Workers Of The World Unite For Peace, Freedom, Plenty!

May Day Manifesto Of The **Socialist Workers Party**

'May Day, the international workers' holiday, is being celebrated this year amid the first rumblings of the socialist revolution. I hrough the noise of battle and the shattering crash of high explosives nurled on populous cities can be heard ever more distinctly the thunder of the approaching revolutionary storm.

We are in the fifth year of the second world war, Capitalism in its death agony has hursed humanity into a maelstrom of death and destruction before which even the horrors of the first world war rade into shadows. Europe is being turned into a wasteland.

- With cynical indifference toward the sufferings of the masses, the capitalist rulers-both fascist and "democratic"boast of the destruction of whole cities and their inhabitants. of the youth of the nations, are pouring home from the battlefronts. Casualty lists are lengthening.

According to the available statistics, casualties among the armed forces of the belligerents, excluding China and Japan, already number close to 11,000,000 killed, missing, wounded and prisoners. And these figures do not include the millions of civilians killed or maimed by aerial bombardment of cities or by hunger and disease, nor do they include the thousands ot merchant seamen killed at sea. And still there is no end in sight.

But already there are abundant signs that the war-weary, tortured masses are beginning to intervene, They are beginning to move independently, resolved to take their fate into their own hands and to determine the questions that involve their lives and future.

We saw the first mighty demonstration of working class resurgence and of the power latent in the proletariat by the crushing of the 20 year-old Fascist regime in Italy. We saw again that the Italian revolution, though temporarily retarded by the **combined** military intervention of the Allies and the Nazis, still jives. The Italian workers of the industrial North are fighting the Nazi occupation with general strikes and demonstrations. Underground working class movements are gaining strength in all occupied countries. The shadow of civil war hangs over France. In England, the workers are demonstrating in strike struggles and political demonstrations their determination to break the noose of class collaboration fastened on them by the treacherous trade union and labor party bureaucracies. The growing frequency and increasing militancy of the strikes, and now the new punitive government decree against strikes point unmistakably to the sharpening of the class struggle.

In Germany, the vanguard of the working class, right in the teeth of the Nazi terror, is rallying its forces and assembling its revolutionary vanguard. Only the other day dispatches reported that the first underground communist convention gathered "somewhere in Germany" and reconstituted a national trade union organization. "The German Communists," we learn, "are said to be internationalists, or as they would be called in Moscow, Trotskyites."

The war structure of Japanese imperialism is at last beginning to crack. Japanese workers and peasants are engaging in strikes and hunger riots.

The Soviet masses have been conducting a heroic and progressive struggle in their indomitable defense of those conauests of the October revolution that have survived despite the



THE MILITANT

PUBLISHED IN THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKING PEOPLE

MAY DAY 1944



Southern Bourbons Mobilize To Defy U. S. Supreme Court

Vow Violent Resistance to Anti-Poll Tax Bill and Ruling Against 'White Primaries'

By Joseph Keller

"Liberal" Democratic and Republican Senators have folded up like wet rags before the Southern Democratic poll-tax bloc and are conspiring to stall the Anti-Poll Tax Bill debate scheduled to begin several weeks ago. Meanwhile, the political guardians of "white supremacy" are demonstrating through their savage resistance to the Supreme Court's recent ruling against "white" primaries that they are prepared to wage a ruthless fight to preserve the poll tax system safeguarding their domination and exploitation of the Southern masses.

more Negroes, not otherwise dis-While some liberals have hailed qualified, the doubtful privilege the Supreme Court decision upof casting a ballot for candidates holding the right of Negroes to of the capitalist Democratic Parvote in Texas Democratic primaty devoted to keeping the Negro ries as nothing less than a "Secin subjection. Even the Southond Emancipation Proclamation," ern Bourbons know the Supreme the Southern Bourbons of today Court's decision cannot possibly have seized upon this issue in orthreaten their political dominader to leave no doubt that they tion. But their concern is with are no less intent on maintaining principle. They refuse to tolerate their power and privileges than even an intimation that the Newere the slave-holders of yestergroes have political or any other day. The Southern guardians of rights. "law and order" openly threaten

"LILY-WHITE" PRIMARIES violent resistance to any chal-

lenge of their rule. Their words The "lily-white" primaries are are not mere bluster; they carry in fact only a tiny sector of the the weight of an armed, organ-| Siegfried Line of laws, instituized and vicious minority which tions and ideology the Southern intains a crushing runng class has erected to safeover millions and has never balk-| guard its dictatorship. There are ed at any means, however violent property qualifications for voting and cruel, for enforcing its rule. which the impoverished masses of the South cannot meet. There SENATOR MAYBANK are "literacy" tests that an Ein-United States Senator Burnet stein could not pass, and "char-R. Maybank of South Carolina acter" tests that would disfranchspoke for the whole rich white ise the Twelve Apostles. There master class of the South when are stringent residence requirehe declared that "regardless of ments. And for those who stubany Supreme Court decision and bornly force their way through any laws that may be passed by all the barbed-wire legal entanmove to avert a dangerous split Congress, we of the South will glements, there always remains maintain our political and social the one final obstacle, intimidainstitutions as we believe to be in | tion and terrorism-the threat of the best interest of our people." loss of employment, a frameup The entire political machinery rap on the chain-gang, or even of the South-state legislatures, -lynching.

arch-reactionary regime of Stalinism. Contrary to all the fainthearts, turncoats, deserters and renegades, the Russian revolution, though desecrated, betrayed and stifled, still lives. And let **Goodrich URW Local Backs**

The defense of the USSR remains a line of demarcation in the labor movement between Marxist revolutionists and all the muddleheads, fainthearts, opportunists, centrists and renegades.

The war which has given the Kremlin bureaucracy a temporary breathing spell has at the same time completely revealed the counter-revolutionary nature of this malignant growth on the organism of the first workers state. Stalin is seeking to exploit the victories of the Red Army abroad by entering into conspiracy with the "democracies" to try to drown the European revolution in blood. Inside the Soviet Union, Stalin has used the war to deprive the masses of their remaining cultural gains. The right of free. universal education has been abrogated; co-education has been abolished; nothing remains of the protective legislation for women. The Greek Orthodox Church and its Holy Synod, together with other most barbaric traditions of "Holy Russia" have been revived with the blessings of the Kremlin. A military caste has been raised as the main prop of Stalin's regime and arrogated to it have been privileges that go beyond even the since 1798 to make the mere ex- tional campaign to free the men, Czarist and Prussian standards.

Inseparable from the real defense of the Soviet Union is the irreconcilable fight against Stalinism, its regime and its policies.

For the unconditional defense of the Soviet Union against all imperialist powers! Down With Stalinism!

Everywhere the deadly passivity of the workers, the product of the demoralization and apathy of more than two decades of betrayals and defeats, is giving way to a new confidence and a new determination to struggle. The new vigor and new hope find their most graphic expression in the reorganization and regroupment in one country after another of the genuine fighters for Socialism.

On every side we witness the growing discontent and disillusionment of the workers with the war, their growing realization that both the Anglo-American and the German camps are engaged in a war that is imperialist in its aims; that the Defense Comcittee. Anglo-American coalition is fighting not for high ideals or great principles, not to smash the system of Fascism, but, just as the German imperialists, for markets, for colonies, for spheres of influence, for the right to exploit. The real aims of Roosevelt and Churchill and the Anglo-American capitalist classes they represent, are not to be found in the pious platitudes and hypo-

(Continued on page 4)

victories that evoked and encouraged the insurgent movements on the continent of Europe. **Fight To Free The Eighteen**

Goodrich local 5 of the United Rubber Workers of America. recognized in Akron and throughout the CIO as an exponent of progressive trade unionism, took an unequivocal stand last week in support of the 18 trade union and Trotskyist leaders imprisoned under the notorious Smith "Gag" Act.

In a letter to President Roosevelt, George R. Bass, President of Local 5, stated: "The enclosed resolution was adopted by the membership of Local No. 5, URWA-CIO, with instructions that a copy be sent to you so that you may use your influence to correct the injustice that has

been shown the eighteen mem- Case, it thereby refused to test bers of organized labor and the the constitutionality of the Smith Socialist Workers Party who are Act. This now places a legal weapon in the hands of reaction. now serving twelve and sixteenmonth federal prison sentences. overt action nor 'a clear and Under the Smith Act neither "These men and women were present danger' need be proved, not convicted for anything they and men can be imprisoned for did, but rather for what they be- their opinion alone. The Civil lieved. They are the first to be Rights Defense Committee, auconvicted under the Smith "Gag" thorized representative of the 18 Act, which is the first statute prisoners, is conducting a napression of opinion a federal repeal the Smith Act and provide crime. The upholding of this law relief for the prisoners and their is contrary to every principle of families. A national campaign democracy, and it is a dangerous has been opened to get 10,000

precedent which can be used signatures on petitions by July against other unionists and political groups.

Nick Hughes, Asst. Secretary "We can ill afford to allow the of Local 104, Boilermakers Unioncourts of this land to make such a mistake and let it go unchal- er at the Mass Meeting held in AFL, who was a scheduled speaklenged. Our only appeal after such mistakes have been made, as Local CRDC declared in the Seattle under the auspices of the in this case, is to you, as the Chief April 13 issue of the 104 Repor-Executive of the United States. ter: "The campaign to free these "The membership of Local 5, 18 trade unionists and socialists URWA, requests that you grant is of great importance to the launconditional pardon and imme- bor movement as a whole . . diate release to these people " As is clearly evident, this Smith The resolution is signed by the Act can become a weapon against

seven officers of the local union. the entire labor movement if it The local also voted a contribu- is allowed to go unchallenged. tion of \$25 to the Civil Rights and unless all labor and liberal forces make a determined effort to free the 18. It might be THE "ADVANCE"

pointed out that poll-tax Con-The Advance, organ of the gressman Smith of Virginia is Amalgamated Clothing Workers also co-author of the notorious of America-CIO, reaching a Smith-Connally anti-strike law." quarter of a million readers, on Arthur LeSeuer, prominent April 15th reported: "When the attorney of Minneapolis, who par-U. S. Supreme Court three times | ticipated in outstanding labor de-

INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS

1943."

to 1.

day each, 2,225,000. Mr. Few-

kes's corroborative testimony

says industrial accidents be-

tween Pearl Harbor and

January 1, 1944, killed 7,500

more Americans than the war

did; that the permanently and

temporarily disabled industrial

workers outnumbered military

wounded and missing by 60

one of the defense counsel at

the Minneapolis labor trial, last

Continue to Fight According to WPB expert John M. Fewkes, industrial accidents-nine-tenths of which **Against Dalrymple** are preventable-account for "ten times" as many lost man-AKRON, O., April 21-In a hours as strikes. The Labor

Department says, that inin the United Rubber Workers dustrial accidents last year were "the highest in history," Union, Goodrich Local 5 voted and that even considering inat a well-attended general memcreased employment, "the accibership meeting April 19, to dent rate went up again in reinstate International President Sherman H. Dalrymple in the Lives lost were 18,400; perlocal, but resolved to carry the manently crippled, 110,000; fight for union democracy to laid up for an average of 15

the next convention. In his report to the meeting, Goodrich Local President George Bass pointed out that the International General Executive Board has the right "to interpret or misinterpret the constitution between conventions." The International Board had ruled that the action of the Goodrich local restrictions but establishing "geo-

Akron Locals Will

in expelling Dalrymple was ungraphical" qualifications. Scores of other similar measures are constitutional. To disregard the right of the General Executive rolling through the Southern legboard to interpret constitutional islative mills.

