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401 9 More Miners Die In Explosion PHONE STRIKERS BATTLE At Exeter, Penn. SLAVE LABOR LAW IN N. J. Failure of Owners To Provide Oxygen Masks **Delays Rescue Crews In Gas-Filled Workings**

1. 均式化工厂的社

By George Lavan

EXETER, Pa., April 11 - An explosion yesterday snuffed out the lives of nine miners and injured nine others. This explosion, in a privately operated anthracite mine. came 17 days after the Centralia disaster which cost 111 lives. This is the year's sec-

jured.

last body was found.

numerous safety violations.

had been inspected and approved

that there had been so many in-

ond major disaster for this the miners had begun work, a area — an explosion in near- terrific explosion ripped through by Plymouth claimed 15 the Marcy vein 350 feet below victims on Jan. 15. Around 7 a.m., shortly after

the surface. The blast wrecked doors, brattice work and side walls. All men working if the vein were either killed or in-



V. R. DUNNE

Dunne To File For Mayor Of **Minneapolis**

• MINNEAPOLIS, Apr. 13- six times since January. How-The Minneapolis section of ever, a question is now raised the Socialist Workers Party about the thoroughness of these will be represented, in the inspections. Many of the miners coming mayoralty campaign expressed surprise at the news by Vincent R. Dunne, it was announced here this week. At present National Labor Secre-

tary of the Socialist Workers Party, V. R. Dunne is a former Mine' yesterday that he had mine' yesterday that he stated found no trace of gas. He stated

spections.



Their Strike Too

Phone operators in Indiana, who had not joined the strike because of the state anti-strike law, were answering their long distance calls as follows: "The Indiana Public Utility Law is

State Secretary of Mines Richunconstitutional. We are working against our wishes. This is our strike, too. Whom are you calling, please?"



Under the robber rates extorted from them over the years, the American people have bought and paid for the

telephone system fifty times over. Why should a handful of greedy monopolists be per-

Force Federal Court Order Halting State Enforcement

NEWARK, N. J., Apr. 15 — With picket signs proclaiming "Neith--er Ma Bell Nor Pa Driscoll Can Enslave Us," New Jersey phone workers are standing firmly behind their unions in opposition to the state's new slave labor law. They took the full impact of the legislative knockout punch delivered to them by Governor Driscoll last week,

they stayed on their feet and then they came back

NFTW Rejects Schwellenbach's **Arbitration Plan**

Workers Of The World, Unite!

PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKING PEOPLE

THE MILITANT

April 15 — Secretary of in the courts. Labor Schwellenbach's new After the law was signed on Poilcy Committee of the National Federation of Telephone Workers, which called on its members to continue with the strike. Representatives of AT&T also rejected the proposal.

Schwellenbach's new scheme walkout nine days ago. provided for arbitration of five major issues, including a \$12 raise and wage differentials; and negotiation for 48 hours on five other issues, after which the ones unsettled would also be submitted to arbitration.

did not guarantee a general law, wage increase and did not provide any settlement plan for companies outside the Bell sys-

tem and striking unions not affiliated with the NFTW.

over the issues to one national tions with officials of the New board of arbitration. They in-

swinging. Their inspiring resistance paid off today when a federal judge granted a plea by their lawyers to temporarily enjoin the state from enforcing the new law until its constitutionality has been established

arbitration proposal was April 9, Mary Hanscom, arrested flatly rejected in Washing- president of the girl operators, ton today by the National ordered full-scale picketing "until all our 12,000 members are in jail." This determined stand brought the wavering maintenance men back to their support and spread the strike to outlying Bell laboratories. There are a greater number now on strike than at the beginning of the

Yesterday, the three arrested officers, Mrs. Hanscom, Virginia Wigglesworth and Elizabeth Ryan, waived preliminary hearings and were held over to the Grand Jury as the union prepared every possible legal de-The NFTW leaders turned fense to back up its militant down the proposal because it challenge of Driscoll's publicity

The state administration has failed miserably in its first concerted effort to club the strikers into submission. It has been further discredited by the union's AT&T officials refused to turn expose of its scandalous connec-



Mary Hanscom and Elizabeth Ryan, president and secretary-treasurer of the Traffic **Telephone** Workers Federation of N. J., who are facing trial for challenging the state's new slave-labor law. See Page 2 for interview with Mary Hans-

