

THE MILITANT PUBLISHED IN THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKING PEOPLE

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# Workers Oppose Detroit CIO Auto Workers Strike WMC Draft Plan Against Anti-Union Provocations In New Bedford **Negro Seabees**

#### By C. Thomas

The textile community of New Bedford, Mass., has been up in arms against the attempt of the War Manpower Commission to apply the forced-labor "Allentown Plan" to the workers of that city. Several weeks ago, the WMC ordered the discharge By Hunger Strike of over 100 textile workers with the announced intention of forcing them to take jobs in the Fisk and Firestone tire fabric plants

inals.

Under the "Allentown Plan" employment ceilings on certain "non-essential" industries a r e reduced. The workers discharged are directed to the U.S. Employment Service for assignment to other jobs. "If the workers refuse the jobs," explained one WMC official, "the USES bars them from any employment by refusing them job referrals." The "plan" is a work-where-you'retold-or-starve scheme based on the compulsory labor decrees of the Roosevelt administration.

With one or two exceptions, the workers discharged from the New Bedford textile mills have refused to accept jobs in the tire fabric plants. Antonio England, New Bedford director of the CIO Textile Workers Union, declared they refused because "of exhaustive stretchouts in both plants and because of exhaustive speed-

ups." The workers of the Fisk and Firestone plants have been ply all the workers needed if the trying to better their working 'tire cord plants were taken over conditions but the War Labor Board has pigeon-holed their and operated by the government grievances. "Now when others without profit," the professional Meridian, Miss., refused to grant who know about these disputes," patriots shut up like a clam! Because of the vigorous opadded England, "are asked to go to work in the fabric mills anyway, they resent it. To them it in this case by the city adminisappears that the government, by tration and the local textile manmeans of the manpower ceilings ufacturers, t h e government and the offer of jobs in the tire agents are determined to make a statement claiming that the fabric plants only, is coming to a test case in New Bedford. They the aid of the management in this have refused any concessions.

The Kilgore-Wagner bill, now controversy. "The W M C," comments a before the Senate, is designed to vestigator, declared, however, that Scripps - Howard reporter, "as | "legalize" the "Allentown Plan." well as the Army (which is be- In presenting it, Senator Thomas, hind the scenes), doesn't look at chairman of the Military Affairs it that way." Their attitude is Committee, declared that the bill that "the workers should gladly aims "to enact a statutory basis' KEPT IN BRIG give up their jobs in the civilian for two basic types of regula-

#### "Tyrants War"

racial discrimination in the The concern of the "demogranting of advance ratings, crats" Roosevelt and Churchill for the welfare of Kings, Emover 1,000 Negro Seabees at the perors and potentates is graphically illustrated in the debate now taking place on the "punishment" of war crim-

At the recent Institute of Pacific Relations, Rep. Celler charged, the U.S. representative. Eugene Dooman, special assistant to the State Department, supported the stand of Sir Paul Butler, leading adviser to the British Foreign Office, in urging that "the Emperor and Japanese business leasers," be retained. When Roosevelt named this the "Tyrants War," did he mean a war to keep the tyrants in power !

Port Hueneme base, near Oxnard, California, went on a hunger strike on Friday, March 2. The protesting Negro Seabees are members of the 34th Construction Battalion who were returned to this country last November after serving 21 months at Tulagi and Guadalcanal in the South Pacific.

PROMOTIONS REFUSED This action of the Negro veterans was taken after they had been denied for three years the opportunity to advance in ratings. Their spokesmen, accord ing to Norman O. Houston. a representative of the National Workers Union, offered to sup-Association for the Advancement

of Colored People, charged that their Southern white commanding officer, Comdr. P. J. McDean, of promotions to Negroes but brought in white men to fill position of the unions, supported higher posts. Naval officials acknowledged

**Protest Jim-Crow** 

By Henry Jordan

In a dramatic protest against

the fact of the hunger-strike demonstration when they issued demonstrators had appeared for all meals last Sunday after a two-day fast, Houston, the NAACP inthe strike was continuing, according to information of men from other battalions leaving the base.

Several of the alleged leaders

**Roosevelt's Trained Seals** 

DAVIS

# Chrysler, Briggs Militants **Resist Corporation Attacks**

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35,000 Give Fighting Answer to Conspiracy Of Auto Barons to Destroy UAW-CIO Locals

#### BULLETIN

DETROIT, March 5-Striking members of Dodge Local 3, UAW-CIO, voted last night to end their ten-day walkout on the agreement of WLB and the company to arbitrate the cases of the discharged union militants and to employ no discrimination against strikers. A meeting of Briggs workers voted to continue their strike until 15 fired Local 212 members are reinstated. 

#### By John Saunders

DETROIT, March 4-Over 35,000 embattled Dodge and Briggs workers, members of Locals 3 and 212, CIO United Automobile Workers, are fighting here on the picket lines against the well-organized campaign of the auto barons to smash their unions.

Their huge picket lines, which D millionaire bosses. Grown ar- the war contracts taper off. rogant on juicy war contracts pledge and crawling attitude of become that even the UAW inthe top UAW officialdom, the ternational officers were finally corporations threw all caution to compelled to publicly condemn the winds. In their all-out un-

i n g militant committeemen, wholesale lots, reintroducing the cnees.

No strike since Pearl Harbor has so deeply stirred the Detroit poration provocations. Sensing the imminent danger to their or- in defiance of the UAW top offiganization in the combined anticials. The entire Briggs execulabor onslaught of the companies, tive board is solidly behind the

So indefensible have the antithem. For the first time a deep ion busting drive, Chrysler, fissure has appeared in the lead-Briggs and Ford have been fir- ing ranks of the UAW officialstewards and union members in treasurer of the Michigan CIO, dom. Barney Hopkins, secretaryand former president of Local 3 main out until the fired workers are reinstated. Both Mike Novak. Dodge Local 3 president, and

### speed-up, and attempting to is openly supporting the strike force the giant auto union to its and urging the workers to reworkers, whose patience has been Jess Ferrazza, president of exhausted by the intensified cor- Briggs Local 212, took positions

in the past week have shut down the blood of the soldier dead in two Chrysler and seven Briggs whose name the bosses seek to plants, are an answer to the destroy the unions and living brazen provocations of the multi- standards of the workers before and emboldened by the no-strike union actions of the corporations

at the head of the striking ranks

ed seven workers because they

- has for years had a contract

clause providing for a union

cent on the wage costs and which

puts an estimated \$10,000,000 a

year in the ILGWU's general

Non-wage demands include the

right of either party to contract

cancellation on 20-days notice:

coverage for all mine employes

except superintendents and one

mine foreman. The miners also

per-

royalty of up to 3

welfare fund.

# Vinson Tightens Wage Freeze In Ruling On'Fringe'Demands

Having established the Little Steel formula ceiling on wage reases, the Roosevelt administration has taken another turn L in the wage-freezing line by tightening the restrictions on the granting of union "fringe" demands. The so-called "fringe" demands include such issues as reclassifications, vacations, merit increases, incentive wages, holidays, night-shift differentials, etc., which fall within the Little Steel formula. A recent ruling by Fred M: Vinson, Director of Economic Stabilization, strips the

War Labor Board of all authority to make such adjustments. In a letter to the board gov. O-

WLB Denies UAW-**CIO Wage Raise** 

VINSON

BYRNES

News Item - August 15, 1943: "The National General Motors Council of the UAW-CIO, representing more than 300.000 workers in 100 plants of the corporation, has drawn up demands on the corporation for a general wage increase or a roll-back in prices which would restore the real wages to the point where they existed in April 28, 1942, when the current agreement was signed." (United Automobile Worker, Aug. 15, 1943.) News Item-March 4, 1945: "The War Labor Board refused today to grant a blanket wage increase at 100 General Motors plants having 300,000 employes." (N. Y. Times, March 4, 1945.)

goods mills and accept employ-tion: First, employment ceilings of the hunger strike were rement in the fabric plants, even if under which employers could be ported held in the brig on a it should mean a temporary required to release workers, and "safe-keeping" charge, although second, hiring controls under public relations officials of the hardship. These political and military which workers so released or Navy stated that no disciplinary

agents of the employers never hesitate to call for additional otherwise available for new jobs action was contemplated and that the incident was "closed." sacrifices from the workers. But could be channeled to suitable when George Baldanzi, executive jobs where they were most needvice-president of the Textile ed."

# SWP CANDIDATE SPEAKS **AT ENTHUSIASTIC RALLY**

(Special to THE MILITANT)

LOS ANGELES, March 5-3 Myra Tanner Weiss, Socialist Workers Party candidate for mayor of Los Angeles, tonight spoke before an enthusiasticaudience of San Pedro workers at the YWCA Hall, 437 Ninth St. This meeting, the largest yet held in the campaign of the Trotskyist candidate, was organized by the San Pedro branch of the Socialist Workers Party as the first of a series of neighborhood rallies which will bring the Trotskyist program to workers in all sections of Los Angeles.

Comrade Myra Tanner Weiss, well-known in the California labor movement for her militant activity in the waitresses' and cannery workers' unions, called upon the voters to make Los Angeles a union town. She exposed the anti-labor offensive of Big Business and the Roosevelt ad-

in the

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ministration, pointing out that the Cal Ship Yards alone have laid off 6,000 men, while a fake | instead of a means for satisfying "labor shortage" is used as a pretext for enslaving labor. For- Comrade Myra Tanner Weiss, mation of an independent labor party based on the trade unions, she said, is an urgent necessity for the defense of the welfare of the working class.

In her inspiring speech our candidate for mayor explained side union-halls in token of their the Trotskyist answer to the ca- agreement with the Trotskyist pitalist crimes of economic crises, program of socialist action. All wars and fascism. She urged la- readers of The Militant are urged bor to fight for post-war job security through nationalization of the basic industries and control casts by Myra Tanner Weiss is of factories and plants by the scheduled over Station KFAC, trade unions.

"If the means of production will be heard on March 11 at remain in the hands of the capi- 8:45 p.m.



MYRA TANNER WEISS

talists and continue to be an instrument of profit for the few the needs of the many," said "plant shutdowns and mass un employment are inevitable." Numerous workers of Los Angeles have contributed generously to the campaign at meetings and at leaflet distributions out-

to support the campaign. A series of four Sunday broad-

Los Angeles. The first broadcast

the battalion.'

CONDITIONS NOTORIOUS

1,000 veteran Seabees, in the face cost consequences will result from the Steel formula.

result of discriminatory acts is issued."

### **Election Platform of Trotskyist Candidate for Los Angeles Mayor**

- 1. Fight for post-war job security.
- 2. End the robber taxes which cut into workers' pay-checks.
- 3. Fight the National Service Act and all other anti-labor legislation.
- 4. Make Los Angeles a union town.
- 5. Back Consumers' Committees to control the cost of living.
- 6. Fight for a rising scale of wages to meet the rising cost of living.
- 7. Scrap the Little Steel formula! Rescind the no-strike pledge! Withdraw the labor members from the War Labor Board!
- End Race Discrimination!
- 9. Fight for slum clearance and adequate housing and hospitalization.
- 10. Hands off the European revolution!
- 11. Build the Independent Labor Party!

erning the procedure to be fol- more on gaining a few such lowed in cases involving "fringe" crumbs to appease their memdemands, Vinson declared: bers. In the steel wage dispute "If any directive order is is- the WLB "softened" its rejecsued in this connection and price tion of the main wage demands ceilings or production costs may of the union by granting a num-Despite the fact that the be affected, I request you to ber of these fringe demands. The Negroes are in segregated bat- make certain that the order state strategy of the CIO heads was talions assigned to hard labor in unequivocal language that such to use the steel wage case as and that numerous complaints proposed wage adjustments are a precedent for the other unions have previously been made about not effective under the stand- whose cases were before the War discrimination, Commodore ards of the wage stabilization Labor Board.

Quigley, advance base depot program if the wage adjustments Practically every large CIO commander, sought to dismiss the either affect appreciably the costs international had wage cases complaints with the claim that to the United States or are used pending before the WLB awaitthere is "no color line or dis- as a basis to increase prices or ing the outcome of the steel case crimination against members of to resist price reductions. But before the board handed "I believe that it would be bet- down its decision in these cases,

ter policy for the board to obtain notably in textile, packing house It is a notorious fact that a definite ruling from the OPA and auto, Vinson intervened by Negroes are discriminated against or, where no price ceilings are clamping down on "fringe" conand segregated as a matter of involved, from the appropriate cessions. Thus the union heads official policy throughout the procurement agency, to the effect have been stymied in their stratarmed forces. This protest of that no price or any appreciable egy of skirting around the Lit-

of possible severe retaliation, the proposed wage adjustments The AFL heads also advised was a desperate measure. It was before any directive order involv- their affiliates to submit demands undoubtedly undertaken as the ing this type of wage adjustment for wage adjustments based on

the "fringe" concessions granted which they viewed as intolerable. Vinson's edict tightens the the United Steel Workers Union. The Negro people are extreme- wage-freezing noose by choking Even John L. Lewis of the United ly sceptical about this "war for off any fringe concessions. Roos- Mine Workers has taken a hand democracy" in which Negro boys evelt's rejection of the demand in this game. In the recent dewho are asked to fight and die for an upward revision of the mands submitted to the coal opare Jim-Crowed in the military Little Steel formula has led the erators, Lewis emphasizes that

anything yet presented. The present skirmishes over dent and spokesman for the minbattle against the wage-freez- hourly rate.

> tion of Vinson has served notice that the Roosevelt administration is determined to block any further concessions to the unions. The union heads are giving vent to for a restoration of the "independence" of the War Labor

Board. Nothing could be more fruitless.

the Little Steel formula.

Experience has shown again **MINERS' DEMANDS** and again that what is necessary

is the restoration of the indeunion, regardless of affiliation, is stead of the present two-thirds fringement on mining rights"-The unions can meet this chal- free explosives, fuses and other None of the leading capitalist sible strike on the mine workers.

It took the War Labor Board "only" 19 months to say NO! No wage increase - no price roll-back.

strike.

their own international officers, The strike movement began at the militant auto ranks are not the Dodge Main Plant. Followonly fighting back on the picket lines but are beginning to rally ing a three-day suspension of several workers for failing to to their aid all UAW local officers, committeemen and stewards speed up production the week previously, the Dodge managein this area. ment on Friday, February 23, fir-

MOUNTING GRIEVANCES

This is no isolated, episodic could not meet an impossible outstruggle. It reflects the general put of 184 pieces per day and bitterness of the men and wom- discharged another worker for en at the machines everywhere, "insubordination." The original who have become incensed over production schedule until recentthe firings, inhuman speedup and ly was only 108 per day. This the mounting grievances which was stepped up first to 120 and the arrogant bossess simply toss then 150. Then the company ininto the wastepaper basket. The sisted on the fantastic rate of workers are burning with anger 184 pieces. When the men, one at the hypocrisy of the money-

crazed plutocrats fattening on (Continued on page 5)

# **Mine Union Opens Negotiation** For Substantial Pay Increases

The United Mine Workers of America, representing some 600,000 workers in America's most dangerous industry, on March model of "respectable" unionism 1 opened contract negotiations with the soft coal operators for increased wages that would partially offset the enormous costof-living rise in the company mining towns.

