1946--- A Year Of Great Labor Battles In U.S.

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THE MILIANT

Workers Of The World, Unite!

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# **TRUMAN WRECKS HOUSING PROGRAM**

# **CIO "Big Three" Adopt Demands For Wage Rises**

Both the CIO steelworkers and electrical workers unions last week joined the United Auto Workers in adopting new wage demands. While the UAW has called for a specific general wage raise of 231/2 cents an hour, the steel and electrical workers lead-O-

ers refused to name any A bill is pending in Congress sum, merely asking for "sub- | however, to set a statute of limstantial increases."

per cent without increasing pri- to only one year.

So far as any unified pattern of wage demands is concerned, CIO emphasis is now being placed on such "fringe" demands as portal-to-portal pay and company-financed, union-controlled health and welfare funds.

Both of these important demands have come to the fore as a result of wartime and postwar strike victories by the militant miners. Portal-to-portal pay in industries other than mining has been upheld by recent federal court decision.

The steel, auto and electrical workers unions have simultaneously started suits against the major corporations for what may amount to billions of dollars in retroactive portal-to-portal pay. ing the militant fight that any

# **Italian Trotskyist Wins Election To City Council** (Special to The Militant)

itations of two years on back The UAW demand is based on portal-to-portal wages. The U.S. the Nathan report findings that Chamber of Commerce and othdue to price rises and that un- er Big Business groups are tryprecedented profits enable the ing to get Congress to pass a corporations to raise wages 25 | bill limiting such back payments

> ESCALATOR CLAUSE Of particular concern to the

CIO workers is some form of contract provision that will protect any wage gains from quick shrinkage due to rising living costs. The most effective de-

mand would be the inclusion in all contracts of an escalator clause based on a sliding scale of wages principle. Like the Sinclair contract won by, the CIO Oil Workers, this would provide automatic wage increases for every cost-of-living rise. If prices fell, the basic wage rates would remain as an outright gain in living standards.

No such imperative and progressive demand is being raised by the CIO. The CIO leaders are apparently fearful of undertaksuch basic wage demand would equire. Their wage demands are

limited to compensation for preious losses in real earnings. In fact, the CIO leaders are putting forth their wage de-

corporations that they don't bill which was passed at the Dwant and don't intend a militant last session of Congress." ight CIO and United Steel Green's fears are only too well workers President Philip Murfounded. At virtually every ray clearly intimated last week munist Workers Party (POC), he is ready to make a substan- intimates his January message press conference, the President to Congress will demand unioncrippling legislation. With al-No call for CIO members to most one voice Congressmen echo propaganda during working prepare for unified, militant actheir readiness to sink the blade tion came from the joint meet- in labor's back. A total of 1,500 preferential ing of steel, auto and electrical Alfred P. Sloan, Jr., Chairman



# Wall Street Speeds Drive For Anti-Labor Legislation

Wall Street's drive for vicious anti-labor legislation is preceeding steadily. William Green warned in a letter to all AFL officers Dec. 18 that Congress will

attempt to impose "illegal union shop agreements, restrict the exercise of the right to number of local unions . . . No strike, subject workers to civil suits for damages for participation in strikes in alleged mands, limited as they are, with violations of contracts and, in addition, enact further obpreliminary assurances to the jectionable labor legislation similar to the notorious Case ion to public inspection and prothe edge of labor's strike weap-

ities.

gaining elections.

ited rights to petition for bar-

Shortage Gives Impetus To Drive To Scuttle All Controls On Rent

401

#### **Bu Ruth Benson**

The two-pronged drive of the construction and real estate profiteers to wreck the low-cost housing program and destroy rent ceilings was pushed forward last week by Truman when he scuttled the Veterans **Emergency** Housing plan.

New mansions for the rich, more penthouse apartments, race-tracks, night clubs and movie palaces will mushroom under Truman's Dec. 14 ex-

control order will chan-

nel almost all building materials

into the luxury market. It will

worsen the housing shortage.

This, in turn, is adding great

impetus to the drive of the big

real estate interests to get the

# **Support Crows For Labor Party In Flint Area**

FLINT, Mich., Dec. 21 -The movement for an independent Labor Party is grownew Congress to raise or remove ing here, following the action of Chevrolet Local 659, CIO United Auto Workers, which recently set up a 10-man committee and fulltime organizer to direct the work of organizing a Labor Party in the Sixth Congressional District.

The Flint Weekly Review, official Greater Flint CIO Council publication, gives editorial support to the drive. Its Dec. 13 issue declares:

"Recent events have made it plain that labor should wait no onger to start independent political action. Long recognized as an ultimate goal of the labor movement, a Labor Party for the interests of all those who are the victims of the economic and political programs (of the Democrats and Republicans) . . . has become a necessity

"Here in Flint there is a movement already under way in a one can say yet if this is the actual beginning of a successful Labor Party, either for Michigan add "increased costs" to their hibit unions from contributing or for the nation. What we can rentals, a pretext under which to or supporting political activ- say is that it is a beginning in rents can be raised enormously, the right direction, and that although landlord profits are al-(9) Grant employers unlim-

ecutive order. But it will aggravate the plight of millions of veterans and workers who need lowcost, low-rent dwellings.<sup>©</sup>

Truman's housing de- of the poor. Building corporation's approve it and are calculating their swelling profits.

At Albany the New York State convention of the American Veterans Committee adopted a resolution not only condemning Truman's action, but holding "the President and both major

parties responsible" for scuttling the veteran's housing program. In Washington, Ray Sawyer, commander of Amvets, warned that "the promise of immediate: low-cost housing is gone" for veterans, 90 per cent of whom earn less than \$2,500 a year. Only new rental units and rapid construction of prefabricated nomes, he added, were still possible "if the slogan of 'two vets for every garage' is not to become a reality." But these were among the methods thrown overboard by Truman. AN INSULT

CIO legislative representative John W. Edleman lashed the Truman order, pointing out that "race tracks, night clubs and beer joints will proliferate." He called the new permit system "as tragic and dangerous an incitation to bitterness as a decoration awarded to a war hero when he can't get à job. The system "formula" to permit landlords to is an actual insult to people needing homes."

> Building profiteers were happy but looking for even bigger loot. Their sole complaint was that Truman hadn't litted all controls. The National Association of Real Estate Boards demanded that Truman now "turn the industry loose.'



TRUMAN

rent ceilings on all existing rental dwellings.

Already Representative Jesse Wolcott of Michigan has announced that he is working on a

FOGGIA, Italy, Dec. 2-The Foggia section of the Com-Italian section of the Fourth tial compromise to avoid a International, succeeded in hav- struggle. ing Romeo Mangano elected to the Municipal Council in the Nov. 24 elections.

votes were tabulated for Man- union top leaders held in Pittsgano. Another 1.500 votes for burgh last week. Murray let it be him were invalidated by the known that the meeting was "to Street wants. Speaking before Central Electoral Bureau because the workers added revolutionary joint strategy." slogans to their ballots.

Romeo Mangano is the first far less than the CIO workers ways: (1) "by dissolving unions member of the POC, formed in need and can win if they re- into parts," thus effectively de-1944, to be elected to public ofsolutely push their demands stroying the fighting strength fice. This first electoral experi- with a unified program of milience of the Italian Trotskyists tant action. It is up to the CIO shows the possibilities for the ranks, the local militants, to de- union as now constituted" to development of a mass revolu- | mand such a united action protionary party in Italy. gram.

of General Motors, on Dec. 19 outlined the anti-labor laws Wall

clear information and, not to set the Boston Chamber of Comagencies favor the unions. merce, the industrial mogul said Murray is ready to settle for unions could be crippled in two responsible for any breach of

resolution was the high point of The Militant and two Socialist

hours.

contract committed by members. (5) Prohibit unionization of foremen.

derived from labor unity; (2) "by limiting the power of any one assuring "democracy." strike a large part of "any one industry," thus grinding away

(8) Open the books of the un-

Labor Party, Red-Baiting Debated **At Convention Of California CIO** 

### By J. Blake

#### (Special to The Militant)

SANTA CRUZ, Calif.-A militant left-wing minority submitted the minority resolu- erican Workers Need a Labor made its voice heard at the California State CIO convention here Dec. 12-15 by fighting for a resolution favoring million workers, powerfully or- Now, which had been distributed formation of a labor party now and by opposing red-baiting. The labor party resolution .

came to the convention floor af- | mine the CIO's democratic polter a five-hour discussion in com- icies help to destroy the very ungave no answer except "we were mittee. It was signed by four ity for which many speakers had betrayed," then invited more United Auto Workers Local 406 appealed.

delegates and submitted as a STALINISTS CRAWL minority report by 406 delegate Supporters of the Commun-

John Murphy, of Long Beach. ist Party, on the other hand, Jack Shepherd and George Harvey, United Steelworkers Lo- | made it clear the Stalinists favored the red-baiters' resolucal 2058, and Louis Ciccone, UAW Local 216, Los Angeles, as a minority on the resolutions committee opposed adoption of the state executive board's red-baiting policy statement. This statement and his party to "loyally carry supported the national CIO's de- out the decision." claration that the CIO "resents and rejects efforts of the Communist Party . . . to interfere ed the Communist Party's dethat it would not "tolerate" such its capitulation, that the chairinterference. Shepherd condemned the state- seen a convention where so many

ment as a "capitulation to red- people opposed to the Communbaiting" and discriminatory. He ist Party defend the Communcharged that those who under- ists."

the convention. Murphy, who Workers Party pamphlets, Amtion, asked: "Why are fifteen Party and Build A Labor Party ganized on the economic field, to the delegates. Jenkins brazenso weak on the political field?" ly misquoted an article by M. The majority report, he said, Stein in The Militant. His falsification and redbaiting were sharply assailed by "betrayals" by advocating con- Howard Rosen, one of the UAW tinuation of political coalition Local 406 delegates who signed with the parties and candidates the labor party resolution. Labeling the labor party proposal as

of Big Business. SHOWS POSSIBILITY

He showed the possibility of tion. Henry Gliksohn. Longshore forming a labor party now by and Warehousemen's Local 1-6, citing unions which have passed coalition. San Francisco, pledged himself resolutions favoring a labor par-VOICE VOTE "as a Communist (Stalinist)" ty and the high percentage of workers who have supported the

idea in polls.

Dave Jenkins, Stalinist director So many delegates, while opposing Stalinist policies, defendof the Calfiornia Labor School in the affairs of the CIO" and mocratic rights and condemned Cooks and Stewards, San Francisco, opposed the labor party man commented: "I've never supporters as "revolutionary phrase-mongers" and tried to link them with "outside influ-

ences."

Sloan outlined a nine-point legislative program to hog-tie the unions:

(1) Grant employers permission to bombard workers with **UAW-CIO Board** 

**Appeals To AFL** (2) Prohibit unions from bargaining collectively on an in-

**For Joint Action** dustry-wide basis. (3) Let the courts intervene when decisions of government (Special To The Militant)

NEW YORK, Dec. 23-Top (4) Hold a union collectively leaders of the CIO United

Automobile Workers last week urged "leaders of the American Federation of Labor

(6) Outlaw the closed shop. to respond to CIO President (7) Intervene in the internal Murray's call for labor unity affairs of unions under guise of against those who would destroy the labor movement."

This appeal was issued by the

22-man UAW International Excutive Board at the end of its 10-day session at the Hotel Picadilly here. The Board, which previously announced new inlustry-wide demands for a 23<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>cent an hour wage increase, also pledged "unity of action" with other CIO unions in the wage fight.' The debate on the labor party | The "outside influences" were

The Board adopted a motion by President Walter Reuther proposing that a united labor conference of the CIO, AFL and Railroad Brotherhoods should organize a unified campaign against anti-labor laws, estab-

lish machinery to settle jurisdictional disputes and coordinate labor's fight for higher wages. The motion also proposed the setting up of a joint defense fund by the united labor confer-Board spokesmen as "really am-

"radical" did not determine its ounting to a strike fund." correctness, he pointed out. "The A national united labor conissues are still before us - inference is needed, said the statedependent political action or ment, as "a counter-offensive to turn back this drive of corporate

The convention majority, by hands of the responsibility of

a voice vote, adopted the antiproviding homes for veterans" communist policy statement and and has "turned back the clock endorsed PAC coalition politics. of progress in labor relations by and delegate from the Marine President Morris Zussman preinvoking injunctive powers vented a vote on the labor party against a union at the behest resolution by ruling it was not of the National Association of "in conformity with CIO national Manufacturers." It warned that policy." Despite protests even "a reactionary Congress is formfrom some majority supporters, ulating legislation that would his ruling was upheld by a small outlaw legitimate and basic unvote.

ion activities."

sooner or later it is the step that ready highest in history. labor will have to take." MAIN POINTS

At its Dec. 15 membership The main points of Truman's order will (1) wipe out the \$10,meeting, Buick Local 599 overwhelmingly adopted a resolution 000 ceiling on new homes; (2) in favor of collaborating with eliminate veterans' priorities and the Chevrolet Local 659 commitprovide permits for anyone who tee and to set up a similar 10wishes to build, regardless of man committee. In presenting need; (3) allow construction of the motion, Local 599 President 40 per cent more non-residential Ben Woodard declared that in buildings; (4) change the previous rental ceiling of \$80 on new his opinion, all locals should do the same thing. apartments to an "average of

\$80" for entire projects. Other big UAW locals in Flint Veteran and labor spokesmen which are already on record in favor of a Labor Party include denounce the scheme as an at- suburbs acted to make available Fisher and A. C. Spark Plug. tack upon the living conditions

At New York's Commodore Hotel, Arthur W. Binns, president of the National Home and Property Owners Foundation, explained what the industry means when it says that if it is "turned loose," it will provide homes for the workers and veterans.

In Philadelphia, he said, "the addition of 100 homes in the

(Continued on Page 2)



### Statement Of The Socialist Workers Party Political Committee

assault on the rent front.

The landlords are conspiring to smash government agents. rent controls. The capitalist press is backing them up. Truman and the 80th Congress are preparing to lift rents on a nation-wide scale. At the same time they are low-rent housing.

be provided. Since V-J Day, the housing shortage has only grown worse. Disastrous fires in many cities with a heavy toll of human life have tragically demonstrated the ence. This was described by a mounting danger of bad and over-crowded housing.

The workers have been hit by a pincers movement-from one side a smashing barrage of the real estate interests for rent increases; from the other side an all-out attack on government-financed housing. Evgovernment "has washed its ery veteran, every worker and his family is vitally affected by this attack.

What is to be done?

This burning problem demands the attention of the entire trade union movement. The trade unions must lead the whole popestate sharks to evict families into the to a decent home.

The workers' standard of living, already | streets. It is up to the trade unions to show indermined by high prices, is now under all the low-income groups how militant methods can defeat the landlords and their

> The campaign against rent increases must begin at once.

