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VOL. XI - No. 1

# **Real Estate Profiteers Get** 2 Rent Boosts By Ruth Benson Explosite shares another his bits of the workers' IN DEMAND FOR PAY RISE

Real estate sharks got another big bite of the workers' income last week, as the OPA and Truman's new Housing Expediter announced generous gifts to the profiteering landlords. From now on, said the OPA on Dec. 26, owners of converted dwellings can extort an extra \$4 a month parable" quarters, for every \$1,000 they spend on conversions. And owners of new rental properties, Expediter Frank R. Creedon declared on veteran Phil Schinler. Dec. 23, could henceforth add Similar demonstrations, bet-"service charges" up to \$3 a room per month, to their rental ceilings!

But these two gifts from Wall Street's government to the landlords and construction industries, are only whetting their appetites for more. It is a foregone conclusion that Congress will try to go even further in Highest Since the coming weeks, either by raising all rent cellings 10 to 15 per cent, or by totally abolishing rent First World War controls. Millions of homeless veterans and workers, in dire need of low-cost, low-rent houssqueeze-play.

As the housing shortage grows Department's Bureau of Labor double the pre-war rates. more acute, veterans and workers cannot afford to build. Even the previous \$10,000 ceiling has been removed from new homes. They cannot compete for materials with builders of fancy night clubs, movie castles, and racetracks.

The result, as the Wall Street magazine Business Week admitted in its Dec. 28 issue, is that "substantial expansion" in commercial, rather than residential, building will account for most of the construction in the com-

ing year. But the militant working class is not going to quietly accept the gouging policies of the landlords, builders, and Congress. Mass actions against evictions are already underway. One of the first demonstrations came on Dec. 27, when 2,500 men and

ceeded in breaking up the de-monstration and arresting two speakers, Marion Drucker and speakers, Marion Drucker and

ter organized and based upon Committee Cites committees including the trade unions, can halt the rent profit-

# eers in the future. '46 Price Rise

released Dec. 29 by the Labor still leave corporation profits at

Statistics. Prices of food in retail grocery labor productivity, the CIO stores soared 34 per cent. This pointed out, is due to the use of advance in the most important item in the average worker's budget is ten times the rises in the three preceding war years.

cent in 1946. family budget jumped 18 per cent during 1946.

These statistics, of course, are heavily weighted on the conservative side. Actual boost in prices of the most necessary consumer items during 1946 were far above these latest figures admitted by the Bureau, as any housewife can testify.

Labor Department officials women in Brooklyn fought police squads evicting a family of three prospect of a general lowering **Capitalists Press** squads evicting a family of three from their apartment at 350 Bedford Ave. For Law Against

# 30% Pay Rise

Labor productivity has increased so much that corporations can today afford to pay 30 per cent more in wages and still maintain their tremendous wartime profits, without increasing prices. This was pointed out by the CIO wage The biggest rise in prices research committee last week, since World War I took place in a statement adding that such ing, will be caught in the in 1946, according to a report a 30 per cent pay boost would

techniques.

The plants were built and paid Wholesale prices of food sky- for by the government out of rocketed even higher - 50 per taxes drained from the working people. Billions of dollars Consumer prices for all items worth of industrial buildings, the Bureau considers part of a equipped with the most modern machinery, were handed to the profiteers as a gift from the Wall Street government when

wartime figures, while the workers are suffering a constantly decreasing standard of living.

dependence: crack troops, including members of Hitler's Army who have been recruited

**Open The Books!** 

NEW YORK, N. Y., SATURDAY, JANUARY 4, 1947

## **Increasing Productivity**

The tremendous increase in former war plants and improved

French Drive Aims At Crushing the war ended. Indo-China's Fight For Freedom

Today, even though many of the plants are idle, profits after taxes are 50 per cent higher than

into the Foreign Legion; air, naval and armored forces collected from all parts of the Empire; and first-class fighting equipment, most of it lend-lease in origin and American in



# Workers Are Not Impressed By Wall Street Propaganda

401

PRICE: FIVE CENTS

American labor is hardening its front in the struggle for new wage increases to keep up with rising living costs. The barrage of capitalist propaganda denouncing further wage rises has only made the average worker more grimly determined to defend the standard of living of his family.

This-is graphically revealed by a recent Gallup poll which asked: "Labor leaders say that because of the increased cost of living since the raise in wages of last spring, workers should be given another wage increase of about 20 per cent. Do you agree or disagree with this?"

Among "manual workers," 54 per cent agreed, only 36 per cent disagreed, and 10 per cent erpressed no opinion. Among union members the percentages were still more eloquent. Sixty-two per cent agreed, a bare 31 per cent disagreed and 7 per cent expressed no opinion.

These figures show that the average worker has not been taken in by the capitalist propaganda. The worker has a simple but exceedingly accurate way of judging the truth or falsity of the contention that he doesn't need a wage boost. He measures how far his wages spread across prices in the grocery store and butcher shop.

But in addition to this rule of thumb, the CIO has established beyond reasonable dispute in the Nathan report that industry, now shaking down profits far in excess of the lush war years, can easily take care of a 25 per cent wage increase. This should clinch labor's case.

However, capitalist spokesmen are ranting that the conclusions of the Nathan report are not justified. They advance the long-ago exploded argument that wage rises will lead to price rises, although wage rises actually only cut into profits. They argue that the present profit-gouging is "normal." They advance the hoary contention that the capitalist must have an "adequate incentive" in the form of super-profits. Flying in the face of facts, they try to make out that business cannot "afford" higher wages.

News of the eviction had these officials, represent "merebrought neighbors thronging to by seasonal adjustments and the street. The Tenants' League stock clearance in advance of Portal Back Pay the street. The Tenants' League stock clearance in advance of of the American Labor Party new shipments of merchandise."

## **Meeting Will Protest Eviction Of 2,234 Families In Harlem**

#### By Milton Richardson

NEW YORK, Dec. 30 — A mass meeting protesting that they are diligently preparthe threatened eviction of 2,234 Harlem families ing "emergency legislation." has been called for Friday, Jan. 3, 8 p.m. at the Universal Church of Christ, 40 West 115th St., by the Harlem Branch of the Socialist Workers Party.

The New York City Housing 9

Authority has ordered these be utilized. The city or the state Harlem families to move out of could requisition the boarded-up wages for work performed under their homes by Feb. 20, or face mansions of the non-resident the portal-to-portal heading. eviction. The Housing Authority rich, using them to at least tem- The Chamber wants the Fair Lais trying to throw them into the porarily house families now liv- bor Standards Act "amended" streets in the middle of winter ing in the buildings to be torn so that it will no longer cover in order to clear the area for down. It could build on vacant such work. It wants double liathe Stephen Foster Housing Pro- sites first. ject.

No one will deny that the tenements in which these people live should have been torn down years ago. The proposed housing project has long been a crying nec- | Wall Street and Park Avenue essity for the tenants of Harlem. rulers. But if this housing project is to

be built at the expense of the immediate housing necessities of the people now living in the area, families living on the site of the the purpose of such a project is Stephen Foster Housing Project defeated.

The Housing Authority suggested to these "displaced per- families, already segregated into KNIFING LABOR sons" that they find substitute overcrowded ghetto sections, a housing, by moving over into more difficult problem is created New Jersey, or into less populous | for them than for white families sections of this state. And this forced to move. regardless of where the people are employed or where they pre- the personal suffering these unions. Labor called the portalfer to live.

Whole sections of New York, the elderly people, the pregnant "ballyhoo stunt." City which should be torn down mothers, the children, the vetllies living in such sections, there against these arbitrary evictions! is no justification whatever for they have.

The city could provide ade- the city to provide homes for them. That is why, like a comquate housing for these threaten- the workers. The Socialist Work- pany-union rag, Labor argued ed families. The city owns many ers Party protest meeting is the such suits are "unfair to employandreds of houses which could first step toward such action. ers."

bilities eliminated in cases where employers are convicted, and it

to

But what sounds perfectly reawants to legalize "compromise" sonable here would be labeled settlements that would give up "ridiculous" and "impossible" by such back wages due workers. the City Fathers, who are busily Another move under way is to carrying out the orders of their provide tax rebates to employers wherever workers manage to get a court settlement for back pay

**DESPERATE PLIGHT** 

due them. As if this were not enough, Big Business is feeling The great majority of the out sentiment for a new Supreme Court decision that would be adverse to labor on the portal-toface an additional hardship. Since most of them are Negro

portal pay issue. In the heat of this drive, the Chamber of Commerce ran into a welcome ally in Labor, weekly

and rebuilt are allowed to remain erans, who are losing the only this stab in labor's back on the garnering profits for the land- homes they know. This is not a front page, quoting the article lords, disease and misery for the time for sympathy - but a time approvingly along with the pubtenants. But until satisfactory for all of the residents of Harlem licity hand-outs of the Chamber housing can be provided for fam- to unite together in a fight of Commerce.

tearing down the only homes on the part of Harlem tenants railway workers too want whatcan halt the evictions and force ever portal-to-portal pay is due

organ of the reactionary bureau-It is useless here to speak of cracy at the head of 15 railroad evictions will bring with them to to-portal suits nothing but a CIO

The capitalist press played up

What this lickspittle sheet is Only organized, united action afraid of can easily be seen. The

manufacture. er" policy. Premier Leon Blum Big Business is high-pressuring a drive for immediate be any negotiations with the In- dating their positions and preaction by Congress to halt the do-Chinese until "order" is re- paring to drown the entire intide of suits for portal-to-portal stored in that country — that is, dependence movement in blood. back pay earned during the past until the French imperialists have established enough power eight years.

Wall Street's Congressmen "settlement" they want. The Chamber of Commerce is

legalize non-payment of public. In violation of this agree-

Simultaneously, the French puppet government in Cochin-China to guarantee a favorable government announced a "hard- outcome to any "referendum."

Understanding that the future of all its colonies is at stake, French imperialism

is throwing everything it has into the suppression of the Indo-Chinese struggle for in-

In addition, the French have declared that there will not even been bringing in troops, consoli-Indo-Chinese preparations to ward off the coming assault

there to put over any kind of provided the pretext for the new thrust. In a Christmas Day meshave responded with assurances The present outbreak repres- sage in Saigon the French ents a new stage in imperialist butcher, Admiral d'Argenlieu, France's reconquest of Indo- bluntly stated: "France does not China. Last March Paris agreed intend in the present stage of to a referendum in Cochin-China evolution of the Indo-Chinese spear-heading the capitalist to determine if that province people to give them total and

campaign. The Chamber wants wished to join the Viet Minh Re- unconditional independence ... But the Indo-Chinese people ment, the French installed a are defending themselves heroic-

## **SWP Scores Paris Police Raid On Indo-China Protest Meeting**

Text of a letter to Leon Blum, Premier of France, sent by James P. Cannon, National Secretary of the Socialist Workers Party, Dec. 27:

#### Leon Blum, Premier

Paris. France

The Socialist Workers Party vigorously condemns the action of your government in arbitrarily banning and breaking up a December 6 mass meeting in Paris, organized by the Parti Communiste Internationaliste (French Section of the Fourth International) to protest the slaughter of the Indo-Chinese people by French imperialism.

When the police charged into the crowd, a number of North Africans and Indo-Chinese as well as members of the PCI suffered injuries and were arrested. This brutal police action shows what contempt the present French government holds for democracy.

Equally outrageous was the "legal pretext" for prohibiting the protest meeting-ordinances dating back to Napoleon Bonaparte and to Napoleon III, predecessor of the modern fascist dictators. These laws, enacted for the express purpose of violating democratic rights, are no less reactionary today when employed by a government in which the Socialist and Communist Parties participate.

The denial of the right of workers to assemble and make public their grievances can pave the way for a fascist regime or military dictatorship in France.

The Socialist Workers Party is calling this attack on civil liberties to the attention of the whole American labor movement. The interests of the American workers are involved wherever a threat to democratic rights occurs. The American workers are gravely concerned about the attack on democratic rights in Paris and about the brutal repression of the heroic Indo-Chinese struggle for independence. James P. Cannon,

National Secretary, Socialist Workers Party

Challenaed in Court An injunction suit to stop all further enlistments into the Army until Jim-Crow segregation is banned, was filed in Federal court on Dec. 18 by Henry D. Stewart of Pittsburgh. His son was refused enlistment because he was Negro.

Military Jim Crow

Workers Of The World, Unite!

PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKING PEOPLE

ABOR

THE MILITANT

POLL SHOWS LABOR FIRM

ally. It is this fact which enrages the French butchers. They know that prolonged Indo-Chinese resistance can inspire similar rebellions in other colonies of the empire, particularly North Africa.

Even more important, a protracted struggle will bring into the picture the French masses themselves, whose sympathies are all with the colonial slaves. And that would surely spell the

end of the French Empire. See Page 3 for article on the Indo-Chinese policy followed by the French Communist and Socialist Parties.

In this nation-wide debate, the unions have not yet advanced the powerful slogan which the General Motors workers found so effective last year: "Open the books!" But the entire logic of the struggle calls for its revival. If Big Business claims the conclusions of the Nathan report are not justified, let them open their books so the public can see.

If the CIO, AFL and independent unions and permitted to dig into company records they can establish irrefutably whether or not Big Business is lying when it talks about inadequate profite and inability to pay.

The truth is that the giant inter-locking monopolies do not dare to open their books to inspection. The exposure of their super-profits would wreck their propaganda beyond all repair!

# **Labor Party Campaign Gains More Support In Flint Area**

FLINT, Mich., Dec. 28 - Rapid headway toward a La-, move is coming from many see bor Party is being made here, with meetings of 46 districts | tors, reflecting the deep reserve in the Chevrolet plants scheduled daily for the purpose of of favorable sentiment in the electing district Labor Party organizers, who will consti- ranks for independent politice tute a policy-making body for

the proposed Labor Party in the Sixth Congressional District.

