

Workers of the World, Unite!

THE MILITANT

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In Hospital for **New Operation**

By George Breitman

NEWARK, Feb. 6 - "I'm sorry to be out of action again. I hope I'll be back on my artificial limbs soon so that I canresume my part in the fight for civil liberties." This was James Kutcher speaking-from his bed

Vol. XIII - No. 7

in the Beth Israel Hospital where liberal and veteran organization he underwent a new operation on in many parts of the country. If it is at all possible. I will accept 'Militant' Office the stump of his left leg yesterthem and maybe make some

It is too early to tell if the tours. cperation was completely suc-"For another thing, there will

cessful. An inch and a half of soon be a hearing on my case be-fore the Loyalty Review Board Readers' Donations bone and some tissue were "trimmed" from his left stump in Washington. But above all, I Still Urgently Needed in an effort to make it more want to reach the widest number adaptable to use of his artificial of organizations and tell them legs.

about the real issue in my case-In recent months Kutcher had the danger to all democratic readers, it has been possible to been suffering discomfort and rights that arises when the polipain; the stump began to bleed tical party in power assumes the this paper's offices at 116 Unioccasionally and there was danger of infection. It is believed that authority to blacklist minority parties as 'subversive' on the a fire of unknown origin Jan. 23. this was caused in part, by his say-so of one man, the Attorney But thus far only a beginning has increased activity after he was General." dismissed from his clerical job

with the government because of THE VA'S ATTITUDE membership in the Socialist Workers Party.

use of artificial limbs.

fact that the Veterans Ad- a normal basis.

Kutcher will be in the hospital ministration will pay for the Some of the office equipment for two or three weeks, until operation, which was performed damaged by the flames has been the stitches are removed. Then by Dr. David S. Eisenberg. But salvaged and restored to use, and the stump will have to heal beevidently the VA did not propose fore he can again attempt the to spend a cent more than it piece-by-piece for other equiphad to, denying him the use of ment ruined beyond repair. The

As he lay on his bed, looking room and placing him in a tired and haggard, he was not general wardroom crowded with also being rebuilt. While the long, interested in discussing the 20 patients. The VA is the same slow task of constructing new operation or its painfulness. agency for which Kutcher work-Surgery and hospitals are an old ed for over two years before he story to him by now. Since he was fired last October.

was wounded by a mortar shell Those who understand the in Italy 51% years ago, he has had broader meaning of the Kutcher fight, who recognize that he is a total of three operations on fighting for all of us as well as each leg.

And there is no certainty that himself, will redouble their efforts on his behalf while he is yesterday's will be the last one. Despite the advances made in the completely disabled. Those who want to communicate with him field of artificial limbs, it is not easy to obtain mobility where while he is in the hospital should one leg extends only to just address their mail to James tion of \$515 in cash and pledges below the knee and the other has Kutcher, Ward 201, Beth Israel Hospital, 201 Lyons Ave., Newark SWP. no knee at all.

Kutcher made it clear today, 8, N. J. R.B.G. of Los Angeles wrote: How YOU can help James "What little I can spare as an however, that he intends to be more active in the future than before: "I have received invita-Kutcher --- See Page 4. tions to speak before labor,

James Kutcher "Inherent Powers" Doctrine Menaces Democratic Rights

Reconstruction of Proceeding Slowly

267

NEW YORK - Thanks to the financial response of Militant go ahead with reconstruction of versity Pl., which were gutted by been made. It will require addi-

tional funds and several more weeks before The Militant will be The local press played up the able to operate on anything like

substitutes are being obtained PLANS GREATER ACTIVITY either a private or semi-private invaluable clipping morgue, badly

scorched and partly destroyed, is flooring and installing windows and electrical equipment is under way on the second and third floors, the staff is at work turn-

Gray ing out the paper in an improvised office on the first floor, which escaped' damage.

"TO HELP REPLACE"

These steps have been made possible by the generous help extended by our readers. Previously reported was the donafrom the New York Local of the

By Farrell Dobbs

distribution of the population by ment as a pretext to demand that tion. Under this doctrine there is

Truman Claims Presidential Authority to Rule by Decree

By Art Preis

Truman's claim that he has "inherent power" to outlaw and smash strikes when he decides they affect public "health, safety and welfare" is the boldest move he has yet made to arro-I gate to himself dictatorial powers.

country into war without the spe-By this declaration, Truman has cific approval of Congress, let openly and autocratically atalone the expressed will of the tempted to assume authority that people, no previous president, not even OTHER USURPATIONS

Roosevelt, had ever dared to assert in war or peace without specific legal sanction. There is nothing in the U.S. Constitution granting the sweeping powers that Truman claims as chief executive. Nevertheless, Truman has stated, in effect, that "I am the law!"

He made this dictatorial claim when he approved a memorandum Truman chooses to label "subby Attorney General Tom Clark to the Senate labor hearings, which contended there is no need for a special law to permit presidential use of injunctions because the president has "inherent power" to enjoin strikes in "national emergencies." Truman said he had no objection to Congress "spelling out" such a law, but he didn't think it was "necessary" inasmuch as he already has the

inherent power" to act. DIVINE RIGHT OF KINGS" Truman's enunciation of this ew and unprecedented doctrine of "inherent power" raises an issue that transcends even the vital issue of labor relations legisla-

Truman acted on the doctrine of "inherent power," without publicly formulating it, when he issued his Executive Order 9835 that initiated Clark's list of socalled "subversive" organizations and the Gestapo-like "loyalty" purge among government workers. This order not only blackat a press interview on Feb. 4 lists any political opposition that versive" and denies them a hearing on this charge, but it sub-

ects anyone on government work, whether in federal or private emoloyment, to intimate investigation and dismissal without a hearing or the right to confront accusers. It was under this order that James Kutcher, the legless war veteran, was fired from the Veterans Administration.

It has been revealed that the North Atlantic military pact, now being secretly drafted in Washington, includes the commitment that the U.S. will send military support to any other pact-partner which may be "attacked" by an "aggressor." Under this commitment, Truman, as commander-inplunge this country into war at

S TPER Judge Bars 'Confidential' Jury-Packing Evidence

occupation, race, income level, all testimony by Wilkerson be no limit to the powers the presi- chief of the armed forces, could

REPEAL

OF

T-H

INJUNCTIONS

SURVIVALOF KUOMINTANG MADE POSSIBLE BY CP

By Li Fu-jen

The situation in China is profoundly revolutionary. The overwhelming mass of the people are no longer prepared to 50c. Virtually all the contributors tolerate the Kuomintang regime or any deceptive substitute for it. They want to end the system 9

of exploitation and oppression on flee safely and unhindered from which this regime has rested. The Nanking - after making the regime itself is crumbling. Its empty gesture of placing them class backers, the bourgeoisie and on a list of "war criminals." And the landlords, have lost confidence after they had fled, they "orderin it and in their ability to sused" Li Tsung-jen - head of the Kuomintang's "caretaker" gov tain their own class rule. Lacking to convert the revolutionary ernment in Nanking - to arrest situation into a social revolution is a revolutionary party in the criminals." A Kerensky entrusttradition of Bolshevism.

What stands out in the present situation is the glaring contradiction between the Stalinist program and policy, on the one hand, and the real revolutionary possibilities on the other. Stalinist program and policy are determined and governed, not by revolu-

tionary considerations, but by 'the conservative bureaucratic needs of the Kremlin gang and by the still meager bureaucratic interests of the Chinese Stalinists themselves.

A revolutionary situation cannot remain revolutionary for an indefinite period. Unless the Chinese ruling classes are decisively crushed and their properties expropriated in the shortest possible time, they may be able to stage a come-back. The revolutionary situation could turn into its op posite — a counter-revolutionary situation. If the Stalinists were deliberately planning a come-back for Chiang Kai-shek and the Kuomintang, they could scarcely do it more effectively than by their present vacillating, half-way, compromising policy which is adding to the life-span of this re-

actionary regime. Recent news should be tried for their crimes. dispatches show quite clearly that But we don't agree with this Chiang and his henchmen are using the breathing space procriminals charged with the wrong vided them by the Stalinists to crime. And they are being tried prepare for a counter-offensive.

The Stalinists permitted the in the wrong court. criminal Chiang and the entire

ld laborer goes to the anarchist FROM THE FEDERAL COURT- etc. papers, but I learned of the fire ROOM, NEW YORK, Feb. 9 you had and am enclosing \$2." Official records of methods used L. S. of Philadelphia expressed

to pack federal jury panel with grief at the news of the fire and sent \$5 "to help replace the burned equipment." The Northwest Side Branch of the SWP in Chicago gave \$17.80, Stalinists.

and pledged an additional \$30. The South Side Branch sent \$5. the U. S. Courts Administrative director of the Stalinist Jeffer-C. A. of Los Angeles contributed \$20, S. C. of Yonkers \$5 and Office, stated from the witness M. S. of Shaker Heights, Ohio, stand that such "confidential" material might be "misused" if voiced regret at not being able made public. Judge Medina upheld

o send more. Chandler's position, Involved were The editorial and business the "working materials" used by staffs of The Militant appreciate Leland L. Tolman of Chandler's both the spirit shown by these office in preparing an official readers and their donations, no study of the jury system.

matter how small. We urge our The Tolman report describes other friends to do likewise the "high type of citizens" servsend whatever you can and as quickly as possible. It will enable ing on juries, thanks to the use us to overcome the existing han- of Who's Who, the Social Register demand that he be given the public denunciation of the Stal-

Chiang and the rest of the "war dicaps and to resume publication and similar directories in drawing the jury panels, and thanks also prepare the maps and charts radio have played the red-baiting under normal conditions. Please mail your contribution to to a "pleasing young man" ed with the arrest of a Kornilov!

The Militant, 116 University Pl., engaged in drawing the panels jury panels. McGohey is obviously zenty trial has been used by the New York 3, N. Y. who knows about geographic preparing to use this develop- (Continued on page 2) New York 3, N. Y.

thrown out. Mountains of evidence showing Characterizing defense proce-

systematic exclusion from jury dure in the jury challenge as panels of workers, Negroes and "subversion of the administrarepresentatives of the rich have other minorities by the invidious tion of justice," Judge Medina been barred from evidence in the method of token representation has declared he will resort to defense challenge of the jury have been submitted by the system in the trial of the 11 defense. This evidence was inend the challenge proceedings and

troduced mainly through the go ahead with the trial under Henry P. Chandler, director of testimony of Doxey A. Wilkerson, the indictment. As the trial nears the end of

neighborhoods.

