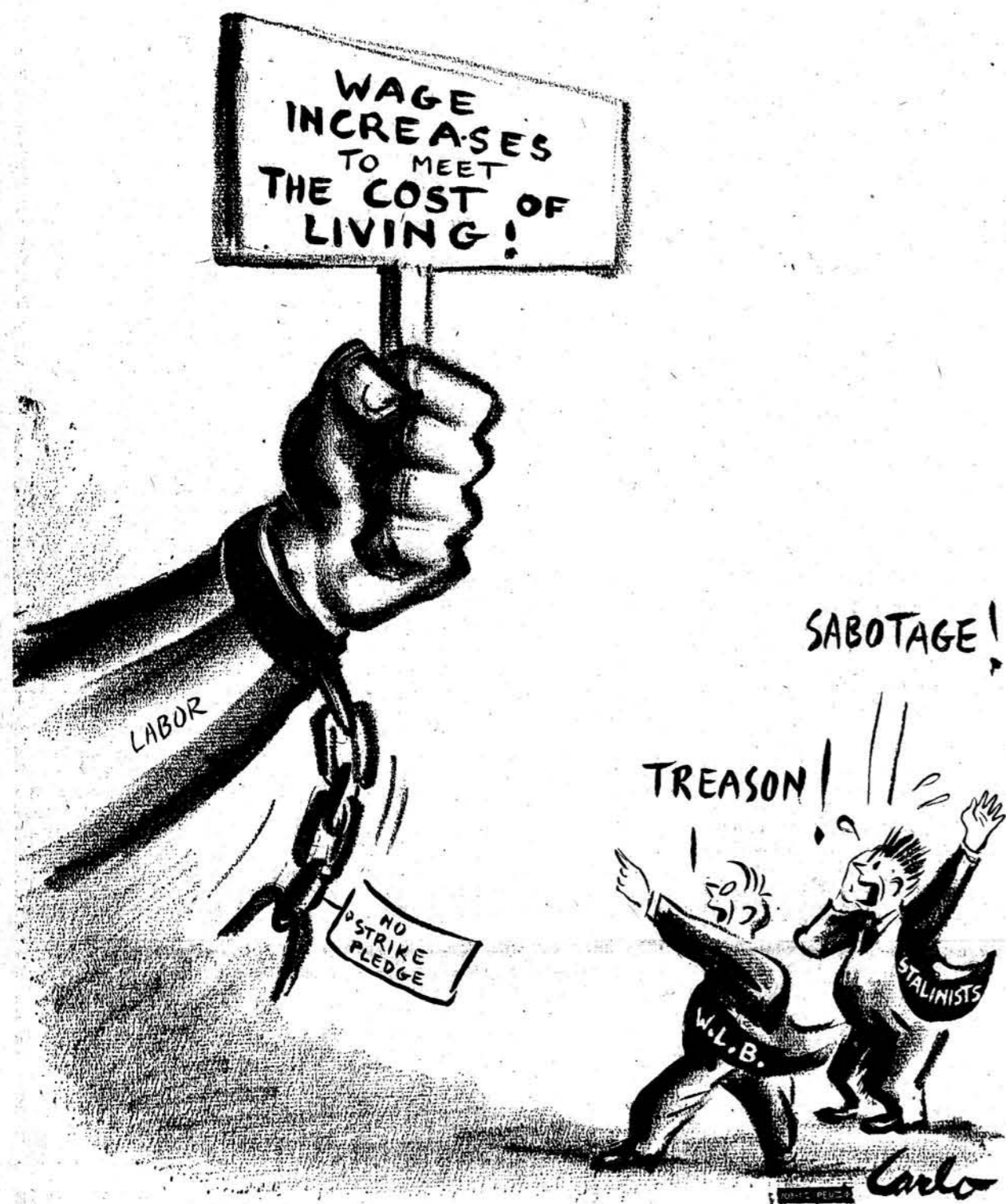


## They Are Fighting for Every Worker--

# THE COAL MINERS MUST WIN!



## FDR, Stalinists and Bosses Unite vs. Akron Workers

AKRON, May 30—More than 50,000 Akron rubber workers returned to work on May 27 after having shut down for five days the huge plants of Goodrich, Firestone and Goodyear. This greatest of all strike movements in the history of Akron came to an abrupt halt when a pistol was pointed at its heart by that "friend of labor," President Roosevelt, acting in his capacity of commander-in-chief of the Army and Navy!

### Shachtman Will Discuss Stalinist Dissolution at New York Forum

The fourth lecture in the series on the war by Max Shachtman will be given on Friday evening, June 11, at the Labor Temple, 14th Street and Second Avenue. The subject of this lecture is "Russia in the War." Comrade Shachtman will discuss the role of Russia in the war, the significance of her alliance, first with Germany and then with the Anglo-American bloc; Stalin's war aims and post-war plans. He will also discuss, in the light of these factors, the meaning of the formal liquidation of the Communist Party, and what this means for the world working class.