(Continued on page 2)

courts, police agencies, Democra-In reality, the savage denunciatic party organizations-is altions, the rabid threats, the deready pouring out new legal de- fiance of legality, the mobilizavices for circumventing the Suption for evading and resisting the reme Court's ruling. The South Supreme Court's decision on the

Carolina state legislature, meetprimaries are but a minor skirming in extraordinary session, last | ish, a warm-up for the battle week erased 150 primary laws ahead in defense of the poll tax. from its statute books, making By this means, 97 per cent of the the direction of the primaries a population of the poll tax states "private" matter. The Democraare disfranchised. The Southern tic State Convention has prepared | rulers are thus able to keep the legislation removing formal racial entire working mass of the South,

(Continued on page 5)

MAY DAY GREETINGS FROM NATALIA TROTSKY -See Page 3-

All these extraordinary measures, be it noted, are evoked by a ruling which even if enforced would offer only a few thousand

Murray Supports 'Wage Stabilization' As Employers Lobby To Lift Price Lid

Philip Murray is supposed to | mented by Roosevelt's "hold-the | tempting the remarkable feat of | Wage Stabilization Act, but conbe leading the fight of the steel- line" order of April 8, 1943. Only being both FOR and AGAINST demned its administration by the workers for a wage increase of a few weeks ago, on the first an-17 cents an hour. This wage de- niversary of the "hold-the-line" mand goes beyond the Little order, Roosevelt endorsed a re-Steel formula. Furthermore, as to smash the Little Steel for- line against the workers.

mula, Murray is presumed to Under the circumstances, it is be organizing the national obvious that any struggle to struggle to smash the wage smash the Little Steel formula freeze. The wage freezing Litmust be directed first and foretle Steel formula, as everybody most against the wage freezing knows, is being enforced by the | program of the administration! War Labor Board under the But the "labor statesmen" in the

The N. Y. Times. April 19, rerefused to review the Minneapolis | fense cases in the past and was | Wage Stabilization Act, supple- | leadership of the CIO are at- ports that Murray "endorsed the

the administration's "stabiliza- | War Labor Board, charging that tion" policy. A number of the the board had used the Little top leaders of the CIO, including Steel formula to hamstring laport drawn up by his "economic | Philip Murray, R. J. Thomas and | bor." But the WLB is bound by head of the CIO, which went stabilizers which emphasized the senate Currency and Bank- which in turn is based on the James B. Carey, appeared before Roosevelt's "hold-the-line" order on record at its last convention to hold the wage freezing ing Committee to urge the ex- Wage Stabilization act. Theretension of the Price Control Act | fore, ' Murray's endorsement of and the Wage Stabilization the Wage Stabilization Act con-Act, both of which expire on stitutes in actuality an endorse-June 30. These measures consti- ment of the wage freezing policy tute the twin legislative pillars of the administration. Squirm supporting Roosevelt's "economic and wriggle as he will, Murray stabilization program." cannot escape the inexorable logic

(Continued on page 2)

provisions on this matter would week wrote to the CRDC: be an invitation to the Dalrymple

(Continued on page 5)

TWC -

THE MICITANT

SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 1944



The National Labor Relations These sound observations are increases beyond the limits of the regret is that labor has not vet Little Steel formula have no reached the point where its polirights under the National Labor tical consciousness calls for the laws prohibiting unfair labor would become an effective politipractices by the employers. cal weapon."

To say, as does the Toledo Un-This unprecedented decision ion Journal, that what labor was given in the case of the inneeds is its own labor party but dependent Magazine, Mailers and Deliverers Union of North Jerthat the workers lack the "polisey which had appealed against | tical consciousness" for it, is to the American News Company's stand the facts on their head. Outstanding Achievements The American workers have long discharge of members who engaged in a walkout. The board since been ready for genuine incontended the strikers could not dependent labor politics. The charge the company with violageneral decline in voting strength tion of the Labor Relations Act during recent elections reflects because they struck to secure in large part the disgust of the wage increases beyond the level workers with old-line parties and premitted by the Stabilization politics. The positive strength Act.

The unfair labor practices act, Labor Party in the 1942 gubern-(Wagner Act) under which the atorial elections, and the new deand prohibiting certain anti-la- strong indications of the readibor practices of employers. Nev- ness of the workers to support ertheless, the NLRB has written a party of their own. its own "law" and applied it as The editors of the Toledo Union a penalty against militant worktheir own union's national leaders

This is but the latest instance to find the true source of the of a whole series of administra- failure, thus far, of American tive decrees, issued by one or an- labor to build its own party. The other of the appointed govern- IIAW International Board memment agencies, which are gradu- bers have denounced by resolution ally whittling away the protectany labor party movements and ive labor legislation won by dec- attacked those locals and local ades of labor struggle. Emboldleaders who have initiated the ened by the cringing attitude of campaign, particularly in Michithe union bureaucracy, Roosev- gan, for a new party of labor. elt's agencies are undermining and abrogating the legally established rights of labor by outright administrative fiat.

John L. Lewis's long and tortuous negotiations and maneuvers to secure a comfortable haven for the United Mine Workers inside This is the first CIO contract won the AFL appear to be nearing a conclusion. The recent correspondence between Lewis and Tobin made public by Lewis seems to indicate that Lewis is getting ready to drop the matter. So ends Lewis' ill-fated scheme to cut across basic questions of policy and principle in favor of clique alliances. The miners, in their struggle for wage conditions and a militant labor program, must establish fighting alliances with the most militant and aggressive sections of American labor-the auto workers, the steel workers, the rubber workers. This is the knd of an alliance the union fighters of the UMW must press.

Wolls and Hutchesons.

In an editorial titled, "Labor and Politics," the April 14 Toledo other new plants. Union Journal, organ of CIO Uni

The Militant Subscription Campaign to obtain 3,000 new read-Board last week ruled, in effect, followed, however, by a pretty ers by June 31 through an introductory offer of 13 issues for 25c. that workers who strike for wage muddled contention: "Our only has swung into full stride. The first two weeks of the campaign were utilized by the branches to make thorough plans for their local campaigns. The past week has shown the results of their careful Relations Act and other federal formation of a labor party which planning — the branches are averaging 52 subs a day. The total Reading number of subscriptions received last week more than doubled those received during the first two weeks of the campaign. And now that the comrades know from their own experience that all they have to do to get subs is to go out, after them, the campaign Detroit will undoubtedly gain even greater momentum.

3000

2500

of the Week

Reading not only held first place but went over its quota to hit 110%. Seattle moved from fourth to second place, having fulfilled its quota by 56%

Detroit sent in \$75 for 300 cards and ordered 200 more, saying they NLRB exercises its powers, is velopment of the Michigan Com- hope to double their quota of 300. Aldevoted exclusively to defining monwealth Party movement are though not highest in percentage, Detroit sent in more subs than any other branch.

Journal need go no further than From Our Mail Bag

Our agents are discovering the appearance of the 25c. self-addressed postage-paid card to be an aid in securing subscriptions. One of our Los Angeles agents, for instance, expressed what seems to be the general reaction when she commented, "Those new sub cards are really something. In fact, I think they are

An important advance for the best I have Southern labor was recorded last ever seen for the week when the CIO secured a unpurpose. That ion contract with the R. J. Reyworker reading nolds tobacco company, manufacturer of Camel cigarettes. The Militant with such an intent in the tobacco products industry. look on his face The contract covers 12,000 Nereally has sales gro and white workers in the appeal." Winston-Salem, N. C., plant, the One of our New largest cigarette factory in the world. It was won after a three York agents comyear battle to gain collective mented, "The best bargaining rights. sub blank we ever had. It has * * *

STRUGGLE AGAINST (Continued from page 1) clique to move in on Local 5 and fight to retrieve the democratic disrupt the union.

the whole case involving his arbitrary and dictatorial actions in eral Local, and the question con-

CIO Head Favors Percent Wage Stabilization 56.6

(Continued from page 1)

and machinery which have served us so effectively thus far." In of his political support of the other words, the administration Roosevelt administration. Murray announces its intention of may whine, complain, and blust- maintaining the status quo under er, but in the last analysis poli- which wages remain frozen. All tical support for Roosevelt means they plead for is that Big Busisupport of the administration ness rest content with no more program and policies including than their present fabulous war the wage freeze. All the rest is profits! just so much hot air.

WORDS AND DEEDS

In contrast to the endorsement To the contention set forth in of "wage stabilization" by Murthe "hold-the-line" report that ray and Company, the agents of Big Business have launched a vi-gorous campaign to nullify the wear ago" Philip Murray re-Price Control Act by a series of year ago," Philip Murray reamendments designed to complet- plied: "To every family in the ely take the lid off of prices and nation who is confronted daily rents. One amendment would with the stubborn fact of rising living costs, your last report will, a profit by a cost-plus system of of course, come as a complete grant every individual business price determination based on a shock. Statistics proved," Murguaranteed profit over and ray says, "that living costs have above expenses. Another would risen 43.5 per cent since January place price control in the hands justify his support to measures of the war production agencies which, according to his own stawhich have been extremely gentistics, have failed to stabilize erous to the business interests. the cost of living and to an ad-Still another, would grant price ministration which, in his own violators the right to appeal OPA words, issues "shocking" reports regulations to the courts and thus intended to bolster the wage render enforcement well nigh imfreeze in the face of "the stubpossible . born fact of rising living costs?"

MAINTAIN WAGE FREEZE

Administration spokesmen ave been pleading with Congress deeds. His words are intended not to amend the Price Control to delude the union membership the Senate Banking Committee, cal support

William H. Davis, chairman of versarv by the administration and that, same manner that the miners 'we should cling to the policies fought for their wage increases.

Act, promising to maintain the into thinking that he is fighting wage freeze if the present law for their interests, his deeds, to is extended. Testifying before reassure Roosevelt of his politi-If the steel workers are serithe WLB said: "If Congress sees ous about their demands for 17 fit to re-enact the program as cent hourly wage increases, if the it is, we can control wages if rest of the CIO workers really prices are controlled." The anni- want to smash the vicious wage "hold-the-line" report, freeze, they are confronted with signed by Vinson, Bowles, Jones the necessity of forcing Murray, and Davis, Roosevelt's economic Thomas and Company to get off stabilizers, contends that prices the War Labor Board and launch and wages have been "controlled" | a fight for wage increases in the

There is a glaring contradic-

tion between Murray's words and





RUBBER LOCALS TO CONTINUE rymple and his clique, and the

Dalrymple was reinstated, but next convention.

first step toward a determined provision by which the Board has

tution between conventions, the

expelling 72 workers at the Gen- the right to interpret the consticerning the right of Goodrich lo- Local and all its supporters cal to discipline Dalrymple as throughout the rubber union plan a member of the local, will be to go into the next convention appealed to the next convention. armed with a record that proves To prove that the membership that the International Board has of Local 5 is behind the action disregarded the basic constitu-

SCOREBOARD

Seattle

Allentown

Toledo

Milwaukee

Newark

Boston

Buffalo

New Haven

New York

Cleveland

Flint

San Francisco

Los Angeles

Minneapolis

Philadelphia

San Diego

Chicago

Akron

St. Paul

and Friends

Bavonne

Pittsburgh

Quakertown

Rochester

St. Louis

Texas

Youngstown

Members-at-Large

TOTALS

Quota

30

150

15

30

300

15

80

50

25

500

50

15

150

400

200

30

50

200

40

50

355

50

10

10

15

20

10

50

3.000

100

Subs

33

85

7

13

124

5

23

25

10 5

87

7

17

44 22

13

1

1

0

537

46.6

43.3

41.3

33.

28.7

25.

20.

17.4

14.

13.3

11.3

11.

11.

10.

6.5

2.5

2.

1.6

0.

0.