PROSECUTION'S LINE

showing the composition of the

son School. the fourth week, there is a strik-The government prosecutor, ing absence of a broad protest John F. X. McGohey, made a big movement against the jury-packing scheme and the even more fuss about one missing pin among sinister thought - control indictthe hundreds of pins on the score ment of the Stalinists under the of maps showing how jurors are cohcentrated in the wealthy Smith Act.

compliance with the prosecutor's judiciary have spearheaded the

In part this lack of mass protest is due to the hysterical red-baiting propaganda. President Wilkerson has sought to avoid Truman, the Congress and the

theme in every key. The Minds

dent may assert. It parallels the doctrine of the "divine right of

kings" maintained by absolute monarchs.

As applied to the sphere of labor relations, Truman's assump- yet taken in this country toward tion of "inherent power" would a police state. If he can break every means at his disposal to make him a supreme arbiter with no legal limits to his authority to intervene against the workers at any time he decides their actions constitute a "national emer-

gency." Truman's claim is all the more ominous because it follows a series of other actions designed to establish his power by decree to suppress and outlaw dissident po-

If Truman gets away with his new doctrine of "inherent powers," it will be the biggest step strikes this way, then he can also break any and all elementary rights of labor, Negro and progressive organizations by decree. Organized labor must take the lead in halting this move toward

totalitariansm See Page 3 for editorial, "On the Road to Totalitarianism." litical groups and to plunge the



will.

The organized landlords aren't depending merely on their gents in Congress, or protest letters or even threats of mass evictions to force the end of rent controls. They mean business are acting accordingly. The American Property Owners association has called a national landlords conference in Washington starting Feb. 14. Mass delegations of rent-sharks from Tulsa, Kansas City, St. Louis and other midwest centers are traveling by special trains to park themselves next week on the very door-step of Congress. The N. Y. Times headlines this action: "Landlords to Invade Washington."

That's how exploiters and gougers of the working people fight. But what is organized labor doing to defend the workers' interests while Congress and Truman play football with the vital issues of Taft-Hartley repeal, civil rights, housing, etc.? The union leaders are sitting back and urging the workers to 'wait for Harry."

Well, Truman has shown his hand. He's stated that the only reason he's refrained from including in his labor bill a specific section on injunctions, is because it's not "necessary"-he already has "inherent power" to break strikes. His housing program, experts reveal, is so inadequate it will mean even bigger slums by the time the program is finished eight years from now. And the Democrats in Congress are cooking up a slick deal to compromise civil rights legislation.

All of which means that labor will get only crumbs and broken promises out of Truman and Congress unless it carries its fight to Washington-just as its enemies, like the landlords, are doing. Thousands of union delegates, from every national and local body, should be in Washington right now in a United Congress of Labor drafting labor's demands and spearheading national action to win them. Let labor take a tip from the landlords and "invade" Washington. That's the way to get results.

Trial of the Stalinist Leaders

By James P. Cannon

(Continued on page 3)

(The following is the text ists on trial my services in their Socialist Workers Party at expert, as follows: a protest mass meeting held Dobbs, National Chairman, tion in 1919 until 1928, that is, tution. also spoke, presenting an evewitness account of the Stalinist trial to date.)

There is a widespread popular ing opponent of Stalinism for 20 States government by force and impression that the Communist years.

Party leaders in the dock in the And, finally, I am familiar with federal courtroom on Folev Square are criminals and ought United States Constitution which try them, because the crimes of advocated the overthrow of the to be brought to trial. I personally agree with that popular

sentiment. The Stalinist leaders dom of speech, or of the press." are indeed criminals, and they I learned that in school, and then had an opportunity to read it court of the international workover again and ponder over it ing class for high crimes and

sity at Sandstone penintentiary.

THREE GROUNDS

So, armed with these qualifica-Like Comrade Dobbs, I could personnel of his government to

United States government by I was an active member of the force and violence-is not a crime in New York Feb. 6. Farrell Communist Party since its founda- in this country under the Consti-

> nine years. I am a student of 2. The Stalinists are not even Marxist and Leninist theory. which guilty of this crime that is not the greatest criminals in history.

the Stalinists are falsely accused a crime. They do not advocate of teaching. I have been a work- the overthrow of the United court of the Southern District of thousands of Bolsheviks who

violence, or otherwise. 3: The federal court of Amerthe free speech section of the ican capitalism has no right to brought against them, that they

provides that "Conress shall pass Stalinism have not been directed no law . . . abridging the free- against the system this court United States. represents. The Stalinist leaders

should be placed on trial before a trial. This is a case of the right for 13 months in a federal univer- misdemeanors against the working class of the world, and of promulgation of its basic theory the Soviet-Nazi Pact, whereby this country too, over a long of "socialism in one country,"

these questions. I hereby publicly dictment of the leaders of the collaboration and support of the of all perspectives of interna-

period of years; high crimes and meaning Russia. That signified, Hitler in launching the Second misdemeanors ranging from per- "no socialism in any other countestify as an expert witness on 'tions, I would challenge the in- versions of Marxism to class try." It signified the renunciation

offer the lawyers for the Stalin-| Stalinist Party on three grounds: | imperialist government of the tional revolution; an offer of the 1. The crime charged against United States in the Second Soviet bureaucracy to comproof a speech delivered by the defense against false accusations. them-that they "conspired to World War, and including every mise with world capitalism at the National Secretary of the I have qualifications as such an advocate" the overthrow of the kind of offense against the ethics expense of the international of the workers' movement from workers' movement. That is the falsification and forgery to frame- theory from which Stalinism up and murder. originated.

The Stalinists are guilty of STALINIST CRIMES

these crimes. The Stalinists are The practice followed from the theory: the expulsion, the frame-But the present trial in the federal ups and mass murders of tens of New York in Foley Square is made the revolution and stood, a frameup against them. They n reality, for international revoare not guilty of the charge lution against all capitalist intitutions; the conduct of the Stalinists in Spain, where they capitalist government of the propped up and supported the

ourgeois government at the cost The whole course of Stalinism, of mass murders of Spanish revosince its inception, has served to lutionists; the "peoples' front" support world capitalism and not policy of collaboration with to overthrow it. Stalinism began capitalist parties and participatwenty-five years ago with the tion in capitalist governments; the Stalinists joined hands with World War; the Anglo-Soviet-(Continued on page 2)

F Page Two

THE MILITANT

Monday, February 14, 1949

The Trial of the Stalinist Leaders

working class of the United ward thought - control under a States and lined up to support police state will be greatly accelerated. the war.

Yes, the record clearly shows that the Stalinists are criminals. But the capitalist court is disqualified, by this record of known facts, and by the clear provision of the United States Constitu- appeal to all workers' organization, and even by considerations of gratitude for services received supported us in our trial, to from the Stalinists, especially protest against the political trial during the war, to try them.

• On the other hand, despite the as criminals on the record, we Stalinists, have a vital interest in protesting against their prosecution in this particular case. This is the purpose of our meeting tonight.

This is not a criminal trial of alleged actions in violation of definite Constitutional laws. This is a political trial. The freedom to "advocate" any doctrine, including revolution, is basic to free speech and democracy. This trial strikes at the very roots of these democratic rights of all workers' organizations.

DANGEROUS PRECEDENT

It should be borne in mind that the indictment against the Stalinists does not charge them with a single action against the United States government. The sole basis of the trial is that they conspired to "advocate" the overthrow of the United States government. That is to say, they conspired to speak and to write.

The very provision of the Constitution, which I have referred to, was designed specifically to for free speech and justice and prevent Congress from passing laws which would proscribe the "advocacy" of any doctrine. But this indictment under the Smith by the great protest movement Act-the same law under which we were prosecuted and con- in 1906. They were arrested and victed in Minneapolis-is an in- brought to trial on trumped-up dictment against speaking and writing. Now, once you establish the precedent that it is possible to proscribe one kind of talk or

"advocacy," you lay the ground best they could. They were for the suppression of any other. You legitimatize the suppression leaders of the Western Federaof free speech and the free press. tion of Miners, which was then Unfortunately, our trial and affiliated to the IWW. Neverconviction under the Smith Act theless, all sections of the labor movement recognized the threat in Minneapolis, and our subsequent imprisonment, and the to themselves and their whole

refusal of the Supreme Court to future in the attempt to legitimatize the framing-up of the review the case, has already set one precedent. This was a heavy labor leaders. blow at free speech and demo

That is the larger issue, transcending all other considerations. in the trial of the Stalinists now going on. That is why we are so deeply concerned about it and tions, especially to those who of the Stalinists. I think we have

made it sufficiently clear that fact that we indict the Stalinists our point of view in this case is not motivated by Christian forand all other workers' organiza- giveness or soft-headedness, and tions, who have reason for neither even less by political concilialove nor gratitude toward the tion with perfidious Stalinism. Our stand is based solely on our concept of the most vital interest of the working class and its future struggles.

A GREAT TRADITION

It used to be taken for granted in the labor movement, that despite all differences and disputes between different parties, factions and groups, all would unite and cooperate when any section of the labor movement was under attack in the courts of the class enemy. We have come a long way from the old tradition

of solidarity against persecution and frameup. It was a good tradition and we should try in some measure to restore it. Some of the brightest pages of

American labor history were tread. written in united struggles for justice and free speech. The labor movement of today, which did not fall from the skies, is the product

and fruit of many struggles in the past, and owes a great deal to these united front struggles freedom of organization. My first interest in the socialist and labor movement was aroused in behalf of Moyer and Haywood in defense of Ettor and Giovanitti, over the country.

leaders of the Lawrence strike offense was their labor activi- Mooney and Billings. It was true and radicals in prisons at that to a considerable extent in the time in the United States -

alone to defend themselves as cases of Debs and of Sacco and McNamara and Schmidt, the Vanzetti. All class conscious

tary duty, as a matter of course, attacks of the class enemy. ROLE OF THE ILD

The Communist Party itself regardless of his opinion or

proud tradition of solidarity. The persecution by capitalist law. I never-will forget those meet- compare it with the later prac- Kutcher, the legless veteran who militant unionism. Such a develop-A tremendous machinery of International Labor Defense, protest and defense was built up, which was formed in 1925 under ings with Bill Haywood. When tices of the Stalinists; when you Stallinists on trial are suffering from one end of the country to the direct inspiration of the Com- we completed the plans which recall what has happened in the Administration job in New Jersey union the past year. Such a the other, in the form of "Moyer- munist Party, was specifically were later to become reality in last 20-odd years, you must say because of his political opinions development occurred in the aut Haywood Conferences." All kinds dedicated to the principle of non- the formation of the ILD; and that the Stalinists have done of organizations, representing partisan labor defense, to the when I promised him that I would more than any others to dishonor Workers Party. every section of the labor move- defense of any member of the come back to America and see this tradition of solidarity. They ment and all points of view, sent working class movement, regard- to it that the plans did not remain have done more than any others delegates to these united front less of his views, who suffered on paper; that we would really to disrupt unity for defense conferences. AFL and independent persecution by the capitalist go to work in eagnest and come against the class enemy.

