Riot Sticks and Black-Jacks For Use Against Labor

By N. NATHAN

Not from Germany nor from Nazi - occupied countries but from the bailiwick of one of America's own steel magnates comes a story of the latest antiunion terrorism — the kind by no means unique in the struggles of American labor.

Ernest T. Weir, boss of the Weirton Steel Company, overlord of the town of Weirton, W. Va., is at it again—using thugs against workers, firing them wholesale, coercing them, suppressing union literature, preventing meetings, utilizing the "good services" of the officers of the law, putting the heat on civic leaders and churchmen, all to prevent the United Steel Workers Union, CIO, from organizing the plant of 10,000 employees.

But this is not the whole story. There is a chapter of particular interest today when capitalists and government officials are yelling so loudly at labor about war production. The hypocritical character of this ballyhoo is proved daily. But here is something that beats all.

Weapons Against Workers

At the Weirton Steel Company mills, labor and material are being employed to manufacture riot sticks - billies - for use against the CIO union in its organization drive. Men in the plant who saw these weapons report that hundreds of them are being produced.

These weapons for use against American labor and not against the German or Japanese armies, are manufactured according to specifications and given as much care and attention as weapons of war. They go from carpenter shop to machine shop and back to carpenter shops for careful finishing-so that they may do a good job on a worker's head.

Not only is all this revealed in a report by James B. O'Hannon in the New York newspaper' PM, but Philip Murray, president of the CIO, has stated that the government itself has boosted the allocation of steel and other material for blackjacks, machine guns and other weapons designed especially to suppress strikes and demonstrations. The arsenals of the Weirs against the workers are, presumably, being replenished.

How About the War Effort?

Apparently nobody in high places is worrying about the effect of this diversion of material and men upon the war effort. Nor did anybody haul Weir before an investigating committee for firing hundreds upon hundreds of men for no other reason manufacture of weapons for use than CIO membership and union activity.

Big Chief Weir with 1500 skilled men to replace the same number fired by him just because he doesn't like the CIO.

MARCH 13, 1944

For eight years Weir has expressed his dislike for the CIO in most defi-'nite terms. In the steel industry his mills are the last of the strongholds against the United Steel Workers Union. His strong-arm methods are well known-and still in use.

Weir's "Law and Order"

On February 17 at the gates of his mills two hundred of his "hatchet gang" descended upon three CIO men distributing literature. The CIO men were badly injured. No steps have been taken against the thugsand none can of course be expected to be taken in a locality which is under complete domination of its industrial overlord.

Instead of apprehending and punishing the offenders, Sheriff Richard Wright has prohibited all assemblages in groups as well as the/distribution of literature. The constitutional rights of free speech, press and assemblage exist only for Weir in the town of Weirton. In fact, 120 of the sheriff's deputies are said to be employees of Weir. They are not paid to protect the rights of the workers.

The CIO campaign to organize the Weirton plant started secretly about a year ago. The CIO is out to win the mills from the Weirton Independent Union-which is neither independent nor a union, but just Weirton. When the CIO had signed up enough men, it instructed them to come out in the open and wear their union buttons. That's when the firings began. It was around the first of the year. And the firings included not only new CIO members, but men who were members of the Weirton Independent Union-having joined it to get their jobs back after participating in the 1936 strike.

On February 15, two days before the attack on the three CIO men at the plant gates, the CIO organization drive was officially and openly launched. Since then one hundred key members of the United Steel Workers Union have been fired, including Harvey Hall, president of the local.

Philip Murray says that the union is preparing charges of anti-union terrorism against Weir to be placed before the Truman Committee or the WLB. But Weir doesn't have too much respect for the laws of the land. The National Labor Relations Board has already ordered Weir to desist from "assaulting and beating" its employees to keep them out of the United Steel Workers Union. In the fall of 1943 a Federal Circuit Court of Appeals upheld the restraining order of the NLRB. But Weir

doesn't worry about such trifles. Labor has every right to dem that the government order that the against American workers be stopped and also the allocation of materials for such despicable purposes. Labor has every right to demand that Weir and his stooges and gangs be punished as ordinary law-break-

GENERAL STRIKE IN ITALY **Workers Rebel Against Invaders**

LABOR ACTION

A PAPER IN THE INTERESTS OF LABOR

Your Future in the Hands of a Cotton **Broker and a Director of Sperry's**

Who is running this country-and for whom-is portrayed, life-size, in the Baruch plan for post-war readjustment.

Baruch, one of the nation's wealthy men, made his fortune as a Wall Street operator. John M. Hancock, co-signer of the Baruch plan, is also a Wall Street man, having been associated with a number of financial firms.

For whom would these representatives of wealth, finance and business make plans if not for their own class? That is their basic outlook on problems.

But, to add insult to injury, the President, in his executive order to carry out the Baruch plan, placed in charge of the two main departments created by it, not only business men but openly anti-labor business men and known reactionaries.

Who is William L. Clayton, whom President Roosevelt has made boss of disposing of government war plants and surplus material? He is one of the biggest cotton merchants in the world. He is an active member of and contributes to the infamous Liberty League, standing for liberty exclusively for the capitalist class. He has been exposed by the Senate Civil Liberties Committee as a backer of the anti-union, fascistic "Associated Farmers" on the West Coast.

This unsavory record qualified Mr. Clayton to be Assistant Secretary of Commerce and now for the promotion to chief administrator of the Baruch plan for making the rich richer.

The other man appointed by the President, as retraining and re-employment director under the Baruch plan, is Brig. Gen. Frank T. Hines. Who is Hines?

Hines is a director and large stockholder in the Sperry Corporation. In 1941 he was a candidate for the presidency of the New York Stock Exchange. He is one of the "big boys." He is known to have been opposed to such agencies for the relief of unemployment as the WPA. He is reported as in general against government relief and social security programs on the theory, presumably, that they "spoil" the people.

These are the qualifications that have given Hines the job of chief of Vererans Administration and now the promotion to retraining and re-employment director under the Baruch plan. He is the man in whose hands will be the the fate of millions of workers and soldiers.

As surely as day follows night, so surely can we predict what will happen on the basis of a plan conceived by representatives of big business and administered by outright reactionaries among them.

The \$20,000,000,000 of government war plants and the probable \$75,000,000,000 of war goods surpluses will, in the final count, go to increase the wealth of big business which has already socked away out of the war from \$47,000,000,000 to \$58,000,000,000 cash reserves over its 1941 assets.

As to the post-war needs of the workers, soldiers, small farmers, white collar and professional workers, they will be "met" as the representatives of big business see fit. The guid-

A United Press dispatch from Berne, Switzerland, March 7, reported the refusal of six million strikers in Northern Italy to return to work unless their demands are met. The dispatch describes the Italian geneal strike as an event "on the eve of what may be a fateful day in Italian history."

In spite of the brutal operations of the German wehrmacht and retaliatory arrests and shootings, the strike continues.

Over the Italian frontier have come reports.

Strike Threat By Workers in 'Liberated Italy'

Churchill's audacious presumption that the Italian people would, perhaps, offer him a vote of thanks for his endorsement and support of fascist Badoglio's government, has angered the workers in the "liberated" area.

According to broadcasts from Italy, the industrial and white collar workers of Naples and Salerno called for a ten-minute strike demonstration in protest against the views on Italy expressed in Churchill's recent speech. The strike was scheduled to take place on February 29.

However, the Allied Control Commission stepped in and forbade the strike. The question of war production was not involved in the strike, as the plans for it included putting in an extra fifteen minutes of work during the lunch hour to make up for the ten minutes of idleness. Therefore, the action of the Allied Control Commission can be interpreted as nothing else but a dictatorial step to break the militancy of the workers. So strong is the resentment of the masses against the Churchill endorsement of Badoglio that the leadthat a delegation representing workers of forty-three provinces on March 7 submitted their demands to Brigadier General Zimmerman, German commander in Turin. They were:

ONE CENT

An immediate increase in quantity and quality of foodstuffs for workers' families at lower prices.

Renunciation of the fascist Italian government's calling up of the classes of 1924-25 for active military service, deadline for which was 8 a.m., March 8.

Cessation of the shipment of Italian workers and technicians to Germany.

Reduction of the curfew hours in principal Italian cities. Immediate liberation and re-

turn to Italy of thousands of Italian workers who were arrested and deported to Poland.

The German ultimatium to the strikers requires them to return to work also by 8 a.m., March 8.

The workers, of course, know that the Nazis will not grant them these demands. Dispatches say that they are prepared to stay away from the Germany military factories after the deadline-in the face of German troops and their retaliato

In Milan and Turin, German troops

were reported in occupation of key

positions, setting up machine-gun

nests and barbed wire fences. The

armed forces at the factories have

been increased. The Nazis fear sabo-

tage and are not so sure that the re-

turn of the workers to the factories

will not mean their occupation of the

The strike started in Milan, Turin

and Genoa against military con-

scription and the transportation of

Italian workers to Germany for

factories against the Nazi.

How It Began

At a time when pressure is on for a labor conscription law-supposedly because of a shortage of labor-the War Manpower Commission, Weirton office, very nonchalantly supplied

ing principle will be, as always their private profit. Any plan involving government financing and taxes on big business and the wealthy will be scuttled as "socialistic."

The urgency for labor to take the lead in the nation becomes greater with each development. An independent class party of labor, with a progressive program to solve the problems of the broad masses, is the need of the hour.

Yes, the hour-for reaction is at work every minute of the time.

Gerald Smith Spreads Fascist Filth



have been there, aside from press reporters, ventured no demonstration in the overwhelmingly pro-fascist audience.

ers of the Communist. Socialist and Action Parties, who had called the strike, did not dare accede immediately to the wishes of the Allies. They said, at first, that they would take the consequences of disobeying orders.

However, an Associated Press dispatch from Naples, dated March 4, announced that the proposed tenminute strike was finally called off. In its stead, a mass meeting is being arranged for next Sunday. Plans are also afoot to circulate petitions of protest against Churchill. Will the Allied Commission - which came to "liberate" the Italian people-rule this demonstration out also?