0

0.

0.

17.9

rights of the membership at the Accepting the constitutional

ted Automobile Workers Local 12, points out how the owning class always uses political means to locals have gone on record supfurther its own interests, and porting the resolutions passed rethat labor too must utilize poli- cently by Briggs Local 212 and tics to protect its own interests. | the Aircraft Division of Ford Lo-"And what is wrong with la- cal 600 calling for a special nabor seeking its economic advant- tional UAW convention to resage through the same means cind the no-strike pledge. The used by the business people?" the locals which have followed the editorial asks. "Is it had when lead of Briggs and Ford Airlabor seeks to protect its eco- craft are Dodge Truck, Fleetnomic interests or advance them wood, Motor Products and Freuthrough political methods?" hauf.

The state the state of a

The wealth of information con-|husband to agree that a labor tained in letters received during party is ok. Next we pointed out the week is so varied that all we that a labor party could never can hope to pass on to our be built without spreading its readers is a cross section of them. ideas as our paper did. He fin-Here is an excerpt from the let- ally parted with a buck for a six-

ter of a seaman: "I enjoyed getting ashore in San

Francisco and going out on con- of them so much as attempted to tact work with R. Haddon, the literature agent; for renewal of Mil-

itant subs. Nothing like going house-to-house to keep up one's "I hope that the Canadian News savvy and sharpen his wits at Letter and In The Colonies will spreading our organ and program. True, out of several people, we now on. 10 Years Ago In the Milonly secured three half-year subs, itant is also a real help to a peryet it was interesting. Of the son who ten years ago didn't even three secured, two were. Negroes know there was a class struggle and one was a white family. With- (meaning me). It's a terrible out much time wasted or fanfare thing to be unconscious for the the Negro subscribers took an- first quarter century one lives."

other 6-month sub. They were very courteous and appreciated the house, a worker (ex-farmer)

was interested in socialism, etc., but wanted things done through our constitution. He thought the subscription is from a Negro who paper too extreme. He had a is very close to us and is very knowledge of co-ops, unions and active in the local NAACP. Much dirty local politics. Ruth and I of our recent activity has been in went to work. His wife at first this latter organization. . . Slowly refused to receive the paper but but surely we are plugging along. through the discussion we got Each member is doing as much friendly, even talked about farm- as he is capable. We only wish ing problems, etc., and got the we could do more."

be carried as regular features from

the interest we took in them. Our Diego agent is bringing good last visit was with a white fam- results. His letter accompanying ily at which house we spent al- a one-year combination subscripmost two hours. The man of tion to The Militant and Fourth International states:

terested in knowing the enclosed

SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 1944

THE MICITANT

May Day Celebrations And Demonstrations In Europe And The United States In The Period Of The First World War

By Art Preis

On this fifth May Day of World War II, the rulers of the warring nations turn terrified eyes on the flames of socialist revolution beginning to lick at the capitalist charnel house of Europe. Once more, they recall in fear and trembling the historic May Day struggles of World War I, when the workers of Europe flung a mighty challenge at the war lords and mobilized their forces for titanic class struggles.

Those May Days of the first world war ushered in a wave of proletarian revolts that dissolved the imperialist battle-lines, uprooted age-old dynasties, P war, in 1915, the voices of these shook international capitalism lone fighters echoed down empty to its foundations and heralded and deserted streets in all the the triumphant Russian Revo-European capitols where on May

lution. The capitalist reaction that has held sway in the first years of their ringing words nevertheless this present war had its counter- penetrated locked doors, were part in World War I. Then too the ruling classes hoped to drown working class internationalism, MAIN ENEMY the very essence of May Day, in a tidal sweep of chauvinism and

mass slaughter. But today, as in World War I. the spirit of May Day lives, in the dungeons of fascist Europe, in be sure that in Germany today the camps of the anti-Nazi parti- the revolutionary internationalsans, in the mounting class strug- ists are spreading the immortal gles of the British workers, in appeal to the German workers the ranks of the Red Army fight- penned by Liebknecht in early ing to save the remaining con- 1915. When Liebknecht heard

INTERNATIONALISM

Italian masses.

May Day, the day of workingclass internationalism, is indestructible. And the great May Day Demonstrations of the last war will soon be repeated again. The German people must wage a May Day, 1916. That is a day the imperialists will never forget. For on that day in Berlin, German imperialism was struck the first great blow that in the end, destroyed its whole war ma-

Up to that day, for 22 months your Italian brothers! Units for after the outbreak of the war in the war regime. German imperialism seemed to have brought the German workers to their knees in one bold stroke. The great Social-Democratic Party of Germany, betraying the millions in its ranks, had violated its anti-war pledges and joined with the capitalists, monarchists and junkers and voted to support the war.

Within three days of the Kaiser's declaration of war on Russia, on August 3, 1914, the Socialist deputies in the Reichstag at their fraction meeting voted 78 to 14 to support the war appropriations. Their declaration was PROLETARIAN STRUGGLE read the next day to a cheering Reichstag. Triumphant imperialism joyously greeted the capi-

quests of the October Revolution, that the Italian socialists voted in the heroic resistance of the to continue opposition to the war after-Italy's entry into the conflict, he issued an historic manifesto: "The main enemy of the German people is in Germany: German imperialism, the German war party. German secret diplomacy.

caught by listening ears in fac-

tory and barracks.

political struggle against this enemy in its own country, in conjunction with the struggle of the proletarians of other countries against their own imperialists... "Proletarians of all countries! Follow the heroic example of

international class war August 1914, the mighty Ger- against the conspiracy of secret man working class appeared diplomacy, against imperialism, hopelessly bound to the Kaiser's against the war, for a socialist peace!

"The main enemy is in your own country!" Liebknecht did not appeal in

Day, 1916, a huge workers demonstration greeted Liebknecht in Berlin. In the midst of the German victories, thousands cheered his denunciation of the

war. A panicky German ruling class, violating Liebknecht's parliamentary immunity, thrust him into prison.

us!"



From Original Painting by Evelyn Novack NATALIA TROTSKY

were closed. In Moghilev, the

Staff, the Cavaliers of St. George

marched at the head of the pro-

cession. The members of the

staff-unremoved czarist generals

riage contract and smooth out any last-minute squabbles over

dowry rights (posts) among the

The MFLP has been in decline

for several years, particularly

since the Stalinist machine seized

control of its apparatus. The

failure of the party to give an

answer to the manifold problems

of the workers and farmers had

brought it increasingly into dis-

The real voice of organized la-

bor was scarcely heard at the

convention. Stalinist CIO offi-

cials swarmed all over the con-

vention floor, did much of the

speaking and jockeyed the con-

vention along. Only two figures

from the Minneapolis AFL, offi-

cials from the Electrical and

Laundry Workers, were present

to sanction the fusion. The offi-

cial political committee of the

Minneapolis Central Labor Un-

part of the organized workers in

Minnesota, had expressed itself as opposed to the fusion.

which represents a large

principals.

credit.

IN DECLINE

side of the battle front, the that began in the French army strations. Not only the industrial French working class was also on May 3, 1917 that Minister of beginning to demand a settling of War Painleve recorded "no more and rural public institutions accounts with their capitalist war than two divisions between Soiseaders. Paris on May Day, 1917, sons and Paris could be absolut- headquarters of the General was the scene of a mighty de- ely relied on.' monstration, the first great work-

ers manifestation in France FRENCH WORKERS

since the outbreak of war. Over | "Colonel Herbillon informs me 10,000 rallied to a mass meeting of new mutinies ... " recalls the called by a "Committee for the French war President, Poincare, Renewal of International Rela- in his memoirs. "Men have revain. His words were heard tions." The May Day strikes con- fused to go into the trenches. above the cannons' roar. On May tinued and grew, sweeping all Order is menaced everywhere... France. Within three weeks, al- The fever is spreading. Sympmost the entire working class of Paris was on the streets. "It in the army are multiplying ... made one think of the French At Dorman a few days ago sol-Revolution, with the populace diers cried out: 'Vive la Revolu- Bolshevism stood out distinctly overrunning the royal palaces ' tion! Down with the war'!" / wrote Michael Corday in The

Paris Front. And while the French workers ering their strength for the final the refuge of the Provisional were striking and demonstrating,

-marched under May 1 banners. The holiday of proletarian antimilitarism blended with revolution-tinted manifestations of patriotism. "In both capitols and in the industrial centers the workers dominated the celebration, and amid them the strong nuclei of

And in Russia, celebrating the and shouts. Across the immense overthrow of Czarism and gath- facade of the Mariinsky Palace, overthrow of capitalism millions Government, was stretched a bold their brothers in uniform were marched in the streets for the red streamer with the words: But the proletarian struggle mutinying after the offensive un- tremendous May Day 1917 de- Long Live The Third Internaagainst the capitalist war rose in dertaken in April 1917. March- monstration. That historic mass tional!' The authorities, not rid

Greetings From Natalia Trotsky To The Imprisoned Eighteen

The year 1944 has ushered you behind prison gates. Such is the destined lot of genuine revolutionists who fight for the better future of mankind. From one century to the next the main occupation of the ruling classes has been the persecution of progressive ideas that serve the interests of the popular masses. The forms of persecution have undergone change-from burning at the stake to incarceration in "democratic" dungeons -but the essence has remained the same.

The forward march toward a humane social system takes place slowly, by fits and starts. The force of resistance of the rulers of the world, shaken by the experience of the great October Revolution, has been rendered subtle in the extreme, especially in the utilization of methods to defend their vital interests. Persecutions, jails, tortures, executions, wars-everything has been set in motion. The sufferings of the masses have reached incredible proportions - but the masses alone are destined to bring order into the bloody chaos created by the bourgeoisie.

May Day, the great holiday of the world working class, will be celebrated by you in the "democratic" prisons. This is your contribution to the revolutionary struggle for the establishment of the new system of human life.

Please accept my warmest, fraternal greetings, NATALIA SEDOV TROTSKY

ents in Russia, the American

far as it could the army at the by the bosses savagely assaulted front celebrated. News came of the anti-war demonstrators. meetings, speeches, banners and Bloody battles and mass arrests revolutionary songs in the ensued trenches, and there were res-Mindful of May Day, 1917, and chilled by the revolutionary ev-

ponses from the German side." MAY 1, 1918

capitalist government in 1918 pro-One year later, on May 1, 1918, hibited any May Day demonstra-Russia was the scene of a tretions. Aided by the traitorous lamendous May Day celebration. No czarist generals and capitalist ministers strutted this time in

the parades. For this was the first May Day of the Soviet Union, the first workers state. The enterprises, but the state, city triumphant Bolshevik Revolution had ended the imperialist war for the Russian toilers; its

impact was cracking the war fronts of all Europe. A dozen thrones toppled under the upsurge of the masses. America too witnessed an his-

toric May Day during World flags flying in one of the most Socialist anti-war de-War I. militant and mightiest May Day monstrations of huge scope ocdemonstrations this country has curred on May Day, 1917, just ever seen. In the city of Clevethree weeks after the govern- land, where 59,000 paraded led

ment's declaration of war. Police by Charles E. Ruthenburg, jailed and gangs of hoodlums oragnized Socialist anti-war fighter and la-



TOLEDO, O.-A big change is dictate to us. Under this policy by the rank and file. The victory, taking place in Toledo, the birth- management and their stooges can however, is by no means a detulation of the largest party of the Second (Socialist) Interna-tional. intensity, spread to all war to reid out: "Long Live Peace! to remove this disagreeable and Spicer, Willys - Overland and who walked the powerer, is by no means a de-outpouring is described in Leon of their administrative shynes, of the rear, returning soldiers outpouring is described in Leon of their administrative shynes, of the rear, returning soldiers outpouring is described in Leon of their administrative shynes, of the rear, returning soldiers outpouring is described in Leon of the rear, returning soldiers outpouring is described in Leon of the rear, returning soldiers outpouring is described in Leon of the rear, returning soldiers outpouring is described in Leon of the rear, returning soldiers outpouring is described in Leon of the rear, returning soldiers outpouring is described in Leon of the rear, returning soldiers outpouring is described in Leon of the rear, returning soldiers of the early days at Auto-Lite, but were put to work in other

Communist Party, a ferocious battle ensued. Mounted police and armed Legionaires shot and clubbed down the marchers, leaving hundreds injured and two workers dead. And this symbolized for millions the capitalist "democracy" for which the workers in uniform had been forced to die

-TEREE

Today, as in the latter years of World War I, the signs are multiplying throughout Europe and the world, that the revolutionary spirit of May Day is grip -. ping the working masses. Not all the terrorism of the fascists, the repressions and propaganda of the "democracies" and the infamous betrayals of Stalinism and the servile labor lieutenants of capitalism have succeeded in crushing proletarian internationalism. Remembering the May Days of World War I, we can confidently predict that the greatest May Days are ahead. They will mark the historic milestones in the victorious advance of world socialism.