Labor Action Forum has rented the large auditorium in the Labor Temple for this lecture. Series tickets will be honored. Admission for the single lecture is twenty-five cents.

miserable three cents per hour wage increase instead of the modest eight-cent raise recommended by the board's panel several weeks ago.

Naked force was the final "argument" left in the hands of the desperate and profit-mad employers, as they surveyed the ineffectiveness of the pleas and slanders leveled at the striking workers by the Beacon Journal, the top leadership of the URWA international union and the hirelings of the Communist Party. So it was that Franklin D. Roosevelt was again called on the act as the nation's No. 1 strike-breaker!

And break the strike he did with his telegram ending with this ultimatum: "If this strike is not ended by twelve o'clock noon, Thursday, May 27, 1943, your government will take the necessary steps to protect the interests of the nation, the legal rights and properties of the companies involved and the rights of the patriotic workers who desire to work." To this, every boss and his stooge said a profound "Amen."

#### Goodyear Situation

Meanwhile, since the strike first began early Saturday morning, Goodrich plants were shut down tight. All during the strike situation the marvelous solidarity of the Goodrich workers was demonstrated to the wonderment of all by the overwhelming fact that no pickets were at hand around the gates of the plants. There were none needed. The handful of would-be scabs, including Communist Party members, who slunk unobtrusively past the gates could only turn around and march back out of the vacant buildings. No more devastating reply to their traducers can ever be made by striking unionists than the absolute and voluntary tribute the 14,000

Goodrich workers paid to their union by staying away from the plants.

At Firestone, pickets were needed, mainly because of the fact that there the union in the past has not organized successfully the countless new and raw workers employed in the new plants and departments working solely on war goods. But, broadly speaking, the Firestone local union stuck with the Goodrich union, if somewhat behind it.

Finally, the Goodyear union situation is what occupied the attention of militant unionists throughout the five-day strike. Last fall in the local's elections, the slate of officers endorsed by the so-called "Communist" Party swept into office by a narrow margin. During the strike a COMPLETE EXPOSURE of the rottenness of the policies of this leadership occurred, an exposure that can and must lead to their thorough repudiation.

What happened is this: Goodyear workers at their union meeting on the second day of the strike turned down all of their executive board's proposals to return to work. Militant rank and file members began to take matters into their own hands and picket the gates. In this they were joined by some Goodrich and Firestone strikers, anxious to assist their fighting brothers because they understood that the internal union situation at Goodyear was the Achilles' heel of the whole Akron labor movement.

The Kremlin bureaucrats had control of the local union office. They answered the thousands of phone calls coming in from Goodyear workers inquiring about developments by TELLING THEM TO GO IN TO WORK, to disregard the pickets. As a consequence, confusion reigned in the minds of those workers unacquainted with the true picture.

(Continued on page 2)

By DAVID COOLIDGE

As this is being written, a half million coal miners of the UMWA are holding THEIR line from eastern Pennsylvania through West Virginia to Alabama and the bituminous regions of the Middle West.

Without intending to do so, the very reactionary New York World-Telegram pays a high tribute to the UMWA. Says the World-Telegram: "The work stoppage became general today when the morning shifts in the biggest coal producing centers ignored whistles at the shafts and remained at home, apparently unimpressed by the fact that they now were striking against their government and face the possibility of military action to open the pits."

The miners had nothing else to do; they had no other alternative. Every proposal they made to the coal companies was rejected. Every compromise suggested by the UMWA was rejected by the operators. The miners have agreed to extensions and truces, but the operators have refused to give an inch. The owners of the mines (the real owners) have violated every principle of collective bargaining procedure. All of their scheming, all of their planning have been originated with one purpose in mind and that is to replace collective bargaining with WLB "directives" and presidential decrees aimed solely at the mine workers.

## No Formulas to Freeze Salaries Of Big Business

Last week we published a salary list of top officers of some of the leading big business firms to show the contrast between their incomes and the wages of the workers. This week we present another kind of list, showing not only the salaries received by these gentlemen but also indicating how these salaries have increased since 1940. The "wages" they received in 1940 could hardly be called starvation wages. But it will be easily noted that while the Little Steel formula adheres to a rigid control of the workers' wages, the salaries of the big business boys have been upped by many thousands of dollars! No controls or formulas exist for them: The figures supply all the equipment necessary!

