

JAMES P. CANNON

See details page 6

Formerly the SOCIALIST APPEAL

THE MULTANT

Official Weekly Organ of the Socialist Workers Party

VOL. V-No. 16

NEW YORK, N. Y. SATURDAY, APRIL 19, 1941

FIVE (5) CENTS

## Workers Bill Strikes Blow At China Is Signed

Pressure of Hitler Forced Stalin to Sign It; Soviet Union Gains Nothing By It and Loses the Friendship of Great Masses of Workers

One thing about the neutrality pact that Stalin signed with Japan on April 13 is as clear as Opposition, Lehmon daylight: Stalin, by means of the pact, has dealt a severe blow to the struggle of the Chinese people against Japanese imperialism.

Stalin's mouthpiece in the United States, the Daily Worker, can shamelessly assert that "out of the present Soviet-Japanese pact the Chinese people will gain." But the unalterable fact remains that in the midst of a life-and-death struggle on the part of the Chinese people to expel the Japanese invader, Stalin signs a pact with that same invader.

The Daily Worker does not attempt to explain just how the Chinese people will gain out of the pact. It makes that mere assertion and wan ts everybody to be satisfied with it. But not even dupes of Stalin can swallow that.

The pact does not in so many words say that the Soviet Union will cease to send arms to China. This may be explicitly part of the secret clauses which undoubtedly are part of the leading representatives of the CIO pact. More important, the signing of the pact at this moment, in and of itself, constitutes a blow at the Chinese people.

Especially so because by promising, in a declaration connected with the pact, to respect the territorial integrity of Japan's puppet, Manchukuo, the right of Japan to that part of China is virtually recognized.

And if the Chinese people have been dealt a blow by Stalin, it stands to reason that the Soviet Union has also suffered. Because tens of millions of Chinese and the masses of the Far East generally will be alienated before any move is made and from the Soviet Union by this serious blow dealt to the Chinese would like to obtain something by Stalin. Thereby Stalin has weakened the only real defense in return for his passivity. of the Soviet Union-the support of the masses. SOVIET UNION IN DANGER

What does Stalin gain by the pact? Japan promises to remain neutral if the Soviet Union finds itself at war with a third power. What third power could the Soviet Union possibly be at war with at this time? It can only be Hitler Germany. If Japan remains neutral in case Hitler attacks the Soviet Union it can left for him to maneuver in. So only be because Japan will be occupied with its own problems in the south Pacific. Japan is in no position at the present time march, so long must Stalin take to attack the Soviet Union. And if it should be in a position to do so, the pact is not worth the paper it is written on.

The idea that Stalin is now free to turn to the west and deal with Hitler has little plausibility. Stalin fears Hitler and so long tion where Hitler, who doesn't as Hitler is gaining victories Stalin will leave Hitler alone. It | fear war, has the upper hand. will be Hitler and not Stalin who will decide whether it is war or peace-between the two unless a sharp turn takes place in the fortunes of war.

Hitler's spectacular military success in the Balkans was undoubtedly a factor in making up Stalin's mind to sign the pact. Hitler had long wanted this pact troops to occupy its territory? The Soviet Union, encircled by as a means to scare the United Didn't he sign pacts with Tur-States into remaining aloof in the key and Yugoslavia and rebuke sarily try to gain some advantwest by the threat of Japan's Hungary for invading Yugosla- ages from the fierce rivalry of southward expansion in the Pacvia? These facts prove merely that But under no circumstances

HITLER DICTATED IT

**Despite National CIO Insists On Signing** 

Governor Lehman signed Tuesday the infamous LaGuardia sponsored Wicks Anti-Transport Workers Union Bill, despite CIO protests at a public hearing in

Albany, Monday, where some 200 denounced the measure as a union-busting move against the 27,-000 New York City subway work-

ers, members of the TWU-CIO. Mayor LaGuardia discovered at

he hearing that in pressing his strikebreaking plans he is con fronting not merely the TWU but the entire national CIO.

John Brophy, speaking as the personal representative of Philip However, with Hitler's further Murray, CIO head, denounced the victories, Stalin's ability to debill as an invitation to labor's mand things is constantly being enemies throughout the country restricted. There isn't much room to wage "their own brand of Blitzkrieg against the working long as Hitler continues his people."

The bill, put forward as an "anorders. Stalin's basic policy of ti-sabotage" measure, may be intrying to avoid a major conflict terpreted by the courts as virtuinevitably drives him into a posially barring strikes on public or privately owned street railways. ous lines or subways. It provides

We have never objected to any for prison sentences up to 25 attempt by the Soviet Union to years for workers who leave "uncome to agreements with imperattended" any transit equipment ialist countries and to take adwhich is in their care. It would vantage of imperialist rivalries. also hamstring picketing.

Despite the action of the New imperialist wolves, must neces-York City Central Trades and Labor Council (AFL) in passing a resolution condemning the bill

Thomas J. Lyons, president, and Stalin wasn't at all pleased by | can the Soviet Union afford to | E. W. Edwards, secretary-treas-

# Stalin's Pact With Japan Anti-Subway Million Union Men Win Steel, Coal Wage Raises

## When Ford Met The Union



A cheering throng of Ford strikers, prominently displaying their United Automobile Workers (CIO) buttons and union over-seas caps, greets the news that the Ford Motor Company for the first time in 38 years has been forced to me et with a union committee.



Successful Strike Tie-Up Forces Ford To Deal With Union; But Compromise Settlement Doesn't Reflect Militancy Of Picket Line

## **Raises** Are **Result Of** Strike Wave

Ford And Bethlehem **Strike Victories** Back of Wage 'Grant'

A ten cents an hour increase for the steel industry came Monday, a day before expiration of the strike deadline of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee (CIO) against the United States Steel Corporation

Bethlehem Steel, which has felt the union's power in three sugcessful strikes at its Lackawanna, Bethlehem (Pa.) and Johnstown plants and which had been served notice of union wage demands, was the first formally to announce the raise, covering some 90,000 workers.

Shortly afterward came the announcement that U.S. Steel signed a new contract with the SWOC, covering its major unit, Carnegie-Illinois Steel, and four other subsidiaries, providing the same ten cent hourly raise, a week's vacation and other new concessions. When all U. S. Steel subsidiaries sign, some 250,000 workers will get the benefits of the union's gains.

Republic Steel, employing 50,000, Youngstown Sheet and Tube, with 25,000, and others folowed with the same wage raises

Hitler's moves. But Stalin also, make agreements which cause it Since the Soviet Union gained urer of the New York State Fed after the pact with Yugoslavia, to lose prestige and respect in eration of Labor, issued a state nothing by the pact and since the ment, read at the hearing by Lehpact is recognized by all as a vicentered into an agreement pro- the eyes of millions of workers viding for the shipment of a huge who, in the last analysis, consti- man, which expressed a position tory for the Axis, it can be truthfully said that Stalin signed the quantity of oil to Germany, and tute the only solid support for of "neutrality" that could only soon after this he signed the pact the defense of the Soviet Union. be viewed as tacit consent to paspact because Hitler exerted pressure on him. Hitler's Balkan vicwith Japan. He fears Hitler and | It is from this point of view that | sage of this bill. tory was a warning to Stalin that

these wolves.

does his bidding because of that he must sign. fear. Coming on the heel of a series His gestures to Turkey and

of moves which suggested that Yugoslavia afford Stalin an opportunity to convince the U.S. Stalin is drawing away from Hitler's embrace, the pact, Stal- State Department that he still inists will claim, shows what a can be bought-thus enabling neutral and independent role the him to get more supplies from Soviet Union is playing. Didn't the United States. They also Stalin rebuke the Bulgarian gov- serve to indicate to Hitler that ernment for permitting German | Stalin would like to be consulted



Signature of the Moscow-| movement, the masses were Tokyo "neutrality" pact followed | caught totally unprepared for the by a day an anniversary that is blow. A movement which had little-remembered: the annivers- | swept the country in three years, ary of April 12, 1927, the date climaxing in a victorious proleof Chiang Kai-shek's Shanghai tarian insurrection which had conquered Shanghai, was "splatcoup d'etat.

Veterans of the Chinese workers' struggle, scattered on anti-Japanese fighting fronts or silently holding to their positions within the occupied zone, have not forgotten the events of April 12. Stalin's new deal with Tokyo, which cannot fail to affect the war in China, must have given particular sharpness to those memories. On April 12, 1927 Chiang Kai-shek, the "reliable ally" of Joseph Stalin, turned with unimaginable ferocity upon the Chinese mass movement and upon the working class of Shanghai, its foremost vanguard. In the slaughter that began that dawn in Shanghai's streets and continued through months and years, scores of thousands of workers and peasants in Chinese cities and in the countryside, went down before the Kuomintang terror. Taught by Stalin's Comintern to look upon Chiang as the trusted leader of the revolutionary

tered into froth." The balance of power in Asia abruptly swung sharply again to the side of the imperialists. China was left open to Japan's invasion, which began

only four years later. Stalin, seeking Chinese allies against the imperialists, preferred to rely upon Chiang Kai-shek and the bourgeoisie rather than on the proletarian revolution. Stalin did that again in 1936. Now the cycle has run another course. Stalin has come to terms with the Japanese invaders and what new traps this pact sets for the Chinese struggle we shall soon enough know. The cycle was paralleled in Germany where under Stalin's leadership the powerful Communist Party in 1933 opened the road to Hitler and accepted defeat for the German proletariat. Six years later came the Hitler-Stalin pact ... and the new imperialist war.

we condemned Stalin's pact with In forthright opposition to the Hitler, and it is from this point bill and to LaGuardia as an aspirof view that we now condemn ing strikebreaker, were the rep-

resentatives of the TWU, the Nathe pact with the Mikado, signed under Hitler's pressure. tional Maritime Union, the Elec-

All of the "peace" efforts of trical, Radio and Machine Workers, the Newspaper Guild, the Stalin through his devious dip-New York City Industrial Union lomatic maneuverings have Council, and other CIO unions. served only to weaken the Soviet Union. Hitler's strength increas-Spokesmen for the Hillman es-the danger to the Soviet group of CIO union leaders in

Union increases-the world pro-New York, who had previously letariat is estranged from the expressed satisfaction at passage Soviet Union. The "realistic" of the bill by the legislature policies of Stalin, calculated only were compelled by the overwhelm to save the Soviet bureaucracy, ing CIO sentiment against it to endangers the very existence of voice formal opposition to the bill

the Soviet Union. at the hearing. However, they devoted a great portion of their Against Stalin's dependence on pacts and devious diplomacy to | talk to white-washing LaGuardia

save his bureaucracy, and against as a "friend of labor." Gustave his use of the Comintern as a Strebel, Hillmanite head of the commodity which he sells in his state CIO Council, and Jack Alt pacts, the advanced workers of- man, of the United Retail and fer the really realistic program: | Wholesale Employes, a renegade proletarian revolution, the only "socialist," took the lead in boot way to save the Soviet Union. | licking LaGuardia.

Trotsky Said Stalin-Japan Pact Would "Supplement" Nazi Pact

A Moscow-Tokyo pact "would constitute a symmetric supplement to the pact between Moscow and Berlin," Trotsky predicted in an article published in LIBERTY magazine, January 27, 1940. Trotsky said:

"So long as Germany is occupied on the western front, the Soviet Union feels much more free in the Far East. This doesn't mean that offensive operations will be launched there. It is true that the Japanese oligarchy is even less capable of waging war than the one in Moscow. However, compelled to face the west, Moscow cannot have the slightest motive for expanding in Asia. Japan, for her part, must consider that she could expect a serious and even annihilating resistance from the USSR. Under these conditions Tokyo must prefer the program of her army-an offensive not to the west but to the south, toward the Philippines, Dutch East Indies, Borneo, French Indo-China, British Burma.

"An agreement between Moscow and Tokyo on this basis would constitute a symmetric supplement to the pact between Moscow and Berlin."

DETROIT, April 14-85,000 Ford Workers fought their way to a smashing victory on the picket lines at the River Rouge plant and held F ord by the throat-only to have their self-ap-[swoc. pointed negotiating committee, composed of top UAW and CIO officials, give away 50% of the

ictory at the conference table. But that roar of angry protest, which swept Thursday night over the huge Coliseum meet ing upon the announcement of the settlement terms, augurs well for the future of the Ford workers and their union.

On the picket line self confident strikers won a victory with a decisiveness and finality as great as that of any conquering army in history.

At the conference table, the union leaders-perspiring and bewildered middle-aged gentlemen—were desperately fishing around for a face-saving formula to call off the strike.

The Ford strike demonstrates again that a strike can be won m the picket line and can be given away at the negotiating table. THIS IS LESSON NO. I FOR THE FORD STRIKERS.

In spite of everything, the Ford strike was a magnificent victory, because it revealed the power of the union, because it exploded the myth of Ford's invincibility, and because all this was demonstrated in such dramatic fashion that it bit into the consciousness of every Ford worker and of the whole labor movement of America.

From the very first day of the strike when the barricades went up on every road leading to the Rouge plant, until the strike was over, the union was in undisputed control of the territory around the River Rouge plant.

strike policy was decided by a Ford's first line of defense was his private army of 5,000 self-appointed leadership compos-'Service Men" armed to the teeth, organized for ten years for ed of the top CIO figures. Most just this emergency. For the ten days of the strike they stood of these middle-aged gents round the River Rouge plant were 'dashed out of his hands. He Haywood, Murray, Widman, old helpless and cowed. They did not wheelhorses of the Lewis mine had no arrow left in his quiver dare lift a finger against the Ford to strike fear into the hearts of workers machine - have little strikers.

the workers. The union demons- understanding and less sympathy NEGROES JOIN UNION trated that it can shut down the

Ford's second line of defense Rouge plant.

were the Negro workers. He had spent thousands of dollars in an attempt to buy off Negro leaders. But his elaborate scheme to have 10,000 Negro workers organized as the battering ram to break the picket lines and lead the backto-work movement went up in smoke. The Negro workers were caught up by the very sweep and scope of this strike, began joining the union by droves, and on the second day, great numbers of them were seen on the picket lines

marching shoulder to shoulder with the white workers.

he Executive Council of the AFL. Their strike-breaking conspiracy to lead a back-to-work movement under cover of a labor cloak collapsed like a pricked balloon.

Some 603,000 workers are employed in steel, all of whom will get the wage raises won by the These, plus the 300,000 North-

ern and Western striking bituminous miners who are already assured of a \$1 per day raise-Southern miners being offered 60c a day raise-makes almost a million union men whose united strength has won substantial

vage increases. doubly fantastic the story of the The raise in coal, from \$6 to \$7 negotiations of the strike (desper day, is an increase of over 16 cribed in full on page 3 of this per cent. In steel, the raise averissue). Every Ford striker will ages 12% increase for the indusrecognize the fact that the final try; for those getting the prevstrike settlement although it conious Northern minimum (62½ stitutes a big victory, bears no cents) it is a 16% increase, for resemblance to the victory that was won at the plant gates.