Well placed pressure from the Kremlin is reported to have had no little to do with this development. portation of German supplies for the

slave labor there. No trams were running and there were no lights, because the power plants were struck. Railroad trans-

(Continued on page 4)

America Firsters Meet in Philadelphia

Special Correspondence

PHILADELPHIA - Some nine hundred fascist - minded followers of Gerald L. K. Smith, head of the newly-born America First Party, jammed the Rose Ballroom of the swanky Bellevue - Stratford Hotel here last week to hear'a harangue by their "Fuehrer." An announcement from the platform stated that another nine hundred had been turned away for lack of standing room.

Smith was billed to speak with Congressman Clare E. Hoffman, darling of the Chicago Tribune and No. 1 labor-hater in the House of Representatives. Hoffman has advocated firing squads for labor leaders as a solution to strikes. However, a wire was read from Hoffman saying that illness prevented his attendance and asking his "dear friend Gerald" to carry on.

Smith spoke for over two hours in a speech that denounced Roosevelt, Wallace, communism, Willkie, atheism, "broad-minded clergymen," internationalism, Winchell and Senator Barkley.

He praised Father Coughlin, Henry Ford, Charles E. Lindbergh, Senator Wheeler, Old Glory, the family, the virginity of our daughters, the loyalty of daughters - in - law while "our sons are in the army." "narrowminded Americanism," George Washington as "the founder of the America First Party and the first nationalist," and the United States Constitution

Anti-Semitic Filth

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Anti-Semitic notes were struck by implication rather than explicitly. These brought an immediate response from the hand-picked audience which showed that it had already gone through a considerable schooling in fascist thought. Admission to the meeting was by invitation

card, carefully distributed by the fascist groups supporting the America First Party. The meeting was announced as under the auspices of the Blue Star Mothers of America, the "front" organization for the local fascist activities.

The chairlady read a letter of protest that questioned the patriotism of the Blue Star Mothers, sent by an American Legion Post in Philadelphia. When she read the signature of the Post adjutant, Morris Gudkin, the audience emitted guffaws and cracks like "oh, no wonder." Other Jewish names like Bernard Baruch. Morgenthau and Lehman Brothers were quickly recognized by the au-

dience during the evening and responded to in a similar vein. Smith particularly kept them stirred up by his attacks upon Walter "Lip-

schitz" Winchell, "the naval officer from the bar-rooms and whorehouses of Broadway."

Smith claimed over three million followers in the country. He said that twenty-six clerks worked full time in the national headquarters, answering an average of 6,000 to 7.000 inquiries about his movement daily. He said their weekly budget was \$10,000, which came from "the people" in fives, tens, and twenties. The organization publishes a magazine, "The Cross and the Flag," and

From Their Own Mouths

Periodically we will print under this heading quotations from the frothings of fascists of American vintage. There can be no better condemnation of them than their own words.

This week here is a gem from the mouth of Joe McWillians-one-time rabble-rouser, Jew-baiter and organizer of the hoodlum Christian Mobilizers, a Christian Front outfit:

"You've got to have the mob with you in any revolution and this movement of ours is nothing but an American National-Socialist revolution in the first stages. I DON'T BE-LIEVE HALF OF THIS ANTI-JEW STUFF I PREACH, but you can't talk politics to these people unless you make it simple by bringing in the Jew every time. It's the only language they understand—the language of hate. Hitler made it work and that's what I'm trying to do here."

This is the background of anti-Semitism and this is the kind of scoundrelly movement that a section of big business is now financing and supporting under different names and different leadership.

conducts regular radio programs. Smith is on his third cross-country tour within the last year.

Smith's Followers Not Workers

His Philadelphia 'audience was made up in the main of people over forty, with the majority being over fifty. However, those wearing "official" and "committee" badges seemed to be middle-aged. The audience was lily white, Gentile and mostly middle class. Very few looked like they might have done a day's work in the shop. A few Catholic priests and a number of Protestant clergymen attended, as did a few soldiers in uniform.

Smith announced that his America First Party was holding a national rally on March 25 in St. Louis with delegations from all over the country. It is to meet in the Municipal Auditorium, seating four thousand. He stated that it had the purpose of organizing their forces for the 1944 election campaign in which they would run an independent ticket "if the Republicans don't give us an American candidate we can support."

The first several hundred people to file into the hall showed signs of being very well acquainted with each other-evidence that they operated together in organized groups. Collection plates, passed before Smith spoke, were piled with bills. At the end of Smith's speech he asked all "communists" and "New Dealers" to leave, "because the real Americans present don't want to be disturbed while I tell them how they can contribute to this work." He then proceeded to work a well-planned and efficient scheme of collecting funds

and regular monthly pledges to "carry the truth to America." There were no questions or discussion from the floor. No one hec-

ALP Backs Tammany Choice

By T. R. COBB

In a congressional by - election in New York City generally regarded throughout the nation as a test vote for 1944 the, Tammany Hall-American Labor Party candidate, James H. Torrens, nosed out his Republican opponent, William S. Bennet, by a margin of 1,571 votes.

> Republican _____ 10,176 Democratic __ American Labor 3,226

The American Labor Party vote, while providing the margin of victory for a Democratic ward-heeler of the Charlie Murphy days, fell 14,-000 short of its 1942 district showing for Dean Alfange, who ran "independently" for Governor of New York State.

Thus it is conceivable that in a socalled "light" election, a united, independent ALP could have elected its own candidate over those of both the old parties. However, the ALP ticket in the 21st district, scene of the eelection, was controlled by the Communist Party-Hillman wing and master-minded by the unsavory Vito Marcantonio.

Workers Not Interested

In a working class district of some 100.000 voters, with 15.000 of them members of the CIO, and with a substantial Negro constituency, the returns indicated that supporters of the kled. The few anti-fascists who might ALP simply will not appear at the

polls to vote for either of the two parties of capitalist reaction. Labor is fed up with the kind of politics that spatters them with patriotic hog-wash, but answers no bread and butter problems like the fight against the high cost of living, oppressive taxes, and wage freezing. .

Despite the strenuous efforts of the Stalinist - dominated CIO Council, which represented the first test of the CIO Political Action Committee in New York State, to rally its members to the polls, the majority of the voters expressed their disapproval of present ALP policies by abstaining from voting.

Negroes Confused

A more unfortunate trend was revealed by an analysis of the voting in the Negro sections of the district. There, in the absence of an independent labor candidate, the Negro people vented their anger at the wartime enforcement and extension of Jim Crow practices by a marked swing to the Republican Party (as though Jim Crow was not just as vicious and widespread under Republican administrations!).

The entire electoral policy of the Communist Party - Hillman wing of the ALP was so shameful as to cause even Mayor LaGuardia to comment that "the ALP will peter out of existence if they take any Tammany candidate sight unseen." The Dubinsky-Rose faction of the ALP was quick to echo these sentiments but in

both instances it was a case of the pot calling the kettle black.

The Dubinsky-Rose clique and Mayor LaGuardia have supported ward-heelers of both the capitalist parties time and time again. They own and control and select" no less dictatorially than Marcantonio and his crew of charlatans.

For the members of the American Labor Party who believe that their organization should fulfill its proper function as a real representative of labor's interests several duties are clear.

Task of ALP Members

In their unions and where they have representation on CIO or AFL councils, they must raise the demand for a complete break with the reactionary capitalist parties. They must seek to widen the base of the ALP by increasing the influence and size of trade union affiliation without succumbing to the Hillman, plan of camouflaged liquidation and without yielding to the Dubinsky-Rose diehards of "control from the top."

Such an Independent Labor Party could advance a fighting program and cease to be a political pawn and a mere "bloc of votes." Such a party could capitalize on the widespread disillusionment with the policies of the Roosevelt Administration on the part of labor and Negro voters, confound the Democrats, hamstring the Republicans and receive tremendous support from all sections of the population.

The total vote by parties was:

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San Pedro Local 9 Renews Its Fight For Autonomy

president of the IUMSWA, recently visited San Pedro to investigate the situation in Local 9 with a view toward the return of democratic constitutional procedure to that local, which has been under an administrator for over a year.

After two weeks of conferences and interviews Green held a membership meeting, attended by 800 out of 18,000 mmbers, and presented a plan for the return of democracy to the local union. This plan was approved by the meeting, but when Green congratulated Walter S. Pollard, Sr., the national administrator, for the "excellent job" he had done, he was greeted with silence.

Local 9's autonomy was lifted more than a year ago, just as regularly scheduled elections appeared likely to put in office some progressives who had the support of the men in the yards. Fear of such a development by some of the old reactionary officials, plus the local Stalinists, led to pressure on the national office to "save" them. John Green, always ready to lend an ear to the desperate cries of right wing elements in the union, lent his whole arm to these conservative and frightened men and three weeks before elections sent Pollard, formerly a trouble-shooter for the War Production Board, to call off the elections and take over the affairs of the local.

Under the Pollard administration, the union has continued its step-bystep retreat. Whereas, before, the progressives in the union were stymied by incompetent officers who didn't know one motion from another and who blithely ignored the wishes of the membership, under Pollard the wishes of the membership were at first discouraged and, if expressed, distorted and then ignored.

Green in a Pickle

Green's mission to Pedro was a tough assignment. In the first place he was forced to come here as the result of a recent up-surge in his general executive board. Last September the membership of Local 9, disgusted with Pollard and fearful that he intended to stay forever, sent to the board and Green a petition bearing some four thousand signatures asking for the return of democratic procedure. Green stalled on the matter until the insurgents on the board demanded some action favorable to the desires of the rank and file of Local 9.

Pollard's standing with the membership is so low that Green was forced to admit, in a statement to the membership, "It was quite obvious that your administrative director has displeased many of you." Then in order to defend his original appointment, for after all Pollard is Green's man, Green turned around and in the next breath said, "The progress of this local under his (Pollard's) guidance has been oustanding."

