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# THE MILITANT PUBLISHED IN THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKING PEOPLE

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**MILITANT'S 2ND CLASS RIGHTS REVOKED** 

## Why We Plan To Contest Walker's Order

#### -- An Editorial --

Immediately after learning of Postmaster General Walker's order revoking the second-class mailing privileges of The Militant, we issued a statement to the press announcing our intention of contesting the order in the courts.

We take this step because we know that the only "crime" which our paper has committed is to tell the truth, soberly and consistently, about the great social, political and economic questions that concern the working people. There are powerful forces in the ruling circles of this country - profiteering industrialists, enemies of the labor movement and racial equality, native fascists who consider it "seditious" to speak the truth about their activities, and there are bureaucrats in the administration who want to use the war for the purpose of stifling all criticism of their policies

and practices. Against them and all their weapons of persecution, we are prepared to fight to the very end to prevent the truth from being suppressed.

We challenged the postal authorities, and Attorney General Biddle who instigated the attack upon our paper, to prove the falsity of any of the statements which they cited as "objectionable." Their answer was given by Post Office Attorney W. C. O'Brien, who made the argument for revoking our mailing privileges at a Post Office hearing held in Washington on Jan. 21. He said: "We are not concerned here with questions of truth or falsity. It does not make any difference if everything The Militant said is true."

Having set the wheels of repression going against us, Attorney General Biddle retired into silence, not daring to take up our challenge. And Postmaster General Walker discreetly' followed his

example, refraining, in his order revoking our second-class privileges, from even mentioning the very central question of whether the articles he regarded as cause for his order were true or false. Their silence can be interpreted only as an admission that they cannot successfully accept our challenge.

A second reason why we plan to appeal the Walker order is that we regard it as an infringement on freedom of the press. The issue in this case is whether a labor newspaper has the right to voice criticisms of the administration's domestic and foreign policies, or whether the Bill of Rights is to be violated.

If the exercise of our right to criticize can result in the cancellation of The Militant's second-class mailing rights ---without which the average newspaper's very existence is threatened — then what is to prevent the authorities from taking the same measures against other

papers which exercise their constitutional and democratic rights?

We have not forgotten what happened in World War I, when civil liberties and democratic rights were most flagrantly violated in the name of a struggle against "sedition" by the Attorney General and Postmaster General of that time. Nor have we failed to note that, Postmaster General Wallace's order on The Militant leans heavily for its authority on the precedent of his World War I predecessors. Not to contest his order would be to leave the door open for a repetition of that same kind of red-baiting and witch-hunts. The fight to regain The Militant's

second-class mail privileges is a fight not only to protect its right to advocate socialist ideas, but also to prevent the spread of fascist-like suppressions of labor and minority groups. We call on all anti-fascists to support us both morally and financially in this fight.

#### **Revokes Rights**



FRANK C. WALKER

On Jan. 18 Postmaster General Frank C. Walker was elected chairman of the Democratic National Committee in Chicago. After the election was over, Walker made a speech in which he declared:

"The very foundation of a democracy is the opportunity affordd its people to determine the will of the majority by an open debate, by conflict of opinion, by criticism.

On Mar. 3 Walker signed Post Office Order No. 20260, revoking the second class mailing rights of The Militant, whose only "crime' is that it has sought, "by an open debate, by conflict of opinion, by criticism," to win the majority of the people to its socialist ideas. In the terms of his own speech in Chicago, Walker's Order No. 20260 is a blow against "the very socialist views on the problems

### foundation of a democracy." acing the people, and will be class mail.

## **Decree Threatening Paper To Be Challenged In The Courts**

Meanwhile Publication Will Continue and Be Sent by U. S. 3rd-and 4th-Class Mail

The attack on the mailing rights of The Militant, initiated last November by Attorney General Biddle and the Post Office, was climaxed this week by an administrative decree of Postmaster General Frank C. Walker, revoking the second-class mailing privileges of this paper.

Walker's ruling, listed in the records as Post Office Order No. 20260 and made public in Washington on March 7, was the administration's first definitive denial of democratic rights to an anti-fascist labor paper in World War II. The order itself plainly indicates that the Postmaster General based his decision on opinions upheld in World War I by the reactionary judges who utilized the war hysteria to suppress' scores of labor papers — opinions which still stink in the nostrils of all advocates of free speech and free press.

Immediately after the Walker order was made public, The Militant announced to the press that it was going to challenge the<sup>®</sup>

order in the courts and delivered after long delays, and the March issue, deposited a week seek to regain its second ago, has still not been released. class rights, the loss of During the first week in January The Militant was notified by the which makes it exceeding- Solicitor's Office of the Postmaster ly difficult for a nationally-distributed newspa- privileges should not be revoked. per to operate. Meanwhile order were 27 excerpts from The The Militant will continue Militant which were cited by the o be published, presenting its

General in Washington to show cause why its second-class mailing

(Continued on page 2)

dispatched to its subscribers **Unions Help in** through the U.S. mails as thirdand fourth-class matter, which is much more expensive than second-**Kelly Postal Case** 

# Standley Talks Designed To **Force Soviet Commitments**

Union.

tion.

#### **By Felix Morrow**

Admiral William H. Standley's criticisms directed against the Soviet UMW Attack 'Little Steel' government Monday must be understood as the latest expression of the demand of the capitalist class for new and more binding commitments from the Formula, Seek \$2 Pay Rise Soviet Union.

Whether Washington did or did not know what the admiral-ambassador was going to say is immaterial. Under-Secretary of State Welles' statement that Standley had spoken without prior consultation with Washington tiations. Welles would say no more, he stated, until he had seen the text of all signs pointed to a direct was the least that could have been expected at this stage of U. S. Soviet nego-

dissociation from Stand- Welles or Roosevelt speak are plaints he voiced were in no way ley's remarks could hard-cerning the best immediate tac-ply the immediate pretext for ply the immediate pretext for

#### By JOHN BATES

As the United Mine Workers | Labor members of the WLB entered negotiations with the who, with "public" member Wayne operators this week for a \$2 per day wage boost covering 450,000 bituminous coal miners

clash with the War Labor intended to "hold the line" against clash with the War Labor intended to "hold the line against Board which has clearly indi-wage increases which violate the "Little Steel" yardstick.

ly have been more gentle. tics to be used in pressing the Soviet government to comply

Meanwhile, for 15 hours with Washington - London deprior to Welles' press con- mands. Both Standley and Roosevelt agree on the fundamental obference, Standley's critic- vent agree on the random of as al remarks about the So- against the Soviet government. viet government had gone STANDLEY'S DOUBLE-TALK

over press wires and radio, leav-What they and the entire capiing the indelible impression of talist class of the "democracies" sharp friction between the "dem- want is not to be found in the sistance," including publication cost of living, was made clear last ocracies" and the Soviet Union. | actual remarks made by Standley.

Whatever differences exist be- Those remarks are typical of the Stettinius' reports, Churchill and in the eight month old case of the tween those represented by usual double-talk of capitalist Standley and those for whom diplomacy. The specific com-

King George Gets A Bright Idea -- Now Let's Expand It

LONDON, March 3 (AP). - King George has be come a part-time worker in a war factory, standing at a bench two nights a week turning out precision parts. He "clocks in" at 6 P. M.; wearing overalls and leaves about 8:30 P. M. His foreman says he is "clever with his hands." His first lesson lasted one hour. Within a week he was pronounced proficient.

Hurrah for King George Windsor! He has started on wonderful idea, which is capable of considerable expansion.

Why should he work shifts of only two and a half hours? And why only two nights a week? What else is he doing that's of any use to anybody? The world can easily dispense with his signature on papers, his pinning medals on war cripples, etc.

It took George Windsor only a week to be pronounced proficient by the foreman. That's fine - lots of others can do likewise. All the coupon-clippers, front-office chairwarmers, boards of directors, labor relations "experts," time-study "engineers," Dies Committee investigators, poll-tax Congressmen, government propagandists, industrial "statesmen" and all the other parasites - put them all to work!

Of course they wouldn't like it, but they'd be doing useful work for the first time in their lives, and there are enough of them to case up the manpower shortage.

By keeping them busy they'd be out of harm's way. No time to think up ways and means of chopping down the workers' wages. Too busy to sit on their moneybags, which could be used to pay for this war.

The night clubs of course would have to close, and cocktail parties would be at an end, and — rich wives and lady friends also being put to work - the Fifth Avenue fur and dress salons would be empty. But not a single thing of use-to the people would be lost if the upper classes were put to work

Hurrah for George Windsor! He has started something which we ought to expand until there isn't a single parasite left\_idle!

making clear that friction was any pay rise which would viogrowing between the Anglo- late its "Little Steel" formula. American bloc and the Soviet Since the miners have previously

received the 15% rise over Jan. His complaint that the Soviet 1941 levels, considered permissible press was not reporting Amer- by the WLB formula, there seems ican "aid" was refuted by Chair- little chance that the WLB will grant the miners' demands.

man Bloom of the House Foreign The intention of the WLB to Affairs Committee, who cited from the Soviet press "very full deny workers' demands for pay reports of American military as- increases to meet the skyrocketing week in the decision handed down of Lend-Lease Administrator West Coast aircraft workers. The Roosevelt speeches referring to majority of the "public" and the American and British shipments employer representatives on the

to the Soviet Union, etc. Board banded together to denv The fact is that the Soviet press, under orders from the the wage raises asked by the workers and to grant only token Kremlin, says more for Angloboosts ranging from 4 to 7 cents American aid than is felt by the per hour. Most of these increases Red Army and the Soviet masses. were confined to so-called "in For example, at the time of the equality" cases and failed to rise North African invasion, Stalin any category of wages up to levels hailed it saying it "radically of income demanded by health changes the political and war sitand decency standards. uation in Europe in favor of the

#### Anglo - American - Soviet coali-AIRCRAFT DECISION

The Boeing Aircraft employees THE AMOUNT OF AID in Seattle, members of the International Association of Machinists. Far sharper than any statement. AFL, received 41/2 cents per hour, from the Soviet Union was Lord half of the southern California Beaverbrook's characterization of aircraft workers in "sub-standard" Anglo-American aid as "parcategories received 71/2 cents per simonious" and his estimate that "since the Russians opened their the 230,000 workers involved were winter offensive they had captured denied any general rise in pay.

HENRYK ERLICH

The Boeing decision was direct warning to the miners that the government would deny their demands for the \$2 pay boost.