American Pact, under which the American Stalinists sold out the line. The ominous trend to- Mop Brigade Parades for Wage Hike the line. The said, "I wish I disunity in the face of the class that job." He couldn't come back tions of the labor movement too. because he was an cutlaw in the The Social Democrats do a great

United States, not for any crime deal of pious moralizing about he had committed but for all the the Stalinists, but their conduct good things he had done for the isn't much better, if any. For American working class. Up to the greater part, they make no the end of his life he continued protest against the persecution to be an active participant in of the Stalinists. The labor ofthe work of the II.D by cor- ficials, both of the CIO and AFL, respondence. stand aside, and many even support the prosecution.

They think there is no need to

-that this evil and unconstitu-

chickens came home to roost for

NON-PARTISAN DEFENSE The plans for the International worry about the Smith Act; that Labor Defense as a non-partisan it is only for Stalinists. That is defense organization, made there what the Stalinists thought when Bill Haywood's room we were on trial seven years ago were carried out in Moscow. practice during its first years. tional law is only for Trotskyists. There were 106 class war prison-I heard in San Francisco that a ers in the United States-scores Stalinist Party speaker, harassed of IWW's, members railroaded by an interrogater as to the in California, Kansas, Utah and relation between their trial and other states under the criminal ours, said. "This whole trial is a syndicalist laws. We located a mistake and a misunderstanding. couple of obscure anarchists in The Smith Act was meant for the Rhode Island; a group of AFL Trotskyists." But the Smith Act coal miners in West Virginia; two labor organizers in Thomasthe Stalinists, and the same thing ton, Maine - besides the more can happen to others too. prominent and better known

them all.

If the Stalinists are convicted. prisoners mentioned before. They establishing another precedent to added up to 106 people in prison buttress the precedent of our case, in this land of the free at the same law can be invoked that time for activites in the labor movement. They were not against other political organizacriminals at all, but strike lead- tions, against college professors, and even preachers who happen to have opinions contrary to those ers-our own kind of people. Not one of these 106 prisoners was a of the ruling powers, and have member of the Communist Party! the courage to express them. It But the ILD defended and helped is a great error, a terrible error, to neglect this trial and refuse

to protest; an error for which we The ILD adopted as its policy will all have to nav-they and we, and all of us, all who aspire by whatever means, or by what ever program or doctrine, toward a better and freer world through the unity and solidarity of the workers. We will all have to pay if the federal prosecutor wins this case and makes it stick with for years, were remembered the support of public opinion. publicity was given their case That is why we would like to see and efforts made to help them. every effort made, even now The same with all the old halfwhile the trial is going on, to forgotten cases. The ILD was the reverse the present trend, to overorganizing center of the great come the passivity and indif-

ference. for the two anarchists, Sacco JOIN IN PROTEST!

the first World War, and in the Billings, Sacco and Vanzetti, solidarity had the backing and It is, of course, utopian to hope support of the Communist Party, or expect that a great united Centralia prisoners, etc. In dis- but that was before it became movement, cooperating loyally as completely Stalinized and exworkers felt it to be an elemen- cussions there in Moscow in 1925 in the old days, can be formed we worked out the plan and con-pelled the honest revolutionists. with the Stalinists. The Stalinists to join together against the ception of the International Labor The principle of the Internacannot cooperate lovally with Defense as a non-partisan body tional Labor Defense, which made anyone. We offered them a which would defend any member it so popular and so dear to the united front. They refused it. of the working class movement, militants, was non-partisan de-Even now, when the witch-hunt fense without political discrimina- and loyalty purges are directed

was once the exponent of this affiliation, if he came under tion. The principle was solidarity. against them, they refuse to say When you consider all this and one word in defense of James

- Labor Union Trends — Stalinism and the

in the unions.

By Bert Cochran

Opposition in the UAW

The Stalinists are again demonstrating that they are the mortal enemies of the genuine progressives in the trade union movement. At the very time they themselves are under fierce attack from the different sections

of the Philip Murray machine in hand, if it means at the same the CIO, the Stalinists are contime weakening the independent tinuing to undermine the authentic non-Stalinist opposition. progressive forces now arising to

The first incident relates to hallenge the labor bureaucracy Briggs Local 212. Here the opposition caucus selected its slate

For 13 years, ever since the about a month ago to oppose the formation of the CIO, the Stal- incumbent Reuther-supported adnists were the pernicious force ministration slate in the coming which prevented the building of elections. Several Stalinist supan authentic left-wing opposition porters fought bitterly in the opinside the CIO. How could they position caucus against the inget away with this? Because clusion on the slate of Ernest they had a big, well-knit and Mazey, a prominent anti-Stalexperienced political cadre on a inist militant. They were defeated national scale; and because they and Ernest Mazey went on the had the undeserved reputation of slate.

being the extreme left wingers in The Stalinists thereupon ignorthe labor movement. ed the caucus decision. They went They based themselves on this into the plant and began an unmoral and material capital to restrained campaign of slander, take over and head the opposition vilification and red-baiting until inside the CIO and then to sell it the whole slate-which up to this out to the Murray machine. For point had a reasonable chance a decade, they subverted the of success-was so smeared as to genuine aspirations of the most virtually ensure the reelection of advanced elements inside the CIO the Reuther-backed slate. In a for an honest class struggle policy subsequent meeting of the caucus, to the class collaboration game Ernest Mazev's name was rebeing preached and practised by moved, over strong opposition. Murray and his lieutenants. from the slate, a few others Thus, they joined with Hillman declined to run on the slate in and Dubinsky in 1936 to form the protest-and the whole opposi-American Labor Party in New tion, campaign had been turned York State-not to propel the into a shamples.

New York workers toward in-The other incident occurred in dependent political action, but to connection with Plymouth Local 51. Here, Reuther's International corral the labor and radical vote for Roosevelt. Thus, they op-Executive Board placed charges osed and squelched all moves to against President Frank Danowform an independent labor party ski, long a supporter of Stalinist or run independent labor slates. policy, and other local officers, This policy of working with the for using the local union paper capitalists was crowned with "in support of policies diametrictheir shameless sell-outs during ally opposed to the policies of the the war when they backed the National CIO and the memberno-strike pledge, pushed the ship decisions of Local 51.' speedup and company - union Danowski feared that Reuther abor-management committees. might place an admistrator over It took many years before the the local. Members of the Stalprogressives in the unions got inist-run caucus headed by Tracy

wise to the Stalinist game, got Doll met, therefore, with the ofwise to the fact that the Comficers of the "Committee for a munist Party was not a real radi- | Militant and Democratic UAW' cal working class organization at to solicit their support against all, but a conscienceless agency of any violations of union demothe Kremlin; that the American cracy. The officers of the latter labor movement was just a pawn, group agreed they would back in so far as the Stalinist leaders every practical way a fight were concerned, in the Kremlin's against imposing an administrainternational diplomacy. torship over the Plymouth local. It took 13 years-to be exact The joint conference ended on -before sizeable groups of prothis cordial and cooperative note. gressives could free themselves The officers of the Stalinistfrom the Stalinist grip and set run Doll caucus then called a up their forces on an independent meeting of their supporters the basis for an honest struggle for next day, misrepresented the position of the independent opwas removed from his Veterans ment took place in the CIO rubber position, lied like troopers about their statements, maintained they had refused to cooperate, declared union after the 1947 Atlantic they were "capitulating to Reuth-City convention where Reuther er" and spent the major part of their meeting, not in organizing But the Stalinists did not greet the fight against Reuther, but in attempting to discredit and tear down the independent opposition. There is method to this Stalinist madness. There is a logic in Stalinist rule-or-ruin tactics. The Stalinists — and this they have demonstrated over and over again in the past decade and more - cannot and will not honestly cooperate with any independent progressives. They must run the whole show. They must have monopolistic control just as Stalin must have sole power in Russia. The reason is this: The Stalinists are not a genuine working class opposition with mistaken ideas. They are an agency of the Kremlin and at a moment's notice must be prepared to change their line as their master dictates. How could they sell out an opposition, how could they reverse the policy overnight, f the opposition is independently run? They could not do it. That is why they would rather have Reuther strengthen his hand, here and there, if only they can smash up any independent progressive group and reestablish their own monopoly over the opposition forces. Later on, when conditions are more favorable, they hope they can again stage a comeback. Such is the sinister meaning of the Stalinist conduct in the auto union. Let every militant in this union and throughout the * * * labor movement take this lesson There is an appreciable time to heart and guide his activities accordingly in the organization are received by Militant salesmen of progressive groups and the



Mops aloft, 300 London charladies (women cleaners) employed in government buildings marched through the streets of the British capital to dramatize their demand for a wage increase from 34c to 40c an hour. The government's best offer was a farthing (1c).

of liberals, and people of good about that because I participated will-all marched together under in the planning of the ILD, and the "Moyer - Haywood Confer- was the National Secretary from (rs, organizers, agitators, dissentences" to make a mighty move- its inception until we were ment in defense of the accused. thrown out of the Communist The ground shook with their Party in 1928. The International Labor Defense was really "born

The conspirators who had in Moscow"; that I must admit. sought to take the lives of Moyer although it was strictly an Amerand Haywood were pushed back. ican institution in its methods to remember them all and raise The frameup was defeated by the and practices. The ILD was born money for them. We created a threat of the united workers' in Moscow in discussion with Bill fund so that \$5 was sent every movement. The great Bill Hay- Haywood. The old fighter, who month to each of the 106 class

wood, of beloved memory, was was exiled from America with war prisoners. Every Christmas right when he spoke to the first a 20-year sentence hanging over time we raised a special fund for great mass meeting of 200,000 in him, was deeply concerned about their families. The Centralia Chicago, who greeted him on his the persecution of workers in IWW group, almost forgotten release from jail, and said: "We America. He wanted to have owe our lives to your solidarity." something done for the almost The same solidarity was shown forgotten men laying in jail all

There were over 100 men of 1912; and in the defense of labor organizers, strike leaders world-wide movement of protest

ruptibility. They were not left case of the IWW leaders during IWW's, anarchists, Mooney and and Vanzetti. All this work of

LABOR'S OWN INTERESTS

from this precedent.

cracy in this country, and the

It is true, as Comrade Dobbs pointed out, and as I think all of you know, that the Stalinists did all they could, in every dirty way they knew, to help the prosecution put us in prison. They did everything they could to keep us in prison for our full term It is true that these scoundrels up our Defense Committee, to prevent it from raising funds trom summethatic expressions even tried to sabotage and break from sympathetic organizations to pay the lawyers. If the Stalinists had had their way, we

would not have been able to Catholic church in an effort to employ a legal defense to make whip the population into a frenzy of hatred against the Stalinists. a legal record. Their shameful This terrific propaganda barrage conduct paved the way for their own prosecution under the same has had its effect, primarily because the Stalinists have betraylaw.