To the surprise of the government-operators coalition, howling | The UMW also asks for \$100 inunion heads to rely more and all of them fall within the Little in advance in anticipation of a stead of the present \$50 vacation

Steel formula. But Lewis is no direct miners' assault against the pay; six paid holidays; and spepiker. His "fringe" demands top wage-freezing Little Steel For- cial rates for various individual mula, John L. Lewis, UMW presi- work classifications.

For the first time, the UMW the side issue of the "fringe" de- ers' policy committee, proposed raised the demand for a royalty mands have sidetracked the main no change in the present basic of 10 cents on every ton of coal

mined, to provide a union fund demand the right to strike to ing Little Steel formula. The ac Seeking to avoid a frontal at- for welfare purposes, including prevent coal shipments to plants where workers are involved in tack on the formula and elude health, recreational and unema "legal strike;" provision of government intervention in the ployment benefits. This demand only union-made tools, explosives negotiations, the UMW has is- was made in answer to the hypoand other equipment; and meassued demands "in conformity critical clamor of the government with the government's stabiliza- officials and mine owners about ures to improve bad housing and their frustration by clamoring tion policy," but which would "inflation," since it was pointed sanitary conditions in mining nevertheless bring increases es- out by Lewis this fund would not areas.

timated at from \$1.60 to "some- be spent for "goods or chattel." where over \$2" per day for the CORPORATIONS YOWL hard-toiling miners.

Lewis opened the negotiations with a statement that the miners presented only demands which the operators could well afford to

Nevertheless, the corporationdominated press and the opera- pay from the greatest profits in .

Among the principal demands tors' spokesmen started an imtheir history and which did not pendence of the unions. Every are full portal-to-portal pay, in- mediate yowl about this "in- violate Roosevelt's "stabilization" policy. However the press and today in the same boat. The capi- for underground travel . time; meaning that only the plushbot- government agencies have launchtalist government has made it premium pay of 10 cents an hour tom boys are entitled to the yield ed a campaign intended to provirtually impossible to avoid a for workers on the second shift of the earth secured by the sweat tect the mine bosses' profits and showdown on the wage-freeze. and 15 cents for the third shift; and blood of the mine workers. place the responsibility for a pos-

lenge by organizing a nation-wide equipment, as well as hats, gogg- papers pointed out that Dubin- Thus Secretary of Interior Ickes conference to formulate a joint les, safety shoes, rubber boots and sky's AFL International Ladies issued a scarehead statement program of ACTION to smash similar protective clothing now Carment Workers - which the urging coal conservation because bought by the miners themselves. bosses frequently point to as a of a "threatened strike."

#### THE MILITANT

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SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 1945

At least one group of employers

favors the launching of an open-

the power of the United Auto-

mobile Workers." The magazine

dismisses these stories as "base-

less." But recent events have

shown that the campaign to

"break the power" of the UAW-

As part of this drive, the auto

barons have embarked on a

tion. Union militants are singled

protesting violations of the UAW

contract. Since the article in

Business Week appeared, defen-

The auto workers are seething

CIO is already under way.

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# **TRADE UNION** Branches Obtain Over 2000 Subscriptions In First Two Weeks Of 'Militant' Campaign

#### By Joseph Keller

Murray "Fights" Back CIO President Philip "Bleeding Heart" Murray greeted the WLB's approval of the Little Steel Formula with his typical Traffic Employes Association blustering display of verbal indignation.

Murray, who has been beating his gums for a couple of years the WLB. about the "inequity of the Little

Steel Formula" while doing all in his power to curb any independent action of the CIO workers to smash the formula, declaimed that "the situation in which labor now finds itself is simply intolerable."

TWO

In his very next sentence, however he proposes to continue the very union policy that has brought labor to this "intolerable situation." He declares: "Now, more than ever, it is of the utmost importance to our war effort that there be maintained uninterrupted production. The CIO and its members are fully conscious of this need and therefore shall observe their no-strike pledge."

Murray believes in the policy of "turning the other cheek"only it's the workers who always get slapped. But not forever and not for long. The CIO members are becoming "fully conscious" of the need, not to "observe the nostrike pledge," but to scrap it.

Textile Union's revocation of the "to 5,220,983. no - strike pledge for 100,000 cotton - rayon workers and the growing strike wave in Detroit.

Incidentally, it is appropriate to recall how Murray helped disarm the workers about the WLB and its position on the Little Steel Formula. In his appeal for continuation of the nostrike pledge before the rebellious delegates at the CIO United

Automobile Workers convention last September, Murray asserted

55-Cent Minimum IF-"I am just as sure as I am living After issuing its decision "rethat the Little Steel Formula is commending" a 55-cent an hour going to be revised. I don't think I would be far from correct."

At that time Murray demanded the War Labor Board last week support for the no-strike policy granted its regional agencies because he claimed the Little authority to approve a minimum Steel Formula was sure to be wage up to 55 cents for all "substandard" wage earners. adrevised. Now he insists on the same policy because the formula mittedly numbering over 4,000,hasn't been revised. The one thing

However, WLB Chairman Davis Murray is sure of is that no hastened to assure a press conmatter how the workers are kicked around, they must not fight back with their most effective board does not mean, unfortuna- help get subs for us. By the time the tely, that 4,000,000 workers are weapon, the strike. going to get a 55-cent wage \* \*\*\* tomorrow." All it does is merely

#### **Telephone** Pay

in Washington last week granted

onen the way for the workers Reversing the recommendation to get that amount." In short, of a \$5 a week increase made by they'll get it if they raise enough already obtained many new subscripits own special panel, the WLB hell!

By Reba Aubrey, Campaign Director |New York Telephone companies hastily made an offer to pay \$4 a week more. This was \$1 less than the Federation of Long Lines Telephone Workers and the

ing. The unions continued to press for their original demands before

Union representatives have declared they are going to petition \$4 raise the companies agreed to another strike vote will very likely be taken. The telephone workers are particularly in-

dignant because the WLB made its decision without giving the unions a public hearing. WLB Vice - Chairman Taylor conceded that a "mistake may have been made" by the failure to hold such a hearing. However, it is always the corporations and never the workers who benefit by such "mistakes."

**Unionism Grows** 

to the annual National Labor Relations Board report, 1,072,594 unorganized workers voted in NLRB elections for union collective bargaining representation. That's the significance of the This brings the nine year total

> The number voting last year was the greatest in the NLRB's history, and the number of elections held registered "an increase of 3,000 per cent over the number

received in the first year of the oard's operations. Despite all the anti-labor propaganda, the workers in the past year voted union in greater numbers than ever before.

> Chrysler and other plants." minimum wage in the textile case, Italian neighborhood where we'd been almost a magic meaning."

> and important feature of this campaign ference that "this action by the | is that we have several contacts who will campaign is over we are certain some of these sympathizers will be party members.'

Al Lynn, Los Angeles: "We have tions from people contacted during our

The second week of our three-month Subscription Campaign for 10,000 readers to The Militant shows a total of 2,070 new subscriptions. Although we have not received results for Red Sunday mobilizations of March 4 from those Socialist Workers Party branches farther west than the Hudson River, we feel the ex-(local operators) were demand- cellent results obtained by the comrades in New York Local are indicative of the results to be reported by other branches.

#### FROM THE BRANCHES

D. Hilson, Akron: "Our high scorer at the WLB for a reconsideration of the Sunday mobilization was D. Kenny, the case in an effort to secure the a comrade who had been admitted into the party just previous to the mobilizapay. If the petition is rejected tion. If local and national beginnings are indicative, we should have at least 13,000 subs by the end of the campaign." K. Zellon, Milwaukee: "We covered several blocks in a Negro neighborhood and received a good response. We found the workers more receptive and sympathetic to The Militant than ever before. They were quite politically developed and everywhere we received a good hearing. The time is near, we feel sure, when no working class family will be without The Militant."

H. Newell, Allentown Pace-Setter: "Three of us went out to a steel workers' During the past year, according area in Bethlehem and sold 13 subs; 5 more sold to friends makes a total of 18 subs for the week."

> Sandy Robertson, New York: "Enthusiasm is running high after two successful mobilizations in which 80 subs were sold. The New York Trotskyist Youth Group is confident that its quota of 500 will be fulfilled and surpassed." Jerry Kirk, Detroit Pace-Setter: "The idea of a national mobilization is a good one. Comrades felt that we were going into action together, all over the coun-

try. This gave added incentive to our work. More comrades participated in this mobilization than in any other. More subscriptions were obtained than in any other single mobilization. Among the new readers are production workers from Briggs, Packards, Ford Rouge, Hudson,

P. Mertens, St. Poul: "We covered an distributing The Militant for sometime, and had a very warm reception. Almost the only ones who said 'No' were those who couldn't read English. For some, the words 'A Socialist Paper' seem to have

Libby Jones, Buffalo: "An interesting

BRANCH	QUOTAS	SUBS	PERCENT
Allentown	50	42	84
Flint	50	28	56
Milwaukee	100	46	46
Akron	85	38	45
Toledo	250	86	34
New York	2500	735	29
Philadelphia	150	36	24
St. Paul	100	23	23
Bayonne	150 -	35	<b>23</b>
Minneapolis	300	66	22
Youngstown	300	58	19
Buffalo	350	62	18
Los Angeles	2000	343	17
Chicago	1000	162	16
Detroit	1000	154	15
Boston -	200	27	14
Newark	350	49	14
San Francisco	350	42	12
Cleveland	200	10	5
Seattle	400	6	2
Reading	75	0	0
Rochester	50	0	0
San Diego	50	0	0
Groups, Members-at-			8 201 <sup>-1</sup> 8 2
Large and Friends	140	22	16
TOTAL	10,200	2070	20



Numerous incidents reported by good fortune to meet and discuss our agents indicate the ever- with these workers?" increasing responsiveness of the With the help of our subworkers to The Militant. We

scribers, The Militant is making quote just a few. I. Cope, Youngstown Branch: friends in every section of the country. "While revisiting subscribers, we

were informed one reader had taken an article of 'Shop Talks on Socialism' and put it on the bulletin board in her shop. Since it was concerning a boss and his an introductory offer. Had been attitude towards those under him, it was well accepted by her shop-

mates.' Justine Lang, New York Local: "In our Sunday door-to-door work a woman took a copy of our paper and said, 'If I like the paper after I read it, I'll mail in the subscription blank.' About an hour later as we left the building, someone shouted at us through the window. It was this same woman who gestured to us to pick up what she had thrown towards us from the window. It was a. 25c. piece wrapped in the printed sub blank

had an interesting time locating Novelty, Ohio, the home of a subscriber. The local newspaper after a half-hour research gave us the Bill Crane, Milwaukee Branch: necessary information. It's half "The Militant is getting a fine way between Akron and Cleveresponse at factory distributions. land and contains twenty-seven Our comrades have reported good individuals. We really are reachcomments and praise received at ing into nooks and crannies."

here in Louisville."

first of each month.'

of The Militant each week. You

may bill me for the papers the

D. Hilson, Akron Branch: "We

# **EMPLOYERS PLAN DRIVE TO BUST LABOR UNIONS**

#### By R. Bell

As the war against Germany | means tight manpower and mateenters its final stages, the Wall rials, the higher joblessness." Street plunderbund has begun AIM TO BREAK UAW-CIO

to speed up at least one aspect of its "reconversion" schemes. This part of the "reconversion" shop drive prior to reconversion plans of the profit-bloated cor- to civilian production. "Stories porations is directed toward are getting around Washington breaking the organized resist- these days," reveals Business ance of the workers to the "post- | Week, "that reconversion of the war" wage-slashing, openshop, automobile industry is going to union-wrecking program of Big be delayed by a drive to break

Business. The dollar patriots have amassed huge "war chests" out of the fabulous profits on war contracts in preparation for a showdown with the unions. Their attention is now absorbed with the question of "timing." They are considering when, how, and where to launch the all-out union-smashing drive. deliberate program of provoca-The Feb. 24 issue of the magazine Business Week declares: out for victimization. The speed-'It won't be long before man- up has been intensified. Union agement will need to begin map- stewards have been fired for ping wage policy in specific terms - with the European war going as it has recently." Producers of raw materials and of sive strikes have been provoked consumers' durable goods face by Chrysler, Ford and Briggs. different wage "problems," says the magazine. materials side, steel men are afraid supply will exceed demand. In theory, they would risk a strike to keep costs down. Yet, in practical fact, could they chance the

manufacturers, on the other hand, G. H., Louisville, Ky.: "Enclosed please find a coupon clipped from an issue of The Militant and sell everything they can build for This policy of capitulation to em-25c. in coin to cover the cost of a long while and may be more ployer-government pressure can an introductory offer. Had been willing to fight over wages than only further weaken the union. the steel men." receiving a copy of this paper

regularly from a friend in Chiing whether it would be more ground and picking the time for cago until recently and would like to continue receiving it. Hope I shall be able to receive The Militant since there is a definite lack of decent reading material R. H., Missoula, Montana: "I would like to have twelve copies

"On the raw with indignation at this flagrant assault on their union. The fighting temper of the militant auto unionists is rising to fever pitch. The elements of a labor crisis of the first magnitude are ripening loss of 'business? Refrigerator in the entire Detroit area. In the face of this major crisis, will be pressed by dealers to get the top leadership of the UAWnew models into showrooms. CIO has no program to offer Theoretically, they can't risk cther than a continuation of its delay. Yet they know they can unconditional surrender policy. It provides the corporations with Thus Big Business is speculat- the advantage of choosing the

profitable to have the "showdown" their union-busting drives. They before reconverting to civilian have already begun probing to production, or to postpone it to a test the fighting capacity of the later date. "Labor problems in union. It would be fatal to wait this country will differ sharply," until the enemy is fully prepared says Business Week, "according to launch an all-out offensive. to whether the Army and Navy Labor must free its hands and reduce munitions buying 10% or sharpen its weapons for the im-30% in the 90 days after Ger- pending struggle. It is time to many falls. The lower figure clear the decks for action!