John L. Lewis, president of the authority on this issue and an nounced that the UMW would con

inue its fight for the increase. Speaking on March 3 before the Tri-District convention of the UMW held in Scranton, Pa., Lewis assailed the WLB, the OPA and the economic stabilizer. James Byrnes, as constituting "a court packed against labor." He charged

and starve the worker.' LEWIS' SPEECH

"For every ten billion dollars ed in increasing demands for

in profit for corporations. that industry and finance under and thus being discredited and their contents.

production, the high cost of liv- the Stalinist press, this program, ing, and a profit on top of that." in the fight for decent wages, Stalinists within the unions have

(Continued on page 3)

**Back the Speedup** 

UMW, has challenged the WLB Report WLB Will Soon Start Drive **To Extend Speedup** 

> By PHILIP BLAKE The Communist Party has

dispatched." become such a reactionary force ATTACK BEGAN NOV. LAST

in the labor movement that it The Post Office interference that the "Little Steel" formula is now subject to justified criwas designed "to fatten industry ticism by the conservative union leaders - from the left. of the Nov. 7 issue and simultane- conviction of Kelly Postal, Secre-Several months ago, when the ever-rising cost of living result-North Africa.

Without any notification or exspent by the government on war wage increases, the Stalinists planation, the New York postal materials and supplies," said worked out a "program" design- authorities took over the issues of Lewis, "there is a billion dollars ed to keep their members from coming into direct and open confor delivery, and held them while "I challenge any one to deny flict with the workers' demands officials in Washington examined

our government's policy are guar- isolated. As presented by Earl After delays ranging up to two CIO. anteed against the high cost of Browder and later amplified by weeks, three of the November

termed a "wage incentive plan," In announcing that he intended boiled down to nothing more or were finally delivered. to disregard the War Labor Board | less than the speedup, and the In December the Post Office also

Lewis said, "I doubt whether the been clamoring for its universal hour, but the great majority of workers will want me to place adoption ever since.

(Continued on page 2)

STATUS OF 'LABOR ACTION'

future issues will likewise be

Three more unions have sent It was also learned this week contributions to the Kelly Poshat for the first time since last tal Defense Fund, the Civil December the newspaper, Labor Rights Defense Committee re-York without any delay and with- ported this week. The unions Action, was dispatched from New were: out first having been examined in Washington.

Sacramento CIO Council, Calif. Twin Cities Joint Board of the The publishers of Labor Action have been notified by the postal Amalgamated Clothing Workers, authorities that "for the present, CIO. Minn.

Local 560. United Auto Workers, CIO, El Cerrito, Calif.

The Civil Rights Defense Committee is conducting the drive to raise money for the legal expens-

with The Militant began last es involved in the appeal to the November, after the appearance Minnesota Supreme Court of the ously with the U.S. invasion of tary-Treasurer of Local 544-CIO.

At the instigation of AFL Teamsters' President Daniel J. Tobin, Postal was framed up on the charge of "embezzling" union the paper as they were deposited funds, although he had merely executed the wish of Local 544's membership to transfer their local funds from the AFL to the

The story of the Kelly Postal issues and one December issue case, written by the noted auwere ordered destroyed. The others thor, James T. Farrell, will be found on Page 3 of this issue.

All labor organizations and interfered with the delivery of friends of civil liberties are urged the Trotskyist monthly magazine, to send contributions for Kelly Fourth International. The Decem- Postal's defense to the Civil

ber issue was destroyed; the Rights Defense Committee at 160 January and February issues were | Fifth Ave., New York City.

Stalin's Murder Of Erlich And Alter In the midst of our rejoicing at the Soviet victories comes the news that Stalin, by the murder of two anti-fascist labor leaders, has given the reactionaries

new weapons against the Soviet Union. Despite our fundamental political differences with Henryk Erlich and Victor Alter, leaders of the Jewish Socialist Federation of Poland, we brand as a vicious frameup the Stalinist claim that these Polish labor leaders were agents of the Nazis.

HEAR THE TRUTH ABOUT THESE MURDERS. ATTEND THE LECTURE BY



VICTOR ALTER

Natalia Trotsky

March 9. - The Militant is very sorry to have to report that

it today received the news from

more tanks and aircraft from the

(Continued on page 2)

Bulletin

Mexico that Natalia Sedov Trot-

sky, widow of Leon Trotsky, is gravely ill. The telegram containing this information stated only that this heroic and life-long fighter in the

revolutionary labor movement had been stricken by an infection and-heart trouble, and was under the care of a specialist. Next week's issue will carry further information.

**Seriously III** 

#### THE MIDITANT

SATURDAY, MARCH 13, 1943

## A Short History Of The Military Of The Military **Of 'The Militant'**

By HELEN RUSSELL

TWO-

Our first article described the creation of The Militant in re-1943.) sponse to the needs of the newly-

formed Trotskyist movement. In Red Army, knowing the limited its first stage The Militant was diversion of Nazi strength creaprimarily a theoretical organ, ted by the North African invadevoted to publishing the documents and expounding the posttion of the Left Opposition against all correspondents testify that, as the Stalinist bureaucracy. The ever, soon presented a new historic task-the fight against the rising power of fascism, above all in Germany.

The Militant, alone, clearly fascism was-as did the Stalinists was not able to recover. Capitalism, weak and tottering, in a desperate attempt to stabilize itself, was resorting more and more to its only remaining method -naked force against the working class: Socialism or fascism was the question on the order of the

The Trotskyists, above all others too, realized that the German events would influence the fate of the workers everywhere for many years to come. In its analyses of the parliamentary election returns.

day for the working class.

The Militant pointed out that no FINLAND AND POLAND mere legislative skirmishes were occurring but rather the struggle for power between the working sought probably concern Finland. class and the capitalist rulers was As the principal press spokesbeing posed with knifelike sharp men for American capitalism ness. In numerous articles the have been indicating for weeks, paper warned that a victory of they want guarantees that if fascism would be a terrible blow Finland will make peace it will to the workers and increase the receive "honorable" terms. likelihood of war against the Soviet Union.

Leon Trotsky's great works of Red Army and Navy into Finland that period were a weekly feature would lead to heavy blows against of The Militant. Later many of Nazi bases in Norway and Nazi these articles were collected to | iron ore shipments from Sweden. form such books and pamphlets the Red forces should not enter as "Germany-the Key to the In- Finland.

ternational Question," "What The dispute over Finland is Next?-Vital Questions for the growing sharper as the Red Army German Proletariat," "The Only successes make ever more likely Road," etc., issued by Pioneer a Nazi retreat in the north which Publishers. would separate the Nazi front

The task of rousing the workers from the Finnish front and put to the danger of fascism and or- a Soviet invasion of Finland on ganizing them into a united front the agenda. If the immediate dispute is

to defeat it was the tremendous job of The Militant of the 1930-34 over Finland; the same issue years. As the tempo of the Ger- arises also for what was formerman events quickened and the ly Eastern Poland, as the Red crisis grew more serious, The Army reaches the upper Dnieper Militant, responding to its revolu- River. tionary task, came out three times The dispute is not merely over a week.

Not only capitalism was dving. Soviet Union, Much more is in The Militant pointed out, but also volved. It is a dispute between the parties and programs tied to the nationalized property, prodcapitalism. The Social-Democrats uct of the October revolution, on for years had based themselves which the Soviet Union is based, the "democracies" and the Soviet Darlan deal, and advocated a quo and above all wanted peace system of capitalist private prop- a time. Stalin may give them ment as the only solution to the and order while they collected the erty of the "democracies." crumbs tossed to them by their imperialist masters. Their pas- land and Poland, the capitalists sivity and policy of class-collaboraremember what happened when tion, paralyzed the working class the Red Army was advancing in pute - the fundamental antagonwho had depended upon them for Eastern Poland in 1939 and in ism between the systems of prileadership. Bessarabia in 1940. As the Red vate property and nationalized Unfortunately, the only other Army approached, the workers property - cannot be resolved. mass party in the leadership of and poor peasants arose in a Sooner or later one or the other while President Roosevelt was in the working class was the Stalin- revolutionary wave. No matter - capitalism or the foundations ist . In their "Third Period" adhow cautiously, the Kremlin, in of socialism - must prevail. venturism, however, they suc- order to incorporate those terri- In that struggle, today as well At the hearing it was established ceeded only in isolating themselves tories into the USSR, was com- as tomorrow, all class-conscious that the proceedings against the ployers and the War Labor Board. the letter, Paul Ste. Marie, presifrom the German masses by pelled to call upon the masses to workers stand with the Soviet paper had been instigated by Atdenouncing every other working form workers' committees to seize Union against the capitalist torney General Biddle, who had er and produce more and you'll class organization as social-fascist. the factories, peasants' commit- world, regardless of what Stalin also initiated the infamous Min- get more pay." Thus they were unable to effect tees to seize the land, provisional does or does not do. a united front of the German working class against fascism, which, as The Militant repeatedly Sunday Open Forum pointed out, was the only effective means of fighting fascism. The German' workers' organizations, E. R. Frank Discusses leadership, were smashed to pieces under the blows of Hitler's gangs. Labor in World War II While the betrayers of the struggle for socialism may have An audience of 100 people | Frank analyzed the role of the ignored the true anti-fascist proheard E. R. Frank speak on "La- War Labor Board in stifling the gram, Hitler recognized the threat bor and the Second World War" union movement and in trying to of the international revolutionary socialist message. As early as day Open Forum sponsored by the out that the only way labor can criticisms might have the effect-April 1929, after Trotsky had New York School of Social Sci- find an answer to the problem of applied in vain to the Weimar Republic for a visa, Hitler's Volkische Beobachter declared: "In the city of Germany where uled to speak but was unable to ion members from the WLB and this infamous fellow (Trotsky) appear because of illness. may have the nerve to 'take the Going back to a discussion of pendently of government control. cure,' the National Socialist Labor the first World War, Frank Party (Nazis) will look after the showed how labor had enthusiast- sion period, Frank took up the necessary enlightment so that this tically supported the professed current role in the labor move scoundrel who has made a gigantic aims of the Wilson administra- ment of the Stalinists, who occorpse factory out of Russia, will tion as summarized in the famous cupy the extreme right wing and lose both hearing and sight." (N. 14 points. In the period follow-Y. Times, Apr. 21, 1929.) ing the war, the masses became workers' gains in favor of increas-In the same way, apparently, disillusioned as it became clear ed production based upon the that the war had not been fought piece-work system. The role of Biddle and his Post Office associates want us to lose our voice for democracy and freedom but, John L. Lewis today also was exas Wilson himself put it, "for amined and discussed.

