The Death of Bilbo And the Death of Two Negro Children

By KATE LEONARD

Theodore G. Bilbo is dead. White Supremacy Bilbo, that is. Race-Hate Bilbo Back-to-Africa Bilbo. K.K.K. Bilbo.

They buried him from the Juniper Grove Church in Poplarville, Mississippi. They hunted long for something to say, and his political friends filled the pews to hear it said.

But the workers of Mississippi were not there. Hookworm and cotton, cheap labor and terror, ignorance and

lynch-law press heavily upon them. "Get back in your place, Nigger!" "Dear Dago," "Kike" ring in

Bury Bilbo, the Democrat, despised by them.

The Mill Basin section of Brooklyn is a working class section, as anyone who rides the Flatbush Avenue trolley can see.

Last week tragedy struck there, when two children of the Hutchings family, Vivian, 17, and Gerald, 11, were drowned.

The Hutchings are the only Negro family in the neighborhood, and when they moved there five years back the going was rough. Nobody spoke to them, and every morning the father and some of the children had to erase the scrawls from the sides of their house. This situation had changed in five years.

Perhaps grief should be permitted privacy, but even in the maudlin Sunday News story, the neighborhood solidarity stands out!

Over 400 neighbors—all white—attended the children's funeral. The Gargano children, who had tried to rescue Vivian and Gerald, were there. Milton McMann and his wife, Josephine, scoutmasters, led the color guard. Jimmy and Philip McMann, away at camp, had written postcards to Gerry, addressed to "My best friend." Cards he could not receive. The whole Mill Basin mourned with "probably their best known and most loved family."

The Mill Basin section of Brooklyn is a working class neighborhood, as anyone who rides the Flatbush Avenue trolley can see. Some democrats live there, too.

Politicians Challenge

Special to Labor Action

PHILADELPHIA—The County Board of Elections of Philadelphia has accepted challenges against the nominating petitions of Jack Rader, Workers Party candidate in the Fifth Councilmanic District. Also challenged was the Socialist Workers Party candidate, Irene Le Compte, candidate in the Seventh District. At the same time, the County Board

BULLETIN: A telephonic report from Philadelphia advises LABOR ACTION that the County Board of Elections has reserved decision on the challenge against the WP and SWP until next Tuesday. The hearings revealed that a lawyer named Minnick, who is attorney for the Democratic Party City Committee filed the challenge against the WP and SWP on the ground that they threatened the victory of the Democratic Party! Since neither the WP or SWP recognizes the jurisdiction of this Board, they will take their case before the Common Pleas Court.

summarily struck off the ballot the name of the sole Communist Party candidate for the First District council seat on grounds that the Communist Party believed in "violent revolution."

The challenge to the Workers Party and Socialist Workers Party petitions are unspecified. The Election Board would only state that its their ideas of how to win the intercharges are "general" and "technical." The exact nature of the charges has not been revealed to us. The board's policy is to wait until the Wednesday hearings, at which time we will be challenged by as yet unrevealed accusers and on grounds against which we have no means of preparing, since this information is being deliberately withheld.

In the face of this obvious attempt at keeping working class candidates and minority parties off the ballot, a joint defense committee has been established between the Workers Party and Socialist Workers Party. The statement of this joint committee reads as follows:

JOINT STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF IRENE LeCOMPTE AND I. JACK RADER, INDEPENDENT CANDIDATES FOR CITY

COUNCIL AUGUST 24-The Socialist Workers Party and the Workers Party will jointly oppose the objections made to the County Board of Elections against the nomination papers of their respective candidates for City Council, Irene LeCompte, in the Seventh District, and I. Jack Rader, in the Fifth District.

An effort is being made to prevent any minority parties from appearing on the ballot in the November election, to perpetuate the political monopoly of the Republican and Democratic Parties. Major party politicians are fearful of the establishment of a new, independent political party of labor

and are attempting to forestall such a party by eliminating all minority organizations from political existence. The denial of places on the ballot to independent candidates would be an infringement on the democratic rights of the voters in

Gov't Statistics Show Wages Below 1939!

This Is The Way To Stop'em!



"Average weekly earnings in the U. S. hit an all-time high of \$48.46 in May," writes the CIO News in commenting on the latest report issued by the government Bureau of Labor Statistics, "but that pay of \$48.46 was worth only \$29.99 for a man with a wife and two children when expressed in 1939 dollars."

In this comment you have a real picture of the present wage structure. While profits remain exceptionally high for big business, the standard of living of the masses of people, in terms of what they can purchase on the basis of their real wages, declines.

Accompanying this decline in real wages and responsible for it is the continuous rise in the cost of living. With an ineffectual price control law during the war, the increase in prices was slow and since the government provided for nominal wage increases to meet higher prices, the disproportion between prices and wages, while high, was nothing like what exists today. As soon

as all price controls were ended by the capitalist government in Washington on "the promise that prices would adjust themselves on the market, the cost of living rose sharply. Price increases rose highest precisely in those commodities which are most needed by the people, food, clothing and to a considerable extent NEW YORK - The strike of the

in shelter. The index in food prices rose to 190.5 per cent above the 1935-39 aver-

By winning a closed-shop contract at Isthmian, the SIU-SUP has succeeded in organizing the last of the big open-shop companies in the maritime industry. A subsidiary of the U. S. Steel Corp., Isthmian has been the last to maintain a large-scale company hiring hall for seamen for less. A man with three dependents and a take-home pay of \$47.00, earned, in the terms of 1939, \$29.99.

When the SIU won an NLRB election at Isthmian some time ago, the company at first flatly refused to sign a closed-shop contract. With the effective date of the Taft-Hartley bill close at hand, Isthmian (and with it, no doubt, the operators of the rest of the industry) thought that here would be a chance to put an end to the union hiring hall in the shipping

Isthmian

Strike!

victory for the unions.

Sailors Win

Seafarers International Union and

the Sailors Union of the Pacific

(Continued on page 2)

against the Isthmian Steamship Comage, while the quality of these company ended last week in a complete modities, and even more so in clothing, declined. The Bureau declared that a worker without dependents and with a take-home pay of \$41.52 actually earned \$26.49 in terms of the 1939 dollar. If he lived in a state or city which had its own special wage taxes, his take-home pay was even

> These figures reveal the actual economic position of the mass of people in this country. For all the steady employment during the war at relatively high wages, the cost of living expressed in a tremendous rise of prices on all commodities, has left the average person with little or no reserves and a standard of living that is declining rather than rising with the growth of industry and

> And if anyone wants to know what a capitalist government is, the events of the past couple of years provide ample lessons. The government in Washington gave labor a wage freeze during the war but it did not limit profits. After the war it ended price control and gave big business the green light to gouge the people. It gave big business a rebate on taxes collected during the war, but did nothing to relieve the workers of the nation from the burdensome taxes they paid during the war and which they continue to pay now with lower

> This same government has not done one important thing to solve the housing crisis, to halt the present rise in prices, to curb big business and its lust for profits; but it did make a shambles of rent control, and it did produce the Taft-Hartley bill.

These figures above tell a tremen-(Continued on page 4)

Rader, WP Candidate

Philadelphia to vote for whomever they please. More than 3,400 registered voters

in the two Councilmanic Districts, better than double the legally required number, signed the nomination papers of the two candidates. (Continued on page 4)

Poward the UAW Convention_

Reuther Caucus Meets to Map Program

By WALTER JASON

DETROIT, Aug. 24-Nearly 200 key people, the secondary leadership of the UAW-CIO, which supports the Reuther tendency, met here this week end for the first national conference of the caucus to take up the questions of program, personnel and victory at the forthcoming national convention of the UAW-CIO.

This conference was called by the Executive Board members and Walter P. Reuther, UAW-CIO president, to present their program and outline national union from the Addes-Stalinist bloc. Although three times as many people wanted to attend this conference as were chosen by the regional directors, the Reuther top leadership limited it-and thus restricted its democratic nature - to what they considered a workable

Once again, the ideas, personality and leadership of Walter P. Reuther decisively dominated the conference. While much of what he said and thought in regard to program has already appeared in LABOR ACTION, there were some, very important decisions on program and policy that need careful attention and consideration.

The discussion on the Labor Party is a case in point, and we'll report on this in proper place in this article.