STRIKERS GIVEN NO VOICE

How was such a violation of the

men's wishes possible? Because

the strike was run and because

with the aspirations and the aims

That is how it happened that

the men on the picket line were

fighting for one set of demands

while their leaders at the nego-

tiating table had already agreed

ganize themselves so that they can

run their own affairs and decide

The Ford workers in their com-

ing battles must elect broad rank

and file strike committees com-

posed of the most trusted and mi-

will sit in continuous session and

set strike policy from day to day

The negotiating committee elect-

(Continued on Page 3)

and from hour to hour.

WORKERS MUST DECIDE

to drop these demands.

their own policy.

of the mass production workers.

those in the South (previous minimum 45 cents) it is a 22 per cent increase. For the steel industry as a whole, the total additional wages are estimated at 108 millions of dollars.

The raises are also certain to reach into the steel fabricating plants, in many of which the SWOC has agreements, and bring fatter pay envelopes to several hundred thousand workers. Demand for a contract has been served on the key fabricator, American Rolling Mills Company, by the SWOC.

The raises also strengthen the hand of the United Auto Workers (CIO) in its negotiations with General Motors for wage raises.

Ostensibly the raises in steel came "peacefully," for no strikes were going on-at the moment.

STRIKES DID IT! The Ford workers must now or-

In reality, however, the spectres of the militant pickets of the recent Bethlehem and Ford strikes stood behind the union negotiators and lent weight where mere persuasion would not have sufficed. In addition U.S. itant fighters out of each build- Steel has felt the heavy hand of ing who will constitute the high- the union in many of its key est authority of any strike, who plants in flare-ups during the last months.

> A million workers got pay raises this week. But that's only the beginning. Labor is on the march!

ion demands and cheat the Ford workers out of their signed contract than Ford's whole army o 5.000 thugs and gangsters. Ford's third line of defense was The Ford workers must understand that government mediators and boards are nothing but kid-gloved strike breakers. The unbreakable lines and up-

questioned victory of the Ford One by one Ford's weapons strike on the picket line makes

**GOVERNMENT AIDS FORD** It is ironical justice that Ford, the apostle of rugged individual ism, who has always raged and fumed against governmental inter-

ference, was forced to call upon the government to intervene from the first day of the strike. The government, in the persons of Governor Van Wagoner and Federal conciliator James F. Dewey, did more to whittle down the un





Write to us-tell us what's going on in your part of the labor movement—what are the workers thinking about?-tell us what the bosses are up to-and the G-men and the local copsand the Stalinists-send us that story the capitalist press didn't print and that story they buried or distorted-our pages are open to you. Letters must carry name and address, but indicate if you do not want your name printed.

ceed in creating groups and

spreading their ideas amongst the

workers. When life will become

unbearable under the Nazi regime

for the vast masses, then these

masses will follow the ideas of

3. Revolutionary socialists de

Some Key Questions Asked About **Socialist Policy** 

#### EDITOR:

How can socialists possibly win the revolutionary socialists. against formidably armed foes such as the Nazi?

How can socialists ever win if training. It is only the Norman they are murdered just for being | Thomas type of "socialist" who socialists?

Therefore, how can socialists ing. We are one hundred per cent neglect or oppose military train- in favor of military training for ing? They cannot meet bullets the workers. We believe that every with sheets of paper.

If socialists oppose military the use of arms, but we insist that training, how can they when in this military training be under power ever maintain order against the control of the workers' organreactionary forces?

Are not socialists, therefore, liv- enough to compel the government ing in a dream, world and are to turn over the control of milithey not really being given some tary training to the workers' orof the protection of the capitalist ganizations, then we advise our army and navy in which to live members and every worker to get arguing out their fine though such military training when they are drafted into the army. unattainable ideals.

CARL PETERSON 4. When the workers will take Chicago, Illinois

#### **Our** Answer

1. Carl Peterson's question are fighting for, ready to sacrifice seems to imply that only social- their lives for the cause of the ists will fight their armed foes working class. They will be able such as the Nazis. This is not cor- through propaganda to influence rect. At the time of a real strug- the soldiers of the army under gle against the Nazis, the revol- the control of the fascists. The utionary socialists will be in a army and navy at the present minority, but they will have be time does not protect the working hind them the vast majority of the class. It protects the property inworkers and also a substantial terests of the capitalist class. number, if not a majority of sections of the middle class. It will not be the "socialists" (by this term I hope you mean the revolutionary socialists belonging to the Soldiers Told That Socialist Workers Party, because A Mule Is Worth the "socialists" of the Norman More Than A Man Thomas type will not be in the fight at all) who will fight the EDITOR: Nazis, but the whole working struggle, the Nazis will be in ing things. such a minority that all their

2. It is true that the Nazis now manpower is cheap and can easi-

PHILADELPHIA, April 13. -

Despite continued police intimidation and the attempts of the bosses to operate with scab labor, the 400 militant young workers of the Progress Manufacturing Company here are standing their ground with courageous determination in the third week of their strike for higher wages and union conditions. The company manufactur-

es lighting equipment. The fighting spirit of these strikers, continues high, union meetings are jammed and discussion is lively, and everyone is Johnny-on-the-spot when it comes to taking his or her shift on the

picket line. not neglect or oppose military The strike was called by Local 90, Metal Polishers union (AFL) after the company refused to grant neglects or opposes military train wage increases over the miserable 30 cents an hour minimum which it has been paying. Warren Benworker should become an expert in | der, business agent of the local, has been directing the strike.

#### NEGROES PICKET

The Negro workers on strike izations. If we are not powerful are demonstrating exceptional miof them expressed their feelings, "They did it in Bethlehem and we

can do it here." These devoted Negro union members are particularly incensed by the attempts of the company to disrupt the solidarity of the over power they will have the finwhite and Negro union members est army in the world to protect through the use of Negro striketheir regime. They will have an breakers. This is an old employ army composed of people devoted ers' trick, and the white strikers to an idea, knowing what they are putting the responsibility for this dirty practice squarely on the

starved tools. story in the April 5th MILITANT exposing the frameup arrests of breakers arrested for carrying revolvers and other deadly arms slaves in the large industrial cenwere released. A MILITANT representative was arrested after distributing the paper to the strikers

When the patrol wagon drew

up and he was taken to the sta-

tion house, the strikers expressed

their anger at the arrest. They

knew the reason for this persecu-

tion was because THE MILI-

TANT is the only paper which

has been defending their strike.

on the picket line.

vited to participate.

tee

Day Parade.'

THE EDITORS

At artillery battery practice a class supported by middle class sergeant drove home to the men allies. And at the time of the the army officers' way of figur-

After being grilled by six cops arms will be of no avail to them. more important than men. Be-the MILITANT representative The workers too will have arms. cause a mule costs \$100 whereas was released. The cops also drop-

WORKER-SOLDIER



A bit of humor on the picket line. A picket walks the line in a suit of armor made entirely of union buttons. What's more important is that tens of thousands of Ford workers, as a result of their magnificent strike, are today proudly wearing just one button, that of the CIO Auto Workers Union.

## litancy and determination. As one of them expressed their feelings **From France**

The outbreak of the war, then,

concentration camps.

(The following description of conditions in France's concentration camps was written by a German Trotskyist, who is still in France, in mortal danger of being turned over to the Nazis. Funds to aid him and his German, Spanish, Polish, and Italian comrades are urgently needed. They should be sent clo THE MILITANT, 116 University Place, New York City.)

Even before the French bourgeoisie under the protection of the German occupation army prohibited all labor organizations, shoulders of the white boss and at a time when they still called themselves "Republique Frannot on his wretched and half- caise" and were ruled by Daladier, Reynaud, asd Blum, they began cleaning up the remnants of "democratic liberties" where The cops took revenge for the they had to expect the least opposition; with the foreigners.

The drive against the foreigners in France formed a substitute for anti-Semitism and served exactly the same purpose. strikers by the police, while strike. Many thousands of foreign workers who, in the boom times, had been warmly welcomed as labor the stream of refugees fleeing before the German invasion, became ters, were brutally expelled in the destitute, and could not or would years 1938 and 1939, together not return to the occupied zone. with their families and all their cant possessions. CAMP CONDITIONS

**BEGGAR DESCRIPTION** 

served as a welcome pretext for still further oppression of these some cases mothers with their balayers of the population (it was bies, seventeen-year-old adolesc a question of about three million, ents and octogenarians, invalids mostly proletarians); the fairy-tale and cripples. They live on top of of the "Fifth Column" was invent- each other in narrow, squalid ed and thousands upon thousands wooden hovels, exposed to rain of these workers locked up in and cold, guarded like criminals by armed troopers. The adminis-

The French bourgeoisie ever tration of the camp furnished since the Commune has proved neither blankets, nor mats, nor

### **GRACE CARLSON** IN THE LABOR PRESS ENDS 3-MONTHS NATIONAL TOUR

### **Twin Cities Party Branches Welcome** Her With Banquet

is reported two soldiers who en-MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., April tered the place were later thrown 3. - Almost 100 people attended into the guardhouse. the banquet given here last night at party headquarters in honor of Grace Carlson, who has just returned home after her three

months national tour. Speaking on the American work ers' fight against war. Comrade Carlson reported on the growth of the Socialist Workers Party, coast-to-coast, as the most impor tant part of that fight.

their \$4,171,000,000 revenues "Our movement in this country through income taxes; only 6 s very, very definitely gaining per cent by taxes on property; the attention of workers. Followonly 3 per cent by inheritance, ing the dictum of our Old Man estate and gift taxes. "In short, to 'Go forward!' workers everythe states are getting a small where are beginning to think and decreasing part of their that the Socialist Workers Party taxes from 'them who have,' will lead "them in their struggle." and a large and increasing part from 'them who have not,' by Comrade Carlson told of several means of sales taxes which hit of her meetings throughout the the poor hardest." country. Everywhere she was received well, earnestly and sincerely by workers approaching the The United Rubber Workers SWP as the only solution to this Union is running an effective ad world of unemployment, insecur. in the Akron labor paper, listity, poverty and starvation. ing the 44 plants in which the

Memphis, she said, was the "outstanding spot in the tour." In a place where it is against the law to have a mixed whiteand-colored meeting, where in the railroad station there is a "Colored Waiting Room" where Negroes are herded to stand like cattle separate from their brother whites, where always the color line is drawn until spirits are broken and it takes tremendous courage for a Negro even to be seen in the company of a white man-in this place, a very successful meeting was organized in a Negro

ports that the union has filed a "It was heartbreaking, how petition for an NLRB election in varmly they treated me just for the Camel division of the Reynolds calling them human beings," Complant in Winston-Salem. The un-

ion claims a huge majority in the division. The Tobacco Workers meeting, the speaker told of some International has just won a new seminary students who attended, contract at Brown & Williamson asking if she ever agitated against calling for a nickel-an-hour workers' use of violence. Com- straight increase. What's particu-1 rade Carlson answered question larly good about this pact is that

National Defense Mediation The Rockford LABOR NEWS | Board should command the eports with indignation an order fullest public confidence," etc., blah-blah. The author of that bidding soldiers to patronize the article ought to have his nose 100% union lunch room owned by rubbed in the sad history of what the War Mediation Board restaurant is near the camp. It in 1917 did to organized labor.

issued at nearby Camp Grant for-

E. A. Cunningham. Cunningham's

\* \* \*

LABOR, railroad union org-

an, for April 1st has some more

interesting figures on taxation.

taken from a recent report of

the Department of Commerce.

Of each \$1 in taxes raised by

the 48 states, 40c was raised

by means of sales taxes. The

states got only 9 per cent of

\* \* \*

union has raised wages during

\* \* \*

\* \* \*

high as 28 cents per hour.

\* \* \*

The PITTSBURGH COURIER or April 5th tells of repeated attacks made by the military police from Fort Jackson on colored civilians around Columbia, S. C. The provost-marshal at the camp told Negro committee that Mayor Owens "told the military police to beat the Negroes and give 'em hell."

Kenosha LABOR reports that the Union League of Voters, based on the AFL and CIO unions, has elected labor-ticket majorities on both the city council and the school board. While the Union League of Voters is based upon the organized workers of Kenosha, its leaders are pro-war and pro-New Deal. The Kenosha election was a victory not for independent labor political action but for the Democratic Party, to whose tail the Union League of Voters is firmly attached.

\* \* \*

the past year. Increases run as Various union papers are now reporting the local effects of the Roosevelt program to starve the unemployed and feed the war ma-Here's a pip. The Chicago FEDchine. The Montana LABOR ERATION NEWS reports that em-NEWS reports that in Silver Bow county about 200 WPA workers were dropped from WPA rolls last week, and about 1,200 were fired in all parts of Montana, Similar layoffs are to occur each month until July 1st, when local WPA authorities expect to have the rolls reduced by approximately 46 per cent.

> More than one million unemployed are now certified as in need and on WPA waiting lists. Government officials don't even pretend that there is work for these people in private industry. Yet the government, under cover of the war program, is redoubling its attack upon those who are jobless through no fault of their own.

For the first time the Bureau of Agricultural Economics has officially estimated and made pub-

\* \* \*

home. There are men and women, in

ade Carlson said.

Describing the Rochester, N. Y.

balmers in Chicago are now organizing and their union has signed up with many undertakers. However the union is having great difficulty persuading the undertakers to accept a ONE HUN-DRED AND TWO HOUR WEEK. The undertakers want them to work longer hours. Wages and conditions around the death industry have always been maggoty. The TOBACCO WORKER re-

are murdering revolutionary so- | ly be replaced. Besides, added the cialists but they cannot murder sergeant, it costs less to feed a their ideas. Since the enemies of man. socialism cannot solve the basic Boy, he certainly left a lot of economic problems, there will al- long faces behind him! ways be advanced workers who in | Fort Xspite of all difficulties will suc-



#### WE'RE RESTING AFTER THE BIG STORM

The end of the two-month subscription campaign, conducted by the party with a gusto that was almost violent in some places, has left us feeling a little like the lull after a storm.

The big job of computing the distribution of the subscriptions sent in has resulted in the following tabulation:

> 50c Specials-572 \$3 Combinations-123 1-year Militant-57 1/2-year Militant-145 1-year F.I.--23 1/2-year F.I.-27 Miscellaneous-8

#### WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

The question which now naturally follows is this: Will we fall back into our old habit of nonattention to subscriptions or will this fine experience serve to inspire us with a durable enthusiasm?

Several cities have volunteered answers-Chicago, Boston, Detroit, our Minnesota cities. They, who made the finest showings in the campaign, are convinced that their performance could have been still better if they had earlier realized the potentialities of the drive. They are anxious to | builds a movement.

continue getting subscriptions in an organized manner.