(Continued from page 1) administrations to arrest the landlords, capitalists and police, enemy than they had got from the Later, of course, the Kremlin U. S. and Britain in the past 20 proceeded to stifle the initiative months." (N. Y. Times, Feb. 4

of the workers and peasants and One can safely assume that the to gather all power into the hands of the Stalinist bureaucracy. But that did not change the class character of the revolutionary expropriations. The contagious efsion, did not share Stalin's fulsome praise of the American acfect of these expropriations was tion. As for lend-lease supplies, limited in 1939-40, when Europe was still dominated by the Nazis, one would expect, it appears as and there were still-intact bourpressure of objective events, how- a drop in the bucket to the Soviet geois armies in Finland, Rumamasses in comparison to their ternia, Yugoslavia, Bulgaria, Greece,

rible sacrifices. In the face of this attitude of the Soviet masses, Stalin cannot go too far in exaggerating the

actual scope and value of Angloshowed from the beginning what American shipments to the Soviet fascism was and how to fight it. Union. Moreover, confronted by It did not minimize the threat growing diplomatic pressure from the "democracies," and by no -nor hide its head from the means certain that they will danger—as did the Social Demo-crats. The Militant pointed out to rally his forces for difficult October revolution. that the world-wide depression of 1929 had plunged capitalism into a permanent crisis from which it the Date A the Red Army were won by its own efforts.

Even- so, Admiral Standley quickly got satisfaction on his cal questions within the bourgeois specific complaint when, a day later, the Moscow radio broadcast a full report on lend-lease aid. But that was not what gry with his class brothers for Standley was really seeking. His their failure to move as rapidly complaint was simply his device for emphasizing the friction with the Soviet Union and for putting pressure on Washington and Lon-

don to move faster in pressing Stalin for guarantees.

#### The immediate guarantees Standley's statement - Roosevelt assures Stalin that they should be able to come to an agreement

that U. S.-Soviet "war would be inevitable if Russia should again embrace the Trotskyist idea of In plain English this means fomenting world-wide revolution' that, even though entry of the

-that is, Stalin must come to an agreement with Washington rigidly limiting the territories to be incorporated into the Soviet model: Union and, if expropriations in

> es to revolt in the rest of Europe, Stalin must help the "democracies" crush those revolutions. While holding out hope for an

identifying fascism and the So viet Union, as the "democracies" did during the Hitler-Stalin pact "This philosophy" of Marxism, he says, "in some ways is the child of Prussianism, because Marx, its high priest, was molded in his thinking by Hegel, the great philosopher of the Prussian

State. Marxianism has used the the post-war boundaries of the Cheka, just as Prussianism has

secondary concessions.

ner.

By JOHN G. WRIGHT

The Stalinist intervention in Yugoslavia is an integral part of a far broader and deep going

derstood only in this light. In close connection with the Balkans . . 'Liberation Fronts' in Yugoslavia and other countries in ance to the Nazi army of occupa-Nazi-occupied Europe, the Kremlin has set up an extreme-But now, if the Red Army conly elaborate and rigidly continues to advance? Stalin wants trolled apparatus. An organizno European revolution, but the ation designated as "The All-"infection" may spread against Slav Rally" - or "Conference" speakers called for all the Slovaks his will. Unlike Stalin and his or "Congress," as it is variously to unite and together with the bureaucracy, we can be sure that the Red Army soldiers and the known - is the most important

Soviet masses would like nothing and imposing part of Stalin's better than the extension of the latest bureaucratic construction, with headquarters in Moscow. It is this situation, one fraught This "Rally" met for the first

time on August 10 and 11, 1941, ported: with mortal danger to world capitalism, which is preoccupying that is, at the height of the first Washington and London. Precise- Nazi offensive which carried to land and Yugoslavia is increasing the very outskirts of Leningrad and the anti-German movement in ly because so much is at stake. differences of opinion over tacti- and Moscow itself. At about the Czechoslovakia is extending far same time Churchill and Roosevelt were meeting somewhere on ers of guerilla detachments of camp are likely to lead to such explosions as Admiral Standley's statement in Moscow. He is an- their own war strategy and Herzegovina, Macedonia, Voyvdina "eight point program."

#### THE RALLY'S APPEAL

and effectively as he thinks is The primary task of the Allnecessary, and his statement was Slav Rally was to organize a sec- operation. an attempt to force their hand. Roosevelt, on the other hand, ond front in Hitler's rear. This task was ostensibly accomplished TIES WITH THE KREMLIN is seeking to secure the objectives by the adoption of an appeal "to which he has in common with the oppressed Slav people of Eu- did not quite work these miracles Standley through an agreement with Stalin. Through Wallace's speech — made the same day as acterized as a "great rally of re- And this is all the more easily presentatives of all Slavs." The done since the Stalinists either But Wallace also warns Stalin publicized.

Within a fortnight the official abroad were featuring inspired oslavia, of which the followingfrom Istanbul. Turkey - is a

"The Serb and Montenegrin those territories inspire the masspeoples have been stirred into action by the recent All-Slav Rally held in Moscow, it has been learned here (that is, in Instanbul, not Moscow). That rally agreement, Wallace leaves the attended by representatives of way open for a new amalgam

**Militant's Second Class Mail Rights Revoked** (Continued from page 1)

authorities as "objectionable." The

excerpts attacked Big Business,

'All Slav Rally' Greated by Kremlin to Further Its Aims in Europe and America

Stalin's Slav International

leading Slav peoples and urging August, 1941-of these two leadstrategy, and can be fully un- Slav unity against oppression, is ing bodies—one in Bosnia and the known about throughout the other in Moscow-represent two different organizational forms Sept. 28, 1941.)

"Within Yugoslavia itself, resistserving one and the same policy. The very location of the Alltion doubled and quadrupled. The Slav Rally in Moscow is sufficient Montenegrins replied to the ap evidence that it is carefully handpeal of the All-Slav Rally with picked and Stalinist-controlled militant action . . . from top to bottom. There is no lack, however, of additional proof. ference held in Moscow last "A wave of meetings are sweeping throughout Slovakia . . . The

ADDITIONAL PROOF

Virtually the same individuals that were selected in August 1941 remain at its head today. Most Committee which bears the title of "The All-Slav Committee."

The Chairman of this executive of the All-Slav Committee in Moc- apply equally to men. body is a Red Army general, cow on February 10 of this Alexander Gundorov. Several other year, there were two points on protective industrial legislation representatives of the Red Army the agenda, and according to and would impose extreme hardserve on the Committee, whose dispatches passed by the Kremlin ships on working women. It first Vice-Chairman is A. Kor- censors, the second reporter would create similar hardships for neichuk, a member of the Supreme | "dwelt extensively on the activity | women in other walks of life. It connected with the General Staff Rech, Feb. 11.)

THE RALLY'S ORGANS Among the other vice-chairmen are such notable Stalinist stooges as Zdenko Najedlich, Professor of Rally has been publishing in the many other rights affecting family Prague University, and Bozhidar USSR its official central organ, relationships. Maslarich, Professor of Belgrade Slaviane (Slavs). In addition to University.

Among the executive secretaries others in the various Slavic have always opposed discriminaare Stalinist functionaries like languages, the latest of them being tion against women and have al-Anatole Lavrentiev and Vladimir a Polish magazine, Nowe Wid- ways worked to secure real Osminin. Another secretary, Juro nokregi and a Polish weekly, equality for them. The 'equal Salay is a paid flunkey.

was hardly hidden:

month." (Idem.)

"Sponsors of the Congress .

in other countries follow much the

Next week we shall take up the

auxiliary institutions of the All-

Slav Rally, namely, "The Wom-

en's Anti-Fascist Committees."

Wages to Meet

same pattern.

Still other eminent members of March 1. the Committee are literary lights The Rally has a staff of its from Alexei Tolstoy, the Russian novelist, and the less known and outside the USSR as well as Yugoslav poet, Rodule Stijensky down to such GPU hacks as Ivan the All-Slav Committee" with the for the defeat of the amendment. Regent, a Slovenian journalist Red Army and with the guerillas. now invested with the title "Slo-In this country, over and above venian political leader." Equally the established chain of Stalinist publicized are figureheads like Dmitri Vlakhov, "Macedonia poliy a Russian daily, Russky Golos; tical leader"; Timofei Gorbunov, a Serbian bi-weekly, Slobodna 'Byelorussian political leader:' Ferdinand Kozovsky, "Bulgarian Rech; a Polish paper Polski Glos inspired by the great struggles political leader," etc. etc. Ludowy; a fourth in Ukrainian,

The arena of activity of the All-Dnevne Novosti, etc. Organizations Slav Rally is by no means limited National Partisan Conference was to Yugoslavia and continental held in Bosnia which organized Europe but extends to England a central leadership of the armed and beyond: Canada, Australia, South America and the USA.

Front for the liberation of Yugo-IN WESTERN HEMISPHERE

slavia from Hitler." In the western hemisphere, the This is far closer to the truth. It constitutes a semi-official con- move to organize foreign sections and "The Anti-Fascist Youth Confirmation of the close connection was made immediately after the gress." between the "All-Slav Conference" | parent body in Moscow adjourned. (that is the Kremlin) and the In two weeks, the local Stalinists Yugoslav Partisans (that is, the were stating flatly that "the All-Kremlin's Yugoslav agency). More- America All Slav Congress will over we get here a verification of be held here during the early he fact that the simultaneous fall." (Daily Worker, Aug. 26,

Women In Industry By MARIE TAYLOR

CIO AUXILIARY HITS A month later they were al "EQUAL RIGHTS" BILL

ready announcing the name, date A vigorous protest against the and place, of the American secso-called "Equal Rights" amendtion: "The Congress, known as ment was lodged with the Senate the Slav Congress of America, will Judiciary Committee last week by be held in Pittsburgh on Novemthe CIO Congress of Women's ber 21, 22 and 23." (Daily Worker. Auxiliaries A statement by Eleanor Fowler, secretary of the The connection with Moscow Congress, said:

"On behalf of the Congress of Women's Auxiliaries of the CIO, predict that the Congress will I want to register the strongest be of international significance, possible opposition to the so-called rivalled only by the All-Slav Con-'equal rights' amendment which is pending before your committee. The amendment would serve as a

The American section of Stalin's dangerous instrument to destroy "Slav International" convened as many hard-won rights of women. scheduled. It is a matter of public It is generally agreed that, the 'equal rights' record that its ties with Moscow effect of the peoples, fight for the liberty of all prominent are of course the 25 go far beyond mere exchanges of provision would be to abolish the Slavs." (Daily Worker, Aug. members of its Central Executive greetings which are signed as a those laws which protect the rule for the parent body by Gen-leconomic, physical and social coneral Gonduroy. At the last session ditions of women, but do not

"The amendment would destroy would undermine laws which relate to widows' pensions, the right of dependent wives and children to support of the husband Since last June, the All-Slav and father, guardianship and

"The CIO Auxiliaries, together this monthly publication, it issues with other labor organizations. Wolna Polska which appeared on rights' amendment is not a shortcut to equality but would create a hundred injustices for

own foreign correspondents inside every one it abolishes." William Green, speaking on be accredited "war correspondents of half of the AFL, has also called Local trade unions, CIO, AFL and independent, should do likewise.