The background of this conference was the taste of victory in the FE merger fight won decisively by the Reuther forces. In fact, there seemed to be a touch of overconfidence, if anything, in viewing the problems of the coming pre-convention discussion and the convention itself.

Reuther spoke for nearly two hours, giving details of the factional struggle raging in the UAW since he was elected president. He has built up a devastating case against the Addes-Stalinist bloc on their factional record in this period. He scarcely bothered with R. J. Thomas, whom everyone considers a dead duck. Target No. 1 of the Reuther caucus is George Addes, secretary-

treasurer of the UAW, and his Stalinist supporters. The most exact and detailed scrutiny of finances has been made and the results may prove very embarrassing to Addes and company. .

WHAT THE CAUCUS DID

Just one example. The Addes majority handled the organizing drive of Thompson Motor Products in Cleveland. It cost around \$500,000 and yet the UAW suffered four defeats there. The place is still unorganized. The director of this drive, Ed Hall, one-time vice-president of the UAW. handled the job for 107 weeks and he was paid \$16,000 in salary and expenses. But he spent 87 per cent of his time, as proved by an audit of Addes' records - away from Cleveland, going on dozens of trips everywhere, engaging primarily in faction work!

Reuther emphasized his belief that the UAW could eliminate half the staff members, get double the work from the others, and thus the rank and file could get something for their money, if these factional pay-offs were eliminated.

Two of the important organizational changes which the Reuther conference adopted in their program directly affect Addes. A constitutional amendment will be introduced to have the convention elect three trustees to supervise the finances, just as exists in each local union. Another is to have verbatim minutes of the International Executive Board as a permanent fea-

The fact is that on the question of sound, militant unionism versus the "rule or ruin" policy of the Addes-Stalinist gang, Reuther is going to win wide support of the men in the

On the report on program, Reuther again did most of the explaining. Higher wages without price increases, guaranteed annual wage, repeal of the Taft-Hartley law, a sound pension plan, FEPC, etc.—the conference reaffirmed its previous stand. There was little discussion and no disagreement.

But then came the question of how this program is going to be carried

out. Reuther has two answers. The first is that victory of the Reuther caucus at the convention would provide the UAW with adequate leadership to fight for its achievement on the economic front, if victory was big enough to smash the Addes-Stalinist clique and thus end the vicious factionalism in the UAW. There was no serious disagreement on this point. But the second answer, concerning political action, caused the only real and lively discussion at this confer-

Four delegates spoke strongly and effectively for the adoption of a Labor Party plank as part of the con-

vention program of the Reuther cau- Slaiman, quoted Reuther on Reuther. cus for the convention. Reuther had introduced a "com-

promise" proposal on political action. It was indistinguishable from the Stalinist "build a third party eventually" clap-trap. The proposal spoke for independent political action. It spoke for a new party eventually, based on the workers, small farmers, etc.

LABOR PARTY ADVOCATES

Karl Sheir, a delegate from Chicago, urged adoption of a resolution, to build a Labor Party now. A delegate from the Buffalo region. Don

to point out that more than half the program adopted could only be achieved by having a Labor Party take control of Congress.

"The UAW-CIO is the spearheard of the CIO. The CIO is the spearhead of the labor movement in America. The future of this country depends on the course of the CIO. So says Brother Reuther, and I agree. So let's spearhead the labor movement on this question. Let's lead in the fight to build a Labor Party." The applause given this and other Labor Party speeches showed a

(Continued on page 2)

Illinois CIO Parley Drubs Stalinists

CHICAGO - The purge of the Stalinist forces at the Illinois State CIO convention held in Chicago over the August 22 weekend was a good lesson on "How not to fight the CP."

Power politics, brawls, screaming headlines featuring the fistic accomplishments of delegates were some of the highlights of three turbulent days at the Amalgamated Center.

The convention concerned itself solely with ways and means of carrying out the new top CIO strategy of eliminating Stalinist forces wherever possible.

The convention assembled and the strategy of the Murray forces was put through a constitutional amendment electing six board members from different international CIO unions at large. Heretofore each international would have a board member selected by themselves in caucus. This proposal would mean that one holding a majority of votes would sweep clean. It was a foregone conclusion that the Murray boys would win because they practically had enough votes in the Steel Workers and Amalgamated delega-

The first brawl took place in the heat of the fight around the constitutional amendment and thereafter there were several other incidents where CPites got roughed up by "sergeants-at-arms."

AMENDMENT ON BOARD

The amendment carried and the Murray slate swept in. Joe Germano, regional director of Steel, was elected state president. His opponent had been a token candidate from the Mattson-CP-UAW group. Germano's speech of acceptance was a lulu. He waved the flag against those "minorities who were trying to take over our unions, and country!" The Executive Board election also carried five of the six posts to this group. The other post was left open for representation by the CP.

The purge was no victory in any, sense except organizational. It was no victory for those who realize the and adoption of a fighting policy to dangers of Stalinism but also are wary of bureaucratic degeneration organized under the CIO banner. along the lines of the Amalgamated Instead they followed the old line Clothing Workers Union. No princi- on political action and did not repled political fight was put up against sent or reject the outside interfer-

the trade unions in which they work to the foreign policy of Russia. This could not have been possible because since June 21, 1941, there has been a man-and-wife honeymoon relationship between the leading Stalinists and the Germanos, Doughertys, Levins and McElligotts. To have raised the lessons of the past would have exposed their own duplicity in past

BEHEAD THE BREAK

The marriage was broken only when relationships between the U.S. and Russia had reached a breaking point. What was difficult to accomplish at the last national CIO convention has been done in Massachusetts. Connecticut. Pennsylvania, Wisconsin and over the past weekend in Illinois and Indiana

The conduct of the majority at this convention was not one of education defend the interests of the workers the DeMaios, Oakes, Marshs. No ex- ence of Republican Governor Dwight

planation of how they subordinate Green, who told the convention that "Free collective bargaining between responsible (sic) representatives of labor and capital with a minimum of governmental interference must continue to be our American goal." After all, hadn't he made Frank Annunzio, Steel PAC director, a member of the State Board of Health, or something; and wasn't this a proof of the value of sticking by your friend, that a Labor Party was not neces-

> The UAW Reuther forces joined the Murray bloc. Their hatred of the Stalinists and the disruptive role they have played in the UAW blinded them as to what was occurring. Their candidate for the state board was pro-Labor Party Fred Jacobi of Electro-Motive Local 719. A question that comes to mind that should be asked by every militant fighter for democracy and free expression in unions is this: "If, at the 1948 convention, a pro-Labor Party group has a sizable delegation pledged to fight for a Labor Party now, will they get a similar reception from the Germanos, Doughertys, Levins and

NEWS AND VIEWS FROM THE LABOR FRONT

Meeting of the Reuther Caucus --

his custom, kept silent during the discussion.

Two members of the top Reuther Gerber, both regional directors, had time and again spoken for a Labor Party. The conference awaited their formula of being "against any outviews with interest. Gerber spoke side interests dictating to the union. for both of them. His explanation This union should be run by the rank for support of this Reuther proposal was pretty bad. He said he and Mazey didn't want to disrupt the whole caucus by insisting on the Labor Party plank. Since no one wanted to disrupt the caucus or split it on this issue, the explanation was beside the point. Gerber also said that the resolution gave a free hand for those who believed in a Labor Party as he and Mazey do to win support for it in the caucus and convince a majority. This is true, and here the record will have to speak for itself. For the Labor Party question will be brought up again at the conference of delegates to the national convention, and a fight for its adoption will be made at the national convention.

Of course, the simple truth of the matter is that the top Reuther leadership doesn't want to upset the applecart. They are playing safe, or more exactly, opportunistically, to get as broad support at the convention as possible. Also, they want to keep Philip Murray, CIO president, in their corner, and he is strongly against a Labor Party.

Nevertheless, it is very significant that no one spoke against the idea of a Labor Party. No one spoke for a third capitalist party as against a Labor Party. No one spoke for supporting Truman or the Democratic Party. The decision against the Labor Party was based on purely opportunistic reasons. The sentiment within the Reuther caucus for a Labor Party was obvious to everyone and no one could dismiss it as a man-

The other important question before the Reuther caucus was its attitude toward the Stalinists (the Communist Party). Unfortunately there was no discussion on this point, partly because Reuther simply re-

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strong sentiment for this point of the past 18 months in denouncing view. Frankly, it was even greater this totalitarian "rule or ruin" clique than anyone expected. Reuther, as is and its policies based on the needs of the Stalin dictatorship in foreign affairs. The statement of policy on this showed all the flip-flops of the leadership, Emil Mazey and Martin CP, and denounced the Stalinists for

what they are. Reuther also repeated his usual and file, for the rank and file, and be of the rank and file." This ambiguous formula could be applied to any minority party supporter or member, although everything in Reuther's course of action shows he is concerned only with the Stalinists.