The great march of labor is still keeping us moving in the printing and circulation of the MILITANT. As an indication of how our members keep a sharp eye open for possibilities of penetration into the working class mass, we have the following com-

munication from Boston: "With the Bethlehem Steel issue we hit the Bethlehem plant at Fore River, Quincy, Massachusetts on Monday at the 11 P.M. night shift, disposing of many hundreds of MILITANTS. The workers took the paper and stuffed it in their pockets or bags. One worker was reading it outside

a cafe across the street from the main gate; he had it open full length looking inside at the story of the Bethlehem Pennsylvania strike. The paper was very well received. "The workers coming out

Monday night were mainly sharp differences among the vayoung workers. 22,000 work at rious political parties, their apthis plant and there must have pearance in the parade with their banners would constitute a powerbeen two or three thousand ful demonstration of the burning workers coming out on the need for unity in the working shift we hit." class in the struggle against im-This is the kind of work that perialist war, and the urgency of carrying forward this struggle

ped all charges against the ar rested strikers.

N.Y.C. Local tion rations.

Will Hold Own May Day Rally objective conditions. Today they

are, in the camps of Gurs, Arge-NEW YORK CITY, April 12.les, Vernet, and St. Cyprien, exposed to a slow and miserable Local New York of the Socialist death: veterans of the Spanish Workers Party will celebrate May civil war, German refugees, Jews, Day with a mass meeting in the men and women of all nationalievening at Irving Plaza. ties who were arrested on account Plans for possible participation

of a denunciation, or simply bein the May Day parade are being cause they used to belong to a worked out. Whether the SWP labor organization. will march with the "United May Furthermore, there are thou-

Day Parade," which is being orsands of foreigners who wows arganized by various Stalinist figrested only because they joined ures of the local labor movement. hinges on the decision of the Com-

mittee they have set up as to against war on the political plane. whether or not political parties "If the committee should deof the working class will be incide against inviting political parties of the workers to par-The following letter was sent to ticipate, we feel that the parthe "United May Day" Commitade could not genuinely be characterized as a 'united' "In order to complete our prepparade, since one of the most: rations for the commemoration of May Day, we should like to know as soon as possible whether you have decided to invite political

Petain (who loves to talk every once in a while of "humaneness") and his police are more hypocritthe Second World War makes im- tial to successful working class ical and vicious. The number of perative a special invitation to all opposition to war have been omitvictims is about the same ....

political parties of the workers to ted. We therefore ask you to injoin in a militant and impressive clude in the official list of slodemonstration of the working gans to be carried on the banners In Los Angeles class on May Day. Despite the in the parade the following: Buy the 1. Down with Imperialist War. MILITANT 2. Defend the Soviet Union!

3. Trade Union Control of Military Training! 4. Build an Independent Labor

Party! 5. For a Workers' and Farmers' Government!

hat, in cruelty and brutality of its penal system, it cannot be sur- grams (about eight ounces) of employers that they should pay wage differential because of sex bread and one single plate of thin, passed by any Balkan state. Even when there was no scarcity of fatless soup, at noon and at night. food in France, the interned Scurvy as a consequence of

masses had to subsist on starvathis one-sided nourishment is al armingly on the increase. Vermin After the catastrophe and the be-

furthers the transmission of in ginning of lack of "ood, the posifectious diseases. The hygienic tion of the inmates of the conconditions in the camps are uttercentration camps was rendered by 1y beyond any possible verbal desfar worse than was justified by cription.

> The inmates are allowed to write only twice a week. Their mail has to pass a special camp censorship and invariably suffers great delay. The slighest offense against the camp discipline is being punished with jail sentences, and the guards are instructed to

shoot at anyone attempting es cape. In the camp at Vernet are the "undesirables," the "suspicious elements," or the "extremists." Those who cannot get money sufficient for bribery will remain there until the end of the war and

Under certain conditions peo-

ple can be released from the other

camps; but they have to prove

that they will be able to live -

without accepting employment!

The German Nazis openly and

Sam Smit's Newsstand 5th

brutally attacked their enemies,

die from either hunger or lice. or, in the case of German and Italian anti-Fascists, will be handed over to the Nazis and Mussolini whenever these ask for

with question, "Do you ever teach a living wage, and then 'violent' or color. strikes won't come? What bothers me is that you pious people worry hies are now under union contract.

about the man on the picket line but only the following bear the who gets clunked on the head and union label: Raleigh, Twenty the boss who is kept out of his Grand, Kool, Spud, Viceroy, Avaplant, and not about this rotten lon, Yankee Girl, Wings, and system of unemployment, poverty Spud Imperial. Reynolds is the and starvation that causes it all.'

In Detroit and Flint, comrade Carlson said, "You could feel that the workers were restless, dissatisfied." The SWP is the only party distributing papers at factory

Poverty-striken, dispossessed far mers, 118 in all, came out to the meeting in Plentywood, Montana. "It's the day-to-day work of comrades throughout the country that's gaining hegemony over the workers," Comrade Carlson concluded. "We have the program, the leadership, the devoted cadres...that will establish a society of peace and plenty." A new feature of this banquet was singing of workers' songs by the recently-organized Twin City Chorus.

gates there.

Now Available In Limited Quantity **Bound Volumes** 1940 SOCIALIST APPEAL

\$2.50 each

Place your orders immediately

Socialist Appeal **116 University Place** New York City

lic the number of forced farm the union insisted there be no sales in the United States. The figures reveal the truly hopeless position of the average farmer un-Practically all cigarette compa-

only major firm not yet signed

-"President Roosevelt's new

up with the T. W. I. U. The Electrical Workers Union Local 3 of New York City is a good union. But an article in their current paper is sure misleading the membership. It's titled: "LABOR AND INDUS-TRY COUNT ON FAIR DEAL FROM NEW BOARD OF 11"

der a declining capitalist system. MORE THAN ONE OUT OF EV-ERY FOUR FARMS SUFFERED A FORCED SALE IN THE 10, YEAR PERIOD 1930 to 1940. Here are the figures: Year . No. of Farms 1930 ..... 114,900 1931 ..... 148,100 1932 ..... 241,700 1933 ..... 319,200 1934 ..... 234,700 1935 ..... 172,800 1936 ..... 160,400 1937 ..... 137,000 1938 ..... 107,100 1939 ..... 103,100 Total 1.739.000



Lectures for Sessions-Week of April 21st

### MONDAY 7:10 to 8:40 p.m ..... by William M. Warde The Democratic Dictatorship of the Bourgeoisie. 8:50 to 10:20 p.m. ..... by Lydia Beidel The AFL-ClO Split and the ClO. WEDNESDAY 7:10 to 8:40 p.m. ..... by Jack Weber The USSR and War: Which Side Stalin. 8:50 to 10:20 p.m. ..... by Farrell Dobbs The Necessity for Trade Unions to Enter Politics. IRVING PLAZA Irving Place and 16th St.

at Lazerus Candy Store 2109 Brooklyn Ave. Book Store E. 1st St. & Rowan Ave.

& Main St.

their extradition.

6. For a Socialist Society!

important sections of the working class, the political section, bearing the brunt of the struggle against imperialist war, would have been excluded. parties of the working class- to participate in the 'United May PROPOSED SLOGANS-"In the 'official' list of slogans "It seems to us that the immiapproved to date by your comnence of United States entry into mittee we note that slogans essent

#### 'APRIL 19, 1941

THE MILITANT

# How The Ford Negotiations Were Conducted

## There Was An Awful Gap **Between Militant Picket Line** And UAW-CIO Negotiators

DETROIT, April 14-On Wednesday, April 2nd, 12:15 A.M., the UAW-CIO authorized a strike of all workers at River Rouge, after a sit-down strike had halted all production in the plant. When the whistles blew for the Wednesday morning shift, it was obvious to everybody that the strike was 100% effective. The union announced the following demands as the objec-

tives of the strike: "Immediate reinstatement of

all workers discharged because of union affiliation: "A wage increase of 10c an

hour to bring the wage rates of Ford workers up to the standard of those paid by General Motors and Chrysler; "Establishment of seniority

to govern lay-offs and rehirings: "Establishment of a shop

steward system to speedily and justly handle grievances as they arise; "Abolition of the Ford spy

system and its infamous Service Department;

"And other elements of a contractual agreement which will make possible operation of the River Rouge plant on a basis of equity for the workers."

The union's statement concluded by promising that "the strike will be fought through to victory."

#### FORD'S FIRST TACTIC

Ford adopted the old Judge Gary formula of sitting tight. He refused to meet with the union committee, he refused to conduct any negotiations on the union demands and sent only minor company officials and Ford Service men to confer with Governor Van Wagoner and Federal conciliator James F. Dewey. Late afternoon Thursday, I. A. Capizzi, Ford Company attorney, obtained a sweeping temporary injunction writ from Federal

Judge Arthur J. Tuttle which sharply restricted picketing in the strike. The company also demanded a million dollar damages from the union. Harry Bennett charged the strike was a "red plot" and requested Roosevelt to send in Federal troops. His only reply to union demands was "we are not going to put the eight men who caused this trouble back to work. They can negotiate fective strike in the -world Plants setting 45 days as the till Christmas."

sky, with no explanation, the top union committee withdrew its original demands and offered a new "basis for settlement":

STRIKE DEMANDS CHANGED 1. Recognition of the union for its members in the Rouge plant.

2. "An agreement by the Ford Motor Co. and the UAW-CIO representing its members in the River Rouge plant, that the company is to establish in the plant standards of wages and provisions for seniority, handling of grievances, etc., which are part of the union's current agreement with General Motors and Chrysler Corporation, the details of such an agreement to be worked out in joint conferences which are to be completed within a week."

3. "Upon acceptance of above points operations in the plant to be resumed with reinstatement of<sup>h</sup> all strikers and all workers discharged because of union activity or affiliation, to their customary employment."

CONTRAST WITH 1937 These new proposals represented a watering down of the union demands and definitely proposed cusations of "red plots" and to call off the strike without a "communist conspiracies," at the signed contract. With this one union. The Governor and concil-

duced. What a step backward in comparison with the G.M. strike of the River Rouge fortress. Over 1937! There the UAW demanded the week-end tens of thousands and won a signed contract grantinguisole collective bargaining rights in all the struck plants. Four years later, when the UAW has the whole industry organized and a membership of 400,000 auto workers exclusive of in Washington, in a desperate the Ford workers, these leaders effort to break the deadlock orpropose calling off the most ef- dered an election held at the Ford

against America's symbol of the deadline date. open shop without even On Tuesday, the solid, unmoving strike front broke the resistfor a signed contract!

Ford's Goons Tried It



Who creates the strike violence? This picture shows. Ford's strikebreakers and armed "Service Department" thugs are here revealed as they charged out of one of the Ford gates into a public highway and began to assault isolated and unarmed pickets with big wrenches and specially made three foot long steel bars.

pose their demands on the CIO | That evening at a meeting at leaders.

All of Friday and all through the week-end, the company continued sitting tight, and Capizzi and Harry Bennett contented. themselves with hurling wild acthe picket line, was materially re- effort to locate Hank Ford, while two from the company and Van the strikers, serene and undis-

turbed, continued their siege of of automobiles loaded with UAW members streamed past the beilant eye on the Service men and do it? the state troops.

On Monday morning the NLRB

which the strikes had already

the Rouge plant. senile old Hank himself. On Wedtheir own agreement of the night previous and placed all sorts of

public, either to the strikers or Ford Service Dept. to anybody else! The Governor understood the

out consulting the Ford workers or even the stewards' body, these leaguered factory, keeping a vig- the strike. Why? Why did they ing to both sides a new "three

Because these conservative, timid union officials exaggerate in their own minds one hundred times over the power of the capitalists, and because they underestimate by the same proportion the power of the

cial representing the company, to solidarity. continue to meet and settle any other matters of dispute which might arise before the NLRB el-

Dewar.

ection. 3. "Both parties, likewise, agree kers began parading around the

to do all in their power to expe- hall carrying signs: VOTE NOdite the holding of the labor WE WANT A CONTRACT; board election. As an example, the DON'T VOTE FOR A SELL-OUT union should agree to an election etc. Behind them, Ford workers within the plant, and the com-formed a parade, shouting and to be taught at this stage of the pany should agree to furnish adeyelling their demands. For two hours a chant kept

quate payroll records. "I request that both parties in the interest of the public welfare will accept, without further delay, this proposal."

ance of the settlement propos-FORD WANTS MORE al meant calling off the strike, The union leaders hastened to a wave of boos swept over the accept the Governor's "peace huge Coliseum. Several Ford plan." But the Ford officials deworkers jumped on the press cided to try to whittle down the union gains one more notch beto take the vote on acceptance fore giving in. The Ford Motor of the settlement and loudly -Co. agreed to accept the Governor's peace plan with the reservasupporters kept on shouting tion that cases pending before the NLRB, hearings on which were due to open on Monday, April 14th in Detroit, be postponed until after the NLRB election at

These hearings constitute an pon for the coming NLRB elecworld tion. The UAW has aided the Board and has spent thousands of dollars in assembling sensational They received it not only at testimony that exposes the vicithe hands of the Ford Motor Co. and the government representatives, but even at the

This brazen attempt on the part of the Ford Motor Co. to openly set aside the law in favor of Ford was too much even for Frank Bowen, head of the Detroit NLRB, to stomach. He refused to post pone the hearing.

But the top CIO officials, bombarded for days by constant telepoint peace plan" which embod phone calls from a dozen differdied the original agreement reach. ent governmental agencies in would not even back up the local NLRB director on this important 1. "All employes shall be re- point and of course, Bowen caved turned to their jobs without dis- in the following day when Wash-

The strike was now over. Only



(Continued from Page 1) ed out of the ranks of such a broad strike committee will not negotiate any kind of agreement that government officials can pressure them into, but will be under constant necessity of reporting back to the rank and file

strike committee and will be responsible to and work under the direction of this broad rank and under way, a group of Ford worfile strike committee.

That is the only way for the membership to keep their hands on the controls and exercise their democratic rights. The Ford workers do not have game of the necessity of a militant policy of action to gain conditions from the barons of the automobile industry. They have proven in action that they understand this far better than many of their would-be leaders. What is necessary now is that the Ford workers burn the lessons of the strike into their consciousness. If this understanding is added to the demonstrated bravery, militancy and high organizational taent of the Ford workers, their complete victory over Ford is assured.

The Ford workers must now get It was in this atmosphere and themselves set to turn out an overover this kind of an opposition whelming CIO vote in the coming that the CIO leaders were forced NLRB election. They must guard to get the acceptance vote passed, with utmost vigilance against al-It was in this kind of an atmoslowing Ford to demoralize the unimportant union propaganda wea- phere that the CIO officials call. nion. They must slap down any ed off the greatest strike in the cases of attempted discrimination. The CIO will win the coming elec-The Ford workers have retion. The union must then proceed to finish the job: ceived the real baptism of fire.