#### \* \* \*

publications, the Rally is served | FACTORY "DISCIPLINE"

Many women workers are being introduced for the first time to factory "discipline." • They are finding that their entire lives must be rearranged and adjusted to fit their working conditions. Their interests, opinions, and preferences are no longer decisive; instead they become part of a large company, with company rules to obey, and a long line of superintendents, foremen, etc. to see that these

rules are carried out. Factory "discipline" teaches women in industry two important essons. First, the women learn that their problems are not an For a Rising Scale of individual matter, but affect all women, and in most cases. men workers as well. Thus they **Rising Living Costs** ind that personal whims and preferences must be replaced by a serious consideration of what is hest for the workers as a whole. Secondly, women workers learn that the owners of industry are not in the least concerned with the problems which workers must face. They learn that capitalism, which gears production to profit, seeks to crush all individuality, all independent judgment among violating the Little Steel formula | form the declaration by the Board | the workers. Thus the ruling class establishing a maximum wage will take, but that it "will un- hopes to create a docile, obedient level. We want the people who doubtedly set up certain criteria labor supply. But the workers also learn in the process to combat duction brought out into the systems, whether old or new, sim- this process through their unions, ilar or modified or re-engineered. and with the combined effort of "1. The incentive system must the entire working class, to work not result in any increase in unit toward the establishment of a cost. If it works properly, of society in their own interests.

# "The guerilla warfare in Poof the Red Army.

and wide. A conference of leadthe high seas in order to plan Serbia, Croatia, Slovenia, Bosnia, Council of the USSR and closely of American Slav." (Slobodna and Montenegro was held recent-

ly in Bosnia mountains," (Daily Worker, Oct. 26, 1941). Yugoslavia presented the most fertile field of

But the Rally and its appeal

rope to rise against Hitler" pre- alone. These swift developments sented in the name of a novelist, can be interpreted correctly only Alexei Tolstoy and solemnly adopt- by taking into account the worked by the assembled gathering, ings behind the scene of Stalin's which Moscow dispatches char- world wide and colossal machine.

Russians, Ukrainians, Byelorussi-

ans, Czechs, Poles and other Slav

Within two months Moscow re-

24, 1941).

appeal and the Rally were widely have forgotten or have chosen to ignore their original claim that the All-Slav Rally actually ini-Russian press and all its agencies tiated guerilla activity and in particular, brought about the unidispatches, centering round Yug- fication of Partisan forces in Yugoslavia. One Albert Popovich now

writes in the current March issue

"In the middle of August, 1941,

of the Soviet people and the All-

forces of the People's United

Slav Conference in Moscow, a

of The Communist:

With the defeat of the German commercial supremacy." working class, the Third Inter- In the present war, Frank pointnational demonstrated its final ed out, labor once again supports and utter bankruptcy. Realizing the administration, which asserts tion-wide Independent Labor Parthis, the Trotskyist movement set that it is fighting for the "four ty, Frank showed how the possiupon its next course of develop- freedoms" and against fascism.

our next article. (This is the second in a series capitalists and at each new stage and continue to represent the pro-

of articles dealing with the his- oppose the concrete war measures gressive movement of the worktory of The Militant since its in- of the Roosevelt government, such ers, would have to enter the poliception in 1928. The third will as wage and job-freezing, high tical arena under their own ban- and setting the publicity ball materials by providing a bonus of any workers." Fisher said that far made little headway in their only means of combatting the taxes and rising prices. be printed next week.)

ised the Gestapo. . . THE BASIC DISPUTE

criticized administration policies The present disputes between such as Jim Crowism and the satisfactory guarantees on Fin- problems of war, fascism, unem-As the Red Army nears Fin- land and Poland in return for ployment and racial discrimina-

> But the basic cause of the dis-THE WASHINGTON HEARING

tion.

The hearing on the charges was held in Washington on Jan. 21, North Africa meeting with the fascist Darlan's successor, Giraud

neapolis frameup trial of Trotskyst and CIO leaders.

Post Office Atty. O'Brien in- istration, both of whom are troduced an additional 78 excerpts against higher hourly wage rates. from the paper as evidence and Why should it? They've always demanded the revocation of its been in favor of the speedup. nail rights on the ground that the effect of reading it might persuade same time "increase production some individual not to enlist. Albert Goldman, attorney for the "national unity" to which the The Militant, answered this argu- Stalinists are so devoted - the ment by showing that it could be unity of exploited and exploiters, used to revoke the mail rights of with the exploiters on top, of

every paper that criticized a gov- course. last Sunday evening at the Sun- make it ineffective. He pointed ernment official, because all such LEAFLETS ATTACK

ing of persuading someone not to STALINIST CAMPAIGN ence. Frank spoke in place of the overcoming the influence of gov. enlist. Osmond K. Fraenkel, reprewell-known Northwest labor lead ernment bodies is by demanding senting the American Civil posal for the speedup as the soer, V. R. Dunne, who was sched the immediate resignation of un Liberties Union at the hearing, lution to labor's problems has not ing. But now the danger is great declared that the moves against made everyone happy. The nastanding on its own feet indethreat to freedom of the press voted down a motion to advocate

that has thus far arisen' in this an "incentive" plan at its meet-During the question and discuswar." The hearing was conducted by three Post Office officials assigned state convention of the Communto the task by the Postmaster ist Party complained bitterly that General. On Feb. 15 these officials who are willing to give up all the submitted their finding and recom- for sponsoring the notoriously mendations to the Postmaster General, who was authorized to make the final decision in the case.

On March 3 the Postmaster Gen-Finally, in answer to a question eral signed Post Office Order regarding the prospects for a na-20260 revoking the paper's secondclass rights. The order was not made public until March 7. The bilities for such a party were Postmaster General spent the Stalinist state secretary, Patrick ment, which we shall discuss in This time, however, the workers becoming real and that the period between these two dates Toohey: are suspicious of the aims of the unions, if they wished to survive visiting ' the White House,

participating in the celebration of the tenth anniversary of Democratic Party rule in Washington, to speed up production of war rolling for a fourth term.

formation-by the middle of 1941.)

for years had based themselves on the maintenance of the status quo and above all wanted peace system of capitalist private prop-**To Bring Back Speedup** 

(Continued from page 1)

The Stalinists favor the speedup for the following reasons: It can be presented to workers seeking higher wages as an alopen." ternative to struggle with the em-

"All you have to do is work fast- dent of Ford Local 600 of the It will not meet any opposition from the employers or the admin-

In his statement he once again Thus it will at one and the for the second front" and preserve ten years."

It is true that the War Labor FOR WORKERS Board some time ago handed down a general ruling permitting 'incentive pay" for increased pro-

But strangely enough, the production. Up to now it has not paid much attention to this rulthat the Board may in the near this paper constituted "the gravest tional executive board of the CIO future initiate a big campaign to boost the speedup-incentive bonus system.

ing in Washington last month. On March 7 the N. Y. Times And last week the Michigan printed a story reporting a prediction by Austin M. Fisher, "labor relations consultant" to about 50 plants, that within the next leaflets attacking the Stalinists 60 days the WLB will adopt "a anti-labor "Bedaux piece-work definite policy approving incensystem," were being distributed tives," which will result in "a to war plants in the Detroit area. tremendous resurgence of indus-The convention even voted to rial interests in incentive sys-

send a letter to the FBI, demandtems." ing that it "discover and expose" HOW "INCENTIVE

#### those who were guilty of issuing SYSTEM" WOULD WORK this unpatriotic leaflet. Said the

Fisher asserted that the adop-

"The leaflet is actually an at- war plants would contribute to take, this "prediction" shows, for workers will not tolerate leaders tack on the wage incentive plan the solution of the manpower the workers to believe they can issued by the War Labor Board problem by increasing production afford to ignore this question just to voice still louder their demands plan for war workers without he did not know exactly what speedup drive. A campaign sup- rising cost of living.

are thus jeopardizing war pro- for the establishment of incentive

But before the FBI even got CIO United Auto Workers, issued course, there should be a decrease a statement publicly taking responsibility for issuing and cir- head cost and labor cost per unit tion, the employers and the Staculating the leaflet. falls.

denounced the Stalinists for their weekly 'take-home' must follow efforts "to bring back the stretchclearly and directly from the fact out and speedup which the UAW of increased productive effort. has eliminated from most organized plants." And he correctly branded the Stalinist attempt to ratio to increased productive ef- asm for the speedup campaign, reintroduce the Bedaux speed-up fort but may be less than fully bonus system as "a blow at all equivalent to it." that labor has gained in the last

NO BENEFITS

ing cost of living:

"The question of inflation through expanded worker income naturally arises in connection with incentive systems," Mr. Fisher pointed out. "However, it is likely that after the War Labor Board issues a clear-cut statement of policy on incentives it will leave the job of siphoning off whatever excess purchasing power develops to the Treasury De-

partment," he said. Thus the basis is being laid, according to this informed labor relations consultant of the bosses, for a speedup of the workers from which in the end the workers will gain nothing.

tion of "incentive systems" in all It would be a dangerous mis- in no uncertain terms that the "about 20%, without the addition because the Stalinists have thus for a rising scale of wages as the

in unit costs, because the over- ported by both the administralinists is a real threat.

"2. The workers' increased UNION LEADERS CAN'T BE DEPENDED ON

Furthermore, it does not fol-"3. The increase in weekly low, because the union leaders 'take-home' need not be in direct have thus far shown no enthusithat they will take the same attitude tomorrow. Most of the union leaders are afraid to put up a real fight against the WLB's Little Steel formula, and Fisher shrewdly points out that they may be won over to the bonus-speedup idea "because of the constant pressure from workers for more 'take-home.' "

The union leaders are not enthusiastic today, primarily because they know what the workers think about the speedup; but if they thought it could be 'sold' to the workers or if they got a little pressure from Roosevelt, they would retreat on this question as they have on so many others since the war began.