> **Akron Contender Challenges** All New Members

and long distance telephone operators in New York City who secure a 55-cent minimum IFverwhelmingly voted to strike 1. the employers agree to it in January but postponed a final strike vote under the Smith-Conand request it; 2. no price increase is innally act pending a ruling of the national WLB. Washington, D. C. volved; 3. an increase to the new operators who participated in the minimum does not conflict with Thanksgiving week strike along with Ohio and Michigan workers the "appropriate prevailing rates" were awarded a \$4 increase. Louisville and Memphis operators were granted \$3.

The New York operators were in January, when the American Telephone and Telegraph and

#### LOS ANGELES SOUTH SIDE **ELECTION RALLY** for **MYRA** TANNER WEISS SWP Candidate for Mayor SUNDAY, MARCH 18 Patriotic Hall 1672 E. 102nd STREET (opposite Pacific Elec. Station)

induced to call off their strike to take the curse off the WLB's Pepper resolution which would fix the minimum hourly wage at the average worker's family.

8:30 P. M.

City

in given areas and communities. The administration's intent in making this new ruling is far from benevolent. Its purpose is prior "recommendation" upholding continuation of the wagefreezing Little Steel Formula. In addition, the administration is seeking to head off growing union pressure for passage of the

65 cents. The labor members of the WLB had proposed a 72-cent minimum, basing their demand upon the government's own figures for a minimum health and decency income required by Even when the pro-corporation WLB does make a seeming concession to the workers, it is so full of "if, ands, and buts" that the workers can generally expect

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Published in the interests of the Working People

about labor's struggles for a better world

(Please Print)

THE MILITAN

INTRODUCTORY OFFER of 26 issues for 25c.

I enclose 25c (coin or stamps).

to get 'nothin' for nothin' and damn little of that."

The ruling has the usual loop- mayoralty campaign, as well as several new members. In addition from The Militant." increases of only \$3 to the local holes enabling the administration to which one worker asked us to form a class at his house for the to deny in practice what it grants | many subscribers in his project. Recruiting from special subscribers in principle. The workers can already amounts to a half dozen locally with many more who will be ready in a short time."

A. Field. Minneapolis: "Our mobilization last Sunday was a the gates. Not only that but some success in spite of the fact that the weather was bad. We sold 46 workers have made financial consubs in two hours. We plan on having more Sunday mobilizations." tributions. And on riding the streetcar back, all of the workers Harry Robinson, Newark: "The Newark Branch got off to a open and read the paper. One slow start but nobody should get the impression from this that we comrade said she saw one of are not going to do our share. We like Buffalo's spirit in challenging them earnestly checking the \$18,us in this campaign. The beating we gave them last time hasn't 000 scoreboard. No doubt noticing killed their fighting spirit. We accept the challenge." that the Milwaukee Branch is

R, Haddon, San Francisco: "We went out again in the Mission near the top." District and got 26 subs-almost all trade unionists. Three of us are running neck and neck for high individual scores. In reply to Buffalo's challenge, please advise that we discussed their challenge young woman nursing a babe and San Francisco accepts."

Bernard Forrest. Chicago: "Our largest trade union fraction was given a quota of 100 subs and voluntarily doubled it immediately. ve are having full branch mobilizations every other Sunday."

I. Cope, Youngstown: "I would like to report a very favorable eception to The Militant. In fact a few who bought subscriptions assured us they would get new subscribers for us among their which I would expect only from for 10,000 new subscribers to fellow workers.'

FROM OUR SUBSCRIBERS

L. C., Lockland, Ohio: "I will send 4 more subs before long. I don't know whether they will all 'squat' or not."

H. C., Cincinnati, Ohio: "Well let's be practical; let's give the ocal Stalinists a little fight. Enclosed are 6 subs-with hopes of disrupting as much capitalism as possible."

These two worker-readers are doing all they can to help increase the circulation of their paper, The Militant. Have you sold subscriptions to your friends?

Pioneer Notes

B. Kingsley, Cleveland Branch: "No one can escape taking "The subscriber I revisited was a part in politics." This is the opening statement of Joseph while four or five urchins (I Hansen's interesting pamphlet, couldn't count them; they were American Workers Need A Labor everywhere at once) were making Party, which goes on to explain the greatest possible racket. She invited me into a small crowded and prove the point.

The Socialist Workers Party three-room apartment with an enthusiastic greeting, the like of members now out on a campaign an advanced political worker, The Militant are finding this 'The 18 are released!' Her hus pamphlet of great interest to peoband works a ten-hour shift at | ple who want to know what can Aluminum Company of America, be done now. she says.

91

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64

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Milwaukee: "I think that the "He frequently is so tired when most likely pamphlet to take ceturning home that she makes along in the subscription camit a daily duty to read The Milipaign is The Labor Party by tant to him. By the end of the Hansen.' week it's read from cover to

A New York campaigner tells cover. Can anyone wonder at inof an experience in talking to a defatigable spirit when it is our new subscriber. "Her mother had been a socialist for many years. As a disciple of Debs, she had attempted to instill in her daught. er a healthy class-conscious attitude. All her agitation had been to no avail, however, for the girl SUBS SOLD took little interest in politics and regarded her mother's ideas as 'old fashioned.

"One day the girl's husband gave her Breitman's Wartime Crimes of Big Business. She read the pamphlet eagerly and then read Hansen's American Workers Need a Labor Party. When she had finished she realized for the first time how politics concerned her directly. She was so enthusiastic that she gave the pamphlets to her mother. After reading them, she looked at her daughter and said, 'Now that's what I've been telling you all these years'."

American Workers Need a Labor Party by Joseph Hansen 15c. Order from Pioneer Publishers, 116 University Place, New York 3, N. Y.

(For the benefit of those not familiar with Damon Runyon's style of writing, the following is a challenge from the Akron Branch to all new members of not more than three months standing for the best individual score in the Militant sub campaign.)

Just as you start your National Tournament the Akron Socialist Workers Party A.C. runs across a very promising young contender by the name of Denny O'Kenny and we sign him up to fight for our club. Right away we see this Irish lad is very fast on his feet and knows how to lead with his left.

We are in the dark a little more than somewhat regarding new contenders in the field. But we are willing to put him up blind against all comers.

We are not known as citizens who will enter a novice out of his class or who will lay any broccoli on a bad proposition. But just to help the cause along we will match O'Kenny with any young battler of his own weight and experience.

We are putting up a copy of Trotsky's "Lessons of October" and any branch that has a likely contender can put up a book equally suited for young hopefuls. Winner take all.

Although our boy is in training only one week now, he will meet any newcomer with no more than three months experience, since we feel he can well afford the handicap. Naturally we won't risk him against seasoned veterans because we do not want him to hear the bells ringing before his time.

Come out punching and break clean in the clinches. May the best man win.

D. HILSON, Akron Campaign Manager

P.S. If the card gets crowded we can put up two more O'Kennys. It's a fighting family.

> **NEW YORK Sunday Night Forum**

"CHILD LABOR IN THE SECOND WORLD WAR" The Fight Against Child Labor in the United States A Program to Wipe Out Child Labor.

Questions

Speaker:

**RUTH JOHNSON, Contributor to THE MILITANT** Sunday, March 11 ct 8 P. M.

#### Refreshments

X

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The only newspaper in this country that tells the truth You may start my subscription to THE MILITANT with your Náme ...... Street ......Apt. 

#### SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 1945

# **Roosevelt And The Middle-East Kings**

(What is behind the present Allied conferences? This is @ the fourth of a series of articles on the secret meetings of the "Big Three" and their meaning to the working people of the world.)

#### By Frank Lawrence

Neither Roosevelt's report to Congress on the Yalta conference last week nor the official travelogue descriptions of his journeys and meetings in the Middle East reveal why the President takes such a keen interest at this time in that section of the world where once was located the mythical Garden of Eden. Yet there in Saudi-Arabia, Lebanon and Syria lies a modern capitalist Eden in the form of the world's richest oil deposits. This section is also strategically located for post-war trade. At Port Lyautey and Rabat-Sale in French Morocco and at Cairo in Egypt, U. S. Army-Navy engineers have built great airports useful for future flight-borne commerce. Egypt, Iraq, Iran and Ethiopia are potential markets for U.S. export trade.

ceed that figure."

ing to armed conflict.

That is why this part of the East has become so dear to the

heart of American finance capital. his colleagues what is at stake. And this is why Roosevelt went from Yalta to Great Bitter Lake Iran, Iraq, and Saudi are the where he held court for the three kings of the Orient-King Ibn Saud of Saudi Arabia, King producing over 400.000 barrels a Farouk of Egypt, and Haile Selassie, Emperor of Ethiopia. The lavish arrangements for the indicated reserves greatly ex-

Roosevelt's reception of these potentates were part of the extensive preparations being made by U. S. imperialism for its drive world on some basis that is just to dominate the Middle East. and fair to all concerned, it almost Several official missions have recently returned from that area tional controversy, probably leadwith reports surveying the situation from the standpoint of the impending American economic invasion. They h a v e carefully studied the measure of British control and sought ways and means for Wall Street to muscle in on this rich domain that British

imperialism has so long exploited. SEEK MARKETS

Senators Burton and Tunnel reported to their colleagues on February 15 and 19 that the lressed to the British who now Middle East offers lucrative trade lominate that section of the prospects which would go to Wall Middle East which is known as Street as its share of the vic-"the sterling area." Dean Landis tor's spoil. "It would be an explained how British financial anomalous position for the United control operates there. "Dollars States to occupy, after putting up in these countries go into a centhe men. the money and enduring tral pool for the benefit of the all the sacrifices which these entire Empire, there to be doled mean, to have our country preout according to the needs of cluded from the markets we have these various countries as Engliberated," remarked Senator land sees them.' Tunnel. This tool of Wall Street

CLASH WITH ENGLAND went so far as to investigate the Through its political servants possibility of establishing U.S. banks throughout the Middle Wall Street is exerting great East, but was sceptical about the pressure to break England's immediate advisability of such financial hold and open up these markets for American commodisteps.

ties. Senator Burton reminded the They were equally interested administration that "involved in in communication lines. Upon returning last month from Cairo all questions of economics in this where he served as U. S. Econ-omic Minister, Dean Landis of the trohal'exchange and the so-called sterling block. This is a subject Harvard Law School stated that "the security of that area is very which needs re-adjustment at the vital to all communications. Air present rather than after postroutes can't skip it. Cairo is vital war relations have been frozen to air navigation, just as Suez is into a fixed pattern." to shipping."

From Casablanca to Tripoli to matters Roosevelt undoubtedly der Hitler. When news of this "incredible blunder and political own destiny. They hope to re- in by Hitler, himself a foreigner, ment for them." Cairo the entire route is dotted discussed not only with the three leaked out, there was a reshuf- naivete on the part of the original peat on an even vaster scale with air-bases built by the U.S. kings but with Churchill at Cairo. fling. Some of the Nazis were

Senator Burton has informed "The petroleum resources of greatest in the world," he pointed day. Their proven reserves are in excess of 16 billion barrels, and He declared that "unless this wealth be made available to the inevitably will lead to interna-"In the days of economic stress Nazi Officials Retained confronting the world following the war, these great petroleum resources will be of inestimable value, not only to the localities in which they are placed, but also the world as a whole, and the United States in particular." Had the Senator wished to be even more specific, he might have added: Standard Oil. By John G. Wright This warning was directly ad-

The cynical pledges of the Crimea conferees not to rest until of American imperialism, does Nazism is destroyed" are given the lie direct by the policy of not hesitate to interpret the gist Allied military authorities in occupied German areas. The whole of Crimea decisions as they relate sordid story of Allied collaboration with the Hitlerite scum still to political life for Germany preremains to be told. But enough has already been made public cisely in the same sense as have o enable even the most gullible to tell just what the score is. Let us take, for example, the<sup>3</sup>

Aachen is the rule and not an setup in Aachen. According to exception. The columnist Dorrecent exposures in the London othy Thompson has made the flat Daily Express and the N.Y. charge that "nowhere have we PM, the government there was (i. e. the "democracies") bestowentrusted completely to "reaced office upon men with a clean tionaries," that is, either avowanti-Nazi record, as indicated, for ed Nazis or their henchmen. instance, by a concentration camp career." This charge has not been denied. It can't be. It is Out of 325 city officials, 57 were Nazis."Appointed as Mayor was a big business executive, Oppenthe truth. The exclusion of even hof, formerly personnel manager the mildest anti-Nazis is part of of the Veltrup munitions works. a calculated Allied policy.

#### Not a single genuine fighter DEAL WITH NAZIS against Fascism, no member of

the German underground was ininists or cowardly liberals, like Hitlerites themselves. cluded among these Aachen offithe editors of PM, from trying In short, Aachen was governed to cover up for the Allies. For determination of Washington, under the Allies in virtually the instance, PM's Max Lerner cabled London and Moscow not to per-

Military Government setup here.

1933.

The N. Y. Times, central organ Aachen. Thus, the Times Paris correspondent cabled, Feb. 19, that "it is considered too early now to deal with German refu-

gees, anti-Nazi organizations or Free Germans." In the meantime, it is obvious, the Allies propose to "deal" only with Nazis and pro-Nazis, as they have been doing. While Roosevelt, Churchill and Stalin

liefs."

The weekly U.S. News, March

# **Report Gives Real Opinion of German People on Nazism**

A report of the attitude of German workers to the Nazis, based upon interviews with MONTREAL, Feb. 26. - A. hundreds of German citizens the psychological warfare a hundred imported military branch of the Twelfth Army and civilian police, has answergroup, has been made public ed the charge that they oppose by Congressman Voorhis who military conscription on acread their findings into the count of cowardice. An esti-Congressional Record on Feb- mated one to three hundred ciruary 9. The facts thus reveal- tizens were injured over the ed serve to refute the current weekend of Feb. 24 and 25 in anti-German propaganda cam- their struggle against the force paign designed to identify the sent from Montreal to round entire German people with the up 'draft evaders,' but they succrimes of Nazism and the Ger- ceeded in sending the capitalist thugs scurrying back to Monman capitalists.