If there has been anything out-

SAN PEDRO-John Green, national \ standing about the local in the past year it has been the "displeasure" of the membership with the appointed administrator. All will admit this is true, even Green. Yet Green finds it possible to report that the progress of the local has been "outstanding" when he knows full well that progress in a union is not measured by how many buildings it owns, how rapidly it replies to letters, how efficient its clerical methods are, etc. The real strength of a union is the sense of unity and solidarity that exists in the minds of each of its individual members, and in achieving these things Pollard has been a complete flop. That is the only thing outstanding in the past year.

Local 9, unfortunately, has not yet spread union education among its members, has not strengthened the union through miscellaneous union aictivities that would raise in the membership a spirit of union devotion. This has yet to be done, and done it must be; otherwise Local 9 will watch one condition slide away after another, and be powerless to

Pollard Disgusted Old Timers

stop it.

Pollard succeeded, while he was "saving" the union, in demoralizing and disgusting the real old timers in the local. These founding members were the very lifeblood of the union. They were the "old guard" who had learned unionism in practice, through strike and hardship. Pollard's antics resulted in their staving away from union meetings and their refusal to assume union responsibilities.

A union which mushroomed the way Local 9 did must face the problem of absorbing thousands of new members, the majority never in a union before. The union must educate these new men to unionism or go down. On the job and in the shop is where the bulk of this work is done. And who can do it best-the men who know best, the old timers. These men's words come from experience, and their words carry double weight therefore. Yet they were disgusted. And the longer Pollard stayed, the more disgusted they be-

came. Pollard never succeeded, not even once, in rallying behind him the "new members." During his entire stay here no more than 1,500 ever participated in a union meeting. The normal attendance was but a fraction of that. An insurance policy was offered to the membership, with the backing of the union, but the membership refused to subscribe in quantities large enough to have the numbers large enough to have the policy go into effect. A building was purchased, for the union and only some three hundred participated in the balloting on the question. These three things alone serve to indict Pollard and his policies beyond question.

(A second article will appear next week.)

NEWS AND VIEWS FROM THE LABOR FRONT **Union-Busters in New Orleans**

LABOR ACTION

the cotton compress, warehouse and wholesale workers is proceeding successfully here in spite of the efforts of the bosses to raise the "race question" and the attempts of the Communists to sabotage the drive and its leaders. Under the leadership of William Dorsey, more and more people are signing up every day in the United Retail. Wholesale & Department Store Employees Union (URWDSE), CIO. Behind Dorsey's work is a story which deserves the careful attention of every working man and every union man.

Dorsey was a longshoreman and dock worker and an active member of the old AFL union. Negroes and whites were separated on the job and in the union hall; they were constantly played against each other in the bosses' old game of "divide and rule." In one strike the white workers

were told that the Negroes were trying to take away their bread and butter. In another strike all the Negroes were armed and given instructions to drive away the white strikers. The bosses gained, but the workers, black and white, lost.

When the CIO came upon the scene, the working people were ready for a fair and square union which would fight for equal rights and gains for all its members. Willie Dorsey became organizer of the first CIO union in New Orleans, the International Longshore & Warehouse Union (ILWU), which had made a fine record on the West Coast. A charter was issued to Local 207 and Dorsey was elected president of the local.

Bridges Gangs Up on Union With about twenty different com-

panies signed up, representing about 1,000 of the city's 10,000 warehouse workers, the Stalinist "Communists" figured that they would have pretty good pickin's, and decided to muscle in. This wasn't too hard for them to do, since, unfortunately, they con-

NEW ORLEANS - Organization of trol the International Union, from ant. The books showed a surplus of President Harry Bridges on down. Pretty soon the officers of Local 207 found that they were being treated like a bunch of office boys in contract negotiations, etc. This is typical of the Stalinists' contempt of the rank and file and the comparatively new and inexperienced Negro workers. When they began making unauthorized payments from union funds for bundle orders of the Daily Worker, Dorsey blew up and told them that he would bring the whole thing out into the open.

> That night Howard Goddard, who is an international representative of the union and a stooge of Harry Bridges, came to see Dorsey, accompanied by the secretary of the Communist Party. "Look here." they said to Dorsey, "you string along with us and you'll become one of the biggest Negro leaders in the country." Dorsey replied: "I don't want to be a big Negro. I want justice and fair play and democracy in my union." But the Communists decided that they had fooled around long enough with democracy, and they began to apply a little of the dictatorship tactics that Stalin has been using in Russia. Enraged because Dorsey had publicly exposed them, they suddenly discovered that the local had fallen behind in its per capita tax payments to the international union. This was only natural, since dues payments had been trickling in very slowly, and they knew it, but they used it as an excuse to suspend President Dorsey, Secretary Frank Dae, and all the other officials of the local. They put the local into receivership and appointed none other than Howard Goddard as receiver from February, 1943, to February, 1944.

A Frame-up Backfires

Dorsey was charged with misappropriating union funds. Six weeks after he was locked out of his office -they gave themselves plenty of time to doctor up the figures-they turned the boos over to an account-



The annual report of the Truman Committee, just released, puts into the shade all prior estimates as to the 1943 profits of America's "captains of industry."

Heretofore estimates have run from \$9,-200,000,000 to \$9,600,000,000.

The Truman figures are record-breaking. According to the committee, corporation profits for 1943 reached the nice round figure of \$10,000,000,000.

This is, of course, after those awful taxes. which "impoverish" big business so dreadfully, have been deducted.

over \$800, which Dorsey easily accounted for, but that didn't stop the union-wreckers from going around to the union members at their jobs and whispering that Dorsey had stolen their money. After Dorsey took the case to court and was cleared of any dishonesty, Goddard and his hatchetmen really got to work.

Union shop stewards began getting checks of \$3.00 a month. This was supposed to be a little bonus for playing ball with Goddard & Co. Meanwhile Goddard himself went around the Negro community telling the people and the Negro newspapers that Dorsey was dishonest and that he was a white man's Negro who was going to sell his own people down the river. Then he turned around to the whites and told them that Dorsey was a troublemaker who hated whites and was organizing Negroes to start trouble with the whites.

With all this dirty work done, Goddard and his friends (who had been pulling some tricks in other unions) felt pretty cocky. Dorsey was out in the cold, with no job and and means of support; Local 207 was in their pocket, with no more membership meetings to worry about. But they didn't think of two things: Dorsey's stubbornness and years of experience in the union movement together with the common sense and loyalty of the New Orleans working people. With the help of Father Jerome

Drolet, an actively pro-labor priest, Dorsey became organizer for the URWDSE, the wholesale workers' union, and went right ahead with his job—and it's a mighty big one in this town-of organizing the unorganized. There is a good deal of overlapping between the two unions as far as jurisdiction is concerned, and some of his organizing might be construed as "raiding," but Dorsey isn't worried about that as long as the rank and file of both unions back him up.

There is no doubt that they do back him up. Last month Goddard, realizing that his year as receiver of Local 207 was about up, and that soon Dorsey and 'the other officers would have the legal right to manage the local again, went around to the various shops with a petition urging that Local 207 stay in his hands as receiver for the duration of the war. In at least three shops the workers ran him out and told him to stay out.

A Way Out

Dorsey realizes that it is impracticable to have two different CIO unions for people doing the same kind of work, but feels that this problem can be solved with the aid of the rank-and-file after the grip of the Stalinists is broken. He makes no bones of the fact that he will continue signing workers into the Wholesale Workers Union until he

Army Does Not Keep Promise **To Los Angeles Strikers**

LOS ANGELES, Mar. 2-The Army has finally relinquished control over the Los Angeles municipal water and power department, although the specific promises made by the Army to the workers to induce them to return to work after a ten-day protest strike in February have not been fulfilled.

The employees' demand for higher wages, which caused the strike on February 14, has not been met.

Talk of Another Walkout

An hour after the Army moved out an announcement was made that the workers would meet on Sunday at the Labor Temple to consider the new situation. Leaders of the previous strike declared there would undoubtedly be another protest walkout unless a settlement satisfactory to the workers can be announced at that time.

Later Ernest P. Taylor, one of the strike leaders, in identical telegrams to various interested parties, called attention to the discrepancy between the Army's promises and its subsequent action, and pointed out the reaction of the employees and their determination to go out on strike once more.

In turning back the services, Col. Rufus W. Putnam, district Army engineer, who had assumed control of the water-and power department following a directive from President Roosevelt, stated that the Army was evacuating because "the efficiency of the plants, facilities, installations and properties has been restored to the level prevailing prior to the interruption."

It was this same Col. Putnam who, addressing the protesting workers at a mass meeting on February 23, gave them every reason to believe that if they returned to work their demands would be given prompt consideration and that the Army would retain control until a solution satisfactory to all parties had been achieved.

Promises Not Kept

In addressing the mass meeting at that time, union spokesmen point out, Col. Putnam declared: "Operations of the War Department will continue until such time as the President of the United States determines that ... existing controversies between management and labor are satisfactorily settled."

Basing themselves on these assurances, some three thousand workers agreed to return to their jobs immediately and within an hour they were busy repairing the extensive damages caused by an unusually heavy wind and rain storm. Until they had received this prom-

ise from the Army, the workers had steadfastly refused to return to work before their demands, including the granting of higher wages and a guarantee that all workers would be reinstated without discrimination, had been met. Throughout the ten-day stoppage the workers had displayed a militant and determined stand.

Telegrams of Protest

Although due to temporary Army intervention the workers are once more on the job, their reaction to this latest development can be gauged from the tenor of the telegrams sent by Mr. Taylor. These telegrams, addressed to Under Secretary of War Robert P. Patterson, Col. Putnam, Mayor Bowron of Los Angeles and others, read as follows:

"In their appeals to striking water and power employees to return to work, Army authorities promised that control of the department would not be restored to municipal authorities until a satisfactory settlement was reached.

"Yesterday (Tuesday) at noon, with no settlement whatever, the department was returned to the Mayor and water and power commissioners. "Employee reaction to this surpris-

ing move is hourly crystallizing into determination to strike again at once. I am trying to keep men on jobs until after Sunday.