The organizers are already who are in support of building a Labor Party. Their work is built around the keynote slogan, the city. "Fight Reaction with Independent Political Action. Build a Labor Party Now."

calling for a full-time organizer groundwork for a broad educa- was one of the factors that and a committee of 10 to direct tional campaign through the brought forth the new developthe work of organizing a Labor press. Party in the Sixth District.

action. This is the first time a One week later, on Dec. 15, political issue in the UAW locals

UAW Buick Local 599 overwhel- has cut across all factional lines, mingly adopted a resolution in uniting all groups behind it. (The Stalinists are the only exception. favor of collaborating with the but they are a negligible factor in Chevrolet Local 659 committee, signing up all Chevrolet workers and to set up a similar 10-man the Flint labor movement). The Trotskyists have played a committee. These are the two largest General Motors locals in notable role in the work of build-

in a Labor Party. For three years Now it is reported that Fisher they actively pushed this idea. Body and A.C. Sparkplug locals | For some time their drive was will adopt similar proposals at spearheaded by George "Scotty" The resources of the large GM | their regular membership meet- | Hunter, who was killed six weeks ocals in Flint are being swung ings in January. Verbal or writ- ago' in a hunting accident. He behind this important political ten support has been expressed had been an executive board development. The movement got by all the top officers of the four member of the Flint Socialist underway early this month, when GM locals. The editors of the Workers Party, and had written UAW Chevrolet Local 659, at four local union papers and the articles in the Chevrolet local its regular membership meeting CIO Council's Flint Weekly Re- paper advocating a Labor Party. on Dec. 8, passed a resolution view will meet shortly to lay the His steady and persistent work

ments only one month after his

The support of the Labor Party death.

PAGE TWO

THE MILITANT

SATURDAY, JANUARY 4, 1947

# Opposition Hits CPAnti-Socialism The shift was and said that the face of the Party was hidden. It NOTES

of the American Communist Party (Stalinist). This "leftism" was primarily opposition to the Stalinist leaders' violations of the most elementary working class principles, above all their strikebreaking on the economic and political fields.

Thus, the CP machinists club in San Francisco was "liquidated" for refusing to organize a "rankand-file" back-to-work movement during the joint AFL-CIO machinists strike. The entire executive board and many members of the leading CP group in the Bronx, the P.R. Club, were expelled because they mildly criticized the party's "unconditional support" of Mead and Lehman, Democratic Party candidates in the New York elections, who were conducting an anti-Communist, anti-Soviet, war-mongering campaign.

However, the opposition groups which are orbroken with the fundamental policies of reacion. They uphold his counter-revolutionary poli-

**Curran Brands** 

By C. Thomas

Maritime Union."

TO THE RANKS

rejected.

Street imperialism during World War II. They honeymoon between Stalin and the "democratic" vie with the official CP leadership in red-baiting imperialists. and slandering the genuine communists and revolutionary Marxists, the Trotskyists.

whose opposition is largely motivated by clique | were quickly disillusioned. differences long existing in the top CP circles.

revealed in its documents, now in our possession, failure to advance a socialist program and its class collaboration with the political agents of U.S. imperialism.

This reaction to the reformist and class-colganizing in the wake of these expulsions have not laborationist line of the present American Stalinist leaders is the more acute because of the tionary Stalinism. In fact, they are seeking to campaign in the middle of 1945 leading to the Stalin's murderous bureaucracy in the Soviet Un- campaign was designed to make Browder the were termed 'reforms.' The non-partisan nature ism. scapegoat for the previous line of open support of the campaign was also mentioned. Some asked (This is the third in a series of articles on the

the expulsion for "leftism" of entire branches revolutionary masses. They justify the Communist dictated by the Kremlin merely to bring pressure was asked: Now that we have rid ourselves of party's betrayal of the American workers to Wall on U.S. imperialism after the end of the wartime Browderism, why don't we more vocally advocate socialism?

But the working class members of the CP took the shift for good coin. They expected the new petty-bourgeois intellectual muddleheads like same as the old leadership minus Browder, Bubureaucrats like Sam Darcy and William F. Dunne, gle against capitalism and for socialism. They with Marxism."

One of the first signs of this disillusionment Nevertheless, this left-Stalinist opposition has appeared during a municipal election campaign even naively complains that "during the war, we in the fall of 1945 in San Francisco. When the had the opportunity to explain to a sympathetic the profound disquiet in the working class layers | CP failed to run a candidate in its own name of the Stalinist Party. Above all, the proletarian or put forward a program distinguishable from elements are disturbed by the party leadership's that of the capitalist party candidates, criticism for the far off future. Except for a token senwas voiced.

In a document after they were expelled for this does the same now." criticism, Frank and Anna Stout answered an CP bureaucrat in California. They point out: "In the course of the campaign questions were

Solidarity Won For St. Paul Teachers

raised by comrades in the Party. Some questioned prove they are the "best" Stalinists. They defend expulsion of Earl Browder for "revisionism." This the nature of the program as one merely of what talists - and at the same time fight for social-

ties in Europe and Asia. They support his colla- to Wall Street, and to make it appear that the why the Party did not come forward more boldly present crisis in the Communist Party.)

Analyzing, Weiss's arguments, they contend he places the issue as either, or. Either for socialism or for immediate demands. But not both ... As yet, this opposition appears to be led by leadership headed by William Z. Foster (the Weiss's position, like Browder's is that of making capitalism work, while projecting socialism into Ruth McKenny and Bruce Mintor or former CP denz and a couple of others) to conduct a strug- the distant future. It has nothing in common

The expelled executive committee of the Bronx P.R. Club. in "An S.O.S. To All Communists." America the meaning of Socialism. Browder scuttled this opportunity by pickling Socialism

tence at the end of a speech the party leadership

This reflects the typical confusion in the opattack against them by Max Weiss, a leading position groups. They fail to explain how the CP could whip up all-out support for Wall Street's war, campaign for the speed-up and no-strike pledge, maintain "national unity" with the capi-

Progressive unionists through- | Case plants have been settled out the country are watching On Dec. 19, the National Laclosely the campaign of the bor Relations Board ruled that Flint, Mich. auto workers to the company is responsible for build a local Labor Party in the provoking the strike because of Sixth Congressional District. The its refusal to bargain collectively

of Purpose:

movement was initiated by CIO with the union within the terms United Auto Workers Chevrolet of the Wagner Act. The company Local 659, which is going right claimed the union's demands are into the ranks and organizing in conflict with an agreement from the ground up. Local 659's in a letter signed by the union-10-man committee to head the eight years ago! campaign says in its Declaration \* \*

Employer resistance to union-"The purpose of the Commitism is growing steadily. Recent tee is the organization of a Lafigures issued by the NLRB show bor Party in the Sixth District that in October there were more with a clear cut political procomplaints filed against employgram which will struggle relenters for unfair labor practiceslessly in the interests of all who 566 total-than at any time since toil for a living in the shop, on

March 1936. The most frequent construction jobs, on the farms, charge is "discrimination for in small business and as prounion activity or membership." fessional workers. To this end \* \* \* we will run candidates in all fu-

ture elections; men and women In connection with the CIO who subscribe to the program United Auto Workers wage camand policy of the Labor Party." paign, the UAW Executive Board \* \* \* at its recent méeting began a sur-

vey of local union strike funds, Strengthened by the CIO's which Secretary - Treasurer declaration that "we resent and George Addes estimates at "sevreject" the "interference of the eral million dollars." Due to the Communist Party" - a declaraprolonged General Motors strike tion that the Daily Worker haillast spring, and the record J. I. ed as a "great and statesman-Case and Allis-Chalmers strikes still in progress, the national. strike fund is reported at a low of \$400,000. Dues-paying membership has increased by more

than 200,000 since July, to a total of 814,442 for November.

Hard-pressed public school teachers are on a rampage all over the country. Pawtucket, R. I. teachers walked out for two port, Conn. The Bridgeport reddays. Hartford, Conn. teachers baiters had previously 'unsuccessare threatening strike. In the fully attempted to place on the past few months there have been ballot the question: "Would you 12 teachers' strikes, compared to allow a Communist to be an of-20 for all the years between 1870 and 1942. Three teachers' groups

in New York City, including the AFL and CIO, have gone on record favoring strike action and opposing the no-strike policy. The new school curriculum is: "Readin', ritin', 'rithmatic and strikin'

## Our Program:

1. Defend labor's standard of living!

- A sliding scale of wages an escalator wage clause in all union contracts to provide automatic wage increases to meet the rising cost of living!
- Organize mass consumers committees for independent action against profiteering and price-gouging!
- Expropriate the food trusts! Operate them under workers! control
- Full employment and job security for all workers and veterans!
- For the 6-hour day, 30-hour week! A sliding scale of hours reduce the hours of work with no reduction in pay to prevent layoffs and unemployment!

Stalinist CMU As Bar To Unity The resignation of Joseph Curran as co-chairman of the Stalinist - dominated Committee for Maritime Unity has set aflame the smouldering internal struggle within the National Maritime Union, CIO, the largest seafaring Of the six national officers of the NMU, three are outright Stalinists and three support the Curran position. A special emergency meeting of the NMU National Council has been called for Jan. 6, "for the purpose of barrier to united action in de- The resignation of co-chairman fense of the seamen, Curran Curran; and (3) The issues surrounding that resignation." Meanwhile the controversy has been taken to the ranks where

> This was one of the scenes in St. Paul, as students carried on demonstrations in support of their striking teachers. Parents too joined the teachers on the picket lines to demand better schools and higher wage scales. In Minneapolis, the other Twin City, teachers also won substantial increases. St. Paul Dispatch-Pioneer photo.

# 11 Boilermakers Face Expulsion; Led Fight For Union Democracy

The leaders of the AFL looked upon the CMU as a hostile organization aimed at raiding their

**By Dan Roberts** 

larly last September when the of rising prices.

(Special to The Militant) SEATTLE, Wash., Dec. 28 — Eleven members of Local 104 of the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron 105 of the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron 106 of the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron 107 of the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron 108 of the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron 109 of the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron 100 of the Internationa

**Are Opposed To Escalator Clause** "The great majority of ex-

ecutives do not favor escalator clauses which tie wage rates to a cost of living or consumer price index." the National Industrial Conference Board declared after a survey of leading business executives last week-

"Only about 15 per cent of the executives believed that the cost-of-living clauses provide a good basis for adjusting wages," the Times story continues. "Of these, only about half use such clauses in their own contracts."

On Dec. 26, the country's oldvolved in the survey, who opest major strike, the CIO United variety of reasons for not favor-I. Case farm machinery company at Racine, Wis., entered its sectheir contracts. Some claimed ond year. Strikes at five other that workers would accept it an "unsound method for deter-

#### REAL REASON

None of them gave the real reason for their opposition at ards of the workers in a period

Big Business was grateful to the

government for breaking the re-

**Most Employers** 

end. (N. Y. Times, Dec. 30.)

ficer of the union?" The other businessmen inpose escalator clauses, gave a Auto Workers' battle against J. ing inclusion of such clauses in only in a period when living costs

were rising: others stated it was mining wages"; and still others declared that unions would oppose it.

#### this time-namely, that escalator clauses, based on a fixed minimum wage, are the best method of protecting the living stand-

like move"-the red-baiters in the CIO United Electrical Workers are making headway in important local unions. UE Local 601 at Pittsburgh. largest Westinghouse unit, saw a reactionary group running on a program of anti-Communism

oust the Stalinist leaders on Dec. 21. A similar group captured Local 203, representing 6,000 General Electric workers at Bridge-

JOSEPH CURRAN

mnion in the industry.

In a statement issued to the

press, Curran charged the CMU

with fostering jurisdictional war-

fare on the waterfront, strike-

breaking and attempting to gain

control of the National Maritime

Union, of which he is president.

called for joint action of all un-

ions, regardless of affiliation, to

Stigmatizing the CMU as a

oppose the "vicious activities of the Coast Guard," to fight the time laws and to unite in action "for the purpose of getting FIREMEN OUT the best possible wages, hours and conditions for all seamen without regard to affiliation." The Stalinist NMU officials and came out against affiliacountered with public statements tion to the CMU. While the quescondemning Curran's action and calling for continued affiliation ferendum vote of the memberand support to CMU and its ship, it is conceded that the policies. Joseph Stack, Vice Pres- Firemen will reject affiliation by ident, accused Curran of "mutiny against the maritime workers," and "treason against the membership of the National

**NEWARK Friday** Forum 'Why Millions Are Homeless' Speaker: HAROLD ROBBINS former Housing Chairman, AVC, New York City JAN. 3, 8 p.m. 423 Springfield

time unions and established a Board. The eleven are spokes-Maritime Trades Department in imposition of anti-labor mariwarfare.

a substantial majority.

dictional strife.

the final decision will be made.

The Committee for Maritime Unity was established at a con-

ference held last May in San

Francicso, at which the CIO

Maritime unions plus the inde-

pendent Pacific Coast Marine

Firemen were represented. It

was only at the insistence of the

Marine Firemen that an invita-

tion was dispatched, at the tail-

end of the conference, asking

the AFL unions to participate.

This invitation was summarily

cracy. In the meantime, the leaders

of the independent Marine with the other ten in order to Firemen had a change of heart "create dissension among the members" and "to work against the interest and harmony of the tion is now being decided by re-International Brotherhood" and the local.

Three International Vice-Presidents were appointed as the hearing committee by Inter-With the Firemen out, the national President Charles Mc-CMU would comprise a federa- Gowan. The "hearings" began tion of CIO maritime unions Dec. 5 and ended Dec. 7.

confronting the AFL Maritime The "accused" are Nicholas P. Trades Department in hostile | Hughes; Joe Clancy, the Local's array, with only a large enough secretary-treasurer; John Grosso, spark required to explode the a member of the executive board; powder keg of jurisdictional war | W. J. Miller, local 104's dispatchon the waterfront. er; Walter Rasmussen, editor of proved an amendment providing the 104 Reporter; Frank Chin-It was against this background, and at a time when the ship- ella; Ed. L. Palmquist; Wm. J. owners and their political agents Nadeau; Chas. E. Taylor; Roy in Washington are preparing to A. Taylor; and Hagbard M. Edwards. scuttle the maritime unions, that

#### the Curran statement came to OUTSTANDING RECORD Local 104 is one of the most

upset the calculations and plans progressive and democratic loof those who were heading the cals on the West Coast. Its rank seamen into a storm of jurisand file spokesmen such as Nick Hughes, Frank Chinella and



jurisdiction. They countered by Shipbuilders, Welders and Helpers face possible expulsion calling a meeting of AFL mari- from the union by the International's General Executive baiting.

> men for Local 104 in its long | others have been among the foremost militant elements at shipstruggle for union demoyard National Wage Conferences. The local has an outstanding Each of the eleven was charged record in the Northwest area for with engaging in a "conspiracy" its support to struggles of all other unions, including the CIO. This was demonstrated particu-

> > **Teachers Win** St. Paul Strike

(Special to The Militant)

The month-old St. Paul, ended on Dec. 27 after the added funds for pay raises and school improvements. This was the history of the United States, gram, leaving salary scales ininvolving 77 grade and high schools with 36,578 pupils.