-Federated Pictures

partial retreat for the time being. Afraid to further incense the workers, state officials say they have no intention of making further arrests, although Attorney General Van Riper this

morning instituted a new suit against the striking maintenance union for \$20,000 fine. Attempting to defeat the strikers by deception after repressive legislation had failed, J. Bell vesterday offered Jersey Bell Co. (See other arabide by the new slave-labor ticle on this page, An Unholy law which provides for compul-Conspiracy Against The Phone sory arbitration of all issues. It was the monopoly's original refusal to arbitrate which caused For these reasons the state the strike. has been compelled to beat a The phone workers spurned this new offer. They recognize that it is just as necessary to defeat the strikebreaking law as to win a wage raise and the The National Policy Comother union demands. They unmittee, National Federation of derstand that the latter can be won and maintained only if they Telephone Workers: "It is the preserve labor's strike weapon sense of this body that the against Driscoll's attempt to law should be challenged in destroy it. the courts as unconstitution-From all sections of the state al rather than be accepted come reports of rank-and-file through compliance . . . it is CIO and AFL solidarity with the Fascist, unconstitutional and phone workers. This strong sentiment forced top-ranking offi-William Green, President of the American Federation of cials to announce plans for a one-day statewide protest strike Labor: "It is the worst antithis week. Such a sympathy delabor measure ever adopted monstration would sound the by any State legislature." death-knell to any attempt to Carl Holderman, President break this strike by force. of the N. J. State CIO Coun-But the AFL bureaucrats, uncil: "This is going to make a real strikebreaking agency der pressure of Republican Party bigwigs and out of fear of out of the state. Such a law puts the state in the same genuine mass action, spinelessly buckled under and are now saclass as a commercial strike botaging these proposals. The breaking agency, except that CIO is attempting to organize statewide protest meetings.

Drivers Union, Local 544 - CIO. strike struggles of 1934, he played most unusual in my experience" significant role in making ger on a thing" that might have Minneapolis a union town.

A campaign headquarters has ing on April 20 at 3:30 p.m.

Arrangements have been made imagination." for speeches over radio station As for the safety violations would have to pay.) WMIN on April 29 and May 6. that could have allowed the Special election literature will be methane gas to collect and a distributed throughout working- spark to ignite it, the miners had grams congratulating the two class sections of Minneapolis and plenty of explanations and de- New Jersey unions whose leaders will also be available at the rided Maize's statement that he have been intimidated by his campaign headquarters. (Continued on Page 3)



been set up at 10 South Fourth with ridicule among the men If New Jersey's new slave-la-Street with Grace Carlson as who worked in the mine and the bor law was literally enforced, campaign manager. Plans have survivors. "Naturally he couldn't the first ten days of the strike been made for a number of elec- find any trace of gas after the would cost each striker \$5,000 in tion rallies to be held at the explosion," one survivor told me. fines and 10 months in jail. headquarters. The keynote speech "It was all burned up by the There are around 20,000 of them. of the campaign will be given explosion. Next thing he'll try That would make a grand total by V. R. Dunne at a public meet- to tell us there wasn't any ex- of \$100,000,000 in fines and 16,the \$400,000 that the four unions

Governor Driscoll sent teleanti-strike law into ordering

their members to cross the picket. lines. They answered his tele-

DETROIT, Apr. 12 - In a Escalator Clause pays off, and The author of this law, Russell Voice of Local 212, Harold "This is the clause in their E. Watson, Driscoll's special counsel, not only served as a "On November 30, 1945, the Bell director from 1935 until

Briggs Local 212, presents the cost of living index for the larger last week, after the law was passfollowing arguments on be- cities as computed by the U.S. ed, but has also been vice-presihalf of inserting escalator Department of Labor was 1.31. dent of the State Chamber of clauses in union contracts. This 1.31 cost of living index Commerce, and a representative becomes fixed for the period of of the railroad interests.

this contract. * * *

cost of living up 76 per cent over that of 1941. Everyone knows our wages haven't begun to match that. And this happened during an era in which corporation profits reached a fantastic all-time high. quarterly up or down as the

letter to his union paper, that is what counts.

Fox, a member of UAW contract:

"A recent table showed the

"The Research Department of U.S. Department of Labor cost the UAW shows one local hav- of living index indicates. No ing such an escalator clause. It downward adjustment shall be is Local 789, Michigan Tank & made below the 1.31 standard. Furnace, a small outfit on the Increases or decreases of less West Side. They inserted such a than .01 will be disregarded. clause in their contract last Feb- "I believe we should get such ruary, 1946. It became operative a clause inserted in our forth- cialist Workers Party denouncas of April 1. In the first quar- coming contract negotiations." ing state strike-breaking appear- breaking. That is the real mean- state to back up Bell and break Assembly and Senate in less than terly adjustment everyone re- A similar contract has been ed in the Newark press during ceived a flat 4 cent raise; in signed by the CIO Oil Workers the first week of the strike. New Jersey officials have hurled Driscoll ordered police of all the second, following removal of International Union with the Among other points, the SWP OPA, a 13 cent flat wage raise, Sinclair Oil Company. Under has demanded that "both Drisand in the third quarter, a 7 this contract, which was signed coll and Watson should be subcent raise. This meant a raise of last November, the Sinclair poenaed to public hearings to bor's most precious rights? How 24 cents in the last nine months workers have already received an determine the full and shocking did they operate? of the year 1946. All this was increase of seven cents an hour, extent to which these vicious in addition to a profit sharing in addition to the 18 cents an strike-breaking penalties were Governor Driscoll ordered state drafts of laws to enforce arbi- held up signing the bill until plan and a general wage raise. hour raise they won at the time inspired by Bell and other mono- "seizure" of the phones under tration. The proposed laws car- 5 p.m. to pressure the unions in-"This proves to me that the the contract was signed.