"Unless a satisfactory settlement is" reached and announced to our scheduled Sunday meeting, I predict an even more serious strike for Monday."

Before these telegrams were dispatched, when the reactionaries apparently considered that their maneuver with the aid of the Army was certain to be successful, the crowing and the desire for revenge had already begun to be manifested. Said the Los Angeles Times editorially on March I:

"Any wage adjustments in the power bureau that are to be made should be the result of the wage survey now going on and not because of union demands; and an element in any wage adjustment must be consideration of what the strike cost the city. It is fair to insist that the strikers repay at least a part of that cost, by taking less than they would have received if they had not struck.

"The public/ should insist also on suitable provisions in the City Charter to penalize municipal strikers, so as to prevent a recurrence of such disgraceful affairs."

There can be but one answer to blatant anti-labor venom such as this There is every indication that the workers are prepared to take that



Shachtman In Chicago

In spite of a steady downpour, fifty people turned out to hear Max Shachtman speak on "The Need for an Independent Labor Party" on Friday night, March 3, at a public meeting organized by the Chicago branch of the Workers Party.

The audience listened attentively as Shachtman dealt with the antilabor measures of the government. the shabby role of the top labor leaders and the need for preparing the organized labor movement for independent political action through a LABOR ACTION were obtained.

Labor Party free from the bosses. So great was the interest of the audience that everyone, with the exception of two, stayed until 11.30 to hear the national secretary of the Workers Party answer questions addressed him from the floor.

In response to an appeal for funds to carry on the work of the Workers Party in agitating for the Labor Party as well as its general activities. \$43 was contributed by the audience. In addition, five new subscriptions to

Furthermore, the \$10,000,000,000 remained for the war profiteer after the renegotion of war contracts, against which such a bitter fight was waged by them.

This 1943 war-profit showing is far more than twice the pre-war figures.

But forget all that—it's the workers who are getting rich from the war-don't you know!

resumes office as president of the ILWU local. Then, with the aid of the membership, who have their number now. he is certain that he can run the Harry Bridges crowd right out of town and settle down to the job of consolidating the two unions.

Dorsey has 'two ambitions: (1) to break the stranglehold of the Goddard Stalinists on the union that he worked to build and fought to maintain, and (2) to organize the thousands of unorganized, underpaid, underprivileged Negro and white warehouse workers.

Press Action

Mairzydoats and doezydoats, but

hundred and fifty (we'll publish the

box score at the end of the month),

or slightly short of the January pace.

Now that isn't bad for an ordinary

year. But, brothers and sisters, this

is LEAP year, a year when things

besides a presidential election are

Concretely, expirations are running

neck and neck with new subscrip-

tions, a fact that gives the business

manager a bad case of hot and cold

sweats. Don't get us wrong-we don't

want a STABLE circulation - we

want it to keep going UP AND UP.

or, what's worse, has taken the final

count, it can be revived more quickly

If you are not a regular subscriber,

why keep us both in suspense? Use

the form elsewhere in the paper, and

America's Leading Labor Weekly

will greet you for as long as you

Not enough readers have availed

themselves of the prepaid six-month

sub scards. This is about the easiest

method of spreading a good thing

yet conceived by man or business

You send us a buck. We send you

four prepaid sub cards. You collect

two bits apiece from four friends or

shopmates and they send in the

filled-out cards. Simple as apple pie.

of renewals and new subs, or do we

start a movement to revive "Pistol

How about it? Do we get a flood

than Popeye by spinach.

specify.

manager.

Packin' Mamma"?

If your sub is wobbly in the knees,

supposed to happen.

bership meeting of Brewster Local 365, held on March 8th.

By an overwhelming majority, the membership voted to instruct the shop committee to have the four fired stewards. reinstated and to have the entire case submitted to arbitration.

Thus the rank and file has demonstrated that democracy still rules in the local because, despite the recommendation of the leadership, the rank and file decided to take the case to arbitration.

Next week's issue of LABOR ACTION will carry a full story of the membership meeting.

Biggest Steals In History

One is the outrageous Baruch post-war report, which proposes to "convert" billions and billions of taxpayers' money right into the pockets of the monopolists.

The other is the cost of an introductory subscription to America's Leading Labor Newspaper, the paper that exposes this and other schemes to defraud the people.

LABOR ACTION fights for the interests of labor in the shops, mines, mills and offices; forearms you with facts, analyses and a PROGRAM. Here's how to get your copy every week.

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Readers may use this blank to subscribe for friends or shopmates. Send in the quarter and we'll do the rest! If you are a subscriber whose sub expires with Vol. 8, No. 11, send in your renewal with thirty-five cents. This is your last issue!

Dalrymple Continues Anti-Union Moves

By BILL FORD

AKRON, Mar. 6-Thousands of unionists today left their machines at General Tire & Rubber Co. to strike back HARD against the vile dictatorial decisions of the international executive board of the United Rubber Workers of America, which yesterday announced the "results" of its farcical "trial" of the sixty-nine expelled members of General Local Union No. 9. URWA.

These members, readers of LABOR ACTION will recall, were bureaucratically expelled by Dictator S. H. Dalrymple, international president of the URWA, early in January, for engaging in a work stoppage. The socalled "appeals" of the sixty-nine workers were heard by the international board during the last few weeks, and the decisions of the board have now indicated that the top officialdom of the URWA is hell-bent on DESTROYING every vestige of militant rank and file action or even opinion

More Dictatorship

The whole of working class Akron is aroused at the board's decision, which provides the following:

1. Expulsion of Howard Haas and Ray Sullivan, leaders of the General Local rank and file which has opposed Dalrymple's unconstitutional expulsion of the sixty-nine, merely because these two devoted unionists have rallied and led the fight for reinstatement of the sixty-nine.

2. Continuing the expulsion of seven of the sixty-nine workers on the

basis that these were the "ringleaders" of the shutdown. 3. Reinstating sixty-two of the sixty-nine previously expelled, but not compensating them for their two

months of lost time due to their illegal expulsion from the union and subsequent firing by the company.

When Haas and Sullivan reported for work today, company police refused them entrance to the plant, indicating that the URWA top dictators had called upon the company to fire these men. Both now face immediate induction into the Army, because they are no longer on war work. Already some twenty of the sixty-nine previously expelled have been inducted into the Army or Navy for the same reason. Sullivan charged today that he and Haas were delibcrately expelled "to get us out of the way." No honest worker doubts this

Sullivan's statement reads in part as follows:

Miscarriage of Justice

fact for one minute!

"The international officers' act of expelling Haas and myself was again a miscarriage of justice and again has dealt the welfare of the United Rubber Workers a serious blow. We have been expelled for exercising our democratic rights of protecting the interests of fellow workers and our local union. As a personal witness to the hand-building controversy [the original strike which led to Dalrymple's action], many of the expelled men made every reasonable effort to work yet were declared

guilty in hearings before the board.

"The irresponsibility of President Dalrymple's action in expelling the workers at General has resulted in disrespect for the international's authority and has not achieved the effect it was intended for.

"There have been many stoppages of work in Akron rubber plants since this act was effected, and we feel that the act of expelling Haas and myself will cause further disrespect for the judgment and authority of the international officers which will be damaging to the interests of all members of the United Rubber

Workers of America.'

Charges Against EB Sullivan announced that charges have been filed against all the members of the international executive board for their deliberate and willful violation of the rights of the membership as provided in the URWA constitution and their bureaucratic appointment of an administrator over General Local No. 9. A further specific charge was that the adminis-

trator denied the membership its constitutional rights by refusing to call a regular membership meeting in the month of January.

Issues Clear It is now clear to everyone that the issues are about to be posed in their most clearly defined form: Do the 160.000 rubber workers want to preserve their organization as a FIGHTING DEMOCRATIC LABOR UNION, or do they want to abandon it to Dalrymple & Co. and see their best militant leaders summarily expelled and fired by the rubber cor-

what's eating the supporters of LAporations? There can be no middle **BOR ACTION?** ground in between these alternatives. Subscriptions received in the past two weeks number approximately one

Conjectures are being passed about freely as to how the forces will line up. The international officialdom is mobilizing its representatives throughout the country to try to crush the movement in defense of the Local No. 9 men. Already the countermovement of the progressives is under way-but it needs much greater

tator Dalrymple is on trial as a member of that local for his actions in the Local 9 situation. Sentiment at Goodrich is virtually unanimous, it is reported, that he be thrown out of his own local. Dalrymple refused to appear for trial there, in his customary, arrogant contempt of those who challenge his tin-horn authority.

In Detroit, Local 101 has joined with Goodrich in denouncing the attack on Local No. 9, and this local is on record in favor of a special international convention.

At Firestone in Akron and in numerous smaller locals about the country, great support will undoubtedly be forthcoming.

All in all, the union-wreckers in the top offices of the URWA-CIO are headed for a terrific drubbing that will give every labor-skate in the country cause to think twice before following the footsteps of Sherman H. Dalrymple!

Other Locals At Akron Goodrich Local 5. Dic-

Rankin Joins Stalin's List of Admirers

By J. JACOBY

An important newcomer has been added to the evergrowing list of Marshal Stalin's admirers-important by virtue of the special position he occupies in this country, that of an implacable foe of everything that is progressive, just and good for the masses. We refer to none other than the Honorable John Rankin, representative in Congress from the State of Mississippi, Rankin in this reactionary Congress is the leader and champion of workers' suppression, race hatred, Negro and Jewbaiting and anti-union propaganda. This is very little, if any, different from outright Nazi and fascist ideology.

The time when progressives used to come back enthusiastic after a visit in Russia is long past. When Lenin and Trotsky were leaders, in the early twenties, it was men like John Dewey who used to proclaim their admiration of the heroic efforts the Russian Revolution was making to liquidate not political opponents but illiteracy, poverty, backwardness, oppression.

STALIN ADMIRERS DIFFERENT

Today it is the turn of capitalists like Harriman, Nelson, Rickenbacker to proclaim their admiration of Marshal Stalin and HIS liquidations. This time the liquidation is of real revolutionists, of the rights of workers to form factory committees, of progressive social legilsation, in short, every achievement of the October Revolution. The Harrimans went to Russia and came back full of praise. Why, if only they could have such an exploiters' paradise here!