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Business Manager 116 UNIVERSITY PLACE NEW YORK 3, N.Y.

as effective propaganda in their campaigns.

The five men, recently fired from Willys "Aircraft," have been reinstated, because of the

strong pressure brought to bear

bor bureaucrats of the Gompers variety, the government that promised to "make the world safe for democracy" worked to suppress all manifestations of international working-class solidarity. CLEVELAND MAY DAY But not for long. On May Day, 1919, the American workers, stirred by the revolutionary events in Europe, stormed into the streets by the hundreds of thousands, marching with red

Send the zone number to:

Throughout Germany, gigantic

LIEBKNECHT

tional.

strike demonstrations occurred on May 1, 1917 in protest against But there was one Socialist deputy in the Reichstag who did the starvation war rations. 250, 000 Berlin workers downed tools. not bow before the war-makers. The key naval yards at Kiel Karl Liebknecht, most courageous and heroic of the German were closed down. 125,000 munianti-war fighters, caught up the tions workers walked out, cripfalling banner of working class ling German arms producinternationalism and held it aloft tion. Mutiny flared in one of in the face of persecution and the main sections of the German unparalleled vilification. And he navy. Within sight of Kiel harwas one with a handful of other bor, the crews of several ships in and the languishing Minnesota intransigent European revolution- Squadron IV set up committees and seized control of their vesists — Lenin, Trotsky and Rosa Luxemburg among them - who sels. Only after a stubborn unflinchingly denounced the war struggle was the mutiny suppressed. and opposed it.

On the first May Day of the Meanwhile, on the opposite

New York MAY DAY RALLY CELEBRATE MAY DAY 1944 WITH THE TROTSKYISTS Speakers: C. THOMAS ROSE KARSNER MARGARET SHOENFELD Chairman: JOHN G. WRIGHT Special program of MAY DAY features SUNDAY, APRIL 30th, 8 P. M. MAIN BALL ROOM - IRVING PLAZA 15th Street and Irving Place 0 Auspices: Socialist Workers Party - New York Local

to remove this disagreeable and Spicer, So widespread were the mutinies drowned in meetings and demon- it seemed, was celebrating. So

Stalinists Cement Union Of nesota FLP And Democrats

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn. - The 1919, was forced into a union draft of a slate for forthcoming shot-gun marriage between the with the capitalist political state elections. After a period of meeting of Local 12, UAW-CIO, don't belong in office." Minnesota Farmer - Labor Party machinery it was founded to op- doldrums, in which the convention an amalgamated union of some pose and wipe out.

Democratic Party was finally FUSION CONVENTION consummated at an amalgamation

convention of the MFLP held party built by the workers and farm manager and Democratic April 14-16 in Minneapolis. Its own leaders, a clique of farmers of Minnesota comes at politician, Byron G. Allen. Stalinists and CIO lackeys of the very time when Roosevelt and Roosevelt put the gun to the head the Democratic Party are reveal- grams from Philip Murray, CIO stoppage. A motion was made of the MFLP. They steered and ing their anti-labor role most President, Sidney Hillman, head from the floor demanding the under the hybrid name of Demo- defend them against the on- J. Thomas. A. F. Whitney, head meeting to justify to the membercratic-Farmer-Labor Party. In this ignominious fashion, the political henchmen. independent farmer - labor poli-The chief business of the fusion

tical movement, which at times, convention, after the formal nup-Roosevelt sent one of his chorehas made not only state but tial services had been completed, boys, Oscar Ewing, vice chairman of the Democratic National Comnational political history since was the deals for party posts and mittee, to help draw up the mar-



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Willys - Overland and who walked the picket lines of but were put to work in other "...All the cities of Russia were alarming streamer. Everybody, Chevrolet is again asserting the '30's, will have their heads departments. They will also itself in a manner which is cut off by their own Interna- receive no back pay for time lost. causing no little uneasiness among tional."

conservative union leaders. After Another said, "This is not unchafing for several years under ion politics. There are no lines "labor's no-strike pledge" and drawn here. The Reuther faction the ensuing provocative acts of and the Addes faction both voted industrial management, the rank for this outrage. Let them come and file finally made its voice down here to explain themselves. heard at a recent membership If they cannot or will not, they

International Representative could not seem to find a suitable 30,000 members.

James Crowley finally got the

candidate for governor, the The occasion was the announce floor and, with several hands still in the air, bellowed, "I move the ment of the newly adopted policy in the air, bellowed, "I move the This cynical sell-out of the huzza and noise for a wealthy of the UAW-CIO International Exprevious question!" ecutive Board calling for punitive

The vote on the motion carried action against any member ininanimously.

The fusion was hailed in televolved in an "unauthorized" work Melvin Schultz, Local 12 Presi dent, then gave an impromptu coerced the tottering wreck of clearly, and when the workers of the CIO Political Action presence of the four top officers, past the hour of adjournment. speech which carried the meeting what remains of the MFLP into and poor farmers stand most in Committee, and CIO United Au- Thomas, Addes, Reuther and Schultz took a "yes-and-no" posia vote to fuse with the Democrats need of a party of their own to tomobile Workers President R. Frankensteen at a coming special tion on the Board's resolution and slaughts of Big Business and its of the Railroad Brotherhoods, ship their dictatorial decree. The cent failures of the Local Union. apologized at some length for reattended in person to give his discussion that ensued proved be Local 12 has in the last month yond doubt that the "politicians" lost labor elections to the M.E.S.A. PIONEER PUBLISHERS blessings to the unholy alliance.





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FOUR-

THE MILITANT

Socialist Workers Party May Day Manifesto

(Continued from page 1)

every day in the actions of these governments.

The lie that this is a war for democracy is glaringly revealed in every sphere. when the Allied armies marched into North ountry and emerged out of the war as a creditor country. In Africa they did not bring self-determination and liberation to the the second world war the commanding position of American imnatives of that territory. These millions of colonial slaves have been subjected anew to the despotic rule of French imperialism, now propped up by Allied bayonets. commands an unsurpassed productive plant. Wall Street's power

The people of Italy have found themselves betrayed. They were promised peace and liberty if only they would overthrow Mussolini and the Fascist regime. Instead their country has been converted into a battlefield and Roosevelt and Churchill are trying to impose on them the infamous police-military dictatorship of Badoglio and the King.

The Allies have already made it clear that they intend to carry out the self-same program throughout Europe. They are keeping their hands free to unite with the Vichy elements in France and establish a French "Badoglio" government to rule over the French people. They have already announced their intentions to dismember Germany and impose a military rule over its people. Roosevelt and Churchill are planning to bring to the suffering masses of Europe not "democracy," not "liberation," not the "four freedoms," not prosperity, well-being and peace. No! Their real aims are to Balkanize Europe, to convert the continent into colonial provinces under the heel of Anglo-American capitalism, to subjugate and enslave its peoples and to exploit them for the benefit of the banks, the cartels, the Wall Street and Lombard Street pirates.

Who else can they ally themselves with in Europe, who else is ready to join in this nefarious scheme, who else is left to guard the decaying, criminal capitalist system, except the brass hat aristocracy, the capitalist and landlord cliques who yesterday collaborated with Hitler and the Nazis and who stand ready to collaborate on the morrow with Roosevelt and Churchill.

The American working class, like the workers of Britain, have the clear duty of exposing the counter-revolutionary aims of the Anglo-American rulers, of fighting against this program and of rallying the ranks of labor at home against it. The cry must be taken up by the broad ranks of the labor movement: Hands off the European revolution!

The lie that this is a war for democracy is likewise revealed people, for "democracy," for "freedom from want." No, it will in the attitude of the Allied governments toward the enslaved peoples of the colonies. Before the ink had dried on the Atlantic only signify the victory of totalitarian rule, the domination of unbridled monopoly capitalism. It will spell the enslavement Charter which was to bring the "four freedoms" to the four corners of the earth, Churchill declared that it did not apply to and pauperization of the American masses. For Wall Street aims India, where 400,000,000 colonial slaves are held in bondage by the British colonial despots. Britain has refused to return aim to keep 13 million Negroes in a condition of debasement, Hong Kong to China even after the war, despite the fact that it is Chinese territory and that China is an ally. Practically all the servitude and shame, to destroy the American labor movement countries of Latin America are being converted into vassals of Wall Street imperialism and their peoples harnessed to the Allied war machine. Wall Street holds on grimly to Puerto Rico, liberals and the Stalinists are all busy selling the war to the where mass starvation has become chronic under its criminal rule, despite a promise of independence made more than forty masses? Is it not true that they all repeat after Roosevelt that years ago. As a matter of fact, the Wall Street ghouls are already it is a war for the "four freedoms" and that the workers must plotting to partition the colonial empires of their rivals and support it, must sacrifice, must give up the right to strike, must give up the fight for wage increases and better working condisubject them to the domination of the American plutocracy. The tions? Yes, all these forces have sold out to the capitalist class, Army and Navy Journal has announced that an agreement has they have betrayed the people, they are servants of the war already been reached for the United States to take over all the machine. They are all liars and betrayers and deceivers of the Japanese-mandated islands in the Pacific, etc., etc. people. They are seeking to corrupt the labor movement, they

On this May Day we Trotskyists again reaffirm the pledge of the Socialist vanguard to arouse the working class in support | are conspiring with Roosevelt and the capitalists to housebreak | ers are beginning to break from the prison house of capitalist of the liberating slogans:

Freedom for the colonies! An end to colonial and place the American working class in the strait jacket of the war government. exploitation and oppression!

Defend China and the struggle for the complete critical promises of the Atlantic Charter. They are disclosed independence of India and all the colonial peoples!

The United States entered the first world war as a debtor

and influence are already beginning to reach into the remotest

corners of the earth. The American ruling class, the richest and

most arrogant since the advent of the capitalist system, is now

preparing to establish a new super-empire of imperialism, to

sher in the "American Century." This colossus seeks nothing

less than world domination. In its drive for this goal, U. S. Big

Business has become the leader of counter-revolution the world

Let there be no illusion among the American working class.

hat this program, if realized, would mean greater prosperity and

reedom for the people at home. The very contrary is true: In

he midst of the war for "democracy," while workers are pouring

out their blood on the battlefields, the capitalists have unleashed

a ferocious offensive against the labor movement at home. They

have frozen wages, under conditions of soaring war inflation.