AGAINST THE STALINISTS But Reuther added one other thing, something not new, but this time more serious, and it will bear careful watching. Reuther proposes to carry out his purge of the Stalinists according to the constitution of the UAW, which bars Communist Party members from holding elective office. This is bureaucratic. The real way to defeat the Stalinists is to educate the rank and file on Stalinism and have the rank and file in elections defeat the Stalinists because of *their reactionary politics and "rule or ruin" methods.

The Stalinists in the UAW fear adoption of such a policy by the Reuther caucus. They hope and pray he will turn the struggle against them into the way Homer Martin fought them. For they could win that kind of fight. Their whole campaign against Reuther as "another Homer Martin" is based on this hope. They want to drive him into that position.

The rank and file of the UAW must understand this question very clearly. There are some fundamental reasons why Reuther is different from Martin and why it is most unlikely he would make such a blun-

First of all, Reuther, by his whole training and years of experience in the union movement, is no fly-bynight meteor such as Martin turned out to be. Reuther is rooted in the labor movement. He has some socialist training and knowledge. This is what enables him to fight the Stalinists from a somewhat progressive

BRONX BRANCH: Thursday, 8:15

HARLEM BRANCH: Wednesday,

p. m., at Wilkins Hall, 1330 Wilkins

8:15 p.m., at the Workers Party head-quarters, 2143 Seventh Ave. (near

CENTRAL BRANCH: Wednesday, 8:15 p. m., at the City Center, 114

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m., at the City Center, 114 West

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SOCIALIST YOUTH LEAGUE: Fri-

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stooge for the Lovestonites, the faction which disappeared from the American political scene. Reuther and people like Emil Mazey are head and shoulders above anyone in the leadership of the UAW in brains, leadership and social outlook.

Secondly, Reuther's success was due to his appeal to the men in the shops by his progressive role in the GM strike struggle of 1946. Reuther has a mass base such as Martin never had. The FE merger fight showed how strong Reuther's hold on the rank and file is. This conference demonstrated he has a strong secondary leadership behind him also.

Third, and this also explains Reuther's caution in advancing his own views within the CIO, Reuther, now has the support of the national CIO, to be exact, Philip Murray. On September 18, Murray is coming to Detroit to give Reuther the national CIO award for his fight on FEPC. This is his way of endorsing Reuther. Homer Martin despised and was in turn despised by John L. Lewis, head of the CIO in 1938, and Lewis through weight of the national CIO behind the anti-Martin bloc, thus assured them of victory. All these. things are known to the Stalinists and to George Addes.

Against this position of the Reuther caucus, the Addes-Stalinist bloc great help in this direction.

peated what he has been saying for point of view. Martin was just a is trying to figure out some maneuvers to save themselves. Talk about unity is increasing in that camp. Certainly if the Reuther forces have a majority of delegates at the convention, Addes will make a big plea for unity (that is, please don't throw me out of office). Let's have unity (until the Stalinists can regain some

> It would be a serious mistake for UAW militants to view this coming struggle as cut and dried. The basic choice between support of the progressive Reuther tendency and the Addes-Stalinist clique is not difficult to make. But this is just the beginning of the question; it doesn't settle it. In the course of the struggle, an excellent opportunity is present for genuine education of the rank and file in militant, democratic unionism, in real political action, like the Labor Party question, in conducting the fight against the Stalinists on the most progressive basis

The UAW can emerge from its next convention stronger, more militant, more advanced politically, more united, if the struggle is carried along this line. This is a real challenge to the real builders of the UAW. Victory of the Reuther tendency at the convention would be of

The Struggle Over Two UAW **Contracts and Their Meaning**

By WALTER JASON

DETROIT - In the past week, two important negotiations were completed by the UAW-CIO. The Murray strike ended in victory with the union obtaining a flat 15 cents an hour wage increase, as against a company offer of 111/2 cents plus six paid holidays, and a "no penalty" clause covering the Taft-Hartley law. :This was negotiated by Emil Mazey, East Side regional co-director. In return, the union agreed to the usual formula of calling off unauthorized strikes within 24 hours, and giving the company power to fire workers who fail to respond to the union call. The importance of 15 cents an hour

as against the company offer is that the UAW found out through experience that companies have a habit of laying off workers around holiday time, and this cuts down their unemployment compensation because the Michigan Unemployment Commission has ruled that holiday pay is part of regular wages. (The UAW is fighting just such a ruling in the 7.) The workers want the straight the rank and file. 15 cent wage boost as a result

The clause on unauthorized strikes may become a form of modified "company security," although. any good union leadership could easily prevent it, just as the company security provisions in last year's contracts have turned out to be just

scraps of paper. THE FORD CONTRACT

The second important problem is the Ford negotiations. Here, Richard T. Leonard, UAW-CIO Ford director,found himself unable to keep either the Stalinists in line or meet the sharp criticisms of pro-Reuther leaders against the unsatisfactory pension plan finally granted by Ford,

(Continued from page 1)

mian from the minute the strike

company, no seaman was forced to

Read and Subscribe to

length of time as a result of it.

steamship lines.

and thus the Ford workers are going to have two proposals to vote on.

on the pension plan. When the Ford workers found out that, among other things, a 20-minute free lunch period would be given up and the union members would pay nearly \$7.50 into the fund while Ford's contribution would be undetermined and unknown, the resentment was very strong.' Ken Bannon, president of Ford Local 400, a staunch Reuther supporter, blasted it strongly. The Stalinists did likewise, But Leonard was adamant and only a rejection of the pension plan by a majority of the Ford UAW-CIO national wage conference forced him to retreat to the extent that he agreed to ask the company to give the men 15 cents straight, instead of the pension plan.

The 15-cent proposal was a counter-move on the part of the Stalinists to ride the tide of the resentment of the workers against the pension plan, and to keep pro-Reuther leaders like Bannon from emerging as Chrysler layoffs of June 27 to July, the only fighters for the interests of

A preliminary survey the 15-cent proposal stands the best chance of acceptance because it is better than the pension plan proposal, and it means immediately a back wage payment of around \$90 per worker, due to its retroactive char-

The Stalinists, through a supporter on George Addes' staff, planted a story in the Hearst press here that the whole trouble at Ford was due to a deep Reuther plot. This nonsense is exposed by the flip-flops of the Stalinists themselves on the pension plan and, above all, the coming vote by the rank and file on the two pro-

The Stalinists blew hot and cold

Party Candidate for Mayor of DETROIT - The efforts of feeble "liberals" to wash out Mayor Jeffries' reputation and to deodorize it with gushes of political perfume are in vain. He has always fertilized his political pastures with the manure of race prejudice and the scent will always remain. In 1943 and 1945, fascistic groups

A favorite election tactic of the

fascistic supporters of Jeffries, who feared to come into the open in their own name, was the secret distribution of little unsigned cards which were scattered over the streets in white neighborhoods only, at night. For the record, we reprint some of this pro-Jeffries campaign literature. JEFFRIES' FRIENDS

Herman Benson for Mayor!



Don't throw away your vote on capitalist politicians who represent big business!

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- 3. For a guaranteed annual living wage for all workers, with automatic increases to meet rising costs of living.
- 4. Defend labor's rights. Against the Taft-Hartley and Callahan laws and all such anti-labor legislation.

- 5. Full social, political and economic equality for Negroes and all minorities. Enforce the Diggs law. Abolish restrictive covenants.
- 6. Open the doors of the United States to the homeless Jewish people and other victims of the war and oppres-
- 7. Freedom for all nations. Against the occupation and domination of countries by the United States, by Russia, or by any other imperialist powers.
- 8. Expropriate America's Sixty Families. Operate big industry under the control of democratically elected shop
- 9. For an Independent Labor Party. For a Workers' Government.
- 10. For a world of security, peace and equality through the socialist reorganization of society.