Citizens of Aachen were inerviewed after American troops entered the city. Those who conducted the interviews for the se: "To judge by the words heard American Army were Dr. Saul K. Padover, onetime assistant to the not in future be an easy task in Secretary of the Interior and an | Drummondville." authority on Austro-German his-

The trouble dates back to last ory: Dr. Paul Sweet, professor of November, when the hated na-German history at Bates College, tional Conscription bill was Lewiston, Maine; and Lewis F. passed by a reactionary house Gitler, Coeditor of German Psy- despite the solid opposition put chological Warfare. These men up by the whole of French-speakwere assigned the task of dis- ing Canada who comprise a third covering what effect Nazi propa- of the total population. At that ganda has had on the German time mass demonstrations shook people. What they learned the country from one end to an-"changed some of their own basic other and nearly caused the colconceptions of the Germany of lapse of the timid Liberal governtoday," the report says. ment. Then last month it was The interviews showed that the revealed that, of the first con-German workers who were the tingent of 'draftees' sent overseas

first victims of Hitler's rule and to reinforce Canada's volunteer suffered under his bloody regime army, almost one half had desert for twelve years are today his ed before sailing.

sworn enemies, as they were before he came to power. Dr. Padover found that "they were many police sorties to round up quite distressed by our (U. S. the army evaders. In this in-Army's) nonfraternization policy. stance the heroic and victorious Many of them hoped we would fight put up by the brave French pick the Nazis and punish them, instead of treating all Germans as equally guilty.

tion camps for their anti-nazism. police, from other regions." which should be evidence enough

that all Germans are not alike. were astonished to find that 12 girls, when asked whether they

vailing in the city.

allotments.

manding the immediate issuance

of adequate food rations and a

drastic change in current methods

of distribution. Heavy fire was

directed against Paul Ramadier,

Minister of Supplies. Speakers at

the meeting called for his resig-

nation. Last week's Militant re-

ported the blunt refusal of

Ramadier to increase rations for

the miners in Northern France

who are refusing to work Sun-

days for the present starvation

Indicative of the angry temper

of the Paris masses was the fiery

speech of Maria Rabatte, member

of the Executive Committee of

the Communist Party. Although

Thorez, Stalinist leader, had only

recently proclaimed the Com-

munist Party to be a "govern-

ment party." the pressure of the

workers is so intense that Mmer

Rabatte urged the women of Paris

to follow the example of their

sisters in northern and southern

France who "gained their ends

proclaim it is impermissible to years of propaganda had not would have any hesitation about Most of the battle that followed differentiate between the Nazis changed the convictions of old- marrying Frenchmen, Russians, was waged in the total darkness and the German people, they time Social-Democrats, Socialists or Americans, almost invariably of the early hours of Sunday themselves proceed to draw a line and Communists. They talked to responded that this would depend morning because by this time all of distinction - against the anti- many persons who had been not upon race at all, but upon the street lamps had been knocked This does not prevent the Stal. Nazi elements and in favor of the through terms in concentration whether they were in love. When out. In the course of the fray, camps, and had come out stronger asked about marrying Jews, they Expressed in this policy is the than ever in their original be- expressed the same attitude." The hatred of the German Dr. Padover claims that many worker for their Nazi oppressors would retreat, then return again

under the Ames in virtually the instance, runs max beiner cauce mit the German masses to have Germans regard Nazism as a kind is summed up in the phrase: to the charge, then finally got same way — and even by many from faction that the structure of any voice in determining their of foreign rule. "It was brought "Shooting is too quick a punish- into their trucks and left the city."

Canadians Fight Draft Roundup

By E. Johnson

victorious battle, waged by the | heaped upon them by their in the city of Aachen by three French - Canadian workers of masters has proven once and for American educators attached to Drummondville, Que., against all that it is deep-rooted hatred of their capitalist oppressors, and not fear, that impels them to resist conscription so violently.

THREE '

Prime Minister King's "Gestapo" rumbled into Drummondville in no less than fifty trucks, hoping, no doubt, for a large haul of cannon-fodder. They separated into bands of about a dozen and proceeded to their assigned area of the town. They stopped civilians and autoists, brusquely demanding identification papers. They entered all public places of amusement. etc. and, according to treal before order was restored. the authoritative Montreal Daily In the words of the Montreal Star, did not even stop at enter-French-Canadian daily, La Presing private houses.

Said the Montreal French daily, La Presse: "According to a numhere and there, man-hunts will ber of serious people, the military police were arrogant enough. . .

The citizens were naturally becoming more and more indignant at these humiliations and began following the police bands around. Finally a crowd of one thousand assembled outside the Capitol Theatre, watching the police question patrons as they emerged. An immediate provocation was precipitated when the police manhandled a youth who refused to be questioned. Tempers were rising rapidly, and what proved to be the "last straw" is related by the Montreal Gazette correspondent:

"Uniformed Federal police oficers stood at their posts watch-

ing closely. An army truck, park-The battle at Drummondville ed up the curb and blocked by was the result of one of the persons standing in the street, pulled away suddenly and ploughed through nearly 400 scrambling citizens many of whom narrowly escaped injury. Cries and roars workers against the indignities swelled up from the mob. Hunks of ice were falling like hail now,

"As one old Social-Democrat and in the last years it was supand police officers began their said, there are still thousands of ported, in each locality, by SS retreat to Heriot St. where Germans in jails and concentra- troops and other forms of coercive R. C. M. P. (Royal Canadian Mounted Police) headquarters are The report denies that Hitler's situated.

"The mob followed, then broke race-hatred has penetrated the "Padover, Sweet and Gitler mass of German people. "Young into a run with police making

a fast getaway."

three police cars were overturned. La Presse thus describes the climax of the battle: "The police

armed forces. "Many Americans hope that some special rights East is bound to encounter bitter ments, but again the genuine will be granted in exchange for resistance from England. The anti-Nazi forces in Aachen were the large investments that have British capitalists cannot give up been made," writes the March 2 their policy of inter-Empire trade US News. That is what Senator protected by a monopolistic finan-US News. That is what Senator Tunnel had in mind when he sug-cial structure which recognizes Talk in Newark gested "that in view of the possi- only the pound sterling. Their far bility that these airports will be less efficient industrial machine of value for trade after the war, and depleted resources prevent the State Department should be them from competing successfully kept in close touch with the situa- in an open market with U.S. goods and capital. tion as to each of these installa-The Middle East has already tions."

played a prominent part in two Most important of all, howworld wars. The clashes between ever, is the question of oil. This Great Britain, Russia and Geris why Roosevelt was especially many over railroad lines, oil and careful to look after King Ibn Saud, setting up a royal tent territory in the Middle East helpunder the bristling guns of U.S. ed bring on the first World War. battleships. The Arabian-Ameri- The Allies fought to prevent Gercan Oil Company, a U. S. con- many and Japan from joining cern, has already invested 100 their forces in the Middle East drive during this war. million dollars in the enormous Now the growing rivalry beconcessions granted by Ibn Saud.

#### RICH OIL FIELDS

3

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and the second

Now the joint holders of these oil fields in Saudi-Arabia, the Texas Co. and Standard Oil of California, are planning to build before the second World War is a pipeline to the Mediterranean. According to the N. Y. World Telegram, Feb. 27, negotiations for permission to construct the line across territory mandated to the British are now being concluded in London. At the same time a treaty embodying an oil agreement between the British and U. S. governments is being considered by a Senate Com-I I Melter mittee.

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This U. S. invasion of the Middle | replaced by less notorious elecompletely excluded.

cials.

**On Yalta Parley** NEWARK, Feb. 25 - Speak

ing here for the first time since his imprisonment in the Minneapolis Labor Case, Oscar Shoenfeld tonight received a warm welcome from the members and friends of the Newark branch of

the Socialist Workers Party. Discussing the "Big Three' conference at Yalta, Comrade Shoenfeld pointed out that the Crimea conference was one more in a series of meetings that have each time been acclaimed as a

tween American and British imdefinitive settlement of the quesperialism, and the struggles for tions confronting the Allied rulspheres of influence in this area ers. He stated that the need for among the Allies, are sowing the these conferences flows from the insoluble problems they face. seeds of further conflicts even

Behind the appearance of unity and harmony there are deep conflicts between the three powers. American finance capital has been conducting an economic struggle against Great 'Britain since the first World War. There exist even more fundamental antagonisms between the Anglo-American imperialists and the Soviet Union. "Their hatred of the workers state," he said, "which still exists despite the rule of Stalin's counter-revolutionary bureaucracy, flows from two principal factors. The first of these is their hunger to open up this one-sixth of the earth's surface to capitalist exploitation. Of equal importance is their fear that so long as the USSR exists, no matter how degenerated it may be, it remains a powerful symbol to the revolutionary workers of

Europe who are already on the

European revolution," Comrade

Shoenfeld concluded, "that motiv-

ates all the reactionary plans of

the Big Three and impels them

to unite despite their differ-

ences. But they cannot succeed.

The mass action of the European

workers to abolish capitalism and

establish Socialism will put an

end to all their reactionary

"It is this fear of the coming

march.'

schemes!'

face of such statements as the 2, blurts this out: "One reason one issued by an official spokes- why top German Nazis are not man of the American Seventh being named formally as war Army to the effect that the only criminals at this stage is that Nazis to be removed from office there is hope and even expectawere those whose membership in tion that some one among their France the fascist party dated prior to number will turn out to be a

THE MILITANT

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and 1st Ave.; Bishop Drug Store, 507 Jackson St.; Rayner's Book Store, 905 - 3rd Ave.; Pool Room, 500 Main

Foster's Book Store, 410

Washington St.; M. & M. Drugstore, Michigan St. and ERNATIONAL NOTES

is once again firmly entrenched to assume the proportions of a on the Philippines. a new note is white terror.

25,000 hungry Parisian workheard from Washington. A dis-An Athens newspaper reports ng men and women jammed a patch from the capital in the that arrests of working class neeting on February 24th at the N. Y. Times (Feb. 27th) states militants are continuing at the Velodrome d'Hiver called by the that officials characterized the rate of 1500 a day. An indication Liberation Committee of Paris "hope of independence (on July of the brutal treatment to which and demanded that immediate 4, 1946) as unlikely of accom- these workers are subjected can measures be taken to alleviate plishment. On that date, these be gathered from the report of a the famine conditions now preanonymous sources state, inde- | hunger strike of 3,000 prisoners pendence "will still be a thing of | in the Chassani prison. Resolutions were passed de-

the future." The alibi now given At the same time the trials of is destruction caused by the John Rallis, Gen. George Tso-Japanese. Before the Japanese lakoglou and twenty-five others invaded the islands there were

who served as premiers or in some similar capacity under the Nazis, persecuting, torturing and butchering the workers for Hitler's Gauleiters, are turning out

Germany BREMEN: The Moscow radio to be a shameful farce. The goveported that "disturbances" had ernment has permitted the colbroken out among German sailors laborationists about 100 at-

on warships lying in this port. A torneys. The court is packed with state of emergency has been pro- monarchist and fascist sympalaimed by the Nazis. All traffic thizers. They have managed to between the port and the city has convert the trial into a three ring been blocked, and roads to the circus. The attorneys challenge port are being patrolled by SS the constitutionality of the court; troopers and the Nazi Motor the reactionary rabble in the court stages a noisy demonstra-Corps.

MANNHEIM: A Frenchman tion; hearings are suspended. who escaped from forced labor These proceedings assume so in this city described conversafarcical a character because the ions of German soldiers on the Nazi Quislings are being prorailroad station platform openly secuted for crimes of which the criticising Hitler as responsible British Quislings, Plastiras and for the disasters in Poland and Papandreou, are equally guilty.

the west. He asked them if they Both gangs of rascals, tried to were not afraid that the Gestapo subjugate the workers of Greece might overhear them. "To hell under the heel of native capitalwith the Gestapo," they replied. ists serving a foreign imperialist "Nobody cares what they do master. Joseph Harrison, correspondent for the Christian

Science Monitor in Athens, puts the case neatly:

According to an act of Con- drons were ordered out to put gress in 1934, the date for the down "serious" disturbances that independence of the Philippines broke out after Allied air raids from the United States was set which caused terrific casualties

Greece

General Plastiras, Churchill's candidate for the Franco of stantly dangled before the people. Greece, is taking complete ad-It has also been used as a propa- vantage of the treacherous agree- strife there are now countless ganda weapon by the Roosevelt ment signed by the Stalinists Greeks who now believe that peradministration to cloak the preda- with the British Military Com- haps the 'security battalions' tory aims of American imperial- | mand for the disarmament of the | were not so bad after all. In fact. ism in the Orient with idealistic Elas fighters. No sooner had persons extremely close to the intentions.

Now, however, that the mili- arms than Plastiras unleashed a stiras. are known to have also tary power of the United States widespread repression that begins aided in their formation."

"One specific charge being brought against the defendants, particularly Mr. Rallis, is of having aided and abetted the formation of 'security battalions' designed to aid the Germans in suppression of the EAM-ELAS. Right here, however, one runs into difficulty.

"In view of the recent civil they begun to surrender their present Premier, Nicholas Pla-



in the islands and to guarantee the support of the Filipinos for American against Japanese imperialism in the war, this promise of independence has been con-

Philippines

for July 4, 1946. To curb unrest among the population.

by cowing the powers that be through sheer force of numbers, parading in the streets." now." BERLIN: Swedish and Swiss sources report that Gestapo squa-

other alibis.

#### FOUR

# **TRIBUTE TO HELEN JUDD-REVOLUTIONARY FIGHTER**

#### By Art Preis

History will record that the true heroes and heroines of our time are not the rich, the mighty, the "successful," but those now obscure workingclass fighters for socialism who lived out their lives in poverty, suffering and unyielding struggle for a better world. It will be the Helen Judds whom the free emancipated society of the future will remember with love and honor.

Many who are new and young in the revolutionary. Marxist movement did not know Helen Judd, the 71-year old pioneer American Trotskyist, who died in Chicago on February 17. Many who met her for the first time during the past few years may recall only an elderly woman in a loose house-dress, a wisp of graying hair hanging down over her forehead, who greeted almost everyone entering the Chicago headquarters of the Socialist Workers Party and who was always busy at some party chore.

This grandmotherly woman, so warm in her welcome to all comrades and workers seeking enlightenment, so eager and busy at her "little" tasks, was one of

the most heroic and noble figures sion. of the American working class. Her accomplishments? Her whole life was an accomplishment, for from early youth to her last breath it was spent in the struggle to build the proletarian party, the party of scientific socialism, the party which alone can lead the exploited and oppressed to the lasting peace, security and freedom of international socialism. For over half a century, in the face of persecution, social pressure, personal tragedy, physical suffering, she devoted all her strength, will and energy to the battle which to her was all of life itself.

Helen was the daughter of a prominent St. Paul family. Her She gave everything to the party father-a fact she never mentioned-had once been mayor of that city. She had been welleducated and trained for the teaching profession. An old photo- | first Trotskyist branch in Chigraph of her in her youth reveals a face of extraordinary beauty and character. In the normal course of events for a girl of her time and background, she might have lived in comfort, reared a family, died as a "respected" matron of her community.