Local unions, union councils, and all labor bodies should immediately adopt resoluscuttling all plans for government-financed tions protesting the threatened rent increases. These resolutions should be pub-During the war, construction of new hous- licized on the widest possible basis. Every ing was suspended, but people were led to union body should at once begin organizing believe that after the war new homes would | tenants for defensive action against the greedy landlords.

Campaigns to force municipal and state legislation freezing rents and barring evictions must be launched. This would serve as a safeguard against the lifting of Federal controls.

The unions should demand that the \$18,000,000,000 (billions) military budget for 1947 be used for the construction of lowrent housing. Build homes - not atom bombs!

The unions should demand municipal and state low-rent housing projects, financed through a heavy tax on the war profiteers. The government is yielding to the pressure of the profiteering landlords. Only determined mass resistance-large-scale rent ulace in the struggle for new housing and strikes, anti-eviction demonstrations - can against rent increases. They must serve stay the hand of the grasping landlords and notice they will resist rent increases with their government tools. The trade unions rent strikes. They must serve notice they must take the lead in this struggle to dewill battle any attempt of the brutal real | fend the rights of the workers and veterans PAGE TWO

#### THE MILITANT

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1946

twice as great in congested

houses as elsewhere. Deaths from

tuberculosis in New York City are

greater in old-law tenements

than in new. In seven cities ju-

per cent greater in slums than

in non-slum areas."

venile delinquency averaged 101

The housing crisis has shar-

pened since January of this year, and

when the national shortage

# Expulsions Fail To End CP Crisis Latest Statistics

for "leftism," has for the first time in 16 years produced an organized internal opposition to the official Stalinist leaders and policies.

It is clear from the many documents of dissenting groups that have come into our possession that the opposition of the CP rises chiefly

from the working-class layers of the party. How wide-spread and persistent is the opposition, struggle within the CP is shown by the fact that whole leading branches, both on the east and west coasts, have been ruthlessly "liquidated" or "reorganized" and most of their members expelled.

Two outstanding examples are the cases of the CP machinists club in San Francisco and the P. R. Communist Party Club, Section 1, Bronx, called not long ago by the New York State party secretary "the best club in the Bronx."

Some hint as to the scope of the opposition is given in the December issue of Political Affairs, "theoretical" organ of the CP. Months after the expulsion of the San Francisco machinists, it runs an extensive article on "The Struggles Against Deviations and Factionalism in San Francisco" which admits that the San Francisco group "have connections outside of San Franciso, and even outside of the state."

What is of even greater concern to the Stalmist leaders, as Political Affairs points out, is

expelled elsewhere . . . They hope, through the the lines indicated by the party's policies." That use of their documents and through personal contacts, to re-establish their faction within the and the striking workers were very hostile to any Party.'

The utter decay and demoralization of the Stalinist party and its leaders is demonstrated especially by the issues over which most of the expulsions for "leftism" take place. These are not controversies about revolutionary strategy or basic program. They involve literally the most elementary principles upheld by even the most backward unionists.

Thus, the CP machinists club in San Francisco was broken up and its members expelled because they refused to organize a "rank-and-file back-to-work movement" to break the joint strike of AFL Machinists Lodge 38 in San Francisco and CIO Steelworkers Local 1304 in Alameda County.

According to the article in Political Affairs against these "left deviationists," they insisted on supporting a trike led by union leaders who had "a Trotskyist line." They did not agree with the party leaders who "stressed the need for an independent program that would free the machinists from the disastrous consequences" of the militant strike policies of the union leaders.

Among other things the "majority of machinist comrades" opposed were the Stalinist leaders' instructions that "it was essential to prevent the tie-up of the waterfront and troopships" that the "group of expelled have organized them- | and "the necessity for an organized retreat." The seives and meet regularly ... They are engaged in article complains about the "passivity on the

The crisis gripping the American Communist | the circulation of documents, some prepared lo- | part of some comrades" and "their inability to | the expulsion of "E." by the State Committee Party (Stalinist), reflected in wholesale expulsions cally, others written by persons who have been give leadership to the rank-and-file strikers along but 19 members signed an appeal to the National Committee. Then, "the National, State, County is, the CP machinists refused to be strikebreakers and Section Committees have grilled and intimidated our club, attempting to change our deci-'rank-and-file back-to-work" movement sions by fake transfers in, and mass expulsions

Not only were CP workers expelled for refusing to be strikebreakers on the economic front, they were expelled for objecting to strikebreaking on the political front.

The key issue which led to the expulsions in the Bronx P. R. Club was the club members' criticism of the manner in which the Stalinist leaders backed capitalist party candidates. They didn't

even object to the false principle of backing Wall Street's candidates. As they state in "An this case, such expulsions fail to silence the S.O.S. To All Communists," they objected merely critics. Expulsions are aggravating the internal because "the CP declared a 'moratorium' on pressure and issued 'blank checks'" to the Democratic Party candidates Mead and Lehman, who were

calling for support of a "tough policy" against the Soviet Union and conducting a vicious antired, anti-Communist election campaign. "Unless the CP counsels pressure and only qualified support for these men, it will encourage and even hurry their reactionary plans," says the P. R. Club's statement.

It was because of such views as these, a protest left-Stalinists, who defend Stalinism internaagainst the CP giving "unqualified support" to tionally, while objecting to its vilest expression red-baiting, anti-Soviet, war-mongering Wall Street politicians, that first one member. "Comrade E.", who wrote a critical letter to the CP leaders was expelled and then the whole P.R. Club was "reorganized."

The club was finally pressured into accepting crisis in the Communist Party.)

Students Support Teachers

# **Reveal Housing Shortage Worse**

#### By Evelyn Atwood

Not a single new apartment house was built in New York City in the first 10 months of this year, according to figures released on Dec. 13 by Dr. N. T. Saxl, Commis-

sioner of Housing and Build-D ings. The highly - touted would need an income of about housing program fizzled out \$90 a week! He would need the same income to pay the \$80 a in a trickle of one and two-fammonth — and up — on future ily houses, together with the reapartment houses. More than modeling of a few others, half of the American workers amounting to a total of 3,022 earn less than \$130 a month. permanent units. While the veterans are given

Six months ago, E. B. Butler, Chairman of the N. Y. C. Housthe runaround, there are 550,000 on against the dissenters a campaign of so-called other families in New York City ing Authority, estimated the city confined to slum areas with no shortage at 861,100 dwellings. is the first to be hurled. And the dissenters are hope for escape. Occupants of Today more than 350,000 famithese old-law tenement fireimmediately branded "factionalists." Every such lies are doubled up with relatraps are mainly large families tives and, friends, rooming in with many children. The U.S. The new opposition in the CP are as yet merely crowded quarters or separated Department of Labor in 1936 through lack of houses. warned that "infant mortality is

Even the temporary apartin the American Communist Party. They are ments to be supplied for vet-"factionalists" only in the sense that any CP erans by Federal, State and City member who raises a critical voice against any agencies ended in dismal failure. policy of the CP leaders is called a "factionalist." At present there are 765,000 (This is the second in a series of articles on the veterans returned to this city. In the past 10 months they were provided with only 2,352 units in Quonset huts; 1,240 dormitory rooms for unmarried students and 1,900 apartments. At bestif the temporary dwelling plans

amounted to 3,500,000 units, and are completed — only 8,200 more 1,200,000 city families were livwill be accommodated. ing doubled up. It was then es-The great majority are findtimated that, exclusive of farm

ing make-shift shelter only in areas, 1,260,000 units must be built each year for the next 10 "trailers, tourist camps, furnished rooms and in the homes of years to even partly meet the relatives and friends," states the acute need. And this would not Dec. 14 N. Y. Times. provide relief for those who are

"The magnitude of the demand forced to live in the 6,000,000 dwellings which are literally fallthe 85,000 applications on file ing apart. with the N. Y. C. Housing Au-**NO PROGRAM** 

thority for permanent or tem-Of the 37 million homes in the

porary apartments of any kind. U. S., 11 million (almost a third) These applications include only are without running water; 15 veterans of World War II." million lack an inside private According to a recent survey toilet; 12 million are without of the Department of Commerce, bathtubs; 3 million are overonly 14 per cent of the veterans crowded. There is no program can afford to buy houses avereven on paper for the wretched

aging \$6,700. But builders have inhabitants of these substandard been producing houses mostly at dwellings. the full \$10,000 price allowed by One of the most serious conthe National Housing Authority. sequences of this housing crisis With Truman's recent capitulais the sharp rise in evictions. So tion to the real estate hogs, the far this year the OPA and mucost of new homes will go even nicipal courts have granted 17,-

higher. 752 evictions, almost as many as A study just completed by the | for 1944 and 1945 combined. In N. Y. C. Veterans Service Center New York City, 7,807 evictions shows that for a veteran to be were granted in the first 11 able to own a \$10,000 house, with months, and these are expected a down payment of \$1,000, he to mount week by week.

Low-Cost Housing Program Scuttled By Pres. Truman

This was immediately answer-REDWOOD CITY, Calif., Dec. 18-The partially coned by John Conroy. a steelworker representing an AVC chapter. Conroy said: "I live in a rat-infested house and when the wind blows it sweeps right through the building. I'm not going to "out of bounds." This is the of defense guards to aid not only wait for the real estate compain rebuilding the home but in nies to build a house two years who already live in extravagant safeguarding the lives of these from now, which I can't afford." luxury will get even swankier Harry Braverman, represent-The CIO Marine Cooks and mansions and apartments. But ing the Socialist Workers Party. for the millions who need decent Stewards Union and Warehouse answered the speaker from the shelter now there is offered only Real Estate Board by explainthe hope that eventually they Walker's aid. A meeting was call- trade union movement's great ing the real facts of Truman's will be able to "move up" into executive order. Actually, he the worst and vilest hovels and said, it was a blow to veterans nal organizations was pledged. ganized labor movement is to and all low-cost housing and a tenements. But even this is a vain hope. continue to exist, all Ku Klux gift to the rent profiteers, real When the rich abandon their estate sharks and building con-Park Avenue and Fifth Avenue crushed. It is the responsibility tractors. mansions, these remain empty The committee is studying and boarded up. The workers are the housing problem and will full support and aid to the Ne- bring recommendations back to just jammed tighter into rat-infested, decrepit fire-traps, which gro people of Redwood City. the full body. decay and fire are destroying at in ever greater rate. But the big Business govern-Enjoy ment in Washington follows the command of the real estate own-NEW YEAR'S EVE ers, not the needs of the poor. Even the Veterans' Emergency Housing Program, limited as it with the Socialist Workers Party

# **Bilbo Calls Bribes He Got** 'An Old Southern Custom'

#### By Joseph Hansen

How a capitalist politician makes a seat in the United | ridin' but it was close enough to States Senate pay off like a seat in the stock exchange was graphically revealed last week in hearings of the Senate Bilbo \$5,000 for election pur-War Investigating Committee when Mississippi war con-

tractors came to the defense of Theodore G. ("Poisonmouth") Bilbo. They didn't really bribe him, they said; he 'was needin' it.'

Bilbo, a member of the Ku Klux Klan, advocate of lynch violence against the Negroes, and banner-bearer of the Democratic Party in the Bourbon South, quietly sucked on a cigar butt as one of his war profiteer friends jovially declared, "We always elect poor folks in Mississippi.'

Mike T. Morrissey, who got \$115,302 for rental of equipment at Keesler Air Field, said. "I just happened to drive in to see Bilbo" when the Senator was starting to dig a 23-acre artifi-

ciai lake with no equipment but a mule. Warm-hearted Morrissey was so touched by Bilbo's plight that he finished up the project with bull-dozers at a cost of \$3,672. Besides this, Morrissey "loaned"



BILBO

Bilbo \$6,000 which he made no attempt to collect, assumed \$48,-000 of "losses" in operations on Bilbo's 3,300 acre estate, and donated \$1.800 to Bilbo's private church.

As a Christmas present one year, Morrissey slipped Bilbo a government job. \$1,919 Cadillac. Bilbo explained



F. T. Knewton, another Bilbobacker who dipped into the \$14,-000,000 Keesler Air Field gravy, handed the Senator \$25,000. He 'loaned" Bilbo's secretary \$3,750 which was never repaid. And then to square his conscience with religion he dropped \$750 in the plate for Bilbo's church.

Singling out the \$25,000 item, Bilbo swore: "I didn't get a damned cent." In a statement prepared for the Investigating Committee's record, the Senator declared that despite the soliitude of his very warm friends

ne is "a very poor man and heavily involved in debt." A. B. Friend, Bilbo's campaign manager in both 1940 and 1946, happens to be a war contractor



lay \$600 on the pulpit in Bilbo's

St. Paul students backed up the strike of their teachers demonstrating at the Minnesota capitol, demanding that the strike be settled so their classes can resume. They demanded better schools, too. See story on Page 6.

**Ku Klux Klan Death Threats** happens to be a war contractor too. He agreed to hand Bilbo's private secretary, Terry, \$4,350 Follow Burning Of Vet's Home

# **Vets And Unions** Act On Housing **In Youngstown Bu Mark Farrell**

(Special to The Militant) YOUNGSTOWN, O., Dec. 20

-A committee representing all veterans and labor organizations is preparing to for new homes is indicated by tackle the veterans' housing problem in Youngstown and the urrounding area. This commite was set up by the County ommissioners to help them deal ith the Cochran Park veterans'

At Tuesday night's meeting a ommittee of three was set up to uide the actions of the commitee and to chair the meetings. The CIO Council is well repreented in the body and on the overning committee. The secetary of the CIO Council veterans' committee, Marvin Weintock, was elected secretaryreasurer of this body.

of you."

VETERAN'S ANSWER

(Continued from Page 1) |to boost ren

ousing project.

out. Our whole Executive Committee was removed

but this removal was not recognized by the club.'

Thus, it is the elementary issue of CP strike-

breaking on the economic and political fronts,

rather than any basic disagreements with the Stal-

inist program, that unites the growing opposition

How are the dissenters met? At the first voice

of criticism, they are ruthlessly expelled. But in

crisis, provoking more doubts, stimulating more

Now the Stalinist leaders are forced to carry

'polemic"-that is, in Stalinist practice, a smear

campaign. Naturally, the charge of "Trotskyism"

characterization, as usual, is false to the core.

tendencies in the CP.

opposition.

The meeting tonight was an organizational one and very little policy was discussed. A flurry of excitement ran through the hall when a man obviously rep-

resenting the real estate intersts made the statement that, "Now that the shackles are removed from building, just wait a while and we'll take good care

St. Paul Dispatch Photo.

# **Seattle Skating Rink**

SEATTLE, Wash., Dec. 21 -The Seattle Branch of the Socialist Workers Party has begun a campaign to mobilize Negro and President Truman. labor organizations to fight racial discrimination at the Roller Bowi skating rink on the north side of this city, and to establish the right of Negroes to use the rank.