They have chained the workers to their jobs, in the midst of a

Wall Street's program of world domination spells hunger,

repressions and totalitarianism at home. It means the main-

tenance of huge American military forces, in the words of

Secretary Knox, "to police the world for 100 years." It means

fighting a war against the European working class who are

battling to overthrow their tyrants and to establish a new Socialist

society of peace and plenty. It means putting down rebellions of

millions of colonial slaves who are seeking to liberate themselves

colonial bondage but also to Prussianize the United States. They.

and bring wages and working conditions down to coolie levels.

he Murrays and Greens-together with the social-democrats, the

the unions, throttle their, independence, destroy their militancy

And yet, is it not true that the trade union bureaucracy-

The victory of Wall Street will not spell a victory for the

from the yoke of imperialist exploitation.

LET THERE BE NO ILLUSIONS

over.

labor.

Trotskyist May Day Marchers



Banner of the Trotskyist contingent in the United Front 1934 May Day demonstration in New York City. Workers of every tendency in the labor movement, except the Stalinists, marched in a five-hour long demonstration.

world, climbed on the bandwagon of Wall Street's war. They quickly became the most brazen defenders of American capitalism. They quickly became the most brazen sell-out artists in the trade unions. They were the first to campaign for the reintroduction of piece work and the speed-up into the plants. They are in the front ranks in the dastardly work of betraying and breaking strikes, they are in the forefront in covering up not only to place Europe on hunger rations and keep Asia in and defending the anti-labor crimes of Roosevelt. They jumped to the fore in the unions to support Roosevelt's campaign for forced labor, they are in the front ranks of those who seek to keep the workers tied to the capitalist parties, heading off independent labor parties, and savagely fighting the labor party movements where they arise.

> But the American working class is not taking things lying down. They are not merely passive clay, nor unthinking cannon fodder. They are not an inert mass, mere objects of exploitation and oppression by the capitalist war machine, and objects for betrayal in the hands of the labor bureaucrats and the Stalinist finks. No! The American working class while still backward politically, while still tied to the capitalist parties and not yet committed in its majority to the struggle for a new Socialist society is nevertheless a class that has mades giant strides forward in its'political thinking since Pearl Harbor. The American workpolitics, as witness the new labor party developments in Michigan and elsewhere. They are already challenging the wage freeze and the repressive war machinery as witness the four coal strikes. the rail struggles and the numerous smaller strike struggles throughout the country; they are already beginning to challenge

new militant foundations and arouse all of its ranks behind the militant fighters who are fighting for a new workers' society.

Revoke the No-Strike Pledge! Smash the Wage Freeze! For the Escalator Clause-the Rising Scale of Wages to Meet the Rising Cost of Living!

Confiscate All War Profits! Nationalize Industry under Workers' Control! Break with the Capitalist Parties! Build the Labor Party! Abolish Jim Crow! Forward to a Workers and Farmers Government!

The longer the war continues the more unavoidable becomes the political awakening of the war-weary, tortured peoples of the world. It is already clear that the conflagration that will sweep the European continent as a consequence of the present world slaughter will be far more widespread, far more furious, far more conscious and determined than the revolutionary conflagration that swept Europe 25 years ago. All the accumulated hatred, all the bitterness for the sufferings, the deaths, the horrors and tortures will burst forth on the heads of the perpetrators of hese crimes, on the capitalist rulers who bear the responsibility and who seek to perpetuate the system of hunger and exploitation which gave birth to the war; and it will be vented on all the traitors and scoundrels, the trade union bureaucrats, the Social-Democrats, the liberals and above all the Stalinists who lied, deceived and betrayed the masses in the hour of crisis and who are continuing their treachery today in frantic efforts to prop up the decaying, dying system of capitalism. In the days to come. these deceivers, these betrayers will be spurned, their names will be dishonored, their influence destroyed. Only we Trotskyists, the disciples of the great revolutionist Leon Trotsky, the heirs and continuators of the program and teachings of Marx, Engels and Lenin, the only genuine followers of the Bolshevik traditions and of Marxist internationalism-we Trotskyists alone have told the truth, we only have stood apart and have done our revolutionary duty. Only we have fought for the interests and the future of the working class and have guarded its revolutionary heritage.

On this May Day the Trotskyists stand forth in all countries as the sole consistent defenders of both the immediate and historic interests of the working class. That is why 18 leading American Trotskyists are today confined to prison, where they were railroaded by Roosevelt under the infamous Smith "Gag" Act. That is why the British Trotskyists are being hounded by Churchill. The working class is learning to understand this. As part of its struggle against the anti-labor campaign of reaction it will take up the defense of the imprisoned Trotskyists. As part of the campaign to protect its organizations and rights, it will take up the slogan:

Free the Imprisoned 18 Trotskyists!

To the plans of the capitalist rulers for continuing the slaughter of the peoples so that the survivors may be enslaved, the Trotskyists counterpose a program for the fraternal union of the workers of all lands, to the end that capitalism may be abolished and a peaceful, progressive social order established in which war, hunger and misery will have vanished forever.

To the demand for national unity in the interests of capitalsm, put forward by the Stalinists, the Social Democrats, the abor union fakers and all other betrayers of the working class, he Trotskyists sound the clarion call for workers' struggle against apitalism.

Above the carnage of the battlefields we raise high the banner of socialist internationalism, humanity's only hope. Beneath its folds the revolutionary vanguard of the war-weary peoples is already assembling. Its victory is certain.

Inseparable from the struggle for the socialist emancipation of mankind is also the support of colonial countries against their oppressors. China, so long torn apart and oppressed by all the imperialist powers, is now fighting a war of national liberation against Japan. We support China's war in spite of Chiang Kaishek's bestial, dictatorial rule, just as we support India in her the socialist victory of the working class.

STALINIST DECEIVERS A leading role in this campaign of lies, deception and the no-strike pledge, as witness the actions of leading Detroit auto betrayal is being played by the Stalinists, who are emerging unions.

as the very spearhead of reaction inside the labor movement. The class conscious Socialist militants in the labor movement will work to organize this movement of resistance on broad Today it is becoming more and more accepted by the broad ranks of labor that the Stalinists are not an independent political national lines and to equip it with a conscious program. They struggle for independence against the British yoke. The struggles force, but simply the subservient agents of the Kremlin bureau- will expose the infamy and crimes of the labor bureaucrats of the colonial peoples deal blows to imperialism and facilitate cracy and of Stalin's foreign policies. After Hitler's attack on and the Stalinists, and work to destroy their influence among the the Soviet Union, the Stalinists in this country, as throughout the broad masses of labor. They will rebuild the labor movement on

Long live May Day-day of workers' struggle and solidarity!

Against the Imperialist War! For Peace through Socialism!

Long Live the Struggle for Socialism!

Long Live the Socialist United States of Europe! Forward to the Socialist Society. For a New World of Peace, Freedom and Plenty!

many weaknesses which the au-In Detroit, Mich. Articles On Italy, Japan thor utilizes to prove that in 1944, NATIONAL COMMITTEE You can get Japan is the weakest link in the A Timely Book on Italy SOCIALIST WORKERS THE MILITANT imperialist chain, as was Czarist Featured In April F. I. Russia in 1917. PARTY at the "The National Question in Ire-**Fascism and Big Business** FAMILY THEATRE The April issue of Fourth In- | war aims, methods and plans" is land," a reprint of sections of NEWSSTAND ternational features a detailed irrefutably demonstrated in this the theses of the Irish Trotskyopposite the theatre analysis of "Nine Months of Alimportant study. ists, discusses the relationship be-By DANIEL GUERIN MAY DAY GREETINGS The role of women in Japan, lied Rule in Italy," by E. R. tween North and South Ireland, Frank. Since the armistice be- their double victimization under pointing out the necessity for natween the Badoglio government the semi-feudal peasant economy 336 Pages List price \$1.00 Members of the tional unification SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH and the Allies was signed on and the distorted capitalist eco-The strike wave in Britain and Special sale price .75 Sept. 3, the allies have betrayed nomy of the cities, is graphically BOSTON the role of the English Trotsky-Socialist Workers Party ists, the steel workers' fight the Italian workers, suppressed told in the third of the series, Order from all political activity, hamstrung "Japan Faces the Abyss," by Liagainst the wage freeze, Roos-LOCAL, S.W.P. Fu-Jen. The virtual slavery to the awakening trade union moveevelt's slave-labor program, the PIONEER PUBLISHERS SOLIDARITY WITH OUR growing disillusionment of the ment, encouraged the growth of which Japanese women are bound, This May Day reaffirm **116 University Place** New York 3, N.Y. the new monarchist "Blue Party." is only one manifestation of the European workers with the role How all these moves fit into the complex, contradictory nature of of Anglo-American capitalism, their loyalty to International IMPRISONED COMRADES Socialism and to their Im-"blueprint of Anglo-American Japanese economy, one of the the seventeenth anniversary of the prisoned Comrades. We ex-Chinese Revolution, are discussed tend May Day Greetings to by the editors in "The Month in our absent members, and we Review." EVERY READER OF THIS PAPER CAN GREETINGS OF SOLIDARITY **Readers of Fourth Internation**remember those Comrades who have died in this al who have been following with Aid Labor's 18 TO ALL imperialist war. keen interest the translation of Trotsky's pamphlet, "Military TROTSKYISTS Doctrinarism," . will want to The Minneapolis Branch of POLITICAL PRISONERS AND THEIR FAMILIES read the last section of this bril-BY CONTRIBUTING ONE DOLLAR Less than a Year liant work which appears in the $\sim \sim \sim$ the Socialist Workers Party Old the Southside JAMES T. FARRELL, Chairman April issue. Branch Celebrates CIVIL RIGHTS DEFENSE COMMITTEE On this May Day we bow our heads extends May Day Greetings its First May Day 160 Fifth Avenue, New York City 10, N. Y. THE in honor of our Martyred Dead with Warmest Comto the readers of The Militant I am c'ipping this ad and sending it to you with my **MILWAUKEE** radely Greetings and Imprisoned Comrades. dollar for the Minneapolis Prisoners Pardon and Relief Fund. to the 18 BRANCH and to our imprisoned throughout the World. of the SOUTH SIDE comrades. $\sim \sim \sim$ S.W.P. BRANCH Pledges Solidarity **SEATTLE** LOCAL Address LOS ANGELES with the 18 Fighters Socialist Workers Party City and State LOCAL, S.W.P. for Socialism



Why the Negro Struggle?

Many genuine progressives brown hue are now in the minorview the question of the Negro ity?

struggle for equality in a purely If we are to be practical in our formal manner and thus arrive struggle for a new social order at the position where they at- we must not ignore existing tempt to completely ignore the social forces. The origin and racial factor. Basing themselves destination of "race" do not on this false position, they refuse determine its present place and to take an active part in the role in the class struggle. Amer-Negro struggle as such. Although | ican capitalism, in its decay and sincere in their motives, they may decline, finds it necessary to peras well for all practical purposes petuate Jim Crow. Although this capitulate to the capitalists and prop is not of our making, neverbow off the stage. For they are theless we must face it and of no value to the workers when understand it if we would destroy they stand aloof from the battle Jim Crow. Color prejudice is propagated

Thus, regardless of the many

scientific facts pointing to the

eventual negation of race, the cap-

italists are now effectively using

color prejudice to the detriment

of all the working people. Further

more even a prejudiced white work

er must realize that special atten-

As a result of these insults and

oppressions, the average Negro

and gaze nonchalantly in the other direction. against the Negro, (any one who

Admittedly, there is a wealth of is not "white") to divide and scientific facts which are liable to weaken the labor movement. Since lead one off on this tangent of skin color is apparent to all and ultra-leftism. For example, there since around 18 percent of the is reason to believe that at some working people are noticeably not prehistoric time there was but "white" we may expect to see the one race of men. Various groups Negro issue exploited more and were later split off by glacier more by the ruling class of Amermovements. These tribes were ica. left to evolve under different en-

vironmental conditions. Thereupon "survival of the fittest" became the motivating factor in the determination of external appearances.