#### **50 YEARS OF STRUGGLE**

But Helen chose a different road. Early in her youth, she turned her back upon "respectable" society. She entered the young socialist movement of the 1890's, joined the workingclass and its struggles, and never once during over 50 years of toil and travail did she ever look back.



**HELEN JUDD** 

of the District Control Commis-

the world working class. Then came the campaign against "Trotskyism." True to her lifelong struggle against falsified Marxism and revisionism, Helen was among the first courageous few who opposed Stalinist degeneration in the party. On lovember 24, 1928, as recorded in the second issue of The Militant, December 1, 1928, she was

For the next 16 years, Helen threw herself into the struggle for the revival of genuine Marxism and the building of the Trotskyist party. Twice her hopes had been frustrated. But she faced the new tasks with optimism and unbounded courage and loyalty. -her small teaching salary, her time, her energy. No task was too humble for her to do. With the tiny group that made up the

Stalinist hooliganism. HELEN'S LATTER YEARS Those were the hard years. To

women will win true freedom and full equality only through the

Clara Zetkin rallied tens of thousands of women in 1914 to mark International Woman's Day by demanding the release of Rosa Luxemburg, imprisoned by the Stalinist assault in which at least Kaiser for her Socialist writings one invader suffered a serious and speeches. headache from a large, heavy

Six years ago, Helen was The importance of winning All the great events and figures retired from her teaching job women to the cause of socialism of the developing American labor with a small pension. It was the was never underestimated by the

The Glorious Traditions And History Of International Women's Day, March 8

THE MILITANT

#### By Ruth Johnson

As International Woman's Day, March 8, is observed this year, the women of devastated Europe are thronging the streets in wrathful protests against the starvation and murder of their families by the warring imperialist powers. Their militant demonstrations mark a struggle of almost 40 years duration.

since the first Woman's Day was proposed by the Socialist Party of America in 1908 to

symbolize the battle for equal the workers' need for organizarights for women. Woman's Day was first observed in the United States on wage workers are also learning Feb. 27, 1909 by mass meetings how the present capitalist govin which thousands of women ernment acts as an enemy of the demanded the vote. It became an poor and a friendly agency of the international occasion a year rich. They are learning this later. The International Confer- important lesson through the poor. Many were shelterless. Allied "liberation." ence of Socialist Women meeting their direct acquaintance with the in Denmark in 1910 adopted War Labor Board which stalls March 8 as International Wo- their wage demands; with the man's Day to be devoted to bring- OPA which shuts its eyes to ing women workers into the fight skyrocketing prices and profits for the Socialist emancipation of while wages remain frozen; with

the housing authorities which do nothing to provide adequate In observance of International Woman's Day in Germany, 1911, homes for war workers or nursery the revolutionary Socialist leader care for the children of working Clara Zetkin stressed the fact mothers.

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FOURTH

INTERNATIONAL

and household drudges. What to do about it? The wom-

en who have already joined the break through the suspicion and Socialist Workers Party have pointed the way. They have working class today, men and the "liberators." women must join the political TALKS WITH WORKERS struggle for Socialism. The Trotskyist party of international Socialism provides the program for ination. There could be no better way to celebrate this Interna-

tional Woman's Day of 1945 than to resolve to find out more about the Socialist Workers Party and



#### By Dan Shelton

Anti-Jewish discrimination rais-

# What "Liberation" **Meant To Antwerp**

(The following eye-witness account was written by an American seaman just returned from Europe.)

#### By M. Warren

Our ship arrived at Antwerp, Belgium, with its 30 miles of docks, several days before Christmas. That day the city shook with one of the heaviest Nazi "V" bomb attacks.

The first impression I received during my four days ashore was of the fury and devastation of the German rocket bombs. tion to defend their interests On that day we landed over 1,000 people perished. The populaagainst the bosses. These women tion was completely helpless. The city was torn apart from one

by the fuel shortage caused when

the available transportation was

taken over for military purposes.

Almost all food is rationed, but

only two or three items are

end to the other.

of what to really expect under There was no electricity. There LIVING CONDITIONS was no fuel for heat in that wet. cold raw climate of Antwerp. And there was hunger verging on appalling living conditions, which

famine. We were surprised on first going ashore at the cold, almost hostile attitude of the dock workers toward us. We had not experienced this in other ports. where the reception had been friendly. We soon learned this attitude was the reflection of a growing popular resentment toward the new occupying powers. We met the same attitude elsewhere, in cafes, market places, street cars. It was difficult to available, principally bread and

potatoes, which is the main diet even hostility. for the workers. There is an Nevertheless, I was able to learned that it is not enough talk with a number of people, occasional ration of beans or simply to be a member of their mainly workers, and to observe small, hard apples. They are supunion. To become better union directly in extensive wandering posed to get 2 pounds of meat make?" militants and to solve the com- through the city the cause for and a half pound of fat a month plex problems' confronting the this increasing enmity toward -but the most they were receiving was a pound and a half of meat every 30 days.

Everything else must be secured One well-informed and polion the apparently well-supplied ing. tically advanced worker I met by black market, which operates the liberation of all workers from chance in a little labor book shop practically in the open. The apitalist oppression and discrim- explained the situation. "When previously inflated prices soared the Allies came, we were all ex- another 40 per cent in the brief pecting a great change for the period since the entry of the better. The Ministers (govern-Allied troops. I walked along one ment-in-exile) who had been boulevard about two miles long iving like kings in London during which was a shopping center lined

> a lot of beautiful things. Now, impression that almost anything unless conditions change soon, could be bought there-if one had what is happening in Greece will the price. I bought one apple for spread to Belgium." 20 francs, over 40 cents American.

Among all the workers I met, Everything else is in proportion. there was great indignation be- On an income of a thousand cause the government of Pierlot francs, (\$20) a week when he was freeing the rich collaborators works, the Antwerp worker canwith the Nazis. "Not enough not buy in the black market. attention is being given to But unemployment, as I soon these collaborators," declared one learned, was widespread, I was company say, anyway?" worker. "Three of them set up a told: "One reason for the unem-

fascist group in Liege and ployment is that they have mainly ed its ugly head once again attempted to release the jailed Allied soldiers doing all the work when the American Dental Asso- fascists. In spite of the protests on the docks. Thirty thousand

available jobs have been taken

from dock and airport workers."

want a fundamental social and

war. They are bitterly disappoint-



SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 1945

"I just can't see your point of view, Slim;" young Mike was alking. We had all been arguing about whether a man got paid for what he produced, and joking about how the electrician would starve if he only got what he earned, and all that.

"If you get paid for the hour, or by the piece, you still get paid for what you do. If you work harder you get more. Am I right?" Mike takes the floor in the locker room more than you'd expect from a new fellow in the shop. But he was brought up nearby-and knows half the fellows pretty well anyhow.

"No," Slim insisted, "you produce way more than you get paid for. And if you didn't-." But then the whistle blew and everybody went back to work.

Young Mike was working on old 29 press with Ed and Breezy. It was a piece-work job-punching big holes in a sheet about 10 Naturally, it was the working which were reported in the wide- feet by 30 inches. The sheet was fed into the press from one side class that suffered most severely. ly-circulated underground papers, and taken out from the other. The press had to make several hits The ruin and slaughter is heaviest gave the workers a forewarning while the sheet was sliding along. The job was priced so you could make between nine and ten dollars if you worked like hell and kept the press going automatically all the time.

Old 29 made 450 hits an hour-that is, not allowing for break-In my short stay I was able downs, etc. It was the best job Mike had been put on yet. There to observe the evidences of the were plenty of other fellows ahead of him in seniority. But this was sort of a rotating job and nobody wanted to bump him for the lousy were growing worse daily. Almost | buck.

everyone was shabbily dressed, Well, naturally the kid was working like a dog, pulling those with thin and insufficient clothing heets out of the press and helping to stack them up. All of a sudfor winter weather. The windows in almost all the dwellings were den there was another breakdown, and 29 was really finished for shattered by the bomb blasts. the day. There was little protection from

Press 31 had already been rigged with the same set-up, though. the cold, a hardship accentuated And after a few minutes day-work to move the stock, etc., Ed, Breezy and young Mike started again over there. Well 31 got 600 nits an hour-thirty three percent more than the old press. And the fellows had to really shake their shoes to make every hit.

Especially Mike. He was soaking with sweat. But he didn't feel so bad, on account of figuring on an extra thirty-three percent an hour that he'd be getting. It came to at least 40 cents more per hour, according to his mental arithmetic.

At the end of the shift when they were all changing clothes the locker room, Breezy said, "Hey Mike! How much did we

"Eleven dollars and seventeen cents," Mike replied.

#### MIKE LEARNS ABOUT PIECE-WORK RATES

Everybody in the locker room turned around, or stopped wash-

"Whaddaya mean, eleven dollars and seventeen cents? Nobody makes that much money on that job."

Mike was nobody's slouch at arithmetic, and he said. "You want me to draw you a diagram?" And he figured it up with a piece of chalk on the side of a locker. And it came to exactly eleven dollars and seventeen cents.

Then an arm reached over his shoulder and erased a couple the Nazi occupation, promised us with stores and stalls. I had the of figures and made it come out to nine dollars and a quarter.

It was Slim. "You see they have a cheaper rate on 31 than on 29 because it goes faster."

"But I went faster too," protested Mike, a little dazed. "Sure you did, and you produced faster. But like I started to

say at lunch time, you don't get paid for what you produce." "But this is different. This is a dirty swindle!" Mike was

coming out of his daze. "Why don't we put in a grievance?" "We did," Slim replied.

"And do you mean to say you lost it? What the hell could the

Breezy laughed. "I remember one thing they said-If you got the same price rate on 31 it wouldn't be FAIR to the guys on 29."

"They just pay you for a day's work," Slim replied. "They



together in a period of rising reaction and tremendous slander ocialist revolution. was a terrible ordeal. The little group had to fight physically for mere survival. At one early meeting-Helen was in her middle fifties-she helped to beat off a

#### platter that split in Helen's hands. THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION



to join its ranks.

one racial group."

cognized standing.

The arch-reactionary character

of the Committee on un-Ameri-

that winning democratic rights is only a part of the struggle for bitterly what Marxism has exequality. She pointed out that plained and condemned: that under capitalism women are doubly exploited as wage-slaves

These women are recognizing

and tragedies burned in her heart. her. The Ludlow massacre, Coeur for the party. D'Alene, Lawrence-these were her struggles and she aided them. When the copper bosses shot Joe Hill and the prison doors closed behind Gene Debs, she was among those who fought unremittingly against these murders and frameups.

disciplined, organized, conscious her shopping bag full of Militants expression of the workingclass vanguard in action. Against any she fought all her life.

During the first imperialist World War, Helen was among the she saw a bundle of literature Debs socialists who actively op- that some other, younger comrade posed the war. For this "crime" And in the infamous Palmer "Red" Raids that followed the war, she was indicted for her revolutionary activities and held

PIONEER COMMUNIST

under \$10,000 bail.

In 1919, with the left-wing split of the Socialist Party inspired by the Bolshevik Revolution in the course of the bitter strugin Russia, Helen became a found- gle, retired to easier existence, ing member of the new and perse- succumbed to opportunism. vieldcuted Communist Party. She had ed to pressure of their families been the secretary of the North (Helen was estranged from her Side English branch of the Socialist Party, one of the largest sec- and true to her course to the end. tions in Chicago. Against the opposition of some of the most heroic people of our time, the powerful leaders of the SP, she helped to swing her branch into volutionists. the new revolutionary party

founded on the principles of Lenin and Trotsky.

During the next two years when Bastille of 1789, who defied the the government was hounding the grapeshot on the barricades of underground communist move- the Commune of 1871, who opened ment, Helen served as secretary the revolutionary struggle leading AMERICAN WOMEN of Chicago Local of the National to the Russian October of 1917. Defense Committee. Through the It is the Helen Judds, armed with storm the streets to demand food laws. The Numerous Clausustwenties she occupied numerous the weapon of Marxism, who in and shelter, the working women the quota system in employment important local posts of the party their thousands and millions will of America are passing through and schools - was prevalent in and devoted herself to indefatig- snatch the very lightning from experiences which are changing pre-Hitler Europe and became an able work on its behalf. In 1928, the heavens, before whom the their old narrow outlook. Millions inevitable forerunner of fascism she was the secretary of Nucleus mighty will tremble and fall, of women have entered factories in European countries. This is 31, one of the largest and most whose hands will build the social- for the first time. They have the underlying significance of the active in Chicago, and a member ist future.

and socialist movement before realization of her life's dream- Bolsheviks. Lenin, who spoke World War I were a part of her to be able to devote all her time again and again of the need for anti-semitic report to the House did nothing." life. All the defeats and victories to the party. Never will the Chi- recruiting working women, once The bloody strikes and the great last years, when, old, sick and revolution, unless a vast section education. The report advocated ditions as the people had hoped martyrs, they were all a part of | tired, she worked without letup | of the toiling women take an im-

portant part in it." Every day she did her tasks, History underlined his words. quietly, unassumingly, efficiently. In 1917 International Woman's cial imbalance." A "determined dissatisfaction is over food," I She would come in with her Day became the first day of the nation-wide effort should be was informed repeatedly. It was shopping bag full-and there was revolution that overthrew Czar- made" to change the present sit- not uncommon to hear the comalways some little addition for ism. Women textile workers in uation, in which "24% of all stu- plaint. "Now it is even worse in the headquarters, some office the Vyborg district of Petrograd dents are largely of foreign ex- some respects than under the supplies that no one but she went on strike against the bread- traction and belong mainly to Nazis."

remembered to get, a prized book lines and appealed to the mass of Almost from the first, Helen from the library of socialism that workers for support. "Thus the allied herself with the left-wing she had read, new pamphlets for February revolution was begun... of the Socialist movement. She the literature shelf, or just some by the most oppressed and down- fied by the ADA's official for- beginning to the Allies was not studied Marxism - the great candy or fruit for the comrades. trodden part of the proletariatworks of Marx and Engels and She swept, she dusted, she clean- the women textile workers," wrote tions" to New York University press reported. The underground

all the socialist classics. She was no mere sentimental socialist. Her devotion was to the revolutionary party and its program, to the disciplined, organized, conscious working women of Russia helped | ADA's orders may lose its re--to the day of her death. As she carry to victory by fighting side would be leaving after a hard by side with men on the barand every revision of Marxism, day, she would cast one last look ricades and taking on countless around as though she hated to duties in the organization of the go, even for a minute. Perhaps new Soviet government.

International Woman's Day became the inspiration in 1923 of had failed to distribute. Into her the Socialist women of Japan, she was ousted from her teach- bag it would go. "Well, I know who named their organization ing position in the public schools. just the place to leave these on "Ioka Kai"-Party of the Eighth my way home." of March.