(Continued from page 1)

ed the workers so many times; That is all true, as has been related so graphically here tonight and because they have always by Comrade Dobbs. But that defended the gang of cutthroats cannot determine the policy of a in the Kremlin in their vile revolutionary organization, or of slander campaigns, cold-blooded any workers' organization for assassinations and ruthless that matter. Sheer self-interest, purges.

for us and for every honest work-To this day Stalin's lackeys in ers' organization, weighs more the Communist Party in this than sentiments of revenge in country defend the infamous Moscow Trials of 1936-38. They this case.

If the precedent established in | are tarred with the brush of that our case is reenforced by another mockery of justice in which conviction in this case of the Lenin's Central Committee and Stalinists, and sanctioned by the leaders of the Red Army public opinion until it becomes were lynched by Stalin. Their accepted as a custom, the tradi- hands are stained with the tional freedoms which the work- martyr's blood of Leon Trotsky, ers' movement needs for en- who was brutally murdered in lightened advancement will yield Mexico by Stalin's secret police.



unions, the IWW, the Socialist courts because of his activities to the aid of the men forgotten Party, the Socialist Labor Party, or his opinions. the anarchist groups and groups I can speak with authority his one eye, rather—flashed with That terrible corruption of

Foley Square.

100 workers.

CHICKENS TO ROOST

Records

These are the dangers clearly

All who cherish liberty and the

right to think as they please have

a vital stake in the fight to repeal

Negro History Week

DETROIT, Feb. 6 - The De-

thusiastic meeting attended by

Compare the police-state Trotsky, then the Stalinists in and then he would become methods of Stalinism with the ex- this country would have a strong fellow-traveler and be damned emplary administration of justice basis to appeal for support forever."

under Lenin and Trotsky. In 1922, against their prosecution under twelve leaders of the Social Revo- a thought-control indictment. lutionaries were brought to trial But the Stalinists have dis cution of the Stalinists under the in hand to overthrow the Soviet acts of treachery and by their view of the civil rights of the those democratic rights which or ruin."

government in alliance with the attempts to justify the Kremlin's American people, the Stalinists foreign capitalist powers then brutalities, thereby alienating are correct when they say that attacking the Soviet Union. They support they would otherwise not 11 but 140 million people are were also accused of directing win in defense of their civil in the prisoners dock here in

the assassination of the Bolshevik | rights. leader Volodarsky and the attempt EFFECT OF CONVICTIONS

on Lenin's life by Dora Kaplan. All the more ominous, there-The defendants were permitted fore, is the present trial of the the Smith Act, to defend its to have as their counsel the Belgian socialist lawyer, Emil Van- Stalinists, because their convicdervelde, and two other socialist tion would be used as a cloak of every front the governmentlawyers, Theodor Liebknecht and udicial approval for every sinister inspired witch-hunt now going on device invented by the witch- in this country. Kurt Rosenfeld.

Speaking for the defendants, hunters.

Vandervelde stated that the Social Legalization would be claimed by the Truman administration for Detroit Celebrates Revolutionaries proudly admitted they had conducted armed strug- its blacklist of organizations gle against the Soviet governalleged to be "subversive." Many ment and were only sorry they others like the legless war vetdid not succeed. The entire world eran James Kutcher, would be

knew this admission to be the fired from their jobs because they disagree with the policies History Week today with an entruth, because the Social Revolutionaries were notoriously antiof the political party in power. Bolshevik and had always ad-The purging of teachers whose vocated and practiced individual ideas the capitalists dislike, al-

terrorism. ready begun at the University of Washington, would be rapidly ex-BOLSHEVIK JUSTICE

tended throughout the whole school system. Police investiga- and present problems facing the They were sentenced to death. However, when a considerable tions, denouncing of people by protest movement was aroused stool pigeons and all the comamong the world working class, panion evils would spread like a the Soviet government commuted cancer.

the death sentence to imprison-The average person would be ment. It did so at a time when put in the state of mind described lass, the great Negro abolitionthe young Soviet Union had not yet entirely won its life and death by Dr. Robert E. Cushman of ist: "We are content with noth-Cornell University in speaking of ing for the Negro short of equal struggle against the military ingovernment employees. He would and exact justice." tervention of the hostile capitalfeel he had better "read the right

If Stalinism had maintained Looks, newspapers and magazines, period followed. Most of the audiist powers. that scrupulously fair administra- say the right things, and, conence stayed far into the evening tion of justice, if Stalinism had sidering all the risks, had prob- and engaged in informal discusmaintained that careful regard ably better not join any organ- sion. A number of interest cards for world working class opinion ization or society at all, since a were signed and an extensive demonstrated by Lenin and Communist might also join it, amount of literature was sold.

as a member of the Socialist

Because of that attitude of took over full control. the Stalinists, as well as for other considerations, it would be the emergence of these new virile utopian to hope for an all-in- progressive groupings with any clusive united front. But the satisfaction or approval. Nor did trade unions and anti-Stalinist they try to establish loyal copolitical organizations should join operation with them. In the auto

together, for their own reasons, union they have already fully and in their own interest, to shown their hand. They are out protest this prosecution. We to discredit, to bust up, to destroy would join and give our support this new progressive formation. to such an effort. But in any Why? Do they find its program

case, whether it can be done co- inadequate or incorrect? They operatively or separately, all are not interested in program at should raise their voices in protest all. What counts for them is the against the political trial going fact that the "Committee for a

on in Foley Square. Not for the Militant and Democratic UAW" present in the government prosesake of the Stalinist gang, but is not under their domination on the charge of attempting arms credited themselves by their own Smith Act. From the point of for the sake of free speech, for The Stalinist policy remains "rule-

Two recent incidents in the the labor movement has dearly won and badly needs for its in- auto union make obvious that formed and conscious struggle to the Stalinists are prepared to go so far as to strengthen Reuther's reach higher ground.



latest victims and to defeat on Of the recently expired subs, 1\$5 for the enclosed five one-half 164 had actually expired a month year subscriptions to The Mili-or more ago but were kept from tant," writes S. G., literature lapsing by the Philadelphia agent from Lynn, Mass. "Once pranch. The branch paid for the we finish going back to readers extra copies of the paper that with expired subscription, to find were sent to the Philadelphia area out if they want to renew, we so that these readers could be are planning a sub campaign. visited for renewals while they | With a little luck plus some hard were still receiving the paper. work we hope to be able to send The experiment proved quite you a number of subs regularly troit Branch of the Socialist Workers Party celebrated Negro fruitful. Over 50 renewals of each week."

* * *

the 25c special election campaign subscriptions and 19 renewals of regular subs were obtained by the lag between the time some subs Philadelphia branch in a short

The program included speakers from Flint and Detroit on the time. Last week the plates of and the time they are received those subscribers who still had in the office. To give subscribers not renewed were withdrawn the best possible service, sub-

from the files. scriptions should be sent to the business office as soon as they Dotty S., of New Britain, Conn., are obtained. Subs received after has sent in \$4 for 2 new and 1 Thursday morning cannot be processed in time to begin with the renewed subscriptions. She writes that "our new literature agent, issue dated the following Mon-Hannah S., will handle subs in the day.

ideas for sub campaigns so per-Sub blanks for The Militant haps we'll add our share in keepgiving the new rates (see coupon ing you busy." Literature agents, on this page) are being printed. They will be ready for distribunew and old, should not hesitate to let us know of their plans so tion to salesmen in a few weeks. that other branches may profit Until these new blanks are received it would be well to utilize the from their ideas and experiences. old blanks by making the neces-* * * sary corrections on them in ink.

"Enclosed find money order for

New York Public Forum on "STALINS'S PROPOSED PEACE PLAN" Does it mean a New Turn for the Communist Parties? Speaker **George** Clarke Editor, Fourth International Sun., Feb. 20, 8 P. M. Question Period at BEETHOVEN HALL

preparation for future struggles.

210 E. 5th St. New York City

subject, "The Negro People and Socialism." They discussed past Negro people, showing how the lessons of history can guide the workers to a better world today. The SWP, it was pointed out, stands fully in agreement with

the statement of Frederick Doug-

future. I understand she has some A lively question and discussion

Subscriptions: \$2 per year; \$1 for 6 months. Foreign: \$3.50 per yr; \$2 for 6 mos. "Entered as second class matter Mar. 7, 1944 at the Post Office at New York N. T., under the act of Mar 3. 1879."

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Monday, February 14, 1949

LENIN

TROTSKY

D

one hand; Germany, Italy and the like, on the other), which were unable to engender a numerous and stable labor aristocracy, democracy was never developed to any extent and succumbed to dictatorship with comparative ease. However, the continuing progressive paralysis of capitalism is preparing the same fate for the democracies of the most privileged and the richest nations; the only difference is in dates. The uncontrollable deterioration of the living conditions of the workers makes it less and less possible for the bourgeoisie to grant the masses the right of participation in political life, even within the limited framework of bourgeois parliamentarism. Any other explanation of the manifest process of democracy's dislodgment by fascism is an idealistic falsification of things as they are, either deception or self-deception."