A signed contract embodying the union's minimum demands of a shop steward system, seniority, ten cent hourly wage increase, and abolition of the Service Department must be presented to Ford at once with the understanding that he cannot continue to operate his plants until he signs a contract with the United Automobile Workers of America, CIO.

Because THE MILITANT is, ap-

ty members among them in par-

ticular. And THE MILITANT ex-

THE MILITANT fights the ship-

for the regimentation of the sea-

**STALINIST 'PORTLIGHT' SCARED** d Tuesday night at Ypsilanti. The Governor's proposal read as washington, were now in a mad rush to wind up the strike. They By GROWTH OF TROTSKYISTS

> In its mimeographed stink-| characters like Carlucci, "Kohlbomb, misnamed "Portlight," the man," etc.

lies and hysteria against the Trot- even surpasses their filthy lies.

Stalinist waterfront section in But their plain and untrammel-York lets loose a waft of ed fury against THE MILITAN

ray for the CIO, the Ford Com-

gaining committees and establish scratch of the pen, the stake for | iator Dewey were rushing around | a top bargaining committee of which the men were fighting on the state wild-eyed, in a frantic six people, two from the union,

Wagoner and Dewey. And right then and there, with-

workers.

ing on, and to understand how | meeting with Harry Bennett and | ing CIO officials were more to control the actions and im- I. A. Capizzi in the afternoon. scared of the strike than even Bennett's home in Ypsilanti, at- nesday therefore the Ford oftended by Bennett, Capizzi, Gov. ficials began craw-fishing on

Van Wagoner, Dewey, and Widman, Haywood, Thomas and Murobstacles in the way of the setpany agreed to reinstate five of tlement. They demanded that the the eight fired workers, resume whole agreement be kept secret and that no part should be made ous and criminal set-up of the bargaining with the plant bar-

game of the Ford officials far bet-

ter than did the union leaders. Anxious to rid himself of the headache of the Ford strike, Gov. Wagoner made the settlement pubunion leaders agreed to drop lic on Thursday morning in the AND FORD GETS IT their basic demands and call off form of a public statement propos-

ed Tuesday night at Ypsilanti. follows:

these farcical elections, and we

will bargain with it because

the law says so. WE WILL

BARGAIN TILL HELL

FREEZES OVER BUT THEY

Harry Bennett may not care to

repeat these words, out loud, but

they still hold good as an expres-

sion of basic attitude.

WON'T GET ANYTHING."

rimination at once, including ington applied the squeeze.

2. "Grievance procedure estab- of the huge Coliseum at the State ished before the strike shall be Fair Grounds. The CIO leaders all esumed. Further I shall appoint praised the settlement as a great a committee consisting of myself, victory. Yes, in spite of everything representing the State; Mr. De- the Ford strike was a magnificent wey, representing the Federal victory! And the men cheered Government; R. J. Thomas and themselves hoarse in this first pa-Allen S. Haywood representing roxysm of victory, in their newly the UAW-CIO, and Harry H. found strength, in their newly Bennett and one other Ford offi- found sense of comradeship and All was not limited, however, to joy and rejoicing at the Coliseum. As soon as the meeting got

up from the rear benches "We

Want a Contract." And when

Michael Widman pointed out

during his speech that accept-

table when Widman was about

demanded the floor while their

hands of the CIO officials.

They are now ready in every

sense of the word to take their

places in the great army of the

CIO in the fight for a militant

brand of unionism that will

push the American labor move-

ment forward.

We Want a Contract,"\*



But the stiff-necked stand of the Ford management did not phase the strikers. On Thursday they revealed for the whole world to see their absolute control of tract? Not the Ford workers! officials were willing to meet gotten the full measure of the keep the River Rouge Plant shut. were still too new to unionism to Detroit.

Yet suddenly, out of a clear understand clearly what was go- Murray held a preliminary were convinced that the perspir- the cases of the other three men, 30,000 Ford workers, shouting,

By DON DORE

strikes have inspired the Roosevelt administration to begin pro-

A Washington dispatch in the New York Times, April 11,

jecting a universal "formula" for ending strikes.

Who authorized the CIO leaders to give up the signed con-

the situation and their ability to Unfortunately the Ford workers with him, Philip Murray left for calibre of the union leadership

The Government's Anti-Strike 'Formula'

Wednesday the Governor was five of the eight men. Because of

Upon receiving word that Ford But the Ford officials, having made with me not to reopen their Ford workers. plants during mediation, I am askat the Tuesday night meeting, ing James F. Dewey to arbitrate

ance of the Ford management. to make the settlement public, an agreement the Ford Motor Co. one intre usual remained. The one little detail remained. The 30.000 WORKERS MEET

Thursday evening, April 10th,

Thirteenth Street version of Mc- parently, making its way into the Fee's labor-baiting "Seagoing So- foc'sls of the NMU rank and file viets" in the yellow Saturday and the militant Communist Par-Evening Post. Just get this: "The Trotskyites are polluting the waterfront with their gutter-sheet The Militant. They

skyists which appears to be a

plodes the whole tissue of falsehoods with which the corrupt Stalinist leadership has been barare sneaking their most capricading the path between the reable rats into the unions and volutionary Trotskyists and the aboard ships by every means fighting communist and class conpossible...Did you know that scious seamen in the National a nest of Trotskyites had shipped on the tankers, and Maritime Union. owners, the governmental plans

even worse, some of them had already obtained permits to ship on contract vessels? etc. etc." ("Portlight," April 2,

1941).

To believe this, it is not Mc-Fee's "Seagoing Soviets" but practically swarming over the American merchant marine. The make it a complete duplicate of McFee's filthy outpouring is the demand for a Congressional in-

anticipating the next step?

Of course, the Stalinist lies in the "Portlight" are more brazen than anything McFee could possibly think of. For instance, the Stalinists charge that THE MIL-ITANT supported the discredited Jerry King in his anti-NMU stoolpigeon compaigns and defended him in his recent murder trial. In what issue of THE MILI-TANT? On what date? They don't

say They charge that we published King's red-baiting booklet "We Accuse" IN FULL - no less! Again, in what issue? On what

date?

were powerful enough to have signed contract guaranteeing sub- know it.

with

The Ford and Bethlehem "for- share in the huge war profits gams which couple the Trotskyists of organized maritime labor and

course, because it always wins | union contracts granting genuine

THE "FINISH FIGHT" WILL

leading Big Business organ, re- "Nests of Trotskyites" that are cently fired the first volley along this main battle line of the employers. It inveighed against only thing that's missing here to those few employers who "are hoisting the white flag without much of a struggle" and are granting wage increases to organized labor.

wage rates at this time."

victories. They are merely success- hard words. They are words on ful beginnings. Truth to tell, the which this new "formula" will Bethlehem workers now realize, break its teeth. They are words as the Ford workers no doubt which sound a bugle call rallying strongly suspect, that they have the bosses to that "finish fight" been persuaded to exchange mil- which the Roosevelt administralion dollar strikes for two-bit set- tion claims it seeks to avert.

The least they could

creased wages. Harry Bennett, had to yield in 1937. Strikes pow-legions of union fighters. Their Ford personnel manager, weeks erful enough to force Ford and strikes will be settled on their before the Ford strike, showed Grace to recognize the unions own "formula," which includes a are lying in their teeth and they

ing of this formula when he made these open-shop die-hards stantial wage increases to meet sign a real union contract.

wage increases can prevent them. But that is the last thing the big corporations intend to yield without a "finish fight."

COME ON WAGE RAISES

The Journal of Commerce, a

"It is the proper role of business management," declaimed the JOURNAL, "to oppose firmly and stubbornly demands for substantial increases in

"Firmly" and "stubbornly" are

But boss firmness will not learn the full meaning of this have settled for was signed con-avail. The next wave of strikes "formula" when they begin to tracts and increased wages, simi- will not be waged by courageous ported in the New York Times, press Henry Ford for some gen- lar to what GM, Chrysler, Good- but inexperienced new union men.

uine benefits in the form of in- year and other major corporations These will be fought by veteran

mula" is not likely to avert any which the industrialists are sweat- as "shipowners' tools" together the defeat of all vicious proposals "finish fights." Nothing short of ing out of them.

men, the Dirksen Bills and the fink-herders. It shows what militant seamen in the SUP and the SIU have been able to achieve in wages and conditions superior to those in the NMU, because of their freedom of action when unhampered by the strangulating control of the Stalinists.

THE MILITANT lashes away at the "patriotism" harmful to the vestigation into Trotskyist activ. interests of the seamen, whether ities in maritime! Or, are we only it is sponsored by Joe Curran or by Harry Lundeberg.

> THE MILITANT has a program of struggle for the seamen which coincides with the needs and temper of labor. That is why the Stalinist water-

front section spews its hysterical poison in the "Portlight." This hysteria is not, of course,

an isolated matter with the waterfront Stalinists. It is merely an application of the recent decision taken by the Communist Party's National Committee, after our suc-

cess in the Minnesota elections, to conduct a furious campaign against the Trotskyists in all fields.

While the Stalinists toss and . They will never bother to cite ex- turn with every wind from the act dates and places, because they Kremlin, from blatant "patriotism" to stupid pacifism, and back again, the Trotskyists will conti-

Of a piece with these simpler | nue to show the seamen the class the rising cost of living and a lies are their slanderous amal. struggle road: towards the unity disreputable waterfront to regiment them!

'High government officials otic fellows and go back and work stated that the formula prelike hell." sented to the principals in the

Ford case...was virtually identical with that submitted er's pot. It doesn't at all prevent by the OPM in the strike at the Lackawanna plant of the Bethlehem Steel Corporation. "Officials were asserting to-

night that this formula might be a method of preventing 'finish fights' between unions and employers during the defense program."

What is this cure-all "formula?" The management agrees to re-employ all strikers and negotiate with the union committee on the a union contract, to the settlegrievances of its members. The ments won by the General Momanagement further agrees to an tors and Chrysler workers in 1937. NLRB election to determine sole The immediate issues in these striout a contract.

This "formula" is simply a tive bargaining rights and union method of maneuvering labor into recognition. The opposition they acceptance of the cheapest possi- faced was as tough, or tougher, ble strike settlements. After the than that which confronted the union workrs finally back recalci- Ford and Bethlehem men. trant employers like Ford and They achieved far from ideal Grace up against the wall and are settlements, it is true, but the in a position to gain some con-absolute minimum they agreed to cessions which can fill the sto- accept was a SIGNED CONTRACT mach, the government mediators granting wage increases, seniority and conciliators step in and say, and improved working conditions. "Boys, we'll make this employer They also secured an NLRB elecmeet with your committee and tion, but this served merely to maybe even press for an NLRB extend into every plant of these election. Then you be good patri- corporations the material benefits

affirms this "line" of the administration, as follows: Fords and Graces to obey the milabor laws. Formal adherence This sort of "settlement" doesn't put one more bean into the work

> "finish fights" between the workers and bosses. It merely rescues ing conditions. the employer from a tough fight in which he has been getting the heavy end of the slugging.

CONTRAST THESE

"SETTLEMENTS" WITH 1937 Compare the "settlements" in comforts of life. the Ford and Bethlehem Steel strikes, which merely tend to postpone the ultimate showdown over | TAKE STAND AGAINST WAGE INCREASES

collective bargaining rights. The kes were identical with those in of a general government policy workers return to their jobs with the recent battles. The GM and against wage increases. That this is the tendency of Chrysler workers wanted collec-

the government's "formula" is borne out by the statement of Leon Henderson, newly-appointed Federal Price Administrator, re-

> "On the labor unions whose demands might cause increased prices of important commodities, Mr. Henderson in effect served notice that he would throw his influence as a pricefixer against what he regarded as 'unwarranted' wage rises. "'We will watch wages as a

response to questions. 'If un-The similar settlements of the Ford and Bethlehem Steel won and embodied in contracts. warranted wage rises are in It is no 'settlement' for the govprospect, we will have a decidernment to step in after the plants ed interest in them.' have been shut down by the work-Workers who have won only ers and belatedly "persuade" the

prime cost factor,' he said in

formal union recognition and an nimum stipulation of the federal NLRB election by such strikes will more than likely be forced The new "formula" gives the employer who is on the defensive an opportunity to reorganize his anti-union forces for a later and

with their employers. They strike strike insurance Grace and Ford

corporations think they can get away with it.

WHAT THIS FORMULA

"If the NLRB orders an elec-

he clearly understood the meanstated:

tion, of course we will hold one....The CIO will win it of

to the Wagner Act by the em- to strike again for wage increases. ployers is no substitute for a signed contract covering better wages, shorter hours and improved workmore desperate "finish fight." Workers do not strike for the

occasional "privilege" of being able to sit around the same table sibility that as a measure of

GOVERNMENT MAY OPENLY

Obstructing the winning of

wage increases, the government's "formula" may well become part

ENABLES A BOSS TO DO

The Ford workers may shortly tlements.

April 13, as follows:

All this is not intended to belittle the gains made by the Ford and Bethlehem strikers. Their militant actions have given the This does not discount the pos auto and steel workers a new sense of confidence and organized pow-

er. Their strikes have revealed the basic weakness and rottenness of the once impregnable-

seeming walls of the open-shop industrial fortresses. But these are far from ultimate

be withdrawn just as soon as the

mules at signing a union contract which will guarantee to the workers that any increases will not

all likelihood, balk like angry

for more of the necessities and may "grant" some temporary wage increases without further immediate strikes. But they will, in

## **Delegate Couldn't Get Hearing** At APM Meeting In New York

Mazey, Detroit Union Delegate, Refused The Floor By Stalinist Managers Of the "Convention", Tells THE MILITANT His Story

#### By ART PREIS

"They talked a lot at this American Peace Mobilization convention about fighting to win democracy here at home first before sending an army to fight for democracy in Europe. Well, after sitting through this so-called convention for two days, I think the fight for democracy ought to begin right inside the American Peace Mobilization outfit."

That is how Ernest Mazey, vice-president of Detroit local 29, State, County and Municipal Workers of America (CIO) and his union's delegate to the two-day American Peoples Meeting of the American Peace Mobilization held April 6-7 here in and told him to give it to the New York, summed up the APM convention to this MILITANT chairman. He went up and gave reporter.

would have needed a whole Army division to get to the 'mike' in that 'Peoples' Meeting. I ought to know, because I tried it for two days," said Mazey, general session.