TRUE TO THE END

Hardly a one is left of those who entered the socialist movement when Helen did. Many other women were flaming and prominent figures in their day.

Most of them fell by the wayside own). But Helen stayed straight She was the epitome of the most enduring, women proletarian re-

It was the Helen Judds who marched in the forefront of the Parisian masses storming the women. can activities was once again revealed when Representative Celler approached it with the "bright idea" to investigate this affair. Headed by Martin Dies' worthy successor, labor-hating, Jew-baiting, poll-tax Rankin,

the Committee was markedly Often forgotten or ignored in 'cool" toward the proposal. The the years of reaction, the tradiissue was evaded by every memtion of woman's struggle for ber of the Committee except equality and freedom has never Rankin who finally told Celler on died. In 1942 an underground

the House floor that he has "tirnewspaper was circulated in Nazieu" of the gentleman from New occupied and unoccupied France York raising the Jewish question called The Voice of the Woman. It told of numerous demonstra- in the house. It is not only the dental stutions by women against shortages dents' right to attend school reof food. fuel and clothing, carried gardless of race, creed, or color on at the risk of death. The N. Y. Times last week rethat is at stake in this matter. ported that "women were among It is the whole web of anti-rathe most aggressive speakers at cial discrimination that is struck a mass meeting today convened a blow, if we attack the ADA. by the Parisian Liberation Com- Anti-racial discrimination almittee to protest against insuf- ways proceeds from one field to ficient food." A speaker who another, if not stopped in time. urged that the women gain their This vicious quota system may ends "by sheer force of numbers, proceed from one profession to parading the streets," was en- all' professions, then to all emthusiastically cheered by the ployment, finally housing and

schooling. The ultimate outcome of these racial-religious restric-

tions are Hitler's Nuremberg While the women in Europe swelled the union ranks, learning ADA's action.

ciation (ADA) sent an openly of the people, the government

Committee on Education study- The prolonging of the war and Other industry was almost at a cago comrades forget her in those said "There can be no socialist ing the effects of war on higher the failure to improve living con-stand-still. selection of students on a racial for has contributed most to turn- Antwerp even for a short while basis, ascribing the "chief weak- ing the feelings of the populace and not be impressed with the

ness" of dental education to "ra- against the Allies. "The greatest fact that the workers definitely political change. They are sick and fed up with the progress and consequences of the imperialist

ed about the Allies. And there is From several more intimate mounting evidence that they are This brazen attempt at anti- conversations I learned that the reaching for an answer to their Jewish discrimination was forti- reception accorded from the problems along the road of independent class action. warding of these "recommenda- as enthusiastic as the American ......

Ask Your Shopmate to

# ot AMERICAN TROTSKYISM

**The HISTORY** 

### **Participant**

**Report** of

### by JAMES P. CANNON

This book is more than a chronicle of the events of yesterday. It is a sharp weapon for present combat and a searchlight illuminating the future course of American labor.

> 280 pages, cloth \$2.75 paper \$2.00

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figure eleven dollars is a little too much for a working man. You made thirty-three percent better production, but it still don't take you any more money to eat. Why should they pay you any more?

"I remember," Slim went on, "when all the presses were slower. It is impossible to be in and you did a lot of stuff by hand that you do now by machinery. We didn't get half the production out that we get now. But we're not living in better houses, or driving better cars, or eating better than we did then."

"Well, it's a screwy system," young Mike said. "I'm certainly surprised you guys stand for it!"

"What kind of a system would be better, Mike?" Slim asked innocently.

# **Three Articles On Greece** Featured In February F. I.

The February issue of Fourth | rent campaign to legalize forced International, now on sale, fea- labor. He shows how through tures a comprehensive review of executive decree one form of comrecent struggles in Greece in the pulsory labor after another has form of three related articles. been gradually imposed on the The first deals with the historical working class.

background in Greece from the Reviewing "The Outlook for a early 19th century up to the Me- Labor Party," William Simmons taxas dictatorship of 1936. The estimates the forces which are second follows step by step the inexorably impelling the advanced British provocations which threw workers to embrace the idea of the Greek people into bloody civil independent labor political action war. The third presents "the and organization as an essential lessons of Greece.' instrument in their fight to main-

Greek aspirations for national tain their conditions against the independence were frustrated attacks of the employers and time after time, as were the ef- Wall Street's political agents. forts of all the Balkan states, be- Single copies of Fourth Inter-

cause of the subservience of the national may be obtained for 20 ruling classes to the powerful im- cents, yearly subscriptions \$2, by perialisms of Britain, France and writing to Business Manager, 116 Czarist Russia. The editors show University Place, N. Y. 3, N. Y.

how the Greek government has been mortgaged to the British bankers since 1821. The British policy of imposing hated dynasties upon Greece is a traditional means of enslaving its people. Churchill pursues the same policy Ruth Johnson today with the approval and direct assistance of Roosevelt and

tions.

The magazine also publishes gle to wipe out child labor. two important articles on the Tonight Comrade Irving Dale United States. C. Thomas writes discussed "The Way Out for the a thoroughgoing account of the Jewish Masses." An extended plans of Wall Street to regiment period of questions and discusthe working class during this war sion followed his interesting which has culminated in the cur- presentation.

NEW YORK, March 4-"Child Stalin, the articles demonstrate. Labor in the Second World War." The editors point to Greece as the story of the exploitation of a mirror of the future of all Eur- five million young workers, will ope unless the militant vanguard be the topic of the next Sunday of the working class organizes Night Forum to be held at the the masses under the program New York School of Social Sciof Bolshevism and opens the road ence on March 11. The speaker, to socialist freedom for all na- Comrade Ruth Johnson, will discuss the history of labor's strug-

#### SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 1945



Several incidents have recently been reported on the West Coast which indicate an impending campaign of intimidation, terrorization and violence against a different - but similarly persecuted - racial minority, the Japanese-Americans. The Negro people, even if only in the interest of their own defense, cannot afford to overlook or condone this familiar type of lefthanded blow at a group of American citizens whose only offense resides in the fact that they happened to be derived from

the "wrong" racial origin. Soon after the shooting stage of demn this campaign of intimidathe war with Japan had begun, tion and violence against the these citizens, in flagrant viola- Japanese-American minority.

tion of their civil rights, were FIGHT RACE HATRED vanked from their farms and Showing that the entire workhomes and were herded into vir-tual concentration camps, known officially by the polite name of national origin, could ignore this aid the local if more strikers relocation centers. This illegal threat only at its own peril, she repression was carried out by the said: "If today the Japanese "law-enforcement" agencies after Americans can be attacked with a campaign by the capitalist press impunity, tomorrow it may well to whip up racial prejudice under be the Negroes, the Mexicans, the guise of national patriotism.

were a big business outfit called movement, which is always a lowed the example of Chrysler the Ass'd Farmers and other re- target of reaction." actionary interests which stand to profit — war or no war — by the AFL, Mrs. Weiss stated that allegedly causing a previous the elimination of competitors she had made the fight against strike several weeks ago. This and by the persecution of a min- race hatred and race discrimina- was followed in the next three

homes these same profit-hungry whole organized labor movement. exploiters have declared another When we wake up to the useless-ousted. The Briggs workers hit open season on Japanese-Ameri- ness of "shifting our weight the picket lines. cans and have signified that they around" from one capitalist party intend to employ every weapon to another and line up solid beat their command.

#### THUGS AT WORK

The American Legion is circu- Negro equality. lating inflammatory, fascist-type ney of Los Angeles is whooping it up with the claim that he go united a Japanese-Ameriit up with the claim that he can just as quickly as we would knows (but evidently can't catch for another Negro. These people to arrest) people who threaten are obviously being denied their to "shoot on sight" any return- full citizenship rights just as we ers from Dodge and Briggs, ing Japanese-American.

schooled in KKK tactics has evidently been hired and has begun its evil, cowardly work. The home of Bob Morishege of Selma, Calif. was set fire and burned and shotgun barrages were fired to every Negro. at the homes of 2 other Japanese-

Americans of Fresno County, S. JAPANESE WORKERS J. Kakutani and Frank Osaki. At The Japanese people are intel- and navy offered to bring in, the last report none of those res- ligent and alert and beneath Before provoking the strike ponsible for the outrages against their external racial character- at Dodge, the Chrysler corpora-

The sinister methods to which white or black. The working Plant where it fired four stew- the fired men. This decision was up in their defensive struggle strike had generated among all these mobsters resort w a s class in Japan is economically en- ards. There the alert and mili-

# **Detroit Auto Workers Strike Against Company Provocations**

THE MILITANT

#### (Continued from page 1)

#### having 20 years seniority, could Stalinist Finks Aid not keep up this pace they were Detroit Auto Barons summarily fired. This precipitated the walkout.

The Dodge workers demonstrated their uncompromising spirit at their second strike meeting held on Tuesday, when they refused to heed the strikebreaking plea of George Addes, UAW secretary-treasurer and acting president in the absence abroad of R. J. Thomas. Addes was booed when he urged them to call off their strike without obtaining any concessions or promises from the corporation. Then, he treacherously issued a statement: 'They are on their own now. The international union will not

help them to get discharged workers reinstated and will not are dismissed by the company.

#### BRIGGS TAKES TIP

The Briggs Corporation lost no time in drawing the necessary the Filipinos, the Jews - leading conclusions. It eagerly accepted The real motivators, however, to violent attacks upon the labor Addes' open invitation and folby firing one committeeman and In her letters to the CIO and six stewards on Wednesday for ority within the working class. tion a prominent part of her days by the discharge of 8 more Now that these citizens are be- platform and that she believed committeemen, stewards a n d ginning to trickle back to their the same should be done in the rank and file militants, making

Ford likewise joined the band wagon by firing a committeeman and two production workers in hind this type of fighting program, then we will be getting the Motor building on Wednesday. A strike in the Motor Building somewhere in our struggle for was precipitated. Fearing the walkout might spread throughout In addition to that, through leaflets and the District Attor-our Negro organizations we must the entire plant, Ford, in the present tense atmosphere, immedia-

> thereby ending the walkout. In addition to the 25,000 strik-

are. They are pictured in the about 2,800 workers from the What is worse, a mob of thugs are. They are pictured in the Chrysler DeSoto-Warren Plant, capitalist press as toothsome Chrysler of Lord 246 HAW CIO "brown-bellied bastards" and are members of Local 946 UAW-CIO, showed their solidarity by walkdescribed by the capitalist commentators as "half-man and half- ing out in protest against railbeast." This vicious type of pre- road companies delivering freight judice indoctrination is familiar formerly handled by truckers belonging to Dodge Local 3. These

reinstate the men.

support."

CHRYSLER LOCALS

#### "Transfusion? --- Free!"

The Stalinist finks have rushed once more to the aid of the labor-hating profiteers against striking workers. This time they are trying to cover up the open conspiracy of the auto barons to smash the militant CIO United Automobile Workers locals in Detroit.

While over 35,000 Chrysler and Briggs workers, supported by hundreds of thousands of other unionists, have been defending their unions on the picket lines, the Stalinist traitors inside the CIO are urging on the government - employer wolf pack against the work-

ers. Taking his cue from the Stalinist Daily Worker which called the auto workers' struggle a "strike conspiracy. . . of Trotskyite leaders," William Thorpe, Detroit agent of the Stalinist-dominated CIO National Maritime Union, publicly howled for the suspension of all UAW officers "guilty" of supporting strikes. He also appealed to Roosevelt for a witchhunt against "elements seeking to create a general strike situation in Detroit automobile plants."

This is but the latest effort of the American hirelings of the Kremlin to prove that they are the most reliable agents of Wall Street inside the labor movement.

tely had the fired men reinstated, and would have carried over- CONCERTED DRIVE whelmingly, but Rubin, assistant

meeting.

workers also refused to work with material which the army

ing evening a meeting of officers cal elect a committee "to imme- his normal position, stating: of all Chrysler locals roasted the diately begin contacting the of- "Either Novak will get the eminternational officers for their ficers and active members of all ployees to go back to their jobs treacherous policy toward the UAW locals in Wayne County or the International UAW will Dodge strikers. A motion to to build sentiment for and organ- put somebody in his place who back up the strikers was made ize forces for such a conference."

Jess Ferrazza, president of Lo-UAW Chrysler director, called the motion out of order. Wherecal 212, heartily endorsed the resupon the local officers walked olution: "We hope to get a out forcing Rubin and his hand- fighting organization together to ful of followers to adjourn the combat the new game management seems to be playing. The

With the first walkout at the speedup is being installed not Briggs plants, the strike took on haphazardly but seemingly in a greater scope. It had become concert. Management seems to obvious even to the blind that the be pretty well organized. The workers confronted an organized UAW-CIO should start at once conspiracy on the part of the De- to do the same."

troit auto moguls. At their un-off meeting last Thursday even. On Thursday morning about five hundred Briggs workers Walter Reuther, UAW vice-president, and Norman Matthews. reing, almost 2000 Briggs workers staged a demonstration in front gional director, to return to work unanimously endorsed the strike of the UAW offices at 411 West before the men were rehired. At these peaceful citizens had been istics they are indistinguishable tion attempted to carry out a and decided to go back to work from any other human be he similar line at its Highland Park only if the corporation reinstated this point it began to appear that only if the corporation reinstated ternational officers to back them the tremendous support which the

challenge by picketing the Inter-

national which then forced Addes

Board to postpone at least tem-

porarily their plans to remove

the officers of Dodge Local 3.

Instead the entire Board was

obliged to take public notice of

the conspiracy on the part of

in Detroit was deliberately prov-

oked by management and imple-

mented by indiscriminate firing

of workers. Management should

be required to refer all disciplin-

ary discharges to grievance pro-

cedure before any such discharges

It was not until Mike Novak,

Dodge Local 3 president, began

to weaken under the heavy pres-

sure of the entire government

machinery in Washington that

Frankensteen dared to revert to

PHILADELPHIA

SUNDAY NIGHT

FORUMS

Labor Forum

405 W. GERARD AVENUE

MARCH 18

are made effective."

First Session

the bosses. Frankensteen, UAW the recently concluded no-strike

vice-president, hurried to send a referendum, the Detroit auto

telegram to the WLB which read workers are convinced that if a

Diary of a STEEL WORKER By Theodore Kovalesky.

"Yeah," Whitey Larson said despondently, "if we only didn't have that damn no-strike pledge!"

"Sure, Whitey," I told him. "Sure that's the cause of most of our trouble. But hell, man, we've got to fight it. We've got to get rank-and-file group going like they have in the auto union. It akes work."