This action followed the re- the poverty-stricken Senator. fusal of the rink's management John R. Junkins, who got a to provide skates for 25 Negro \$500,000 war contract, did the and white members of the SWP \$1,500 cementing job on Bilbo's and the American Youth for swimming pool. "I just happened Democracy, who visited the rink to be going by," he said, "and last Saturday night, and walked saw Bilbo gettin' ready to mix past the sign at the entrance cement." Junkins too decided it which read: ""We cater to white pays to support religion and gentrade only." Because of the de- erously contributed \$500 to Biltermined stand of the group, bo's church fund. skates were finally issued to M. T. Reed, who totalled \$43,-

them. 000,000 in war contracts, said he But on the floor of the rink, was "just ridin' by the Senator's the management organized antiwhen I noticed his house needed Negro forces to trip the skaters paintin' bad. So I did it." The and provoke a riot atmosphere. bill was \$1,790. Reed's religious Open battle was halted only after sentiments were so deep he conthe King County Sheriff's divitributed \$3,500 to Bilbo's church sion appeared. Proposals for a united front for action against him to the tune of a \$517 presthis discrimination have been ent for Bilbo.

made to the NAACP, the AYD, B. L. Knost, who also got a American Veterans' Committee whack at the Keesler Air Field interests." Truer words melon, didn't say where he was never spoken. and other organizations.

State

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THE MILITANT

A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

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truth about labor's struggles for a better world.

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Postal Zone



Terry testified that this profiilar gifts to other Mississippi table connection came to an un-Senators and Governors and to happy ending. Over the dinner his well-known fellow-Demotable at the Lamar Hotel in Mercrats, President Roosevelt and idian, Miss., in April, 1946, Bilbo's campaign manager, in ac-Having excavated the lake. cordance with another blo

Morrissey "happened to see the Southern custom, informed Terry Senator and a mule startin' to" that if "you . . . tell what you dig a swimming pool. Morrissey know of Senator Bilbo you'll be sprang to the rescue, completing killed."

the work with bull-dozers for Twice over the telephone a courteous Southern voice again reminded Terry that if he unbuttoned his lip, death awaited him, his wife and his daughter. Terry fell victim to such an "extreme nervous condition" that he had to be hospitalized. A group of Major Generals, Brigadier Generals and Colonels house. testified that "none" of the con-

KKK THREATS tractors recommended by Bilbo Since these events Walker has was considered capable of perreceived notes by mail from the forming any of the major con-KKK, threatening to hang him tracts by himself. So the jobs from a fiery cross. The Klan also were farmed out.

threatened to tar and feather These top Army men agreed white people who come to his aid. that while "Senator Bilbo had Walker and others received the been highly active in recomfirst threats last July. In August mending Mississippi contraca man accosted two of Walker's and the Christmas spirit moved tors," he had "done no more friends, informing them that than was performed by prac-Walker's home was going to be tically every member of Conburned and that they and the gress in forwarding constituents' rest of the colored people were were

of months.

going to be killed. They immediately went to the District Attorney with this information and a description of the man. Nothing was done. However, after the fire this man was apprehended, questioned and then turned loose. Others who made threats have also been questioned and released.

The local press carefully omitted the names of those questioned. But it published the names and pictures of Walker's two friends. This amounts to fingering them for the KKK while protecting possible members of this reactionar; organization. Despite all the information given the local police, no one has yet been arrested. **COUNCIL FORMED** 

At last night's meeting, the committee formed to aid Walker took steps to organize a local Council of Civic Unity. But no further decisions were made to protect Walker's life. Anne Chester, representing the

Socialist Workers Party, spoke on the necessity for getting the wide support of trade unions in

structed home of a Negro veteran, John T. Walker, was burned on Dec. 6 in this town, 25 miles from San Francisco, because he attempted to P build in an area considered the area and for the formation

culmination of a series of threats against the Negroes of this comthreatened people. munity extending over a period

The American Veterans Committee immediately came to Local 6, were represented. The ed and the support of about 20 power, properly used, can prevent vigilante terro.. If the orcivic, religious, labor and frater-They have decided to post a reward for information leading to and fascist movements must be the arrest of those responsible for burning the home. They are of the labor movement of the also preparing to rebuild the entire San Francisco area to give

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housing.'

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100 units in the Negro area. eviction activity, and mass demands for an 18 billion dollar Those financially able moved into the new buildings, making it possible for those successively less well off to move up a step all along the line." Thus, the wealthy few on top

federal housing appropriation should be first steps in the direction of decent low-cost. lowent homes for veterans and workers.

us. ment strikes, anti-

# **Studio Pickets** In Mass Trials By Al Lynn

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 21 -The first of the mass trials of pickets in the Hollywood strike slowly got under way here this week with 208 placed on trial at Patriotic Hall and another 125 at the Embassy Auditorium.

Only four prospective jurors were examined on the first day at Patriotic Hall. The hundreds of pickets were faced with the prospect of no work for a period of several months while the trial drags on.

was in its aims, has now been This demoralizing prospect, buried. Resigning in disgust, dehowever, caused only five indiviputy housing exceditor Norton duals to break ranks and plead E Long correctly termed Tru- guilty. The five were fined \$25 man's policy "non-veteran, noneach for disturbing the peace. The display of solidarity was

It is up to the labor movement all the more marked because of to initiate widespread demands the approach of Christmas and and actions to secure adequate the rapid evaporation of any housing for the workers and ve- savings under the steady increase terans and to halt the attempt in prices.

Socialist Workers Pai 116 University Place New York 3, New York	RTY	i ŝ t
I would like:	alist Workers Party.	
<b>To</b> obtain furth ganization.	er information about you	ar o
To attend meeti Workers Party in	ngs and forums of the So a my city.	ciali
NAME		
NAME	(Please Print)	*****

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1946

THE MILITANT

PAGE THREE

# Action Needed To Defend Not Much Peace Or Good Will Labor's Living Standards Displayed By World Capitalism

present threat of war is coupled with a shaky economic equilibrium at home. The country's economic life is dislocated beyond repair by the growbig monopolists. While the corporations are piling up fantastic profits, arrogating to themselves an even larger share of the annual income, the purchasing power of the masses is further slashed by the inflationary prices.

The workers' share of the national income continues steadily to decline. The national debt of 260 billion dollars-almost equal to the country's estimated national wealth-weighs heavily on the working people. This national debt represents by and large fictitious capital, which, as Leon Trotsky pointed out in a similar connection. is a memento of the real wealth that was pumped out of the country for the purposes of destruction.

It represents a morgtage on the wealth yet to be accumulated. The interest alone on this mortgage amounts to more than five billion dollars a year. The size of this sum can be grasped if we recall that the entire national budget in 1929 was  $3\frac{1}{2}$  billion dollars, while in 1933 it was  $4\frac{1}{2}$ billion dollars.

This huge national debt, plus the billions being spent in preparation for World War III, will henceforward claim a constantly increasing share of the national income. It will come out of the workers' pay envelope in the form of bigger taxes, rising prices and cuts in real wages. It means a further decline in the workers' standard of living.

#### **One** Choice For Workers

The workers have no choice except to fight in defense of their already meager living standards. This was the meaning of the great strike wave that followed V-J Day.

But the gains of the strikes were quickly consumed by soaring prices. The strike settlements therefore were only a partial check on the decline in the workers' living standards, and that only for a short time. The inflationary spiralling of prices quickly nullifies the wage increases gained in strike struggles. What can the workers do under these circumstances?

Our party, I believe, was the only one to advance a realistic program, the heart of which is the struggle for the sliding scale of wages. We propose that every union contract include an escalator clause which provides for automatic wage increases with every rise in the cost of living, in accordance with a price index established by the unions themselves.

The sliding scale of wages would thus safeguard the workers' living standards from being undermined by price jumps. The workers would be freed from the harassing necessity of constantly defending their living standards from this line of assault and could begin a struggle to improve their living conditions over previous levels.

positions already won in years of struggle and leads to action.

### By M. Stein

Extract from a report on "The Present Political | make possible an offensive for higher standards Situation and the Tasks of the Party," delivered of living. Conversely, this slogan points the only to the Twelfth National Convention of the So- way of effectively counteracting the employers' cialist Workers Party in Chicago, Nov. 15 to 18: propaganda that wage increases are responsible The acute international situation with its ever for high prices and of preventing the fruits of Greece Hold 3rd workers' victories from being stolen from them by the corporations. And most important of all, would end a drain on the workers' fighting moring concentration of wealth in the hands of the ale, the drain that comes from too many battles of purely defensive character.

We made considerable headway with this slogan. It has made its way in a number of important unions. It provided our militants with an effective weapon against the trade union bureaucracy and the Stalinists. It will continue to play an important role in the days ahead.

### **Consumers'** Organization

In the struggle against sky-rocketing prices we ikewise advocated organization, against the profiteers on the consumers front. We proposed the organization of consumers' committees, which jointly with the unions would wage a struggle since Marx, stressing particularagainst artificially created scarcities and profi-ily the imperialist character of teering.

We did not score any spectacular successes with Wars. his proposal as yet. But the Toledo experience, in the fight against the meat gouge, showed what can be done on this front.

It is certain now that rents will be boosted, either by the OPA's granting increases, or through

the elimination of rent controls altogether. This will give rise to serious struggles, fights against evictions, and so on. Rent is the major item in the workers' budget. Higher rents mean a further slash in the workers' living standards. We can expect large-scale resistance to rent increases and we ought to proceed

immediately to give this resistance an organized expression.

In some places it may be possible to organize the tenants with the sanction and aid of the trade unions. In such cases it is not excluded that cityvide rent strikes may ensue.

The trade unions have an excellent opportunity DISTORTS MARXISM o give leadership to the whole community in the struggle against exorbitant rents.

#### Action Is Slogan

Our comrades should be the champions of such actions wherever they are in a position to do so. But even where our trade union influence is limited, it does not mean that we cannot take the "free" countries of Europe effective action.

Even small scale actions on an issue on which the masses are aroused will attract wide attention. Our experience in Toledo is instructive here. The Toledo Emergency Housewives' Committee that went to the Mayor and the City Council to fight against the meat famine and meat gouge was not a large body. But it certainly won a lot When opinion was expressed by of attention because the issue itself was very explosive.

Actions initiated even on a small scale can often give impetus to broader struggles. If any single side. watchword can be said to apply in the next period, cussions will be published in

to the workers' struggles.

2. (a) Sliding scale of wages

(c) Establishment of a mini-

(b) Collective agreements.

workers' bloc.

ganda.

and working hours.

mum living wage.

administration.

fascist Falange.

RATIFY PLATFORM

the working class.

statement:

the PIR.'

United Front.

railway.

The sliding scale of wages would secure the We must be on our toes for every opportunity that

**Report On Trotskyists In Bolivia** 

of the Revolutionary Workers League, Uruguayan section its structure over long years of attacks by calling upon. the

# Trotskyists In **Debate With CP**

(Special to The Militant) ATHENS, Greece, Dec. 2--

The third public discussion between the Greek Communist Party (Stalinist) and the Trotskyists took place here Nov. 26 on the subject, "The War and the Tasks of the Communists."

The first speaker, a Trotskyist, analyzed the revolutionary attitude toward the different wars the First and Second World

He refuted all the Stalinist arguments that the last war was struggle of "democracy against fascism," and attacked the attitude of the Greek Stalinists in the Italo-Greek war of 1940-41, n which they supported Metaxas and the Greek capitalists in the name of "the defense of the in-

War by the imperialists against the Soviet Union if victorious War by the imperialists against socialist revolutions did not intervene

The Stalinist speaker tried to justify the "democratic-progressive" character of the last war on the part of the imperialist that the last war was led by fascism in the aim of oppressing

and not for the conquest of colonies, and completely distorted the position of Marx on the Franco-Prussian war of 1870-71. Attendance was less numerous than in the two previous discussions, amounting to only 641. the audience, 411 voted for the Stalinists, the Trotskyists re-

pamphlets jointly issued by both

ceived 204, and 26 took neither The minutes of the three dis-

organizations.

it is the slogan: Action, action and more action!

A Year Of Colonial Struggle

These Indo-Chinese fighters for independence were photographed on their way to prison under French guard. But the imperialists have not crushed the masses, who are still battling their oppressors as 1946 draws to a close,

# country." In concluding, he insisted on the danger of a Third World War by the imposicility of the S. Gag On Spanish

SAN JUAN, Dec. 15-During the past few weeks hundreds of thousands of Puerto Ricans have been strongly protesting against President Truman's veto of a bill twice approved by the Island Legislature, establishing Spanish

instead of English as the of-9 lation which compelled the puppet government of Pinero to Thus far the American impromise the call of a special Legperialist news agencies and newsislature session to face the grave papers have ignored these facts. economic situation of the Island. According to the San Juan news-Most recently the Congreso paper, El Mundo of Nov. 9, near-Pro - Independencia (with a ly 200,000 university and public membership of about 50,000) school students struck, condemnsupported the students' and ing Truman's veto and demandteachers' demands to have Span-

market.

ing immediate solution of the ish as the official language in political status of Puerto Rico. the public school system. The students of the University The economic conditions of of Puerto Rico, in Rio Piedras, the Island have deteriorated for near San Juan, carried placards the past months since the elimicondemning American imperialnation of the OPA, because ism in the following terms: Puerto Ricans must import ev-"We demand immediate witherything from the United States

drawal of American troops from Puerto Rico." demand Spanish be "We taught at our public schools instead of the English language."

our political status. "To err is Truman." We appeal to the Latin Amer-"Hands off Puerto Rico." "Less talk about liberty in othican Nations represented before

the United Nations Organization er countries and give independence to your colony of Puerto to come to our assistance.

Rather than peace and good will, the outstanding characteristics of the world scene in the week leading up to the Christmas holidays were political conflict and instability, widespread ferment among the masses and large-scale fighting in a number of countries. Far more people were occupied with hunger, grief and bitter resentment than with rejoicing and celebration.

#### **France and Indo-China**

Leon Blum's "stopgap" cabinet, all-Socialist because the two piggest French parties (CP and MRP) were unable to arrive at a compromise preceding the election of a president next month, was grappling with an extremely thorny problem — the war in Indo-China.

Having broken its promise to the Viet Minh government that it would hold a referendum on the future status of Cochin-China, the French government has now launched a bloody campaign to wipe out resistance to undisguised imperialist domination of all of Indo-China.

But the French butchers are finding that this is easier to try than to accomplish. The Indo-Chinese masses are resisting heroically and this time, after the experience over Cochin-China, they will be less inclined to permit their leaders to accept a "compromise" that only gives imperialism a breathing spell for a new attack.

#### The Warfare Inside Greece

The United Nations Security Council voted last week to send commission to the Balkans to investigate the fighting on the borders of Greece.

Greek Premier Tsaldaris' plea to the UN action on this question was an admission that neither the brutal Greek dictatorship nor the British troops which uphold it, could successfully cope with the new partisan movement that has arisen in Greece.