Race-Baiter Jeffries Making Play for Liberal-Labor Support

By HERMAN BENSON, Workers

supported him for re-election, utilizing their standard weapons: unrestrained attacks on the Negro population of the city and appeals to Jim Crow. Far from repudiating these elements, Jeffries encouraged them. In fact, he set the example.

After Jeffries' defeat in the 1943 primaries the little card said: "26,245 NEGROES voted for Fitzgerald. Only a few voted for Jeffries! How are you going to vote?" Another of these "liberal" proclamations read: "Fitzgerald says the Negroes need protection. Protection against whom? What do YOU think?

After a defeat in the primaries in

1945, these elements carried on the same type of "campaigning" but they tried to be more subtle. One of their little cards read: "FORWARD NE-GROES! United with Frankensteen for Mayor. We Negroes gave 21,572 votes to Frankensteen in primary. LET'S PUT HIM IN NOV. 6. A Negro vote for Frankensteen is a blow to white exclusive areas." The provocative character of these cards is obvious. They were distributed only in white neighborhoods.

Reactionary local papers issued for the election campaigned for Jeffries with headlines like these: "White Neighborhoods Again in Per-

But it was Jeffries who played the theme song. The fascistic hoodlums were only dancing to his tune. Every intelligent persons knows that the Negro people in this country are kept in a state of underprivilege, discrimination, segregation. Their problem is to achieve equal rights with all other people. By some strange reasoning, Jeffries concludes that it is the Negroes who are seeking special privilege.

THE MAYOR SPEAKS In the Detroit News for October

24, 1943, Jeffries condemns "minority groups demanding special privilege." And who do you think are these minority groups? "The most aggressive of these minority groups, the Negroes of Detroit, is determined to defeat me." This quotation is very significant. 1. It shows that Jeffries is an open enemy of the fight of Negroes for equal rights. 2. It proves that he appeals to Jim Crow whites to support him as the great champion of maintaining racial superior-

Jeffries publicly endorses the fascist theory and practice of racial segregation. He said: "I opposed mixed housing then (at a Council hearing), I oppose it now, and I always WILL

In 1943, anti-Negro riots organized and instigated by Ku Klux Klan elements took place in Detroit. Months before the riots, attacks were organized by white gangs on several Negro neighborhoods. Many Negroes were injured and the property of

Negroes was destroyed. The police did little. In June, 1943, following some mi-

nor incident, a mass attack by thousands of white hoodlums took place on the streets of Detroit. For several days, until federal troops poured into town, one whole section of the Negro area was beseiged by the rioters. This riot was basically an attempt by fascistic elements to perpetuate the oppressed condition of the Negro and to prevent any organized protest by the Negroes themselves or by any other fighters for democratic rights.

A JIM CROW RECORD

Here is the Jeffries version: "The records show quite clearly that Negro hoodlums were responsible for starting the race riot." He says nothing about the "record" persecution of the Negro people, about the "record" of months of attacks by fascistic groups in the period before the riot. He does not mention the record of Klan activity in the city in the very weeks before the riot.

During the 1943 riots, the Ku Klux Klan elements cavorted in the streets unmolested by the police. But both the police and the Klanists beat scores of Negroes brutally and mercilessly. At least sixteen Negroes were killed by the POLICE, but not a single white rioter. Negroes who armed themselves for self-defense were disarmed by the police. The Klanist rioters flourished their weapons on the streets and went unmo-

Now listen to Jeffries' fairly tale version of the 1943 events: "The Negroes were the only ones who used guns and clubs and knives," said he. The Negroes used armed resistance to the police." About his police force, Jeffries reports: "The conduct of the Police Department, by and large, was magnificent." Unfortunately for this biased and falsified statement, the Free Press and other dailies printed pictures of Negroes being held by policemen while white hoodlums struck them. The same pictures show the ARMED Klanists in action. Let no one falsify this record! Let no one give assistance in whitewashing Jef-

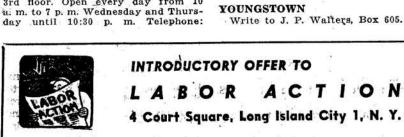
Philadelphia Branch of WP Holds Political-Social Rally

PHILADELPHIA—Sixty people came to a political rally and social last Saturday evening to celebrate the completion of the first phase of the Philadelphia election campaign of the Workers Party. In addition to a large number of sympathizers and contacts made in the petition drive, there were present members of the Workers Party from Baltimore, Reading, West Virginia and Newark.

Although primarily a celebration of a social character, the affair was also a political meeting. Frank Harper, chairman of the gathering, told the story of the two great martyrs of the working class, Sacco and Vanzetti. The meeting was dedicated in part to commemorating their lives.

Joseph Davidson, election campaign manager of the Philadelphia Workers Party campaign, recited the history of the petition drive and told of the excellent response received from the more than 5,000 workers' families visited during the drive. He told of the strong impression made by the socialist message of the party. Jack Rader, the party candidate

for councilman from the Fifth District, concluded the talks with a projection of the party's plans to fight the scheme of the two capitalist parties to keep the WP off the ballot. He also dedicated the meeting to the memory of that great revolutionary socialist leader and victim of Stalin's hired assassin, Leon Trotsky.



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Editorials

The way the UN is kicking the Indo- ernment the evident aim of preventing nesian issue around is only added evidence complete and final independence. that this body is neither a forum for in- The recent practical difficulties are not ment of real world cooperation and peace. U. S. under lend-lease arrangements.

had nothing whatever to do with its pro- the UN was for.

government preparatory to securing com- tions. plete independence. They had arms and Before long even the most gullible will ain. Unable to assume their former positions in principle and practice. tions and deliberations of the Dutch gov- right of freedom.

ternational cooperation nor an instrument of too great importance, although there of world peace. It is rather an arena in is no question that the Indonesians were which the rival imperialists try to solve right in refusing to give the Dutch police their differences by "persuasion" and ne- powers that would make genuine indepengotiation, if possible, explore their differ- dence impossible. The Dutch then attacked ences, work up their alliances, but it has the nationals with an army trained by the nothing whatever to do with the establish- U. S. and with weapons supplied by the

On every decisive question the big powers have merely by-passed the UN to car- imperialists goes on, with the military ry out their plans. And how could it be advantages on the side of the Dutch. The otherwise? The very way in which the appeal of Indonesians to the UN has UN was organized, with the real power reached deaf ears. The United States has vested in the Big Three, sometimes false- offered its "good offices" to the Indonely called the Big Five, and the granting sians to act as umpire in the dispute. The of veto rights to these powers, makes it Indonesians don't want an umpire; they manifestly clear that the original inten- want the UN to act on their case on the tion in establishing this imposing body. grounds that they believed that was what

The French vetoed the Russian propo-In the specific case of Indonesia the sal that the UN investigate. Heretofore facts involved are simple enough. The In- the Russians have vetoed all proposals donesians, taking advantage of the war that the UN investigate the doings in the and the exposed weaknesses of Her Ma- Balkans and Eastern Europe. It is all jesty's Netherlands, which ruled, ruined part of the same imperialist game in and robbed the islands for so many dec- which the powers prevent "investigaades, established a provisional republican tions" of their several and separate ac-

support of all the people. The Dutch were cease to take the UN seriously, and see it able to return to the islands only with the for what it really is—an imperialist body, aid of the United States and Great Brit- hardly different from the League of Na-

tion in Indonesia directly, the Dutch im- In the meantime, the Indonesians fight perialists sought to maintain their eco- on for their independence. Their struggle nomic and military control of the country must be given the widest international by other means—political intrigue, post- support of the workers of all countries, ponement of agreements, dominion status, organized and unorganized. Don't let the etc. The Indonesians were suspicious and imperialists rob these people of their rightly so, for they saw in all the hesita-country and their elementary democratic

Another Forced Jewish Exodus

doms! The brave new world!

How long ago was it when governments of the Allied countries, their statesmen they fled! and diplomats, their books, magazines and periodicals pictured this new era for humanity? If only the mass of people strained themselves a little more and a little longer to make possible a victory over the inhuman, uncivilized, barbarian Germans, Japanese and Italians!

Lies! The victor nations never meant a word they said or a line they wrote. Their aims in the war were just as imperialist and just as rotten as the aims of the fascist powers. The living proof of this? Just . look at the world today. A new war is in the offing. Atomic warfare is the promise of the future. Decay and disintegration of society is to be observed everywhere.