Called on Nov. 25 by the Teachers Labor Council, central board for Locals 28 and 43 of the American Federation of der on the grounds that the lars and cents. Teachers, 1,165 teachers parti- Boilermarkers' Constitution cipated in the walkout. Hundreds granted the locals power to set of students and their parents joined the teachers on the picket lines in front of all the schools. straining order in the King

#### DEFY THREATS

County Superior Court last No-The strike call was issued des- vember. The local has now voted pite tremendous pressure from to appeal to the Washington taxpayers' associations and sim- State Supreme Court. ilar groups and in defiance of On the heels of its court viccity officials' threats to dismiss tory, the International filed the teachers and revoke their charges against the eleven. The teaching certificates if they hearings held by the three Inwent on strike. ternational vice-presidents were Widespread support by the St. regular kangaroo proceedings.

Paul labor movement, other Am-The eleven appeared one at a erican Federation of Teachers time, were confronted with the locals and progressive organiza- charges, and then asked to prove tions forced the city officials to themselves innocent. retreat on their threats. Important aid was given by the local been received on what action the Parent - Teachers Association. International will take against Minneapolis teachers, whose pro- the eleven who continue to rejected strike was averted through | ceive the solid support of Local the granting of substantial wage 104 and all other champions of increases, sent a check of \$1,000 militant trade unionism in to aid the St. Paul teachers. Seattle.

he local is also opposed to red- contracts at the end of the war. by this time wages would have

At the 1944 convention of the been raised by three times the Boilermakers Union, Local 104's 111/2 cents an hour average indelegates were in the forefront crease granted in industry since of the struggle against lengthen- that time.

ing the term of local and Inter-This in turn would have meant national officers from one to that a heavy chunk would have four years. However, the propos- been taken out of the superal sponsored by the Internation- profits being garnered by Big al officials, carried. Seven lo- Business in 1946. cals of the union are already un-

DOLLARS AND CENTS der receivership of the Inter-The survey also showed that

PRESENT DISPUTE

national.

The immediate issue involved | cent mine strike, and why. in the present dispute is the "Had John L. Lewis been sucright of the local to cut the cessful in his test of strength, salaries of its own officers. Last the executives said, wage discus-Minnesota teachers strike January, the local approved an sions would have been forced economy program providing for upon most companies even where the reduction of its officers' sal- no re-opening clauses existed. If City Charter Commission aries to a maximum of \$400 per a new wave of demands is 'set in yielded to their demands and ap- month. Under this program the motion, few industries will esbusiness agent's salary was cut cape,' was a typical comment." from \$520 to \$400 per month, That was why the capitalist a rate of pay still well above class rallied virtually to the last the average boilermaker's earn- man behind the government's the largest teachers' strike in ings. The International's pro- strikebreaking campaign. To them the issue was not over the tact but eliminating personnel, "sovereignty" of the government, was turned down by the local. as their obedient servant. Judge When the International Goldsborough, tried to make it threatened to force its will on appear for public consumption. the local, two members went to As far as they were concerned, court to secure a restraining or- the issue was simply one of dol-

the pay for their own officers. A temporary restraining order was granted, but the local lost its plea for a permanent re-

To date no further word has

**Open House** Sunday, Jan. 12 FARRELL DOBBS will speak on

PITTSBURGH

**Program of Trotskyism** 1418 Fifth Ave. 3 p.m.

CLEVELAND **Open Forum On:** 'A Labor Party Now' Speaker: Bob Kingsley SUNDAY, Jan. 19 Refreshments Served SOCIALIST WORKERS

PARTY Peck's Hall, 1882 E. 82 St. Off Wade Park

- rernment operation of all idle plants under workers' control! Unemployment insurance equal to trade union wages for workers and veterans during the entire period of unema ployment!
- 3. Against all anti-labor laws and government strikebreaking!
  - No restrictions on the right to strike and picket! No injunctions! No compulsory arbitration!
- 4. Build an independent labor party!
- 5. Tax the rich, not the poor! Repeal the payroll tax! No sales taxes! No taxes on incomes under \$5,000 a year!
- 6. An 18 billion dollar appropriation for government low-rent housing!
- 7. Full equality for Negroes and national minorities! End Jim-Crow! End Anti-Semitism!
- 8. For a veterans' organization sponsored by the trade unions!
- 9. A working class answer to capitalist militarism and war.
  - Take the war-making powers away from Congress! Let the people vote on the question of war or peace! Against capitalist conscription! Abolish the officer caste system! Full democratic rights in the armed forces! Trade union wages for the armed forces!
  - Military training of workers, financed by the government, but under control of the trade unions!
- 10. Solidarity with the revolutionary struggles of the workers in all lands! For the complete independence of the colonial peoples! Withdraw all American troops from foreign soil!

11. For a Workers' and Farmers' Government!

Join the Socialist Workers Party! SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY 116 University Place New York 3, New York I would like To join the Socialist Workers Party. To obtain further information about your organization. To attend meetings and forums of the Socialist Workers Party in my city. NAME. (Please Print) STREET CITY

POSTAL ZONE STATE

SATURDAY, JANUARY 4, 1947

THE MILITANI

PAGE THREE

# **Unification Announced By Indo-China Massacre Backed Trotskyist Groups In Ceylon By Stalinists And Socialists**

Because "no fundament-pose of bringing about unity in the public service workers which al principled or program- the ranks of the working class began unfolding into a general massacre of the Indo-Chi- Empire. matic differences existed," the and providing it an experienced, strike and was called off by the nese fighters for indepentwo Trotskyist organizations in tested and united leadership in Federation of Government Work- dence is possible only because of ing the post of Premier last Ceylon, the Lanka Sama Sama- its hour of struggle against the ers' Unions only after most of the treachery and complicity of month, Leon Blum declared that ja Party and the Bolshevik- forces of British imperialism and their demands had been granted In this strike, the Trotsky-Leninists, united into a single Cevlonese capitalism."

party last September, according to the Oct. 28 issue of the magazine, Samasamajist.

The unified organization will be known as the Cevlon Unit of the Bolshevik-Leninist Party of Both had distinguished them-India, section of the Fourth International. The name of its magazine will probably be changed from Samasamajist to militant workers. Trotskyist. IMPORTANT ROLE

Unification of the two organi-

zations was achieved, the Sama-

ists, working together, forced had to pay lip-service to the The two organizations had all the Stalinists and reformists to idea of Indo-Chinese independalong followed the same program enter a united front which as- ence because the Indo-Chinese of revolutionary struggle against sured the victory of the strike. the enemies of the Ceylonese ACTIVE IN STRIKES masses at home and abroad.

Comrades N. M. Perera and Colvin R. de Silva were elected and fields of Indo-China, the selves in recent important strike as advisory members of the unstruggles against wage cuts, mass ion negotiating committee. dismissals and victimization of The Trotskyists were equally

No one acquainted with recent active in the protracted strike of French history should have been the bank clerks, mobilizing the surprised by the revolting treach-Trotskyists played an impor- rest of the labor movement in ery of the SP. Its leaders for samajist declares, "for the pur- tant part in the recent strike of its support. many years have served as "so-

cialist Parties.

The French imperialist | cialist" caretakers of the French Just a few days before assum-

the French Communist and So- he favored independence for Viet Nam. As soon as he was

installed at the head of the interim government, he hastened to qualify this declaration by explaining he meant independence within the French Empire-that struggle has won the sympathy is, not really independence at all. of the masses of the world. But Within a week his government now when the chips are down was dispatching additional and blood is flowing in the streets thousands of special troops to slaughter the Indo-Chinese. And CP and SP have taken their now he takes the position that stand openly on the side of the there cannot even be any talk French butchers and brass hats. about the status of the Viet Minh Republic until it has been disarmed. Socalist phrasemonger and

orrupt servant of the colonial oppressors — that is Leon Blum and that is the Socialist Party. It is an old story, told over and over again in every section of the Empire.

But if words cannot fit the ing of the Council of the Repubtreachery of the "Socialists," lic, the upper chamber, asked for then how can one properly des- a demonstration of gratitude to the Stalinists? Even while sitting in the cab-

and cooperation with France,"

Daily Worker. But the very day after the leader and joined in the demon-

Daily Worker story appeared, stration." (N. Y. Times, Dec. 25.) This was only a first step.



"Communist members joined customed to delivering stabs in with other groups in the new the back to the labor movement. Council of the Republic tonight For between them the CP and in approving a resolution calling SP command the support of the for maintenance of French power majority of France. They conin Indo-China in accordance trol the entire labor movement: with agreements freely reached they have great influence among and for pursuance 'of the civil- the peasants and the urban midizing mission of France in res- dle class. No government is able pecting the legitimate liberties to function today without their of native populations'."

socialist program of the RWP,

Canadian section of the Fourth

Dowson's candidacy was en-

dorsed by the Massey Harris Lo-

cal 439, CIO United Automobile

Workers at a regular member-

ship meeting on Dec. 8, after

he outlined the main planks in

the RWP election program and

stressed the necessity for labor

to have its own representatives

in the City Council in the cri-

tical days that lie ahead.

International.

UNION MAN

imperialism!

support or tolerance. If they Previously the CP Political wanted to, if they called for Bureau had tried to cover it- withdrawal of the troops - as self by denouncing "a campaign the French Trotskyists do -----by reactionary circles against they could paralyze the whole the Viet-Nam government." But Indo-China war program in 48 it voted along with these same hours. reactionary circles to hail the But they don't want to. The

"civilizing mission" of French choice is between fighting the French imperialists or the Indo-Such conduct would be treach- Chinese victims of imperialism. ery under any circumstances. They have made their choice, But when carried out by parties and their hands are stained with with the strength and influence the blood of the Indo-Chinese that the CP and SP wield in masses.

# **RWP Runs Candidate** For Mayor Of Toronto

The newly-founded Revolutionary Workers Party of Canada has entered Murray Dowson in the municipal elections of Toronto as the only working-class candidate for Mayor in 1947, according to the Mid-December Labor Challenge. In this first elec-⊙

tion campaign since its foun- 3. Municipalize the milk distric dation in November, Dowson bution industry; 4. Make Toronto a 100 per cent union city: will present the revolutionary 5. Tax the rich, not the poor; 6. The right for all over 18 to vote in municipal elections; 7. For a socialist society.

Neither the Cooperative Com monwealth Federation nor the Labor Progressive Party (Stalinist) is runing candidates in this election. In this they continue their policy of the past to give a free field to the capitalist candidates.

"In the mayoralty election," the RWP platform states, "the working people are offered the choice between the Tory Sauh-

Dowson, born in Toronto's ders, the retired stockbroker, OCC west-end in 1915, is a toolmaker Hearn, or the candidate of the by trade who has spent over 14 Revolutionary Workers Party. years of his life in active strug- We believe it is our duty to give gle for the working people. He the wage and salary workers, the has been a member at various small homeowners, the profestimes, of the Teamsters' Union, sional workers and the small International Association of shopkeepers an opportunity to Machinists, International Union cast their ballots for a candiof Operating Engineers, and date that can truly represent The U.S. authorities then more recently of the DeHavil- them, instead of throwing th votes down the sewer of capi-

The platform further points out that in the great struggles al Committee at its founding ahead "the workers of Toronte can play a leading part. By set-

\* \* \*

idly from Bari, Italy through all

waving red flags. In Naples 109

\* \* \*

An article about The Militant

Hunger demonstrations and

The RWP's 7-point electoral ting out on the road of independ.

**Elections In France And Italy** Resolution of the International Secretariat of the Fourth International The parliamentary elections in France, ed between the electoral influence of the

The Lessons Of The Nov. 10

and the municipal elections in Italy which took place on Nov. 10, 1946, reveal a common tendency insofar as the evolution of the situation in these countries is concerned.

The center parties have undergone another reduction of their influence, with a growing polarization towards the political formations of the extreme left and the extreme right.

The set-back of the Socialist Party in the two countries has become accentuated, particularly in France, while the new Catholic parties, the MRP in France, and the Christian Democrats in Italy, also received a relative set-back, more marked in Italy than in France.

#### **Right Wing Gains**

In both countries important gains at the expense of the Socialists and more particularly of the Christian Democrats were registered by extreme right wing formations such as the PRL and the Gaullist Union in France, and the neo-Fascist Common Man movement, as well as the Monarchists in Italy.

On the other hand the Communist Parties have registered a new advance in both countries, probably more marked in Italy than in France, and they have recouped. at least on the parliamentary field, the influence which they appeared previously to be losing' in the working class districts.

This advance of the Communist Parties was achieved mainly at the expense of the Socialist Parties. In both countries the abstentionist current was quite high in comparison with preceding elections, particularly in Italy where it reached a proSocial Democracy and its genuine influence upon the masses in the past, that the same workers who are becoming more and more skeptical and even suspicious regarding the revolutionary character of the Stalinist leadership, vote in the elections for the Communist Party because they see in it the most extreme party on the electoral checkerboard against whom the reaction seems to concentrate all its fire.

On the other hand it is inevitable that at least some of the masses who have abandoned the Socialist Party turn to the Communist Parties on the electoral plane because the latter appear to them more dynamic or radical in comparison with the placidity of the Social Democracy and because the experience of the masses with Stalinism cannot be made by an immediate passage into the ranks of the revolutionary party.

#### Dominant Feature

The dominant feature of the elections in France and Italy is the tendency of 'the disintegration of the center parties for the benefit of the extremes; in such a process it is inevitable that the Communist Parties will still be able to profit from this current.

The by-passing of the Communist Parties by the masses can only manifest itself on the electoral plane after a series of extra-parliamentary struggle in which the experience of the masses becomes more mature, and only when there exists a genuine revolutionary party which by its persistent work in the trade unions, the neighborhoods, and by its participation in the struggles, has acquired the confidence of significant sections of the workers. We are only at the beginning of the realization of such conditions.

by the letter addressed to these parties proposing to them withdrawal of our lists in the event that they would reciprocate for us with regard to one list.

#### **Necessary** Slogans

By their very nature parliamentary elections pose the question of the entirety of the chairman at the first meetthe political program of each party and more especially of its position towards the question of government. It is impermissible for a revolutionary party to show a tendency to restrain its electoral platform to immediate and partial political and ecoeven if only in passing, its position on the question of government, as was the case of No. 148 of La Verite which on the eve of the elections set forth the reasons why the workers should vote for the PCI. Instead of a firm position on this question, which should have crowned the total of our demands, the most contradictory formulas were employed in succeeding issues of La Verite which preceded the elections: -Government of the workers parties;

-Workers and Peasants Government in the sense of a synonym for the dictatorship of the proletariat;

-Calling upon the traditional workers parties to go over into parliamentary opposition.