In the snowy Caucasus mountains the blondes survived because the light color of skin and hair tion should be given to bettering served as natural camouflage. In the conditions of the workers low-Africa and other equatorial re- est in the economic scale because gions only those individuals sur- the capitalists constantly attempt vived whose outer skin contained to reduce the level of all the workthe greatest amount of the dark ers down to that of the lowest brown pigment, melanin — our strata.

only natural protection against the Let us not ignore the fact that burning ultra-violet rays of the Negroes in this capitalist "demosun. In the same manner a bushy cracy" have been officially desigtexture of the hair developed as nated to be second-class citizens. a further protection against skull We have been lynched without fracture in the deep jungles where benefit of judgment by a group there was danger of being struck of our peers, denied basic demo on the head by falling objects. cratic rights, segregated in the These changes took centuries to Army, the Navy and in civilian effect. In the future they may life. We have been falsely pordisappear, now that so many in- trayed by the capitalist press, ventions of man protect us artifi- movies and radio as a group of cially against the elements of na- half-human clowns and huffoons. ture.

ANOTHER FACTOR

itants of the world?

Jim-Crowism itself?

views life strictly from the point Here is another fact that is freof view of a Negro. He may be quently pointed out: When we examine any so-called Negro group too proud to accept a specifically designated "Negro post" we see people of many shades union but will only read a labor from very deep brown to yellow and pink. The color and texture paper if it carries a Negro news section. We dare not forsake this of hair may be entirely different. large group of militants to the This, of course, is mute evidence that the slaveholding plantation chauvinist race fakers. owners of the South had their own ideas long before Senator Bilbo came on the scene with his If the readers will go over the p e r f o r m elaborate acrobatic warnings against "mongrelizing" America. It also supports the claim that there is no true Negro spective will surely be broadened. litical mainstay of the Roosevelt race today.

ace today. Coming now to the sociological perience that their struggle is South" of the poll tax and lynch-

THE MILITANT

Poll Taxers Fight To Keep'White Supremacy'

white and black, in economic and political subjection. In turn, the abysmal conditions of the South

even though we do not agree with ern working class have placed a the President on much of it does drag on the living standards and not lie in deserting the Democrawages of the entire working population of the country. The tic Party. Roosevelt at his worst system of political servitude in the racial or any other issue." the South, bolstered by the poll tax, exists as a focus of virulent

SENATOR BILBO

Senator Bilbo of Mississippi, ouster in the U.S. Senate against the anti-Poll-Tax Bill, in the nidst of his recent address be-

an win." sive" wing over the anti-poll Tax

Senator James O. Eastland, Bill. The note of travesty was Poll-tax Democrat from Misstruck from the start when the sissippi, who claims he has "liberal" Democrats graciously 1,000 amendments ready for the postponed debate for weeks, ir Anti-Poll Tax Bill in case the deference to the poll-taxers. "White Supremacy" bloc fails CONTRASTS. to kill the bill by a filibuster.

infection that can spread and destroy civil rights and liberties

everywhere. SPEARHEAD OF REACTION

all labor.

bloc has put forward to postpone Today, in fact, the Southern the debate. Senator Mead shakes poll tax bloc in Congress is the his head sadly and in public print very spearhead of the Rooseveltconcedes defeat in advance. It's Wall Street anti-labor offensive. all the fault of the "Republicans" This bloc exists as a powerful, who are planning a "double-cross" solid force, the legislative shock and won't vote for cloture to limtroops of reaction who have led it debate and permit the bill to the assault on all labor through come to a vote. Roosevelt, with the wage-fireezing Stabilization his eye on the Negro vote in the Act, the Smith-Connally anti-North, weeks ago mumbled his strike law, the Smith "Gag" Act, 'for the record" opinion that the the "Rich Man's Relief" tax bills. poll-tax is to be "deplored." He The poll tax which helps to keep has since retired within the White the "white supremacy" Southern House to meditate on the "Four Democrats in Congress is thus a Freedoms" everywhere but in the direct and immediate concern of

poll-tax South. Not the least significant as-No other national issue today pect of the whole issue of the

so thoroughly exposes the "pro-gressive" and "democratic" pretenses of the Roosevelt regime; no other issue is as embarrassing May Day Greetings This column will consistently for the pro-Roosevelt liberals fight for the equality of Negroes, and labor bureaucrats, who must



ruling, State Senator R. M. Jef- poll tax is the contrast between feries, an ardent poll-taxer and the treatment Roosevelt's admin-Neero baiter, counseled: "The istration accords the poll-taxers istration accords the poll-taxers remedy for the national problem and those who fight the poll-taxers and all they stand for. United States Senators and Representatives, state governors, the rich "elite" of the South openly prois better than any Republican on claim defiance of the Supreme Court's decision and federal law. They issue a virtual call to arms

against any encroachment on "white supremacy." No FBI bloodhounds are on their trail; ho is preparing to lead the filithey are not hauled up on trial for "seditious conspiracy."

But 18 Trotskyist leaders who fought for their socialist convicore a special joint session of his state legislature begged leave to tions are put behind prison bars. The poll tax and the rotten digress long enough" from his rabid defense of the poll tax and system of mass servitude it rep-"white supremacy" to pour words resents will never be seriously of praise upon Roosevelt. "Let no challenged by Roosevelt or any Democrat vote against other capitalist politician. Only Franklin Roosevelt because he the working class, in militant unidislikes some of his associates. Ity, has the will and the power to The interest of Mississippi and destroy the bastions of capitalist the South will be best conserved rule in the South. For that, labor, by the continuation of a Demo- white and Negro, needs its own ratic 'administration. W i t h independent political party, a la Roosevelt, now a world leader, we bor party not bound in any way to capitalist politics, a party

These words advertise in ad- which will wage merciless strug vance the farcical nature of the gle against all the works of capi conflict" now ensuing in the talism, including the Southern Senate between the poll-tax slave system of "white suprem-Rooseveltians and his "progresary."

> NOTICE The National Office of the Socialist Workers Party is very much in need of a good type-

writer for the next few months. Master parliamentarians, who If you have a typewriter you can know how to shove through an loan for the next period or con-tribute will you place communication Urges anti-labor measure in a few hours, tribute, will you please commusuddenly find themselves tripping nicate with the National Office, Pardon for the 18 SWP. 116 University Place New like clumsy novices over the par-SWP, 116 University Place, New liamentary devices the poll-tax York 3, N. Y.

(Continued from page 1) You may consider my contribuion the balance of my bill, which Greetings from the

BOSTON BRANCH

of the

S.W.P. May Day Meeting SATURDAY, APRIL 29 8:15 P. M. Speaker: Eloise Black 158 BROADWAY ***** *****

Paul. Heartiest Following the endorsement of the National Association For the May Day Greetings Advancement of Colored People, oth San Francis

forts to free the 18.'

The Local CRDC committees

are swinging vigorously behind

the national campaign to gather

10,000 signatures by July 1st on

the petitions appealing for Presi-

dential pardon, making a total

to date of almost 4.000 signa-

Knitgoods Workers Union, Local

155, ILGWU, 135 signatures were

received. The Local Committees

which have established their

quotas on signature gathering

are Bayonne, Buffalo, Flint, Mil-

waukee, Newark, San Francisco,

Toledo, Minneapolis and St.

York

tures. From the New



Haymarket Demonstration Scene

The scene of the police assault on the Chicago demonstration in Haymarket Square, May 4, 1886, which was called in protest against the murder of four McCormick plant strikers during the historic struggle for the eight-hour day that marked the first May Day 58 years ago.

An unknown person, believed to have been a hired provocateur, threw a bomb into the police ranks and killed several. This was the signal for savage reprisals by the employers and their government tools. Eight strike leaders, Spies, Parsons, Engel, Fischer, Lingg, Schwab, Fielden and Neebe, were arrested and tried for murder. Their trial was a brazen frameup. Spies, Parsons, Engel and Fischer were hung; Lingg committed suicide to cheat the bosses' executioners; Schwab and Fielden were sentenced to life imprisonment and Neebe to 15 years.

When he stood up to be sentenced, Spies uttered the words which have inspired the labor movement ever since: "I say, if death is the penalty for proclaiming the truth, then I will proudly and defiantly pay the price. Bring on your hangman!"



APRIL 28, 1934

NEW YORK-"All Out to Madison Square on May Day," rang out the headline of The Militant. An article signed by James P. Cannon called upon revolutionary workers to march under the banner of the Communist League of America (Trotskyist), at a united front demonstration which included the Socialist Party, the Young People's Socialist League, the I. W. W., the needle trades and other New York unions, but not the Stalinists. Cannon explained, "the idea that the political and economic organizations of the workers, regardless of their differences in principle, must form a united front of action against the class enemy - this idea, which was rejected with such fatal consequence in Germany, has brought a host of organizations together and governs their practice in carrying out all the arrangements . . . each organization shall preserve its own banner . . . March separately, strike together - this is the fundamental basis for the united front of the workers."

The Stalinists, in line with their splitting policy of the "third period," had organized a separate demonstration to be held at the same hour at Union Square. The Trotskyists, pursuing a Leninist policy, were working "to convince the workers, in the course of common action, of the inadequacy of reformism and the necessity for revolutionary policy and leadership . . . In intransigeant principled struggle against social reformism we shall work for the new party and the new international. Meantime, now as always, we shall stand for the united front in concrete struggle of the day." The May Day Manifesto of the Communist League of America, appearing in The Militant, reviewed the events of the preceding year, the betrayal by Stalinism of the German workers, the heroic struggle of the Austrian proletariat, the sprouting of fascist Silver-shirts in the United States. The Militant warned, "Now, as never before, the united front of all working class organizations must be formed . . . Against company unions; against lynching; against the growth of Fascist movements; against the growing danger of imperialist war." SSR-Rakovsky, heroic figure of the Russian Revolution and first President of the Ukraine, leader of the Trotskyist left opposition, announced his capitulation to the Stalinist bureaucracy. He declared his intention to "submerge his differences with the Party and to submit completely to discipline." Leon Trotsky wrote in The Militant: "In Rakovsky we mourn a lost political friend . . . Rakovsky's declaration is the expression of a subjective impasse and of pessimism. . . As a revolutionary factor the Comintern is dead. From the Moscow leadership the world proletariat can expect only obstructions, difficulties and sabotages . . . " Trotsky pointed out that the defeats suffered by the working class in Bulgaria, Germany, Esthonia, England, Poland, Austria, and the consequent decline of the world revolutionary movement, were all sharply reflected in the ranks of the Left Opposition, driving many of its adherents into the orbit of the bureaucracy. Trotsky concluded: "The Leninist current in the Soviet Union can from now on only be revived by great revolutionary successes in the West. Those Russian Bolsheviks who remain true to our cause under the unheard of pressure of national reaction - and there are more of them than we suspect will be recompensed by the further course of development. But now the light will come not from the East but from the West. Even the shamelessly betrayed Chinese Revolution waits for a new impulse on the part of the world proletariat. "We have no time to weep long over lost friends - be it even comrades of thirty years of struggle. Let every Bolshevik say to himself: 'A sixty-year old fighter with experience and prestige left our ranks. In his place I must win three twentyyear old ones and the gap will be filled.' Among the twentyyear old ones new Rakovskys will be found, who with us or after us, will carry forward our work."