4 —

Mazey has the distinction of be-STALINIST GAG RULE ing the sole delegate, of the "4,-225 delegates and 748 official ob-"I wanted to represent my unon honestly, and fight for the proservers" whom the APM claims attended the convention, who gram against war which I believe even had the temerity to ask for is in the interests of the workers. was determined to speak if the floor during the general sessions of the convention. In fact, disagreed with any resolution. I was sitting up on the platform his insistence on being permitted not more than 15 feet from the to discuss the main resolution of chairman, at the Sunday afterthe convention, after its present noon session in Mecca Temple. ation to the general session Sunday afternoon, created almost a "The main business of the Sun day afternoon general session, full-blown panic amongst the sundry top officials who ran this "peace" travesty with an iron ternoon, was the report on the hand. Declaration of the American Peo-

#### A STALINIST FRAUD

The story of Mazey's attempt to exercise his right as a delegate to speak at this "Peoples" convention demonstrates the fraudulent character of the APM as a genuine peoples movement against the war.

"The delegates never had a chance to discuss any of the resolutions or the program! The whole first day, Saturday, was spent in getting the delegates straightened around, registering them, and so forth. In the afternoon, they trotted us out in the rain to Randall Island stadium and after we soaked around there for about half an hour, they trotted us back.

"We didn't get down to business until Saturday evening," Mazey went on. "Then we found that there were no general sessions for that day at all. We could merely sit in on one of a dozen or

so discussion 'panels' and com- Program committee - which the conference on the topic 'Labor and War' was divided into six different sections alone. Imagine trying to have a voice on the resolutions or trying to discuss before all the delegates in that kind of set-up. "These 'panels' were a joke. The chairman, 'keynoters' and secretaries of these 'panels' were all hand-picked in advance. We didn't have a chance even to vote on them. They came in with the complete drafts of all resolutions and programs prepared in advance. These resolutions were shoved through on greased skids.

and gave it to one of the ushers it to the chairman. The chairman "Fight for democracy at home? A rank-and-file delegate read it and passed it on to Rev Thompson, who was the general Evereything was cut and dried."

chairman of the whole convention Mazey then described in detail "Then I saw Thompson leave how he tried unsuccessfully to get the platform immediately with the floor Sunday afternoon at the the request note in his hand.

seen and heard about a lot of

bureaucratic practices, but

nothing to come close to this.

'I waited quite a while, maybe an hour, to see if they'd give me the floor. Meanwhile, the resolu tions and program were being presented and adopted. Every single one was simply read off and put to a voice vote without any dis scussion. There were plenty of things on which I am sure many of the delegates disagreed, but a lot of them must have seen what happened to me when I tried to liscuss, and so they just kept their mouths shut. The chairman which began about four in the af- | didn't even call for discussion. "By this time, I was getting plenty sore. I moved up to the ples Meeting. This was the key very first row of seats on the platdocument of the convention and form where the chairman couldn't

was supposed to summarize its say he couldn't see me or hear entire program against war. me.

"When Fields, the executive secretary of the APM, finished his report on the Declaration, I rose to my feet before the entire assembly and in as loud a voice as I could muster I shouted: 'Mr. Chairman, I want to discuss this Declaration!

"The Chairman just ignored me as if he didn't hear me. He went on to introduce the next speaker. That's all there was to this 'convention', anyway. A bunch of hand-picked speakers. most of whom didn't represent anyone but themselves, who took up the whole time of the, convention. The delegates were just shoved out in the cold. "Right after the chairman had in turn, went into immediate pri-

introduced the next speaker, Don-

ald Henderson, who was to give executive secretary. the report of the Resolutions and JUST A CIRCUS delegates didn't elect - I went to the chairman to find out why a delegate couldn't get the floor in this convention.

the loud-speaker. I was startled to hear a high-pitched voice frantically calling all over the hall, 'Will Ernest Mazey please contact Frederic Fields on the stage immedia serious question that he had ately!' Wasn't that a hot one, and to ask for the floor in writing me standing within ten feet of the conventions would have Fields all the time. been stopped right then. I've

"Fields began by asking me why I wanted to speak. 'What do you want to say? What do you want to discuss?'

"Alright, I wrote my request "I answered plenty sharply, for the floor on a slip of paper 'I don't have to tell you what I want to discuss. I'm a bonefide delegate and I want the floor thrown open for free discussion. What I have to say, I want to say to the delegates. That's my elementary right as a convention delegate. Do I have to submit to a censorship before I can get the floor?'

#### THEN COME THREATS!

too tough for Fields to handle so he then called over a fellow named De Lacy, who had been the chairman in the morning session nd who is president of the Washngton Commonwealth Federation "De Lacy got pretty ugly, 'I'm 1 politician,' he started out, 'And I don't think you should get the floor. If you should get the floor by any chance. I'm warn ing you now, you'll be attacked! Attacked? Why, that fellow didn't even know what I was going to say! He went on, 'I'm a politician. and if you speak, I'll get up and denounce you as a disrupter.' "Then this De Lacy took Fields a little aside and said in an ugly one, loud enough for me to hear "Then I went up to the chair-Maybe I'd better get in touch with man again, just a couple of feet the public relations committee." from the loud-speaker, and

"Well, he didn't have to hit again loudly asked for the me over the head for me to floor. Somebody else hastily know what he was probably grabbed the 'mike.' The chairtalking about. I'd seen Homer man began to argue with me Martin's 'public relations comand deliberately lied about not mittees' in action against prohaving received my written regressive unionists in the auto quest for the floor. Then he workers union in Detroit. Only said there were too many 'regwe called them 'goon squads'. ular' speakers for the delegates "I stopped trying to get the to be given a chance to speak. floor then. And peace once more "By this time, I was burned up. reigned over the American Peace I pulled out my credential, wrote Mobilization. But not for long out another request on the spot; I'm going back to Michigan and personally handed it to the told those birds this - and I'm chairman, who then handed it going to spread the word as far again to the Rev. Thompson, who. as I can among the 500,000 CIC vate conference with Field, the members there about what kind of

fake convention this was." Mazey also gave some of his.

impressions about the composition "Some 'peoples' convention! We of the convention, its program heard Congressman Marcantonio and sponsors. we heard Paul Robeson sing, we

**British 'Democracy'** In Operation

After securing the arrest of six leading strikers, British Labor Minister Ernest Bevin on April 4th broke a strike of 6,000 engineers apprentices in the Manchester district, England, with a threat of imprisonment, according to a London dispatch in the New York TIMES, April 5.

The dispatch further states: 'Several times since the outbreak of war, persons have been arrested for absenting themselves from war work, but until now Labor Minister Ernest Bevin has avoided arresting actual strikers."

Stalinists have been pushing, there was a great big applause.

WAR MONGERS

ing there as an invited speaker? He gave a big speech about what the Soviet Union is doing for peace. The American Peace Mob-"I guess I was getting a little illation says it's against sending

> eign soil. "But Lamont got a hand when he said that the Soviet Union and the United States ought to sign a pact to join together against Japanese aggression. And these same people will be telling us tomorrow, if such a pact is signed, that we ought to support this government in a war against Japan because it will help de-

whole outfit is just another Stal-'nist 'front' organ'zation. The whole thing smelled like this morning's Daily Worker. Most of the peakers and leading figures were versons known for years to be lose to the Stalinist movement. "The whole bureaucratic, highhanded way in which this conven-

ion was run smacked of the kind of thing we've long since learned vas characteristic of the Stalinists in the trade unions. "This kind of movement can never fight for democracy here at home. It can never stop war. All it can do is confuse and mislead the workers, and discredit and disorient the antiwar fight."

taken by LaGuardia last week. This was the city administration's request to the state Supreme Court to issue a judgment upholding LaGuardia's contention | ible to no one and have unlimited that the city cannot legally nepowers. gotiate or continue to recognize

any contract with any union of

27,000 TWU-CIO workers on the subways, this move also strikes at the Railroad Brotherhoods and the AFL. The subways are under collective bargaining contracts with the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, the Brotherhood of Railway Signalmen and Local 65 of the AFL Technical Engineers Union, in addition to the TWU closed-shop contracts which expire

through the negotiation of con-The powerful AFL New York tracts which will define the Central Trades and Labor Council terms and conditions under went on record last week opposing which the employes shall the infamous Wicks bill, just a work." few days before a public hearing If the court grants the ruling on the bill was held Monday at demanded by LaGuardia, it would

the state capital, Albany. mean that not merely the transi Philip Murray, president of the workers, but tens of thousands o CIO, personally had announced municipal, county and state em that the national organization has ploves under civil service statu hrown its backing behind the subway workers. Murray made public ing rights.

a letter he sent to LaGuardia. WOULD OUTLAW STRIKES challenging LaGuardia's refusal LaGuardia's letter of April to engage in collective bargaining o John H. Delaney, transporta with the subway workers. tion board chairman, indicate LaGuardia is asking the court to LaGuardia's game. This letter dec rule that it has no authority or lared in part: power, under the state civil serv-

"The city does not and canno ice laws, to carry out the terms recognize the right of any group of the existing union contracts to strike against the city. (signed before the city took over

the subways) or to enter into new "An employe improperly leav ones. LaGuardia wants the court ing his employment without au to rule that the city cannot make thority is subject to charges and any union agreements with its may be dismissed from service employes which would involve the thereby losing not only his posiquestions of the closed or union tion and his seniority, but also shop, wages, hours, working con- his pension rights. The Board of ditions, seniority, promotions, Transportation cannot re-employ hiring and firing. a discharged employe except in Murray charged in his letter accordance with the provisions of

Another union-busting step was | that the city wishes to place the | the Civil Service Law. Many subway workers completely under causes of dismissal subsequently the domination of the three ap- disqualify an applicant from takpointive/members of the Board of ing another civil service examina-Transportation, who are respons- tion."

> LAGUARDIA RETREATED BEFORE

"To deny the employes of LaGuardia used similar threats this board the right of collecjust a little over a year ago when tive bargaining in respect to he was preparing to complete unitheir wages, hours and workfication of the subway and eleving conditions," Murray assertated systems under municipal. ed. "is to place them at the ownership. He then tried to abromercy of three men with ungate the closed shop agreements which the TWU had won from "I know of no law, and I am

the private utilities. But the stern stand of the TWU 'n March 1940, backed by a decisive strike vote, forced LaGuardia to retreat then. He had to agree o assume the existing contracts pending court decisions invalidatng any given section. A decision of the state Court of Appeals at hat time upheld the CIO's closed hop agreement on the BMT subvay lines despite the city's conention that it had an interest in the lines.

#### **HE SERVES BANKERS**

In his present union-busting moves, LaGuardia is serving the would be denied collective bargain | same bankers at whose behest he ook over the subways.

> The financiers were anxious for he city to salvage their loans and holdings in the bankrupted 'ransit corporations which they had looted for many decades. La-Guardia guaranteed the bankers 'he colossal sum of \$362,000,000 in payment for these dilapidated and bankrupted transit systems.

> He added the additional service of attempting to smash the powerful TWU. His intent was - and 's -- to reduce wages and employment on the transit systems and thus assure bigger and more regular payments to the bankers.

The termination of the TWU subway contracts on June 30 has provided LaGuardia with the opportunity for opening the throttle wide in his union-smashing campaign. He calculates that he is now in a better position to sucressfully accomplish what he failed to do during the last two years. For two years LaGuardia has been sponsoring bills before the state legislature calculated to strangle the union rights of the transit workers with a legal noose. He was behind the Wicks Civil Service bill of 1939 which placed the employes on the cityowned transit lines under a civil service status interpreted by La-Guardia to rule out unions.

×,



Mayor's Latest Moves Strike At AFL Unions As Well As CIO;

Subway Workesrs Prepare For Showdown On June 30th

limited power.

certain that you can point to

none, which prohibits the all-

powerful Board of Transporta-

tion from dealing with labor

as it does with steel, coal and

other corporations, namely,

the subway workers. While directed primarily at the TOMORROW'S "What was Corliss Lamont do-

American troops to fight on for-June 30.

fend the Soviet Union! "The plain truth is that this

### STALINIST RUNAROUND

"The chairman gave me a very vasive answer to my question. He tried to say he hadn't heard me - and I was shouting at the top of my voice just a few feet rom him. Then he told me to put my request in writing. "Well, I've been to a lot of big union conventions, but if against war. the chairman of any of those conventions had told any delegate who wanted to speak on make some announcements over

heard that well-known Stalin MAINLY BOURGEOIS stonge, Corlias Lamont, tell all PACIFISTS

about how the Soviet Union was "I never saw any convention not in Hitler's camp and 'makes like that. Anybody could come in pacts with both sides.' But we It was top-heavy with middle didn't hear one authentic voice class and professional people. Of from people, the real people, the the 4,200 delegates, only 1700 were workers like me who had come claimed from trade unions, and hundreds of miles thinking we the biggest single groups of these were going to discuss and draw were from office, professional and up a program which would be government employes unions. really effective in the fight There were over 1,000 delegates claiming to represent professional "Finally, someone started to 'peace' groups, the kind that how

> the first real pressure. A PHONEY PROGRAM

> > "I'm not saying there were not

lot of good union elements

following. But these workers sur-

ely dian't come out of this merry-

go-round affair with any program

that they could honestly offer to

the workers as a program which

could actually put a stop to war.

"The only thing they added to

the ideas that were in the Call

they issued before the convention,

was the slogan, "The Yanks Are

Still Not Coming.' That had

about as much sense as the old

slogan which the Stalinists used

to sling around the unions, 'The

"If any worker wanted to

understand what causes wars,

and how wars are an inevitable

product of the economic and

social system, and how you

stop wars, he didn't get a

chance to learn it at this con-

"As for this being a 'peoples'

meeting, that's plain hooey. You

workers, any union say, where the

mention of the name of a book

about the Soviet Union will start

Yanks Are Not Coming.'

vention.

say.

Know what's going on . . . Understand what's going on ...

Don't miss an issue—SUBSCRIBE!

## Read THE MILITANT every week

Six months - \$1.00

One year - \$2.00

(Combination offer: 1 year of THE MILITANT and 1 year of the monthly magazine, FOURTH INTERNATIONAL-\$3.00)

#### \_\_CLIP AND MAIL THIS COUPON NOW

#### The Militant 116 University Place New York City

I enclose — Please send my subscription to:"

Address

No Longer Backing Any Colored Man For City Commission Race; Back Machines

#### By GEORGE BREITMAN

Newark Negro "Leaders"

**Drop** Colored Candidate

#### (Socialist Workers Party Candidate for City Commission)

Every colored worker acquainted with what goes on in | CIO ENDORSES HIS BILLS Newark's City Hall knows that he has no friends there. That is why every time elections come around, there is a rumbling mong the masses, and the beginning of organization to oppose he City Hall machines and to elect an independent colored candidate as Commissioner.

It is always at this point that the so-called colored "leaders" ump into the picture and try to head off or break up an indefor peace and then fold up under pendent colored political movement.