"In the event the cost of living Another Driscoll aide in fightindex rises, all men will auto- ing the phone workers is State matically receive an hourly in-Mediation Board chairman Walcrease of one cent for every .01 rise in the cost of living index. The adjustment shall be made Gordon Merritt, lawyer for

AT&T and for manufacturers to fight for their just demands. in the Danbury Hatters case. Margetts was also an alternate member representing industry on the National War Labor Board. * * *

Three statements of the So-

the Public Utilities Act of 1946. ried penalties as high as \$500 to folding up. polies.'

mitted to keep a stranglehold on a vital public utility like the telephone industry? Why should the House of Morgan, regional arbitration boards. Walter Gifford and his stooges have the power to deny decent working conditions to employes of a utility supposedly its tenth day, the telephone un- Strike.) operated in the public interest? Why shouldn't the owner- ions have already shown what ship and operation of this utility be taken away from them? power lies in nationwide solidar-

It is high time for this industry to be run in the pub- ity and united action. The lic interest and without any tribute to the Wall Sreet mighty AT&T monopoly has pirates. How can this be done?

The telephone workers are 100% correct in opposing any fake "seizure" of the industry such as the government has practiced in the past.

All such "seizures" have had only one purpose - to policy encountered in New Jerplosion and those men died of 667 years in jail. (Not counting break strikes. They have not altered by one iota the bankers' grip on industry, nor have they interrupted the steady placed themselves on record as flow of profits into the corporations' coffers.

The Militant, too, is resolutely opposed to such strikebreaking "seizures" and urges the fighting telephone only for strikebreaking purworkers to remain on guard against them.

At the same time we advocate permanent expropriation of the entire telephone system by the government.

Make the government take the industry over, once and for all. Kick out the clique of profiteers who gouge the public with high rates and deny the workers a living wage.

Let the telephone industry really, and for the first ernment "pull a Driscoll." time, be operated in the welfare of the people who work in it and the people who use it.

To insure that the industry be operated in this manner, we also advocate that its workers shall have some say on how it is run. This can be done most effectively by placing the industry under the control of democratically elected committees of telephone workers and technicians.

sisted on establishment of ten Meanwhile, as the strike enters

been taught that it has a mighty What They Say adversary facing it.

About N. J. Law Federal talk of "seizing" the phone system was earlier given a rude jolt by the fiasco this sey. NFTW leaders have already opposing any fake government "seizure" that would be used poses. evilly-inspired."

But the rejection of Schwellenbach's scheme raises the danger of a new move by the government. And the AT&T interests in Washington would undoubtedly like to have the gov-

The phone workers now occupy the advance front of labor's fight for better conditions. The outcome of their strike will have a strong effect on wage negotiations in other industries. For this reason alone they merit it has more power." the support of all labor.

An Unholy Conspiracy Against The Phone Strike

By Alan Kohlman At dawn on Monday, April 7, Socialist Workers Party at pubassociate of the notorious Walter picket lines and proceeding ure the employes are ordered to than eleven years! openly and with clear conscience work for the state.

> At that same moment a con- tion and penalties for "viola- inals" out of the phone workers spiracy was organized against tion" were knocked out of the by passing these laws in record the phone workers. Men in high Act by the heavy pressure of la- time. Without any chance for office and under company influ- bor's spokesmen.

ence, banded together to plot ing of the brutal offensive which their strike. On Monday night, two hours! against the phone workers. who seek to destroy one of la- cross the picket lines. The moment the strike was on, Driscoll sent to the Legislature from the State House. Driscoll

ly opposed by all unions and the a worker stayed out on strike. Who drafted these laws? Dris- furious barrage of misleading some 20,000 New Jersey phone lic hearings in Feb. 1946, pro- coll's special "personal" counsel, scare headlines, such as: "Strike workers joined fellow unionists vided for state seizure of any Russell E. Watson, who has been Bill Splits Ranks," and blazoned

The State Legislature joined day every dirty trick of boss erators. However, compulsory arbitra- the conspiracy to make "crim- journalism, every pressure tactic of state officials was utilized against the phone workers.

the unions to learn of the con-The phone workers ignored tents of these laws, without any the most odious crime which the the state "seizure," recognizing public hearings - these laws labor movement knows - strike- it as only a legal pretext of the were rushed through the State

This lightning legislation was cities to enforce the law and announced to a shocked and sur-Who are these conspirators "protect" all those seeking to prised public on Wednesday. Before the phone workers could prosecutors to act against the Tuesday the high-ranking even catch their breath, they conspirators sprang their plot. were met with further threats

strikers.