Despite the possibility that Yugoslavia, Bulgaria and Albania exploiting and even aiding this partisan group, the fact is that it is a native Greek movement and that no UN censure of other action against Greece's neighbors will end the conflict me side Greece itself.

#### General Strikes in Italy

In Italy a general strike against the high prices and food shortages tied up the city of Naples for 2½ days. Anti-labor newspapers were shut down and the strikers took over the radio station. The strike continued until Premier de Gasperi rushed emergency grain to Naples, andpromised over the radio to meet the strikers' demands, including more money for unemployment we relief and public works.

Unrest over the high cost of living is evident all over Italy, A general strike was threatened in Bari and Reggio Calabria, rioting over food took place in Rome and Salerno, and strikes were spreading elsewhere.

#### **Japanese Cabinet Crisis**

The reactionary Japanese cabinet headed by Yoshida last week managed to defeat the Socialist Party motion for the immediate dissolution of the Diet and the election of a new one. But it was by the smallest margin the government ever got on any issue — 236 to 160.

The vote took place at the same time as a mass demonstration for a new Diet by 500,000 trade unionists before the Diet and the Imperial Palace.

The Japanese masses have definitely moved left since last spring's election. The newspaper Mainichi has just completed a poll in which 52.2 per cent of the people held that the Yoshida government has been a failure. The next elections will surely reflect this shift to the left. Meanwhile, as the N. Y. Times reporter acknowledged on Dec. 18, MacArthur's headquarters "now is relying on an increasingly unpopular group.'

#### Decline of the British Empire

Winston Churchill, wailed last week about the decline and fall of the British Empire. He sought to make political capital of it by blaming the Labor Party for not putting up a better fight to retain the British colonies. Actually, the decline of the empire began before the Labor Party came into office, and the Labor Party leadership is fighting as well as it can to deny independence to Britain's colonial slaves. 4

The difference\_is that today the colonial masses are on the ove, and attempts to put the only hasten the explosions and the defeat of British imperialism.

The Labor Party government follows a policy fully as imperial-

ist as Churchill's, as Palestine shows, but it does not have the

That is why — until it is in a stronger position — the British

World capitalism has survived for another year. But the

**International Notes** 



of the Trotskyist movement in Bolivia:

The October issue of Contra la Corriente, official organ @-

years.

imperialism and a section of the Bolivian proletariat, has tested

under the old regime.

The Bolivian proletariat now

faces a quite different stage than

the one in which reaction could

The Revolutionary Workers

One of the most important. events in South America was capitalists, which saw its interthe Bolivian revolt (of last July), ests pushed to the background in which the armed masses defeated their oppressors. Once again betrayed by the agents of the capitalists in their own ranks, represented by the PIR exploit it as it did for so many (so-called Left Revolutionary Party), the Bolivian masses have FORCE AMONG MINERS se generously spent their blood only to defend the interests of Party (POR), vanguard of the

- Ser



Here is the full text of Lenin's testament in which he gave his "last advice on how to reorganize the party leadership" and proposed to remove Stalin from his post as General Secretary of the party.

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rth International, carries the following report struggle. It has succeeded in con- workers to strengthen its party structing an excellent force to lead the agrarian revolution amongst the miners, who com- and the struggle against imperialism. prise the majority of the pro-

> letariat, among the railway workers, textile workers, etc., as well **Spanish Strikers** as amongst the students close Already at the last congress **Show Readiness** of the miners, the following platform of immediate demands pre-**To Resist Franco** sented by the POR was adopted: 1. Formation of a proletariat united front or anti-capitalist

PARIS, France, Dec. 12 -News of strikes breaking out in Spain shows that the Spanish vember demanding higher wages workers, far from being crushed into hopeless passivity, are ready to carry on a fight every time a

chance presents itself. And the (d) Equal pay for equal work. recent strikes are not the first (e) Freedom of assembly, organization, press and propathis year either.

In March strikes broke out too, 3. Workers' control of estate-4. Struggle against the Nazihave a long tradition of struggle. 5. Defense of the Workers In Terrasa and Sabadell the strikes broke out spontaneously 6. Expropriation of the three over a demand for better food. great mining groups and of the The women played an especially

There was also a strike among This platform was ratified the Barcelona harbor workers. later by an agreement between the miners and the students of NEW STRIKES

Oruro. It became the basis of a Since then new strikes have Since then new strikes have taken place in the Barcelona tex-duplicated in other military cengeneral agreement between the workers and the students. To the tile plants again over food. The attempts to canalize the revoluprovincial prefect could no longtionary struggle into safe channels, the workers and the youth er remain silent this time. united to reinforce this struggle

In a communique on "the agiwith action for the demands of tation which exists among the erican family averaged three perworkers in the textile trade," he sons and displaced at least eight The capitalist paper, The Times of Cochabamba, confirms

to accept demands for higher suburb, they said it would be this impression by the following wages "before the Ministry of La- necessary to turn out 1,000 Ger-"Among the many revolutionary parties in Bolivia the POR bor has examined the problem." mans. is in the vanguard by its ex- He also threatened action against tremist doctrine and the radical factory directors who agreed to cupants to a room recommended methods it proposes. This party concessions without permission by the Allied Control Council is

from higher up. recruits experienced members in This communique reflects the ich alone, 25,000 rooms are octhe workers' centers, and opposes the traditional parties as well as fear of the authorities that the cupied by up to six persons and Some time ago the Minister Franco has tried to neutralize persons.

of Labor, the Stalinist Alcobs, the growing discontent by organannounced in a statement as a izing "spontaneous" parades in buildings were totally destroyed member of the PIR and defender his support. Despite pressure during the war and another 20 of the capitalist interests that he from the authorities — obliga- per cent partly damaged. The proposes energetic repressive tory closing down of all offices, dispossessed have no place to go measures against Trotskyist mili- factories, schools, etc. — these German officials report that 91 tants. The Revolutionary Work- bureaucratic masquerades only per cent of the homes were taken ers Party, strongly rooted in the reveal the isolation of the regime from Germans without Nazi re-

oiling masses, answers all these and its lack of a mass base.

Rico.' We appeal to the American "Thousands of Puerto Ricans die every year of malnutrition the United States in behalf of because American sugar barons rob our country. "American democrats, help us

fight Yankee imperialism." Besides the students, the powerful Asociacion de Maestros de Puerto Rico (Teachers Association) is now fighting to have the presidential veto on the Spansh language nullified. our territory! Moreover, the Island's teachers struck on the last days of No-

because of the sky-rocketing of prices following the elimination

of the OPA in the U.S. Thousands of starving teach-

# **ThousandsOfGermansThrown** especially in the textile industry of Catalonia, where the workers Out Of Homes By U. S. Army

Almost 30,000 persons in Munich, Germany, have been evicted from their homes to make room for families of U. S. occupation forces. The number made homeless is sharply mounting. Up to Nov. 23, Mayor Karl Scharnagl One disastrous consequence for important part in this fight. stated, 894 houses with 13,700 the crushed German people is rooms had been requisitioned. already apparent in the stagger- what he tried to deny - the Since then 217 more houses have ing rise of venereal disease. Of been seized and two to three the new cases, 14 per cent are hundred more will be taken duramong children. Tuberculosis and

> typhus are mounting to an alarmters like Frankfort, Wiesbaden, degree. Stuttgart, Heidelberg and Bam-BRUTAL CONQUERORS

Military government housing officials calculated that each Amordered the factory directors not Germans. In 125 houses shortly to be taken in the Gruenwald

> The maximum number of oc-2.4 persons. But today in Mun-

strike movements may spread. 722 rooms by seven and eight

berg.

In this city 35 per cent of the cords.

working class to take action in Puerto Rican independence.

We ask our friends in the

United States to support our

fight for a prompt solution of

strength to do as it wishes everywhere. Long live free Puerto Rico! Down with American imperial government is ready to make a compromise with the native capiism in our beloved country! talists which will protect its basic economic and military interests, · Down with the enemies of lib-That is the meaning of its offer to India, Egypt and now Burma. eration, of the oppressed nation-But as Attlee indicated in defending the offer to Burms, perhaps ality of Puerto Rico. it is too late to salvage even this much. We demand immediate evacuation of American troops from will be a bitter taste in any toast made to celebrate that survival.

For with the coming of the new year the future of capitalism American workers, liberals a world scale still remains unattractive, insecure and unstable. democrats, join our fight for complete freedom from the imperialist voke!

> Pedro Gonzalez Lopez **Julio Martinez Nunez** Jose Sanchez Berrios

> > President Truman tried last week to justify the U.S. policy Seventeen British enlisted sol in China which has aroused so diers are awaiting court-martin much condemnation in this in Alexandria, charged with country and abroad. He sought "mutiny" because of participa to disclaim responsibility for tion in recent protests agained helping the Kuomintang to demobilization delay in the Midmaintain its dictatorship but he die East, according to the Des. could not deny that U.S. supplies, Socialist Appeal. Another 40 solservices and other support were diers are held in arrest, and 200 used by China's government in are confined to barracks. its civil war against the Yenan

regime and other opponents. Tru-One third of the delegates in man's report actually confirmed the French Postal Workers Federation, CGT, supported the necessity for the American work-"trade union struggle" group in ers to demand the withdrawal of opposition to the Stalinist lead-American forces from China and ers of the union. This group dethe cessation of all support for nounced Stalinist strikebreaking during the recent postal strike, demanding the sliding scale of

2,000 German prisoners em-

northern France staged a threeday strike early this month to protest poor food and the robbery of their Red Cross parcels

by the French military administration. The prisoners were confined to their barracks without food until they ended the strike, and one who tried to leave ia, according to the Siberian them was shot on the spot. But paper, Irkutsk Pravda, the French miners in the area

showed sympathy for the strike

A new fascist movement named being organized by the big landzionale

ployed in the Anzin mines of mum wage, defended union democracy and independence of the unions from the state. Almost three million German Japanese, Italian, Finnish and Hungarian prisoners are being

wages with a guaranteed miri-

used as slave laborers to build railways and highways in Siber-

The British government's bill to nationalize all road, rail and inland transport follows the patthe Italian Corporative Party is tern of the earlier coal and steel nationalization bills. Under the owners in south Italy, according title of "fair compensation," the to the Continental Daily Mail of government proposes to saddle Dec. 5. Semi-military organiza- the workers with impossible burtions "for defense of estates" are dens by paying fantastic sums also being created by landown- to the industry. Over a billion ers. A plant in Rome owned by pounds will be paid to companies. the influential Bank of Agricul- in London alone. The private ture is preparing publication of companies have not challenged a daily fascist paper, L'Idea Na- the proposed figures and mein ods of compensation.

Chiang Kai-shek. \* \* \* So ruthless are the American conquerors that evicted Ger-

worthless. Some Germans have

Mayor Scharnagl on Dec. 19 appealed in the press to citizens of Munich to refrain from de-

monstrations against the "wave of requisitions of homes which is getting into full swing and whose

mans are not permitted to take their beds, mattresses and sometimes not even their furniture and cooking utensils. These are "bought" from them with marks epected to become practically

refused to move, preferring to go to prison where at least they would have a bed to sleep on.

extent exceeds our fears." He warned on the radio the following day that this could only result in an increase in the forces of occupation and in reprisals. Meanwhile military police pat-

rols are being increased in areas where houses have been seized.

PAGE FOUR

THE MILITANT

#### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1946



Published in the interests of the

"It is not all permanently established that the United States will be last in the order of revolu tionary primacy, condemned to reach its proletarian revolution only after the countries of Europe and Asia, A situation, a combination of forces is possible in which the order is changed and the tempo of development in the United States ormously accelerated." -Leon Trotsky

## Appeasement

Stalinist leaders at the CIO convention last month helped draft a declaration that "we resent and reject the efforts of the Communist Party . . . to interfere in the affairs of the CIO." Every Stalinist delegate was whipped into line to vote for that red-baiting statement.

The Daily Worker hailed this Stalinist capitulation to the red-baiters as "a great and statesmanlike move" which provided "the basis for continued unity, freedom of thought and political affiliation."

Events since the CIO convention have quickly proved that the anti-communist declaration is a basis only for a heightened redbaiting campaign. Reactionary elements in one state CIO convention after another-Massachusetts, Wisconsin, Connecticut, New Jersey-have used the CIO's national declaration as a means to push through additional antidemocratic measures.

A climax to this growing red-baiting campaign was provided last week by the leaders of the CIO United Office and Professional Workers, generally known to be Stalinistdominated. Lewis Merrill, UOPWA President and long a Stalinist follower, issued an Executive Board statement directing members and officers not to "become identified with this or that wing" of the labor movement, including the Communist Party. It threatened that "any effort to impose the viewpoint of outside organizations" on the union "will be met by the firmest exercise of union discipline."

Merrill himself set the example by publicly announcing his resignation as a contributing editor to the Stalinist New Masses and a trustee of the Communist Party's Jefferson School to regiment American youth. The N. Y. Daily News halled the call for "a genuine worldwide spy system for the United States," and said it was "delighted" this "dirty and distasteful but essential business" would be "handled by professionals."

The call for universal military training and universal military espionage follow directly on the heels of a unanimous decision of the United Nations to begin "disarm'ament." These two proposals alone show what a fraud the UN decision is.

So far as Wall Street sees, the U.S. is headed toward an atomic war that nothing can stop as long as their government remains in power.

# **Bilbo Hearings**

Will Bilbo be ousted from the Senate?

The Mississippi Senator apparently did not think so during the hearings at Jackson over his use of terror against Negroes in the primary elections. In high good humor, Bilbo wise-cracked with fellow - Democrat Allen J. Ellender who headed the "investigation." And Ellender made clear that the Committee intended to whitewash Bilbo.

Likewise at the Washington hearings over his acceptance of bribes from war contractors, Bilbo performed like an actor in a bawdy farce. Then Republican Senator Homer Ferguson drew attention to a federal law prohibiting a war contractor from contributing to campaign funds or a candidate soliciting them.

Bilbo was caught "completely by surprise," said the press. A "violent flush spread across The Man's face" as the implication sank in he might be ousted for violating this law.

Since Bilbo's ties with war contractors were not essentially different from those of other capitalist politicians, the question arises: Why oust Bilbo on such grounds while doing nothing about the big-time war profiteers and their goverment agents?

A possible explanation is that Bilbo went too far last summer in acknowledging his membership in the Ku Klux Klan and openly inciting lynch violence. He is out on a limb which the Republicans want to cut. In the 1948 Presidential election they can then pose as "liberal," having done something about this hated figure in contrast to the Democratic Party which did nothing.

Bilbo's violations of federal laws on war contracts give the Republicans a convenient means of barring him on a technicality without touching the Bourbon electoral system in the South-although this system violates the Constitution. Moreover, by side-stepping Bilbo's Hitler-like racial views the GOP avoids incensing the Southern Bourbons.