Early in this campaign several Negroes announced their candidacy. The different colored organizations began to stress the necessity of fighting for the election of a colored Commissioner. Talk began to spread about uniting the different groups behind one candidate by hoding a citythere, who did represent a genuine wide conference representative of (he felt he couldn't win anyway, the organizations. so why run?). Then the lawyers and doctors Immediately, these "leaders'

and wardheelers stepped in. scattered to the wind, dropping the idea of a campaign for an in-Holding one or two conferences dependent colored candidate like representative only of themselves. a hot stone and scurried off to and supported by the colored press offer their services to the various they decided to push the candiboss political machines. dacy of Rev. William P. Hayes, And so we see the strange pica safe and sane conservative

whose only role in political life ture of the so-called leaders of has been to oppose the \$21,000,000 the colored race deserting the relief referendum of 1929 at a movement to place a colored man time when defeat of the measure on the Commission and flocking would have meant starvation for to the aid of the politicians who have kicked the Negroes around

Hayes, said these leaders, would for so many years. And we see the strange picture intagonize no one, and so everyof the colored press, which claims one would get behind him. None of the City Hall factions would to be the voice of the colored race oppose him (because he wouldn't and which a month ago printed oppose them). So all the colored long editorials on the need of seward heelers could support him curing colored representation on at the same time they supported the Commission, now filling its their individual factions. The fact columns with article after article that Hayes did not stand for any on the lily-white politicians and

> printing virtually nothing on the colored candidates; even when something significant occurs on

> > The two outstanding colored candidates are William E. Bohan-Bohannan is a trade unionist

This went on until about two and member of the CIO, endorsed up a big ovation. Well, when one weeks ago when Hayes left them by some unions and running on the candidacy of Franklin, head the limited time left to fully moof the speakers referred to the Dean of Canterbury's book, 'The holding the bag by declaring that the working class slogan of "Make of the department which bars Soviet Power,' which I know the he was too busy in the church Newark a 100% Union Town." His them.

campaign is important because it illustrates that a colored candidate can get support of white workers if he presents a platform in their interests as well as in the interests of the colored workers.

As an example of this, one can point not only to endorsement of Bohannan by unions of white and colored workers, but also to the action by the Greater Newark In dustrial Union Council, central CIO body, just last week when this powerful body of white and colored workers voted to endorse the two "Bohannan Equal Rights Bills" to punish discrimination against Negroes in employment by companies dealing with the city and by proprietors of public places. A few examples from the press will illustrate the hopelessness of

expecting any independent leader ship from them in this campaign: In February, Editor Clark of the Guardian assailed Vincent Murphy, at present Commission er, for not doing anything for the colored people who had supported him as "labor's choice" four years ago, and warning him he need not

expect their support in this cam paign, even if he had just hired a second colored employee. In March, Murphy bought some space in the Guardian. Early in April there was an account of a meet ing on behalf of Murphy and list ed among the speakers was nonother than Editor Clark!

The Herald News fully support ed the move to draft Hayes because of the terrible conditions among the Negroes these last four years. Yet it supports the candi-

dacy of Ellenstein, Franklin and Murphy who constituted a major ity of the Commission in office

these last four years! The Afro-American has long demanded the admission of colored doctors and nurses to the City Hospital. Yet it today supports

MAY BOOMERANG

But LaGuardia's .efforts may well prove a boomerang. In his desperation, he has become so openly vicious and anti-labor that even the most conservative labor bodies may be forced out of selfprotection, to come out in opposition to him. In addition, La-Guardia is receiving such. eager and unrestrained support from the most reactionary papers, including the yellow Hearst press, and from the arch-reactionary financial and business groups, that his motives are becoming increasingly suspect among the millions of New York City's working class population.

It is these workers who can determine the final outcome of the impending subway strike. The immediate problem of the TWU is to transform the present passive sympathy of these workers into active and direct material support.

UNION PAPER NEEDED

The TWU faces a severe handirap in that it is denied any genuine voice in the boss-controlled daily press and is rigidly restricted in the use of the radio. The only practical way in which the union can overcome this handicap 's to publish and circulate its now public daily paper before and during a strike.

The need for such a paper, which can reach and arouse the broad strata of workers and give an immediate reply to the daily slanders of LaGuardia and the boss press, is more urgent than ever.' LaGuardia's drive has already reached a furious tempo. The showdown is approaching

with extreme rapidity. The TWU must use every possible means in bilize mass sentiment behind its momentous struggle.

have to change the system to "They talked about fighting for femocracy within the armed particular program, they said, orces, but how, they failed to

housands.

colored press.

was in his favor.

And so all the other colored

candidates, and all the working their campaign.

while Hayes' was built up by the nan and Dr. Andrew V. Morris.

show me any ordinary meeting of class candidates were ignored and their campaigns played down.

#### APRIL 19, 1941

THE MILITANT,



The biggest thing about the Ford strike was the miserable failure of Ford, Bennett and Marshall to preserve the open shop by provoking a race riot between the Negro and white workers. The fact stands out, big and proud, that the overwhelming majority of the 12,000 Negro workers in the plant, in spite of a barrage of antiunion, pro-Ford threats and promises, went with their class.

Ford found that he could not use the Negro workers to break the strike, for a good 80% or more of them saw through his trick, resisted the pressure of many of their "leaders" and went out with the union.

In order to preserve the remnants of this vicious plan, that would have put back the cause of the Negro workers for many years, Ford and his assistants had to depend on a comparatively small number of Negroes who were brought into the plant during the last month from the South.

These Negroes, not at all acquainted with what was going on, never having had the opportunity to hear the arguments of the union, in no way familiar with Ford's anti-union, anti-Negro scheme, were all he had to depend on when the strike actually began.

The other Negroes, the workers who have suffered under the Ford speed-up, spy system and low wage rate for many years-the real Ford Negro workers-knew where their best interests lay: with the union.

So although Ford did have a small group of Negroes to use for his scheme, and he certainly did use them in every way he could, he could not break the strike, nor arouse a spirit of white chauvinism in the union members. Everyone involved in the situation could see that the great bulk of the Negro workers were fighting with the union, not against it.

Incidentally, those Negroes who fell for and helped to spread the pro-Ford propaganda before the strike, must have felt pretty cheap to see how Ford and the boss press consciously directed so much of their publicity toward making it appear that the strike was a race conflict, rather than a struggle of workers of all races for improved working conditions.

The Negro Ford workers did their full share in saving the day for the union at Ford's. It is up to the white workers in the labor movement now to recognize that they need the full support of the Negroes in the coming struggles and to raise high on their banners the demand for full equality for their colored brothers.

#### The Crummiest Speech

The distinction of having made the worst speech of the year this far belongs to the president of Tuskegee Institute, F. D. Patterson, who <sup>2</sup> declared before the National Congress of Colored Parents and Teachers: 1 to enoisivore

"We are asking for a lot of things that are not of immediate importance though they aim at noteworthy ideals. One that is of apparent import to a lot of people is that we should be integrated in companies and regiments with white soldiers, claiming that the discrimination of the nation's soldiers on the grounds of color and race is a breach of democratic procedure.

'All that is admirable, but what we should



#### By WALTER ROURKE

MEXICO CITY-The organizer and chief of the May 24, 1940 unsuccessful attack on Trotsky's life is free on bail. Yes, the leader of the band of Stalin's professional murderers which kidnapped Trotsky's secretary-guard, Robert Sheldon Harte, fired two shots through his brain and hid his lime-covered body in a shallow grave, is "cleared" of the murder charge because of 'lack of evidence." David Alfaro Siqueiros, GPU agent with a murderous record of international service to the Borgia of the Kremlin, is free to continue his terrorist work against Stalin's enemies.

On Wednesday, March 26, two judges out of three voted in favor of dropping the murder charge because no "concrete" evidence could be shown that he pulled the fatal trigger. This decision followed a refusal by the prosecution to oppose the petition of Siqueiros' counsel.

In Mexico City there is scarcely a person to be found-even among the Stalinists — who explains Siqueiros' liberation by 2. Harte was an accomplice and inything except bribery. The press was killed because of fear he is either hostile and ironical about would talk: 3. Harte was killed the decision or, at best, non-comin vengeance by order of Trotsky mittal and "impartial" who organized a Fifth Column to As Natalia Trotsky observes, in find and murder him. spite of the "lack of concrete evi-

The first "hypothesis" can only dence" there remain the bullet ridden bedroom and beds: there be brushed aside as too ridiculous to bother discussing. The secremains the record of Trotsky's wounded grandson; above all ond and third "hypotheses" constitute what is left of the original there remains the corpse of Shel-

"self-assault" theory. They are the don Harte, Siqueiros' victim. There remains the recorded teslatest attempt to slander Harte imony of the women spies hired and Trotsky. When seen in relaand paid by Siqueiros to report tion to the latest inventions of on the life in Trotsky's house in Jacson - the murderer of Trot-Coyoacan; they worked their way sky — one understands the story into confidence of the police and that the GPU would like to estabin various ways prevented inter- lish: "Harte was killed by Trotference with the attack on the sky; Trotsky was killed by one night of May 24th. of his secretaries!"

Jacson stated last Friday that Preserved in the court records he was a secretary to Trotsky! s the testimony of captured participants in the attack, proving Just how he hopes to establish that Siqueiros supplied them with such a fantastic tale remains to be seen. When he was first quespolice uniforms and arms for tioned, in the weeks after he asheir assignment. sassinated Trotsky on Agust 20,

SIQUEIROS' ADMISSIONS The fact persists that Siqueiros'

wife, Angelica Arenal, and Antonio Pujol bought the cot which was to be Harte's death-bed and then delivered it personally to the lonely hut where Harte, after being kidnapped, was killed. Likeagent of Stalin.wise remains the fact that Siquei-

in EL POPULAR itself!

True to Stalin's technique, not

only do his gunmen murder but

they also slander. Aided by their

allies in LA VOZ DE MEXICO

(official C. P. organ) and their

agents in EL POPULAR (Tole-

dano-controlled organ), they first

developed the theory of "self as-

sault." "Trotsky organized the as-

sault himself in order to discredit

Mexico and help the reaction-

Defeated in this attempt when

Trotsky demonstrated its absurd-

ity, they retreated to the theory

of Harte's complicity. "Trotsky's

own guard betrayed him," they

declared hypocritically, "Harte op-

ened the door and then disappear-

ed." Then Harte's body was found

And still they slander, each

with Hit'er that the more absurd

the lie, the more likely are people

queiros's lawyer, made a statement

congratulating the prosecuting at-

torney for his "civic virtue" when

of the murder charge. He offered

three "hypotheses" on the murder

and belied this falsification.

LIE UPON LIE

aries,," they lied.

hut.

THE GPU'S NEW PLAN ros, according to his own admission paid the "caretaker" of this

In defense, Siqueiros pretends were carried out when he was unto have given orders "not to kill der the effects of a "strange lianyone." Thus by his own admission he was in command of the quid" injected by order of the pol- to open the gates for him; the

## Connection Between Siqueiros and Jacson

#### By NATALIA SEDOV TROTSKY

and not without reason because The unsuccessful attempt of the terrorist Siqueiros against he life of Leon Trotsky on May 24, 1940 was connected directly inanimate objects which do not lie and which it is impossible to with and led to the bloody crime committed by the terrorist 'Jacson" on August 20, 1940. Both crimes were perpetrated by circumvent, testify against him. one and the same organization called the GPU which is inter-I shall not dwell on the fact national in its character and which has at its disposal a mighty that doors, windows, walls, in all apparatus and unlimited resources. Both of the terrorists menthe rooms through which the critioned above are agents of this organization of Stalin's. minals passed, were riddled with bullets. In the door leading to

This is clear-and nobody in the whole world doubts it. Everything to the contrary which is stated in this connection, is our bedroom sixty bullet holes said in order not to say that which really is, in other words, a lie, and a very deliberate lie. The infamous speech delivered by the attorney of Siqueiros before the been relieved by another guard tribunal called upon to judge, i.e., and remained at his post only acto analyze the crime. Impartially cidentally because the comrade and to render its highly compescheduled to relieve him was tent verdict on the basis of a late. The gang captured Bob thorough investigation of all the Sheldon Harte like it captured the

evidence - this speech rings like police guard outside and felt it vicious mockery of the investiself the masters of the situation. gation, of the court, of the blindfolded judges and of public opi- WAS JACSON THE

quent conduct.

Siqueiros in his testimony lies

and seeks to confuse. But his mi-

litary actions on the terrain o

our premises are quite clear and

"The preparation and the execu-

UNIDENTIFIED

fortunately the identity of this

invidual was not established by

The connection between the two "FRENCHMAN"? rimes is incontestable. The court During the original examina did not take this connection into | tion in Coyoacan of the captured account. "Jacson" succeeded in members of the gang, the defen accomplishing what his predeces- dants testified to the presence sor Sigueiros failed to do --- fail- among them of a foreigner who ed owing to a fortunate accident. spoke with a French accent. Un

JACSON'S FIRST ROLE: TO OPEN THE GATES

the investigation nor was he ap "Jacson" also participated in prehended. The defendants gave the first attack: he devoted three the same testimony during a subto four months prior to the atsequent examination. But not tack of May 24 to studying our enough attention was paid to this gates and the methods of our dedetail. The defendants testified fense when the gates were openthat they had not seen this ed. He would ride up to the gates "Frenchman" prior to the attack in an automobile, ring the bell, and they did not know him. ask questions of this or that com-In this there is nothing strange rade, call him out, engage him According to the plan of the conin conversation on the street in spiracy they were not intended

nion.

front of the locked gates or tranto know him. The more respon smit something, for example, an sible the task of a member of a assembly kit of a toy plane for terrorist organization, the less our grandson, etc., and then must he be known to the rank would leave immediately. and-file associates. This could This was repeated systematical have been - this was "Jacson. ly. The fact is that he did not This supposition is confirmed once request an interview with further also by "Jacson's" subse 1940, he pretended to be a dis-

L. D. and made no attempt whatillusioned sympathizer whom ever to enter the patio. He con-Trotsky had asked to kill Stalin. fined himself to the gates. At this In the subsequent questioning constage of the joint plan with Siducted by Trotsky's attorney, Alqueiros this was entirely suffibert Goldman, Jacson was shown cient for him. Nothing else interto be an inconsistent liar and an logical. In his book "The Cominested him. He needed the gates. tern and the GPU," the victim of

His role in this bloody conspiracy the attempt wrote the following came down to this: open the gates Jacson is trying to eliminate at the necessary moment. The tion are remarkable in their all this revealing testimony by role, it will be observed, was small

scope, thorough planning and saying that these questionings, but nevertheless central: to open painstaking care. The terrorists the gates for Siqueiros were perfectly acquainted with

He thus accustomed our guards the layout of the premises and the internal life. (When "Jacson" ang. And who, then, gave the ice. This liquid, he says, prevent- guards knew him as the husband was searched a pencil sketch

The Atlantic GPU keeps silent on this point

were left. The door to the bed-

room was literally left a sieve.