This Act, which was unanimous- and 30 days in jail for each day Meanwhile the kept press, workers to stand their ground joined the conspiracy with a pending a test of the new law's constitutionality. Then the state ordered the arter T. Margetts Jr., an office in 41 other states in setting up strike-bound utility. Under seiz- a director of N. J. Bell for more the "tough" features of the bill Wigglesworth and Elizabeth across front pages. All Wednes-Ryan, officers of the plione on

The conspiracy of the state administration with N. J. Bell.

the legislative terror and all the On signing the bill, Driscoll propaganda lies of the boss press urged all police forces to "pro- failed to break the phone work-

> But the battle is not yet over. Van Riper has also begun legal

The magnificent battle of the phone strikers points the way to victory. All of organized labor

But the National Policy Com- must back them up in defeating mittee of the National Federa- the Government-Big Business tion of Phone Workers in Wash- conspiracy and winning their ington urged the New Jersey just demands.

ceed with the enforcement pro- "ers strike. visions." Here was the clear signal to turn loose club-swinging Three union leaders are on trial, police on the picket lines. Attorney General Van Riper, who has action to fine the unions. The been accused of black market op- conspirators are still plotting to erations and other criminal acts, smash the phone workers. immediately called on all county



Value Of Escalator Contract grams by denouncing the law as eading to slave labor. Two days **Proved By Union Experience** later they ordered their members to again respect the operators' picket lines.

PAGE TWO

THE MILITANT

SATURDAY, APRIL 19, 1947

Heroic Women Teach Lessons To All Of Labor

By George Breitman

Almost a quarter of a million women and girls, renowned above all for their patience and politeness, passed from the Easter Parade on Sunday to the telephone workers' picket lines throughout the country on Monday. Many still wore their Easter bonnets, but now they were singing Solidarity Forever instead of psalms. Instead of exhibiting their holiday finery, they were now showing unsurpassed militancy, determination and heroism.

These women began on Monday by accepting the challenge of the huge AT&T monopoly and its Bell Company subsidiaries — a truly formidable opponent for workers relatively new to the labor movement. And by the end of the week 12,000 of them in New Jersey had also met and boldly answered the onslaughts of the state government and all its strikebreaking agencies. By the beginning of the second week the militant example of the embattled telephone workers had inspired plans for a state-wide 24 hour general sympathy strike by the rest of the labor movement.

HAS A HISTORY OF ITS OWN.

A remarkable change has clearly taken place in the thinking and behavior of that section of the American working class represented by the telephone operators. What is the reason? What does it signify? What will it lead to?

This change has not taken place overnight. It has a history of its own, and one that is closely related to the development of the rest of the modern union movement.

Even in their most optimistic moments, the pioneer organizers of the labor movement never seriously considered the or- take-it-or-else basis.

ganization of such layers of the population as telephone operators (who, as a matter of fact, were finally organized through their own efforts and not by any organization drive of the official union movement). Along with school teachers, salesmen, clerks and other "white collar workers," they were classified at one time as part of the middle class - elements it would be virtually impossible to bring into the ranks of unions.

MONOPOLY SEEMED INVINCIBLE

Such conceptions are easy to understand. The great monopoly which employed them seemed invincible a short 15 years ago. It thoroughly dominated its workers by an intricate system of paternalism, favoritism and terrorism. It sweated them, overworked them, underpaid them, speeded them up, bribed them with pension and other plans and then threatened them with discharge and the, loss of such benefits if they deviated in any way from the path of humble obedience.

But the very same methods which made the monopoly seem so imposing produced resentment, the desire for improved conditions and for the right to be recognized as free individuals rather than as mere cogs in a huge money-making machine. When the workers in the basic industries began to organize in the years following 1933, the monopoly hastened to spike any such moves among its workers by itself organizing the Bell Employe Representation Plans — the name it gave to company unions. These outfits were wholly impotent, unable to do anything more than meet with the monopoly's representatives and listen to what they had to offer on a

Yet those same weak-as-water company unions, carefully broken up into hundreds of regional and craft groups and divided again in a dozen different ways so as to discourage the idea of united action, provided the basis for the powerful unions banded together today in the National Federation of Telephone Workers.

The monopoly's skillful use of intimidation and cajolery could delay the unionization of the telephone workers, but could not prevent it. The rise and growth of the CIO together with the strengthening of the AFL unions had a far-reaching influence not only on the millions of workers in its ranks, but on even greater numbers outside it. The telephone workers saw with their own eyes that unionism brought higher wages, shorter hours, security, seniority rights and above all the right of the workers to assert themselves as human beings.