Thus if Bilbo is barred, it will not be because of his worst crimes. Most of his fellow Congressmen see eye to eye with him on racial questions.

Bilbo argues that if he is "condemned" for accepting bribes then "every worthwhile Senator and member of the House must likewise bear the burden of the condemnation." This warning undoubtedly carries weight among Congressmen intimately connected with the war profiteers. Barring Bilbo could set a precedent leading to their loss of office too.

However, if Bilbo retains his seat, it will emphasize again what a reactionary, corrupt body Wall Street's Congress really is. In addition, the native fascists will be enormously encouraged by the fact Bilbo could get away with his brazen espousal of the Ku Klux Klan, violation of the law and incitements to violence.



"Dear, don't you think you're working too hard?"



MIDDLE EAST AT THE Workers International News Pamphlet, No. 1, 1946, 24 pp., 20 cents.

This important pamphlet, first file Zionists into a blind alley. in a series of popular priced Meanwhile, its "divide and rule" pamphlets published in England, policy maintains British imperis available from Pioneer Publishers, 116 University Place, N. ialism in power. Y. 3, N. Y. It reprints the much discussed articles which have al-Stalinist policy in this region. He ready appeared in Fourth Interconcludes with a presentation of national, containing a comprethe only solution to the problem hensive analysis of the critical events taking place in the Midthrough the building of an indle East for the past year.

The analysis begins with the fundamental factor — the high struggle in the Arab East. This is stake the imperialists have in the Arab East. Although today tionary movement there. the chief power in this area is Britain, U. S. imperialism also LOOK HOMEWARD, ANGEL has a big stake in its riches and strategical position.

by Thomas Wolfe, Modern Library, 600 pp., \$1. Out of imperialist domination, the author demonstrates, flow Here Wolfe looks in retrospect all of its terrible consequences; on his first 19 years, and paints | Mrs. Leonard recognizes and deabysmal poverty, misery, high a vivid picture of American death rate and in Palestine youth's loneliness, isolation, torfratricidal warfare between the menting desires and disappoint-Arabs and Jews.

ments. He views youth through For imperialism to dominate himself in the character of Euthese colonial millions, it must gene Gant as he was influenced become fortified through the by the conflicting personalities native bourgeoisie. The Arab of his parents and by his envirbourgeoisie, mainly the feudal onment in the southern town of landowning class, despite its de- Altamont, Old Catawba. sire to wring concessions for it- | From his earliest years, Wolfe self from the imperialist over- was sensitively and passionately land and study at Harvard. lord, must make even greater efaware of the in nense beauty forts to oust the Zionist bour- nature, of growth and change, of in its portrayal of man's most geoisie in order to become the man's struggle and of all colors, main agent of imperialism. Be- sounds, scenes, tastes, smells moving poetical lines, and its decause secondary and light in- and feelings. He observed too the tailed character studies. Wolfe dustry is in the hands of Zion- ugliness and disorder that stand did not see far enough into soist capital, "the junior partners in contradiction to beauty and of imperialist capital are not harmony. the Arab bourgeoisie, but the In this book, however, he was Zionist bourgeoisie," the author not aware of the economic and approach to the masses. explains.

That is why, despite the bloody (life. He saw man only as the CROSSROADS by T. Cliff, struggles between Zionism and victim of metaphysical factors, imperialism, the Zionist leaders of chance, of an abstract "fury" are incapable of conducting a or "demon-madness."

genuine anti-imperialist fight. The author depicts the inse-They are dragging the rank and curity of his family, its individual dreams and frustrations. Eugene's father, a poetry-loving, alcoholic Northerner, is a stonecutter who chisels tombstones The author also analyzes the while dreaming of carving mastreacherous and twisting role of terpieces. His mother speculates in property and dreams of owning the whole town.

Helen sings at local show--the overthrow of imperialism houses and dreams of opera. Luke, the stutterer, sells magaternationalist front of class zines and dreams of being an executive. Eugene, the youngest, the essential task of the revoluan idealist, is disappointed with shabby living, and dreams of a -Larissa Reed supreme romantic life.

Eugene makes many attempts to escape his southern environment and to become independent of Eliza's maternal grasp. First he goes to a private school, where velops his talent for fashioning words.

Later, Eugene goes to the state university. When war comes, he tries to sign up, but is too young. After graduation, Eugene joins the wanderers. At one period he works in a shipyard, but not long enough to become class-conscious. The book ends as he flees northward to see his father's

# **Deportation Threatens 219 Indonesian Seamen**

The Supreme Court on Dec. 16 refused to study the case of 219 Indonesian seamen who have been hounded for over a year by the U.S. government and are at present incarcerated in a Crystal City. Texas detention camp. They are now threatened with immediate deportation to Java which, as they state, means "certain persecution if not death" at the hands of the Dutch imperialist oppressors The seaman walked off Dutch ships docked in New York harbor in October 1945, refusing to transport American-made arms and ammunition intended to shoot down their countrymen engaged in a heroic struggle for independence. From their im-

prisonment on Ellis Island in November 1945, where they remained for six months, these seamen were shifted from one prison to another across the country in efforts to deport them.

On June 7, together with a score of Indonesian residents rounded up by the Immigration Department, the seamen were shipped to San Francisco. Their deportation temporarily blocked by the nationwide protest from labor and progressive forces, they were shipped to Crystal City, Texas. The protest forced the eventual release of the Indonesian residents, many of whom have been here for as long as 16 and 20 years.

According to an AP dispatch from Washington, the Justice Department has given the go-ahead signal for deportation by claiming to the Supreme Court that the seamen had "received explicit assurance in writing from the Netherlands consul in San Francisco" that upon their repatriation "they would be free to go wherever they wish."

But these official promises were made previously and are not worth the paper they are written on, as The Militant of June 29 revealed. Last May the Netherlands Consulate General promised that the seamen would not be treated as deserters. But a subsequent letter to the Indonesia League by Attorney General Tom Clark indicated the opposite.

Yet the U.S. government pretends that these assurances are genuine, thus playing the role of accomplice in punishing the seamen. Today Dutch concentration camps in Borneo and New Guinea are filled with tens of thousands of Indonesian fighters for freedom.

The American labor movement should rally to the defense of these victims of Dutch-American persecution, and demand the halting of any deportation move until they can be guaranteed safe conduct to a fully recognized Indonesian Republic.

# Potatoes To Be Dumped While People Starve

#### - By Barbara Bruce -

With the retail price of potatoes almost twice what it was five years ago, 20 million bushels of the nation's bumper 1946 potato crop, designated as "surplus," are slated for probable dumping next spring, according to the St. Paul Pioneer Press.

A few months ago housewives could buy only a few pounds of potatoes at a time-if they were available-because of the "potato shortage." Now a record-breaking crop of 425 million bushels-100 million more than the government's goal-makes it necessary to throw out this precious food crop.

Thousands of poor and hungry people will be deprived of these potatoes as a "surplus commodity" because the federal government has discarded its food stamp plan, under which surplus farm crops were formerly moved into relief distribution. Congress has not seen fit to revive even this inadequate method of feeding the poor.

Federal price supports which are keeping the re-

of Social Sciences in New York.

Because of Merrill's long association with Stalinism and because his action was such an obvious concession to the red-baiters, the Daily Worker was forced to dissociate itself from his move, with an editorial against Merrill called: "Appeasement of Red-Baiting Never Paid."

That is a splendid headline. But it really belongs over an editorial directed at the Communist Party leaders themselves. It was their capitulation to the red-baiters and endorsement of the anti-communist resolution at the CIO convention which helped lay the basis for the intensified red-baiting drive in the CIO. The Merrills are just carrying the Stalinist line to its logical conclusion.

Actually, the Stalinist Party is reactionary through and through. It isn't against redbaiting. It red-baits the Trotskyists and other labor militants all the time. It is ready to block with red-baiters, as it showed at the CIO convention. It whines now only because it has had to swallow some of the bitter fruits it helped to plant at the CIO convention.

# Wholly "Military"

In a speech Dec. 20 to his newly appointed committee on Universal Military Training," Truman called for plans to regiment America's youth. But, he added, "I want that word military left out."

Truman said the training would be nothing but a "disciplinary approach of getting along with one another, informing them of their physical makeup, and what it means to take care of this temple which God gave us."

The real purpose of this training, however, is to prepare "this temple" to be blown to ribbons on the battlefields of World War III. This is shown by the fact that the keynote of Truman's speech was militaristic. "It is a total war these days," he declared.

The Committee obediently blue-pencilled the word "military" from their official title. But as Wall Street's mouthpiece, the N. Y. Times, cynically observed, "The omission of an adjective does not, of course, change the reality."

At the same time the House Military Affairs Committee, after a secret study of more than a year, called for continuous military espionage in other countries during peacetime. In language as blunt as any Prussian militarist could desire, the committee demanded professionals to conduct the "intricate, involved, hazardous, hidden, ruthless operation" of spying abroad.

The capitalist press applauded this step toward war just as it applauded Truman's call

# **Amnesty For COs**

Let it not be said Truman is not touched by the spirit of Christmas. He has decided to do something for the conscientious objectors still in prison. In a sweeping gesture on Dec. 22, Truman let it be known that "pre-Christmas actions are planned" and these plans may hold out hope for the eventual release of some of the conscientious objectors.

This warm thought didn't just well up in Truman's heart. A picket line marched outside the White House on the morning that Truman let the press "officially" learn of his generous intentions. This picket line, dressed in striped "prison suits," presented a petition bearing thousands of signatures demanding Christmas Amnesty for all the 662 conscientious objectors still behind bars. And other demonstrations were scheduled in eight cities.

Likewise it must be admitted there are strings attached to Truman's generosity. Instead of a general amnesty, he plans to set up a three-man board that will go over each individual case with a fine-tooth comb. The board will finally recommend. Then Truman will eventually decide personally whether the amnesty should or should not apply to those who get through the board.

In any case, the press jubilantly announced 150 members of Jehovah's Witnesses expect release for good behavior just before Christmas, having served one-third of their term. It is true that strings are attached to this release too. They remain bound to parole restrictions. But the Department of Justice timed their release to come close to Christmas, didn't it?

As for restoring the civil rights denied the 6,000 to 7,000 conscientious objectors who were imprisoned, Truman said nothing.

Likewise still deprived of their civil rights are 18 Trotskyists who were sentenced to prison and served terms during the war for opposing imperialist war and advocating socialism.

But let it not be said that Truman does not know how to rule in the grand style. If Kings, Emperors and Czars felt Christmas called for amnesty to political opponents, a President cannot be outdone. That is why he let the press officialy learn "pre-Christmas actions are planned."

social forces that govern man's

# Our Program:

### 1. Defend labor's standard of living!

A sliding scale of wages -- an escalator wage clause in all union contracts to provide automatic wage increases to meet the rising cost of living!

Organize mass consumers committees for independent action against profiteering and price-gouging!

Expropriate the food trusts! Operate them under workers' control!

### 2. Full employment and job security for all workers and veterans!

For the 6-hour day, 30-hour week! A sliding scale of hours-reduce the hours of work with no reduction in pay to prevent layoffs and unemployment! Government operation of all idle plants under workers' control! Unemployment insurance equal to trade union wages for workers and veterans during the entire period of unemployment!

# 3. Against all anti-labor laws and government strikebreaking!

No restrictions on the right to strike and picket! No injunctions! No compulsory arbitration!

4. Build an independent labor party!

5. Tax the rich, not the poor!

Repeal the payroll tax! No sales taxes! No taxes on incomes under \$5,000 a year!

- 6. An 18 billion dollar appropriation for government low-rent housing!
- 7. Full equality for Negroes and national minorities!

End Jim-Crow! End Anti-Semitism!

- 8. For a veterans' organization sponsored by the trade unions!
- 9. A working class answer to capitalist militarism and war.
  - Take the war-making powers away from Congress! Let the people vote on the question of war or peace!
  - Against capitalist conscription!
  - Abolish the officer caste system!
  - Full democratic rights in the armed forces!
  - Trade union wages for the armed forces!
  - Military training of workers, financed by the government, but under control of the trade unions!

### 10. Solidarity with the revolutionarystruggles of the workers in all lands!

For the complete independence of the colonial peoples! Withdraw all American troops from foreign soil!

### 11. For a Workers' and Farmers' Government!

chiefly valuable common emotions, its intensely cial forces, but he did perceive that much is wrong in society and showed promise of a closer

-Robert Bates

tail price of potatoes well above the reach of the poor, are required by law for two years after the war to protect farmers who went all-out for food production under the government's war program. Next year the government will go back to its prewar plan of trying to head off production of huge surpluses by making its federal loans and price supports available only to farmers who hold their production down to government quotas.

Already the shadow of the next depression is falling over the richest country in the world. While workers and their families go hungry, farmers will receive government aid only if they agree to raise a limited amount of food! Hundreds of thousands of workers' families are already starving all over a war-torn world. UNRRA and foreign countries refuse to pay the high potato prices demanded by the U.S. government. American capitalism chooses to sacrifice human lives instead of profits.

How different it would be if the farmers of America were able to raise crops for consumption and not for profit! Until they do, the people of this world will be forced to live over and over again the tragedy of want in the midst of plenty.



Mrs. Faustina Gamez, wife of a Mexican worker in Fort Wayne, Indiana, gave birth last week to her eighth child — in a coal bin. That was where the Gamez family was forced to live. Welfare officials, who discovered the shocking conditions under which this family of 10 were living, took the mother to a hospital.

The coal bin measured 9 by 12 feet. For this, Gamez, a packer in a canning factory, paid \$40 a month rent. With only two beds in the room, the family spread out at night on blankets on the floor. Nine toothbrushes hung in an orderly row over the make-shift wash-stand by the orange-crate cupboard. A single window, of the type that is used to admit a coal chute, cast a dim light into the cellar. Gamez, who moved to Indiana from Texas last year, said it was better than nothing at all. He had moved north because he thought his children would have a "better chance." "Educated," he said in na-

tive Spanish, "I want my children educated." Meanwhile the 13-year-old Maria scrubs and cleans the coal bin, keeping it spick and span. Welfare officials said they would move the rest of the family to the township shelter house while they help them find other quarters.

John F. Williams, area rent director, when informed of the \$40 rent remarked: "It's incomprehensible." He said he would order immediate registration of the unit to open the way for an investigation. Williams was shocked by the high rent paid for the coal bin; but not by the fact of a family being forced to live in a coal bin.

The Gamez case symbolizes the plight of millions who are suffering from the housing shortage while capitalist greed blocks a low cost, low-rent government housing program.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1946

# ORKERS' FORUM Activities In \$20,000 Emergency Drive

The Workers' Forum columns are open to the opinions of the readers of "The Militant" Letters are welcome on any subject of interest to the workers. Keep them short and include your name and address. Indicate if you do not want your name printed.