"In the less privileged capitalist countries (Russia, on the

- Leon Trotsky, Marxism in the United States, 1939.

On The Road To Totalitarianism

Many people believed that the election of Truman would mean a new era of civil liberties and expended democracy in this country. Now Truman's declaration of his "inherent powers"-his doctrine of sweeping presidential extra-legal authority-has come into head-on collision with the widespread illusion about Truman's democratic aims. There can be no mistaking the direction Truman is traveling. At the end of the road on which this doctrine is a guide-post lies one-man decree ruletotalitarian dictatorship.

That is not to say that Truman aspires to dictatorship. What it does mean is that Truman, as the chief governmental agent of American capitalism, is directed in the long run not by personal sentiments but by the inexorable trend of the capitalist system.

Capitalism as a world system has been in decline and decay for the past four decades. The speed and degree of its degeneration have been charted by two world wars and preparations for a third, continuous economic instability swinging between depression and inflation, unending political crises and their accompaniment of dictatorial rule.

Democratic forms have been a luxury that only the richest capitalist nations could afford. The United States is the chief example. But here too-no less than in Europe, Asia and Latin America, if at a different

pace-the cancer of capitalist decay has been at work. The palliatives and drugs of reform are proving ineffective. Harsher and more drastic treatment is in store.

As German, Japanese and Italian capitalism resorted to the expedients of fascism and imperialist war, so American capitalism is driven by the desperation of its own organic malady to these same expedients. This is the direction of the system.

The monumental war budget, the advancing militarization of the country, the "cold war" growing hotter every day-these tell us Truman's real course as distinct from his pretenses. It is from these that we know for a certainty that Truman is heading, and must inevitably head, not to more democracy, but to less; not to freedom for other lands, but to repression and dictatorship at home.

Unless they understand this fact, the American people will continue to be deluded by double-talk, reaching for new illusions as old ones are shattered. Tomorrow they will fall for new lies and blandishments unless they see beyond the capitalist politicians and their words to the reality-to the capitalist system that is driving inevitably to war and dictatorship unless the working people of America abolish it, set up their own Workers and Farmers Government and establish the planned cooperative system of socialism .

The Witch-Hunt Invades Education

The witch-hunt that Truman launched two years ago with the proclamation of his "loyalty" purge of government workers and the issuance of his blacklist of so-called "subversive" organizations is spreading like a deadly plague into every sphere of American life.

Now it has penetrated the blood stream of American education and threatens to destroy academic freedom, without which the schools and colleges will degenerate completely into mere propaganda angencies for reaction-that is, into graveyards of freedom of thought and learning.

are looking the other way in the University of Washington case. They are all for academic freedom-except for "communists," the term usually used by reactionaries for any persons they don't agree with.

But the virus of the witch-hunt epidemic is not selective. It spreads its destruction to every tissue of the social body where cells of free thought and even the mildest liberalism reside. That is shown by the recent dismissal of economics professor Tucker Smith, 1948 vice - presidential candidate of Norman Thomas's Socialist Party, and four other faculty members from Olivet College in Michigan. Their only "incompetency" appear to be a mild "socialist" tinge and activities in the teachers union. The infection of the witch-hunt against free political opinion will not stop at the colleges and universities. It is seeping through the whole public school system. It is turning the teachers of our children and youth into terrorized academic serfs afraid to voice an opinion or teach any facts at variance with the propaganda and prejudices of corrupt politicians and self-seeking profit interests. In the end, this witch-hunt, unless it is halted by an overwhelming mass resistance, will reduce all thought and opinion in this country to the single level of the police-state mind

The Two Sides of Abraham Lincoln

By G. F. Eckstein

One part of the 1948 election platform of the Socialist Workers Party read as follows:

"In 1860 William Lloyd Garrison and Wendell Phillips, John Brown and Frederick Douglass, Abraham Lincoln and Thaddeus Stevens, personified the forces which waged merciless war against the slaveowners' attempt to perpetuate their outmoded system, halt the expansion of our economy and destroy the liberties of our people."

But in 1948 the Republican Party, the Progressive Party of Wallace and the Stalinists and even President Truman, the Democrat, all to one degree or another sought to relate, their policies back to Lincoln. They are trying to fool the workers. It

ating the economic life of the was not so with us. To the name of Abraham Lincoln we added country and the lives of whole nations abroad; with tens of mil-Garrison, Phillips, John Brown, lions of workers beginning to the Whig Party was doomed, did Frederick Douglass and Stevens. punch the time-clock at the age We hailed them for waging of 18 with no other perspective party. "merciless war" against the reacfor the rest of their lives until tionary South. It is obvious that they are thrown out as infirm or when we talk of Lincoln we are poles apart from Dewey, Truman incompetent; with press, radio, and Wallace. and a vast government bureaucracy controlled by a few hundred

WHAT WE REMEMBER What is it that the working

lass must remember about Abraham Lincoln? He himself expressed it best in his second naugural address when he said of the Civil War:

"Yet, if God wills that it continue until all the wealth piled by the bondman's two hundred and fifty years of unrequited toil shall be sunk, and until every drop of blood drawn with the lash shall be paid by another drawn with the sword, as was said three thousand years ago, so still it must be said, 'The judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether'.'

Here was the recognition at last of what the Negroes had done for America, and of what America had done to the Negroes, the determination at whatever cost to break the power of the reactionary slaveholders. All the chatterers and fakers can be made to turn green and look another way, simply by asking them to explain these words of Lincoln as part of what they call the "democratic process" and "the American way."

one side of Lincoln. But there Abraham Lincoln was a genuine was another which was widely emocrat. When in the Gettysburg known and commented upon in his address he said "government of the people, by the people, for own day. The viciousness of the slavethe people," he meant it. In those power, its cruelties and its crimes, days monopoly-capital did not its ambition to suppress liberty exist. A great percentage of the population in the North consisted all over the United States in is plain - monopoly-capitalism. of small farmers, mechanics and defense of its precious hordes of the modern, slave-holders. The slaves, these things were brought class that is to be emancipated artisans. It seemed to many men that on the boundless acres that and kept before the American is the working class; the workers stretched beyond the Mississippi people for thirty years by the with the poor farmers and their there was room and opportunity constant rebellions among the allies, the great majority of the the principles of Lincoln—Dewey of North and South, but of all the nation. The party that is to be could not recognise a principle if emancipation not only of chattele dependence and exercise selfroad, and those elements in the formed is a great mass party of North among the whites who sup- the proletariat, that will do for it were magnified a million times. slaves but of the vast majority government from the town-meeting to the presidential elections. ported these revolutionary ac- American society today what the The Stalinists carry on their of the peoples of the world, the Republican Party did in 1860- demagogic, unprincipled cam- workers, farmers and all the ex-But today, with a few giant tions.



ABRAHAM LINCOLN

people, to talk about government

"of the people, by the people

for the people" is a mockery and

hypocrisy of the worst kind.

for his "un-Americanism."

tional hero.

Believer in democracy and in

this. He was prepared even as President to use the power of

One, of the great chapters in American history is the Abolition movement of Garrison, Phillips. Douglass and the others who, often hounded, stoned and beaten, called incessantly for an end to slavery, denouncing it as a crime against civilization and the American people.

Lincoln hated the Abolitionists tional, died in Paris, a victim of as trouble-makers, and expressed the Stalinist GPU murder mahis approval of their being beaten

The formation of the Republican inspiration to revolutionists to-Party was a triumph of the day, and above all to the youth creative power and energy of the American people. Suddenly in 1854, all over the country party units sprang into being and in 1860 it swept into victory. Lincoln had nothing to do with this. Only when it was clear that

he throw in his lot with the new

Not only was Lincoln driven to emancipate the slaves by force in Russia. He knew and loved the of circumstances. He was ready Bolsheviks who led the workers to consider the formation of a to victory in 1917. When only 12 Negro republic in Texas. He would years old he joined the Komsomol have sent all the slaves to Africa if he could have managed it.

SHARED PREJUDICES Lincoln and others used to say

Thus with all his virtues he plainly that if the people were shared to the full the reactionary dissatisfied with the government capitalist prejudices of his day. it was their revolutionary right And it was precisely these that to overthrow it. If he had reblinded him to the truths which turned and said that on any platthe escaping slaves and the form in 1948, Dewey, Truman, abolitionists taught the American Wallace and Norman Thomas people for thirty years. In the Leninism became his very life. would have united at once to end he had to follow the direction denounce him. The FBI would in which they pointed: civil war, have tapped his telephone and arming of Negroes, total emaninvestigated him. And unmitigatcipation, crushing of the slaveed scoundrels like J. Parnell power. Thomas and Rankin would have

Lincoln could make these mishad him up before some House takes and still triumph as a committee and tried to jail him leader because John Brown, Garrison, Douglass and the others had to limit themselves to carrythe people; determined enemy of ing on a revolutionary propathe slave-power, from these ganda and aiding escaping slaves

Lincoln drew the power which Brown's isolated attempt at a made him a great war-leader, a slave-insurrection was doomed to writer and speaker whose best failure. The workers did not have efforts will last as long as the the numbers, the organization, English language, a genuine nathe social power, the political experience to offer an independent Enemy of the slave-power, a road. The revolutionaries were believer in the people. That was right as against Lincoln but had no concrete program to place before the country. Thus like Lincoln, when the Republican Party came, they turned to it.

Today we live in an entirely different situation. The enemy



Eleven years ago this month, Leon Sedoy, son of Leon and Natalia Trotsky and an outstanding leader of the Fourth Interna-

chine. The memory of his short life remains a fresh and vital

he so splendidly represented. Sedov was only 32 years old

when he died on Feb. 16, 1938. Yet he had lived through titanic events and earned a leading place in the ranks of the great fighters for humanity.

Born in 1906, year of Czarist epression against the leaders of the defeated 1905 revolution, he saw the overthrow of capitalism

(the Communist youth)), working tirelessly through the dif-

ficult years of civil war. When Trotsky organized the struggle against the mushroom-

ing bureaucracy in 1923. Sedov became an important link in the distribution of the documents of the Left Opposition. The struggle for safeguarding the program and tradition of Bolshevism-Though the Stalinist regime succeeded in crushing the party of Lenin, young Sedov continued in exile the struggle against the

gravediggers of the Russian Communist Party. His activity made him a major target of the Kremlin's hatred. He was named with Frotsky as the two principal his work live on, in the movedefendants in the Moscow frameup trials.

are those who will carry on the | son and Washington as cover for traditions of Garrison, Douglass their unending twists and turns, and John Brown - brutal state- their consistent attempts to corment of the facts, refusal to rupt the intelligence and knowlpretend that there is any way edge of the workers in order to out except by the destruction of misuse them. We on the other capitalism, struggle for the in- hand take a Marxist view of lependent action of the masses. Lincoln.

efusal to compromise on priniples. We can do this and do this better than they did, because we have before our eyes the mighty power of the American proletariat and behind us the reat traditions and experiences of Bolshevism.