HAVE BECOME THE VANGUARD

In a few short years those company unions were transformed into real instruments of the telephone workers. They came onto the scene later than the CIO unions, but they are no less militant and effective. In fact, by their struggle at a time of growing reaction, anti-labor legislation and cowardly retreats on the part of the official labor bureaucracy, they have stepped forward into the very vanguard of the union movement. The preparations for this strike demonstrated that \these new unions are as democratic and responsive to the wishes of their members as the best of the unions in the heyday of the CIO - which is one of the reasons for the splendid solidarity shown in this strike. Their leaders are on the whole

young and limited in experience, but they are able to act militantly because they are free of the dead hand of the conservative, timid top hierarchy of the AFL and CIO: their counterpart in the AFL and CIO is to be found only in the lower ranks of the leadership.

The history of the telephone workers; the speed with, which they moved into the front ranks of labor; the self-confidence and maturity which they exhibit in combat against the biggest of monopolies and the most rabid of government strikebreaking agencies; the nation-wide character and solidarity of their movement; the change in psychology which leads them to rebel against paternalism and to rely on their own organized strength all these testify to the continued radicalization of the working class as a whole, even in the midst of the worst anti-labor offensive in decades.

The significance of this radicalization for the future of the American class struggle was soberly considered at the last convention of the Socialist Workers Party. held in Chicago last November. There the SWP adopted its Theses on the American Revolution, which declared in part:

"The workers entered the 1929 crisis as an unorganized, atomized mass imbued with illusions concerning 'rugged individualism,' 'private initiative,' 'free enterprise.' 'the American Way,' etc., etc. Less than ten per cent of the class as a whole was organized on the trade union field (fewer than 3 million out of 33 million in 1929). Moreover, this thin layer embraced primarily the highly skilled and privileged workers, organized in antiquated craft unions. The main and most decisive section of the workers knew unionism only as

'company unionism,' remaining without the benefit, the experience and even the understanding of the most elementary form of workers' organization - the trade union. They were regarded and treated as mere raw material for capitalist exploitation, without rights or protection or any security of employment.

RESENTMENT ACCUMULATED

"As a consequence, the 1929 crisis found the working class helpless and impotent. For three years the masses remained stunned and disorientated by the disaster. Their resistance was extremely limited and sporadic. But their anger and resentment accumulated. The next five years (1933-37), coincident with a partial revival of industry, witnessed a series of gigantic clashes, street fights and sitdown strikes-an embryonic civil warthe end result of which was a leap, a giant leap, for millions of workers from non-existence as an organized force to trade union consciousness and organization. Once, fairly started, the movement for unionism snowballed, embracing today almost 15 million in all the basic industries.

"In one leap-in a brief decade-the American workers attained trade union consciousness on a higher plane and with mightier organizations than in any other advanced country. In the study and analysis of this great transformation . . . one can find the key to prospective future developments. Under the impact of great events and pressing necessities the American workers will advance beyond the limits of trade unionism and acquire political class consciousness and organization in a similar sweeping movement . . ." (From the new pamphlet, The Coming American Revolution, issued by Picneer Publishers, 10 cents.)

And in commenting on this section of the SWP theses, National Secretary James P. Cannon pointed out in a speech at that ---convention (see same pamphlet) that "what has been seen up to now are only the preliminary movements, the promise, and assurance of far greater movements to come. Next in order-and not far away -comes the political awakening of the American workers. That will be at the same pace and on the same scale, if not greater. The American workers will learn politics as they learned trade unionism -'from an abridged dictionary.' They will take the road of independent political action with hurricane speed and power.

"That will be a great day for humanity, for the American workers will not stop half way. The American workers will not stop at reformism, except perhaps to tip their hats to it. Once fairly started, they will go the whole way . . ."

TEACHING THE GREAT LESSON

The women in the Easter bonnets, no longer as patient as they used to be, are learning and teaching lessons important to all workers: The lesson of the workers' de great power when they stand united and refused to be intimidated; the lesson that the fight against the capitalists requires a la fight against the capitalist government too: the lesson that the workers can rely only on themselves in the fight for a better world. And the way they are conducting this strike is an inspiring token of the ability of the working class, when prop- 915 erly led, to achieve the better world of socialism.

Why President Mary Hanscom Is Not Afraid To Go To Jail

NEWARK, N. J., Apr. 11 - | front and bearing the brunt of | sometimes has to wait for meals." "The New Jersey law is a state strikebreaking has not af- How does Mr. Hanscom feel combination of the worst fected her even-tempered, deci- about the strike? Mrs. Hanscom features of the Virginia and Indiana laws," Mary Hans-indiana laws, " Mary Hans-indiana laws, " Mary Hans-indiana laws, " Mary Hans-brisk nature. Nor has the threat whatever I think right, and he's com, president of the N. J. of jail marred her jovial, round- been driving me around all day." Traffic Telephone Workers faced smile.

ing, she continued: "If it is not \$14 per week. Quitting to re- eral years ago. contested, there will be a similar turn to school, she was re-em- After the explosion, the workutilities workers won't have a chance."

chair. "That's why 'I'm not its president since that time. "I'm backing Maiy up solidly." afraid to go to jail." Mrs. Hanscom lives in a four- So are 12,000 phone operators

editors of the daily press are though, she added, "my husband can do no less. against us.'