The only slogan which was not utilized forced to grant their approval was the transitional demand inscribed ex- at the last moment, when dele- men, but soon had to release mobile Workers. A fighter for the talist machine politics." plicity in our Transitional Program and gations of workers began to them when they saw the miliaddressed to the traditional parties, to crowd into their headquarters to tant mood of the strikers. "break the coalition," to take power and demand action. apply a genuine minimum workers' pro-STREAM OUT

(Special to The Militant). GERMANY, December-In recent months there have been at least three important strikes by workers in the U. S. occupation zone of Germany.

Commission buildings by underground Nazis, led to a general protest strike last October.

sirens. informal group of committeemen

The official union leaders were

In Stuttgart the acquittal of normalized of their working hours from 48 von Papen, Schacht and Fritsche, of their working hours from 48 followed by the attempted bomb- to 45 per week. The union leadings of several De-Nazification ers were opposed to the strike and tried to prevent it.

from various shops in the city. MEN RELEASED

The strike was opposed by the only the Betriebsrat (Shop Countrade union leadership and took cil) present. Everyone else had place under the direction of an left the place amid screaming

reduced work week was finally convention. The strike lasted only 15 min- won when the German adminis-

proceeded to arrest committee- land Local 112, CIO United Auto-

program of the RWP since 1933, Dowson was elected to its Nation-The workers' demand for a

## When the U.S. authorities arrived at the shipyards, they found

**German Workers In U. S. Zone** to immediate and partial political and eco-nomic demands only, and not to mention, even if only in passing its position on the

"support Viet Nam independence | tation while the aplauding was maintained and then in a body to use the words of the Dec. 23 the Communists slowly rose to

their feet at a signal from their

THOREZ

#### cribe the political baseness of the French troops in Indo-China: "The House applauded vigorously, with the exception of a inets which made a mockery of large contingent of Communists their independence promises, the who remained in their seats while

Stalinists have demagogically the others stood up to cheer. claimed all along that they There was a full minute of hesi-

portion in the neighborhood of three-quarters of the total of registered voters in certain southern towns.

The general lesson of these elections is the acceleration of the political process in these countries, by a simultaneous reinforcement of the extreme left, still represented for the masses by the Communist Parties, and of the extreme right. An important mass of elements discontented with the impotent policies of the coalition governments is very probably to be counted among the layers of the petty bourgeoisie. pursuing & waiting policy and susceptible the idea of throwing their weight into the balance of an extra-parliamentary regrouping of the right wing forces.

The polarization at the extremes goes on in both countries although still at a slow tempo, in view of the fact that on the economic plane the situation continues to remain precarious and has even become aggravated in some respects, and in view of the fact that the coalition government, which the traditional workers' parties have joined, are considered by the most impatient sections of the masses as responsible for this situation.

#### **Objective** Situation

In France we are witnessing once more a chaotic food situation, the danger of financial bankruptcy, a new spiralling of the cost of living upwards, and a slowing down of the tempo of economic revival because of the coal crisis.

In Italy the same causes are aggravated y by the existence of mass unemployment without the perspective of an immediate reduction.

The right is gaining in both countries by exploiting the manifest impotence of the coalition governments, and is grouping its forces for extra-parliamentary action.

The Communist Parties advance especially because of the distintegration of the Socialist Parties; the regrouping of the forces of the working class under their banner constitutes, from the point of view of the dynamics of the class struggle at the present stage, a more important element than the parallel reinforcement of the right.

## Sign of Radicalization

Despite the neo-reformist program of the Communist Parties, the trend of the masses towards them nevertheless constitutes a sign of the radicalization of the latter in comparison with their past attachment to the Socialist Parties. The electoral vote for the Communist Parties does not necessarily mean increased confidence of the masses in these parties nor a real reinforcement of their influence upon the pro-

It is possible, and we have seen that from the example of the disparity which exist-

### **Policy of French PCI**

The results obtained by our French sec. tion, the PCI, in its third electoral campaign constitute a relative success. The setbacks registered in some sectors reflectaside from the pressure exercised by the very character of the elections, which were to decide the composition of Parliament for five years, upon the fluctuating elements impregnated with parliamentary illusions who voted for its lists in the preceding elections-the lack of persistent work of the party in these regions, in the factories, the trade unions and the neighborhoods.

However, new gains have been achieved in other regions, and the 14,000 votes obtained in the working-class departments of the Seine-et-Oise, were significant proof of the wide echo which our revolutionary program can find in the ranks of the proletariat.

The resolution of the Political Bureau of the PCI of November 19 correctly underlines that "only by stubborn work over a considerable period of time can the revolutionary vanguard increase its forces and acquire the confidence of the workers, the working peasants and the little people." But it is also important to underline that the character of the program and of its application at the present stage can decide the revolutionary quality of our work and the tempo of our development in attracting the most advanced elements from the general current of radicalization within the proletariat.

#### The Entire Program

Our participation in parliamentary elections serves us above all to unfold before the masses the entirety of our revolutionary program and not merely a restricted section of it, including immediate demands of an economic and political nature. From this point of view the whole sense of our participation in the electoral campaign and the revolutionary character of our program, which is radically opposed to the traditional parties, have been distorted by the tendency to reduce our program to a series of economic. democratic and transitional demands, which was noted in the whole electoral campaign of the party: by the insufficient importance given to the position of the party, and often its complete absence from our electoral platform, on the political problems and on the question of government: by the timorous criticism employed particularly with regard to the treacherous parties of the workers, especially towards the Stalinist party; and above all by the confusion sown

cialist party and reminds it that the two helpless confusion as the workparties together with the few Moslem deputies have a majority of about one vote in the new Assembly, even on the parliamentary plane.

### A False Conception

gram.

During the whole electoral campaign. just as now, the criticism of the PCI towards the traditional parties and especially the Stalinist party was impregnated with a conciliatory spirit proceeding from a false conception of the way to achieve bar the path for reaction."

This, conception is especially concretized in the letter addressed to these parties proposing to them a united front in the voting without any "allusion to the program of this united front. An electoral united front with other parties which claim to represent the working class can be established only on the basis of a common minimum program of anti-capitalist de mands and action. The two parties which the PCI addresses practised a class collaboration policy which did not justify such a proposition.

### **Our Present Tasks**

Our withdrawal in their favor could not have any other interpretation for the masses, especially for those elements that were hesitant and which we were anxious to win over to our cause, than that our differences with the other parties were not of a fundamental programmatic character and that voting for them was a means nevertheless of "barring the path for reaction."

Our task on the other hand was to arouse relentless suspicions of the masses towards these parties, proving in fact their treacherous and capitulationist policy, to refute the arguments of division by demonstrating the reformist character of their policy which ties the masses to the bourgeoisie, and insisting upon our desire to be with them, not when they are betraying the working class but when they show that they are prepared to undertake genuinely anti-capitalist actions. Instead of that, our policy appeared as the worst sort of electoral horse-trading and could not in any case moreover, serve as an argument to prove our desire not to divide the votes. The IS considers it necessary for the Central Committee and the whole of the French Party to seriously discuss the policy adopted by its leadership during the electoral campaign and the path which it seems to have taken thereafter, a path which the IS considers sown with opportunist errors and dangers.

November, 1946

tration of the yards, upon the This omission becomes particularly felt uses, but not a wheel moved in today, after the election, when the Stalin- the entire city during that time. instruction of the occupation auist party demagogically addresses the So- U. S. military police stood by in thorities, yielded to the workers. The workers wanted their ers streamed out of the factories. hours reduced in this way so In Stuttgart again, workers in that they could have the whole a factory which was to be dis- day off on Saturday for the purmantled and shipped to the So- pose of foraging in the countryviet Union as reparations, struck side for extra food to supplement for a day and a half beginning their slim rations. There has been Oct. 21. no Saturday work since the

Here the American authorities strike, and an attempt of the ntervened and by threatening to management to cut rations was withdraw ration cards, succeeded quickly withdrawn upon the in forcing the workers to return. threat of another strike, with In Mannheim, 2,000 workers the U.S. authorities intervening employed in the shipyards, struck to prevent the attempt from gothe workers' united front by voting "to in a solid body for the reduction ing through.



platform includes the following ent political action, they will b demands: 1. For independent their example encourage the working-class political action; 2. workers throughout the coun-For subsidized low-rent housing; try."

# **International Notes**

Three weeks after it was in- | wage negotiations, are to be stalled in power, the Miguel fixed at 84,000 francs a year. On Aleman administration gave no- paper this amounts to \$680; on tice that the Mexican govern- the black market where food and ment was moving sharply to the other supplies are diverted, to right. The threatened strike of \$250 a year. Even if this minof 20,000 government oil workers, imum wage level is achieved, following a 24-hour demonstra- constantly mounting prices are tion called by the Oil Workers expected to quickly wipe out and Union to demand higher wages, gains made by the workers. was broken by the use of troops.

Fifty union leaders were fired. Aleman threatens to scrap all existing agreements with the un- pitched battles with police ion, to establish new wage scales, touched off by a sharp reduction which means wage cuts and dis-q in unemployed doles, spread rapmissals for many workers, and to hire non-union workers. Toledano, cowardly Stalinist Southern Italy last weekend.

leader of the Confederation of Palmi a score of carloads of flour Labor, capitulated without pro-) and other foodstuffs were seized test, and defended Aleman's by 2,000 starving Italians, some strikebreaking actions.

veterans seized the electric plant. Malayan organizations and Police fired upon the Bari demnewspapers are voicing deep dis- onstrators, killing one, wounding satisfaction with the British-pro- 25. posed Constitution for a Malayan Federation. The plan is similar in essence to British schemes being circulated in Palestine was to camouflage perpetuation of recently printed in the Palestine their oppressive rule in India, edition of the Cairo Mid East Burma, Egypt. etc. Mail, a paper published for the The new Constitution would British armed forces only. This virtually dismember Malaya. In short article prints at least three nine native states it would re- lies, saying that The Militant, store the sovereignty of Sultans "noted for its anti-British views," already kicked out by the people; contains "anti - Jewish" articles it would establish two British and "anti - white" stories on Colonial "settlements" and main- lynch-law in the U.S. The piece tain the island of Singapore outends with a hint that complaints side the Federation as a crown to the Press Censor might get colony. The Militant banned from Pal-

Constantly mounting prices are worsening the plight of the

the same; some 300 to 400 grams from Japan all material interof bread a day, and each month preted by his headquarters as one pound of sugar and 250 "detrimental" to the purposes of grams of fat.

MacArthur's headquarters in low-paid French working class. Tokyo has set up new sweep-Despite increased imports of ing controls over publications food (French agriculture has and written information. The sharply declined) rations remain new order is designed to bar

\* \* \*

the U.S. occupation. It is aimed Minimum living wages de- primarily against the USSR, but manded by the General Confed- | can be used against publications eration of Labor in reopening of of any country.

estine.

PAGE FOUR



ing or drowning mankind in blood. capitalism befouls the world atmosphere with the poisonous vapors of naitonal and race hat2

off Puerto Rico."

workers.

contracts.

workers.

of 1946.

world domination.

ganized American workers.

fight Yankee imperialism."

ing Spanish be made the official language in

the schools, placards appeared calling for

"withdrawal of American troops" and "hands

The Militant is wholeheartedly in sympathy.

with the demands of the Puerto Rican people

and calls on the advanced American workers

to respond to the slogan raised in the streets

of San Juan: "American democrats, help us

Alfred P. Sloan Jr., chairman of General

Motors Corp. which controls nearly 50 per

cent of U.S. automotive production, recently

declared that "labor has become a monopoly." He called for laws to restrict such "monopolis-

tic practices" as the union shop, industry-wide

collective bargaining, and similar gains of the

In the same week, no less an authority than

Asst. Attorney General Wendell Berge, head

of the Department of Justice's Anti-Trust Di-

vision, pointed out where the real monopoly threat lies. Citing the fact that just 250 giant

corporations control two-thirds of the coun-

"The monopoly problem is today more seri-

ous than at any time since the passage of the

Sherman (anti-trust) Act. If monopoly power

follows its traditional course, we can expect

higher prices, limitations on production and

It is especially ironic that a plutocrat like

Sloan talks about "labor monopoly." General

Motors, which is controlled by the munitions

and chemical trust, the du Pont family, secur-

ed over 13 billion dollars in government war

orders, or \$1 out of every \$8 in industrial war

The real monopolies, the giant financial and

industrial empires ruled by about 60 fantas-

tically wealthy families, dominate the whole

of American life. They control the government,

own the major political parties, select the

judges, write the laws. They exact their high

tribute for almost everything the people buy.

They squeeze out the small business man and

the independent farmer. They exact the last

ounce of profit from the labor power of the

The international competition and rivalries

of these gigantic aggregates of wealth and

power decreed that 66 million human beings

had to die in World War II. They are thrusting

their rapacious tentacles toward every spot on

the globe and preparing for a new and greater

blood-bath on their corpse-strewn path to

All that stands in their way is the power

The unions, by their growth and extension

throughout all industry, have laid the basis

for a real challenge of the monopolies that

are strangling this country and have ruined

half the world. They have given an intima-

tion of labor's power in the great strike wave

That is what the Sloans, the real monopolists

see and fear. They know that one day this

giant of American labor, mobilizing all the

"little people" and thrusting out for political

power, is going to wipe out the monopoly of

the few, take over industry and operate it in

of labor-above all the might of 15,000,000 or-

a lowering of the level of employment."

try's manufacturing facilities, Berge said:

"Labor Monopoly"

-Leon Trotsky

## The New Congress

A Purple Heart veteran, whose letter appears in the "Workers' Forum" on page 5 of this issue, asks The Militant to start a "cry now to make the new Congress act right away.' He wants to get his Armed Forces Leave Bond cashed now when his family needs it, instead of being forced to wait five years in accordance with an arbitrary whim of Congress.

The angry voice of this veteran is but one among millions demanding action from Congress to relieve pressing needs of the people.

Those crowded in dangerous, run-down tenements want low-cost housing-and right away. Those faced with the imminent threat of steep rent boosts want ceilings maintained.

The union man wants to safeguard the right to strike and the right to organize. In the face of sky-rocketing prices he seeks to maintain his hard-won "standard of living.