The same reactionary forces which produced fascism in Germany and Italy, the military-totalitarian regime in Japan are still alive, active and dominating the major countries in the world.

In Russia a brutal totalitarian slave state reigns and it extends its rule into Europe and Asia.

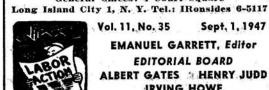
A testimonial of this decay of society is expressed in one little eyent: The Exodus!

The Exodus is the lead ship in a small fleet carrying 4,400 Jews who fled their European cemetery to what they hoped would be a haven in Palestine. But the British, assisted by the U.S. and the United Nations, turned back this little band of wretched, hungry, ill-clothed people who are homeless. Imperialist interests in the Middle East, the hunger for oil, the defense of Empire, block the way of the Jews.

These Jews, who suffered brutal torture, starvation and physical extermination, underwent new suffering to reach Palestine. There they met the machine guns, bayonets and barbed wire of the British. A new exodus began. First to

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The Atlantic Charter! The Four Free- France. But the Jews did not want to disembark. So the British are taking these Jews back to Germany from whence

> In ports, the refugees are restricted on board ship to stuffy, crowded holds and cages. They are given a taste now of imperialist democracy and they do not find their experiences less harrowing than under fascism.

> great democratic U. S.: Stalinist Russia, which pretends that it is interested in the fate of the Jews, but differs not one bit in its real conduct from the other powers. Elsewhere in the world the doors are shut to a helpless people and the one door which is slightly ajar is being closed also.

How prophetic was Leon Trotsky when he wrote in years before the war that should another imperialist struggle break out, the Jews would be exterminated as a scapegoat for all the rottenness of a putrefying society!

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Greece as the Battleground The UN and the Indonesian War Of Two Rival Imperialists

By SAM ADAMS

It is at times very difficult to see the real situation in Greece behind the clouds of propaganda created by the principals in the sharp conflict taking place in that country. Obviously, there are two struggles taking place simultaneously in Greece and they are related. The nature of one of these struggles is to be sought in the sharp class relations which have for a long time characterized Greece, for the country has been ruled by as corrupt a gang of monarchists, industrialists, fascists and pseudo-democrats as can be found anywhere else. The successive regimes of the late and unlamented King George and his appointed dictators, resting on the material and moral support of British imperialism, maintained their rule over the country by an endless terror against the workers and peasants-a terror whose very brutality served to cover up the intense exploitation of the peo-

The Greek masses never accepted these terrorist regimes without fighting back, and the history of labor and political movements of the country is filled with many sterling examples of heroic struggles against almost insuperable odds - the odds taking the form of Greek soldiers and policemen armed with the weapons of a foreign imperialism guarding its interests in the Mediterranean

THE NEW STRUGGLE

But with the end of the war, the internal class struggle in Greece has been superseded by a larger struggle of international proportions. Greece is today a battleground of the interimperialist world conflict between U. S. and Russian imperialism. In this conflict, the British, who heretofore had been playing the role of American subordinate, even though their own interests in that area were large and decisive, have now, because of their poverty, withdrawn active military part in this struggle in favor of the United States.

Russian interests in this European zone, which borders on the Balkan states now completely controlled by Stalin and his Red Army, GPU detachments and subservient "Communist" Parties, are so strong as to force her into dangerous actions. Russia wants a dominating position on the Mediterranean shores. But while the United States carries on her struggle in Greece with motheaten phrases about freedom and democracy, where none exist and none can exist, given the present regime. the Russian bureaucracy concentrates its propaganda on the poverty and exploitation of the people and hopes to make use of the deep dissatisfactions of the masses. The U.S., with little or no base in Greece, except its oppressive government, threatens Russia with atomic bombs And the rest of the world looks on: The as well as military action of a more

common variety. The irony of the situation lies precisely in the fact that the world's greatest slave state, the land of bureaucratic collectivism, whose workers and peasants are themselves ruthlessly exploited, and where a political and economic movement of the working class is non-existent, stands forth in Greece as the de-

fender of workers and peasants. There are more than enough examples to show what a Stalinist victory in Greece would mean to the country. Poland, the Balkans, Rumania, Bulgaria, Jugoslavia, Ger-

many and Hungary are examples of Fourth Internationalist organizations the ruthless, murderous regime which "elsewhere, given their utterly false Stalinist Russia imposes upon a conquered country. Here it is not a question of the "methods" employed to realize a working class socialist regime. It is nonsense to talk in such terms today. Nay, more. It is the cruelest deception of the working class of the world to talk in terms of "proletarian" and "socialist" of any Stalinist regime.

For what Stalinist Russia does in all those countries is to advance the economic and political interests of the Russian bureaucracy at the expense of the masses. In doing so, the Stalinist regimes must liquidate, in the first place, the proletariat as an organized, active political and economic force in the country. The regimes imposed in those countries where it rules now are brutal, totalitarian regimes, which make a thousand times more difficult even the meanest struggle for the rights of the workers and peasants, let alone the struggle for socialism,

STALINIST STRATEGY

If the Stalinists win in Greece, the same thing will happen there. The genuine revolutionary socialists, the non-Stalinist trade unionists, the truly democratic elements of the people, will be destroyed by the coldblooded brutal police regime of the Kremlin.

It is easy to see that the only true and hopeful road for the Greek people is through the organization of an independent movement of the Greek workers and peasants against Stalinism and U.S. imperialism. This may seem to be the most difficult and at times hopeless road, but it cannot be more difficult and hopeless than the roads offered by Stalinist imperialism, or U. S. imperialism and the Greek monarchist-fascistic combine.

In more recent weeks, the Stalin-

ists have introduced an apparently new tactic in Greece, but one which it has used so effectively in other countries more closely situated to the Russian border. The Greek Stalinists, under the tutelage of the GPU and assisted by its terrorist gangs in Yugoslavia, Bulgaria and Albania, have set up an embryonic "free government" along the borders where the guerrilla fighting is now taking place. Although this is not yet a full-blown "free Greek" government, all the formalities have been settled in preparation for "der tag." But "people's courts" are already operating in those small areas now controlled by the Stalinist bands. The worst feature of this situation is that the Greek government, with its reactionary politics, plays right into the hands of the Stalinists.

The attitude of revolutionary socialists, given the experiences of the past several years, ought to be clear. Not an ounce of support to the Stalinist conceived and organized "free government"! Support of this rotten concoction of the Kremlin, no matter how critical, can only mean helping to hand the Greek masses over to the murderous hands of the Kremlin and destroy for a time any possibilities of establishing a genuine working class, democratic, socialist Greece.

THE SOCIALIST COURSE

While the most difficult course to pursue in Greece is an internationalist revolutionary socialist one, one which calls for struggle against two mighty imperialisms, it is the only hope. Unfortunately, the official Trotskyist organization in Greece, and

Books You Should Know - Should

position on Russia, which they regard as a "degenerated workers' state" and whose "defense" they advocate, cannot see clearly what is at stake in Greece. In their estimate of Stalinism as a working class movement (in this case mistaking composition of membership with ideology, theory, politics and practice), they blunder helplessly in every important struggle now taking place in the world.

Thus, the position of the official Greek Trotskyist organization on the Stalinist "free government," as reported, is that "they are against a government named bureaucratically and subject to control by the Stalinist party, which will only continue the policy of 'national conciliation'; that is, capitulation before the bourgeoisie in exchange for posts in the capitalist government and a friendly foreign policy toward the USSR."

What nonsense! The Stalinists, with their vast apparatus and money, can "prove" to the hilt that their "free government" was "democratically" elected. They are old hands at this business of erecting and demolishing governments. And with their resources they can organize a hundred plebiscitary regimes and palm them off as democratically constituted governments, if not, indeed, at the time such governments are set up, then certainly after their police machines have created the "necessary premises for a democratic govern-

Our Greek comrades are in great error if they think they can get anything like a democratically constituted movement or government from the Stalinists. The very thought is the basis for great disappointment at best, and at worst, preparation for their own annihilation. There can be no compromise on this question, for Stalinism spells the death and destruction of any kind of independent movement of workers and any kind of struggle for socialism.

BANGEROUS CONCEPTS

But our Greek comrades and with them the Fourth International are also mistaken in thinking that the Stalinists are interested in "compromising" with the bourgeoisie in exchange for a few governmental posts and for a friendly attitude toward Russia. That is merely a tactical aspect of their world policy and it is employed primarily in those countries where they cannot yet take the whole power with assurance that they can carry it through successfully without intense and dangerous civil and international conflict.