The angle at which the shots

were fired proves incontestably

that eight bullets which left traces

in the wall at the head of the

two beds, and which penetrated

both mattresses in four places.

and lodged themselves in the

door under the beds, could have

been fired only inside the bed-

There is also the testimony of

he cartridge shells found on the

loor, the two traces in the blan-

tets with singed bindings and

also the wounded foot of our

grandson. No speech of the clever-

est attorney, no lies and pretexts

of the criminal can refute the

mute, inanimate evidence of the

saping bullet holes left behind by

the political murderers. The court

of Covoacan saw all this, when

it visited our house and conduct-

ed its investigation carefully and

thoroughly. But this was not

taken into account by the Corte

Penal Primero. (The court to

which the case was transferred).

And in this circumstance is hid-

len the malice and the premedita-

tion of the decision which freed

MEXICAN PUBLIC OPINION

KNOWS WHAT HAPPENED

The public opinion of Mexico

has been aroused by the court's

order. The entire press speaks

ronically of the conditional free-

ing of the criminal and terrorist,

enumerating all his crimes. The

'ie already meets with no cred-

nce. And history will take every-

hing into account, will disclose

everything, will deepen all the

ircumstances relating to the case,

all the details, cast light on its

olubly connected crimes of the

he existence of such institution

ler and Stalin personify this black

he terrorist on bail.

room itself.

By JOAD HAWKINS

BALTIMORE, Md.-Each time the German blockade sinks a British freighter, another trainload of goods bound for the war piles up at the rail and steamship terminals here. Range up and down the 127 miles of our waterfront and see for yourselves, first hand, the effects of the Battle of the Atlantic - docks and warehouses groaning under a staggering load of finished and semifinished products shipped in by rail.

**Baltimore** And

The Battle Of

Most of it comes from the steel and industrial, centers of western Pennsylvania and the Middle West. Formerly, when warehouses and wharves were crowded, box cars were shunted onto sidings to be unloaded when the ships came in. But now fewer and fewer ships come in and the box cars are sorely needed elsewhere.

Motor trucks built in Michigan for the French Government before it collapsed are piled up threedeep on the docks - all crated up and no place to go. It won't be long before this moist climate begins to coat all these precious war materials with rust. Someone is going to lose a lot of money unless the local congestion is broken up by the breaking of the German blockade. It's enough to wring the heart of Baltimore's shippers and munitions makers - enough to wring out of their mouths a long pealing war cry.

Last month 50 ships from England, including some of those the British Government swiped from Belgium, Holland, Norway and Greece, steamed into Baltimore Harbor - far too few to carry away much of the piles of war materials on our docks. Before the month is over several of those ships will be sent plunging below the waves by German submarines and bombers. It's dollars to doughnuts that 50 ships from England won't steam up the Patapsco River next month. Foreign trade, reports the Baltimore Sun, for the period of January through March of this year, amounted to \$61,728,201 - a drop from \$74,743,681 for the same period last year. Exports dropped. 36%. This great port is faced with strangulation and the blight of stagnation!

#### **Baltimore's Bosses Need War**

Before this war started Baltimore civic associations could boast that the city had grown to the status of a world port - second in the nation, sixth in the world - surpassing Osaka, Antwerp, Hamburg, Philadelphia, San Francisco and a dozen other more widely known port cities. The funny thing about it is that the local publicity hounds were right. You may be sure from this that the local big shots will set up a terrific holler for war in order to clear up the mess in Baltimore Harbor.

To incoming industrialists and shippers the political side sweep away the falcity fathers point as inducements to Baltimore's sifications and once again reveal open-shop conditions, low wages and fine indushe impeccable political activity trial and shipping facilities. To business men of the victim of these two indisthey talk in a Yankee accent; but to the working class population of the city they talk in a Southern accent - encouraging that indigenous feeling Only by the turn of our epoch that Baltimore is, after all, just a grown-up Southtowards black reaction permits ern town where everyone knows everyone else. (Mister, can you introduce me to all as the GPU and the Gestapo. Hitthem?) The result has been that the workers of the city have only now begun to feel their way toward class consciousness. Confronted with an unorganized, disoriented working population, the stingy city fathers and industrialists haven't had to shell out much money for civic improvements. decent wages and housing, adequate unemployment relief or WPA.

#### - 5

be concerned with at the moment is an opportunity to serve in any capacity ...

"We should stop fretting too much about discrimination, and focus our attention on getting an opportunity on a basis of equality."

He isn't aroused about Ahe Negro soldiers being placed in separate regiments where they can be more easily used as suicide squads and as labor battalions.

That's what he's doing-serving "in any capacity." Nothing too low or foul for Patterson.

#### **Discrimination** Leaislation

Recently two bills pertaining to discrimination against Negroes in employment were passed.

One, in New York, amends the civil rights law and penal law to "make it unlawful for any person, firm, or corporation engaged to any extent whatsoever in the production, manufacture or distribution of military or naval material, equipment or supplies for the state of New York or for the federal government to refuse to employ any person in any capacity on account of the race, color or creed of such persons." This measure is now awaiting the signature of the governor.

The other bill, already signed by the governor and now a law, was passed by the Kansas Legislature. It prohibits any labor union in the state from being certified as a bargaining agency if it "discriminates against, bars or excludes from its membership any person because of race or color."

It is not hard to make predictions about these bills. The New York bill will be signed and made a law too. But it, won't mean a thing so far as getting jobs for the Negroes. The employers will just stop saying they refuse to hire Negroes; they will just not hire them. And the Negro people will still have to continue their struggle to force open the doors of industry.

The Kansas law also will not help the Negroes. It will not change the attitude of those reactionary AFL union leaders who now bar them from admission to unions. All it will do is enable the employers, who are really responsible for the lily-white ideas of their labor agents, to divert attention from their refusal to hire Negroes. And it will offer a handle to employers to attack and break up unions.

#### Help Publish Our Pamphlets

The two pamphlets we have prepared on the struggle of the Negroes to get equal rights in the army and jobs in the war industries are still awaiting publication. The only hitch is the money necessary. We urge readers who would like to see their publication to send a contribution, no matter how large or how small to us, c|o Albert Parker, 116 University Pl., New York, N. Y.

ed him from knowing what he of Sylvia who was a member of the plan of our house was found orders to kidnap Harte and later was saying and signing.

o kill him? What is the GPU's plan to free him a sympathizer of our organ-The purpose of the attack? To Jacson? Why does he now say ization. Some of the comrades of ros - N.S.T.). They obtained pol discover documents, says Siqueithat he was a "secretary"? Per our defense guard visited Sylvia ice uniforms, weapons, an electric ros. The fact that there was a haps they plan to implicate Trot- and consequently visited him also. saw, rope ladders, etc. They succomplete lack of evidence of a search for documents daunts sky's actual secretaries in the If during the night of May 24, crime. Perhaps they plan to say after a four-month long experineither Siqueiros nor the judges. Not a sheet of paper was disturbed that Jacson killed Trotsky be- ment with having the gates op- lyzed the guard inside with a corin the room where Trotsky's ar- cause Trotsky threatened to have ened for him, "Jacson" rode up rect strategy of machine-gun firehim killed as he had "ordered at 4 A. M. to the house as usual. chives were kept although the at-Harte killed." No possibility is although not at the usual hour, room, directed a cross-fire with ackers passed thru this room.

The purpose of the hundreds of too grotesque for the GPU to use. but with a warning message shots fired from the machine guns And for a judge who would say immediately to inform about a five minutes, hurled incendiary that shots fired into a victim's bed danger threatening L. D. — he of his band? "Psychological" reaare fired "with psychological in- would in that case have had the sons says the judges - more cyntent" — for such a judge the ac- gates opened for him: the GPU ically than Siqueiros himself. crediting of almost any fantasy is gang in this way gained entry to Upon leaving prison, Siqueiros said: "Gentlemen, I find myself possible. The GPU is operating on the premises.

very much indebted to the news- the theory that if cynical and ob- The slander circulated by the vious lies plus huge bribes suc- GPU concerning Bob Sheldon papers EL POPULAR and EL NAceeded in freeing Siqueiros, so Harte and the latter's agreement CIONAL for helping me in a case of conscience more than a case of may they free his colleague, Jac- with the head of the gang, Siqueilaw." This report was published son. ros, is a lie. Harte was to have

**A New Pioneer Publishers Pamphlet** 

our organization, and considered according to the duped Sylvia

reaction. The Hitler-Stalin alli-Ageloff, it was made for Siquei ance crowns the obscurantism of the Middle Ages raised to the n-th oower. Stalin has destroyed the entire generation of the October ceeded completely in tying up the revolution and he has gone even police guard outside: they para further. Here is what Ignace Reiss they penetrated into the victim's

lie. He declared that he issued to

was not an organized one.

This is clear to everybody.

had to say in this connection in note on Slutsky, an important unctionary of the GPU:

3PU.

impunity for a period of three to "In May 1937, Slutsky under he influence of some fresh impresbombs and left the arena of attack without leaving a trace behind ions became frank and bitterly Such an undertaking is beyond complained that the Leningrad the resources of a private group Komsomols who faced the firing Observable here is tradition, train squads went to their death with ing, great resources, a careful sel ection of executors. This is the the cry: Long Live Trotsky." work of the GPU." (Leon Trotsky. Among them might have been "The Comintern and the GPU.") our grandchildren. "Long Live

SIQUEIROS' TESTIMONY Trotsky!" This is the fundamental ALONE DAMNS HIM reason for the crimes of Stalin. Siqueiros seeks to confuse and Mexico City, D. F.

his gang an instruction: "Not to \*\*\*\*\*\* kill." At the same time he says that he had nothing in common Subscribe to the with the gang and was not the "Fourth International" commander of the gang; that he did not enter the patio and that ..... the detachment of twenty men



#### It's War Or Groaning Docks

"But," says a New York comrade to me recently, "I thought Baltimore was a suburb of Washington, D. C." The reverse, comrade, is true; certainly as far as Baltimore shippers and manufacturers are concerned. They can hot foot it forty miles down to the nation's capital faster than any one to demand that American ships start sailing for England under convoy of the American Navy. The Baltimore Sun, formerly a bit stupid as far as understanding the precise needs of American imperialism, now transmits the groaning of the docks and the hollering of the imperialists:

"Port interests see the opening of the Red Sea to American-flag ships as a major step to ease the burden on British shipping. They also favor the turning over of ten Coast Guard cutters for escort duty."

Coast Guard cutters today, tomorrow battlewagons. These port interests aren't a bit concerned about saving British shipping or American "democracy." What they are worried about is all that stuff piling up on the docks along the Patapsco River.

In his usual terse manner, Samuel I. Brooks of the Pittsburgh Courier sums up the Ethiopian situation in three sentences:

"Native revolt against Italy is spreading in Ethiopia. Armed by the once indifferent British, the warriors of Haile Selassie are smiting the Italians hip and thigh. This will be good practice for running out the British when Mussolini's men abandon the territory."

A columnist in the Evansville Argus recently asked an appropriate question of Wendell Willkie. He wanted to know why Willkie didn't go on a tour of the Negro quarters in our American cities and go back to Congress and make a report on that. Willkie may answer the remarks that the Nazi leaders make about him, but we're quite sure that he won't answer this one.

The Assassination

Price 15c time more fantastically, believing to accept it. Federico Sodi, Si-**Pioneer Publishers** he refused to oppose the dropping New York, New York 116 University Place ..... of Harte: 1. Harte was killed by

of Leon Trotsky The Proofs of Stalin's Guilt **By ALBERT GOLDMAN** 

Attorney for Leon Trotsky and Natalia Sedov Trotsky

#### THE MILITANT

APRIL 19, 1941



6—

1. No union fig-leaves for government strikebreaking. Demand that trade union officials resign from all posts in the government, including the OPM and the National Mediation Board.

2. Organize the picket lines for allout militant defense against the thuggery of company hoodlums and government cops.

3. Organize Union Defense Guards to protect the picket lines and union halls against 'law and order committees,' and all other anti-labor bands.

4. Call an immediate halt to all acts of hostility between the AFL and CIO which serve the bosses' strikebreaking.

5. Demand the unification of the AFL and CIO on the basis of preserving and extending the industrial form of organization.

6. Independent working class political action. Build an Independent Labor Party.

7. Expropriate the war industries and operate them under workers' control.

### Labor On The March

The strike wave appears to be receding. But not because of boss and government threats! The strikes, above all the strikes against Bethlehem and Ford, have brought in their wake "peaceful" gains for many workers. The raises in the steel industry are the most outstanding, but not the only example, of this process: having seen that the workers are ready to battle, the bosses are making some concessions. The main strike now on, in the bituminous coal industry, is certain to be settled for the Northern and Western mines with a victory for the union, limiting the arena of further conflict to part of the Southern mines. This is certain to be followed by a similar settlement for the anthracite miners. The wage raises in steel and coal give the union the whip hand in the negotiations with General Motors and, since the UAW leadership is more than anxious to settle for partial concessions, they will bring heavy pressure to settle without a strike. Thus the strike wave of the last month is about over. At the same time, however, the demand for wage increases is becoming more and more widespread. The bourgeois commentators already concede that the steel raises pave the way for raises in steel fabricating plants. A hike in wages in General Motors sets the stage for the negotiations with Ford, later with Chrysler. We see by the papers that even one of Hillman's locals, Local 169 of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, is demanding a 25 per cent wage increase from New York manufacturers of boy's clothes! It is a foregone conclusion that all crafts in the shipyards will seek substantial wage raises in the forthcoming "stabilization" meetings arranged by Hillman. These raises will inspire workers everywhere to do likewise. We confidently predict in advance that the bosses will resist the general demands for wage increases and out of the conflict will come a new strike wave. For labor is on the march. In the coming months the workers will find inspiration in the victories they have chalked up in the past strike wave. The most sketchy balance sheet shows how considerable these victories have been. The workers have demonstrated that the biggest plant of all, Ford's, can be closed down by militant picket lines; some 100,000 auto workers have thereby been added to the ranks of unionism. Rising union strength in steel is now an unquestionable fact: most of the Bethlehem Steel workers can now be listed as union men, veterans of the Johnstown, Bethlehem and Lackawanna strikes; and the SWOC lodges in the U.S. Steel plants are far more powerful today than they were even a few months ago. Less dramatically, but no less surely,the CIO unions in the shipyards, electrical manufacturing, and other fields have grown substantially. Perhaps most important of all, is the training in struggle which great masses of rank and file workers have experienced in these battles. There is no substitute for the school of the picket line. There the workers learn what their united strength concretely means. There they learn the limits of the bosses' power. There they learn that glib negotiators get nowhere except as the picket line gets results. There, too, they learn that much that they win on the picket line may be given away in negotiations by union officials who, ignoring or failing to understand the power of the workers behind them, crack under boss pressure. A body of union wisdom is gathered on the picket lines and strikers' meetings, which is not set down in books but is, nevertheless indelibly printed on the minds of the workers, for use and extension in the next period of struggle.