Rankin, however, did not have to go to Russia to feel real "Christian" love and admiration for Marshal Stalin. For, whatever else one may say about Rankin; one must hand it to him that he can instinctively understand and approve of reaction even though it is thousands of miles away.

It delights his "Christian" heart, he waxes sentimental over what Stalin does in Russia because he would like to do the same in this country. So up goes Congressman Rankin and delivers publicly his declaration of love for Stalin and of everything he stands for, and by the same token burning hatred of Trotsky and everything he stood for.

"Stalin is a Gentile," says Rankin, "and Trotsky was a Jew. Stalin was educated for the priesthood. The Bible says teach a child the way he should go and when he is old he will not depart therefrom. It was but natural, therefore, that when Stalin came into power and got rid of the Trotsky crowd he should open the churches and restore freedom of workship Trotsky and hiscrowd had murdered millions of Christians in Russia....

"Stalin broke up the Comintern ... he reopened the churches, restored rank and discipline in his army, and introduced the incentive payment plan among the men who work in HIS factories A man is paid now according to what he does." (Our emphasis.)

For three hours did Rankin ramble to his enraptured audience of reactionary congressmen. Rankin has the Nazi explanation for everything that is bad. It is all the fault of Jewish trouble-makers like Trotsky, Krivitsky, Ehrlich and Alter. Stalin had to execute them-what an admission! We were told by the Washington police that Krivitsky committed suicide. And the Stalinists kept on saying that Trotsky's murderer was a ... Trotskyist! Between the lines of Rankin's speech one feels his burning desire: If only we could do away with "Jewish trouble-makers" and introduce incentive pay among factory workers here. Oh, what a beautiful morning that would be!

JEW-BAITING A CLOAK

In spite of his rabid anti-Semitism, Rankin must know that there were very few "Jewish trouble-makers" among the millions of peasants that Stalin starved to death in 1929-32. He must know that the "Jewish trouble-makers" were an insignificant minority among the many thousands of revolutionists executed by Stalin during the blood purges. There were from seven to fifteen million good Aryan, Christian, Orthodox Russians languishing in Stalin's concentration camps in the Urals and Siberia. There were one and a half million good Roman Catholic Poles that Stalin had carted away from the Eastern parts of Poland in cattle trains to Siberia. Half of them died on the way and the fate of the remainder is doing forced slaved labor. Rankin does not even as much as whisper about these millions of Stalin's victims. There must be a reason for it-and there is. For Rankin in reality uses his "Jewish trouble-makers" stuff to hide his real aims and ideas. They are not so difficult to detect. For what he admires in Stalin is not so much the opening of the churches but more mundane things, like incentive payment plan, class distinctions in the Army and that forced labor in Russia which is his great envy at the moment.

Fascist Enemy in America - - An Editorial

The organized fascist movement is once more marching ahead boldly and openly in this country.

It is finding easy going behind the wave of fascist ideas let loose by the war.

The long campaign of vicious propaganda against labor is beginning to bear fruit. The rumbling ground-swell of filthy agitation against Jews is beginning to bear fruit. The sharpening of race - hatred against Negroes is beginning to bear fruit.

Its fruit is the growing organization of the fascists, above all the America First Party of the avowed Jew-baiter and laborhater, Gerald L. K. Smith.

The recent Philadelphia rally of the America First Party is only one of the same sort Smith has spoken to across the country. His meetings in Buffalo, Milwaukee and St. Louis have all reported overflow crowds.

Here, Mr. Liberal, is the fruit of your "war to wipe out fascism in Europe."



By JESSIE KAAREN

Evidently fearing that the release of a surplus stock of 20,000,000 pounds of butter-especially now that the flush season for the production of creamery stocks is approaching-the Butter Advisory Committee of the War Food Administration is succeeding in blocking the government proposal that its surplus be released to the consumer trade. The committee's membership represents the major dairy and creamery interests of the Midwest and Atlantic Seaboard states.

According to a story in one newspaper, the committee "had pointed out that with eight thousand creameries throughout the country, it would be impossible to redistribute such a vast supply of storage butter equitably."

And so another huge quantity of butter will go rancid and perhaps be discarded altogether while millions of persons do without this essential nutrition item and pay exorbitant prices for what they can get.

In the meantime, the WFA will content itself with "making a survey" to determine the size of its surplus stocks on hand and the prospec-

Smith's harangue in Philadel- Semitism that prevails in high "The Flag and the Cross," was cleverly designed to make capital of the moods created by the war: the race-hatred, the labor-

baiting, the general discontent with rationing, the increased war-weariness and the rising sentiment against government bureaucracy.

The would - be American 'fuehrer," Gerald L. K. Smith, is picking the fruit.

But who tended the fruit?

The army of labor - haters from General Marshall and Admiral Land down to the meanest pen prostitutes of the capitalist press who scribble their lying editorials and columns for so much per week.

Who tended the fruit?

The government's official policy of Jim Crow in the Army and Navy and the Administration's farce of the Fair Employment Practices Committee, which created no fair employment.

for easier to find on the market.

resulted in bringing butter to the

ernment policy on food.

points.

The unwritten code of anti-

phia, as in his writings in his places of government, industry, education and military service.

Who tended the fruit? race-ideas.

is who, because we must not make the fatal mistake of relying upon the wrong people to stamp out fascism. Neither Roosevelt, nor General Marshall, nor Stimson, nor Knox, nor Hearst, nor Winchell, nor Dorothy Thompson, nor PM, nor the labor leaders of "nostrike" fame, can stamp out fascism in America. PM will LABOR ACTION: expose a fascist leader and the

FBI will arrest a Nazi stooge, but won't stop Gerald Smith and his America First Party. Nor will the communists,

whose Peace Mobilization spoke the same language as America First during the Hitler - Stalin pact, prove any more reliable anti-fascists than in the past.

Only an awakened labor movement can smash fascism! But it must be alert and or-

ganized for the purpose. The The vicious propaganda of first step should be the organthe press against the German ization of labor defense squads and Japanese PEOPLE-as such by every union local. The union -which taught the Americans movement has plenty of capato think in Hitlerite terms of ble men for the job of organiz-

ing and leading them. Many a It is important to know who scab has learned the principles of unionism from such an "educational committee." The fight against fascists requires the same on a much vaster and more organized scale.

> But beyond that we need a program-a way out-for the discontented to turn to. We must fight to win the labor movement for the program of

> A one hundred per cent tax on war profits.

Control of prices and rationing by workers, farmers and housewives' committees.

Cnscription of war industries and workers' control of production.

An Independent Labor Party. A workers' government.

a whole gneration is in the process of being lowered!

The health, education and morals of thousands of children are endangered by the increase in night work among fourteen to eighteen year olds. Social workers claim that night work is one of the important causes of the rising tide of juvenile delinquency.

It is a common practice of employers to pay child labor at a lower rate than adult workers are paid for the same job. The result is always a lowering of the general wage level.

A Problem for Labor

The union movement must be on the alert against violations of the child labor laws. Where child workers are legitimately employed, they have to be organized to protect the whole industry. It is also important to fight the easy issuance of working papers to children who should have their chance to get an education.

The protection of young workers from exploitation is not only necessary for the sake of the children. The standards of adult workers in the factories and in the armed services are threatened by the phenomenal rise in child employment. When the war is over, the men who come back and workers generally, may find that child labor has lowered the wage standard.

In the fierce competition for jobs in the post-war period, the bosses

Militarism For Post-War Use Being Planned

By STANLEY LEPETIT

On January 15, Secretary of the Navy Knox made a speech at the Boy Scout convention in Cleveland demanding post-war conscription of all males between the ages of seventeen and nineteen.

Among other things, Knox also invoked the aid of "Divine Providence" to support his demands: "Under Divine Providence human affairs are so ordered that effort and sacrifice and discipline are inevitably the price of progress." The effort and sacrifice and discipline of whom? Not Knox, and his class! And whose progress is he talking about? That of his own class!

Crocodile tears almost roll down Mr. Knox's wellfed cheeks at the thought of the physical condition of America's youth. "They are soft," he says. "Military service will correct this lamentable condition." Has the honorable Knox forgotten that there was, from 1929 to 1940, a depression produced by the profit system which he supports? Has the honorable Knox forgotten that a good part of American youth didn't eat regularly for ten years? Can this perhaps account for the "lamentable physical condition in which half of American youth exists today," rather than lack of military training?

The May bill now before Congress implements Knox's idea and calls for compulsory military service. Mrs. Roosevelt, commenting on the prospective bill, said that she thought "compulsory military service should be required of both girls and boys." The May bill provides for the establishment of a 5.000.000-man peacetime reserve Army. Chairman May explains that what makes post-war militarization necessary is just one fact; namely, that America's soldiers who will have won the war will want to come home immediately. Therefore the only way this can be accomplished is to have permanent military training and to draft youngsters to take the place of veteran American soldiers as an occupational force. Is this the kind of new world we face: Training our youth to impose on other nations by force the political ideas of the American ruling class?

Marquis Childs, writing in the New York Post, states: "A standing army of at least one million men will be necessary for use not only in the continental United States but in far-flung outposts under American control.'

Childs goes on to say that "while disarmament was the key word in 1919, the difference at the end of this war will be as from day to night." What music to the ears of armements makers and other industrialists!

Are there lobbyists in Washington applying pressure for post-war militarization? Most assuredly there are, and chief among its sponsors will undoubtedly be found the armaments manufacturers.

ANOTHER CHAMPION OF MILITARISM

Another champion of post-war militarization is Charles E. Wilson, president of General Electric and vice-chairman of the War Production Board. He announced his views on the subject at a dinner held in the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York. His audience, which was composed of high * Army and Navy officers as well as "leading representatives" of American big business, must have wanted to whistle and cheer when he said: "Instead of looking to disarmament as a safeguard against war-let us try the opposite."