-FIVE

aspects of the question, why should inevitably intertwined with the ing bee. S.W.P. from neapolis NAACP have sent resothe Trotskyists, knowing these struggle of the working class as The poll-taxers themselves of-NEW HAVEN facts, devote special or separate a whole. fer the best testimonials to the lutions of protest against the im-May Day Meeting Let us not forget that the enduring alliance between the attention to the Negro in their efprisonment of the 18 and have fort to hasten the building of a Negro question in this country "white supremacy" Southern Sunday April 30, 7:30 P. M. BRANCH called for a presidential pardon. socialist society for all the inhab- may prove to be the Achilles heel Democrats and Roosevelt. In the 516 Blackstone Bldg. The Minneapolis NAACP has sent of American capitalism. Con- very sessions of the South Caroof the a \$25 donation to the CRDC, on Does our Negro Struggle colversely, it could be the lina legislature which removed 1426 WEST 3rd STREET Achilles heel of the proletariat the primary laws in order to umn which consistently fights behalf of its campaign. S.W.P. if labor does not learn to unite Jim-Crowism represent the gross contradiction of being a form of its ranks and permits Fascism to triumph. READ Free the 18! LIBERATE THE 18 Are we merely shadow-boxing When the white and Negro by fighting for the Negro race Let Us Go Forward! workers of America learn to AND KELLY POSTAL! THE FOURTH when there is no such homogene- stand shoulder to shoulder against ous group in existence? Why use their common enemy, capitalist May Day Greetings to the Militant INTERNATIONAL' the word Negro, (which means exploitation,-it will mean vicblack), while those of even dark tory. and Socialist Workers Party! Warmest May Day Greetings **PIONEER PARAGRAPHS PHILADELPHIA** and Solidarity with the 18! WHY LABOR MUST FIGHT FOR BRANCH, S.W.P. Best Wishes for the Magnificent **A SLIDING SCALE OF WAGES** Six-Page Militant! Under the conditions of dis-Neither monetary inflation nor **BUFFALO BRANCH** The 18 Imprisoned Trotskyists integrating capitalism, the stabilization can serve as slogans masses continue to live the meag- for the proletariat because these are the Banner Bearers of the erized life of the oppressed, are but two ends of the same Socialist Workers Party threatened now more than at any stick. Against a bounding rise **Revolutionary Traditions** other time with the danger of be- in prices, which with the ap-ing cast to the pit of pauperism. proach of war will assume an of May Day They must defend their mouthever more unbridled character, ful of bread, if they cannot in- one can fight only under the slo-SAN PEDRO BRANCH Revolutionary May Day crease or better it. There is gan of a sliding scale of wages. neither the need nor the oppor- This means that collective agreetunity to enumerate here those ments should assure an auto LOS ANGELES LOCAL, S.W.P. Greetings to the 18 separate partial demands which matic rise in wages in relation time and again arise on the to the increase in prices of con-Trotskyist Leaders from -----sumer goods. If capitalism is incapable of **CENTRAL BRANCH** satisfying the demands, inevitably arising from the calamities The Detroit Branch of the Socialist LOS ANGELES LOCAL, S.W.P. generated by itself, then let it "Realizability" or "unperish. Workers Party sends May Day realizability" are in the given instance a question of the relagreetings to Kelly Postal and to the tionship of forces, which can be decided only by the struggle. By THE ST. PAUL BRANCH Eighteen Minneapolis prisoners. means of this struggle, no matter the politics of the capitalists what its immediate practical suc-Their uncompromising devotion to cesses may be, the workers will like the politics of their agents, best come to understand the neof the the working class stands out as a Socialist Workers Party cessity of liquidating capitalist slavery. beacon light to guide us to a Salutes May Day 1944 socialist future which will end and Extends Greetings of Solidarity (From "The Founding Conference of the Fourth International," to Our 18 Imprisoned Comrades injustice and exploitation forever. and all Class-War Prisoners versity Pl., N. Y., 128 pp. 25c.).

Introduce Your Friends to THE MILITANT Through Our Trial Sub Offer

basis of concrete circumstancesnational, local, professional. But two basic economic afflictions, in which is summarized the increasing absurdity of the capitalist system: that is unemployment and high prices, demand generalized slogans and methods of

struggle. The Fourth International declares uncompromising war on which, to a considerable degree, the reformists, aims to place the whole burden of militarism, the crisis, the disorganization of the monetary system and all other scourges stemming from capitalism's death agony upon the backs of the toilers. The Fourth In-

ternational demands employment pp. 19-20; published 1939 by Soand decent living conditions for cialist Workers Party, 116 Uni-

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THE MILITANT follows the policy of permitting its contributors to present their own views in signed articles. These views therefore do not necessarily represent the policies of THE MILI-TANT which are expressed in its editorials.

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"Entered as second class matter March 7, 1944 at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the Act of March 3, 1879."



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

- LEON TROTSKY

all of American labor: Break with the employerdominated WLB. All reliance on labor's own organized strength in action!

Stalinists

The Stalinists have emerged inside the labor movement as the vanguard of reaction. They are today working with might and main to stamp out every labor party movement and to keep the American working class tied to the two capitalist parties. No sooner did the Stalinists capture in alliance with Hillman the American Labor Party in New

York than they began conspiring, with Congressman Marcantonio as the front man, to make a deal with Tammany Hall, with a view toward the eventual fusion of the ALP with the corrupt Tammany machine.

In Michigan, having failed to head-off a labor party formation, the Stalinists are fighting savagely inside the unions to prevent support of the new party. At the same time, hand in hand with Frankensteen and other CIO bureaucrats, they are working overtime to rehabilitate the Democratic Party of Michigan by supplying it with a labor coloration. In Minnesota, the Stalinists captured control of

the Farmer-Labor Party in recent years and reduced the organization to a shell. Now they have dealt it the final blow. Under their leadership the MFLP was turned into an adjunct of the Democratic Party machine.

The fight for a labor party is today also a fight to destroy inside the labor movement every vestige of Stalinist influence.

JOIN US IN FIGHTING FOR:

- 1. Military training of workers, financed by the government, but under control of the trade unions. Special officers' training camps, financed by the government but controlled by the trade unions, to train workers to become officers.
- 2. Trade union wages for all workers drafted into the army.
- 5. Full equality for Negroes in the armed forces and the war industries-Down with Jim Crowism everywhere.
- 4. Confiscation of all war profits. Expropriation of all war industries and their operation under workers' control.
- 5. A rising scale of wages to meet the rising cost of living.
- 6. Workers Defense Guards against vigilante and fascist attacks.
- 7. An Independent Labor Party based on the Trade Unions.
- 8. A Workers' and Farmers' Government
- 9. The defense of the Soviet Union against imperialist attack.

The top officials of the CIO Automobile Workers and the Michigan CIO combined last week with elements from the state AFL in an attempt to rehabilitate the discredited Michigan Democratic Party at its state convention. This capitalist political machine recently has been so befouled with major scandals, involving bribery and corruption, that it has become a stench in the nostrils of the Michigan working class. Yet, in their eagerness to combat the growing Michigan labor party movement and rally labor's waning support for a Roosevelt fourth term, the union officialdom with the UAW-CIO heads and Stalinists in the lead, played the key role in the Michigan Democratic Party convention. UAW vice-president Richard Frankensteen, the convention key-note speaker, as-

sured the Democratic Party politicians that "The

Third-party movement in labor's ranks does not have

the support of the responsible heads of the CIO or

Britain's Empire

UAW and will not have it."

The English ruling class is gravely concerned these days over the fate of its colonial empire. Recent sessions of Parliament have devoted considerable attention to this topic in connection with the forthcoming conference of empire Prime Ministers. in London. What worries these gentlemen more than the military challenge of Germany or Japan, is their own increasingly unfavorable position as against their present ally, U. S. Big Business. The commanding position of Wall Street on the world arena becomes more marked with the prolongation of the war. The American monopolists are out to grab everything they can lay their hands on. The British imperialists who have so long monopolized the greatest colonial prizes of the world have reason to fear their Wall Street rival. The bold encroachments of the American empire builders are alarming the Tory ranks. In this hour of crisis the Tories are certainly in dire need of assistance. And they are getting it. From whom? The Labor Party leaders!

Novack Addresses Mass Meetings In Northwest defendants in Minneapolis

JAMESTOWN, "North Dakota, April 18—George Novack, Nay

tional Secretary of the Civil Rights Defense Committee, was the speaker of the evening at the regular monthly meeting of the state officers staff, and district fieldworkers of the North Dakota Farmers Union held at the state headquarters here Monday April 17. In the audience were many of the foremost farm cooperative leaders in the Northwest, including Glenn J. Talbott, President of the North Dakota Farmers Union, A. L. Hellebust, Acting-Secretary-Treasurer, Martin Byrne, Director of Organization, Mrs. Lulu Evanson, State Junior Leader, and Harold V. Knight, Managing Editor of the North Dakota Union Farmer. "The frameup and imprisonment of the 18 CIO and Socialist Workers Party leaders in the Minneapolis Labor Case is not only an attack upon organized labor and advanced social ideas but

National Secretary, CRDC also a blow at the basic democratic rights of the American peo- bracket of agricultural income, ple," said Mr. Novack, in his the Farmers Union carries on a speech. "The Smith 'Gag' Act un vigorous and extensive education DeBoer, an organizer for 544-CIO der which they were the first to al as well as organizational probe convicted is a vicious instru- gram in defense of the rights of in behalf of all the prisoners ment of oppression which must be the farmers. At its last annual families and thanked those pres wiped off the statute books or convention the North Dakota divi- sent for aiding in the struggle to else, because of the precedent set sion renewed its pledge "of fullest free the 18.

in this case, other unionists and possible cooperation with organother political groupings of work- ized labor, recognizing that except ers and farmers will be subject to as organized workers and organized farmers join together in the University of Minnesota Stusimilar persecution. building a free world, there is no dent Forum on Tuesday. Friday WITCH-HUNTS

GEORGE NOVACK

"The railroading of the 18 must either." George Novack, National Secbe regarded as a revival of the witch-hunts which took place retary of the CRDC, will be in

against socialists and others hold- where he is scheduled to address the two organizations. On Saturing radical labor and anti-war a mass meeting on Wednesday, day, Novack spoke to the Saturviews. Then, such socialist leaders May 3. Following his appearance as Eugene V. Debs were put be- in San Francisco, he will visit addressed the Minneapolis Branch hind bars solely because of their Los Angeles and San Diego from of the National Association for ideas; members of the I. W. W. May 8 to May 22. were jailed for their militant labor activities; and here in North

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., April Dakota such farm leaders as loseph Gilbert, Secretary of the Non-Partisan League, were imprisoned for their uncompromising defense of the rights and in- by George Novack, National terests of the working farmers. Today Joseph Gilbert as a mem- Defense Committee. The meet-

mittee is helping our fight to Hotel under the auspices of the liberate these 18 labor and Twin Cities Branch of the socialist leaders who have been victimized for similar reasons." Mr. Novack concluded by callng upon these North Dakota farm leaders to join the host of labor and the resident members of unions and other progressive or the National Committee of the ganizations throughout the coun- CRDC. Dr. Joseph Warren try which have already backed Beach, professor of English at the efforts of the CRDC to obtain the University of Minnesota, presidential pardon for the 18 and presided. o secure the repeal of the vicious

Novack declared that the Minneapolis Labor Case will go down Postal, imprisoned at Stillwater, in history as the shame of Minne- Minnesota, whose defense is also

Case were railroaded to prison, was the Smith-Connally labor law Reviewing the history of the case, Novack described the deals and counter-deals between Roosevelt, Attorney General Biddle and Daniel Tobin of the Interna tional Brotherhood of Teamsters Novack reported that Tobin pour ed over a million dollars into Minneapolis to stem the movement of the drivers' union into the CIO. The result has been that Local 544-AFL is now run by dictators and there has been no election in the union since 1940, when the former leadership, now imprisoned, were elected to office.