# **Of War and Fascism** Editor:

I came out of the Army with 39 months' service, 18 of it in' Italy and France, and with no meeting was over, I boarded a clear understanding of the cause subway train and saw almost or meaning of the war. Since every person on the train holdmy discharge I have been working in the same mill with some members of the Socialist Workers Party and have read much Marxist literature and I believe Klan Active In I know the cause of war and poverty-it is not the people but the social system of capitalism. Editor:

The race against fascism in the SWP is the only organization that really fights fascism. More power to you and to us.

Youngstown, O.

### **A** Correction

### Editor:

• There was an error in printing the verse I submited, to the present, and it is obvious that Workers Forum on the miners. It should have read: You can lead a horse to water

But you can't make him drink. You can levy fines on miners But you can't make them fink.

E. K.

### **Stalinists Fail To Halt** 'Militant' Distribution Editor:

sponsored by the NAACP for Isaac Woodard, the Negro veteby a southern policeman.

hundreds of Militants and all the time. When our comrade pamphlets and while talking to reminded him that reading The many people, I found many were Militant might get him expelled Daily Worker readers. They from the CP, he said that he asked about the difference between the CP paper and The Militant. I pointed out that our position on the Negro struggle was always the same, while during the war the CP policy on the Negro question was nothing more than a sell-out, etc. Each Political Party person seemed eager to take our literature and as one man put it: "You'll be hearing from me soon.'

We had completely sold out our stock of literature. By this time most of the large crowd entering the hall were holding one or more of our publications. This must

#### Veteran Learns Cause | couldn't very well use goon squad | Woman Shopper methods in front of a church, especially on a Sunday, so they **Supports Miners** used another method, calling the Editor:

L. Lewis."

woman,

in protest.

Editor

fast.

stiff.

job, besides.

During the coal strike a friend It was very gratifying when of mine went to a store to buy a several hours later, after the dress. A man entered and the owner of the store greeted him cheerfully, saying to another woman, "This man is responsible for getting us such nice Therese Stone dresses.' Philadelphia, Pa. "Now don't blame me for the

My friend had just chosen

dress. But when she heard this

remark she said to the sales-

and tell him to blame Lewis for

She walked out empty-handed.

ation. The day after I was drill-

new men about the working con-

ditions here. Their anger gives

us the will to remain on the job,

A. Arbeiter

not selling this dress, too."

Some solidarity!

Western States\*

I have been reading The Mili-America is on in full swing and tant for about a year now, and I certainly don't want to miss any future issues. I am enclosing check for a renewal of my M. L.

subscription for two years. I especially sympathize with your stand on imperialism and race relations. The Klan seems

cops.

ing a Militant.

quite active here in the West at we have a long, hard fight on our hands. B.R.B.

Wickenburg, Ariz. **Can't Scare Him** Detroit, Mich. Away From 'Militant'

Editor: One of the Socialist Workers Party members here has been working in a shop with an old-

time member of the Communist Last Sunday, a group of our Party, who has been in the CP comrades and a sympathizer since 1927. Our comrade showed were distributing at a meeting him a copy of The Militant. The man took it home, and the night. next day said he had stayed up ran who had his eyes gouged out very late, read the whole paper, and discussed it with his wife. We had distributed and sold He said he would like to get it

> was well aware of that and wanted the paper anyway. J. C. Chicago, Ill.

# For Labor's Own Editor:

time." Johnny said, "by just giv-I have worked for years for ing me another bolt to do on my socialism, and am old and worn operation." out now. But I am still glad to We've talked to some of the

hear about plans for a labor party. or whatever the majority wants to call it.

ceived during the past week. This rate of receipts will have to be stepped up from now on if the designated goal is to be reached within a threemonth period. It certainly will be if all the preparatory planning and hard work of the SWP branches bears the expected fruit. Following Akron's example re-

ported in last week's Militant, the Youngstown branch held its own successful and inspiring banquet on Dec. 15. to celebrate the 18th anniversary of the SWP and to launch its local fund-raising delay on dresses," the newcomaction. er interrupted. "Blame it on John

Olga Cope writes: "At this banquet the Party Fund was launched in grand style. Over \$80 in cash and \$370 in pledges were donated out of our quota of \$500.

Contributions amounting to \$377.50 were re-

THE MILITANY

"Joseph Andrews of Akron, one of the Ohio leaders of the SWP, was guest speaker of the evening. "Take this dress over to him The audience of workers and their friends, many of them newly introduced to the ideas of Trotskyism, was visibly impressed by the theme of his speech. He showed how much World War II cost and what might have been done with these billions if they were used for constructive purposes. His presentation brought gasps of astonshment from the audience.

"Additional brief talks were given by visiting trade unionists and out-of-town guests. After an excellent chicken dinner, everyone drank a toast to the victory of labor's struggles for a better world.'

Milwaukee encloses \$47 as the first payment on its \$200 quota. Carol Andrews, local Fund Director, comments: "At a meeting Milwaukee held Dec. 8 a summary was given by our organizer of our inspiring Convention and the party perspectives for the future. On this occasion contributions for the \$20,000 Emergency Fund were volunteered by the individual comrades and a sympathizer in attendance. A total of \$232.50 was pledged.

Buffalo stays out in front this second week by sending in another \$24. This banner branch has already raised one-third of its \$700 quota. ing 18 holes in a hood part, and

after eight hours my hands were Chicago, through Belle Rosen, presents an extremely encourag-Now I work on a bench job, ing report of its local financial handling about 10 tons of metal a day. The work, attaching a fund you can report that at bracket on the motor assembly, the Local conference Chicago is very rough. Johnny helped me held last week the campaign for for two days. He was given more our share of the \$20,000 Emerwork. And now he has another gency Fund was launched together with a local drive to fin-"It's just amazing how the foreman figured out a way to spring. keep me busy every second of the

\$20,000 \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ SWP FUND Ø 8 8 \$1213 Dec. 21 They are more than eager to Paid Per cent Quota \$239.00 \$ 700 34 29 700 200.00 23 200 47.00 11 6.000 679.50 10 200 21.00 800 25.00400

10.00

75

20

50

400

25

1,500

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# THE MILITANT ARMY

# **Brooklyn SWP Chalks Up Success In Sub-Getting**

that subscribers in its area con-Militant. Edith. Kane, Literature Agent, reports: "During the last two weeks Brooklyn has begun visiting subscribers in the Bed-

ford-Stuyvesant area for renewals. In spite of the bad weather and many other activities, the comrades got 23 subs . . We are just starting on this

work in earnest and expect to roll up some real figures for the other branches to shoot at."

Connecticut State's campaign is gaining momentum, as previously predicted by James White. "I'm sending 34 new subs," he writes. "We have just finished the second week of our drive. We have a total of 50 subs to date. Our goal is 300 in three months.

"The race for local Pace-Setter should bear watching. It pits Clara Raymond, National Pace-Setter No. 2 in the last National Campaign, against Pearl Spangler, nationally No. 5 in the same campaign. Comrade Raymond is leading with 21 subs, while Com-

rade Spangler is close behind with 16.

#### "The Flint Branch of the Socialist Workers Party had a distribution in the area of its hall," reports El Snyder. "We distributed 800 copies of The Militant and had a most encouraging response. Our hall is located in an ideal and progressive place in Flint. We find many people in the area politically conscious.

learn about our organization and to take an active part in the work of the branch." Comrade Snyder sent in 12

subs with the above report. \* \* \* E. Brent sent in nine subs for Detroit, commenting: "This is one lovely batch of subscriptions to be able to send in. It is easier to get renewals by calling on subcsribers immediately when we receive notice that their subs have expired—before they miss any issues of The Militant. It

Brooklyn Branch of the Social- | subs for Akron, plus an order ist Workers Party is making sure for extra copies. "Our Youth Group would like more copies tinue as regular readers of The of Militant No. 40 and No. 41. Can you spare 200 or 300? These are the issues dealing with the Akron student strike.' Leon Forth sent the follow-

PAGE FIVE

ing report on Chicago's literature plans: "Will you send us 200 extra copies of the next Milltant? These are to be used in line with some of our neighbors hood work. The Literature Com-

mittee has been reorganized and now has some good new blood on it. Plans are many and we are determined to carry them out." At the request of J. Lang.

Pittsburgh, we are now sending five copies of The Militant every week to Castelli's Ice Cream Bar in Lawrence, Pa. Comrade Lang says: "It's an ice cream and newsstand place in the heart of the mining town."

\* \* \* Harry Thompson, Los Angeles Local literature reporter, writes: For the past two weeks the CIO Council meetings have been covered with Militants. Comrades Rose and Harold K. sold 17 Militants Friday, Dec. 6; 14 Militants and one six-month sub Friday, Dec. 13. They are doing good work. Comrade May M. sold two six-month Militant subs on

a door-to-door sale at the Wm. Mead Housing Project." Dorothy Lessing sent in six subscriptions obtained by the Newark comrades.

Al Turner of San Diego tells us that he sold a sub in Austin.

rexas, while on vacation there. Pauline Lodge, Westside Literature Agent in Los Angeles, explains that she obtained three Militant subs - two from old friends and the other from a member of her family.

Five subscriptions from Calumet Branch in Hammond, Ind., are commented on by Lorene Simkins: "Two of the subs were also impresses the subscribers gotten by Comrade Stanley S. that we are on our toes if we in the refinery where he works.

# S. Louis. Mo. Speed-Up On The Assembly Line

Johnny and I went to work at the General Motors plant in Oakland a couple of weeks ago. We found that most of the men were new to line work, many were

veterans, and the jobs were too The first few days Johnny worked at assembling parts. My

"A number of comrades who weren't there have yet to make pledges. So you can see the response was very enthusiastic. Two comrades have already paid in full. I will try to send in the money as fast as it comes in. That will probably be every week so that it can make The Militant.'

"The 1,500 was oversubscribed that day. We received \$1,680 in pledges which gave us an additional \$180 toward the \$1,000 election fund. We have already received \$140 which will be forwarded at the end of the week." We should get together and to fight the speed-up on the line. peal, Militant reader S. Har- Clevelan

first day was spent attaching bumpers. The cars sped down the line about 40 an hour, eight

hours a day. Sore and aching muscles kept us awake that first The following day I helped an inexperienced man on his oper-

Minneapolis

Flint

New York Local

prospects. She writes: "On the Branch Buffalo Milwaukee ance our election activities this

Seattle Akron Akron Youth Allentown-Bethlehem Baltimore Bayonne Boston Chicago Local Chicago Youth



By William F. Warde

National Fund Campaign Director

\$1,213.50 has been sent in to date on the \$20,000 Emergency Fund campaign to help support the work of the Socialist Workers Party. This is six per cent of the total.