The Negro people demand action to protect their right to economic, social and political equality. They want to wipe out the tag ends of slavery that still exist throughout America in the form of segregation, discrimination, denial of the ballot and fierce racial persecution.

Are the members of the 80th Congress concerned about such burning problems of the people?

On the contrary, they have only one abiding interest, and that is how to protect the interests of Wall Street, no matter what the cost in human misery.

They are not interested in constructing homes. Instead, they are working out slick ways of aiding the real estate interests by scrapping rent controls and blocking low-cost government housing.

THE MILITANT



f only the workers would raise themselves above their day-to-day problems, as we do, there'd be less bitterness in the world!"



ONLY YESTERDAY by Fred-, back "the very form and pres-, MATHEMATICIAN'S erick Lewis Allen, Bantam sure of the times." For he con-Books, 1946, 402 pp., 25 cents. that decade upon the outlook fines himself to the effect of

This book, which its author of the middle class. He begins describes as "an informal his- by recounting the routine of "a tory of the nineteen-twenties," moderately well-to-do young written introduction to mathewas first published in 1931. To May, 1919, in order to suggest that an understanding of maththe middle-class reading public the contrast between life before ematics can most easily be acof that day, lost in the depths and after the "fabulous" Twenof the depression, the book gave ties. a lively picture of the previous

looked at with bitter-sweet nos-terms of the life of this middletalgia and the feeling that those class young couple throughout days were gone forever.

cent reprint, the book now has a had a seat on the Coolidge prosnew appeal. The era which it treats began after the First Negro sharecropper of the South, plained as "how to make tunnels World War, and it is interest- the Pennsylvania coal miner, and maps;" differential calculus ing to compare the beginnings the small mid-western farmer and the New England textile of that postwar period with toworker did not buy land in the day.

Only Yesterday in some ways bull market. enables us to make this com-Consequently the author's inparison better than the conventerpretation of events, where tional history book would. The there is such interpretation, is author is primarily concerned superficial. Its value is mainly not only with political intrigues and maneuverings, but with the as a colorful reminiscence of a and maneuverings, but with the period which is similar in many appear on the scene until late in human history; they represent a the "ordinary person" — the respects to the one in which we

DE-LIGHT by W. W. Sawyer, Penguin Books, 1946, 215 pp., 25 cents.

This American edition is the third printing of a popularlycouple" on an ordinary day in matics. Dr. Sawyer demonstrates quired by relating it to everyday things and experiences. He Although intending to write throws fresh light upon the disdecade, a recent past which it the chronicle of an era, the covery and application of many and operations.

For example, the author apthe book. Although he mentions proaches geometry as "the Republished last year as a 25 in passing that not everyone science of furniture and walls;" algebra as a kind of "shortperity band-wagon, one could not hand;" graphs as "thinking in suspect from his writing that the pictures." Trigonometry is exas "the study of speed."

". . . Mathematical reasoning," he writes, "is not separate from Florida boom or stock in the big the other powers of the mind, nor is mathematics separate from the rest of life. Quite the opposite: mathematics has grown from the rest of life, and reasoning from experience . . .

"Pure mathematicians do not appear on the scene until late in high level of civilization. The

#### SATURDAY, JANUARY 4, 1947

## **President Truman In** The Role Of Historian - By George Breitman

Besides employing his talent for strikebreaking, President Truman fancies himself in the role of historian. Nothing but such a fancy can explain his Dec. 20 speech on the need for peacetime conscription, made to his newly appointed Advisory Commission on Universal Military Training. ("I want that word military left out," he said on second thought.)

The president thought it was "a terrible reflection on a free country" when he found out that "almost 30 per cent of our young people who were called up for military service were unfit physically or mentally.'

This led to his next remarks: "I have been somewhat of a student of history, and I have discovered that great republics of the past always passed out when their peoples became prosperous and fat and lazy, and were not willing to assume their responsibilities." Apparently he saw no connection between the "prosperity" of the American people in the Thirties and the high percentage of physical and mental unfitness that developed from it in the Forties.

Instead he went on to give some examples: "In other words, when the Romans and the Greeks and some of the Mesopotamian countries turned to mercenary defenses, they ended. That is, when the people of a nation would not do the necessary service to continue their government, it ended eventually in one way or another. That has been true of modern nations also."

The Roman Empire declined and fell, according to this analysis, because its people relied on mercenary lefenses-that is, a standing or professional armyinstead of being willing to assume their responsibilities-that is, establish a system of conscription. Who knows?---if the Romans had had Truman's profound understanding of these problems, their Empire might still be running things today, Anyhow, they didn't so it ended eventually in one way or another.

But why speculate about ancient history when the president can prove his point by stating "that has been true of modern nations also"? In our time at least three nations, wisely avoiding the mistake of depending on mercenary defenses, acted in accord with the president's recommendations, assumed their responsibilities and went in whole-hog for conscription.

Instead of becoming prosperous and fat and lazy, they did what Truman advocates-they drafted the youth and taught them how to drill and fight. And everybody knows how these modern nations-Nazi Germany, Fascist Italy and Imperial Japan-instead of passing out or ending eventually in one way or another, survived and won World War II.



- By Joseph Hansen -

Every two months New York's 24,608 postal workers distribute bills from the power trust to 2,152,467 households that use electricity for lighting (5,195 still use gas lights). This leaves very few who don't hear regularly from the power trust - 3.077 dependent on kerosene or gasoline and 1,154 using "other." That probably means candles.

Outside of college mathematics it is difficult to

They are not interested in strengthening labor. On the contrary, they are cooking up laws to put labor in a strait-jacket. In place of maintaining the working man's standard of living, they are concerned about preserving and raising profits. Right now they are rushing to the aid of Big Business with emergency laws to block portal-to-portal pay.

As for defending the democratic rights of the Negro people, count Congress out. The Republicans are already assuring the Southern Democrats of their "good will." The program they have drawn up for the new Congress already shows they intend to renege on the promise of FEPC legislation which they gave in an effort to win the Negro vote.

The new Congress is an instrument of Big Business. It will grant concessions to the people only if forced by mass action and political pressure. It is high time for the labor movement to begin planning such action and exerting such pressure. Among other things, this means it is high time for the labor movement to begin the formation of an independent Labor Party.

## Hands Off Puerto Rico

Truman's insistence that the children of Puerto Rico must speak English in the schools instead of their native tongue, Spanish, has aroused great indignation in this long-oppressed Caribbean island. As reported in last week's Militant, hundreds of thousands have protested Truman's dictatorial ruling.

But the brutal insistence of the American ruler that this subject people must speak a language convenient to Wall Street in preference to their own, is only one of the grievous burdens laid on Puerto Rico.

The Puerto Ricans are denied the full rights of American citizenship. They are governed without democratic representation. Their Governor, who can veto laws passed by their legislature, is foisted upon them by Washington the way Britain once foisted governors upon the American colonies.

A half-century of American rule is symbolized by what are probably the worst slums in the Western Hemisphere. The virtually onecrop economy-sugar-has converted the island into a Wall Street plantation. The plight of Puerto Rico has become a byword throughout Latin America.

The Puerto Ricans long for freedom from this galling yoke. They want the right to determine the future of Puerto Rico, the freedom to develop the natural resources of the island in accordance with the needs of the people.

That is why in the demonstrations demand-

the interests of the many. That's the "labor monopoly" the American people should welcome and fight for.

## **Revealing Contrast**

When Truman announced December 22 that "pre-Christmas actions are planned" in the way of amnesties, it was generally assumed he referred only to the 662 conscientious objectors still in prison in America.

Truman actually did make a gesture in the direction of these people who were imprisoned because they held they could not join in the slaughter of human beings without profoundly violating their conscience or religious convictions. Truman set up a three-man board empowered to review some 11,000 cases of draft violations and to "recommend those persons it deems deserving of executive clemency."

However, just to make doubly clear that Truman's Christmas generosity toward the conscientious objectors remained within exceedingly narrow limits, White House press secretary Charles G. Ross emphasized there was not the slightest intention of granting a "blanket amnesty."

While Truman's supporters were still hailing the magnanimity of the White House, a really sweeping Christmas amnesty was announced.

The day before Christmas, General McNarney stood in Roemberg Square in Frankforton-the-Main where the Kaisers were crowned for 500 years. He amnestied between 800,000 and 1,000,000 "small fry" Nazis.

The amnesty for small Nazis was made a "blanket" one. Three Americans who broadcast for the Hitler regime during the war were released from prison-Herbert Burgman, Donald Day, former correspondent of the Chicago Tribune, and Mildred Gillars, an "Axis Sally" who was among the highest paid performers in Goebbel's propaganda department.

Truman's carefully-timed, but empty, gesture in behalf of the conscientious objectors was nothing but a bone tossed to their political representatives who have been picketing the White House and demonstrating in other cities. To have given a blanket Christmas amnesty to the former Nazis without a gesture toward the conscientious objectors would not have been astute capitalist "politics."

The White House shows far more sympathy for the miltaristic supporters of capitalism, even though they were in the "enemy" camp, than it does for those Americans who objected to participating in the war. Washington will forgive a Nazi, but it still begrudges clemency to opponents of war at home. The contrast is revealing and educational.

current topics of conversation These similarities, however, and interest, the fashions in

clothes and ideas, the manners and morals of the time. tween the two epochs. The pro-His graphic description of the armistice celebrations, the mounting cost of living, the housing which began in 1929 and was less consciously. This book will shortage and the strikes of 1919 temporarily alleviated by new help remove the further study and of the growth of unabashed reaction, after the Wilsonian wartime demagogy (which he over, the Hoovers and the Hardcalls "idealism") had served its ings of the 1940's will be con- It is a useful book for every man purpose, often reminds us of the news stories in today's paper. Only within limits, however, - Paul Schapiro is Allen successful in bringing

first comers are the practical men, who study the world at first should not blind the reader to hand, and discover methods the fundamental differences be- which work in practice."

war preparations and World War of mathematics from dull, par-II, is today more acute. More- rot-like scholasticism, and make it a part of the world of doers. fronted by a powerfully organ- and woman in the shop interized working class determined ested in acquiring a clearer unnot to give up any of its gains. derstanding of this mental tool. -Larissa Reed

Whitewashing "Military Justice"

When a House Military Affairs, the report - but immediately, the brass hats at all. Their fasub-committee last April issued covered up by an endorsement of vorite alibi in brushing aside the a sweeping indictment of U.S. the court-martial system itself. GIs' complaints has all along "Almost without exception our been that after all things can-"military justice" in World War II, Undersecretary of War Ken- informants said that the Army not be perfect in the heat of neth C. Royall characterized the system of justice in general and battle, the rush of war and the report as "grossly unfair both to as written on the books is a good hasty expansion of the Army. the Army and the system of one; that it is excellent in theory But actually, as two Socialist military justice." In rejecting and designed to secure swift and action on this report, Royall sure justice, and that the inpointed out that the War Denocent are almost never convictpartment was going to wait until ed and the guilty seldom acits own newly appointed Adquitted," stated the report. visory Committee on Military "With these conclusions the Justice, with members selected committee agrees . . . " by the American Bar Association. With that endorsement as a to maintain discipline and not had reviewed the court-martial basis the report goes on to make to administer justice . . . procedure.

Royall's answer showed that the War Department expected a "safe" investigation from its Advisory Committee. The Militant of May 4 pointed out, furthermore, that a similar committee made up of ABA members had helped to whitewash the U.S. etc. Army's injustices of World War

ed the report would receive On Dec. 21 the Advisory Comprompt and careful considera- soldiers charged with serious ofmittee published its report, which ion." Not even Royall himself showed that both Royall and The could have written a better Militant had known what to exwhitewash of the court-martial pect of it. For this report represystem. sents one of the most brazen

The weak-hearted criticisms of cover-up jobs in recent history the way the court-martial sys-There have been so many bittem operates will not disturb

ter complaints by servicemen about the injustice of the courtmartial system that the Advisory Committee could not just pat the brass hats on the shoulder and say "Well done." A few notes of criticism were in order-otherwise the report would not seem "impartial." So some slaps on the wrist were given in

Every worker today uses mathlonged crisis of world capitalism ematics in his daily life, more or

system of civilian court trial for

"What is required, therefore,

Court-Martial Manuals,

is a new set of Articles of War

and not a few piddling reforms."

(Testimony of George Breitman

fenses . . .

and

find mental exercise more invigorating than figuring out the light bill. You put down \$1.50 for the first 24 kilowatt hours (or less), then add 5c per kwhr for the next 80 kwhr, 4c for the next 80, 3c the next 70, and 2c for anything else the meter registered.

But you're not through yet. You've still got to add a city sales tax of 2 per cent. Remember, it's expensive to keep capitalist politicians in office!

Then we come to where most people get stuck a little item called "Fuel Adjustment" that's as innocent-looking as the character you never suspect. in a murder mystery.

We tried calling up the company to find out what "Fuel Adjustment" is for. The voice on the telephone admitted, after we pried a few minutes, that it was higher costs passed on to the consumer. Yes, it's figured out by the company. Why? If you think your bill is too high, don't forget it's bi-monthly and you use more electricity in the winter. Who could forget facts like that?

The attendant at the Public Library was more helpful. He agreed few mysteries are deeper than a light bill but it can be solved, he said. We settled down to an agreeable afternoon reading the Federal Power Commission National Electric Rate Book.

Both volumes, heavy as they are, ought to be in the home of every worker who pays an electric light bill. You can compare the power rates of every city in the United States and see how high privatelyowned utilities force up rates and how low publiclyowned utilities bring them down.

In the second volume we lingered over the "Tennessee Valley Authority Standard Rate Schedules." If you live in an R-1 district you can figure your light bill at 2c per kwhr for the first 100 kwhr, 1c the next 250, and if you can go the limit making housework easy with electric appliances, only fourtenths of a cent for the next 700 kilowatt hours! Naturally that's government-produced power - the kind that keeps the power trust seeing red.

Browsing along, we even found what "Fuel Adjustment" means. It's "a clause in a rate schedule that provides for an adjustment of the customer's bill in case the cost of fuel varies from a specified base price." That's the definition of the Federal Power Commission.

Back in 1941, apparently, when Roosevelt was heading us into World War II, the New York power trust scheduled this clause to go into effect Nov. 1, 1943, to insure their profits against cost rises.

Since then electric bills in New York have been increased automatically every time company figures revealed an increase in costs.