That is our attitude to Lincoln. Let Governor Dewey talk about to struggle for the unity, not only

LEON SEDOY

It was Sedov who did much of the work of exposing the fraudulent "evidence" cooked up by the prosecutors. He unearthed irrefutable facts that proclaimed the innocence of the defendants. and thereby he became one of the most hunted men on Stalin's list. Working under severest hardships and constant poverty, trailed by professional GPU killers. Sedov was finally reached by the assassins as he lay helpless on a hospital bed.

Beneath the red flag of the Fourth International, Sedov was buried beside the heroic Communards of 1871. His name and ment that carries forward his battle for a socialist world.

We pay him the tribute due to him as a great historical figure, with a place in the struggle for human emancipation. But for, us he is no model. Rather, in the failures of his career and particularly in the men who were so consistently right against him, we find the points of departure

The most recent invasion of education by the witch-hunt disease is the recent ousting or "probationing" of six long-time faculty members of the University of Washington as "communists."

So zealous was the Board of Regentsthe businessmen and state politicians who run the university-in "protecting" institution from any threat of "communism," that they ignored the recommendations of the very faculty committee which had "tried" the six. The Regents fired one professor against whom the charges were "not proven," according to the trial committee itself.

Some self-proclaimed liberals, who otherwise profess concern for academic freedom,

Criminal Silence Of Union Leaders[•]

The Trumanite union leaders are having increasing difficulty in covering up the antilabor character of Truman's program. They . are now performing heroic contortions trying to wriggle around his new doctrine of "inherent powers" - particularly his "inherent power" to break strikes.

The AFL Executive Council, meeting in Miami, expressed satisfaction with Truman's bill to amend the Wagner Act and was especially pleased, as AFL President William Green said, that Truman's bill would deal with strikes "without specific resort to injunctions." But did Mr. Green agree, asked reporters, with Truman's assertion that as president he had the power to curb strikes by injunction or any other means in the absence of specific statutory authority? Green responded evasively that that is "a matter for the courts yet to determine.'

The CIO position was expressed through its legal counsel, Arthur Goldberg. Prior to the Senate labor hearings, Goldberg had said that "repeal of Taft-Hartley is necessary before there can be consideration of points raised by the President (to amend the Wagner Act)."No sooner, however, did Truman introduce his "one package" proposition, than Goldberg told the hearing that "we do not oppose in principle" Truman's amendments, adding that he did not "think that this statute was intended to provide for injunctions.'

That same evening, after Truman's declaration that he did not object to an injunction clause but throught it unnecessary because of his "inherent powers," Goldberg was called back to the hearing. Under Taft's proddings, Goldberg could only answer feebly that he did not interpret Truman's powers in the same way as Attorney General Clark.

It isn't Goldberg's interpretation, however, but Truman's that counts. Truman said bluntly the only reason he isn't asking for an injunction clause is that he already has "inherent powers" to use injunctions. Can there be any misunderstanding about where he stands?

The top union leaders, who should have been the first to speak out against this assumption of dictatorial powers, have been silent. They have thus enabled the Republicans-including the chief author of the Taft-Hartley Act, Senator Taft-to come forward at the hearings as the sole "defenders" of democracy against Truman's attempted usurpation of extra-legal powers.

A giant roar of outrage should resound from labor's ranks against the whole pack of craven union officials who, for the sake of their dirty political deal with Truman, are trying to cover up his cunning maneuvers to slip a noose of government autocracy around labor's neck.



But this is not the worst.

An Associated Press dispatch from Shanghai on Jan. 24 stated that "thousands of units of President Chiang Kai-shek's 'personal troops' were streaming southward from the Shanghai - Nanking Hangchow area, presumably bound for Chekiang province, where President Chiang is in retirement." And according to Nanking reports. Chiang has withdrawn his air force to Formosa. Canton, Hengyang and other have been swiftly achieved.

southern bases. Also, sizable military forces commanded by Chiang's General Pai Chung-hsi in the Hankow area have been withdrawn to South China. All this without any attempt at interference by the Stalinists.

Any plea that the Stalinists tion," "await the arrival of the could not arrest Chiang and his | Red Army." This is in full conrovernment will not hold water. t may be true that swift capture military reasons, but there were this job - the Chinese workers. A revolutionary party, with the safe for themselves and their first signs of the crumbling of the Kuomintang regime - which were apparent months ago would have appealed to the city

workers to arm themselves, to smash the organs of Kuomintang administration, disarm the Kuomintang police, set up Soviets to take over power. Hating the regime that for

them has been nothing but a source of misery and brutal oppression, the workers would have responded with alacrity to such an appeal. They, would have won Chinese Communist Party. Private over to their side the Kuomintang garrison troops, together with their arms. Chiang and his government would have been placed under arrest and the power of this fortunes of the Kuomintang ofhated regime broken decisively in the strategic centers of its rule. The troops of both Chiang Kaia

traditions, would have resulted in contempt for the proletariat. Un- the aid of the Kuomintang. less the proletariat creates a new stalling these counter - revolutionary troop movements. With revolutionary leadership, and wrenches the whole direction of their withdrawal stopped by the insurgent masses from the paralyzing strike action of the railroad workers, it is certain hands of the treacherous Stalin- policy. For a people already bled ists, in order to carry the revoluthat many if not all of these troops, like their comrades in tion to the end, the paradox civil war, this perspective means North China and Manchuria becould be translated by the

fore them, would have deserted to the Communist Party banners. The complete and irrevocable collapse of the Kuomintang would

the Stalinists lamely complain fying influence of Stalinism, the Far from inspiring the workers that the Kuomintang, under cover to such revolutionary actions, the Stalinists have been blaring forth of a pretended interest in "peace" negotiations to end the civil war, radio propaganda to the cities of

a quite opposite kind. The theme is actually playing for time. The Stalinist radio, according to a has been consistent: "preserve Nanking dispatch Jan. 26, charged order," "don't interrupt producthat Li Tsung-jen was "being used as a cover here to give the formity with the half-way, Kuomintang three months to reformist program of the Stalinbuild up 'several tens of divisions' of Nanking was not possible for ists, which in turn is a product in South China." Yet the selfof their fear of the workers. They same Li Tsung-jen was expected and are other forces available for are determined, if they can, to to arrest Chiang Kai-shek!

policy of "land to the peasants," leadership at Canton, to which the Nanking Government is speeding as fast as transport facilities ermit."

The great cities of South China are the mainstays of Kuomintang ower, the strategic centers of bourgeois rule. Swift action by an aroused proletariat, armed with a revolutionary program. would convert these props of confiscated." (By "bureaucratic reaction into veritable generatcapital" is meant the private ing stations of revolutionary power. Without that, and if there

moved southward on railroads. An private property reveal the not excluded that, given such a

JAMES KUTCHER But even if a Kuomintang come-back proves impossible, a Harriet Salerno, piano prolongation of the civil war is likely as a result of Stalinist Broadus Erle, violin white by long years of war and Sevmour Barab, cello more tragic suffering. Nor, with Tuesday, Feb. 22, 8:15 P. M. further course of events into the the reformist policy of the Stalin-CARNEGIE RECITAL HALL catastrophic tragedy of counter- ists, is any bright road opened to revolution-1927 all over again. | a revolutionary transformation of 154 W. 57th Street Unwilling to appeal to the Chinese society. Thus once again Tickets \$1.20, at vorkers for revolutionary action, is revealed the poisonous, stulti-Kutcher Civil Rights Comm urgent need to remove this ob-19 W. 10th St., N. Y. 11, N.Y.

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Kapping St.

A GREAT DANGER The Kuomintang is only able

Kremlin mentors. Thus, while carrying out

they proclaim themselves the protectors of capitalist private property. They aim to rule China

in coalition with the bourgeoisie, if possible, on the basis of a satisfied peasantry, with capitalist property relations left intact. According to the AP's Peiping correspondent (Jan. 25) a typical "Communist" poster appearing

in that city reads: "Long live the enterprise will be protected but bureaucratic capital will be

ficialdom.)

should come an unfavorable turn The irony and the paradox of in the military situation, the "Communist" party making cities could become rallying points shek and Pai Chung-hsi have been itself the guardian of capitalist of Kuomintang resurgence. It is

confine the upheaval within limits to play for time because its Stalinist opponents are permitting it to do so. A Nanking dispatch Jan. 28 reported that "topmost diplomatic authorities believe Chiang plans to resume civil war

The Mindszenty Case

By Art Preis

The bureaucratic police mind, routinized and unimaginative, sticks to a pattern. Thus, the Stalinist trial of Cardinal Mindszenty could not fail to evoke in all minds the past staged trials with their inevitable "confessions" that have become a trade-mark of the Kremlin and its agents.

There is no institution more authoritarian and reactionary than the Roman Catholic hierarchy. But the methods of Stalinism are so repugnant as to give weapons to reaction. In the Mindszenty case, the Stalinists have given the Catholic priestcaste an opportunity to arouse, in the name of "democracy," a veritable lynch hysteria against anyone the Church labels "communist." The Stalinists have fed fresh fuel to the witch-hurt, purges and frame-up trials being staged in this country.

We must be careful, however, not to let our complete rejection of Stalinist methods in this case as in everything else lead us into support of the campaign of the Catholic hierarchy and U. S. imperialism which represents itself as a defense of "democracy" and "free institutions." Their indignation is not directed at Stalinist methods. It was not Stalinism but Catholicism that invented the system of "heresy" and "inquisition.'

We cannot say whether Mindszenty is guilty of the specific acts to which he confessed. But what could he confess that could be any worse than the facts long known about him and the role of the Vatican in Hungary? It is a matter of historical record that the Hungarian hierarchy has been the chief supporter of monarchism. It was Mindszenty himself who negotiated the Vatican's concordat with Regent Horthy, the bloody dictator of Hungary, in return for state support of the Catholic Church. Mindszenty from the beginning has been the bitterest opponent of the redistribution of Hungarian land, since the Vatican was the largest land-owner in Hungary, exploiting tens of thousands of virtual serfs on its 1,500,000 acres.