Here again we note a fatal error of all those Russian defensists who think in terms of fifteen and twenty or twenty-five years ago. Stalinism is not a pro-capitalist movement. ready to sustain bourgeois rule in exchange for friendship with Russia. as anti-socialist movement, and its policies are dictated precisely by this dual characteristic.

This error in appreciation of Stalinism is responsible for so many serious political mistakes made by the official Fourth Internationalist movement on the many burning questions of the day. Greece is another laboratory for the study and understanding of Stalinism. Sad it is that the lessons it will teach may come over the broken movement of the Greek masses.



What's Happened to Europe?

Vibrant description of what has happened to Europe's trade as a result of the war and the emergence of Russia as a formidable imperialist rival to the United States has recently been published in the N. Y. Journal of Commerce. The author is Dr. Fritz Baade, former member of the Reichstag and functionary in the Bruening administration that preceded Hitler.

Before the recent war the foundation of Euroean foreign trade was the trade of European countries with each other. European countries in 1938 bought and sold about seven billion dollars worth of goods from each other. In that year, all European countries (including England) imported goods valued at \$1.5 billion from the United States. Their exports to the United States were only \$500,000,000. The \$1 billion deficit in Europe's trade balance was largely offset by earnings from assets and investments abroad, income from transportation, and the tourist trade.

Intra-European trade was much more important to the nations of Europe than was trade with the United States. Exports from European countries to other European countries were 4.5 times larger than what the U.S. sold to Europe. And European countries bought 14 times more from each other than they sold to the U.S.

Germany played the leading role in European trade. German exports to Europe in that year were equal to the exports from the United States to all European nations. Moreover, exports from other European countries to Germany hit the \$1.2 billion level-more than twice the value of all exports from Europe to the U.S. (This same relationship existed in 1923, supporting the contention that 1938 was a typical pre-war year.)

Russia played an extremely minor role in European trade before the war. In 1938 she imported only \$100,000,000 worth of goods from Europe, and exported about twice that amount.

There came the war, the destruction of German industry, the victory of Russia and its imperialist expansion in eastern Europe. The old industrial pattern was blasted to bits, and Europe was split into a western and eastern orbit.

EUROPEAN TRADE TODAY

Remember, before the war, Russian imports from Europe were only \$100,000,000. Today they have increased 30 times. Russia, says Dr. Baade, has established a pumping system "that will drain out of eastern Europe goods with a value of at least \$3 billion this year and channel them into Russia either through the mechanism of reparations or through 'commercial agreements' imposed on protectorate states.'

In western Europe, inter-European trade will be only \$5 billion this year. "Considering the rise in prices that has occurred since before the war, this will be far less than half of what this trade was in 1938."

The trade of the European countries with Germany will not even reach one-twentieth of the pre-war dollar amount. Europe, which before the war imported from the U.S. at the rate of \$1.5 billion yearly, is today importing from this country at the rate of \$5.5 billion.

All the countries of eastern Europe that before the war were tied by trade to western Europe and to the U.S., and which had almost no trade with Russia, are today trading almost exclusively with Russia and her "colonies"-Al-Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Rumania, Austria, Bulgaria, Poland, eastern Germany.

"The high degree of European independence which formed the basis of its economic strength has completely disappeared," concluded Baade. "It has been replaced by an alarming degree of dependence from the United States and the problem has been made all the more acute because Russia is raining tremendous amounts of goods of all descriptions out of the eastern part of Europe-thus greatly aggravating the dislocations in Europe's over-all economy. . . .

"Europe today is a deathly sick patient. At the moment the patient is being kept alive only through periodic blood transfusions from America. Should these stop abruptly, the patient would die. But unless his blood circulation is built up sufficiently so he can stand on his own feet once again, it will not be possible to keep him alive indefinitely by emergency transfusions. That is the background and the objective of the Marshall

Baade, who will function as a food and farm administrator for Germany following merger of the American and British zones - that is, as a hireling of Wall Street-believes or pretends to believe that the U.S. has sufficient resources to bring back capitalism in Europe and that capitalism in Europe has a future. He is only deluding himself and others. U. S.

capitalism, mighty as it is, hasn't anywhere near the resources to keep capitalism alive in Europe. European capitalism is dying on the vine and no power can save it. In the east it is being supplanted by Stalin's barbarism; in the west, by the barbarism resulting from the war and enslavement to Wall Street. The Third World War that every man, woman

and child on this earth knows is in the making, will solve nothing. It will only further destroy and kill-and lay waste the land and the people.

Both Washington and Moscow shout from the mouths of their cannon to the people of Europe and of the world: "Either destroy us or we will bury you in our suins. Either rise and forge a socialist der or the long night of history will envelop you."

WORKERS PARTY INFORMATION BLANK

I am interested in joining the Workers Party of the United States. Will you please send me all information as to your Program and how I can become a member.

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voking analyses on the trends in literature, movies and moral issues. A third in the line of critical evaluations, Literature and Morality continues Farrell's critique of the mores prevalent in the daily output of litone to see. erature and visual entertainment. The ludicrous censorship code is

Several of Farrell's essays have previously appeared in either LA-BOR ACTION or The New International. The Fate of Writing in America has been reviewed in LABOR ACTION so that approximately onethird of the contents is familiar to the readers of these two periodicals.

James T. Farrell; Vanguard Press,

Virtually alone in the field of se-

rious literary evaluation, Farrell

continues to produce thought - pro-

304 pp., \$3.00.

Reviewed by N. JOHNSTONE

The piece, The Literary Popular Front Before the War, is interesting for the light it focuses on the Stalinist literary front. The shifting emphasis from those who "belong to us" and all others, who must perforce be relegated to the camp of "Trotskyism," irrespective of their political beliefs, is a sad commentary indeed upon rational, not to say "Marxist," thought. The shifting "slide-rule" procedure of weighing

LITERATURE AND MORALITY, by this author as against that one, devoid as it necessarily must be of any true literary evaluation, marks the Stalinist "literary front" for what it really is: opportunistic, hierarchical and totally beyond the pare of serious consideration. Except for the influence it exerts upon the literary uninitiated, who gobble unfastidiously any morsel, no matter how tainted, which falls from the "masters' literary table." This Farrell has grasped empirically and thrusts it out into the glaring light for every-

> treated somewhat satirically and given its just deserts by Farrell in The Kingdom of Commodities. The virtual impossibility of ever surmounting and overcoming the mountain of sacred cows which throw their weight, almost unconsciously, onto the producers of motion pictures is reason enough for the fare we see in our neighborhood theater. The code of Christian ethics superimposed upon the lobbying interests is signal that Americans cannot expect and will not get any story visualized which does not "conform." The ten-year-old mentality of the rubbish packaged and ladled out to the consumer is what it is for very good reasons, and Farrell is unre-

A new literary controversy is the gauntlet thrown at the feet of the Howard Fasts, the Albert Maltzes, and Joseph Norths and others on

lenting in pointing this out.

the Stalinist roll of inquisition. These figures not only contradict themselves, but also in so doing retain the right to pass judgment upon writers who have remained independent and unsullied, notwithstanding the malodorous "literary garbage" which passes for divine light and which they insist upon hurling. They repent and pay abusmal homage to one another when taken to task.

The admission into Stalinist circles of those "not of us," but those who "are with us," is sad commentary indeed. The "admission" to the sacred circle also is implicit in their eventual ousting once the party "wants something different of their writers." Albert Maltz, in the New Masses, for example, prostrated himself at the "big toe" of the hierarchy and allowed all who cared to read his apology to take heed when he admitted his liquidationist tendencies, and on top of that thanked those of his executioners for having saved him from becoming a literary "degenerate." To paraphrase one of Farrell's titles: Can public sensibility fall much further?

IF SACCO-VANZETTI WERE ON TRIAL TODAY...

It is something of a shock to realize that it is twenty years since the state of Massachusetts murdered Sacco and Vanzetti. The names of these two innocent and obscure immigrants for a time dominated the consciousness of a section of the American people. Of those American workers who had gained a degree of consciousness of their class strength and aspirations; of those American intellectuals who, even if they were not Marxists, still rebelled against the injustices and inequities which they found everywhere around them, like an inescapable pall; and of those youth who, like many of my own generation, were too young to remember the actual events but whose first intellectual awakening was linked with the stories, poems and recollections about the famous night when millions throughout the world shouted and begged and supplicated in vain to let Sacco and Vanzetti live.