It is therefore necessary that the workers be warned at once to speak out vigorously against all speedup plans, no matter who sponsors them; to let the War Labor Board know, even before it takes the first step in this direction, that labor will oppose all speedup plans; to put pressure on the labor leaders and inform them who retreat on this question; and

Fisher is much franker in certain respects than the Stalinists. He does not pretend that these speedup proposals will solve the workers' efforts to meet the ris-

#### SATURDAY, MARCH 13, 1943



#### Propaganda As a Weapon Against Jim Crow

A reader of The Militant has lightened minority of whites." It sent us the following letter: plans by the use of radio, bill "I have been reading your boards, illustrated leaflets, news-

column for over a year and I paper, magazine and bus displays want to let you know that I to try to dispel prejudice among follow it with interest each week whites against Negroes. because it deals in such a con- The first thing to be noted in sistently intelligent and honest that Schuyler apparently recogmanner with the problem facing | nizes that educational propaganthe Negro people. My work re- da is only a supplement to organquires that I read most of the ization and struggle, and not a important Negro weeklies, but I substitute for them. Organized do not know of any other column that is worthy of regular attention, but unless the Negroes join to-Schuyler and J. A. Roger in the tions, they will not make any ap-

Pittsburgh Courier. . .

preciable progress. The most heartening thing since. "The chief purpose of this letter. however, is to ask you to comment about the ATA and Schuyler's on Mr. Schuyler's proposal for comments on this problem is that an intensive large-scale campaign they are based on the understandof educational propaganda to be ing that the white workers are directed toward the white masses, the real allies of the Negro peo the unions and the white workers ple. Schuyler has often pointed generally. Don't you agree that out that the faces of most Negro such a campaign could do much groups are turned toward the to eliminate race prejudice among white ruling and middle class the Negroes' natural allies, the elements, who have at best only white workers, and that there- a vague humanitarian interest in fore it is worthy of the sup- the Negro question, and who are port of every opponent of Jim generally both unwilling and un-Crowism?". . . prepared to join the Negroes in

Yes, we do agree that educa- actual struggle for their rights. tional propaganda is needed and It is good to see Negroes becan do much to eradicate preju- ginning to realize that their fate dices among the white workers. is bound up with that of the work-The Militant itself is devoted to ing class.

This question of education and educating white workers as to the propaganda is at the very root meaning and cause of race prejuenmity of Tobin. dice, in the interests of forging of the struggle for equality. Racial prejudice against the Negro would

TOBIN'S MOVES a fighting unity of white and Nehave died out long ago in this AGAINST POSTAL gro workers against their comcountry if it weren't for the fact mon enemies. And naturally it

that all the main instruments of welcomes and supports all efforts education and propaganda are in to facilitate this unity. the hands of the capitalist class,

It is very important for every which has an economic interest advocate of equality for the Negro in fostering and maintaining the people to understand the part myth of "white supremacy." No which education plays in both the one is born with racial prejudice stimulation and the elimination of -people are taught to accept it in racial prejudice. Before we enter the schools, the movies, the press. into this, however, let us say a over the radio, in the churches word or two about Schuyler's

proposal. We Trotskyists support all ef-His proposal, by the way, is forts to counteract the vicious trial. past the stage of discussion. After propaganda of the ruling class stressing the need for such a proand its agents. But we always reject in his Pittsburgh Courier, and | main aware that the main probafter getting an encouraging lem is to take the existing means response from many of his of education and propaganda out readers, Schuyler and some of his of the control of the ruling class friends proceeded last month to - to set up a Workers' and Farthe Association for mers' Government which will organize Tolerance in America, "dedicated make it impossible for anyone to to the task of eliminating color benefit economically from racial prejudice through mass education oppression and which will utilize in tolerance." Its temporary headall the powerful educational chanquarters is 270 Convent Avenue, nels to eradicate prejudice. N. Y. C.

Meanwhile, wherever you will As explained by Schuyler, the find a Trotskyist-white or Negro These funds belonged to the local That is why we have undertaken ATA will "supplement and facili-tate the work of existing organ-kind of organization, you will had been paid to the Internation-kind of organization, you will had been paid to the Internation-

the white races:

THE MILITANT

From Judge Hall's Statement to the Jury

bership, he (Postal) was directed to turn over all of the monies

of the union to the Union Defense Committee. That this reso-

lution, directing him to turn over the monies was open and

avowed, cannot be disputed, as it was heard, according to

State witnesses, through the loud-speaker system, even by

had a right to transfer these monies by resolution, as they

attempted to do. Postal, the defendant, was the agent and

steward of the membership and turned over their money at

**TOBIN THREATENS JAIL** 

FOR UNION OPPONENTS

with "certain departments of Minneapolis case,

government" in expelling mili-

tants from the union, and de-

and family contacts are also un-

This can only mean that Tobin

the Department of Justice and

the FBI, as he did in the Minnea-

this aid to intimidate and elimin-

ate his union opponents.

EXPULSION POLICY

"We have certain individuals in

clared:

der observation."

state officials to destroy union forced to strike in defense of

democracy in the Minneapolis their living conditions and stand-

teamsters' movement in 1941 ards. Such workers, he declared,

'The membership of the union must have believed they

-February, 1942.

Tobin directs his greatest blows

at the present time against those

members of the union who are

must be denounced as "enemies

THE MINNEAPOLIS CASE

tions in defense of its contracts

upon tried to purge the local's

leaders, and the union voted in

AFL and accept a charter from

Tobin immediately sent an ap-

the CIO.

'By a resolution of the majority of the Local 544 mem-

**Directing Discharge of Postal Gase** 

those assembled outside the building.

Daniel I. Tobin's treacherous

collaboration with federal and

their direction."

# Kelly Postal's Conviction

By James T. Farrell

Noted Novelist and CRDC Chairman

The Civil Rights Defense Committee, of 160 Fifth Avenue New York, this week released the following statement on the Kelly Postal case by James T. Farrell, noted writer and chairman of the CRDC:

#### Today Kelly Postal, Secretary-

Treasurer of Minneapolis Team- acquitted in the Federal trial, and ters Local 544-CIO, faces up to Moe Hork, one of the few 544 five years in prison. He is the CIO officials who had escaped victim of one of the most vicious indictment in the Federal case. frameups and campaigns of per- The bulk of the indictments, howsecution in American labor his- ever, were heaped upon Kelly tory. Here is the story behind his Postal. There were five counts against him, two against Miles conviction.

For ten years Kelly Postal has Dunne, and one against Hork. been a leader of the Minneapolis POSTAL CLEARED IN teamsters. He helped organize FIRST TRIAL

them during three severe strikes educational efforts are necessary, in 1934. He battled with them on In Postal's first trial for emozens of picket lines. Postal was bezzlement in January 1942, with the exception of George gether into fighting organiza- first chosen Secretary-Treasurer of presiding Judge Hall directed the Local 544 in 1938 and has been jury to discharge the case, thus democratically re-elected each year clearing Postal on the first count in the indictment against him

In June 1941 a long-standing Judge Hall declared, after presenconflict over questions of trade tation of the testimony, that no

union democracy between Local criminal intent had been estab-544 and Daniel J. Tobin, President lished by the state prosecutors. Tobin then put pressure upon of the AFL Teamsters International, came to a head. The mem- the County Attorney to bring bership of Local 544 decided in Postal to trial for a second time June, 1941 by a virtually unanim- on the same kind of indictment. ous vote to disaffiliate from the This second indictment differed AFL and join the CIO. Kelly from the first only in the amount Postal was one of three delegates of money Postal was alleged to sent to represent Local 544 at the have embezzled. The evidence and Feamsters International Executive witnesses were substantially the Board meeting held in Washington same. Nevertheless this time, on on June 3, 1940. As one of the May 1st 1942, Postal was found

principal defenders of the 544 "guilty." leadership against the charges The Civil Rights Defense Com

in the AFL Teamsters Union in our country," he added. who oppose his reactionary popresented at this hearing and as mittee has undertaken Kelly licies and his dictatorial rule. a leading figure in the subsequent Postal's defense. On February 15,

struggle, Postal incurred the 1943, our defense attorneys filed Writing in the latest issue of briefs appealing Postal's convic-International Teamster, the offition to the Minnesota Supreme cial organ of the union, Tobin the Teamsters International were Court. The final oral argument on stated that he was cooperating amply illustrated in the famous this appeal will probably be heard

early this summer. Tobin made his first move

against Kelly Postal personally Unless the conviction is reversed when Postal was indicted together this honorable and militant trade with 28 Socialist Workers Party union leader will go to prison be-

leaders and 544-CIO members in cause of his devotion to trade the famous Minneapolis labor case union democracy. of 1941. This prosecution was There is far more involved in initiated by the Department of

this case, however, than the act Justice after Tobin's explicit ap of injustice against Kelly Postal peal to President Roosevelt. himself. The issue involved in his

Postal, however, was one of the case is of vital importance to the five defendants completely cleared entire trade union movement by the jury at the close of this That issue is: Do the members of a trade union have the demo-

Having failed to obtain a fedcratic right to decide for themeral conviction, Tobin then press- selves the disposition of their ed the Hennepin County District union funds? Attorney to bring charges of If Kelly Postal can be jailed for

"embezzlement" against Postal. "embezzlement," then the officers Tobin, of course, does not rely Postal was never accused of mis- of the CIO could have been conon the government alone to purge those who want to defend the using these funds personally. As wicted when they left the AFL Secretary-Treasurer of the local and took their funds along with union, he merely obeyed the una- them. If Postal's conviction stands, the dirty work himself, warning nimous vote of the union mem- this precedent can be used to bership at a regular meeting to deprive unions of their domecratic that: take 544's funds with them out right to use their funds as the

of the AFL and into the CIO. membership directs.

dividuals (who are under observation) and suspend them from Justice secured an indictment membership. If local union offievery friend of civil liberties and cials refuse to proceed thus, the the entire labor movement for international (that is, Tobin) will Postal was indicted # together with Miles Dunne, President of material and moral aid in his be compelled to remove them In the trial that followed, 18 of Local 544-CIO, who had also been case. from office?

**Stalin And Post-War Europe** 

By M. Morrison

What will Stalin do, should the | Europe. If Stalin decides that it Nazi army be completely defeat- is necessary, in order to defend ed by the Red Army? Will he the interests of the bureaucracy. march to Berlin? Will he call for to invade and annex any country, a revolution in Europe? Will he he will not hesitate to set the take all or part of Europe under workers and peasants of that his control? These and many country into revolutionary motion. Stalin does not pursue revoluother questions have been posed by both friend and foe of the tionary aims. His "theories" and Soviet Union. A multiplicity of tactics have no principled base. answers have been forthcoming, He acts solely on the basis of exthe nature of every answer depend- pediency with the aim of defending the interests of the Soviet ing upon the fears, hopes and outbureaucracy and in doing so he look of the answerer. may utilize revolutionary meas-Shall we participate in this in-

teresting game of speculation? ures. There is no harm in it provided

We have often said, and still one understands that it is merely speculation. In general it is im- say, that Stalin is not interested possible to predict concrete events in, and is even afraid of, a work-One can at best, predict only the ers' revolution. That does not mean that he may not call for a general direction in which events are tending. One must in the first revolution, if the circumstances place be given a certain set of are such as to make that necessary circumstances to venture a predic- in order to defend his bureaucratic tion as to what Stalin will do. interests. Before Hitler attacked And Stalin may choose any one of the Soviet Union the Communist Parties of the democratic capitalseveral courses under the same ist nations were almost following ircumstances.