Overnight Mary Hanscom has been catapulted into national prominence. The heavy strain of directing the New Jersey strike

day shortly after she and two years ago in Edinburgh, Scot- his rolled-up sleeves, his left fellow officers were released on land and came to New Jersey arm bore heavy scars - the reball ofr violating the state anti- at the age of 12. In 1925 she went sult of severe burning in the strike law. Her brown eyes flash- to work for the Bell Company at Hercules Powder Explosion sev-

law in the 48 states, and the ployed in 1929. Long years of ers organized a union. And Emservice with "Ma Bell" convinced ory Hanscom is vice-president of her of the need for unionism. Local 1288 of District 50, United The energetic leader of 12,000 She was one of the first to join Mine Workers. "The girls are "hello" girls leaned back in her the union in 1941 and has been putting up a good fight," he said.

"Most people are with us," room apartment in Kenvil, N. J., in this state. The entire labor Mrs. Hanscom added. "Only the and does her own cooking movement from coast to coast

Emory Hanscom looked up

Federation, told this reporter to- Mrs. Hanscom was born 39 from his paper. Extending from

So are 12,000 phone operators

Monopoly And Plunder: The Story Of AT&T

monopoly's Chicago exchange gets an earful from the striking telephone girls. Solidly behind the strike are 325,000 phone workers throughout the country Federated Pictures

Clicking Heels Tap Out 'Solidarity' On Phone Operators' Picket Line

By Mary Steele NEWARK, N. J., April 15 - The clicking heels of thousands of girl pickets are tapping out "solidarity" on the sidewalks of this country. Having learned the need for ple expressing this idea on the

united action, these phone operators are lined up solid- to the struggle against the all this when the next election and ly together with phone main- worst anti-strike bill in the Uni- comes. We need political action men, phone office workers and not affected by the law; but they we beat AT&T to its knees. Next workers on picket lines throughout 42 states of this country.

Here in New Jersey, the girls have refused to be intimidated by the threat of jail sentences and heavy fines. They swelled the picket lines to their biggest size the day that Governor Driscoll signed his strike-breaking bill.

Nor were they moved when the Governor's agents arrested their three union officers. In a body they marched to the Essex County Court House, where their leaders were being held for the hearing, and there they picketed, refusing to leave despite the demands of the police.

In the phone workers unions it is now all for one and one for all. More and more you hear peo-

picket lines: "We'll remember tenance men, phone repair ted States. They themselves are too. We'll stick together until do Western Electric manufacturing know what solidarity means, and fall we'll take on these strikeare demonstrating it in action. breaking politicians."

Our Program:

1. Defend labor's standard of living!

- A sliding scale of wages -an escalator wage clause in all union contracts to provide automatic wage increases to meet the rising cost of living!
- Organize mass consumers committees for independent action against profiteering and price-gouging!