Out of all these successes arise the impetus for the coming battles. The workers of this country have a renewed confidence today, thanks to the victories won in struggle during the last weeks.

One of the most important conclusions to be drawn from these struggles is that they have demonstrated again, as 1937 did, the great power of industrial unionism. The major gains have been made by the CIO unions. The right wing of the AFL Executive Council has been chiefly in the limelight as a strikebreaking agency (Ford, International Harvester, Allis-Chalmers). The AFL "Weekly News Service" has few gains to record; its space is devoted to such typical heads: "Green Opposes Defense Strikes." Matthew Woll attempts to smear the CIO's victories with Hitler's brush: "Mr. Woll recalled the fact that Hitler in 'Mein Kampf' said he would nullify America's war efforts by inciting strikes." ("Weekly News Service," April 8.) More than ever, the CIO stands out as the basic trade union movement of the American working class.

By comparison with Woll and Green, the CIO leadership- shines-but only by that comparison. The main differences between the two is that the one is based on the old craft unions, most of them encased in a bureaucratic shell, and the other is based on the great new industrial unions on which no bureaucracy has yet been able to encrust itself permanently. Murray can't get away with what Green still gets away with-that's about the size. of the difference.

The CIO workers fought these strikes with little assistance from the top union officials. The picket lines were left to shift for themselves; the officials had their eyes on Washington and were busy "around the conference table." Much that was won on the picket line was given away at that table. While the picket lines remained calm against "national defense" pressure and the rest of the patriotic ballyhoo, the officials shook with every gust from Washington and the boss press. The union officials served in many cases more as mediators between the strikers and the bosses, rather than as leaders of the workers. These are the facts. Every worker in Ford, Bethlehem, U. S. Steel, knows they are the facts.

With so little assistance from their officials, the workers, nevertheless, have made the gains we have recorded. It would be pleasant to conclude that they can go right on making gains under the same conditions. Unfortunately that isn't true. The employers and the government have also learned from the recent struggles, and will adopt more effective tactics against the coming strikes.

These tactics can be circumvented by the workers-with a class-struggle program and with appropriate leadership. Above this editorial appears our proposed program for the present stage of the struggle; we submit it to the consideration of the workers. It is no panacea. It is but the first step in what the workers must do. And it requires for its execution militants out of the mills and plants, men of the same spirit as the fighting pickets. But without such a program and without such new leadership, the gains made by the workers will not

## War Orders Mirror Who **Controls This Country**

Eighty-five percent of all gov- strikers who "impede national, war propagandists who would ernment war contracts so far is- defense." They point at the fact, have us believe that war producsued have gone to 80 corpora- for instance, that slightly over tion will eliminate most of the tions, according to a survey pub-1,000,000 man-days of labor were unemployment. lished in the current CIO Eco- lost in the whole month of Feb-

nomic Outlook. Two of the leading financial outs.

Contrast this loss of man-days groups, controlling eight corporations, including E. I. du Pont de of labor with the man-days lost Nemours & Co., Bethlehem Steel, due to the "sabotage" committed lacking both training and capac-Remington Arms and General by the monopoly industrialists Motors, have between them gar- and financiers. nered 23 per cent of the total

war orders. 29 corporations hold cording to the CIO Outlook, was 621/2 per cent of the total.

As a result of this extreme Big Business is thus responsible concentration of war production for a loss of over 10,000,000 manin the hands of a few leading corporations, a large portion of the total United States industrial plant is not being used. On the other hand, the few companies getting the contracts have backlogs of orders which cannot be filled in some instances for three employed. and four years.

THE PRESS IS SILENT **ABOUT THIS SABOTAGE!** 

The agents of these leading profits. corporations, in and out of Congress, are calling for drastic the Outlook, show further that war profiteers, and let the worksentences and electrocution for figures give the lie direct to those control.

The employers and governruary due to strikes and lockment, of course, are trying to claim that most of the present unemployed are incapable of working in modern industry, ity. This is so much buncombe, as was proved during the last Unemployment in January, acwar when many hundreds of thousands of women, who had estimated at 10,116,000 workers. never previously even seen the inside of a factory, were absorbed within a few months into days of labor-per day! the industrial machine and cap-If the big capitalists really ably filled the places of the men

wanted to expedite "defense" in the army. production, they would permit all Each day brings forth further the available production facilifacts to re-affirm the contention ties to be used, and thus reabof the Socialist Workers Party sorb a large share of these unthat if the government were honestly intent on fighting fascism, But it is quite evident that they and really wanted to guarantee are interested solely in the dea maximum of war production, fense of their own monopoly war | it would immediately expropriate the war industries, free, produc-The unemployment figures of tion from the restraints of the

measures against labor, going so unemployment rose 12.5 per cent ers operate these industries unfar as to demand savage prison in January over December. These der workers' management and

## **Two Out Of Five Called** For Draft Found Unfit

The present draftees, whose

MAY DAY MEETINGS

May Day 1941 sees America's Sixty Families plunging the United

States into World War II.

Hear how the workers can end this second imperialist slaughter

for profits!

Hear the program of Trotskyism, the revolutionary road to a so-

cialist society!

\*

When the first batch of draft- present figures can best be un- stages, or that the masses of ees were called up for physical derstood in the light of the proexamination last November, the gress of medical and health amount of proper food during the government and army officials knowledge during the past 25 were "shocked" to learn that over years. Knowledge in the preven-40 per cent of these young men | tion and treatment of diseases between the ages of 21 and 35 has advanced further in the past were physically unfit for army | quarter century than in the previous 100 years. Incalculable service.

Some attempted to attribute these first disturbing figures to ods, causes of nutritional defimere coincidence, or to explain ciency diseases, prevention and them away by some other farfetched or obviously silly reasonng. childhood, and in the treatment

The latest report on the state of the draftees' health, issued ments. two weeks ago, shows that this figure of over 40 per cent rejections for physical unfitness has war years, have had an immeascontinued to hold true. This, then, urable advantage over their is a true reflection of the health picture of the United States as fathers in learning in the public a whole, made more shocking by schools, and from the press and

people had had a sufficient past 11 years.

There is no complicated reason for this state of the nation's health. It is the result of bad food and bad living conditions. It is the result of long medical strides have been made in our neglect. In a word, it is the reunderstanding of sanitation meth- | sult of poverty.

An unemployed worker does not run to the nearest dentist treatment of most communicable at the first sign of decay in a diseases, particularly those of tooth. He holds off until his jaws swell up and the pain is unenof degenerative and organic ail- durable. If a low wage earner starts getting pains in his eyes when he reads his evening paper, childhood spanned the last posthe does not run to an eye doctor. He stops reading papers.

The tragic picture of lowered efficiency, pain, misery, and foreshortened lives which the draftee the fact that it represents that radio, the lessons of health and health figures reveal, is merely



The Stalinist "Peace" Movement

If there is anything that is more difficult to struggle against than confusion it is consciously-created confusion. To argue with a person who says that peace is something attainable by men of good will is a task requiring the utmost patience, at times leading to complete nervous exhaustion. But to argue with people who consciously confuse issues in order to conceal their real designs and to confuse the innocent is well-nigh impossible.

And conscious confusion constitutes the essence of the program for peace promulgated by the Stalinist-led American Peace Mobilization.

The Stalinists are far from being pacifists but they understand that many in the ranks of those who are anti-war are pacifists and they are perfectly willing to give a pacifist tinge to their anti-war program in order to gain support from innocent pacifists.

The A.P.M. program has a strong isolationist tinge. The people who drafted that program are not isolationists but they know that much of the antiwar sentiment is based on isolationism and they do not hesitate to give an isolationist color to their antiwar program. Nowhere and at no time has a movement based itself on so much deceit as the Stalinist movement.

It must be understood that we are not talking about the thousands of sincere people who believe in the program of the A.P.M., but of those who consciously pull the strings and are the prime movers in the formulation of the program. Sincere pacifists could write a program which would be nothing but confusion; the same is true of sincere isolationists. But only Stalinist bureaucrats are capable of writing an anti-war program designed to confuse.

"We must secure a foreign policy freed from imperialist aims" is part of the A.P.M. "plan to get out of the war." Is there any indication as to what kind of a government will follow a policy freed from imperialist aims or how such a government can be secured? That is a matter left to the imagination of the reader.

It is only those who have read Lenin's pamphlet on Imperialism who understand that imperialism is not a policy followed by a government composed of bad people. It is a stage in the development of capitalism and every government of an imperialist country necessarily follows an imperialist policy.

For a government to follow a non-imperialist policy, it must be a government placed in power by the working masses for the purpose of destroying the capitalist system which is the basis of imperial-

It is only those who have read and follow Lenin and these who are interested in telling the truth to workers who would make clear the necessity of destroying the capitalist system in order "to secure a foreign policy freed from imperialist aims."

#### Ignores the Nature of Capitalist War

What is true of this particular aspect of the APM. program is true of the whole program. There is not a single suggestion in it that the war now raging is a product of the capitalist system and that to fight against the war it is necessary to mobilize the working masses for the purpose of destroying that system. The program is pacifist, that is, it is not based on the concept of carrying on a revolutionary struggle against war. In and by themselves the proposals advanced in the program may be perfectly acceptable. To get out and stay out of the world war; to defend and improve the American standard of living; to regain and strengthen our constitutional liberties etc., are not objectionable demands. But the program definitely creates the impression that all that is necessary for the American people to do is to ignore the war that is going on, stick to our own country and everything will turn out for the best. A strictly isolationist position with a pacifist tinge. Surely Norman Thomas should be invited to become president of the organization. But Norman Thomas is a pacifist who knows that the Stalinists are not pacifists. He is not an innocent, and the Stalinists must have real innocents who, because they are fooled, thereby are in a better position to fool others. The Rev. John Thompson, national chairman of the A.P.M. is a better person to head the organization than Norman Thomas.

continue indefinitely. In congratulating the workers for their great struggles and advances, we must at the same time record this unvarnished truth.

## **Business As Usual**

While the workers of England and Germany are being urged to a war of annihilation upon each other, British and Nazi capitalists have continued to maintain friendly arrangements of mutual benefit.

Both the British and German governments are permitting corporations in enemy countries to continue maintaining their patent rights.

Before the war an arrangement existed whereby British corporations could patent in Germany their inventions, chemical and technical processes and trade marks. German corporations had the same privileges in Great Britain. And this now goes right on!

It is largely through the control of essential patents that the German trusts were able to control the world market in a number of vital chemicals necessary for medicine, industry and war. Corporations on both sides of the war front are continuing to collect profits on war materials produced in enemy countries.

In reporting the fact of this patent arrangement, the New York Times, April 12, stated:

"Presumably with the connivance of censors in both countries, Great Britain and Germany are permitting enemy inventors to conduct their international patent business as usual through patent agents whose correspondence goes through Spain."

Change the word "inventors" to "corporations," and you get the essential picture. It's "business as usual" during the war wherever the interests of the capitalists are' concerned.

The workers of the warring nations can learn, a lesson from this. They too can carry on "business as usual" during the war, by continuing the class' struggle against their own bosses.

NORMAN THOMASITES CONFESS

"The labor movement today is full of 'Socialists' who have been so fearful of losing their influence or their jobs in the labor movement that they have ceased to have any socialist influence whatever."-Norman Thomas' CALL, April 12.

But the CALL delicately refrains from naming names. No wonder-the list would include all its white-haired boys of yesterday and today: Walter Reuther, William Beedic, Jack Altman, Paul Porter, David Lasser, David Dubinsky, Zaritsky, Joseph Schlossberg, Julius Hochman, etc. etc. etc.

section of the population which | hygiene. is normally the strongest and healthiest.

The apologists for capitalism knowledge. and its fruits are trying to draw some picture of "progress" from A DIRECT RESULT OF the fact that the present per-THE ECONOMIC SYSTEM centage of rejections is a couple of points less than during the World War I draft.

that the World War I figures nose and throat, and teeth. Most capitalist system which can covered draftees ranging up to of the deficiencies were prevent- promise merely an extension of 45 years of age. The real significance of the quately treated in their initial wreaked on their bodies.

one glimpse of the terrible price the workers have had to pay, and Nevertheless, the present must continue to pay for decades draftees have reaped little benefit from this vast expansion of to come, for the continuance of capitalist exploitation during the past 11 years.

And the workers may now chew on the additional bitter cud Most of those rejected suffer of the fact that they are being from no permanent defects. Their driven into a bloody imperialist deficiencies are largely remedial, war whose essential purpose is to It will be recalled, however, affecting mainly the eyes, ears, defend and preserve that very able, provided they had been ade- | the physical havoc which it has

#### Not A Word About Fascism!

In the program itself, as printed in the Daily Worker of April 7, there is nothing to indicate that fascism exists in the world and constitutes a danger to the workers everywhere. Is that because the Stalinists are still following the policy of the early period of the war when they left Hitler alone and concentrated their attacks on British imperialism? That cannot be because in their press and manifestoes the Stalinists now openly attack both imperialist camps, indicating thereby Stalin's fear of Hitler and the possibility of a shift to the democratic imperialist camp.

The real reason seems to be that the Stalinists are at the present moment, because Stalin is not yet ready to throw in his lot with the democratic imperialist, unable to give a proper answer to the problem raised by every thinking worker as to how to fight the danger represented by Hitler. There are only two ways of fighting Hitler. Either one accepts the idea of fighting him under the leadership of Churchill and Roosevelt representing the imperialist interests of the capitalist class, or of turning the war into a real struggle against fascism by the workers taking power. The Stalinists are not yet ready to accept the leadership of the democratic imperialists and they are certainly fearful of a revolutionary solution to the problem of the struggle against Hitler.

Thus does the Peoples Front continue to sow confusion in the ranks of the workers. For it must be remembered that the Peoples Front still exists. It has simply changed its policies. Whereas before Stalin's pact with Hitler it advocated the policy of uniting the democracies with the Soviet Union for war against Hitler, it now advocates a policy of uniting with the Soviet Union for a "people's peace." Stalin is anxious for peace. If Hitler will not give it to him we shall witness another change of policy on the part of the Peoples Front.

In New York In Twin Cities Speakers: Speakers: JAMES P. CANNON ALBERT GOLDMAN Attorney for Leon Trotsky National Secretary, Socialist Workers Party THURSDAY, May 1 ART PREIS 8:00 P.M. Associate Editor, THE MILITANT Socialist Workers Party Hall THURSDAY, May 1 8:30 P.M. 919 Marquette Ave., Mpls. Auspices: Twin City Branches, SWP

Commission and and a second a sec

Admission: 25 cents

Irving Place and 15th St.

Irving Plaza