Whitey's face was tired. "Yeah," he said.

Times change, and men change with them. And then again, sometimes the time will change and a man will remain the same, so that time will run on ahead of him, leaving him like a fish gasping in a little, drying pool of water after the tidle has washed out to sea. This is what has happened to Whitey. The tide of time has flowed on and left Whitey weak and out of place, something old-fashioned and impotent like a knight in armor on a grim battlefield of tanks and flame-throwers.

When Whitey came to the steel plant it was a lot tougher than it is today. The foremen were tough. They were hired to be tough, and they walked up and down the furnace line like a pack of lions in the jungle, looking for somebody to sink their teeth into. There were no benches on the furnaces. Any boards that could be used for benches had to be thrown into the ladles. There was no eating lunch on the job. You were paid to work. The company wasn't paying you to eat! You weren't satisfied? Get your time: somebody else would like your job. Not satisfied? Get out!



FIVE

Well, Whitey wasn't satisfied, only he wasn't going to get out without putting up a fight. He made a nuisance of himself in the company union, asking for better conditions and better money, but not going too far. . . yet. Then when the SWOC came around, Whitey and Terry O'Day, who worked over in the open hearth, were the first to join.

#### **One of the Pioneer Union Organizers**

It was slow going, tough going, those first days. Meet men in saloons, meet them in the toilets, whisper about the union: "Hell, noboly's going to know you're a member till we get a majority. We've got to get everybody lined up. This damn company's got to be taught a lesson; they've been kicking us around long enough."

And the men joined up, slowly, one by one, and the union grew. There were a couple of demonstrations and slowdowns, and Whitey and Terry went out the gate, escorted by plant cops to make sure they got there. But they fought from outside. I went out to join them, myself. We worked day and night, preparing for the big day. Then came the strike. Then came tragedy, ten men pouring out their life blood on that field near the big gate and God knows how

many others hurt. Men and women both tearing over the road and over the fields trying to get away from the bullets and clubs of the ops, tears streaming down their faces from the gas bombs.

third time failed to heed the ad-But that just made Whitey tougher. It made him set his jaw vice of the top union officialdom and fight harder. headed by Addes, Frankensteen,

With the unions recognized, things were a lot different. There was no contract as yet, but there was a lot of fight left in the boys. Up in the office, Whitey would say to old Ellsworth: "O. K., if you don't want to make any concessions, I can't be responsible for what the boys do. They're pretty sore." And George P. Ellsworth would try to make the boys happy.

The foremen began to take notice of a union button. They began these mobsters resort was class in Japan is economically en-brought out by Mrs. Joseph Holz-man's report to the Los Angeles as's 4 ruling industrial families, police that twice she was threat-whose lust for profits and nower is the management. The foremen began to take notice of a union button. They began the fore the alert and mili-stant leadership of the Local 490 officers forced the company to police that twice she was threat-whose lust for profits and nower inside the gate. But all the locals in this area to get bered those days six years ago grievance procedure in line with nobody was fooled. The foremen hadn't been friendly before we or ganized. But, as I said, times change. During the strike, during the Addes once more rushed to the assistance of the auto barons whole period of organization, Whitey was a giant. Today Whitey's with another finky statement: just a little man. When they made Terry O'Day an international representative, work eventually and they will Whitey had practically danced with joy. When Terry began to have to go back without the dischange as most of the union staff changed during the war, Whitey charged men being reinstated," was bitter. He couldn't understand it. And the reason why he couldn't This was calculated to prejuunderstand it was because he himself was like Terry O'Day. Neither tional officers in the form of a dice the cause of the workers of them understood politics! who saw the patent logic of enough for the UAW." In an- Novak's remarks: "If the WLB They trusted Roosevelt. When the no-strike pledge was given, other slogan they were rightfully can order the union back to work, they both expected that industry, too, would sacrifice. The President would make them. Equality of sacrifice! When the WLB was they can also order the company of the International Union." An- to reinstate those discharged set up, they thought it would be impartial. The President said it workers," would be. They were bewildered. Terry went the way of all bureau-RANKS WANT TO FIGHT crats, big or little; and Whitey watched him go, angry and bewildered. But neither of them understood why. The men and women on the picket lines as well as workers For a while, Whitey was still tough. "Aw," he'd say, "a strike is the only language the company knows." But the last time there all over Detroit are unmoved by How long will our International the cries of "treason" raised by was a tough situation when we almost walked out, Terry O'Day the prostitute capitalist press. stood up in the meeting and read us a paper about how the strikers As one Dodge worker so clearly at the Norge company were drafted into the army and sanctions. were taken against the union. "I know how you feel, boys," Terry said, "but I've got my orders: I've got to fight against you."



**Reprinted from "Justice"** 

will send them back." Only if the

Dodge workers return without

having the men reinstated will

the top union officialdom dare to

press for an administrator of the

Briggs Local. Only a bold policy

on the part of several local union

officers has thus far kept the In-

ternational from taking punitive

At their Thursday night meet-

ing 4000 Dodge workers for the

action against the men.

police that twice she was threat- whose just for profits and power ened by anonymous telephone is the same as that of America's calls in connection with her em- 60 and Britain's 13 richest fam- Local 490 and chairman of the strikes. ployment of two Japanese serv- ilies.

Stating that "an injury to one cialist liberation but they are also ation has given every indication cution and union busting" by its treachery. is an injury to all," Myra Tanner our brothers through oppression that they wish a strike in the recent firings. It said that "the This time Weiss, Socialist Workers' Party in this capitalist "democracy." (Trotskyist) candidate for Mayor of Los Angeles, has issued a side and fight back the attacks charging people without cause, that this is part of a general anticall to organized labor to con- of the common enemy!



What is to be done about the the passage of legislation imcriminal activities of Big Busi- posing the death penalty on ness? The Administration and manufacturers whose fraudulent Congress have already conclusi- practices endanger the lives of vely shown that they either won't the men in the armed forces. A or can't take measures to make bill providing this penalty or a the punishment fit the crime. If million dollar fine has even been anything is to be done, it will introduced into Congress. It is have to be done by the labor hard to imagine the present Congress-which is the servant, body movement.

Some people have suggested and soul, of the big corporations



Order from PIONEER PUBLISHERS 116 UNIVERSITY PLACE

NEW YORK 3, N. Y.

- ever adopting legislation to punish them. To get to the root of the problem, the Socialist Workers Party advocates that the ownership and control of industry be taken out of the hands of the capitalists. This course of action will be regarded by Big Business as far more drastic than any bill providing the death penalty and it will be fought by them with every weapon they have, but it is the only practical answer to capitalist mismanagement of industry. Let industry be owned by the overnment and operated under he control of committees democratically elected by the workers. The profit motive would be removed, and with it would be removed the incentive to produce and sell dangerously defective products. The costs of production would be lowered and the workers' committees, having no interest in exacting profits from

the blood of the soldier, would guarantee production and honest testing in the interests of the people.

(From "Wartime Crimes of Big Business," by George Breitman, pp. 13-14. Pioneer Publishers, 1943; 16 pp., 5c. Order from Pioneer Publishers, 116 University Place, New York 8. N. Y.).

together in support of the when Homer Martin, then presi- Frankensteen's telegram. Then William Jenkins, president of dent of the UAW-CIO, gave Gen-Wavne County UAW Rank and

eral Motors permission to "dis-The resolution stated that "the ants. "Better get rid of them," The Japanese-American work-said the voice, "or we'll get rid ers are not only our comrades in lowing press release: "For the long time comparison of nerseof you and take care of them." the world class struggle for So- past month the Chrysler Corper- a long time campaign of perse- Martin for his acts of base

This time the rafiks were again Highland Park Plant. They recent events at Dodge, Ford and serving notice upon their internacharging people without cause, that this is part of a general anti-disciplining stewards. It seems big sign: "One Homer Martin is that when the company failed to ship of the National Association proyoke a strike in Highland of Manufacturers," that "maninsisting: "We demand support Park they immediately moved to agement is emboldened to make Dodge where they were success- these provocations only because other placard asked the simple ful. The Dodge workers have our they realize they have the supsympathy and will get our fullest port of the international offibut direct question: "Whose side is the International on?" The cers," and "only the mobilization men blasted away at the leader-

of the full resources and energies ship in a sign saying: "Rip Van of our whole membership in this Winkle was asleep for 20 years. All the presidents of the Chrys- area can defeat these union-bustler locals in this area, with the ing plans." sleep?'

exception of the heads of Ply- The resolution made three de-The interconnection between mouth Local 51 and Chrysler Lo- mands. 1.) "Full support of our the Dodge and Briggs strike is stated at union headquarters: "If clearly brought out by this dem- the corporation was really intercal 7, both under Stalinist influ- international union in our fight ence, have come to the support for the unconditional reinstateonstration in front of the UAW ested in war production it would of the Dodge strikers. On Tues- ment of our discharged brothers simply reinstate the men and talk headquarters. It was Addes' day, they voted for a mass meet- and sisters." 2.) "A conference finky statement against the dis- the matter over quietly with the ing of all Chrysler workers. But of all UAW local officers, comcharged Dodge workers which union officials." That same sentiemboldened the Briggs manage- ment is heard among white-colthe top UAW officialdom later mitteemen and stewards in the ment to fire Local 212 militants. lar workers and sections of the decided on their own initiative to Detroit and Wayne County area dispense with this meeting for to plan effective counteraction." The Briggs local in turn met this middle class. fear of "hotheads." The follow- 3.)) Insisted that the Briggs Lo-The workers on the picket lines

and the entire UAW Executive

### "Get Off the War Labor Board," **Demands Flint CIO Council**

Typical of the widespread opposition of the industrial workers to the government system of compulsory arbitration and the War Labor Board is the following resolution unanimously adopted by the Greater Flint (Mich.) Industrial Union Council at its regular session on February 17:

- Whereas: The War Labor Board, never more than a run-around scheme to sidetrack Labor's legitimate demands and stall bargaining, is now further "stacked against Labor" by the new limitations laid down by President Roosevelt and "Assistant President" Byrnes, subordinating the WLB to other boards, and
- Whereas: The CIO National Convention in Nov. 1944 and the UAW-CIO Executive Board in February 1945 have denounced the WLB for "poor administration and unfortunate policies," for "straight-jacket rules" and "meaningless rigmarole" hearings, and the UAW asked the CIO to get off the WLB, therefore be it
- Resolved: That the Greater Flint Industrial Union Council calls on the CIO and all other union representatives to resign from the WLB and to stay off any such boards in the future, for the welfare of all labor; and be it fur-

Resolved: That copies of this resolution be sent to affiliated locals, to the press, Labor papers, the CIO and UAW International Offices and to the War Labor Board.

Whitey's mouth was open. He stared. Then he shut his mouth, got up without a word, and walked home.

Whitey Larson still wants to fight, but he doesn't know how. Maybe when the workers begin to move forward he'll be in the front line again. But until then he's just a bewildered little man.



**MARCH 9, 1935** 

WASHINGTON-An official report of the Federal Research and Planning Division showed that Roosevelt's National Recovery Act was really a means of impoverishing the workers to enrich the bosses under the false banner of "social reforms." On the basis of the government's own figures, The Militant reported that "Taking 1926 as 100, payrolls in December (1934) stood at an index of 60, while dividends and interest stood at 150. The wage earners' share (of the national income) had been cut 40 percent while the capitalists' share had been raised

That this was no accident but a part of the administration's design could be seen in the brazen comment of the official report that "clearly the recipients of profits have not failed to enjoy their proportionate share of the increase in industrial recoverv"!

UKEGAN-Unity of factory and white collar workers was the most important factor in a victorious strike held at the Johnson Motors Plant in Waukegan, The Militant reported. The strike was called when three office workers aiding the organization of the plant into an AFL Federal Auto Local were fired for union activities. 400 workers struck, demanding and winning both the reinstatement of the victimized men and the recognition of their union.

703 - PEU by 50 percent."



who feel the provocations of

management most of all know

that they have no alternative ex-

cept to fight back. "What is a

union for," they keep repeating.

"if the corporation can get away

with firing the best militants."

Regardless of the final count on

SIX



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To defend the USSR as the main fortress of the world proletariat, against all assaults of world imperialism and of internal counter-revolution, is the most important duty of every class - conscious worker.

- LEON TROTSKY

#### JOIN US IN FIGHTING FOR:

- 1. Military training of workers, financed by the government, but under control of the trade unions. Special officers' training camps, financed by the government but controlled by the trade unions, to train workers to become officers.
- 2. Trade union wages for all workers drafted into the army.
- 3. Full equality for Negroes in the armed forces and the war industries-Down with Jim Crowism everywhere.
- 4. Confiscation of all war profits. Expropriation of all war industries and their operation under workers' control.
- 5. A rising scale of wages to meet the rising cost of living.
- 6. Workers Defense Guards against vigilante and fascist attacks.

into the country up to that time. At first the British distributed all food through the puppet Papandreou government. After the armed intervention, it was administered directly by General Scobie. Leland Stowe has disclosed that these foodstuffs were turned over to wholesalers favored by the government and sold at considerable profit. None of it reached the ELAS members who embraced a majority of the Greek people.

Finally Roosevelt met with Churchill and Stalin at Yalta and there the three placed their seal of approval upon the Allied policies pursued in Greece. More than that, they are clearly determined to continue them.

By silence Roosevelt hopes to evade his share of the responsibility for promoting the bloody counter-revolution in Greece. But he shall not be permitted to escape. He, like Stalin, is a conscious, accomplice in Churchill's crimes.

# **Duping UAW Ranks**

The top officials of the United Automobile Workers Union, CIO, have entered into a conspiracy with the corporations and the government to "hold-the-line" against their own rank and file. Evidence of this conspiracy has come to light with the decision of the War Labor Board rejecting the wage demands of 300,000 auto workers employed by General Motors. The magazine of the big corporations, Business Week, has revealed that the WLB deliberately withheld its decision.

"The National War Labor Board has had its mind made up on the General Motors case for some time," says the March 3 Business Week. The magazine then discloses the reason why the WLB withheld its decision by adding: "Aware that it was serving a dish of bitter tea to a group of workers who react violently to anything they find distasteful, NWLB sat on the G. M. case until the auto workers completed balloting on revoking the no-strike pledge, and was about ready to announce its decision when the strike of Dodge workers set Detroit's nerves on edge."

The WLB had been "sitting on" the G. M. case for well over a year. So they just continued to "sit" until the no-strike referendum was over and until the Dodge workers were herded back to their jobs by the top union officers. One of these WLB "sitters" was R. J. Thomas, international president of the UAW-CIO.