With reference to the possible a Leninist line on the war. Not conduct of Stalin it is best to lay because they believed in Lenin's down broad general principles and principles but because Stalin had warn the workers to be on their a pact with Hitler and he wanted guard for certain eventualities. the capitalist democracies to end the war.

was not an isolated incident, it of the government" and driven \* \* \* Why isn't Stalin calling for a was revealed last week. On the from the union. He went on then The Nazi armies are of course workers' revolution in Germany? contrary, Tobin is still using his to endorse the so-called British not yet defeated. No one knows Not because he doesn't want one. method of handling strikers - to the offensive and defensive powers but because he is allied with influence with the administra- place them in the army if they that still remain in those armies. capitalist nations and to call for tion to secure governmental re- are fit for military service, to A defeat in a battle or a campaign a revolution in Germany would pressions against all those with- imprison them if they are not. does not necessarily seal the fate antagonize his capitalist allies. "We may have to come to this of an army. I have said before Were he not tied up with capitalist

that all we can do now is hope allies he would undoubtedly call that the German armies will he for a workers' revolution in Gerdefeated. They who are not so many. Should events throw the The lengths to which Tobin and cautious can express their hopes Soviet Union into a conflict with the administration will go in pre- in the form of a definite statement. the capitalist world, Stalin would serving the Tobin dictatorship in An important factor to be taken become the protagonist of world into consideration is the extent of revolution-even though he fears the damage suffered by the Soviet

it. Union. Maurice Hindus, in a series

of articles which he wrote for the Local 544 of Minneapolis was A situation can arise where N. Y. Herald Tribune, upon his Stalin may assume the role of a one of the strongest and most return recently from the Soviet revolutionary leader even where militant unions in the Interna-Union, estimates that the Red he is not at war with a capitalist tional and the country. It natur-Army lost four million men in nation. His actions in Spain have some large cities who are under ally resisted when Tobin handed killed alone. He makes the state- shown that in order to curry favor observation and whose personal down orders that because of the ment that a conservative estimate with the capitalist world-at that "national emergency," the local of the number of civilians who time with France and Englandwas to desist from militant ac-

died in the territory occupied by he would not hesitate to strangle Hitler's troops is six million. a workers' revolution. But Spain has again appealed for aid from and wage standards. Tobin there-the trail other estimates run as high as is a comparatively small and un-15 million. The economic damage important country and it was not caused by Hitler's invasion, oc- so difficult to suppress the revolupolis case, and that he is using June, 1941 to disaffiliate from the cupation and retreat will take tion there. If a revolutionary years of peace to repair. upheaval in Europe should assume Under the circumstances the such vast proportions that supsafest prediction is that Stalin is pression would be difficult, Stalin peal to the White House, asking in no position to carry on an of-

would undoubtedly attempt to gain control of it and turn it into bureaucratic channels. We can confidently expect that the military defeat of Hitler will the speculation of some people Especially is this true if the Red Army is the main instrument of

Regardless of what Stalin may

want. the effect of the collapse

of Hitler's military power as a

result of a victorious offensive

of the Red Army, will be a wave

This is what the more far-

ighted elements of the capitalists

of England and the United States

fear most. And this is why they

are so anxious to come to an

agreement with Stalin and obtain

his help to suppress the revolution

But if the revolutionary wave is

too powerful to be suppressed,

Stalin may deem it advisable to

gain control of it. The enormous

prestige which will be his as a

result of a victory of the Red

Army and the enormous resources

at his command, may enable him

to do so in the initial stages of

do in Europe what he did in Spain

and is probably now doing in

evolutionary actions and Stalin's

rol of the masses. In Spain he

apparatus moves in to gain con-

gained control and utilized his

control to save capitalism. In

ment in Europe and do what he

did in Spain, that is, save the

capitalist system. He may find

himself compelled to go along

with extreme revolutionary meas-

ures against the capitalist order.

On a large scale he will try to

the revolutionary period.

of revolutions in Europe.

in Europe.

that defeat. If the Red Army should prove to be capable of continuing its offensive into Germany, then a wave of revolutions Europe is well-nigh inevitable

Department of Justice and the or even before the German armies

FBI were set on the job.

"Local union officers will have A raid followed on the headto prefer charges against such in-Party, and the Department of

for governmental assistance fensive war outside of Soviet against these "subversive eleterritory. What he wants most of ments." President Roosevelt pub- all is the expulsion of the invader teamsters' conditions. He is ready licly announced that the admin- from the Soviet Union and peace. and willing to do a good deal of istration would cooperate, and the This lends some plausibility to lead to revolutionary uprisings.

## that a peace between Hitler and Stalin will be arranged as soon

quarters of the Socialist Workers are driven from Soviet soil. \* \* \*

- THREE

izations (fighting Jim Crowism) find a person fighting to convince al. by preparing the way psychologic- his white fellow-workers that Jim ally. Its job will be 'selling' the Crow is harmful to the interests Negro American to the white of the workers of all races and masses who have hitherto been seeking thereby to unite Negro neglected by Negro propagandists and white in the struggle that will who concentrated on the en-forever abolish race prejudice.

International Notes By BETTY KUEHN

Hitler's main weapon today, as | "You will notice no trace of The Militant has often explained, humility in the average Russian, is the German workers' fear of a | who has acquired some kind of | and worse Versailles political inward self-conscious- has already rendered a decision. second treaty. ness of his own. . .

Polish workers, returning from forced labor on the Nazi fortifications of the eastern front, corroborate our statement. They lava nearly a year ago, the slogan Polish labor paper. Poland Fights. the following about the morale of the German soldier:

"The only thing that keeps him at the front today is fear of slavery and fear of the revenge of the conquered nations."

This' corroboration is especially important since it comes through a paper which is in favor of punishing the Germans with another Versailles.

A second and worse Versailles is all that the capitalist powers can offer. Only a Workers' and Farmers' Government in the United States could assure real freedom for all nationalities of the world and thus take Hitler's main weapon away from him.

\* \* \*

Amazement at the "high cultural standards of the Russian masses" and the "internal force" of the Russian peasant woman butts. Hungry Javanese who was expressed by a member of the tried to steal rice were machinestaff of the Berlin Russian-language paper Novoye Slovo.

Nazi-occupied Smolensk, the re- Time, March 1. porter published the story of his experience.

Quotations from his story are cited by Solomon Schwarz in the Feb. 22 New Republic as follows:

"At first contact, you will be amazed by many a thing, and above all by the language which the simple country woman uses in talking to you. The revolution has brought into use many words that before it were the monopoly of the 'intellectual' classes unknown in the factory and in the country. . . .

## **Miners Union Demands \$2 A Day Wage Raises**

(Continued from page 1) week be extended, the miners ground from under the demand would receive overtime for the for the \$2 nav boost

additional 8 hours worked. Certain their case before any court that government officials hope this And that is the case of Mr. Wilwill succeed in cutting the

OFL

WHAT'S HAD

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by C. Charles

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Auspices: Socialist Workers Party

liam H. Davis and his War Labor When the Japanese invaded Board. That is the case of Prentiss Brown of OPA. . . And it is also the case of James Byrnes, the economic stabilizer, one of our "Greater Asia" really means — a greater Asia with the Japanese judicial vestal virgins who has stepped down from his high place imperialists as the super-exploitto say to the workers of this This brown exploiter may some nations, 'You shall not pass'." Lewis concluded his talk by

day find it convenient to come to calling upon all organized labor an understanding with the white to join the miners in efforts to imperialist exploiters whom he compel the government to change has ousted for the moment. That its wage policy. understanding would, of course,

The convention then adjourned be directed against the colonial with a unanimous vote for the \$2 masses. Accordingly, the Japanpay rise demand.

ese conqueror makes a distinction Negotiations between Lewis and between the colonial natives and the operators began this week on March 8. There is very little "... the treatment of the white possibility of direct agreement. population was, on the whole, not since the mine owners are brutal. Jap soldiers put on a humbuttressed by the support of the ble, even shy manner, saluting WLB. Failing agreement, the case and grinning at the whites and would normally go to the WLB, asking favors with a 'sorry' or but Lewis has already indicated a 'please'. Ruthless brutality was that the UMW may refuse to saved for the native Javanese. submit it to that prejudiced body "Natives who failed to bow

#### properly were beaten with rifle A POSSIBLE TRICK

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The government has one "ace in the hole" in its fight to keep gunned or seized and dragged the miners' hourly wages frozen into the public square. Then they to the January 1941 level-the PIONEER PUBLISHERS After spending some time in cut off his hands, or his head."- extension of the work week from 40 to 48 hours. Should the work

Proceeds to the Civil Rights Defense Committee

would by no means solve the problems of millions of other workers throughout the country who are squeezed between living costs and

rozen wages As Lewis indicated in his talk o the Tri-District convention, this Tobin now holds over the heads of labor should support. policies.

### Aircraft Workers Are To Co **Bitter Over WLB Order**

of the aircraft industry have "My husband used to make \$60 the system of been waiting for an answer to their plea for wage increases. depression. We paid \$12 a month Their demands were a 95 cents for rent and got along better than long-tried out in the fascist counminimum (present minimum now. Now both of us work, and tries. Unless your employer gives

after 3 months is 75 cents, be- we have to pay \$75 a month for you an "availability certificate," ginners. 60c) and wage rates in rent - and I've got to hock my you won't be hired any place in classifications comparable to rates engagement ring to pay my first the war industries of Southern paid in nearby shipyards for the installment on my income taxes." [California! "We workers gave up our only same work.

Finally, after 8 months, the weapon, the right to strike. What

answer came. No raise at all for can we expect now?" the huge majority of the workers. "With victory taxes, 10% bond the huge majority of the workers. Boeing, at Seattle, did receive a deductions, income taxes and the 4c. raise, and it must be remem- cost of living rising, you know bered that the Boeing local is the what our paychecks will soon be most militant and the best or- good for!"