He cited the research on poison gas as a prime example of "preparedness." He told the industrialists in the audience that they, as much as generals, admirals and chiefs of state, were leaders of the country. "Industry," he continued, "must be allowed to play its part unhampered, never again to be tagged by the fanatical fringe of opinion as 'merchants of death.'"

Among those who addressed the august assemblage were K. T. Keller, president of the Chrysler Corporation, and E. B. Yancy, general manager of the explosives department of E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co. Both agreed that post-war militarization is inevitable.

Prime Minister Churchill urged in a speech in Par-

cause the food administration has made no move to lower the ration CHILD LABOR points required for butter. Complaints coming in from New York hospitals that their ration points are inadequate say, for example, that

By RUTH PHILIPS

of the five million pounds of butter released to them last December by Child labor has increased four the government, they were able to avail themselves of only 1,400,000 by hundred per cent in New York State February 1, because of lack of ration since 1940 according to the State Department of Labor Statistics. There Hospitals also point out that they are 900,000 children in the state beare unable to get adequate supplies tween the ages of fourteen and sevof beef and lamb as well as poultry. enteen. In 1940, 76,000 of them were

One director of purchases for a working. In 1943, close to 400,000 group of hospitals related that his were employed. agency was compelled to switch its Many of these youngsters work buying from whole to eviscerated sixty hours a week. The forty-eightpoultry. The eviscerated type costs hour maximum work law for child twelve per cent more and is thereworkers does not apply to railroads,

resorts_ and_ bowling_ alleys. Even This chaotic condition of high where the law does apply, violations prices and scarce, food supplies on are. frequent. In fact, there were the market, while other supplies go 11,799 violations of the law in 1943 to waste, exists because the big food as compared to 2.453 in 1940. companies really dominate the gov-The exploitation of children, espe-

cially of the fourteen to fifteen year If the government bureaus were old age group, has increased not only as concerned with providing cheap in New York State but throughout and ample food stocks for the masses the country. According to the Chilof people as they are about appeasdren's Bureau of the U.S. Departing the large food companies, the ment of Labor, "violations both of storage butter which piled up in the state child labor laws and of child government warehouses would have labor provisions of the Federal Fair been released a few months ago at a Labor Standards Act have increased lowered ceiling price and at a lowalarmingly." ered ration point. That would have

Endangers a Whole Generation Many of these children try to con-

STALIN'S STOOGES HERE

P

We do not know exactly what Stalin thought of Rankin's speech. Did his heart respond to the love call from his fellow "Christian"? 'We do, however, know what Stalin's stooges in this country said about it. For the most part they kept quiet. All they attacked is Rankin's anti-Semitism and his lashing out at Walter Winchell in the same speech. But they just kept mum about most of it. Why?

Are the puppets of the Daily Worker embarrassed with their newly won colleague? Or perhaps is it due to the fact that they too advocate incentive pay, the slave act and other oppressive anti-labor measures as Rankin does?

We shall see to it that this touching display of solidarity between Rankin and Stalin does not escape the attention of the American working class. Wherever we shall meet the Stalinists, in factory or elsewhere, we shall loudly remind them: "Tell me who your friends ares and I shall tell you who you are. And your friend is Rankin!"

All we need now to complete the picture is that Gerald K. Smith and Father Coughlin should proclaim their admiration for Stalin too. Then the candidate list for the Society of Stalin's Admirers should be closed,





A Paper in the Interests of Labor

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Re-entered as second-class matter May 24, 1940. at the Post Office at New York, N. Y., under the Act of March 8, 1879.

tive rate of production in the months ahead-IN ORDER TO ARRIVE AT A NEW "SET-ASIDE" PERCENTwinter. AGE.

Even if these stocks of butter were to be released, it would be impossible for most housewives and institutions to avail themselves of it, be-

Army Air Force Discrimination

A Negro civilian instructor of the Army Air Force Technical School for Instructors at Chanute Field, Ill., has filed charges of discrimination against the Army Air Force with the Fair Employment Practices Commit-

The instructor, Henry Conyers, declares that because of his color he was transferred from Chanute to Mississippi, then to Lincoln Neb. and finally to Sacramento Air Depot, Calif

During this time he was never given a class, although he received his salary regularly. At Sacramento he was forced to wander around doing nothing for eight hours a day although on one occasion a class was lacking an instructor. After a period of three months Conyers was given an unfavorable rating without once have been given a chance to prove

In spite of the fact that Conyers had spent almost four months at an Army Air Force school to earn his diploma as a junior instructor, he was shifted to a department for which he had no instructors training. When he refused to take an examination to remain a qualified instructor he was fired.

Conyers' reasons for refusing to submit to the test were that such examinations are not the procedure in any Army school and that two of the, board were men who had accused him of inefficiency.

Since his dismissal Conyers has found it difficult to find employment. He says: "Everywhere I go I have to show my papers. They show I was fired for inefficiency, and I can't get a job."

His complaint to the FEPC has been sent to the San Francisco office, where action will be taken. It is the FEPC's first case protesting against Jim Crow in the armed forces.

poorer housholds that had to do without it for several months this tinue their schooling while working, so that they put in a total work week

However, it is quite obvious that way beyond what even the average we cannot expect so sensible a conadult can carry. The result is a tersumer program from government derible strain on the health of the chilpartments whose strings are pulled dren. Many children have quit school by private food concerns. altogether. The educational level of



Hospital with a broken arm. On February 19 James and a group of friends were standing in the hallway of an apartment house when they were approached by a police officer in plain clothes.

The boy, new to the neighborhood, made a serious mistake. He pointed his toy gun at the policeman and, frightened, turned and ran. The officer fired and a bullet hit the boy's arm. At the hospital the boy was placed under arrest and for six days was kept under close police guard. After the police looked up his school record, the boy was released in the custody of his mother. The officer apologized to Mrs. Jones, stating that he thought her son was much older because of his physical appearance. The apology of the policeman does not explain away the fact that Negro neighborhoods see such examples of police brutality every week. LABOR ACTION has carried accounts of some of these incidents.

Apology Is Not a Remedy

Some time ago a Negro girl, Miri- cistic policy.

BRONX-James Jones, a fourteen- am Punter, was slapped by a policeyear-old Negro boy, is in Lincoln man in the school yard of P. S. 40 in the Bronx. Recently, three boys were caught running through a BMT train. A policeman grabbed the boys and dragged them off the train. The two white boys managed

> to get away somehow. The Negro boy was punched and beaten by the officer, according to witnesses. One of the witnesses, Enrico Napoli, obected to the patrolman's brutality. He was arrested by two other policemen but was cleared of charges after being held in jail overnight. The boy was cleared after a hearing in Children's Court.

Such incidents are widespread throughout the city. The methods used by the police merely aggravate the horrible conditions under which Negro children grow up-lacking everything except discrimination.

The recent Harlem outbreak frightened the police. Afraid of what an aroused Negro community can do. the cops think, they can stop such action by using brutality. Negro children are the victims of this fas-

Discrimination on Increase Says Regional Director

LABOR ACTION has consistently pointed out that despite the fine sounding democratic phrases of the politicians, discrimination against minorities in war industries continues. Confirmation of LABOR AC-TION's point of view came this week from none other than Edward Lawson, eastern regional director of the President's Fair Employment **Practices** Committee.

Mr. Lawson, speaking at a symposium under auspices of the Jewish Forum Association and the National Conference of Christians and Jews, said that "the tendency to deny persons employment because of their religion is mounting rather than disappearing, even in the face of the acknowledged need for all-out war production."

LABOR ACTION would like to know from Mr. Lawson: "Why hasn't the FEPC brought before the public the name of those companies which practice discrimination? Why hasn't the FEPC taken immediate and effective action against them?"

will use child workers as a club to keep down the wages of adults.

Therefore, for the protection of both children and adults, labor needs to push vigorously its fight against violators of the child labor laws and a program to organize young people legitimately working.

Division In **Palestine Labor**

Bringing to a head a crisis which has existed for some time in the ranks of the Jewish Federation of Labor in Palestine (Histadruth) over the question of whether its political platform should call for the creation of a Jewish Commonwealth in Palestine or a bi-national state with the Arabs, a recent vote of the executive committee on this question was won by the right wing elements by a slim majority of only three votes.

At a meeting of the executive committee in connection with giving instructions to delegates who will go to London to participate in the International Labor Conference being called by the British Trade Union Congress, twenty-four members voted to support the slogan of a Jewish Commonwealth and twenty - one members voted against it.

Strong Sentiment for Joint State

Because it is expected that the London conference will take a stand on the post-war status of Palestine and in view of the current negotiations in England between Zionist leaders and the British government, this declaration of the viewpoint of labor in Palestine is of historic importance.

Voting against a Jewish Commonwealth, a concept which assigns a minor role to the Arabs in the affairs of the state, were the Hashomer Hatzair and the left wing of the Poale Zion Party. Conservative Zionist leaders are embarrassed by this strong minority showing inasmuch as their hopes for achieving a Jewish Commonwealth lay in winning an agreement to that effect from the British government. The left wing elements, however, are just as concerned with coming to terms with the Arabs for the creation of a joint, independent state.

liament that the Anglo-American combined chiefs of staff be continued as an instrumentality of peace. A peculiar, kind of peace, indeed! The Prime Minister continued to say that these armaments were necessary to prevent anarchy in certain war-torn areas after the war.

In Churchill's vocabulary anarchism is synonymous with workers' nower. This is one of the reasons why post-war militarization is already being planned. The deadly fear of the imperialist is the bogey man of people's rule that they are afraid will rear its Marxist head in Europe after the war is won.

PREPARING FOR NEXT WAR

A recent poll revealed that fifty-three per cent of American opinion believes there will always be wars. From this the conclusion is drawn that post-war militarization is unavoidable. Let us penetrate through this capitalist camouflage. Already before this dreadful slaughter has been ended the men in power are preparing the American people for the next war. Their means of accomplishing this are subtle but simple to see through.