We thought it over. If the power trust can use an escalator clause in contracts with consumers to protect profits, why can't the workers use a similar clause in contracts with consumers of their labor power to insure the family income against price rises? Why shouldn't every union contract have an escalator clause providing an automatic increase in wages when living costs go up?

Why not learn from the experience of the power trust? Especially since it's an experience we pay



and Milton Richardson, reported in The Militant, Sept. 21, 1946.) The Advisory Committee's open whitewash of the brass hats shows that only the labor movement in collaboration with the veterans can be depended on to lead a fight for the necessary reform of the Army's trial proce-

Workers Party veterans pointed out before an open hearing of the Advisory Committee in New York last September: "The outstanding characteristic of the court-martial system is that it is intended primarily

"What is necessary is a radical some mild criticisms—not of the court-martial system, but of the change in the whole structureway it was applied or mis-ap- a change which will remove from plied, the failure to follow the the hands of the officer corps Articles of War closely on all oc- control over the functions of casions, the lack of conscien- prosecutor, judge and jury . . tiousness or competence on the "For these reasons we are part of court-martial lawyers, here to propose the complete abolition of the general court-No wonder that Royall promismartial and the institution of a

SATURDAY, JANUARY 4, 1947



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

### **Veteran** Wants **His Bond Cashed**

Editor: Today I got my Armed Forces

Leave Bond, and it came to \$225. I really earned that money when I was in the Army, and I really need it now, when I am earning \$32 a week and trying to take care of a wife and kid with it, with prices so high it is easy to understand why some people go back into the Army.

This money would really come in handy now - but I cannot spend it until five years after I was discharged, which means January, 1951 so far as I am concerned. The reason Congress gave when it wrote that joker into the bill is the "fear" of inflation!

This situation has me boiling mad, because it is tantalizing to have the bond and not be able to cash it when I need it most. Adding to my aggravation is the fact that officers got their money in cash and not bonds, and that the Congress that did this voted itself a 50 per cent raise in wages beginning next month — not in five years from now.

I am sure that if all the veterans and their families did something about this we could Congress to change the law. cnow it could be done if the abor movement would help the veterans in this fight. How about Militant starting the cry to make the new Congress right away?

A Purple Heart Veteran New York City Editors' Note: See editorial, The New Congress, on Page 4.

### The Government And The Mine Strike

Editor The Dec. 21 Militant carries Joseph Hansen's very fine and this satanic capitalist system timely analysis of capitalist courts. We should carry more of this type of article tying up the judges with the political machines and with big capital which finances these machines.

However, within the abovementioned article there appears an incorrect formulation. The phrase reads, "Since the coal strike has been broken . . ." Now no miner feels his strike was Blaming Labor For broken. He knows that the battle was only postponed. A broken strike to any union man means a union beaten into submission, it means pickets, waylaid, and

scabs run in. The miners have in 1947, there won't be a depreshad experiences with broken sion and so on if only labor will strikes many years ago. The last | stay on the job. strike was not such an experience. I was in the mine area when and I guess people are getting dership, lacking social vision system.



it too!

Editor:

to the war.

Wall Street.

treated.

J. H.

Newark, N. J.

Letter To Truman On

The following is a letter sent

to President Truman by the To-

edo branch of the Socialist

Workers Party, demanding am-

nesty for conscientious objectors

and other political prisoners still

Throughout the war and up

until the present time, the Uni-

rage against the freedom of con-

science and civil liberties of the

conscientious objectors and other

political prisoners so unjustly

Our organization at a meeting

assembled on Sunday, December

Dec. 23, 1946

persecuted for their opposition

President Harry S. Truman

Dear Mr. President:

**Amnesty For COs** 

with the government, fearing to call on the whole labor movement for support, decided to postpone an all-out battle. The leadership retreated. But this is different from a "broken" strike. The miners are preparing to take the offensive again. We must be careful not to give offense to militant union men who know the power of their union.

It is perfectly correct to refer to the government role as a "strikebreaking" role. But this is different from stating that the strike itself was "broken."

> H. Lamont The White House Youngstown, O. Washington, D. C.

#### Likes Series On Wages, Prices, Profits **Editor:**

That was a fine series of articles on Wages, Prices and Profits that you printed by Warren Creel. But it seems like a shame to keep it confined to the columns of The Militant alone. Couldn't it be printed in more permanent form as a pamphlet? I think it would be a very effective piece of education that way.

## **Baby's Death**

#### Indicts Capitalism Editor:

starving baby in Atlantic City President of the United States, is another indictment against immediately grant full pardon that we are trying to exist under. that child would have reached draft"! As a Socialist I know a better way

**Railroad** Trainman Prescott, Ariz.

## **Capitalist Depressions**

#### Wants 'Militant' Given Editor:

that everything will be all right Editor: Enclosed please find a check THE MILITANT

# Workers' Forum columns are open to the opinions of the readers of "The Militant". Letters By William F. Warde

~~ \$ \$ \$ \$

\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$

\$20,000

National Fund Campaign Director Christmas week gave a sizeable spurt to the campaign for the \$20,000 Emergency be saying that strikes in 1929 were responsible for the big crash Fund to aid the work of the Socialist Workers Party. Contributions amounting to and the depression of the 1930's. \$1,217.17 poured in to the National Office from various parts of the country. This just It's bad enough when they about doubled the amount previously raised. The can't control their own system total now stands at \$2,430.67, or 12 per cent. and the workers have to suffer This encouraging stride forward made last unemployment and go hungry

week indicates that the Fund Campaign is gainas a result. But it's going too far ing real momentum after a rather slow start. If when they try to blame us for the present pace can be maintained, the SWP fund banner will be hoisted high toward the Subscriber \$20,000 mark in the weeks to come. Newark, N. J.

Buffalo remains at the head of the procession for the third successive week by sending in another \$24 on its \$700 quota. But this branch is being crowded closely by the steel center of Youngstown, which came forward following its successful banquet with \$190, over one-third of its allotted \$500.

The New York Local merits special recognition for its regular weekly remittances which exceed in amount those of any other branch. Irving Dale, Fund Director of Central Branch in New York, reports an inspiring story: "Comrade Louise Mann, who has been seriously ill and is still convalescing, gave a fine example of Bolshevik spirit and initiative. She wanted to do something about the fund right away, and took the occasion of her birthday to arrange a house party at her apartment in order to raise money for the \$20,000 Fund.

"Every guest was asked to bring a token gift of some kind, and during the evening these gifts, unopened, were auctioned off. \$28 was collected by means of this auction from the 12 people who came together that evening."

ted States government has held in federal prisons and concen-Duncan Conway, Fund Director for the New tration camps thousands of in-York Local, informs us that other comrades are dividuals whose only crime was planning similar house parties and social affairs for the fund. Moreover, each of the six branches that they did not believe in the slaughter of their fellow man, in the New York area plans to put on a big in the war recently conducted social during January or February with all proby the imperialist government of ceeds donated to the Fund. "We hope to attract to these affairs," Comrade Conway states, "a large number of our friends and sympathizers The Toledo branch of the Sowho want to help support the activities of the cialist Workers Party (Trotsky-SWP.' ist) vigorously protests this out-

Boston mailed in one-third of its \$400 guota through Hilda Webster who remarks: "These checks for \$136 are the total amount the Boston branch has so far collected. It keeps us on schedule in the fund drive."

St. Paul and Minneapolis, the Twin Cities, are running neck to neck in the race, with each at 22nd, went on record unani- the 30 per cent mark. P. Mertens of St. Paul

Reading

Toledo

Akron

Detroit

Seattle

Baltimore

Bayonne

Cleveland

Houston

Newark \*

Akron Youth

Chicago Local

Chicago Youth

**Connecticut** State

Los Angeles Local

Los Angeles Youth

New York Youth

Allentown-Bethlehen

Flint

Milwaukee

The death of the veteran's mously demanding that you, the writes: "Here is \$100 toward our quota of the \$20,000 Fund drive. The Militant reported St. Paul's to all political prisoners still held quota as \$300 and Minneapolis as \$700. The actual division in custody. We further demand The war profiteers will be short that you restore all civil rights agreed upon by the two cities was Branch just one more boy to draft, when to those political prisoners al- \$330 for St. Paul, \$670 for Min-Buffalo ready released including the neapolis. Our quota, by the way, Youngstown 18 years of age - but death is eighteen leaders of the Socialist is already pledged in full. I will Boston a hell of a way to "beat the Workers Party railroaded to pri- send you more money as fast as Minneapolis son for their opposition to the it is collected." St. Paul

"Find enclosed our first pay-Very truly yours, ment of \$86." Fred Riggs of De-Malcolm Walker, troit writes. "That cracks the Toledo Branch Organizer ice for Detroit. As yet we have Socialist Workers Party planned no special money-raising activities. Pledges from the comrades and from the Party sympathizers make up the bulk Now President Truman says To More Workers Now of the cash raised for our branch. As I recall past fund drives Detroit has always ended in the

otherwise this time."

W. T. G.

New Haven, Conn.

0543 Library, Bookstore.

Friday forum-8 p.m.

100 per cent column. I have no

reason to think that it will be

From the General Motors city.

Flint, Genora Dollinger reports:

"At our last branch meeting I

was elected Director of our Scot-

ty Hunter Memorial Fund Cam-

paign. Our plans are well pre-

pared and well under way to

make or exceed our quota. Com-

rades and sympathizers have

pledged generously in this cam-

paign. These sympathizers in

the shops are workers who think

that The Militant is a genuine

workers' newspaper fighting in

their interests, and they are

showing their appreciation of



# THE MILITANT ARMY **Toledo Branch Elated As Sub-Drive Scores Rise**

Comrades of the Toledo Branch | E. Brent of Detroit reports a secured 32 subs to The Militant gratifying experience: "Last June during the first Sunday mobili- while I was canvassing for reation of their campaign. In adnewals F. S. didn't have any dition, 26 pamphlets were sold. money to pay for his renewal. We are keeping score in this Because he said he liked The campaign on the basis of one Militant so well, I paid for a sixpoint for each 10 cents worth of month renewal. About a month subs or literature sales," writes later while I was passing his Paul Carroll, Literature Agent. house he called to me and told This gives full credit to those me he was in a position to pay who succeeded in getting one- for his sub. He gave me a dolyear renewals, and gives an in- lar bill and said, 'Now I'm paid centive toward selling literature. up until May of 1947.'' A suitable prize will be given the high scorer.

pranch. Mac scored 34, Nolan later." and Joe 30 each, Pablo 23, Alice and Pat 16 each, and Sadie and Syd 15 each. The comrades are elated over the success of the day's work, and many of them plan to go out on week days.

"Full credit should be given afternoon in 20 degree weather. toward our December quota." "When commended for this display of Bolshevik spirit, Alice

ing to sell The Militant.' "

Connecticut State's campaign ture Agent James White forfollows closely with 22 subs."

tell you just how these subs were We are going to build more gotten because they come from evevrwhere Comrades meet peo-

ple and just sell them subs. It San Francisco's distribution of has become almost an uncon- the December 7 issue of The Milscious duty when they meet new itant:

meeting we held on the mine

people. We obtained four subs at "The 200 Militants containing the article

Al Turner sent in three sube "Gladys and Maggie scored for San Diego, promising that 12½ points each to lead the the branch "will send more Sid Brooks, Boston's Literature Agent, mailed in 12 subs. Four subs came in from Comrade Guil for Akron.

PAGE FIVE

Milwaukee is having a little to Gladys and Alice. These wo- tough sledding right now, but men, each with four children, the branch manages to send in came 12 and 16 miles respective- subs. "We are temporarily out ly into town to spend a day pre- of a headquarters," explains Fred paring prospect cards, and work- Martin, "so our work is a little ed many hours in their homes to disrupted. We had one mobilizacomplete this work. Then, after tion but we mistakenly chose a week of this thankless toil, very difficult neighborhood . came back in for the mobiliza- mostly churchgoers in a Polish tion and went house to house all district. We have only 15 subs

Yetta Fine of San Pedro resaid, 'It wasn't any accident. ports: "Enclosed you will find Gladys and I knew we wanted 12 subs. Comrades Alice, Elsie, a revolution as soon as possible and Lou have been doing a swell and we decided that if selling job. They went out on renewals The Militant was going to make and where the old subscriber it come any sooner we were go- moved, they sold subs to the new tenants. Comrade Eugene is in the lead in 'Job' subs:

"We have had no luck in putcontinues at a brisk pace. Litera- | ting the paper on newsstands. As soon as we succeed in obtaining warded 21 subs for the week. He such an arrangement, the preswrites: "Clara Raymond leads sure from the Stalinists forces the the Pace-Setters for the second arrangement to be withdrawn. As straight week, with a total of a result, we have built a small 27 subs to date. Pearl Spangler stand of our own and have chained it to a telephone pole in the heart of town. Business is very Belle Rosen of Chicago sent good. The papers sell and there the accompanying note with are always coins in the money nine subs: "It's very difficult to box which is part of the stand.

Anne Chester tells us about

nd fearing a show-down fight | Next thing we know they will

#### for \$2.50 to pay for a year's subscription to Fourth International Now nobody ever accused Truand to extend my Militant subman of having too much sense scription six more months. You will also find enclosed a the strike was called off. There used to seeing him put his feet check for \$5 with which I wish to was no talk by the miners of hav- in his mouth. But I for one got pay for copies of The Militant ing suffered a defeat. "We'll be good and angry when I saw this that are to be distributed free out again," was their sentiment. attempt to blame labor for the to union members and other The fact is that the union breakdown of the almighty profit workers during this crisis.

## **Come and meet other 'Militant' Readers** At these Local Activities of The Socialist Workers Party

AKRON-2nd floor, 8 So. Howard St. Open daily except Sunday, 2 to 4 p.m.

Saturdays: Current Events Discussion, 8 p.m. followed by social. Admission free. Sundays, 7 p.m. Public

Speaking class. BALTIMORE-For Information write Box 415, Baltimore 3,

Md. Monthly forums. BAYONNE-62 W. 23rd St. Open house 2nd and 4th Saturdays. BOSTON 30 Stuart St. Open Saturdays 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.; Wednesdays and Fridays, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

BUFFALO - Militant Forum, 629 Main St., 2nd floor. Phone MAdison 3960. Open every afternoon except Sunday.

Open house and current events discussion every Saturday, 8:30 p.m. Admission free. CHICAGO-777 W. Adams (corner Halsted). Open 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, except Sunday. Tel. Dearborn 4767 Liberty, bookstore.