MILES DUNNE

Miles B. Dunne, president of Local 544-CIO, reported on visits he had made to Sandstone, Minnesota, where 14 of the 18 defendants are incarcerated. He appealed for funds to aid the families and dependants of the prisoners. The audience contributed \$145 toward the defense. Evelyn DeBoer, wife of Harry and one of the prisoners, spoke

During his week's stay in the Twin Cities, Novack spoke to 150 students and faculty members at evening, members of the two Min-

neapolis branches of the Workmen's Circle heard Novack's mes sage from the CRDC. A contribu during the First World War San Francisco May 1 to May 6, tion was made to the defense by day Lunch Club and on Sunday he the Advancement of Colored Peo-

ple. The Minneapolis NAACP adopted a resolution condemning 12-Over 150 people attended the imprisonment of the 18 and wrote to President Roosevelt asking their release. A contribution of \$25 was voted by the branch. A house party, sponsored by the WDL, was held Saturday evening in St. Paul.

PETITION CAMPAIGN

Hundreds of signatures on petitions to Roosevelt, asking for a pardon for the 18 prisoners, were obtained in meetings at which Novack appeared and many new friends were made in the nationwide campaign to defend the members of Local 544-CIO and the Socialist Workers Party.

As part of his trip to Minnesota. Novack visited the 14 prisoners in Sandstone and Kelly

Government Approves Big Salary Boosts for Bosses

Testifying before the Senate Banking Committee last week, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury John L. Sullivan admitted that the salary stabilization unit of the Bureau of Internal Revenue hasn't followed any "hold the line" order in approving raises for corporation executives.

Typical of the generous attitude of the administration toward the big money boys, according to Sullivan's revelation, is the Treasury Department's approval of salary increases totaling \$1,094,000 for 95 corporation officials previously averaging close to \$75,000 a year. This is an average raise of \$11,500 a year, approved as Su'livan stated, to "provide incentives for the better prosecution of the war," and because of their "increased responsibilities."

Among the "patriotic" plutocrats who have been provided such increased monetary incentives is Emil Schram, president of the New York Stock Exchange, for whom the Treasury Department two weeks ago approved a salary boost from \$48,000 a year to \$65,-000, or 35 per cent. Sullivan confessed that this case is not exceptional.

All told, the Treasury Department has approved over 80 percent of the requests for corporation salary raises, totaling \$118,582,438. The wage freeze apparently applies only to workers. When you come to high-salaried "patriots," it is necessary to line their pockets with gold to provide them with the proper "incentive" to produce.

Sullivan conceded that his figures did not even give the full picture of executive salary increases because his department has no record of raises the bosses have paid themselves under regulations permitting many increases without any government approval at all.

Administration Conceals Figures On War Profits

While the Bureau of Labor Statistics has been publicizing misleading statistics intended to conceal the real extent of price rises in order to bolster Roosevelt's wage-freezing policy, other administration agencies have instituted a "rigid censorship" of government statistics revealing the astronomical war profits of the corporations.

The charge that Roosevelt's Stabilization Director Fred Vinson and other top officials have deliberately banned from the public information on corporate profits now in the hands of the government, was made last week by AFL President William Green.

"Could it be," asked Green, "that those responsible for the top economic stabilization policies felt that mere publication of these facts would challenge the fairness of the overall economic stabilization policy which leans so heavily on rigid wage control while evading many basic price and profit issues?"

Green's accusation should come as no surprise. A few Washington correspondents have previously disclosed that the secret reports of the OPA on profits reveal conscienceless price gouging, looting of the public treasury, and astronomical corporation profits. OPA Director Bowles, a Roosevelt appointee, has

suppressed the publication of profits figures under the pressure of corporations and Congressional forces seeking to knock out even the weak props of the present price-control setup while reinforcing legislation upholding the wage freeze.

the mass meeting on the Minneapolis Labor Case, addressed Secretary of the Civil Rights ber of the CRDC National Com- ing was held at the Andrews

Workers Defense League, which is handling the defense of the Minneapolis Case in this area,

Smith 'Gag' Act. He was given assurances of such support, after

apolis. He told the audience, which being conducted by the CRDC. included many figures prominent Novack brought the greetings of in free speech fights of the past the thousands of fighters for civil

hope to accomplish the goals of

Ward Strike

President Roosevelt has intervened in the Montgomery Ward strike with a version of the notorious 'plague on both your houses" formula he used with such telling effect against the 1937 "Little Steel" strikers. He condemns the Ward strikers in the same breath as he directs the company to comply with the War Labor Board ruling. Roosevelt thus takes the position of the judge who convicts both the robber and the victim who resisted the robbery.

Roosevelt's "impartiality" in this instance, so useful in diverting onus from the company and concealing the infamous role of the War Labor Board, stands in sharpest contrast to the treatment he accords workers who dare to defy any WLB dictum. As he has demonstrated on more than one occasion, Roosevelt moves with lightning speed and ruthlessness against striking workers. All the coercive machinery of government is hurled against them. There are no months of delay, no studied pretenses of "impartiality."

The case against Ward is so clear-cut and damning that even the abject CIO bureaucrats had to give behind-the-scenes support to the strikers. For the second time within 18 months Sewell L. Avery ("Slavery" to the workers), rabid open-shop head of a \$600,000,000 a year mail-order monopoly, had openly challenged a War Labor Board decision. The WLB from January 15, when it first ordered the company to renew the union contract, until the day after the strike began, treated Avery with kid-gloves. Had the workers not struck, there is little doubt that the WLB would have stalled until Avery had succeeded in destroying the union. Even after the WLB was compelled to refer the Ward case to Roosevelt, he took ten days-many a strike has been smashed in far less time-to polish up his double-edged compliance order. Even now Avery remains recalcitrant, while the union leadership hastens to hustle the strikers back to work.

In the Montgomery Ward case, Roosevelt has given proof positive-if any were needed at this late date-that the WLB is an agency designed for the sole purpose of keeping the trade union movement docile and helpless. Relying on the WLB for justice stands on the same plane as relying on company unions to win union conditions and wages. After months of litigations, hearings and negotiations, the Ward workers had to strike to save their union. The Ward strike carries a clear lesson for

Like a troop of Hollywood marines, these bureaucrats have jumped to the rescue. The "leftist" critic of Churchill, Laborite Emmanuel Shinwell was one of the main speakers in the recent Parliamentary debate on empire policy. He and that other "labor leader" Arthur Greenwood, were in the forefront of the pack of imperialist wolves who howled their defiance, and snarled at Wall Street with impotent rage. These "labor statesmen" stand shoulder to shoulder with Churchill in warning U. S. Big Business to keep hands off the colonial preserves of the British monopolists and joined with him in the challenge that the Empire, come hell or high water, would be maintained.

The Laborites remain true to the perfidious tradition of Ramsay MacDonald, Snowden and Thomas. They continue as abject lackeys of the British capitalist class. Once again they are joining hands with the bitterest enemies of the colonial peoples. Once again they are uniting with the Tories against the liberationist struggle of the colonial peoples.

The Tory press has of course hailed Mr. Shinwell ecstatically. The British colonial despots need "national unity" today more desperately than ever before.

But the rejoicing of the Tories is somewhat premature. The recent strike struggles in England are clear indications that the workers are moving to secure their own rights and interests, that they are heading for a break with Churchill and Company. And this inescapably will lead in the days ahead to a break with the Laborite lackeys. The Bevins, the Morrisons, the Shinwells and the rest of this treacherous and cowardly crew will be thrust aside. The English workers will unfurl their own class banner.

The labor bureaucrats have united with the British imperialists in defense of the Empire against its rivals and against the colonial peoples. The British workers will forge a different kind of unity. They will extend the hand of solidarity to the oppressed colonial masses for a joint struggle against the British and all other imperialist oppressors.

FARMERS UNION The North Dakota Farmers Un- and present, that the Minneapolis liberties to the prisoners and in

a lively question period.

ion is reputed one of the largest Case, like those of Sacco and Van- turn will take their message of and most influential sections of zetti, Tom Mooney and Gene Debs, solidarity to their supporters the National Farmers Union. Over is a blow to the rights of labor throughout the country. one-third of North Dakota's and so long as the precedent set Over 175 labor, liberal, fraternal 66,000 working farmers belong to in this case is allowed to stand, and Negro organizations have this powerful economic coopera- no one is free to utter his honest joined the Civil Rights Defense tive which has 1,200 chartered lo- opinion if it is not agreeable to Committee's fight to free the 18 cals in the state. As a progressive the powers that be. prisoners and the petition camvoice of the family-type small | The logical sequel to the Smith paign for a presidential pardon farmer in the lower two-thirds "Gag" Law, under which the 18



youth to enter military service is that all opposition in Germany

a reflection of their detestation of today is constituted partly by

Chiang's reactionary regime of op- people between the ages of 40 and

pression, hunger and distress. It 60, partly by a large group of

is conclusive proof of the inabil- workers' youths and young in-

ity of that regime to lead a popu- tellectuals who have grown up

lar war against Japanese imperi- during the war and whom the alism. The Kuomintang cannot nazi regime has offered nothing

eist leader, Sir Oswald Mosley. Reluctance of China's peasant "In closing let us point ou

> For a Rising Scale of Wages to Meet **Rising Living Costs**

FBI Will Save Them from "Reds," Hoover Tells DAR

J. Edgar Hoover, FBI chief, last week addressed the palpitating venerables of the Daughters of the American Revolution in convention assembled. The dowager dames of "no-more American Revolutions" heard Hoover declaim upon the real role of the FBI, and with delicious shudders and knowing nods absorbed his description of the "chief dangers" confronting their "American way of life" against which the FBI is mobilizing its forces.

Hoover indicated that the "chief danger" comes from those who are "inciting hatred between classes," and stated, "I fear the future and what it will bring, more because our internal defense has been weakened than because of any external threat of force." In short, Hoover fears more the action of militant labor, the class struggle, than the military forces of Nazism.

Not the fascist scum, the America Firsters, Christian Mobilizers and their ilk, but the "militant, selfseeking, loudly vocal groups of muddled emotionalists. parlor pinks, fellow-travelers and avowed Communists," were the principal objects of Hoover's fears and ominous portents. It is with the most conscious and outspoken defenders of the labor movement, the "reds," that the FBI is preparing to deal.

Up jumped the Daily Worker, no doubt stung to the quick by Hoover's reference to "parlor pinks," and belabored the FBI head for using language that "bears a strange resemblance to that used by the indicted seditionists and by the Hearst-Patterson-McCormick newspaper Axis," and "for his acceptance of the Dies views and tactics."

As usual, the indignant Stalinists miss the point or rather, obscure it. Hoover does indeed express the views of the most fascist-minded sectors of America capitalism. What the Stalinists deliberately fail to point out is that such an individual has been chosen and permitted to remain as the head of the most powerful police agency in the country by the Roosevelt administration. Hoover's agency operates under the Justice Department headed by Roosevelt's "liberal" bloodhound, Attorney General Biddle.

While Roosevelt's "left-wing," like Ickes and Wallace demagogically pump up and down the arms of the defunct "New Deal," his principal police agency is preparing to act by hounding and suppressing labor in the coming period of economic crisis, unemployment and working class upsurge. Ickes, Wallace and the Stalinists are useful to Roosevelt in rounding up votes of deceived workers for a "Fourth Term." But Hoover, the cop, is Roosevelt's choice for enforcing the *real "post-war" program.

FREE THE 18!