They have set about convincing the American people that war is inevitable-a part of life, like sickness and crime, a process that God condones. This is evidenced by Mr. Knox's speech on January 15. The polls expressing the belief of so many American people that there will always be wars indicates that the capitalists. do their job well.

Army and Navy chieftains would like nothing better than post-war militarization. Their prestige, their very jobs depend on it. Our imperialist rulers have even better reasons for desiring a strict post-war militarization.

Firstly, they fear socialist uprisings. The thought of a socialist revolution anywhere in Europe will make a member of the American ruling class quake with fear, For it endangers his position as surely as does a socialist uprising on the American continent. Whatever else is done, he will try his damnedest to suppress these uprisings, which he realizes are inevitable.

Of course, the other reason is that American imperialsm feels it must be ready to defend itself in competition with other imperialisms. Its present allies, Russian and English imperialism, will be its post-war rivals.

For this the burden of post-war militarism is being laid on the workers' shoulders.



EDITORIAL PAGE

LABOR ACTION

Editorials

Historic Struggle Raging in Italy

The swiftly developing struggles of the Italian workers is of enormous significance to the masses of the entire world. Millions of workers of the North are now engaged in a momentous strike action against their Nazi-fascist oppressors. But they are not alone. The masses in the South of Italy are also engaged in action for their freedom.

Italy is the great testing-ground of this war. It is the test of the shibboleths which surround the war. As is so clearly revealed in the extremely important, interesting and penetrating report which appeared in the last issue of LABOR ACTION, the Italian people want their freedom and want it now. They want to be rid of all their oppressors. They want their full and complete democratic rights. They are demanding: Free Elections NOW! The Right to Organize! The Right to Free Assembly! The Right to Free Organization!

In the midst of war these are great demands!

But that is not all. It is clear from everything that is happening, even as it is reported in the capitalist press of the country, that the Italian masses want a change in the social order. They do not want a return to the life of poverty, misery and war. They did not force the surrender of Mussolini and his fascist cut-throats only to retain his henchmen, the King and Marshal Badoglio. This the LABOR ACTION report made abundantly clear.

But that is precisely what is being offered to them. In his latest address, Prime Minister Churchill again announced that he and his Tory government want the King and Badoglio to remain in power. Roosevelt and the State Department have remained conspicuously silent on this, but by their silence they have concurred in Churchill's statement.

Nobody in Italy wants these two political pawnbrokers! The masses in the South have already expressed their unmistakable opposition to their continued rule. If this is true in the South it will be doubly true in the North, where the industrial working class predominates and is in open revolt. In the first days after Mussolini's resignation, they took to the streets, set up their own workers' committees and issued the same demands that are now on the lips of the Italian workers in the South. Today in Northern Italy the workers are again on the march. Together the workers of the North and South will be an invincible force in the country. The events in Italy are merely a forerunner of events that will undoubtedly recur in the rest of Europe. These events will reflect the earnest desire and struggle of the masses for genuine freedom, for a new social order, for a socialist society throughout the Continent that will guarantee them real freedom, peace and security. The American workers must stand behind the Italian masses in this historic struggle.

so to speak, to better the conditions of millions of men and women and their families -as against the profit fleecers. That's something different. And real public interest requires that the unions be not weakened but strengthened in their struggles against industrial plutocrats.

Why have not the leaders of organized labor been more vocal in protest against this new avenue of attack? Should their mildness be interpreted as another bit of "appeasement"?

Try Another, **Secretary Knox**

Of all the fantastic and hypocritical arguments thus far presented in favor of a slave labor act, the one recently given by Secretary of the Navy Knox takes first prize.

In a nutshell, his fake argument is that a national service act is necessary to prevent a slump in war production when Germany is defeated and Japan still has to be conquered.

Brushing aside the possibility that the working people of the world may arise to end the war before the military outcome is decided, and taking Secretary Knox on his own around, one naturally asks several questions.

Does Mr. Knox want us to think that war workers who are not fired because of curtailment in war production, are going voluntarily to quit their jobs just because the European war will be over?

To believe that workers will prefer joining the rapidly growing army of unemployed at that time-rather than hold on to their jobs-is too ludicrous to be considered.

Or does he want us to think that workers fired from one war plant because of cancellation of war orders will refuse employment in another plant still turning out war. material for the war against Japan, again showing a preference for the army of unemployed? That's another question that answers itself.

Again, we might ask: Why the worry about war material when government officials estimate a stock pile of war surpluses that may run up to \$75,000,000,000?

But the question of questions is this: Since it was not necessary to have a national service law in order to put the country on the fabulous level of production required to wage the two-fold war, why should a national service act be required just to finish off the war in the Pacific? Like all the so-called arguments in favor of the slave labor act, Secretary Knox's newest one is also a phony. The real reasan for the campaign for a national service act is to put a noose around labor's neck under pretense of war necessity-so that it will be there for use in peacetime. This cannot, of course, be openly stated by big business and its politicians. That is the reason for the array of incredible arguments.

In March We Commemorate

Paris Commune

On March 18, 1944, French working men in underground meetings or in the privacy of their hearts and homes will remember March 18, 1871. The memory of that day, seventythree years ago, will give them new courage in their fight against their present-day oppressors.

First Time in History

On March 18, 1871, the first Working Men's Republic in history was proclaimed in Paris. The Paris Commune lasted for a short three months, but in that time the working men of the world saw how a government of by and for the workers operated. The Paris Commune was the aftermath of the Franco-Prussian War of 1870. The armed working men, organized in the National Guard, became the real power in Paris.

It was the armed workers who had driven back the Prussian army when it tried to enter Paris. They had starved during the siege, while food prices soared and war profiteers got rich. They were forced to give up money needed for food to the landlords who threatened them with eviction. Therefore, when the bourgeois government, under the politician Thiers, protecting the landlords and capitalists, ordered the workers to give up their arms, they resisted. Thiers and his crowd fled to Versailles and set up a government there. On March 18 the clash came between the armed workers and the troops of Thiers. The working men were the victors. Paris was in their hands. The Commune of Paris was proclaimed

The Commune at Work

The new workers' government set to work. Its first steps were to relieve the distress of the workers. It remitted the payment of rents due during the war period. It ordered the pawnbrokers to return the goods of the poor. Vast quantities of food held by speculators were requisitioned by the government. Manufacturers were ordered to stop the practice of fining workers.

Free education was established. The old standing army was abolished and the armed people, organized in the National Guard, were declared to he the only armed force. The old state bureaucracy was replaced by men of the people elected for short terms, subject to the recall of the people. The highest salary for state



German and French Intrigue

The government of Thiers at Versailles plotted and planned to overthrow the Commune. Thiers went crawling to the German government, begging it to release French war prisoners so that he could raise an army to throw against the Communards. The German capitalists came to the rescue of their French robberbrothers. A powerful army was sent against the Commune

The government of the Commune was not prepared for the counterrevolutionary plots of the capitalists. Instead of taking the offensive against Versailles, it waited to defend itself until it was too late.

When the leaders of the Commune heard that Thiers' army was marching against them, they cried out in surprise that Frenchmen should not come to fight a regularly elected gov-THEY ernment of Frenchmen. WERE TO LEARN THE BITTER LESSON THAT THE CAPITALISTS PUT THEIR CLASS INTERESTS ABOVE ANY OTHER!

Although taken by surprise, the working men of Paris put up a great fight. For a whole week they defended their city, street by street, house by house. Hundreds died rather than surrender. But in spite of their great heroism, the army of Versailles defeated them.

The bloody week of May 22 was followed by terrible reprisals against the revolutionary workers of Paris. One hundred thousand were slaughtered, jailed or deported by the revengeful ruling class. The Paris Commune, the first working men's republic, was dead.

The Memory and the Lesson

The Commune was dead, but not its memory or its great lesson. The heroic stand of the Communards became part of the fighting tradition of the French working class. The Commune showed that working men are capable of shaping their own destiny, of organizing society in the interests of the majority.

Karl Marx said, after the fall of the Commune:

"Working men's Paris, with its Commune, will be forever celebrated as the glorious harbinger of a new

General Strike in Italy --

Death of Karl Marx

March 14 is the anniversary of the death of Karl Marx. He died in 1883. The capitalist class and those who serve it fear the name of Marx. This is because the penetrating analysis Marx made of the capitalist system showed not only how the capitalist class robs the workers-but how the workers can end that robbery. Marx furthermore showed how, in search for markets on the international arena, capitalism produces wars among nations-from which the working class of all nations is the chief sufferer. Marxism teaches that permanent peace can be only a socialist peace.

The advance guard of the international working class considers Marx with that admiration and devotion which it reserves for its champions. The knowledge of Marxism gives the workers the understanding that they are the real producers in society and the only historically progressive class. Marxism lights the workers horizon with the confidence that they can shape a new society without wars, without hunger, with plenty for all.

Marx pointed the way to this goal through the workers organizing themselves to take power-to form a workers' government.

The capitalist class never stops in its efforts to discredit Marxism. But the present war is just another illustration, on a colossal scale, of the truth of Marxism. For what else is this war but a scramble for markets and profits made inevitable by the innate laws of capitalism as analyzed by Marx!

What of the future? Even now, in the midst of this war, there is already talk of, and preparation for, World War III. But from Europe come also rumblings of workers' revolution. The crimes of the capitalist system cannot go on much longer. The era when-in Marx's words-"the expropriators are expropriated," is here.

On this anniversary of Marx's death, let the workers of the world unite to hasten the dawn of the socialist world.

society. Its martyrs are forever enshrined in the great heart of the working class. Its exterminators, history has already nailed to that eternal pillory from which all the prayers of their priests will not avail to redeem them."

'Force of an Insurrection"

New York Times as follows:

surrection."