Company and Official	1940 Salary	1942 Salary	Amount of Increase
American Locomotive, W. Dickerman	\$75,954	\$114,091	\$38,137
Armour & Co., G. A. Eastwood	74,378	101,340	26,962
Aviation Corp., V. Emanuel	25,000	88,917	63,917
Budd Wheel Co., E. G. Budd	110,428	140,318	29,890
Burlington Mills, J. S. Love	91,940	196,340	104,400
Electric Storage Battery, R. C. Norberg	42,882	69,740	26,858
Fairbanks-Morse Co., R. H. Morse	120,700	162,170	40,470
Firestone Tire & Rubber, J. W. Thomas	91,937	120,000	29,937
Flintkote Co., L. J. Harvey	53,370	90,050	36,680
General Amer. Trans. Corp., L. N. Selig	60,000	84,000	24,000
Goodyear Tire & Rubber, E. J. Thomas	91,937	120,000	29,937
Kennecott Copper Co., E. T. Stannard	101,220	126,150	24,930
J. R. Kinney, Inc., G. L. Smith	23,600	44,150	20,550
Lima Locomotive, J. E. Dixon	31,680	63,150	31,470
Loews, Inc., L. B. Mayer	697,048	949,766	252,718
Munsingwear, Inc., E. L. Olrich	27,886	68,787	40,901
J. C. Penney Co., A. W. Hughes	47,975	81,155	33,180
Phelps Dodge Corp., L. S. Cates	100,520	151,350	50,830
Savage Arms Co., F. F. Hickey	32,010	86,400	54,390
Snider Packing Corp., S. E. Comstock	22,000	35,595	13,595
Union Bag & Paper, A. S. Calder	86,829	100,731	13,902
Vick Chemical Co., H. S. Richardson	48,360	95,285	46,925
Willys-Overland, J. W. Frazer	60,000	123,184	63,184

## 25c Prepaid Sub Cards Available!

By HENRY COLEMAN, Campaign Director

City	Twelfth Week: May 23-29 Returns	Per Cent of Total Quota Achieved
Detroit	1	210
Buffalo	18	157
Chicago	132	132
Cleveland	112	112
Los Angeles	6	103
New York	30	88
Streator	80	80
Sierraville	80	80
Akron	72	72
National Office	2	51
Reading	40	40
St. Louis and Missouri	30	30
Philadelphia	15	15
WEEKLY TOTAL	57	88.6
GRAND TOTAL	886	

Returns fell off a little this week, but not nearly as badly as during the slump we had several weeks ago. THAT slump was followed by a banner week, when we just barely missed hitting a new high. There are indications that our readers and distributors are preparing the same sort of comeback for the last few weeks of the drive. One thousand subs by June 19—PLUS a bonus of at least a hundred subs!

New York and Buffalo boosted their returns this week. If they hadn't come through so handsomely, we would have been in a bad spot. Other cities take notice! Los Angeles reached its quota on May 24; and, from the

LA leaflets they have been ordering, it looks as if they will make a fine showing during the last couple of weeks of the drive. LOS ANGELES has ordered, to date, THIRTEEN THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED leaflets! We have the good news from Philadelphia that our friends there expect house-to-house canvassing to bring in subs that will put Philadelphia way up on the list.

And here's a MOST IMPORTANT announcement for all our sub-getters, for all our readers who WANT a simple and effective means of getting a few subs from their friends:

Twenty-five-cent PREPAID sub cards are now available from LABOR ACTION at twenty-five cents each. You BUY these cards from LA and sell them to your friends and fellow workers. It is only necessary to fill in the name and address and drop the card in the mail box. The cards are addressed to LA and stamped. You will help LA by paying for subs in advance; you will get your money back by reselling the sub cards; and the person you sell the card to will like the idea of filling out the card and sending it in himself. Both of you save time and avoid possible slip-ups in sending the sub in, etc.

You can now carry a few twenty-five-cent prepaid sub cards around with you at all times—selling them is easy. The whole transaction takes only a minute. EVERY ONE OF OUR READERS can buy some cards and become the center of a new group of LABOR ACTION subscribers. Use the blank below.

### LABOR ACTION 114 West 14th St., New York City

LABOR ACTION, 6 mos., 25c.; 1 yr., 50c.  
New International, 6 mos., \$1.00; 1 yr., \$1.50.  
LABOR ACTION and New International, 6 mos., \$1.00; 1 yr., \$1.75.

Enclosed find \$\_\_\_\_\_ for which please enter my subscription to  
LABOR ACTION  1 yr.,  6 mos.  
New International  1 yr.,  6 mos.  
LABOR ACTION and  
New International  1 yr.,  6 mos.

Please send me \_\_\_\_\_ Twenty-Five-Cent Prepaid Sub Cards, at twenty-five cents each, for which I enclose \$\_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_