have been too much for the Stal+	make it strong so the capitalists	Among the first things we are	peal, Militant reader S. Har-	Cleveland	300 0 0	Visit them soon after they re-	The others were obtained by
inists, who were running the	can't throw us off the ballot;	going to demand is a rest period		Connecticut State	120 0 0	ceive notice from The Militant	Comrade Tom S. and Comrade
meeting, because suddenly a	they have shown before that they	of five minutes every hour.	"I am enclosing herewith \$2 to-	Detroit	1,000 0 0	office that their sub has ex-	Simms."
policeman appeared with a red	will violate the Constitution. In	GM Worker	wards the SWP campaign for the	Houston	25 0 0	pired."	
car following him. He viciously	my opinion the capitalists intend	Oakland, Calif.		Los Angeles Local	1,500 0 0	•••••••	Now that election and strike
ordered us a way Someone	to turn on us next, if they can		meets with the finest success!"	Los Angeles Youth	25 0 0	Dan Roberts mailed in seven	activities of Oakland Branch
standing near the curb heard	get Europe beaten to its knees.		The publication of the six-page	Newark	300 0 0	new subs obtained by the Seattle	have subsided, the comrades
these policemen discussing how	If we don't act, freedom is done	Subscribe To		New York Youth	50 0 0	comrades.	there, according to a letter from
to engineer some means of "pick-	for in this country.	The Militant	Militant and many other impor-	Oakland	250 0 0	Fred Martin forwarded six subs	Beverley Wise, are beginning "a
ing me up."	L. B. Courts		tant activities of the Socialist	Philadelphia	500 0 0	for Milwaukee.	renewal drive and hope to clean
The Stalinists knew they	Hamilton, O.	Use Coupon On Page 2	Workers Party hinge in no small	Philadelphia Youth	25 0 0	A. Arbeiter of St. Louis sent in	up all expired subs before start-
			measure upon the prompt and	Pittsburgh	150 0 0	five subs.	ing on a drive for new subs." Five
	an a		successful raising of this \$20,-	Portland	150 0		renewals were sent in as a be-
Como and m	eet other 'Militan	12 Dogdono	000 Emergency Fund. A workers'	Reading	150 0. 0	Dave Swenson sent in seven	Cinner
		7	novement such as ours, hard-hit	Rochester	75 0 0	Sourt in Berch	(Brinner,
At th	iese Local Activitie	ps of	by the skyrocketing prices nowa-	St. Louis	50 0 0		
			lays, can turn for aid only to	St. Paul	300 0 0	DIONIEER	) NOTEC
The Cost			its working class supporters who	San Diego	100 0 0	<b>PIONEER</b>	R NOTES
I I NE SOCIA	alist Work	ers Pariv	are determined to keep on fight	San Francisco	1,250 0 0		
			ing with us for Socialism and are	Tacoma	100 0 0		
			prepared to make financial sacri-	Toledo	300 0 0	Pioneer Publishers has receiv-	
ARRON - Visit The SWP, 2nd		PITTSBURGH-SWP headquar-	fices for that great goal. Every	Youngstown	500 0 0	ed large stocks of two important	Jackson (author of A Practical
floor, 8 So. Howard St., Akron	Blvd. Open daily, 12 noon to	ters 1418 Fifth Ave., 2nd, floor	dollar counts. How many more	General	1,200 2.00 .2	pamphlets just published by	Program to Kill Jim Crow)
8, O. Open daily except Sunday.	5 p.m. Phone Richmond 4644.	Round table discussions, 2nd	readers will follow the good ex-			RCP Publications, London, Eng-	resume writing his column. The
2 to 4 p.m.	Friday, 8 p.m. — Militant	and 4th Sundays each month.	ample set by S. Harrison?	Total	\$20,000 \$1,213.50 6%	land.	like it very much.
Saturdays: Current Events	Workers Forum, 466 E. Vernon.	3:30. Phone: Court 6060.				One is a re-issue of Leon Trot-	"To our subscription coll back
Discussion, 8 p.m. followed by	SAN PEDRO, Militant Publish-	PORTLAND, Ore Write to	Conctant	Child Cara	Problems	sky's famous Gopenhagen radio	work most of the needle winter
social. Admission free.	ing Assn., 1008 S. Pacific	Socialist Workers Party, c/o C.	VUISLAIIL	ulliu uare		address of December, 1932. It was	have hought some literature
Sundays, 7 p.m. Public	Room 214.	M Homer BO Ber 2711 D.				inst published by Pioneer in	could use more new items the
Speaking class.	MINNEAPOLIS-Visit the Labor	M. Hesser, P.O. Box 3711, Port-				February, 1933, under the title	George Clarke's Build a Laber
BALTIMORE—For Information	Book Store, 10 South 4th St.,	land 8, Oregon.		KV <b>A W</b> orki	ng Mother	in Delense of the Russian Revo-	Party Now and Charles Constants
	open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily	SAN DIEGO-Headquarters 623					Veterans & Labor" (each 100).
write Box 415, Baltimore 3,	Sunday Forums, 3:30 p.m.	Sixth Ave., open 3-9 p.m. daily		D. Mills Buddened		Russian Revolution (which inci-	CONCILIES OF EMODOI (CONCIL BUCH,
	NEW HAVEN-Labor School, 855	SAN FRANCISCO - Visit the		By Mille Fredereci	<b>i</b>	dentally is the same as the title	
BAYONNE-SWP headquarters,	Grand Ave., 3rd floor. Open	San Francisco School of Social	Watch the hands of work	ing women as they ride home	ð	of a Pioneer pamphlet by James	Order these pamphlets from
62 W 23rd St. Open house	Mon., 7:30-9:15 p.m.	Science, 305 Grant Ave., cor-	on the subways, buses or trol		Nursery, a tax-supported nursery	P. Cannon). The price here is 15	Pioneer Publishers, 116 Univer-
2nd and 4th Saturdays.	Fridays, 8:15 p.m.; 1st and	ner of Grant and Sutter, 4th			mouseu m a church, is not quive	cents.	sity Place, New York 3, N. Y.
* BOSTON-Office at 30 Stuart	3rd each month, open forum.	floor; open from 12 noon to		en in their hands. There are		The other is The Middle East	
St. Open Saturdays 1 p.m. to	2nd and 4th, round table dis-		the ink-stained hands of of-		cept the child's record with the	At the Crossroads (20c) by T.	Youth Activities
5 p.m.: Wednesdays and Fri-	cussion.	4:30 p.m., daily except Sun-	nce-workers The tapered	back to sleep," she answered in	Child Health Station as ade-	Cliff, a Palestinian Trotskyist. It	
days, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.	NEWARK-Visit SWP headquar-	day. Phone EXbrook 1926.	hands of seamstresses. The	a sweet voice.	quate mental and physical ex-	was published in three parts in	
days, 1.30 to 9.30 p.m.	ters, 423 Springfield Ave.	SEATTLE-Visit our Headquar-	hard thick fingers of factory	Obviously the telephone oper-	amination. The cost is \$1.40 a	Fourth International (magazine)	AKRON Socialist Youth
BUFFALO — Militant Forum,	Phone BIgelow 3-2574. Library	ters, 1919 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> Second Ave. Open	workers and house workers. Fin-	ator couldn't find Junior's moth-	day whether he attends or not,	December, 1945, to February,	Club meets Sunday, Dec. 15, 2
629 Main St., 2nd floor. Phone	and reading room open week	Monday through Saturdays,	gers which hang like claws from		or if he is out on holidays the	1946, and is now available for	nm Followed by refreshments
MAdison 3960. Open every	nights, 7-10 p.m.	noon to 6 p.m. Tel. SE-0543.	overwork.	er in a city jammed with eight	toost is the state, where a week,		dancing. 8 South Howard St.
afternoon except Sunday.	Friday night forum, 8:30.	Library, Bookstore.	I earned \$8 today doing hand	million people. Junior hung up	\$30 a month for a 4-week month,	pamphlet form.	2nd floor.
Open house and current	NEW YORK-CITY HQ., 116	Friday forum-8 p.m.	sewing, Before I reached home	the receiver but didn't go back	Turne toop in Some ros one contra-	These are Numbers 2 and 1,	and the second sec
events discussion every Satur-	University Place, GR. 5-8149	ST. LOUIS-Headquarters, 1023	I bought with my day's earnings	to sleep. He played with the	and to my providing one office	respectively, of a new series of	CHICAGO. — Youth meeting
day, 8:30 p.m. Admission free.	HARLEM: 103 W. 110 St.	N. Grand Blvd., Rm. 312, open	a pork shoulder which cost \$3.65.	flashlight until I came home.	dren. This is the story of all	Workers, International News	Fridays at 8 p.m. Discussion on
CHICAGO - Visit SWP 777 W	Rm. 23. MO. 2-1866	Monday, Wednesday, Friday,	It was mostly fat. Last week I	When Junior was two years	working mothers who must leave	namphlets being published for	pamphlet Socialism On Trial.
Adams (corner Halsted). Open	Every Thursday Open Dis-	7:30 to 9 p.m. Forums Thurs-	bought a loin of pork for \$2.89	old he climbed out of his crib,	the children uncared for while	the Revolutionary Communist	Control and a car controllos
11 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, ex-	cussion, 8 p.m.	day, 8:30 p.m. Phone Jeffer-	which shrunk to half its original	unlocked the door by standing	they work. This is what they	Party of England.	Adams, 2nd noor.
cept Sunday. Tel. Dearborn	BRONX: 1034 Prospect Ave.	son 3642.	size after cooking. There is no	on the chair, and walked down	must worry about when low	* * *	LOS ANGELES Socialist
		ST. PAUL-540 Cedar St., St.	real value in the meat we buy.	five flights of stairs in his shirt	wages of husbands cannot be		Youth Club meets every Tues-
4767. Library, bookstore. Sat. night, open house.	Reading room open Mon. to	Paul 2, Phone Garfield 1137.	T was late coming home from	tail. He had almost gained the	stretched to cover the high costs	are covering now " writer T	day, 8 p.m., at SWP headquart-
	Fri., 7 to 10 p.m.		work. Junior's father was sleep-	sidewalk when he was sighted	of food, clothing, household	Bront Dotnoit literature agent	ers, 3161/2 W. Pico Blvd. Educa-
CLEVELAND - Militant Forum	Current events discussion,	Open daily 2:30-9:30.	ing because he works at night	by a friendly neighbor.	articles and the bare necessities		tionals after every meeting. Re-
every Sunday, 8:30 p.m. at	Fridays at 8.	TACOMA, Wash Meetings	while I work during the day.	I made a search for a day	of life.	"people ask for additional	LI COMMONDO, SELVEU.
Peck's Hall, 1446 E. 82nd St.	BROOKLYN: 635 Fulton St.,	every Wednesday, 8 p.m., at	My little 4-year-old boy became			pamphlets, saying they already	NEW YORK - For miorma+
(off Wade Park Ave.).	Phone ST. 3-7433.	Oddfellows Hall, 6th and Faw-		ited the "Little Brown School		have what we are selling.	tion on the Trotskyist Youth
DETROIT-SWP, 6108 Linwood	CHELSEA: 130 W. 23 St.	cett. Discussions on current	alone.	House." The interviewer on duty		"At a meeting to protest the	Group send name and address
Ave. phone TY. 7-6267. Open	phone CH 2-9434.	topics. For information, write		said the application (sheet of		blinding of Isaac Woodard, two	to 116 University Place, N. Y. 3,
Monday through Saturday, 12	OAKLAND, Cal Meetings Wed-	P.O. Box 1079.	receiver from the telephone and	naper) would cost \$2, psychologi-	Open House	comrades sold 50 copies of A	
to 5 p.m. Current events for-	nesday, Odd Fellows Temple,	TOLEDO-SWP headquarters at	dialed. One of the patient tele-	cal examination (mental test)		Practical Program to Kill Tim	Open Forum: Every Friday.
um and open house, Satur-	410 - 11th St. For information	108 Summit St. Toledo 4, O.	phone operators who slaves for	would cost \$5. physical examina-	Sunday, Jan. 12	Crow. At another meeting for	8 p.m., at 116 University Place
day from 8 p.m.	write to P.O. Box 1351,	Open daily. Phone MAin 8919.	\$28 a week and never utters a			Clayton Powell, they sold one	Dancing, refreshments.
All and a second s	PHILADELPHIA - SWP Head-	YOUNGSTOWN - SWP Head-	cross word to the public, an-			copy of The Struggle for Negro	600 / J.
headquarters, 215 E. Ninth St.,	quarters, 1303-05 W. Girard	quarters, 35 <sup>1/2</sup> South Ave.,	swered: "Op-per-rator."	was acceptable. Then I would be			cialism?" 116 Jniversity Pl.
Flint 3, Mich. Open Monday	Ave., 2nd floor. Open daily	Youngstown 3, O. Open 12-5		required to pay a weekly fee of	Program of Trotskyism	<b>Program to Kill Jim Crow</b> (10c	
through Triday, 5 to 9 p.m.	Friday forum, 8 p.m. Phone	p.m., Monday through Satur-	my," said Junior.	\$8	1418 Fifth Ave. 3 p.m.		mation call ST. 4-5820, from
LOS ANGELES-Visit Militant	Stevenson 5820.	das. Phone 3-1355.	"Hang up the receiver and go	The Mt. Morris Park Day	1 1710 FITTE AVE 5 p.m.	each.) "Alse several Militant sub-	
AND ANNELLEND VISIL INELENCELLE		COURSE A STORING OF TOPOL	avenues and man translater the t	STERN ATTACK ATTACKED I CONTRA LAND	P	A AND SCACEREL MEMORANE SUP-	
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	1 		× 1		<i>a</i>		
States Providence		, the state of the second					
AN TOLEN .		lan in the second second second second			요즘 다 같이 많은 것이 같은 것이 많이 많이 했다.		

# Diary of A Steel Worker New Year's Day, 1947

# - By Theodore Kovalesky

In the north of the world the snow lies deep upon the ground, and the chimneys of the factories jut their black spires into the gray skies of winter. It is cold. It is



dreary and cheerless. Life is hard. Yet we rejoice in the New Year. We were born in the darkness, comrades and brothers, and all our lives we have yearned for the sun.

Our fathers and forefathers too were born in the darkness, and their hopes live in us, their quest,

their struggle lives on in us. There have been other New Years. There have been the foolish days of smugness and dreams, the days of lies and childish hopes. ("In America a guy can get ahead. A guy can work himself up.")

There have been the days of the void, the gray and hollow days that were the fruit of past falsehoods, the days of hunger and despair, the unemployed days packed with the connected boredom of one employment office, one welfare visitor after another, one disappointment, one insult after another.

There have been days of suffering, the black days of war and want, of fear and agony. There have been bad days, and terrible days, and there will be still worse days ahead.

But for all of this, I congratulate you, brothers and comrades. I congratulate you and myself for living in these times.

We shall face suffering, but ours is the shining privilege to suffer like MEN, not like our forefathers whose pain was for the most part the full, hopeless anguish of the pack animal. Ours is the privilege of fighting back, of ending and evenging our suffering.

The Negro Struggle ----

The old world as we have known it is wearing out. The machinery of the old society is grinding, quivering, and smoking; it will not last much longer. Our is the privilege of dismembering it . . . and building it anew to serve all mankind.

For us New Year's Day means the dawn of a new day, a day that may see the birth of freedom, truth, and equality. It means that one more year of oppression and exploitation has sunk into the past, and our goal is one year closer to us.

On this New Year's Day, we renew our pledge never to forget our martyrs, who have suffered and died that men might become free; never to forget our enemies, the capitalists and their retainers, who will fight us with tyranny, with lies and hypocritical smiles, with chains and prisons and bullets until we finally defeat them: never to forget our task, the struggle for the liberation of mankind.

All over the United States, all over the world. at the stroke of midnight on the last day of strike which had repercus-1946 groups of men and women will rise and sing the stirring words of the workers' anthem, The Internationale:

"Arise, ye prisoners of starvation,

- Arise ye wretched of the earth, For justice thunders condemnation
- A better world's in birth."

And the heart of each comrade who stands with raised fist will beat with determination

"'Tis the final conflict, Let each stand in his place.

The International Party

Will lead the human race."

Throughout the tortured, blighted earth, wherever clear eyed fighters for liberty gather, this song of promise will ring out. Will YOU be there?

#### PAGE SIX

year.

# SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1946 NEW YORK N. Y **1946--Year Of Greatest**

**American Class Battles** 

THE MILITANT

### By George Breitman

1946 was the most eventful year in the history of the American class struggle.

It began with U.S. soldiers overseas staging demonstrations to be released from the Army. It ended with a coal

gans, testified to the growing sions all over the world. In between, a greater humber radicalization of the American

working class. of workers were locked in strug-But despite its strength, degle with the capitalists and the spite its repeatedly demonstrated government than in any previous power to win its demands by shutting down the wheels of in-These struggles were the work-

ers' answer to the drastic lowerdustry, labor was not always successful in its fights in 1946. ing of their living standards by OPA-granted price rises and by On two important occasions in

particular-in the rail strike and elimination of price ceilings. the second mine strike-the gov-The first wave of strikes ernment broke the strikes, and reached its high point in Janthe workers failed to gain most uary when the CIO steel, auto, of their demands. electrical and packinghouse un-

But these defeats were far ions successfully struck the nafrom decisive. The defeated unions remained as strong as ever.

SECOND WAVE Labor's ranks as a whole, al-The second wave came in the though keenly affected by these spring with the shutdown of the defeats, were just as ready to mines and railroads. In both fight as before. The defeat of cases the government intervened. the rail strike, while disheartening, did not discourage the maritime or mine workers from fur-

ther struggles with the government.

The smashing of the second mine strike was even more discouraging, because wide labor support was just being mobilized

> for action as Lewis called off the strike. But even this defeat. which heartened the employers. was immediately followed by CIO demands for higher wages.

It would be foolish to underestimate the effect of these de-

whole world. Although the breaking of the Labor Solidarity Won



anis was martford, Conn. in July, 1946, as workers wasked out in the first general strike in the city's history, to support UE workers demanding wage increases.

The resistance of the labor the Republican Party to express early Thirties. The obstacles

broken, as 1947 will surely de- under the Democrats. monstrate.

POLITICAL LESSONS develop into political struggles some places to emulate it. political field as it is in purely Teachers, telephone girls and economic struggles. of the first magnitude, although newspapermen hit the picket the unions were unprepared to lines to win badly needed wage

ed.

fight on this field. It was a year raises. rich in the political lessons the day, organized labor and Big workers need to study if they are agents of employers, began form-Business, remains unbroken. The to halt the Big Business offen- ing their own unions or joined

> The workers saw the government lift its masks of impartial- 1946 were the Negro people and ity and liberalism when Truman the veterans of World War II. cracked down with vindictive fury on the mine and rail walk outs.