The auto workers are getting fed up with being "sat on" by the corporations, their political agents in the government and by their own union officials. They remember another kind of "sitdown" which is part of their militant traditions. Their fighting spirit will yet prevail over the foul conspiracy of which they have been victims.



The ruling by Fred M. Vinson, Roosevelt's "economic stabilizer," barring the WLB from granting any "fringe" concessions, has driven the top union leadership into a corner. Vinson's edict has made it, virtually impossible to get around the wage freeze through the medium of the socalled fringe demands. It has destroyed the last vestige of WLB authority to make wage adjustments within the Little Steel formula. The policy of depending on Roosevelt and his agencies to defend the workers' standard of living has proven bankrupt. What alternative do the union heads offer?

#### THE MILITANT

Wall Street's 'Relief' for Europe



are welcome on any subject of interest to the workers, but keep them short and include your name and address. Indicate if you do not want your name printed. - Editor.

I didn't order it you can't make | Who is right? Capitalism or The Rich and Poor me pay for it so you see you socialism, I mean that socialism In 'Liberated' Europe might as well quit. We are not is the house built on the rock fighting you with swords but with (truth). And on that rock we will words and those words are build our "church" into which we Every day the papers tell about will gather people of all races of "prayer."

With this thought I shall leave the human family-International the hunger, cold and suffering of the people in bombed-out Europe. you. It is said that the countries oc-C. P. McLaughlin

cupied by the Allies actually are Olympia, Wis. getting less to eat than under the

Nazis. Last week a Frenchman who Make Your Choice had just come from Paris said Editor: that "new-born babies die be-

As, regards the soldier sencause there is no heat in the tenced to die for refusing to kill. homes and no hot water." He A soldier must be willing to kill told how people jam the subways his fellow-men like flies or he and ride the trains endlessly, hud cannot be a soldier. If he, on acdled together for warmth. count of convictions, will not kill, Socialist Workers Party. When I Two Englishmen who called at

Editor:

he should maybe be given other lived there I had to fight against a creche in Paris last January work, either as a helper in the the three-dollar a week wages I found that 17 babies had died of army, or in civilian work. If we believe in something, we that's what first made me a rebel. cold that morning. While the poor French, Italian

should be willing to defend it, and Yet I didn't know how to fight and Greek people freeze and if the USSR has even just the against these conditions. Now I starve to death, the rich are liv- seed of real socialism in it, I hope know the only solution is in the ing as well under the Allies as they did under the Nazis. They have plenty to squander in the world will know on which side

Socialism.

Editor:

M. M.

I spent the Christmas holidays

with my people in Hattiesburg

and New Orleans. This was my

first visit home since joining the

Now we have an organizer in

The following poem was writ-

ten by a worker here on the re-

THE TRANSIT WORKER

cent Reading transit strike.

The trolleys and the buses.

Are in the barn today,

To show the sly old bosses

We get up very early,

It took him by surprise,

That union men hold sway.

The boss wants us to be on time,

He counts so many fares a day

His teeth are getting curly.

We ask him for a raise one day,

He puffed that black cigar of his,

And threw us awful "eyes."

He gave it to the "Labor Board,"

Once it's here, then it's there,

turns!

OST

IVIN

And then to "Old Man Byrnes,"

How slow the wheel of justice

Н. Т.

Reading, Pa.

STANDARD

of

Louise R.

San Pedro

the Deep South.

Editor:

**Transit Strike** 

Minneapolis, Minn

#### SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 1945

# **OPA Chief Admits Profits Are Highest in History**

Corporation profits hit an all-time high in 1944, according to OPA Director Chester Bowles, testifying last week before the Senate hearing on the bill to extend the Price Control Act.

Profits-after taxes-zoomed to the unprecedented figure of over \$10,000,000,000 (that's billions) last year, double the high take of \$5,200,000,000 in 1940, the first full war year.

Bowles and his OPA associates were not attacking these profits. They cited these figures to prove that the OPA has no intention of interfering with profits in carrying out "price control." OPA Deputy Administrator Brownlee indignantly repudiated such purposes. "OPA never reduces prices merely because it considers profits are large. . . Available data indicate no general hardship from OPA price control." This model of understatement was fortified by voluminous charts and figures on profits gains, which ranged from a "mere" 76 per cent in 1943 for chain grocery stores to a "reasonable" 1,046 per cent for department and specialty stores.

The department stores, which pay the lowest wages, n 1943 realized total profits of \$593,800,000 in comparison with the annual 1936-39 average of \$51,800,-000-an increase of 1,046 per cent. The report shows further that the 1944 profits figures, when compiled, will be even greater due to higher prices and reduced services.

An independent research study by the CIO Cost-ofliving Committee, also released last week, discloses that profits of the eight largest meat-packing firms, have soared nearly 700 per cent over their peacetime rake-in. These members of the meat trust secured \$153,000,000 profits before taxes in 1944, as contrasted to the \$22,382,000 annual average for 1936-39.

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Wage increases, which have been denied the exploited packing house workers, could easily be paid out of these enormous profits before taxes. Profits after taxes in 1944 were \$44,110,000 as compared to \$17,472,000 in 1939.

Despite these fantastic profits and the rigid wagefreeze on the workers, Big Business is now making a concerted drive to wipe out the last semblance of price control by completely emasculating the few restrictions left in the Price Control Act.

# What Little Steel Formula **Has Done to Real Wages**

"This is no silk-shirt era for wage-earners." That was the conclusion of A. F. Hinrichs, acting commissioner of labor in the Dept. of Labor, when he presented an official report on wartime profits, prices and wages to the Senate Committee on Banking and Currency.

Spendable earnings of workers in three highly profitable wartime industries, for example, have declined in terms of "earnings required to maintain January, 1941, standards"-the date on which the Little Steel Formula is based.

Workers in the publishing industry actually have got, when I could find work, and \$9.05 less purchasing power a week; machine tool workers are shy \$4.76; electrical equipment workers, \$2.18. Steel workers end the week with a net gain of 31 cents, compared to the 450 per cent increase in steel profits.

The lowest wages are in department stores, which



- An Independent Labor Party based on the Trade Unions.
- 8. A Workers' and Farmers' Government.
- 9. The defense of the Soviet Union against imperialist attack.

### **U. S. Role In Greece**

The role that U. S. imperialism played behind the scenes in the Greek events has been carefully hidden from the American people. The official spokesmen and the press have fostered the illusion that Roosevelt's administration maintained a "hands-off" attitude before, during and after Churchill's premeditated massacre of the Greek workers. They have tried to palm off as good coin the pronouncement by Secretary of State Stettinius during the civil war that the United States favored a "free choice of government" by the Greek people.

Enough facts have already come out to prove that Roosevelt's line of policy differed from Churchill's only in that it was more hypocritical and concealed. The conspiracy of the Allied leaders against the Greek people began at Teheran in December 1943. It has been revealed that at this conference Stalin and Roosevelt agreed to a British sphere of influence in Europe which included domination of Greece. When Churchill spoke before the House of Commons on last December 12 to justify his actions in Greece, he declared that Washington had been kept informed of all his moves and had not objected to them.

The facts are that the United States government and armed forces gave direct aid to Churchill. British troops under General Scobie's command were armed with American weapons, transported in American planes, and fed with American food.

Lend-lease tanks and heavy guns, manned by picked British troops and ex-fascist mercenaries, were used in Athens to shoot down women and children as well as poorly armed ELAS fighters.

When the British were hard-pressed in the first days of the civil warfare, 100 U.S. Army troop carriers, piloted by American crews, rushed British soldiers to reinforce the garrison in Athens.

Food from America was also used as a weapon of counter-revolution. Before the outbreak of the fighting on December 3 American agencies had supplied the British in Athens with 40,000 tons of food-70 percent of all Allied foodstuffs sent

In a resolution flaying the Vinson order, the International Executive Board of the powerful United Automobile Workers Union declared: "Mr. Byrnes, Mr. Vinson transmitting his policies, has now closed every avenue open to labor for adjustment of its wage problems." The board called "for the creation of a new labor board." In his demonstrative resignation from the WLB in protest against Vinson's intervention in the textile wage case, Emil Rieve, head of the CIO Textile Workers Union, stated: "Political connivance has deprived the National War Labor Board of its independent tri-partite nature."

Tangled in the web of a false policy, the union officialdom sees no way out other than the restoration of the "independence" of the WLB. This false approach is based on the fiction of the "impartiality" of the "public" members of the WLB, who actually function as agents of the Roosevelt administration. The way out of the wage-freezing impasse is not through an "independent" WLB but through complete independence from the agents and agencies of the capitalist government.

Armed with a correct program, the many-millioned members of organized labor have the power to smash the wage-freeze. Such a program must have as its first aim the restoration of the independence of the unions. Free the unions from all domination or control by the political agents of the employing class!

Withdraw the union representatives from the employer-dominated War Labor Board! For the direct negotiations of all union demands and grievances. To back up the union bargaining power, it is necessary to rescind the no-strike pledge! Collective bargaining without the right to strike is a monstrous hoax. Without the strike weapon, employers know that they can violate agreements with impunity and laugh at union grievances.

Build the Independent Labor Party! The employers count heavily on their political deputies in control of government to keep the workers bound in the wage-freezing strait-jacket. Break with the policy of company unionism on the political field. The Independent Labor Party, based on the trade unions, can extend the fight into the political arena to defend labor's standard of living, labor's rights and labor's freedom. The time to act is now!

midst of the universal suffering. to be, and that everybody who is. So I began selling subs to my PM wrote about the elaborate believes, will take his stand in the friends and workers I had known. wedding recently held in Rome last great conflict between right and wrong, capitalism and socialism, falsehood and truth. "God to The Militant.

For created the earth, with its resources, including the air around 'International Notes' us, and the lifegiving sun. The See Page 3

**Relies on "Prayer"** 

as soon as I found out what kind

of a labor paper it was, to tell

you I did not want it, it is not

at all welcome here. In fact, we

use it to light fires with. Quite

Editor:

will be.

useful people, the workers of the world, have always done, and do now, from these resources, create for the daughter of Marchese Seall the wealth on earth and the rena who made all his millions comforts of life."

from Fascist concessions in Eth-Therefore make your choice. iopia and Albania. Here is how one of the guests described the affair. "The church of San Marco

**QUESTION BOX** was a gorgeous riot of flowersat least 100,000 lire worth - and the bride's gown, well it must

have cost 90,000 lire if it cost Q: What unions organized the one. Why you couldn't have CIO? touched even the bridesmaids The Committee for Indus-A:

gowns for less than 40,000 lire trial Organization was formed each. And the champagne lunchwithin the American Federation eon for 250 guests that followed of Labor in November 1935 when was a beautiful thing too." millions of workers in basic in And in the N. Y. Post last dustry demanded admission to week Marquis Childs told about the AFL. The Committee ina dinner he went to in Paris cluded mainly representatives which was an "island of luxury." | from AFL unions already organ-"A French guest whispered that ized on industrial lines; Lewis of the flowers could have cost not the United Mine Workers, Hillless than \$200. The five course man and Dubinsky of the clothdinner with superb wines could ing trades, McMahon of the Texnot have been excelled anywhere tile Workers, Brown of the Mine, in the world. Three footmen Mill and Smelter Workers, Zaritwaited on the small party ... sky of the Hatters, Cap and Mil-"A great part of the conversalinery Workers, Fremming of the tion," Childs said, "was concern-Oil-Field, Gas Well and Refinery ed with the perils to France from Workers, and Howard of the the extreme Left elements within

Typographical Union. The Exthe country." ecutive Committee of the AFL With this contrast in conditions suspended these CIO unions bebetween the rich and the poor, is fore its 1936 convention. it any wonder that the working Q: How many states have a people in Europe who want to poll tax? . throw out these parasites bitter-

A: Seven: Virginia, South ly resent the way they are being Carolina, Tennessee, Mississippi, maintained by the Allies? Alabama, Arkansas and Texas. F. W. Q: What was the first labor party organized in America? New York

A: The Workingmen's Party of New York which was organized in 1829.

Q: How large were the Communist and Socialist party votes Someone, unknown to me, subin Germany at the time of Hitscribed for your paper in my ler's seizure of power? name. I had intended writing you,

A: In the November 1932 elec tions the Communist Party (Stalinist) receiver 5,980,240 votes and the Social Democracy 7,251,410. Q: When was the Fourth International organized?

symbolic of what your hereafter A: The Founding Conference If you continue to send it, it of the Fourth International was shall meet the same fate, and as held in September 1938.

employ over two-thirds female workers. Wage rates are as low as 39 cents an hour, with general clerks getting only 50 cents. Yet department store PROFITS To make the long story short I have increased 1,046 per cent over the 1936-39 came home with twenty-one subs average!

### **Price Ceiling Violations Boost Cost-of-Living**

To bolster its "recommendation" for continuance of the wage-freezing Little Steel Formula, Roosevelt's War Labor Board issued "statistics" supplied by the President's own hand-picked cost-of-living committee to "prove" that living costs have risen only 29.5 percent since January 1941.

Recent testimony of various other government agencies expose the WLB's figures as deliberately fraudulent. Price ceiling violations, black market operations and quality deterioration in consumergoods essentials, not to speak of authorized price boosts, alone have added billions to the cost-of-living. According to OPA Director Bowles, who spoke before the House Appropriations Committee last week, we figured a year ago the overcharges in grocery stores above ceiling prices. . . probably amounted to close to a billion dollars." He admitted that 13 per cent of all retail food is selling above ceiling prices. Since May 1943, he further disclosed, "clothing prices have increased 11.6 per cent." This was "in addition to marked quality deterioration."

Another increasing source of price gouging is the black markets in rationed commodities such as meat, sugar and gasoline. A recent Office of War Information report discloses the black market is assuming 'dangerous proportions" and that it is being conducted not by "gangsters" but "reputable" business men.

Most widespread is the black market in meat, which has become almost universal despite the fact, said the OWI, that more meat is being produced for civilian consumption than ever before. "Most black market operations in meat," the OWI reveals, "are the work of persons actually identified with the meat industry-slaughterers, packers, wholesalers and retailers."

This is small change, however, compared to what the consumers have to pay for officially sanctioned price increases. Congress and the OPA themselves have provided price loop-holes for the biggest profiteers. The steel industry, for instance, is coining millions in extra profits since the OPA permits the socalled "products standard" price rate to compensate steel firms with higher unit production costs.

This higher rate, sought in the name of the "small" producers, has been stretched to cover all the big ones. Similarly, the Bankhead amendment to the Price Control Act of 1942 has enabled the textile manufacturers to boost their profits 1,300 percent during the war.



For a Rising Scale

Of Wages to Meet

**Rising Living Costs**