Those who are now so loud in their "moral indignation" about the imprisonment of Mindszenty, this Prince of the Church, never uttered a peep about the outrages of Horthy, supported by today, one word in "moral indignation" against the continued daily executions of anti-fascist where were their outcries, their demands for U. S. intervention, when Stalin was carrying through his Moscow Frame-up Trials? It makes a difference to these "democrats" and "moralists" whether Stalin persecutes Bolsheviks or a Prince of the Roman Catholic Church.

VOLUME XIII

Do you want to know what the Catholic hierarchy and the capitalist statesmen really think about frame-ups? Read what they said about those "atheistic anarchists," Sacco and Vanzetti, when these working class fighters were framed and executed by the ruling class of Massachusetts during the wave of anti-red reaction in the 1920's. What did these champions of the abstract principles of "justice" in the Mindszenty case have to say about the frame-up and imprisonment of the 18 Socialist Workers Party leaders during the war? What do they say about the persecution and frame-up trial of the 12 American Communist Party leaders' today? Supporters of the crimes of Horthy, Franco, Mussolini and the frame-ups perpetrated in this country are utterly disqualified to pass judgment on the crimes of Stalinism.

No class conscious worker who understands Stalinism, of course, will take the slightest responsibility for any Stalinist-run trial, no matter who is in the dock. But neither will he give a penny's worth of credit or support to the Catholic hierarchy's attempt to whip up a lynch hysteria against "communism" around the "martyrdom" of Mindszenty.

a peep about the outrages of Horthy, supported by Mindszenty and the Vatican, who murdered thou-sands of workers and peasants opposed to his regime. They have never said, nor do they say the continued daily executions of anti-fascist workers and peasants in the "Catholic Kingdom" of Dictator Franco to whom Pope Pius XII a few weeks ago again sent his "blessings." Yes, and weeks ago again sent his "blessings." Yes, and

THE MILITANT

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1949

Joy Loader Brings Gloom to Miners



A long shadow of unemployment is cast by the continuous Joy loader, latest in mechanical miners. A small crew operating the long, alligator-like machine can mine two tons of coal a minute, simultaneously loading the coal on conveyors. Miners fear that unemployment, already on the rise in their industry, will be seriously aggravated by the introduction of this new machine. As always under capitalism, improvements in technique benefit the capitalists and are used to undermine the conditions of the workers. New machinery is needed, but so is workers' control of industry to bring some of its benefits to labor.

Repeating Our Warning By Albert Parker

The filibuster system is a serious obstacle to the passage of civil rights legislation, and so it is natural that most attention is devoted at present to the maneuvers of both parties to dodge responsibility for maintaining the filibuster. Nevertheless, there is another move on foot by the enemies of civil rights which is just as important even though it hasn't received much notice.

In a careful speech made in the House of Representatives on Feb. 2, Rep. Brooks Hays, Arkansas poll-tax Democrat, asked for a "compromise" on civil rights. He admitted that the Southern Democrats had been "inaccurate" in their tirades against Truman; that "on the question of segregation views sometimes attributed to the President are not contained in his message at all' (unlike the report of his famous committee which came out against segregation).

Southerners may be willing to go along with Truman's civil rights program, he stated, if a "compromise" is made. And these were the conditions he laid down:

1. "If we could agree. . . that no legislation should be adopted on the subject of segregation, it would be the first step in a proper compromise." 2. In return, the Southern Democrats could accept an anti-poll tax bill if it was adopted as a constitutional amendment, requiring approval by ¾ of the states. 3. They could accept a. federal anti-lynching bill if the federal government would have jurisdiction only in states where state officials "willfully" failed or refused to prosecute lynchers. 4. They could even accept if all the teeth were extracted from them -Negroes could still be barred from the ballot by other means than the poll tax, if the federal government could not intervene in lynchings so long as state officals put on an act of trying to punish lynchers, if no employer was forced to stop racial discrimination in employment.

After Hays finished speaking, he was congratulated by several other Representatives. Not a single one got up to denounce his arrogance in offering a "compromise" that would give the Jim Crow artists everything they want. But most important is the fact that, according to the N.Y. Times, the speech "had been weeks in preparation with the knowledge, at least, of Speaker Sam Rayburn." Translated, that means it had the approval of Rayburn, which in turn means that it was a feeler put out by the White House itself. Ever since Nov. 2 The Militant has been warning against just such a trick. It would enable Truman to say, "See, I kept all my promises to the Negro people." It would enable the liberals like Humphrey to go around saying: "See, the Democratic Party is the only party for the Negroes." It would enable the white supremacists to be happy too. The Negroes - well, the Negroes would still be second-class citizens.

Every fighter for civil rights should be aware of the dirty deal being worked out behind the scenes, and should spread the word far and wide. It is better to have no civil rights bills at all than to have ones that don't mean anyat all than to have ones that up to mean thing. The capitalist parties are not going to grant equality to the Negro people. Equality Still Penalized

SEATTLE SWP SUPPORTS **PROTEST MOVES AGAINST COLLEGE WITCH-HUNTS**

By John Black SEATTLE - Protest is mounting against the dismissal of three professors at the University of Washington. The Board of Regents dismissed Ralph H. Gundlach, Herbert J. Phillips and strike. Joseph Butterworth as "communists," and placed three other staff

members on humiliating probationary status at the recommendation of Dr. Raymond B. Allen, university president.

Petitions condemning the Regent's actions are being circulated, and a newly created Student Organization for Academic Rights called a mass protest rally, Jan. 28. The meeting, addressed by faculty members and students, attracted an overflow crowd of about 1,000

ning-mate, at Olivet College; with the Kutcher case; with the case of the twelve indicted Communist Party leaders; and with the blacklisting of "subversives" initiated by the Boeing Aircraft Corp. after last year's long

PROFESSORS PROTEST

The discharged professors are taking their grievances to the American Association of Univerity Professors, whose local chapter and national organization have taken the stand that

political affiliation alone is not to be considered grounds for dismissal. Many professors have Plant Police on Strike issued individual or collective statements against the Regent's action. One professor here has

At Westinghouse Unit

NEW YORK - The Kutcher Civil Rights Committee this week announced the launching of a nation-wide petition campaign to reinforce its efforts to win justice for the legless veteran, James Kutcher. The petition is D

addressed to President Truman who issued Executive Order 9835 under which Kutcher was discharged. It urges the President to revoke Kutcher's dismissal; to restore him to his job in the Newark Veteran's Administration; and to grant a public hearing to the Socialist Workers Party so that he can clear his name of the stigma placed upon it.

Following its endorsement of the committee's work, the California National CIO-PAC has authorized the circulation of these petitions to all CIO locals throughout the state. Its executive officers have agreed to do all that they can to bring the Kutcher case by this means before the CIO members in California.

John A. Despol, secretary-treasarer of the California CIO-PAC, s in charge of the campaign for the southern part of the state while Tim Flynn, director of the San Francisco regional office, will supervise the petition work in Northern California.

Early returns on the petitions have already been reecived from Minneapolis and Detroit. At a district meeting of the Workmen's Sick and Death Benefit Fund members of this large fraternal order collected \$15.75 and numerous signatures on the Kutcher petitions.

RAIL UNION AID

Workers for the Kutcher Civil Local branches of the KCRC Rights Committee in the Twin which have been organized in Cities collected fund's and sigmany large cities are planning natures from members of Local to circulate the petitions in union 209 of the AFL Sheet Metal locals, veterans organizations, re-Workers in St. Paul as well as ligious and civil liberties groups, from workers belonging to Footin the universities, factories and board Lodge 804, Brotherhood of neighborhoods. They will combine Railroad Trainmen. Both these the securing of signatures with rail unions have endorsed the the collection of contributions to Kutcher case. the defense fund for the victim-

Local 325 of the CIO Rubber | ized veteran for which provision Workers in Portland, Oregon, is made on the petitions.

Militant readers who are intersent a donation and endorsement to the Kutcher committee. In Los ested in assisting this campaign Angeles, two UAW locals - | can obtain petitions to circulate Studebaker 255 and General Mo- among their friends and shoptors 216 - voted donations for mates by writing the Kutcher Kutcher's defense as evidence of Civil Rights Committee, 19 West their solidarity in his fight for 10th St., New York 11, N. Y.

Newark CIO Council **Cooperates in Fight** The Greater Newark CIO Council, formerly controlled by the Stalinists, has now been re-

organized and among its first steps was action to cooperate in the civil rights fight of James Kutcher, the Feb. 7 issue of the national CIO News reports.

NUMBER 7

"Among the resolutions adopted was one strongly urging the reinstatement of James Kutcher to his job with the Veterans Administration," the CIO News says. "Legless veteran of World War II, Kutcher was discharged from his government post because of alleged membership in the Socialist Workers Party. Appearing before the group, he won immediate support for his cause, as

well as a \$100 contribution." The only factual error in this report is that Kutcher's SWP membership is not "alleged" --it is and always has been proudly admitted and avowed by him.

A few days after his appearance before the Newark Council. Kutcher was taken to the hospital for an operation (see story on page 1).

civil rights.

an FEPC bill if it did not provide "legal sanctions" for enforcement.

In short, they would accept civil rights bills

will be won only by fighting for it - and that means a fight against the Trumanite fakers as well as the Dixiecrats.

Gilding the Warmonger

Notes from the News

With a tremendous ballyhoo, the capitalist press is now launching the second volume of the memoirs of Winston Churchill, Their Finest Hour. The powerful Luce magazine Life, with 20 million readers, introduces it with a front-cover splurge and costly color photos. The N. Y. Times publishes it serially, as do other important papers in 51 countries. It has already been acclaimed Bookof-the-Month Club selection for April. The fanfare is equalled only by the hullaballoo over the preceaing book in Churchill's five-volume project.

It is no accident that the capitalist press wants / Churchill's history to be read in every home. It is super-propaganda for Anglo-American imperialism's war campaign against the Soviet Union. And this of course is why it is vital to understand the author and his works.