Sat. night, open house. COLEVELAND - Militant Forum every Sunday, 8:30 p.m. at Peck's Hall, 1446 E. 82nd St. (off Wade Park Ave.).

TROIT-6108 Linwood Ave., phone TY. 7-6267. Open Monlay through Saturday, 12 to 5 p.m. Current events forum and open house, Saturday from 8 p.m.

FLINT-215 E. Ninth St., Flint 3. Mich. Open Monday through Friday, 5 to 9 p.m. LOS ANGELES-Militant Pub-

lishing Assn., 3161/2 W. Pico

Blvd. Open daily, 12 noon to | 5 p.m. Phone Richmond 4644. Friday, 8 p.m. — Militant Workers Forum, 466 E. Vernon. SAN PEDRO, Militant Publishing Assn., 1008 S. Pacific. Room 214.

St., open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. Sunday Forums, 3:30 p.m.

NEW HAVEN-Labor School, 855 Grand Ave., 3rd floor. Open Mon., 7:30-9:15, p.m.

3rd each month, open forum. 2nd and 4th, round table discussion. EWARK-423 Springfield Ave. Phone BIgelow 3-2574. Library

nights, 7-10 p.m. Friday night forum, 8:30.

University Place, GR. 5-8149 HARLEM: 103 W. 110 St Rm. 23. MO. 2-1866. Every Thursday Open Discussion, 8 p.m. BRONX: 1034 Prospect Ave. 1st floor, phone TI 2-0101. Reading room open Mon. to

Current events discussion Fridays at 8. BROOKLYN: 635 Fulton St. Phone ST. 3-7433.

CHELSEA: 130 W. 23 St. phone CH 2-9434. OAKLAND, Cal.-Meetings Wednesday, Odd Fellows Temple,

PHILADELPHIA - 1303-05 W Girard Ave., 2nd floor. Open daily. Friday forum, 8 p.m.

Phone Stevenson 5820. PITTSBURGH-1418 Fifth Ave. 2nd floor Round table discussions, 2nd and 4th Sundays each month. 3:30. Phone: Court 6060. PORTLAND, Ore. - Write to MINNEAPOLIS-10 South 4th

land 8, Oregon.

SAN FRANCISCO - School of Social Science, 305 Grant Ave., Fridays, 8:15 p.m.; 1st and cor. of Grant and Sutter, 4th

and reading room open week

NEW YORK-CITY HQ., 116

ST. LOUIS - 1023 N. Grant Blvd., Room 312, open Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 7:30 to 9 p.m. Forums Thursday. 8:30 p.m. Phone Jefferson 3642. ST. PAUL-540 Cedar St., St.

Paul 2, Phone Garfield 1137. Open daily 2:30-9:30. Fri., 7 to 10 p.m.

P.O. Box 1079. TOLEDO-108 Summit St., To-

410 - 11th St. For information MAin 8919. YOUNGSTOWN - 35½ South write to P.O. Box 1351.

> 12-5 p.m., Monday through Saturday. Phone 3-1355.

the financial difficulties we are having in this very concrete From the West Coast San Francisco comes through with a first payment of \$197 on its \$1,250 quota. "This of course is for the San Francisco branch only," says Anne Chester. "The Oakland branch will send its payments directly to you."

Socialist Workers Party, c/o C. We want to give special thanks M. Hesser, P.O. Box 3711, Portto the "dry-goods friend" in New York City who gave a con-SAN DIEGO-Headquarters 623 tribution of \$10. Sixth Ave., open 3-9 p.m. daily

## Youth Activities

floor open from 12 noon to AKRON. - Socialist Youth 4:30 p.m., daily except Sunday. Phone EXbrook 1926. p.m. Followed by refreshments, SEATTLE-1919½ Second Ave. dancing. 8 South Howard St. Open Monday through Satur-2nd floor. days, noon to 6 p.m. Tel. SE-

CHICAGO. - Youth meeting Fridays at 8 p.m. Discussion on pamphlet Socialism On Trial. Games and refreshments. 777 W. Adams, 2nd floor. LOS ANGELES. - Socialist

Youth Club meets every Tuesday, 8 p.m., at SWP headquart. ers, 3161/2 W. Pico Blvd. Educationals after every meeting. Rereshments served.

NEW YORK. - For informaracoma, Wash. - Meetings tion on the Trotskyist Youth "rective" proposals made by Reevery Wednesday, 8 p.m., at Group send name and address publican Governor Martin. Oddfellows Hall, 6th and Fawto 116 University Place, N. Y. 3. cett. Discussions on current N. Y. topics. For information, write

Open Forum: Every Friday. p.m., at 116 University Place. ledo 4, O. Open daily, Phone Dancing, refreshments.

Sundays, 3 p.m.:--"What Is Socialism?" 116 University Pl. Ave., Youngstown 3, O. Open PHILADELPHIA .- For infor- careful of this plan as a smokemation call ST. 4-5820, from screen to hide conditions in the BOOR to 6 D.B.

#### Oakland 250 Philadelphia Youth 25 Pittsburgh 150 Portland 150 Rochester 75 St. Louis 50 San Diego 100 Tacoma 100 General 1,700 12.00 Total \$20,000 \$2,430.67 12% Newspaper Guild Striker Speaks At Forum In Phila.

800

10

20

50

25

300

120

25

25

50

300

1,500

1,500

25.00

By C. Blake (Special to The Militant) PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Dec. 27 000,000 income. He explained

- Edward Stone, representative that this sum was proposed for of the CIO Newspaper Guild building, "but buildings, brick strikers who are battling the and mortar do not cure patients." Philadelphia Record, spoke last Mr. Hunter stressed the need Club meets Sunday, Dec. 15, 2 Friday at the Militant Labor for more adequate equipment, Forum. After explaining the his- proper training for attendants, tory of the present strike, he appealed for support of the Philadelphia workers against the hypocritical publisher, Stern. The forum audience also heard of patients, including beatings, an interesting report by R. C. and negligence which in some Hunter. Director of the Educa-

> tional Department of the National Health Foundation, Mr. Hunter exposed the terrible conditions prevailing in Pennsylvania Mental institutions, and condemned as "a sham, inadequate and deceptive," the "cor-

Martin's program calls for \$2,-000,000 for a new addition to the condemned Byberry Mental In-

stitution. "It sounds fine, but Byberry is only one of the many institutions in Pennsylvania," Mr. Hunter warned. "We must be

rest of the state."

strike last Sunday."

Oakland Branch sent in an- inists tried to push us around a other eight subs with the fol- bit, but gave up very quickly lowing comment by Beverley when we resisted. The main is-Wise: "This month we will make sues at the Convention were the our quota unless the Christmas red-baiting Statement of Policy slump gets us." \* \* \*

While Flint Branch held a discussing the question of a La-Chevrolet fraction meeting Saturday afternoon, Literature Agent El Snyder made the most

CIO Convention was very well received by the delegates. The Staland the Labor Party. The PAC Committee spent over five hours bor Party.

"We sold 74 pamphlets: 34 copies of Build the Labor Party of her unoccupied time by going Now, which was all we had, and out to get subs. She obtained 40 copies of American Workers Need a Labor Party."

## **Branches Confident As Fl** Sub Campaign Gets Underway

During the first 10 days of Fourth International's threemonth campaign, launched Dec. 15, branches of the Socialist Workers Party obtained 57 subs. The goal is 1.000 subscriptions.

Branches from coast to coast be made in the near future. have expressed confidence in ful- "This," the branch explaine, filling their quotas. Many "opens the door for us when we The speaker pointed out that \$2,000,000 is only a small frac- branches aim to go over their call." tion of the state's annual \$480,- quotas; some aim to double.

Pittsburgh Branch has already reached the half-way mark with five subs against their quota of 10. This confident branch, which is aiming to double its quota, has challenged all branches with a subscription to Fourth Internasimilar quota - Connecticut tional, since the lectures will tie

State, Reading, San Diego and decent wage scales for institu-Tacoma. Reading Branch not only ac-

ented Pittsburgh's - challenge. but they "hope to make them wish they hadn't made the chal-

lenge." \* \* \* Minneapolis got a good start

branch pass along a good suggestion: That comrades visiting their doctor or dentist solicit a sub. They point out that a Fourth International placed in a waiting room would be widely read.

The forum was concluded by Max Geldman, organizer of the to its credit and Toledo with Socialist Workers Party in Phila- four are going after combination delphia, who pointed out that FI and Militant subs.

is a part of the sickness of our the past FI campaign, is to mail economic and social system, a copy of Fourth International which fails to aid the sick work- to Militant subscribers, with a ers regardless of their need.

one-year combination subs to F.I. and Militant, writing: "We

Milwaukee Branch which opens

its class on Marxism in January

states: "We will attempt to in-

terest everyone in the class in a

in very well with the level of the articles in the FI." ' \* \* \* Friends of Fourth International in Canada sent us three hope to be able to give you a

in the campaign by sending in bit of a hand with the sub drive. 10 subs. The comrades of this Best of luck."

Los Angeles with seven subs

the problem of the mentally ill St. Paul's plan, successful in letter stating that a visit will

tion personnel, better medical care, bedding and clothing for the mentally ill. He cited abuses cases resulted in overdoses of sedatives leading to the death of patients. The hospital attendants are badly underpaid, receiving only

\$98 per month. There are not enough, all are overworked. The problem of assisting the mentally ill cannot be solved, he said, by voting for either the Democrats or the Republicans.

#### Diary of A Steel Worker-Winter Descends On The World - By Theodore Kovalesky

"The snow had begun in the gloaming, And busily all through the night Had been heaping field and highway With a silence deep and white . . .

That's one of the things they teach the kids in public school. I remember when I was a kid, I had to memorize it. But when you get



on the subject of snow, there's a lot to be said. A lot of pictures come to mind. For instance, here's a picture vou must remember: The sky is gray, and the ground is gray. Snow is banked and heaped everywhere. The silence of dusk is broken only by the lonely sound of a metal sign hang-

ing in front of a filling station near the tracks. When the wind stirs, the sign swings and creaks dismally. At the side of this scene a railroad embankment stands, a long, narrow hill that goes on and on, out of the picture, out of the city into the gathering dusk. Along the top of this embankment is a scrambling, yelling gang of kids, trying to make a game out of the grim necessity of picking up enough stray fragments of coal for the broken-down stoves at home. But not all are kids. Here and there a woman plods through the snow, dragging a burlap sack, searching, searching for the black chunks that have fallen from the engines and . tenders. They don't teach kids about these snow scenes in school . . . but they learn quickby enough after hours.

A miner told me of another incident concerning snow. Like most of the men of the pits, he went to work while still a child. I can't recall whether he said he was nine or eleven, or just what age, but I know that he

was very young. Still, there were others even-PAGE SIX younger than he was, because he told me that **GENERALS SPUR DRIVE** when he used to go to work in the winter dark before dawn, a little child used to go with him. And when the snow was deep, my friend used to carry his little companion's lunch pail s it wouldn't drag in the snow. The child was so small, you see, and the drifts on the way to the collieries were so deep ...

But these scenes hold little drama, little suffering, compared to the pictures even now in preparation in Europe. Imagine the street where the worker. Karl Schmidt and his family live: The snow has come again. Pavement and rooftops alike are blanketed with it. Karl and Hilda have moved the whole family into the kitchen to save heat. For one thing, nobody ever fixed the tear in the parlor walls where the bomb fragments ripped through it a couple of years ago. Besides, even without the holes in the walls, it would still cost too much to keep the whole place warm. Now the mattresses are piled together in the corner during the day, and at night are spread near the stove.

But winter is so hard! Little Hans has no clothing to wear out in the snow. And none of them can walk to the country any more to trade with the farmers or rummage through the woods in search of berries. Even the refuse of the streets is inaccessible, for Hans can no longer scurry about looking for things to use, things to trade, or to eat. And Karl, coming home from the factory, cannot find things any more, buried as they are under the snow. Winter descends upon the upper half of the world, victorious imperialist America with its Plans announced by the Tresca falling standard of living, and defeated, agon-

ized Europe, convulsed with disease and poverty. And each snowflake adds to the misery of the poor.

**Honor Tresca At Two Rallies On January 11** 

NEW YORK, Dec. 30-The still-unsolved murder of Carlo Tresca will be commemorated here by two meetings on Jan. 11, fourth anniversary of his death. Memorial Committee include a first meeting at one p.m. at Fifth Ave. and 15th St., where Tresca was shot down. If weather forces a change in plans, the meeting will move to Rand School Audi-

torium.

The Republican Promises – By William E. Bohannon

Immediately after the Nov. 5 elections, I wrote In this column that the new Congress was going to prove how little difference there is between the two capitalist parties, and



The Negro Struggle -----

if anyone had any illusions about the new Republican majority in Congress, he wouldn't have them for long because "next January will tell the tale." If anything, it seems that I

was exaggerating. Even before / New Year's Day and the assembly of the new Congress in Washington, it had already become as plain as Bilbo's corruptness that the Republicans were not going to deliver on their election promises.

The first open sign of this came in a speech delivered on Dec. 16 to the Atlanta Rotary Club by Republican Senator Robert A. Taft of Ohio. To a select Jim Crow audience, this most prominent Republican in Washington declared that the South had nothing to fear from the Republican program. "The Republicans like the people of the South," he said. "I think you can count on the good-will of the Republican Party."

Taft was not speaking to the South as a whole-he was speaking to its ruling class. That means he was not speaking to the Negroes or the poor whites. The Southern ruling class can count on the good will of the Republicans all right; which means that the Negroes and poor whites can't count on the Republicans at all.

Ten days later, two newspapermen of the N. Y. Post reported a conversation between Republican House Leader Joseph W. Martin Jr. of Mass. and some Negro leaders-a conversation which shows exactly what Taft had in mind. According to this report Martin said he was sorry, but there just was not going to be any Fair Employment Practices Commission legislation passed in the new Congress. Maybe later on something might be done about the poll tax, but the FEPC was out, even though the Republican platform in 1944 promised such legislation. Asked how come, Martin said that that was in 1944, and the Negro voters hadn't supported the Republicans that year, so all bets were off on that promise. Besides, the Republicans figured they still might need some Southern Democratic support on certain issues in the new Congress. Of course the Republicans may still make a

few gestures-perhaps in connection with Bilbo -to win votes among Negroes for 1948. But even before Congress got down to its dirty work, they had already proved that there is no important difference between them and the Democrats.