Sacco and Vanzetti meant that we could not forget, we could not rest, we could not cease. Whenever the false temptations of running for a moment of comfort to some obscure hole appeared before us, the words of these two simple men stabbed into our hearts. So long as there could be a Sacco and Vanzetti case, so long as there could be any one of the thousands of smaller, and larger, replicas of the Sacco and Vanzetti case, we had no choice but to be rebels. The very nature of our existence as human beings who strived for a measure of meaning and dignity demanded that we reject all that was rotten in this world.

Sacco and Vanzetti were part of our inheritence and we could forget them only at the price of our intellectual and moral integrity. That was what Sacco and Vanzetti meant to us. For some there were other names which stirred the same feelings; but in the end it made no difference: Sacco and Vanzetti meant enough to include all of the injustices and brutality of the modern world. As we were pushed down by this world of death, they remained the talisman of our yearning and devotion for a world of life.

Vanzetti. Where we were once stirred by the murder of two, we became calloused to the murder of millions. We learned to live with such names as Stalin and Hitler and such words as atom bombs and DPs and Hiroshima and concentration camps. It seemed almost as if the Sacco and Vanzetti case—the very fact that we could still call it a "case" strengthened this appearance-were but a gentle anachronism, a mild blood-letting by comparison with what came later.

But it was not. The Sacco and Vanzetti case; Stalin's trials; Frau Elsa Koch of Buchenwald who had prisoners' skins ripped off to make lampshades-all were part of the same world. From one and through one to the other. That, I think, was perhaps one of the major contributions of the Marxist movement to modern life: its insistence on the indivisibility of social evil.

into mud and blood. That we understood; that we expected even if we could not imagine how filthy the mud and how vast the blood were to be.

What, however, of those who grew up in the shadow of Sacco and Vanzetti, whose rebelliousness was shaped by their names?

How many of them are still rebels? I do not mean how many of them are still members or sympathizers of the Workers Party; or how many of them still "accept" Bolshevism or Marxism; but how many of them are rebels to the extent of reacting with full heart and burning mind when an injustice is done to another man?

It is painful to think of how very few this can be said. It is painful to think of how many have crawled into little holes, of how many have closed their hearts and traded in their minds for second-hand comforts. It is painful to think of how few still react. And I say this from personal knowledge; I grew up in this generation or at least in its last fraction.

Need we any proof that is more convincing than the indifference and silence with which the Indonesian events have been accepted? Do you

Many things have happened since Sacco and think it makes any difference if Sacco and Van zetti are in Massachusetts or in Java?

> And so we come to the question: "What if Sacco and Vanzetti were on trial today?" At least in 1927 they knew that thousands were standing in the streets of Boston shouting their scorn of the murderers, weeping their shame that the murder could take place?

> But today? How many of the people who threw themselves into the Sacco and Vanzetti case of 1927 would respond . . . to the Sacco and Vanzetti case of 1947? Which of the intellectuals who have since become New Deal bureaucrats or professors or sold themselves for a mess of dollar bills, would risk his job and reputation to defend two obscure

One reaction we can imagine. We can imagine The New Leader, which is so expert at whipping Not only, however, did the world sink deeper up rhetorical froth about "democracy," printing a center spread of two articles, one giving the case . . . for Sacco and Vanzetti and the other giving the case . . . against Sacco and Vanzetti; just as it recently printed in an article for the oppressed Indonesian nationalists face to face with an article for the Dutch imperialist bandits. Such "impartiality" is what Sacco and Vanzetti might expect today.

No; if Sacco and Vanzetti had to die, if they had to fall victim to the state of Massachusetts and all that is represented by the state of Massachusetts, then it is better that they died in 1927. Today they would not have the joy of realizing, as Vanzetti said, that they had stirred and awak-

And so it is twenty years after Sacco and Vanzetti came to their end. A few still remember; perhaps only a handful of rebels who, whatever their party divergences, are at least united in the conviction that to accept or to fail to rebel against the society which murdered Sacco and Vanzetti means intellectual death, moral extinction. For it was because of that conviction that Sacco and Vanzetti died in the first place.

was publicly pledged by Herbert

also be able to organize the presen-

tation of cases before the city rent

commission, while it acts as a re-

straining force on local landlords.

Such committees would force the

city rent commission to act more

speedily and to hold off evictions.

There is greater need now than ever

before for tenant organizations in

Philadelphia if widespread harm to

It is unfortunate that the CIO has

failed to put its own program into

practice, of "fight(ing) in any parts

of the city where decent citizens are

faced with evictions" and that it

would call for "mass action...to

halt the selfish and aggressive de-

pledges. But the initiative must come

the lead in organizing local tenant

committees. These committees should

enlist the support of the labor unions

By V. I. Lenin:

The CIO can still make good on its

the people is to be avoided.

mands by landlords."

Local tenant committees would

Moyer, CIO Council secretary.

A Report on Labor Events From the Pacific Coast

By WILLIAM BARTON

The national convention of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, held in San Francisco, concluded early last week. Although there was much talk of the necessity for political action to "defeat labor's enemies" and much concern with the dangers of the Taft-Hartley Act, a sizable proportion of the time was devoted to empty speech making and constitutional changes. The latter brought some of the most vigorous opposition heard on the floor of the teamsters' convention in many years. It was led by the San Francisco delegation headed, fantastically enough, by Joe Casey, President Dan Tobin's chief hatchet man against the Minneapolis teamsters' officials who were railroaded to jail in 1941. There may be a significant undercurrent of resentment against the racketeer-infested bureaucracy of the AFL's largest union developing among the rank and file. Tobin was successful in his main objective, however, in securing the right to appoint a chief assistant who can become his successor if he steps down.

The possibility of action on the waterfront is again in the headlines. The CIO International Longshoremen & Warehousemen's Union has charged that employers, using the Taft-Hartley Act as a pretext, are preparing to fire all "walking bosses" who are members of the union. The Waterfront Employers' Association, apparently all set to deny them recognition as union members because of their supposed status of "foremen," has thus far replied with a "no comment." Ten ships of the Luckenbach Steamship Company and a small stevedore outfit in Los Angeles have been tied up for six weeks by a strike of walking bosses supported by the longshoremen. The union is preparing to extend the strike to the entire coast if the employers go through with their reported plans.

The AFL of Alameda County is scheduling an "old-fashioned Labor Day celebration" in Oakland. As one spokesman put it, "We are going to have a real old-fashioned, enthusiastic type of Labor Day celebration because we've come into a new age with old problems revived." Items include a big downtown parade, barbecue, band concert, fireworks, outdoor speeches and "grand ball."

The San Francisco AFL is sponsoring a more modest program, starting with a parade and culminating in a mass meeting in which the CIO and Railroad Brotherhoods will also participate. The so-called progressive Republican Senator from Oregon. Wayne Morse, will be the featured speaker. One might have hoped that labor unity would produce something more exciting than that.

The strike at the Cutter Laborain Berkeley, which almost re sulted in a general strike over the one-day protection given by police to strike-breakers, has been settled with an apparent "compromise." A

(Continued from page 1)

dous story. What this country needs, what the workers and the majority of the people need, is not a new set of capitalist politicians to replace the present reactionary gang, but a new government, a government of labor and the people as a whole.

A workers' government with a militant program in the interests of the people would call a halt to the great conspiracy organized against the vast working class by big business and carried out by its political parties in Washington. A Labor Party, based on the many millions now composing the labor movement and supported by tens of millions of people, could change this situation over-

An independent Labor Party is the pressing need-not a few years hence, but now, for the solution to these economic questions lies through the road of political action.

Workers Party Holds Three City Conference in Philly

wage raise of ten cents an hour was terms of the settlement must be ac-

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 24-The first Tri-Branch Conference of the Baltimore, Reading and Philadelphia Workers Party branches closed its two-day session here this afternoon with a report on the world revolutionary socialist movement.

decided upon, and the striking union,

the United Office and Professional

Workers, represented in the latter

stages of the negotiations by Harry

Bridges, agreed to a "no-strike"

pledge in return for an agreement

not to hold the union legally liable

sidering the militancy and firmness

observed among the strikers on the

picket line and their wholehearted,

enthusiastic support by the entire

labor movement of the area, the

for any "unauthorized" strikes. Con-

The conference was initiated by the three branches to discuss mutual interests, to plan coordinated activity and to hear organizational reports from each of the branch organizers. as well as reports on the national and international scene by Albert Gates and James Fenwick of the National Committee.