Anne O'Hare McCormick starts her

"The strikes in North Italy surpass

in scope and violence any labor ris-

ing that has taken place so far in the

Nazi-controlled factories in France or

other occupied countries. They have

the proportions of a general strike

and something, of the force of an in-

all the marks of an organized act of

revolt, prepared and rehearsed for a

"This is more significant in its way

soned spirit of the people. It is a

revolt against the regime in the

North and also, perhaps, against the

She says further on: "For this has

column in the March 6 issue of the

In This Column We **Discuss the Need For A** New Economic System

Page 4

TRACING SEPT

PARADE OF MILKMEN

By ERNEST LUND

Not long ago Nancy Nathan had an article in LABOR ACTION on "One Engine or Three?" It revealed that the Big Three of the auto industry each supplied their own make of engine to the government to be used in the same type of tank.

Reading this over my breakfast and thinking about it, I heard the tinkle of bottles as the milkman made his long way up the stairs to our fourth floor apartment. On the way down he stopped to exchange greetings with the milkman who delivered milk on the second floor. A little later in the morning, I knew, I would hear a merry whistle as the milkman who delivered milk on the third floor arrived (he always whistles). Whether still a fourth milkman takes care of the family on the first floor I have never found out.

But with the "Three Engines or One?" article still fresh in my mind, I began thinking about the milk delivery situation.

"BLOODY MURDER," YELL THE BOSSES

I want to propose a system of milk distribution that will REALLY be economical and efficient, but which would cause the milk companies to yell bloody murder.

Why do we have to have Company X deliver on the fourth floor, Company Y on the third floor, and Company Z on the second floor? Why do we have to see three different milk wagons in one block at the same time? Why does the Company X man deliver in one house, then skip three, and then deliver in the fourth house? And why does Company Y man come two blocks out of his way to make one delivery in the entire block, and that one perhaps on the third or fourth floor? Why are there trucks and wagons from five to a dozen different companies from different parts of the city which make their way to our neighborhood every morning to deliver milk?

Did someone say we should cut out waste? It could be done-if we also cut out profits. This is how we could go about it.

We could divide the city into districts of somewhat equal size. Each district would be small enough for one truck or wagon to cover. The milkman would serve his customers by going to every house and every floor. He could probably cover as many stops in half the time now required. In addition, he would save time now spent in driving around in a large area with customers scattered all over. If the milkman who whistles were assigned to my bock, I would know that when he entered our building he would leave milk on floors one, two, three and four, and the building would be completely covered.

SOME GOOD QUESTIONS

. But wait! Someone says, how would we divide the city between the different companies, and how do you know I would get as good milk from the company given a monopoly in our neighborhood? And if there were no competition, wouldn't the companies lose initiative and not give a damn about how they serve their customers? These are important questions and we won't dodge them, because they lead right to the heart of the question.

Who said anything about "different companies"? What do we need different companies for? Having different companies is just as wasteful and as much a duplication as three. men delivering three quarts of milk in one house. Each company maintains its own fleet of trucks running in from

Lost in the Shuffle

In the general hubbub created by the Roosevelt-Barkley tax controversy, a very menacing aspect of the tax bill that Congress passed over the President's veto was completely lost in the shuffle-that is, it was not given the publicity it deserves. The peculiar and very noticeable thing is, moreover, the organized labor has not gone to town about it.

We refer to section No. 112 of the bill, which provides that labor organizations shall file an annual return — subject to penalties for perjury — which will state gross income, receipts and disbursements and such other information as the Commissioner of Internal Revenue may deem essential to carry out the law.

This is a fine state of affairs. Quite in line with the whole trend of capitalist government to place labor more and more at a disadvantage, this law will open the financial arsenals of organized labor to the employers.

It is altogether beside the point to point out that the employers file returns and that the unions use the information therein contained as arguments for wage increases. It is beside the point because a union and an industrial corporation perform entirely different functions in society.

A capitalist corporation is in business for profit. Because profits are inimical to public interest, it is right that the extent of this exploitation be made known in reports. Unions, on the other hand, are in business, tion to keep the public from forgetting them.

Try another, Secretary Knox.

Advertising Pays

The usual and plausible reason given for advertising is that there are products to be sold, and advertisements, interest and help bludgeon the public to the point of purchasing heavily advertised items. However, in spite of the acute curtailment in the production of consumer goods and their present scarcity, Publishers' Information Bureau, basing its figures on about ninety nationwide magazines, computed that the amount spent on advertising in 1943 was the largest in magazine history!

The money in question, \$232,071,971, surpassed that of 1942 by \$54,000,000 and 1929 by almost \$30,-000,000. It is estimated by advertising men that these publications refused more than \$100,000,000. in additional advertising because of the lack of paper.

Weekly periodicals (Life, Time, Saturday Evening Post, etc.) exhibited a general increase of thirty per cent, a total gain of \$138,399,710. Specifically, Life and the Saturday Evening Post each had increases of twenty-four per cent (total increases of \$33,903,059 and \$29,262,756 respectively).

Glance through the pages of Life or Time to see who advertises. The B. F. Goodrich Co., Boeing Airplane Co., North American Aviation, Western Electric, Dow Chemical, etc., are there in addition to the tooth brush, paste and powder and whiskey advertisements. For the most part, none f these companies has anything to sell.

Why do these companies with nothing to sell to consumers, continue to advertise so heavily?

In the first place, they don't pay for it! The cost of advertising is included in their government contracts.

Secondly, the money spent on advertising is not taken out of the funds called profits, but rather those marked operating expenses - hence they don't have to be included in taxes on profits. Thirdly, these firms want to keep their names in the public eye-as before the war-and in addi(Continued from page 1)

front was likewise tied up. In Milan the transit system was set in motion again by the German military. The NPD, which is operated by the German Foreign Office for radio transmissions to officials stationed outside Germany, said it was no uncommon occurrence to see officers with the highest decorations driving trolley cars.

In reprisal, it is reported, hundreds of workers in the Milan area who refused to go back to their jobs were rounded up by truckloads and thrown into improvised concentration camps. Their fate will probably be court-martial.

Also, many workers were rounded up in house - to - house searches for strike leaders and marched under guard to recruiting offices in the Milan district, where their names are recorded on lists as "volunteer" laborers going to Germany. Then they were "voluntarily" loaded on trucks, sent to the railroad stations and off to Germany.

In spite of such methods of "persuasion," Hitler has received only a small fraction of the one million Italian workers he expected. The fight against deportation to Germany grows more and more violent. The strikes have been supplemented by underground activities

coming out into the open. Berne, Genoa have been the main centers of the workers' struggle. Florence, Switzerland, reports that motorized patrols in seized German automobiles Bologna and many other towns have reeked revenge in the streets of followed suit. Lombardi towns, killing fascists.

From the same source comes some information about labor conditions and wages paid in German-occupied territory. Railway workers in the Milan area were paid in January with requisition certificates for food, which many local stores would not accept. Employees in a motor factory received twenty-five per cent of their wages in money, fifty per cent in a new war, loan certificate "redeemable immediately on the reconquest of the Italian mainland," and the remainder in German army certificates.

long time, as the Nazis and fascists Workers who refused to accept the charge, by the Liberation Committee. German certificates on the ground It is a repudiation of fascist 'socialthat they arre valueless were tried ism.' It is a movement of resistance by the fascist so-called People's Triwhich the Germans have so far been bunal and sentenced to death for unable to crush. "fomenting defeatist demonstrations." Throughout Northern Italy, workthan the overthrow of Mussolini or ers and underground have kept in the surrender of Marshal' Badoglio. touch by means of secret broadcasts It is a reassertion of the long-impri-

and in the cities posters are put on the walls of buildings for agitational purposes. Later reports told of "bloody street

regime in the South; but there is no evidence that it is inspired by any fighting," 'with the German troops feeling for the Allies as strong as the called out to quell the general strike desire to get the Germans out." in Milan. While Milan, Turin and



the country. Each has its own plant, each its own set of books and accounts; each its own expensive advertising, etc.

But how would we get milk if kind-hearted capitalists didn't go into business to supply it to us? (At a "reasonable" profit, just for their trouble, you know!) Well, how do we get water?

What if we had eight or ten water companies supplying New York City with water? Each would insist upon the right to lay its pipes in city streets wherever it had a customer. And when the customer moved tear them up again and lay them elsewhere!

Or perhaps a customer had read an advertisement by the Pure Hokum Water Co. that its water 'contained Vitamin Q, enough in one glass to equal a beefsteak"—and was convinced and decided to change water companies. The pipes would be torn up all over again. This would be some mess

Crazy? Not much more than three men delivering three quarts of milk in one building. HOW IT SHOULD BE DONE

Now to get back to distributing milk. We say, let the city take over the milk companies. What, says someone, and let a lot of politicians run it? But who said anything about politicians? They don't bottle or deliver milk. So what do they know about it in the first place.

Let the men upon whom we depend for our daily supply of milk run it through their democratically elected committees. Yes, the bottlers, the sterilizers, the pasteurizers, the chemists, the truck drivers!

Don't they know far more how it is done than either a gang of politicians in the City Hall or a gang of idle rich getting Borden or Sheffield dividends mailed to them down in Florida?

But wouldn't all the milk be the same? Yes, of course. That is what we want. Now we have good, bad, and indifferent milk. Under such a set-up we would have only good milk. We would have a board of chemists who would set certain standards for butter-fat content and other tests and all milk would be kept up to the required grade.

But wouldn't the politicians conspire to get their hands on this set-up and use it to squeeze more graft out of the people? Yes, of course they would. They would be drawn to it like bees to honey. AND THAT IS WHY THERE IS LITTLE HOPE THAT SUCH A SYSTEM WOULD WORK IN THE MIDST OF CAPITALISM.

Socialism cannot be introduced piecemeal. All the experiences of the Européan socialists have proved this, not to speak of experiences in this country, as in Milwaukee. And that is why I won't eat my heart out trying to devise a means ONLY of having one, instead of three, men deliver three bottles of milk in our building. Because what is true about milk is just as true about almost everything else under capitalism.

I demonstrated this point in my little pamphlet, "PLENTY FOR ALL." However, the milk situation is an excellent example of how capitalism wastes and how socialism could plan. The real job today is to spread the ideas of socialism, organize the workers in their own political party, and establish a workers' government that will wipe out capitalism with its waste and be able to plan production and PLENTY FOR ALL,