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

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

For the 6-hour day, 30-hour week! A sliding scale of h



Phone Strikers Tell Off Scab

- reduce the hours of work with no reduction in pay to prevent layoffs and unemployment! Only when their union presi-**"Until Our Entire** By Dorothy Lessing The 30 million telephone rent- | millions were later made on the Government operation of all idle plants under workers' control! dent came out of the Court Since 1907, when the telephone industry was taken ers in the country are not asked change. Unemployment insurance equal to trade union wages for work-House and instructed them to what they think of the monopers and veterans during the entire period of unemover by the Morgan financial interests, the AT&T has ex-**Membership Has** Every person with a phone in leave did they go back to the oly of the industry by AT&T. panded to become the world's greatest monopoly-worth his home, every person who uses other picket lines in front of the ployment! Most of them must rent their a phone, contributes to the gi- phone exchanges. seven and one-half billion 9-**Been Locked Up**" phones from one of Bell opera- gantic profits of AT&T. It owns 3. Against all anti-labor laws and government strikedollars. It was specifically ance and other Big Business All observers have commented ting companies — AT&T owns 100% of the Long Lines Co. on how punctual the girl pickets exempted from prosecution interests. The directors on the breaking! 93% of stock. These operating which controls all long distance are in showing up for picket duty No restrictions on the right to strike and picket! present board are directly conunder the anti-trust laws by the No injunctions! No compulsory arbitration! NEWARK, N. J., Apr. 11 phoning. Long distance charges and how efficiently their picket companies must borrow all neednected with the following firms: The following is the text of Graham-Willis Act of 1921. The are hiked as high as possible and lines are run, in good weather ed funds from AT&T and pay Morgan's First National Bank. the statement issued to 350 Federal Communications Com-4. Build an independent labor party! 4% interest on it. They also must there is little interference with and bad. The Bell Company, Rockefeller's Chase National strike captains today by touchable" and reported in 1939 the rates set by AT&T. For this which has always boasted in big buy all their equipment from the Bank, Equitable Life Insurance. 5. Tax the rich, not the poor! Mary Hanscom, president of that "telephone rates could be Western Electric Co. - AT&T reason this branch of the mon-Johns-Manville Corp., General ads about having trained its em-Repeal the payroll tax! No sales taxes! opoly yields a large part of the ployes to be efficient and puncthe N. J. Telephone Traffic reduced by 25% without interowns 99.42% of stock-at prices Mills, R. J. Reynolds Tobacco No taxes on incomes under \$5,000 a year! that WE fixes. Workers Federation, immediate- fering with present standard of Co., Pullman Co. and U. S. Steel. profits pouring in each year. tual, has remained quiet on their 6. An 18 billion dollar appropriation for government State laws regulating rates Theodore Vail, the first Mor- current exhibition of these qual-The overwhelming majority of ly after the court released her service or present dividend rate." charged by public utilities base low-rent housing! gan man to become president in ities. and two other union leaders on But no means has yet been the 700,000 stockholders have their findings on profits of the 1907, is credited with forseeing One example of their thorbail little or no say about the way found to force the AT&T, whose 7. Full equality for Negroes and national minorities! local operating companies. So the vast financial possibilities in oughness was their picketing of "The arrest of Mrs. Wiggles- profits last year were more than AT&T is run. Control is in the End Jim-Crow! End Anti-Semitism! AT&T sees to it that operating the monopoly of long distance manholes until some wavering worth, vice-president, Miss \$191,000,000, to change its methhands of a small number of ficosts are kept high. Western wires. He picked his successor, maintenance workers, who, had Ryan, Secretary-Treasurer, and ods of doing business. anciers who own 21% of the 8. For a veterans' organization sponsored by the Electric, which manufactures, who in turn picked Gifford, the thought they could get away myself is not to interfere with stock. And within this group These methods have been dictrade unions! installs and equips the operat- present president. Through the with working underground and the established procedures of the tated by a handful of men who domination belongs to the Moring companies, is not subject to years most of the independent out of sight, finally clambered 9. A working class answer to capitalist militarism strike. The members are to con- control the AT&T and the busgan-Rockefeller and allied interests who own less than 4% of any such state laws. The Fedtinue with their picket duty even iness interests which they repcompanies in the field were ab- out sheepishly and went home. and war. though local police may try to resent. Walter S. Gifford, the eral Communications Commissorbed into the AT&T. The few And their single-minded conthe stock. Take the war-making powers away from Congress! Let the sion found it impossible from that remain in existence are in centration on the job they have stop them. We have had excel- hand-picked Morgan President, The company's policy is people vote on the question of war or peace! rural communities and do little to do is illustrated in the follow-WE accounts to estimate the lent co-operation from all local is content with his salary of summed up in its record of never Against capitalist conscription! manufacturing cost of telephone business. Gifford continues the ing anecdote: A number of the police, but if any of our pickets \$200,000 a year. The banks of paying less than \$9 in dividends Abolish the officer caste system! equipment. They could only espolicies of running the world's girls going home by bus from are arrested, they will be re- the House of Morgan are satis- on each share of stock. Come Full democratic rights in the armed forces! timate that the operating com- largest monopoly, as under Vail, picket duty were arguing aniplaced until our entire member- fied with the millions they plun- hell or high water, depressions Trade union wages for the armed forces! panies were overpaying millions for the benefit of the Morgan matedly about something until ship of 12,000 girls has been der yearly from the corporation's or other "acts of God," the \$9 Military training of workers, financed by the government, of dollars when purchasing from interests, and not for the mil- one of them said: "Oh, save your locked up. Picket lines are to con- funds. They netted 40 million dividend is paid. They may lay but under control of the trade unions! Western Electric. The users of lions of telephone users in the voice to yell 'Scab' tomorrow" tinue at all times. If you encoun- dollars between 1921-1936 alone. off thousands of workers, or telephones pay through the nose country. 10. Solidarity with the revolutionary struggles of the High in spirit, singing songs ter any trouble, contact union The board of directors is com- raise the telephone rates, but the for these and other monopolistic headquarters at once and legal posed of representatives of the dividend rate stays up where The 350,000 telephone workers lustily, picketing eight hours a workers in all lands! practices of AT&T. biggest banking, life insur- AT&T says it must. now on strike are showing what day, these girls, some of them For the complete independence of the colonial peoples! aid will be furnished." The research department of barely out of high school, are Withdraw all American troops from foreign soil! they think of the methods of AT&T. For years this gigantic writing new labor history and this colossus is the Bell Labor-11. For a Workers' and Farmers' Government! Mail This Coupon With 50c For A 6-Month Subscription To teaching the rest of the labor atories-50% owned by AT&T; corporation has refused to pay movement an effective lesson on 50% owned by Western Electric. its workers decent wages. They Bell Laboratories control thou- have instead a high sounding how to answer union-busting THE MILITANT sands of patents and can hold pension plan. At the end of legislation. or release them as best suits the The Western Electric workers, twenty years service, if not fired Join the Socialist Workers Party! who last year pointed the way, AT&T. before then, an average worker in their successful 65 day strike receives a weekly sum not much Thus, the type of phone in use A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER against this subsidiary of the today was invented back in 1878. larger than that paid by unem-SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY 116 UNIVERSITY PLACE, NEW YORK 3, N. Y. Bell System, are out there fight-But AT&T had a lot of money ployment insurance. These pen-116 University Place ing today, 20,000 strong in New invested in the old type phones sions are given at the discretion New York 3, New York Published in the interests of 'the working people. Jersey. Whenever there is a picso they remained in use in this of the company. The only newspaper in this country that tells the ket line - of operators, main-I would like: country until 1927. Up till then On the other hand, President truth about labor's struggles for a better world. tenance or office workers the operating companies rented Gifford is guaranteed \$86,000 To join the Socialist Workers Party. there you find the Western Electheir phones from Western Elec- | a year whenever he retires. Mer-You may start my subscription to The Militant for 6 months tric pickets. To obtain further information about your ortric. But in 1927 it was de- it raises are given on the basis Their own plant in South I enclose 50 cents (coin or stamps) cided that the operating com- of how docile and uncomplainganization. Kearny shut down solidly, these panies had to buy their phones ing a worker is. Supervisory Send me The Militant at your regular rate of \$1 for 12 months. workers are giving full support To attend meetings and forums of the Socialist from Western Electric. An esti- jobs are held out as bait to keep I enclose G1 (coin, stamps or Money Order) mated \$15,000,000 was made on the workers vying with one an-Workers Party in my city. the sale of these old type phones. other. In brief, any and all bers of its happy family during Name A short while later the new type paternalistic methods are used (Please Print) the depression in the Thirties by handsets were made the stand- to keep the workers on the lowlaying off 185,000 workers. R. (Please Print) ard, and the operating compan- est possible wage level. N. Daniellan says, "Every dollar Street. Apt. ies had to buy them. Through In the south, telephone emof dividends paid out of surplus City. Postal Zone this control of patents and of ployes start at \$22 a week; in in the depression year was paid operating companies, the new New York at \$28. The top pay at the expense of putting or leav-State . POSTAL ZONE STATE type phone was thus withheld down South is \$31; in N. Y. \$44, ing 18,000-20,000 telephone workfor years, and in addition more AT&T took care of the mem- lers on relief."