The conference opened its sessions Saturday morning in Labor Action Hall with a welcome to the out of town delegations by the Philadelphia organizer, Jack Brad. James Fenwick, in behalf of the national organization, commended the branches for organizing the conference and extended the well wishes and assistance of the New York office.

The branch organizers' reports indicated that the problems of the three branches were not identical so that mutual assistance even in the form of sharing experiences and information would be very much worth while. Elaboration of these plans included proposals for a regular Tri - Branch Conference at sixmonth intervals, for the interchange of speakers and lecturers on a forHere's a little tidbit from the Oak-

cepted with mixed enthusiasm.

land Tribune early last week that illustrates, though admittedly in extreme form, life in the brave new world of post-war America: John V. Camera, Chevrolet employee for twenty-five years, hanged himself because his house had been condemned and he had no place to

organizational coordinated drives. The conference also afforded the opportunity of cementing friendships among the membership, particularly

of a regional school, summer camp,

at the pre-election social held by the Philadelphia branch on the evening of the Saturday sessions. The descriptions of the work being carried on by the three branches in the labor unions, veterans' organizations, community work, and election campaigns emphasized the increasing role the Workers Party is play-

ing in American political and economic struggle. This role on a national scale was described by Albert Gates, representative of the Political Committee of the Workers Party. Gates outlined those characteristics which distinguish the Workers Party from other working class political organizations. He took up in detail the state of unity negotiations between the WP and SWP and how these were harmed by the split of the Johnson-Forest group, who capitulated to the Cannon group. Recommendations of the confer-

ence regarding the improvement of LABOR ACTION, the issuance of pamphlets on the need of a Labor Party and on the Taft-Hartley bill and comments on the status of unity negotiations and collaboration with the SWP branches locally were submitted to the National Committee mal basis, and for the establishment for consideration at its next plenum,

Japanese Workers Show Some New Wrinkles in Strike Strategy

A friend of LABOR ACTION sent us the following interesting

According to information brought back by an American who was in Japan since the end of the war, Japanese workers have used novel tactics in some of their strikes. The street car employees went out on strike, but continued to operate the cars. At first, they allowed the public to ride free: then, they collected fares, but deducted for themselves the difference between what they were paid and what they were demanding.

The telephone operators, while on strike, reported for work. They cut off all calls to the executives of the company, but provided service to the public. When an operator would plug in and get the number of any member of the public, she would first denounce the company as unfair to its workers in vigorous language, declare that they were on strike, and then, she would ask for the number.

And the railroad workers went on what was called a "shriekstrike." At a specified hour of the day, the workers, no matter where they were in Japan, would stop work, and they would immediately shriek against the company. The same informant also stated that after the defeat of Japan, the Japanese labor movement made tremendous strides forward, that they held many demonstrations, and that these were highly spirited.

Eviction Notices Increase Daily But New Commission Proves Total Failure

By JACK RADER, Workers Party Candidate for the City Council from the Fifth District

PHILADELPHIA - What has happened to city rent and eviction control? The revised Maxman Ordinance has now been in effect for almost a month. What has it achieved? It can be said definitely that the law has failed miserably to answer the three fundamental problems posed by the Workers Party at the City Council hearings on July 30.

The new City Rent Commission headed by Judge McDevitt has been a total failure. There were 8,500 eviction notices threatening at the time the commission began to function. The moment it opened its hearings, it-was flooded with hundreds of complaints. In its first three weeks of operation, the commission has handled 150 cases, not even a drop in the bucket, because the number of new eviction notices is increasing at the rate of 85 a day or 340 a week. So great has been the pressure on the commission that it has been forced to establish daily hearings and set itself a daily quota of 50 cases. At this rate it would take the commission 34 weeks to handle only the existing eviction cases. Since the Maxman law grants an eviction stay of only 26 weeks, the commission actually could not review even the backlog of cases wich it inherited.

EVICTION THREATS' MOUNT

Here It Is!

9:00 P. M.

In the meantime, at the present rate of eviction increases, there the tenants get nowhere. In our statement to the City Coun-

cil, the Workers Party branded the commission as a "dodge." We stated further, "The average working man has great difficulty approaching such committees. It takes time, which means loss of wages. And it means involvement in red tape."

This is exactly what has happened. Of the 150 cases heard, more than half have been "taken under advisement." The red tape begins to roll out. We notice also that a large number of complainants appearing before the commission are landlords. They have the leisure to do so, of course. We called the commission a "dodge" because it is no substitute for halting evictions. The Maxman law is a failure because it does not cope with the problem. Evictions continue and in six months' time all of the 8500 notices issued by July 30 and the additional 1500 a month will take legal effect, commission or no com mission. In contrast, the Workers Party is for an absolute ban on all evictions.

RENTS INCREASE

The commission does not even pretend to cope with rent increases. Legally, landlords may raise rents 15 per cent if the tenant agrees. The Maxman law is so worded that in effect the tenant is forced to give this •15 per cent. But evidence presented to the commission already proves that there is no limit to the landwould be 2890 new families facing lord's ability to raise rents once any

50¢ Admission

the streets. The cycle is endless and raise is legalized. Scores of complaints have been received where the new 15 per cent increase leases no longer include heat, electricity or hot water or other facilities previously included. And it must be remembered that for every complaint made there are hundreds of cases not reported. That is the way it always

> The only way to have met this situation was a law prohibiting rent increases. But the voice of the real estate operators is very powerful in the Democratic and Republican Parties. There can be only one way to halt evictions and keep rents down at this time and that is through the organization of tenants' committees pledged to these objectives. Labor unions and veterans' organizations can help initiate such committees. They can supply the initial organizational leadership.

Tenants forming such committees from the ranks. Most CIO members can call upon the CIO of Philadel- are tenants, they have organizational phia for legal and other aid. This experience. They, above all, can take

(Continued from page 1)

Despite the difficulty of preparing to defend our right to a place on the ballot, for which we have only until Wednesday noon, and the fact that neither candidate has been informed of the grounds for objection or the names of the objectors, representatives of the Socialist Workers Party and the Workers Party will oppose the efforts to remove their candidates from the ballot and expect the assistance of other groups interested in upholding the right of the people of Philadelphia to freedom of choice in the forthcoming elections.

Signed: Pauline Goldenberg, campaign manager for Irene Compte, Socialist Workers Party.

Joseph Davidson, campaign manager for I. Jack Rader, Workers Party.

It is the intention of the committee to offer united action to the Communist Party, too. In addition, the Committee of Seventy, a civil rights group, the Socialist Party and the Workers Defense League are being approached to support this defense.

Bound Volumes

Labor Action New International for 1945 Are Still Available Price: LABOR ACTION, \$2.00

NEW INTERNATIONAL, \$3.00 1946 Bound Volumes have been delayed in binding. As soon as they are ready, it will be announced in Labor Action

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ANNOUNCEMENT!

BOUND VOLUMES OF LABOR ACTION AND THE NEW INTERNATIONAL

WILL BE READY FOR SALE IN ONE WEEK WATCH FOR FURTHER DETAILS IN LABOR ACTION HONOR THE MEMORY OF

LEON TROTSKY

The Workers Party commemorates the life and works of the great leader of world socialism and co-founder with Lenin of the first workers' state in modern history. He was murdered by Stalin on August 22, 1940—an act which symbolized the victory of the counter-revolution in Russia.

SPEAKERS:

MAX SHACHTMAN National Chairman, Workers Party

and

EMANUEL GARRETT Editor, Labor Action

HOTEL DIPLOMAT 108 West 43rd Street, New York City

Friday, September 5, 8:15 P. M. Auspices: Workers Party, Local New York

American Comm. for European **Workers Relief** GALA HOUSEWARMING At the New Headquarters of the ACEWR, 130 West 23rd Street DRINKS - DANCING ENTERTAINMENT - BUFFET THERE'S A TERRACE, TOO, WHERE WE'LL BE SEEING YOU! SEPT. 13 1947

We've been promising it to you for a long time!