Which adds up to two things: 1. Instead of depending on the Republicans to pass the legislation we need, it is necessary to fight them just itant, tireless opponent of reac- City in 1869, son of a former as hard as the Democrats. 2. The best way to fight them both is to join the labor movement in building an independent labor party. Failure for militant Negroes to recognize these facts would be as shortsighted as mourning the death of Talmadge.

#### Regardless of weather, a second meeting will be held at 9:40 p.m., the exact time of the slaying, when close friends of the murdered anti-fascist will honor him by dropping red carnations where he fell. The Tresca Memorial Com-

mittee is demanding a new inquiry into the case, asking that police "re-appraise and re-check all clues." For four years, city and state officials have shown indifference to this political murder of a famous labor figure "It is important that people in the streets be reminded of that, as well as for Carlo's friends to protest against official neglect," a recent Committee statement said.

FOUGHT REACTION Carlo Tresca, editor of the

Italian language paper II Martello (The Hammer), had pow-

erful and ruthless enemies, fas- | al movements. cist and Stalinist. He was a miltion in all parts of the world. One mayor of Mannheim, Germany. of his last activities was to sup- As a boy, Justus attended Trinity port the Civil Rights Defense Church Sunday School, but quit Committee which aided the 18 | it after a short time "because," defendants in the Minneapolis Labor Trial of 1941.

workers.

21 states.

as he said afterward, "there was too much talk of hellfire there," Tresca had been a dynamic and he didn't think that human strike leader in the years before beings, and especially his father, the First World War, well-known were as bad as they were picin the textile mills of Paterson tured then in that church.

and Lawrence and on the iron range of Minnesota, where he lapidary shop and in a glass-

He worked as a newsboy, in a

the famous American Woolen

# TO MILITARIZE YOUTH

## War Department's Pamphlet Envisages A New Slaughter

When Truman appointed a "committee on Universal Military Training" Dec. 20 to go over plans for regimenting America's youth, he made a speech in which he said, "I want that word military left out."

The word was left out. Exactly .) nine days later on Dec. 29, the "eremy" in the Third World War War Department opened a high- for which it is now getting ready. pressure campaign for Universal In a further obvious reference Training with the word "Mili- to the Soviet Union, the pamtary" definitely included. Timing phlet declares: "Aggressor naits drive with the opening of Con- tions undertake in advance, or that America's youth be subjected to a year of military drill. ies.

BRAZEN ATTEMPT

The pamphlet is a bare-faced, taristic camp on the hated Prussian model.

Wall Street's present allies the peace. The Brass Hats under-

the Western nations."

Clearly Wall Street views the claughter. They want to get busy

## **Police** Maul Pickets



Mourn Justus Ebert — **Devoted Labor Fighter** NEW YORK, Dec. 30-Informal funeral services for Justus Ebert, 77, for 20 years editor of the Lithographers' ment left off. The N. Y. Times, Nations. They know the UN will

THE MILITANT

NEW YORK, N. Y.

HOTSY-TOTSY

NIGHT CLUB

QUONSET HUT

++42119

Journal, were held here last Saturday afternoon. The vet- for instance, carefully alluded go the same way the League did. eran socialist died of a heart condition in St. Vincent's to the "balance-of-power strughospital late on Christmas Day, after a brief illness. for the old New York Courier.

OFFICE BLDG

SUPER DE LUXE

DEPARTMENT

STORE

Late in his twenties, he became Tributes were paid to him at the funeral by friends and old assistant editor of the Socialist Soviet Union as the prospective training the cannon-fodder now. Labor Party's official organ, the associates in the labor and liber-New York Daily People, under Ebert was born in New York

Daniel De Leon. He held that job from 1901 to 1907, when he became an active writer for the Industrial Workers of the World. which had been formed in Chicago in 1905.

In 1912-13 he attracted wide attention through his publicity work for the defense of Joseph Ettor and Arturo Giovannitti. IWW organizers framed-up on charges of "inciting violence"

which resulted in the killing of Anna Lo Pizzo, a girl worker, in

gress, the Public Relations Divi- early after war begins, to push sion of the War Department re- their own lines into buffer counleased a pamphlet - printed at tries, thus keeping the main acpublic expense - demanding tion in enemy territory, or at least beyond their own boundar-U.S. AGGRESSOR According to this definition, brazen attempt to defend conver- the United States is the most sion of America into a huge mili- powerful "aggressor" nation, since Wall Street has troops stationed all around the earth from

SATURDAY, JANUARY 4, 1947

It lists some of the objections Germany and Italy to Korea and to Wall Street's military designs China. American militarists want on American youth and tries to universal military training to answer them. To the question, provide a vast reservoir of man-Whom do we expect to fight?" power to feed the lines now being the pamphlet cynically responds: pushed into "buffer countries" 'Remember Pearl Harbor, where in advance of the next slaughter, the aggressor was a former ally." The pamphlet contemptuous The pamphlet leaves to the dismisses the argument that t reader's imagination which of United Nations can bring lasting

War Department is preparing its stand as well as any of Wall blueprints for. But the capitalist Street's inner circle that the Unipress picked up where the War ted Nations is nothing but a mas-Department's publicity depart- querade like the old League of They know the Second World gle between Soviet Russia and War did nothing but pave the way for a still more frightful

The other day I came across an article which should be required reading for every Southern Senator-and for every other Jim Crower! It



is New Evidence On the Learning Ability of the Negro by Dr. Paul Witty of Northwestern University. But this very important scientific study is buried away in the little-known Journal of Abnormal and Social Psychology for October, 1945. Professor Witty quotes ex-

tensively from the almost cometely unknown publication by Brigadier Gen. Arthur Trudeau, Army Experience and the Prom of Negro Education. This is a report on the Army educational program for recruits who were unable to read and write English. It cova 17-month period of Special Training Unit experience in 1943-44.

The big majority of the white and colored soldiers assigned to the Special Training Units were from the rural and mountainous districts of the South and Southwest. In these areas, litattention is paid to school attendance regufations and illiteracy is a common thing. Many Regro soldiers from the big Southern cities were also found to be illiterate. They were the victims of the poverty-stricken Jim-Crow schools and the tragically-poor tenement homes in the Negro slum areas of the South.

In the country as a whole, the average Ne-

according to the 1940 census. This is in contrast to the 8.8 years of schooling reported for the average native white citizen. Professor Witty cites these facts as an explanation for the fact that eight times as many Negroes as whites were classified in Grade V (lowest mental classification) upon their induction in the Army. Classification Test is supposed to measure sheer native intelligence. The facts are, however, that individuals who have not had normal educational and cultural opportunities will rank below the Progressive Citizens of privilege and betrays the people, friends of Ebert, were also ac-

average on intelligence tests. But the big majority of the low-ranking Negro soldiers who were given an opportunity for class work in the Special Training Units showed that they had the ability to learn. Records of the Special Training Units showed that 87.1 per cent of Negro soldiers completed the course successfully and were assigned to regular Army training. Only 84.2 per cent of the white soldiers in the Special Training Units completed the course successfully.

After a study of these results, Professor Witty concludes: 'These findings may be regarded as having an important bearing upon the controversy concerning the intelligence of the American Negro. Many students hold that the ability to learn new materials constitutes the best criterion of intelligence and that a situation which tests the individual's progress in learning is a far better measure of intelligence . . .

gro citizen has had only 5.7 years of schooling won the love of thousands of blowing shop. At 17 he did his Company strike in Lawrence, first writing, in a humorous vein,

## Capitalist Liberals Set Up Lassified in Grade V (lowest mental classifica-ion) upon their induction in the Army. Like all other mental tests, the Army General New Political Organization

NEW YORK, Dec. 30 - A amble declares:

new political organization, "If the Democratic Party woos America, was formed here it will die and deserve to die. yesterday at a two-day conference which brought the merger the possibility of a new political of the National Citizens Political party, whose fidelity to our goals including The Trial of a New Action Committee, the Independ- | can be relied upon."

ent Citizens Committee of the

break with it. "It is not clear workers from having the dominnow whether this party will re- ant voice in it. cover its progressive tradition or surrender to its own brand the PCA preamble.

capturing and reforming it. A GESTURE

is strong sentiment growing for ties.

However, these efforts, includshould agree to an organizational setup which tures in this direction are re- ing the formation of the PCA, against the Moscow trial frame- sing" questions to throw at any quired if the PCA is to win or show how well the capitalist polkeep influence among the masses iticians understand that condialready disgusted with both capi- | tions are ripe for the formation

let. As that trial approached, thousands of workers in New York and other cities held protest meetings and marches against the frame-up. Eugene V. Debs and Carlo Tresca, long tive in arranging those demon-We cannot, therefore, rule out strations. Ebert was the author of books

Society, history of the Ettor-This means that if the workers Giovannitti case; American In-Arts, Sciences and Professions actually go ahead to create a dustrial Evolution; From Fronand eight other smaller groups. | labor party, despite the efforts | tier to Factory; Trade Unions in The new organization claims a of the PCA to keep them tangled the United States. 1942 to 1905: membership of about 100,000 in up in the Democratic Party, then a pamphlet translated into many the PCA will go along with the languages and circulated in many The PCA criticized the Demo- new party, offering it "leader- countries. The IWW in Theory ratic Party along the lines of ship," and trying to water down and Practice; What is the IWW Henry Wallace, but refused to its program and prevent the Preamble? and other pamphlets. In 1922-24 Ebert was editor of

two IWW publications issued in For leadership in the forma- Chicago, the weekly Industrial tion of a labor party, the work- Solidarity and the monthly Inown ranks. The Wallaces and La he was a member of the Social-This means that the PCA will Guardias, the liberal capitalist ist Party, of the League for Mujoin Wallace in trying to keep politicians who label themselves tual Aid Executive Board, and the labor movement tied to the as progressives, have no inten- of the Workers Defense League Democratic Party, in the hope of tion of helping them in this task. National Advisory Board. From the very first, both he On the contrary, all their efforts

are aimed at preventing it by and his wife, Jennie Carliph, as But at the same time, the PCA persuading the workers to remain members of the American Comleaders understand that there in the trap of the capitalist par- mittee for the Defense of Leon lahoma, one of Bilbo's fellow

labor movement.

Trotsky, threw themselves whole- Democrats, declared "The Man' heartedly into the historic fight is digging up some "embarrasups of Trotsky and the old Bol- Senators who seek to throw him sheviks. Similarly, when Roose- out for accepting bribes from velt framed up and railroaded to war contractors.

prison 18 leaders of the SWP. they gave active support to the have consequently announced the Negro people throughout the work of the Civil Rights De- they will permit Bilbo to be South. They would be encourfense Committee which conduc- seated. Once in the Senate, aged to fight more militantly ted their defense.

modification.

There was not a single im- taking bribes, except by a twoportant struggle in defense of thirds vote. Even if all the Relabor's rights in the 20th cen- publicans for publicity purposes South could start a move that tury United States, which did not voted against him, enough Dem- would not end until all the reinclude Comrade Ebert in its ocrats would remain to ensure actionaries from the deep So ranks. During his lifetime he his retaining his seat. aided hundreds of class war pri- A simple majority vote would represent the oppressed Ne soners and thousands of work- be sufficient to oust Bilbo on any and poor whites. ers who made their way to his charge connected with his inoffice for help. He was rightly citements to lynch violence in licans will not do anything about esteemed by all who knew him the Mississippi elections. But Bilbo's worst crimes and are now as one of the noblest and most the Republicans do not want to inclined to go easy on his acdevoted figures of the American raise this issue. Most of them ceptance of bribes from war con-

Members of the Philadelphia-Camden Newspaper Guild. CIO, are still solidly on strike, despite scenes like this. Here cops are assaulting strikers, 'and helping the goons of t "Philadelphia Record" to try to break the picket line. More than a dozen strikers were injured as scabs drove trucksright through the picket lines. Federated Picture

## **Threat Of Bribery Exposure Slackens Drive To Oust Bilbo**

Bilbo's threats to expose the connections between other Senators and war contractors if a serious attempt is ignorance and bigotry," says ers will have to look in their dustrial Pioneer. In later years made to bar him from taking his seat appear to have impressed the Republicans. Their election campaign promises to do something.

about this acknowledged | questions. Moreover, they are member of the Ku Klux Klan anxious not to incur the enmity of the Southern Bourbon Senhave undergone considerable ators who gained office through means similar to those used by Senator Elmer Thomas of Ok-

Bilbo. As Senator Elmer Thomas explained: "Bilbo did nothing that almost every other politician in Mississippi hasn't done."

The Republicans clearly understand that ousting Bilbo for his

The Republican strategists election activities would hearten Bilbo could not be ousted for and energetically for their democratic rights. A breach in the election system of the Bourbon were replaced by men who really

For these reasons the Repu see eye-to-eye with Bilbo on race tractors.

Notes of a Segman-The 'Committee For Maritime Unity By C. Thomas Recent developments in maritime highlight other's arms like lovers who have quarrelled and

A Scientific Blow At Jim Crow

- By Grace Carlson -

the superiority of the Marxist method of analysis. This is as true in the field of trade union tactics as in the

While every other ten-

dency in the labor move-

ment is subject to the

pressure of forces they do

not understand, the Trot-



LUN: J

skyists proceed on the basis of a scientific theory which provides the key to an understanding of the motive forces at work within a given society.

While others are compelled to veer and tack with every passing wind we are able to steer a true course from the very beginning. Thus, when the Stalinists first proposed to organize a "committee for maritime unity" we were able to peg it for what it was - a fake! First, the origin of the project made it suspect. The Stalinists have split more unions in the name of "unity" than any other gang of disrupters in the labor movement.

Second, it was obviously utopian to expect unions which had been engaged in bitter struggle for years to make a sudden leap into each

In Charles and Co

made up. Third, it was hypocritical to propose that unions which had fought Stalinism tooth and nail a labor party, and that some gesrealm of political theory.

would place them under the control of notorious Stalinist hacks. On the basis of our analysis we were able to conclude that the CMU was not a move toward talist parties. So the PCA pre- of a labor party. unifying the maritime unions but a long step toward deepening and sharpening the jurisdic-

tional conflicts. Against the fake "unity" proposal of the Stalinists we advanced the slogan of joint action of all maritime unions on the basis of specific issues. We pointed out that in the course of such joint action the mutual distrust and suspicion that now exists could be broken down and the foundation for a genuine unification laid. In addition, we proposed that jurisdictional disputes be arbitrated through the machinery of the organized labor movement to avoid open outbreaks that could play into the hands of the employers.

What we foresaw in the beginning Curran and others are coming to realize only on the basis of bitter experience.