The high point of the Sunday ganized. At the two meetings held this meeting was when one member week for Consolidated and Solar got up and visibly and with and Rohr aircraft (representing emotion tore up the War Labor approximately 45,000 workers) the Board edict, to show how he felt workers denounced, in no un- This was met with thunderou certain terms, the companies and applause. their profiteering, the War Labor There was quite a deal of ser

charging "seditious conspiracy Two fundamental factors must against 29 leaders of Local 544 always be taken into consideraand the Socialist Workers Party. tion in discussing possible courses Stalin may pursue. One is

the defendants were found guilty that, above all, he is interested in preserving and extending the resents. The other is that he

THE POSTAL CASE

Tobin then turned to reaction-Because of the first factor Stalin ary state officials and secured is capable of doing anything and indictments of a number of 544 everything that is counter-revoluleaders changing them with "emtionary. He will not hesitate to bezzlement" of the local's treas- arrive at an agreement with any

ury, which the members had vo- capitalist power to suppress a ted to turn over to the new CIO workers' revolution. He will not hesitate once more to enter into local. The story of the conviction on this charge of Kelly Pos- an agreement with Hitler, if such tal, secretary-treasurer of 544, is a step seems to him to be necestold in a separate article in this sary to preserve the interests of the Soviet bureaucracy. But because the economic base

It is the threat of similar frame of the country which he rules conup trials and persecutions that sists of nationalized property, brought into existence by a workers' revolution, Stalin may, if he finds it necessary, call for, and Yugoslavia. The masses begin even initiate, revolutionary meas-

ures on the part of the workers and peasants of all or part of timent for the government to take over the plants; many work- Yugoslavia the war of the parers believed that this would re- tisans is now under his control. sult in the elimination of ineffi- While his struggle against Mikhai-Board, and the anti-labor policiency and profiteering through lovitch continues, he may even ticians. The floor was opened to cost-plus contracts - and that call for certain revolutionary

members during both mass meet they would be able to get their measures on the part of the

ment with Mikhailovitch or with Many declared they were ready some other representative of the o quit. However, the War Man- Yugoslav government, he will utilize his control to suppress all ower Commission had anticipated revolutionary tendencies of the such a move by instituting partisan groups. "availability and \$70 per month during the certificates." This is something It is highly questionable, hownew for this country, although ever, that Stalin can gain control of a powerful revolutionary move-



All for the purpose of keeping his oureaucracy in power. The advanced workers in Europe, during a revolutionary period, and even before the revolutionary period commences, will warn the masses that to assure their victory they must prevent the Stalinists from gaining control of their organizations. For with Stalin in control, the workers can have no freedom to think and to act and consequently their revolution will always be in dan-

The War Labor Board's answer angs, and the rank and file work raises out of the savings thus partisans. If he comes to an agreeto the aircraft workers on the ers spoke out. Typical of their effected. Pacific Coast amount to: No sentiments are the following

increases and strike if you dare! remarks: Since July, 1942, the workers WORKERS' REMARKS

By N. COLLINS

SAN DIEGO, March 7. -

Whatever effect such a move would have on the miners, it

issue on Page 3.

s a fight in which all labor is other teamster members who reinvolved. It is a fight which all fuse to accept all his anti-labor

of violating the Smith "Gag Act." Their case is now being appealed power of the bureaucracy he repto a higher court. rules over a degenerated work ers' state.

#### FOUR-

VOL. VII-No. 11

#### How To Fight THE MILITANT The Black Market Published in the interests of the Working People The efforts of the administration to cope with

Saturday, March 13, 1943

To defend the USSR as

the main fortress of the

world proletariat, against

all assaults of world im-

perialism and of internal

counter-revolution, is the

most important duty of

every class-conscious

- LEON TROTSKY

worker.

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1. Military training of workers, financed

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of the trade unions. Special officers'

training camps, financed by the gov-

ernment but controlled by the trade

unions, to train workers to become

Trade union wages for all workers

forces and the war industries-Down

priation of all war industries and their

**3.** Full equality for Negroes in the armed

4. Confiscation of all war profits. Expro-

operation under workers' control.

5. For a rising scale of wages to meet the

6. Workers Defense Guards against vig-

7. An Independent Labor Party based on

8. A Workers' and Farmers' Govern-

9. Defend the Soviet Union against im-

with Jim Crowism everywhere.

drafted into the army.

officers.

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necessarily represent the policies of THE MILI-

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TANT which are expressed in its editorials.

the black market are doomed to inevitable failure. This or that black market operator or band of operators will be arrested, but the black market will continue to spread and prosper. We can say this with certainty, because the administration attempts to deal with the effects of this problem rather than with the basic causes.

As supplies of goods become smaller, the power of the black market operator who has a quantity of such goods will become greater and greater. He will be able to extort fantastic prices. The worker will be forced to pay tribute in order to get the necessities of life for himself and his family.

The cause of the black market is the shortage of supplies. Thus to fight the black market it is necessary to increase the amount of the necessities of life available, and following that, to insure that they reach the mass of the consumers at a price that will permit them to maintain their living standards. We will discuss the second point first. To insure that the black market speculators do

not get the stock with which to traffic, it is necessary that close tab be kept over each pound of food raised, processed and shipped.

To do this, the books and inventories of goods of the various companies must be thrown open for inspection to committees composed of workers, toiling farmers and housewives, established to guard the supply of food and make sure it reaches the masses of consumers. Leaks of goods into the hands of black market speculators can in this way in large measure be stopped up.

The capitalists will not like these committees, it goes without saying. They will claim their rights are being infringed. But the masses don't like to pay black market prices for the necessities of life. The masses' right to a decent standard of living deserves prior consideration.

Secondly, the workers must demand from the government adequate allotments of food and other necessities. The capitalist class and the government will say this is impossible, that there is not enough good. Under the present system of production and distribution, the capitalist argument is correct. But if the following steps were taken, the supply of goods would be quickly increased:

1. Men, machinery and land must be shifted from the production of luxury goods consumed by the tiny minority of rich into the manufacture and

2. All war profits must be confiscated. The income of the capitalist class would be curtailed, resulting in the diversion to the workers of large amounts of food and other articles now used by the parasitic coupon-clippers. As these would be forced to go to work in useful occupations, along with their servants and other flunkies, the supply

3. Production and distribution must be organized on a planned basis so that the many wastes of capitalism, such as expensive advertising and

These steps cannot be accomplished under the capitalist ownership of the large scale food plants and other industries. The government must take over these plants and operate them, under work-

## **The Situation In India** After Gandhi's Fast

#### **By Felix Morrow**

Official British circles are congratulating themselves on their successful gamble that Gandhi would live through his fast. American and British correspondents are cabling that the Congress leaders are despondent at Gandhi's fail ure to scare the British into releasing him. Publicly, at any rate, the general assumption appears to be that India will now quiet down. Thus for example the N. Y. Herald-Tribune correspondent cables (March 3 issue) that "It is fair to assume that the Congress movement has now been crushed for the war's duration, perhaps for longer.'

If by Congress is meant the Indian masses in general, it is hard to believe that either the correspondents or Britisho

officials really believe what Much more to the point are the arian British dictatorship would they are saying. Gandhi's meth- following facts: not dare permit the intervention (1) The ever-growing British of the masses, either in the field ods of struggle have suffered a decisive defeat, of which the and American armed forces in or any other.

The British regime neither has

most backward layers in city and

countryside are being goaded by

If the next explosion in India

comes on this basis, it will have

acter than that of last August.

are visibly profiting from India's

hunger.

fast was but the final incident. India, whose supply services com-But the British overlords, far pete with the Indians in the popular support nor can it market for the available food. seriously hope to seek it. Within from having won a decisive vic-(2) British exports from India the population its sole support tory, are now facing a situation of grain to the British armed comes precisely from those who likely to have far more serious consequences than the civil disobedience campaign which and Ceylon.

British imperialism was in dif rigid British censorship, some of those elements on which the

ficulties everywhere; and certain the facts are seeping out. Even British regime rests. Hence no sections of the Indian masses a member of the Viceroy's Council rationing and price-fixing. This fact is well understood in India, Even the Federation of the middle classes and laborers are one of his recent letters to the of the poor millions, due to the

"Some" food riots, "especially India-wide scarcity which I cannot were followed by those peasants in the same Times cable. The Jan. largely mitigated, if not altogether directly in contact with the cities. 18 London Daily Telegraph reports prevented, had there been a bonafide government responsible to a "mob" which was raiding grain ECONOMIC ROOTS OF COMING STRUGGLE Thus the most compelling

without warning. economic needs are dictating to All this, let us remember, in a the masses of India a new strugcountry which is 75% agrarian. gle for indepedence. Last Aug. the struggle was launched primarily by the cosmopolitan-minded in the cities who understood the international situation. This time the

Why is there no rationing ings a day. Even his miserable country is impossible because of far more of a basic class charof India so complicated." (N. Y. against the native capitalists who

These alleged obstacles, how- hunger. Neither their political ously imported annually from ever, could be surmounted by a nor their economic needs, the Burma and French Indo-China, popular government which would masses are learning, can be servbut this loss — roughly about a authorize the population itself — | ed by any other method than the week's supply under pre-war con- through mass consumers' com- mass revolutionary struggle ditions — cannot explain the fan- mittees, etc. — to police ration- against British imperialism and ing and prices. But the totalit- its native agents.

**Auto Workers Denounce Army Firing of Strikers** 

In Detroit the Army has been intimidating and firing militant workers out of the auto and aircraft factories. Colonel George E. Strong, chief of plant protection for the Army Air Forces of the Michigan area, has been conducting a vigorous campaign against "subversive elements"-which means, of course, all workers who resist the current offensive against union rights and conditions

Colonel Strong has been engaged in thus weakening the leadership of the local unions since the first of the year, and last week the international executive board of the CIO United Automobile Workers finally got around to protesting his actions.

The executive board handled the Colonel with kid gloves, merely asking for "clarification" of the situation and proposing a four-step procedure to the War Department.

According to the March 3 issue of the Detroit News, the proposals were:

"1. No man be discharged as a subversive unless there are definite charges of sabotage, trafficking with the enemy or enemy agents, or disloyal conspiracy to disrupt war production.

"2. That all accused persons be granted a hearing and that the union have the right to appear at such hearings where it so desires.

"3. That where the Army has withdrawn its objections to the employment of any worker, such worker shall be forthwith restored.

"4. That the right to discharge 'subversives' shall be in no case used to punish men or women for union activities."

This was indeed a mild protest against a policy under which all local strike leaders have been automatically labeled as subversives.

During the past two months Colonel Strong has discharged 10 rank and file leaders of strikes in Buick in Flint and Bohn Aluminum in Detroit. In the strike at Eclipse Counterbore Company in Detroit he barred six rank and file leaders from the plant while he "investigated their citizenship." The Detroit News mentions other "disciplinary action" by Strong which has received no publicity. Strong has also, according to R. J. Thomas, UAW President, requested employers to supply lists of "trouble makers" who were to be discharged on grounds of "subversive actions."

"In other cases," said Thomas, "the Army has ordered men discharged and then withdrawn the order. only to find the employer refusing to grant re-employment."

The intervention of the military into the field of labor relations, and the assumption by the officer caste of the right to fire active unionists constitutes one of the gravest threats to labor yet to come out of this war.

Union protests against these practices are necessary -loud and militant protests. But in addition to sending protests to the War Department, the unions must also demand a return to genuine collective bargaining. As long as the leadership of the unions surrender to the employers the right to strike, they are in no position to prevent brass hats from picking off militant rank and filers and thus undermining the unions.

## **Workers' Protests Force Freeing of Armstrong**

Bob Armstrong, leading Trotskyist in Ulster (North Ireland), who was imprisoned in January for distributing leaflets protesting the jailing of another

lions who have always known

ers.

began last August.