They saw that the courts, their injunctions and fines are now had two million members in

employ the armed forces against still more are joining up. the working people.

this direction, the struggle is un- the middle class fell under the in the population. settled, the issues not yet resolv- sway of the propaganda barrage of Big Business and shifted to has come a long way since the

Foremen, traditionally the existing unions. Labor's staunchest allies in The Negroes were still getting

hit two ways in 1946—as workers and as an oppressed minority. But as workers the Negroes all weapons against labor. They the unions, more than half a milsaw the White House ready to lion of them in the South and

The Negroes everywhere this They saw Congress, with the year were the best and most two capitalist parties operating loval fighters on the nicket lines

corpses in Georgia, Mississippi Louisiana, Texas, Freeport, N. Y., and elsewhere. But the government did nothing.

Despite this terror, and the lynch incitements of the Bilbos and Talmadges, hundreds of thousands of Negroes went to the polls in the Southern states in 1946. And over 300 took their ives into their hands to testify at a Senate Committee hearing n Jackson, Miss., on how Bilbo and his cohorts had kept them from the polls by intimidation and violence.

#### VETERANS PICKET

One of the keenest disappointnents suffered by Big Business his year was the behavior of he World War II veterans.

Despite the anti-labor propaanda to which they had been ubjected in the Army, the solliers came back from overseas, vhere hundreds of thousands of hem had militantly demanded ) be sent home, and grimly took heir places on the picket lines.

Far from becoming tools of Big Business, the veterans showed a greater friendliness toward labor than did any other group

The American labor movement movement is very far from their discontent with conditions ahead are still great. But study and assimilation of the lessons of the last year will arm the labor White collar workers by and movement, teach it the necessity large stood on the side of the of independent political action The strikes in 1946 tended to labor movement and tried in and make it as invincible on the

Georgia Burial



## Truman Creates A Committee - By William E. Bohannon -Shull admitted the crime! Instead the prosecutor

President Truman has finally taken notice of the fact that throughout the country people are being mobbed, terrorized and lynched, and that the guilty parties are es-

caping scot-free. Why are they

getting away without punish-



ment? Because of "weak and inadequate" civil rights statutes, according to Truman. And what is the solution to this problem? Truman's answer is to set up a 15-member Committee on Civil Rights to recommend "legislation of more adequate and ef-

fective means and procedures for the protection of the civil rights of the people of the U.S. What Truman is trying to make us believe

is that the government is really concerned about lynching, but just doesn't 'have the power to do anything about it. To see how true this is, let's examine a few recent cases:

After much pressure was exerted, the Department of Justice finally preferred charges against Lynwood Shull, the South Carolina cop who gouged out Isaac Woodard's eyes. The Justice Department assigned a special prosecutor to help present the case against Shull, But neither this prosecutor nor the local district attorney made the least effort to determine whother the members of the jury were members of the Ku Klux Klan. The result was that the jury was packed with Jim Crow elements. And at the end of the case the local prosecutor

did not even ask for a verdict of guilty, although

said the government would be satisfied with whatever verdict the jury returned — a plain invitation to bring in a verdict acquitting Shull, maritime strike, when AFL and which the jury did. Then there was the trial resulting from the

lynching of John C. Jones, a Negro veteran, who was turned over to the lynch mob by Benjamin Gantt, police chief of Minden, La. Gantt was indicted by a federal grand jury and the government announced that U.S. Attorney LaFargue would handle the prosecution against him. Hearing of this, the NAACP requested Attorney General Clark to replace him because he was notorious as a Negro-hater. Clark's office answered that this was unnecessary as LaFargue was "competent" and would "vigorously represent the government."

When the case came to court, LaFargue, acting for the government, moved to drop the indictment against Gantt. This was done and Gantt was exonerated without even going to trial!

And the FBI, which never tires of boasting that it caught every Axis agent in the U.S. during the war, has still failed to bring to trila the score of lynchers, well known in the community, who murdered two Negro sharecroppers and their wives near Monroe, Ga., last July.

In the light of these facts showing the government's real attitude toward the lynchers, we can predict with the greatest confidence that Truman's committee will have no more effect than a snowball in hell.

formally taking over the industry. In the summer came the great CIO unions halted virtually all shipping despite Truman's threat to use the Navy for strikebreak-

tion's basic industries.

ing. And finally, as the CIO unions were preparing new wage demands, the miners were again forced to strike when the govnew contract.

emerged from the war with its militancy and boldness intact. The strikes were so effective that

Hit The Bricks



Wallace-A Dangerous Operator By Joseph Hansen-

**Problems Of Hours And Wages** 

· By C. Thomas

ernment refused to negotiate a 1946 showed that labor had in most cases the employers did

feats. But it would be even more foolish not to understand that the government has not yet achieved its primary goal. DEADLOCK UNBROKEN The deadlock between the two

great forces in the country togovernment aims to break this sive. deadlock by crippling and cowing the labor movement so that

Big Business will be able to turn its full attention to the task of dominating and exploiting the

strike was an important step in

The Hearst press tags Henry A. Wallace as a bumbling New Deal bureaucrat, a "pinko" out of this world, a "starry-eyed" dreamer incap-



able of dealing with the hard facts of life. The New Republic paints its new editor in different colors. "No American," it boasts. "can express ... (the promise of American life) as well and truly as Henry Wallace."

What is the truth about the former Secretary Agriculture, former Vice-President of the United States and last prominent New Dealer to he kicked out of Truman's cabinet?

Wallace is a dangerous capitalist politician, who understands the class struggle, sees that labor is breaking from the old line capitalist parties, and hopes to corral the insurgent movement in a new type "left of center" capitalist party - if he cannot keep labor behind the bars of the Democratic Party.

His programmatic editorial in the Dec. 16 New Republic establishes this beyond doubt. First of all, Wallace claims he stands as the "proud" inheritor of the "Roosevelt tradition." This is the tradition of skillful demagogy maneuvers and minor concessions to labor in order to maintain the capitalist system.

Wallace promises "Jobs, Peace, Freedom." He

thus plays on the profoundest desires of the masses in the style of Roosevelt, who freely made similar promises.

Jobs for all," says Wallace, can be obtained by preventing "a serious depression." But depressions are inseparable from capitalism. The economic welfare of the people can be guaranteed only under a socialist system, which Wallace opposes.

"Peace today," says Wallace, can be obtained by halting "the dangerous drift toward war." He wants "to abolish the causes of war." But he does not say one word about the fundamental

economic causes of imperialist war which can be removed only by organizing world socialism. He peddles the fraud of "disarmament" and the long-exploded hope that the capitalist powers can prevent war by accepting "world law."

to be a "root cause of war." But he seeks to munities like Stamford, Conn., achieve this freedom through the efforts of "men Rochester, N.Y., Lancaster, Pa. of good will" and not through abolishing the

capitalist system that breeds authoritarianism Wallace pays lip service to the wishes of the people. He thus hopes to attract their support. But he opposes socialism, the only means of converting these wishes into reality. His purpose is clear. He wants to win leadership of the discontented masses in order to keep them chained to the chariot of Wall Street.



Seamen in every port walked off the ships in scenes like this. in maritime strikes that tied up the waterfront three times in 1946.

not even try to operate their plants with scabs. Labor solidarity hit a new high. Before the top union bureaucrats

had time to interfere, local gen-The lack of "political freedom" Wallace holds eral strikes shut down comand Oakland, Calif.

> Bitter resentment swept the nation when the government broke the rail and mine strikes. Although John L. Lewis and other AFL leaders made no appeal for supporting action, the Detroit AFL unions were calling for the organization of a 24 hour miners. Had the coal strike con-

tinued, similar plans would have been made elsewhere. NEW SLOGANS

In last week's article we dealt with the demand for a four-watch system aboard ship as a solution to the problem of unemployment in the industry. We pointed

out that the National Coun-

cil of the National Mari-

time Union has muddled

this slogan by tying it to



Notes of a Seaman-

the demand for a "40-hour week" at sea. What is involved in this question is the problem of wages and hours in the maritime industry.

One of the significant gains of the recent strike movement in maritime was the reduction of the work week at sea from 56 to 48 hours. This reduction in the work-week increased the take-home pay but did not increase the manning scale aboard ship. Men on watch still work 56 hours but are paid overtime for working on Sunday.

The demand for a 40-hour week at sea on the basis of the present eight-hour day is an indirect method of increasing take-home pay but is no solution to the critical problem of unemployment. The four-watch system is based on the six hour day. Therefore the slogan is comparable to the demand of shoreside unions for

Stand In 1997 1997

the 30-hour week with no reduction in pay. When the demand for a 40-hour week at sea

is lumped together with the four-watch system it merely confuses the problem of wages and hours. The series of one-after-another strikes in maritime which extended over a period of three months ended a few weeks ago. Last week for a United Labor Conference in the National Maritime Union announced it was Washington. Pressure from the submitting new wage demands based on the recent cost-of-living figures released by the CIO. This can be the beginning of another series of the midst of the mine strike. wage strikes of longer duration.

Such hard-fought struggles for limited wage demands can exhaust the unions and still leave unsettled the main problem of rapidly growing unemployment in the industry. In an inflationary period, the only realistic solution to the constantly rising cost of living is the sliding scale of wages: an escalator clause in the union contract providing for an automatic wage increase with each increase in living costs.

The slogans under which the fight for wages and employment can be conducted most effectively in the manitime industry today are:

(1) The sliding scale of wages to meet the the UAW demand that the cor- Minnesota alone, teachers in 26 rising cost of living, and

(2) The four-watch system to increase the manning scale aboard ship.

As the workers saw the government mobilizing all of its agencies for strikebreaking, sentiment developed for joint defensive action by all the unions. \*The United Auto Workers during the railroad strike came out ranks compelled Philip Murray to call for such a conference in

This was only one of the new slogans that made progress in labor's ranks during 1946. Numerous local unions and at bodies adopted the demand for apolis teachers, whose projected LABOR'S ALLIES wages, based on a fixed minimum, to rise as prices rise. whole labor movement and wide

sections of the population generally reacted with sympathy to many local school boards. In porations "Open the Books." These struggles, their mili- wage increases since the St. Paul tancy, solidarity and new slo- school strike started on Nov. 25.

# Fourth

(Special to The Militant) ST. PAUL, Dec. 21-Despite the stalling tactics of city officials, the teachers' strike

here is still solid at the end of its fourth week. With parents and students joining them on the picket lines. teachers have kept closed tight. A Teachers Joint

Council, representing Locals 28 and 43 of the American Federation of Teachers, is in charge of the strike. Action on the teachers' de-

mands for higher wages and much needed improvements in the city's school system is now up to the Charter Commission,

which has stalled on the strike committee's demand that it "certify to the City Council for election purposes the amendment necessary to finance the better schools program."

Since 12 of the 14 Charter Commission members are real esgeneral protest strike to help the tate dealers, corporation lawyers or business executives, they are well satisfied with the present City Charter, which restricts tax rates. Several hundred members of Parent-Teacher Associations,

AFL, CIO and railroad unions. student organizations and civic groups appeared before the Charter Commission to urge speedy action on the school amendment. Representatives of St. Paul's 2,500 high school seniors have town streets.

St. Paul's striking teachers have received checks and messages of support from AFT locals

variants of the sliding scale of strike was averted three weeks ago when substantial wage increases were given, sent a check And in the great GM strike at for \$1,000. Credit has been given wave of wage increases which have been granted teachers by school districts have been given

housing program; reject all progressive legislation.

They saw the Truman admin-At the same time the Negroes istration moving steadily to the right, divesting itself of the last spokesmen associated with the cist-like outfits, seeking to cre-New Deal, submitting willingly to ate a mass base for eventual use every St. Paul public school the demands of the meat barons against the labor movement. and food profiteers.

They saw the bankruptcy of the CIO-PAC policy of depending on liberal capitalist polivoted for Truman's bill to draft

strikers. They saw the Republicans in the 1946 elections pick up most of the protest vote cast by the middle class and a part of the working class because there was no labor party through which they could voice their discontent.

And now they see Truman competing with the Republicans on only one issue: to see which shall have the credit for getting in the next legislative blows against the unions.

Already these lessons have been assimilated by the most progressive sections of labor. A ions are demanding a labor par-

A poll taken just before the bar the drivers from bargaining November elections showed that on working conditions. 22.6 per cent of all unionists favored creating such a party. Since the elections and the expressed their resentment at mine strike sentiment for an inthe Charter Commission's stall- dependent labor party has ing with a protest march and a grown. The labor bureaucrats releaflet distributed on the down- main the main-obstacle to forming a labor party. But there are

evidences, as in Flint, Mich., up the drivers precisely when that workers will go ahead in cause of weather conditions. 1947 to lay the basis for such a east two international CIO throughout the country. Minne- party in local labor strongholds. ABLE DEFENSE

1946 was a big year for labor's

allies too. The lower strata of the middle class openly sympathized the beginning of the year the to the St. Paul strikers for the with labor's cause in the first protect not only its members' strike wave. But the labor leaders clung to the discredited Democratic Party and failed to advance a broad social program

capable of retaining middle class support.

as one, adopt a series of anti-la- The elimination or easing of disbor laws; guarantee Big Business crimination in the plants and profits; promote inflation; heap unions paid off well for the taxes on the masses; scuttle the white as well as the Negro workers. LYNCH TERROL

> were the chief targets of the fas-Two men and two women murdered by KKK terrorists in Georgia, were among many Negro victims of 1946 lynch A lynch wave left Negro mobs.



AKRON, O., Dec. 14-Another attempt to use the in-

junction to restrict labor's rights is currently being tried here. The Akron Transportation Company, monopoly operator of all buses and street cars in this area has brought suit against Local 1, CIO Transport Workers Union, in an effort to abolish normal col- 9-

lective bargaining over pro- | ing harangue. When the composed changes in operating, pany attorney leveled the charge schedules.

of "communism" and "anarchy" at him and other union leaders. Encouraged by the federal Wright replied, "If anybody is

government's successful use of an anarchist around here, it is considerable number of local un- the injunction against the min- not me but the people who are ers, the transportation company mismanaging the public transis seeking a restraining order to portation of this city."

"I suppose you would like to try managing the business of The company wants a free this company," sneered the lawhand to reduce the number of er.

"Well," countered Wright, "I vehicles in operation and to cut the running time on some of the don't believe I could possibly lines. This would mean further make such a mess of the thing packing of the already over- as you people have." The trial was concluded Dec. crowded equipment and speeding

12, but the verdict has not yet service normally is slower be- been announced. No one in the Akron labor movement, however, has any doubts or illusions concerning what the court's ruling

Ably defending the union's will be.

position before a notorious pro-Recognizing that the fight is employer judge. TWU Local 1 just beginning, the Akron CIO President William H. Wright Council has adopted a series of showed the union is battling to motions to lay the basis for a powerful pressure campaign on health and rights but also the riding public's right to safe and efficient transportation.

officials of the municipalities who have authority to revoke the franchise and who can be During one dramatic session, compelled to do by an aroused Wright deftly squelched a com- labor movement should the com-

pany lawyer's attempt to ob- pany persist in its vicious union-As a result a large section of scure the issues with a red-bait- busting campaign.