In the February issue of Fourth International. G. F. Eckstein explores the background of "Winston Churchill, Tory Watch-dog," and his role through four decades of history. The arrogant Churchill who proclaims with false modesty "I have not aways been wrong," is shown in his true proportions - as an erratic and adventuristic politician in peacetime, again and again losing government post sbecause of his irresponsibility and wrong appraisals - and as the unanimous choice for the role of ruthless war-leader.



ism's troubles since 1906, Churchill had cried for war as the "solution." Both his abilities and his faults were obvious.

"Every British politician knew him and his Napoleonic complex," Eckstein shows, "his preoccupation with war and war preparations, his extraordinary capacity for making a fool of himself on critical occasions." Long before the Second World War began in 1939, Churchill "had established himself as the most discredited, the most untrustworthy and the most irresponsible of all the senior politicians in England."

- Yet they turned to him - as they do today for the special talents that make him the outstanding warmonger.

"His famous sense of history is nonsense. He has none. . . What he does have in his head," Eckstein says, "is the writings of the great British historians and the speeches of the great British orators. This and his single-mindedness, his ophistoric conflicts, enable him at times to rise to of his own. He also loses this six purge of reformists like Tucker were or ever had been members lines were set up, however. eratic consciousness of playing a great role in great heights of rhetoric."

It is when "men want to hear words of resolution and single-minded devotion to the conflict, to hear the greedy, bloody, bestial business glamorized and made to look like something noble and uplifting," that "the stage is set for Churchill." This is the man whose "wisdom" is extolled by

the war-bound capitalist press. . @

These hopes were especially high following' the Truman victory when Frank H. Barnes was acquitted by the Post Office Loyalty Board after six months' suspension from his letter carrier's iob.

4 Million Decline

In Jobs Since July

The U. S. Census Bureau

reported on Feb. 4 that total

employment in January was

57,500,000. This is a drop of

2.000,000 in one month and is

of 61,500,000 last July.

4,000,000 below the peak figure

However ,the Census Bureau

lists an increase in unemploy-

ment of only 700,000 for

January, claiming that the

2,000,000 decline in jobs in-

cluded a large percentage of

those who had entered the

labor force "temporarily" and

are not considered "unemploy-

ed," Even an increase of 700,-

000 nemployed in a single

month is one of the highest on

The Census Bureau reports

a great increase in part-time

record.

employment.

Barnes had been persecuted because of his militant leadership of the NAACP Branch in its fight for hiring equality at the local Sears & Roebuck store. Under heavy pressure the Post Office finally informed Barnes that his case had been acted on "favorably" and he was returned to his

job at the first of the year. Now it appears that there is joker in the deck. Barnes was cleared of disloyalty, or so it left are placed under attack." would seem, but gets no back pay for the time lost through no fault | the Washington case with the months out of his seniority and

as a result has already lost a pay raise and a vacation due him. protest by Barnes, the Post Office states that it regards the matter

entirely closed. The NAACP dare not let such a dangerous precedent stand, for it means that the federal government will continue to punish Negro leaders of this type as much as it can get away with. The lesson is plain enough.

civil rights program to drop in

their laps. Important gains can

be made; but only by keeping up

the pressure on the government

FAST WORK - Nominating petitions for Myra Tanner Weiss, Trotskyist candidate for Mayor of Los Angeles, were filed on Feb. 7. The 1000 petitions, the maximum number that may be filed, were collected in five days, although 20 days are allowed. 500 valid signatures are required.

NOT EVEN VOTERS? - "One of his own" cabinet officers, an Easterner, observed regretfully not long ago that 'the President just doesn't like anybody from New York."" (William Walton in the Feb. 7 New Republic.)

"HE NEVER KNEW - On hearing at a Senate committee session that almost 30% of American workers earn less than \$40 a week, Sen. Flanders (R., Vt., elected with CIO-PAC support) said: "Incomes as low as that are just incredible to me. I want to know more about these people and their earnings. I want to know why they get that way, who they are, and where they are.'

FITTING AND PROPER - Victor Riesel, So- | Truman is double dealing with cial Democratic "labor" columnist, has departed the Negro people. The trickery from the N. Y. Post and is now working for of Barnes' treatment should serve Hearst's N. Y. Daily Mirror. as a warning that the Negroes dare not sit back and expect a

THE THREAT SOUNDS IDLE - The Joint Committee on Civil Rights, representing 21 national organizations headed by the NAACP, threatens to wipe out the Democratic majority in Congress in 1950 unless the Democrats stop deferring to the Dixiecrats and take action to stop filibusters. How will they do that - by supporting the Republicans who also refuse to abolish filibusters?

* * * MAKING IT LOOK BETTER - The Supreme Court has changed its mind and decided to give a rehearing to the appeal of Carl Marzani, ex-State Department employee convicted of "perjury." ., rain to

students. Fear over the threat to academic liberties was the By J. L. Hawkins universal note of all the speak-SANTA MONICA, Calif., Feb.

- High hopes have prevailed hereabouts that the election of SWP POSITION

Truman would mean a let-up in The leaflet issued by the the oppressive government pres- Seattle Branch of the Socialist sure on the Negroes and their lead Workers Party was well received ers who have civil service jobs. by the audience. It expressed solidarity with the fight to maintain academic freedom and attacked the grounds given for the

dismissal. "We condemn the totalitarian acts of the Board of Regents who dismissed your professors on the

pure and simple grounds of their

The SWP leaflet also linked

P. Smith, Norman Thomas' run- of the Communist Party.

By J. Blake

Los Angeles NACCP elections aroused more interest than the Negro community has seen in years. This is one of the largest chapters in the country and will be host to the national NAACP convention next summer. Incumbent President Thomas L. Griffith Jr. was elected for his fifteenth consecutive term. The legality of the election is being challenged on the ground that undemocratic procedures and dis-

were employed by the Griffith administration to defeat the opnosition.

single concrete struggle in this organization is capable of ap-The loosely - organized caucus community in years. opposing Griffith was led by a group of well-known community

Committee for the Preservation a block with the Stalinists and of the Los Angeles, NAACP. fellow travellers and utilize every They charged that the decline in type of trick to ensure its elec-

branch membership has been due tion.

tendered his resignation to Allen in spite of complete political disagreement with the purge victims, and a Harvard professor decided to turn down a post offered him here. The local chapter of the ADA has likewise condemned the Regents' action.

The action was taken after the All the more shameful by contrast is the support given the company refused to arbitrate or otherwise settle satisfactorily the witch-hunt by conservative union leaders. One of the regents, David demand of the plant police for Beck, AFL Teamsters vice-presi- pay for time spent standing rolldent and scabherder during the call before starting their 8-hour IAM strike at Boeing Aircraft, shift. Instead, the company proflew in from Chicago to vote for posed a schedule change which the purge. AFL State Secretary would eliminate long - standing negotiations. The grievance had Edward Weston supports both working conditions and cause loss already been "in the mill" for the Board of Regents and the of jobs, favoritism and discrimina-

radical political beliefs, declar-Canwell UnAmerican Activities tion. ing them on these grounds to be Committee which initiated the A meeting called by police of incompetent to teach the obcampus persecutions. jective truth. That scores of A new angle was introduced committee to demand continuaprofessors who take their political stand as champions of capitalism also teach at the university is passed over in silence. Their objectivity remains unquestioned. Only those who hold views on the

EAST PITTSBURGH, Pa., Jan. | sympathy of the production work-31-Westinghouse Electric plant ers, but they have been dispolice here have voted unanim- couraged from taking any direct ously to turn their continuous supporting action by the UE meeting into a strike, reportedly Local 601 leaders although the the first of its kind in CIO United latter are giving moral backing Electrical Workers history. to the strike.

STALINIST SABOTAGE

The Stalinist-controlled International has refused to approve the strike and through its representative, Edward Matthews, has supported the company demand for a return to work before 21 months.

This refusal to authorize the strike has the appearance of a Stalinist maneuver to embarrass all shifts elected a negotiating the local leaders who replaced into the picture when the State tion of present schedules and the recently-ousted Stalinist local Supreme Court ruled last week over-time payment on a retroac- officials. Meanwhile, the company that the three professors dis- tive basis for roll-call time. The is filling the plant police jobs missed and three others were to company refused to negotiate with lieutenants and captains be brought to trial for "contempt" unless the meeting disbanded and who are part of management.

of the Canwell legislative com- the men returned to work. When The Local 601 rank and file are mittee because they refused to the committee reported this, the fearful that the International's answer questions whether they strike vote was taken. No picket conduct in this case will mean similar, treatment in the future This walkout has gained the against the production workers.

According to the simplest idea of justice, either a man is inno-cent or guilty. But in answer to HEATED CONTEST MARKS NAACP ELECTION IN

to "the negligent attitude adopted | under the presidency of Thomas

L. Griffith and others who have LOS ANGELES - The recent controlled, the association for the past 14 years." As a result, they said, the Los Angeles NAACP "has failed to safeguard your rights as a citizen . . . to protect you against police brutality . . . to build up youth branches and college chapters ... to build up adequate inancial strength . . . to hold regular monthly meetings as laid

down by the constitution . . . to help the veterans of the community." regard of the election manual Actually, much more than that

could be charged against the local administration. It has not led a

The Griffith clique did rouse figures who called themselves the itself sufficiently to consummate arbitrarily ruled him out of order.

A STEP FORWARD

No measures were taken to represents a step forward in the development of a local leaderprevent non-members from voting ship; a number of serious weakat the packed meeting. Ballots nesses in the opposition were were passed out to anyone revealed:

without checking on eligibility 1. It failed to provide for labor to vote. The chairman of the representation on the executive nominating committee admitted board in the slate it proposed.

he had changed the unanimous 2. It failed to provide a milireport of the balloting committant and aggressive candidate for tee on Griffith's advice before president, proposing a minister sending the ballots to the printer. with no particular qualifications In addition, a city police detail, for dynamic leadership as the which lined the side aisles of the alternative to Griffith.

church where the meeting was 3. It failed to organize a held, had been summoned by broad, democratically controlled Griffith before the meeting caucus capable of mobilizing started. When a member not conmass support in the community nected with either faction protested their presence and stated the and of providing competent floor leadership at NAACP meetings.

4. It failed to/denounce the pointing its own sergent-atmost serious threat to the future arms to maintain order, Griffith of the NAACP as an independent organization of the Negro people -the submission by the nominat-

ing committee chairman of the While the organization of an names of all candidates to the opposition caucus to Griffith FBI for screening.





International

and by keeping down their trust in the man in the White House.