EXPLOSION COMING

raising of goods and food used by the masses.

of manpower would be increased as well."

sales campaigns would be abolished.

understand that these difficulties admits that "Queues for daily were their own opportunity, and necessaries have become a common mpelled the Congress to fight for feature in our towns . . . and Indian Chamber of Commerce has independence. Actually the strug- prices of foodstuffs have gone up blamed the government for the gle last year centered in Bihar so high that large masses among food crisis. Likewise Gandhi, in province and the United Provinces -roughly covering about a fourth experiencing acute hardships." Viceroy, refers to "the privation of India's population-where the (N. Y. Times, Jan. 8.) workers and petty-bourgeoisie of the cities initiated the battles and in Bombay Province," are reported help thinking might have been

Now, on the other hand, it is that, in Nasik in Bombay Province, he economic situation which is troops were called out to quell a popularly elected Assembly." ikely to cause a new and far more extensive explosion. Food short- shops, arresting 50 men and womages and inflationary price in en. Troops and police have been creases have brought a new stage given orders to shoot "looters" of hunger to the hundreds of mil-

hunger. Rice, wheat and millet, the A food crisis in the most prestaple foods of India, are ad. dominantly agricultural country mittedly scarce. Formerly 2d. in the world! (about 4 cents), a pound of rise WHY NO RATIONING?

s now selling at a shilling (about 24 cents-that is, a price rise of 600%! The worker who must pay system? Here is the official alibi: a shilling for a pound of rice "Government authorities generally rarely earns more than 1½ shill- agree that rationing of the whole

pre-war diet included over a pound the millions of small producers, of rice per day per adult, not to mention caste and class It will be directed not only Obviously he can no longer feed differences that make the feeding against the British rulers but also his family. The Viceroy's alibi is that 1.- Times, Jan. 7.)

500,000 tons of rice were previtastic rise in prices.

forces in Iran, the Middle East are profiteering from food scarcity and selling supplies to the armed (3) No rationing system of forces: the landlords, importers any kind, making completely use- food concerns, money-lenders. less the perfunctory gestures of speculators, etc. Thus any steps It is clear now that the im- price-fixing. to establish rationing and fixed The result of these factors is prices, to prosecute price violators mediate causes of the explosion universal hunger. Despite the and hoarders, would be blows at ast August were directly political.

perialist attack.

rising cost of living.

the Trade Unions.

ment.

ilante and fascist attacks.

### Alter-Erlich Murder And The Davies Film

The newspapers reported this week that Warner Brothers, the movie producers, have finished a five-day conference on the picture, "Mission to Moscow," based on the book by ex-Ambassador Joseph E. Davies.

The conference decided to allocate toward the film what is for that company the greatest sum of money ever spent on advertising a single motion picture.

It is not surprising that the conference made this decision. Warner Brothers will NEED a record advertising campaign. For the release, on the eve of the premiere of the film, of the news concerning Stalin's murder of the two Polish labor leaders, Erlich and Alter, serves to underline the frameup character of the Moscow trials and to lessen the effectiveness of the Warner Brothers movie as a propaganda whitewash of Stalin.

As we have reported previously, the motion picture presents the Stalinist version of the Moscow trials, which were condemned by world labor opinion as frameups designed to discredit and remove Stalin's working class opponents. It was also reported this week by a Hollywood columnist, Jimmie Fiddler, that a sequence concerning Leon Trotsky has been inserted in the picture, and that it may be chopped out if the Soviet authorities disapprove of it.

Millions of workers throughout the world know that Erlich and Alter were not agents of Hitler, but anti-fascists. It will take more than all the gold in the world and more than all the advertising campaigns by the most expert publicity managers to remove the scarlet blot from the hands of Cain Stalin.

Every respecter of the truth, every opponent of the Stalin school of falsification should at once send protests against the monstrous distortions in this film to Lowell Mellett, Office of War Information Film Bureau, Washington, D. C., and to Warner Brothers, Hollywood, California.

ers control, for use and not profit. In this way the worker would be assured of decent wages, and the toiling farmer of more income, as industry is freed from the stranglehold of the capitalist class, dominated by the profit motive.

Thus can the black market be fought. Thus can the supply of goods be increased.

## **Hearst Press** And Aircraft Worker

Last week an aircraft worker named David G. Levitt, addressing a meeting called by his union in Los Angeles to protest War Labor Board stalling on wage demands, denounced labor-baiter Rickenbacker in rather salty terms as "number 2 rat of World War 2."

Immediately a great hue and cry went up from the capitalist class which has been using Rickenbacker as a spearhead for its anti-labor offensive. Levitt was labeled a subversive alien and the press began to whip up a lynch spirit against him.

Shortly after Levitt had denounced Rickenbacker in Los Angeles, a Hearst reporter walked into the office of The Militant in New York City and asked if Levitt were the same David Levitt who had written an article in the March 18, 1933 issue of our paper, explaining why he was resigning from the Young Communist League and joining the Trotskyist movement.

The Hearst reporter was informed that the Levitt who had written in our paper was not the same individual who was involved in the west coast controversy over Rickenbacker.

Nevertheless, the Los Angeles Evening Herald & Express and the Los Angeles Examiner, both Hearst papers, added to the list of this aircraft worker's "crimes" the charge that he was a Trotskyist, and categorically stated that he was the author of the article in The Militant. The Hearst papers reprinted extensive sections of the article.

This sort of red-baiting campaign is typical of the capitalist press's treatment of news of labor's resistance to employer offensives against union wages and conditions.

All of Hearst's hysterical red-baiting, however, cannot blind the workers to the fact that the capitalists are making enormous profits out of this war, and that Rickenbacker speaks for those who would smash the unions and force the workers to pay the war's full costs.

### March 'Fourth International'

The March issue of the monthly war years, and the relation of magazine, Fourth International, the Communist International to sky, is represented in this issue which appeared for sale last week, this defeat. The article is an ex- by an appreciation of Plekhanov is one of the best in recent cellent contribution to the strug- and his contribution to the inmonths. It demonstrates once gle against the petty-bourgeois ternational revolutionary moveagain that this Marxist journal is elements who strive to show that ment. an indispensable instrument for Bolshevism was responsible for the education of advanced work- Stalinism, and is so written that

**Many Timely Articles In** 

it will be readly understood by The Class Meaning of the So- those who have not read Held's viet Victories by Felix Morrow is article.

an illuminating examination of (Incidentally, the issues contain- sition," issued by Pioneer Publishthe reason why the reactionaries ing Held's article are still avail- ers. Every reader of The Miliin the United Nations are so per- able at 20 cents per copy.) turbed by the recent victories of Another timely article, in view the Soviet Union. The article dis- of the current talk about a fourth book which Wright correctly decusses the "peace" moves of the term, is William F. Warde's Ten signated as "a new Marxist class-Finnish government, the Soviet- Years of the New Deal, an ex-Polish conflict, the Vatican in- amination of the evolution and trigues, the second front and the results of a decade of Democratic sue include: mestion of the Soviet frontiers. Party rule under Roosevelt. Every working class defender of The Month in Review, which the Soviet Union will benefit by a is becoming one of the most pop- Loris - an analysis of the roles reading of this timely article. Those who have followed the deals this time with the Stalinist raud and Washington's attitude magazine in recent months will murder of the Polish anti-fascists. toward them. also be deeply interested by the Alter and Erlich; the announce-

article, The German Revolution in ment that the CIO, AFL, Railhe Leninist Period by Marc Loris, road Brotherhoods and National an answer to the article by Wal- Farmers Union have decided to aiding the Indian struggle for inter Held in the Dec.-Jan. issues. join forces against the anti-labor dependence. Loris analyzes the defeat of the legislation in Congress; and

German revolution in the post- Gandhi's fast.



The great Marxist, Leon Trot-

Also included is a review by John G. Wright of the most recently published book by Trotsky, "In Defense of Marxism - A gainst The Petty-Bourgeois Oppótant and Fourth International should become the owner of this

Other articles in the March is-

The Political Misadventures of the French Bourgeoisie by Marc ular sections of the magazine, played by DeGaulle, Darlan, Gi-

> Some British "Friends" of India by Ait Roy-a criticism of the centrist-pacifist methods of

International Notes -- which this month contains an interest ing letter from Ireland; a prief note on Australia; and a discussion of the uplit in the Chilean Socialist Party, by Terence Phelan, which lings up to date the recent reports on this question, written by him in The Militant. Single copies of the F. I. cost 20 cents; a yearly u'scription cost \$2.00. Order from Business Manager, 116 University Pl., New Vork City.

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**THE WORKERS** 

AND THE SECOND

WORLD WAR

A Speech by

JAMES P. CANNON

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10 Cents

48 Pages

Trotskyist, Patrick McKevitt, has since been released. according to the February issue of the British Socialist Appeal.

Even the police had to admit that the protest leaflets which Armstrong had been distributing were free of "sedition," but he was detained under the Special Powers Act which gives the British police practically unlimited authority to persecute militant labor leaders. .

The Socialist Appeal credits widespread labor protests with forcing Armstrong's release. "The Release Committee in Northern Ireland," writes the Appeal, "was composed of representatives of the Workers International League, the IUWM and the Socialist Party of Northern Ireland. In addition Paddy Agnew, North Ireland M. P. and apparently, the Irish Transport and General Workers Union gave full support to the campaign. McGovern and the Independent Labor Party Members of Parliament exerted pressure on the Home Office. Some of the Left Labour M. P.'s also took up the question." Several unions in other parts of the British Isles gave financial and moral support.

Armstrong has been prominent in the British labor movement for over 10 years. He was a member of the Communist Party at the beginning of the Spanish Civil War and immediately joined the International Brigade. It was on the basis of his experiences in Spain that he first began to question the Stalinist line. When the C. P. denied him discussion inside the party on the Spanish question, he left the party and subsequently joined the Trotskyists.

Armstrong has charged that the Stalinists have acted as stool pigeons in Northern Ireland and aided in police frameups against militant workers and revolutionists - himself and McKevitt included.

McKevitt, a veteran union militant, has been deported to Southern Ireland by the authorities. Armstrong is now leading the fight to end the exclusion order against this working class leader.

SUNDAY OPEN FORUM THIS WEEK: SUNDAY, MARCH 14, 8 P. M. ""STALIN'S MURDER OF ALTER AND ERLICH" Speaker: ALBERT GOLDMAN NEXT WEEK: SUNDAY, MARCH 21, 8 P. M. "Your Standard of Living and What's Happening to It" Speaker: C. CHARLES Auspices: NEW YORK SCHOOL of SOCIAL SCIENCE 116 University Place (cor. 13th Street) Question-Discussion Period Refreshments