SATURDAY, APRIL 19, 1947

American Stalinism And Anti-Stalinism James P. Cannon

3. Why And How The Communist Party Degenerated

(Ed. note: This is the third of a series of articles | eaucracy fight on the side of the capitalists and on Stalinism and anti-Stalinism.)

The degeneration of the Communist Party de- struggle. rives from the same source as the degeneration of their professional opponents, the labor fakers of the old school who are flanked by the New York ex-radical intellectuals and "Socialist" or ex-Socialist labor skates. This source is the pressure of the capitalist-imperialist environment which they lacked the historical foresight and the moral strength to resist. The Stalinists and the anti-Stalinists equally share an awe-stricken prostration before the seeming invincibility of American capitalism and a corresponding lack of faith in the proletarian revolution, in the power of the workers to save the world by reorganizing it on a socialist basis.

This delusion — and it is the most tragic of all delusions - is the main psychological source of all varieties of opportunism in the labor movement. It transformed one-time opponents of capitalism into its agents and servants. The opponents of Stalinism, with the exception of those who How Stalinism Originated fight it from a revolutionary point of view, suffered essentially the same degeneration as did the Stalinists, from the same basic cause, and the degeneration is complete in each case, as we hope to demonstrate in the course of these articles. This degeneration consisted in shifting their basic allegiance from one class to another.

election, and all the year around, on their basic overthrow capitalism. The privileged bureaucracy slogan: "Socialism is not the issue!" And if they in the Soviet Union made this disbelief the basis of have their way it will never be the "issue." The their policy. These Soviet bureaucrats felt impell-Social Democrats and the repentant ex-Commun- ed at all costs to secure their own privileges, enist and ex-Socialist intellectuals coyly refer to joyed at the expense of the Russian masses, and themselves nowadays as "liberals," although in decided to call that "Socialism in one country." truth they are not even very liberai. If they men- Like every other crystallized labor bureaucracy, tion socialism at all it is only by way of satiric they wanted above all to be let alone in peace and jest at those who still believe in it and still fight comfort regardless of what happened to the massfor it, and in sentimental recollections of the es of the people in one country or another, or "follies" of their younger days.

Lieutenants For Capitalism

"degenerate" it is only because they have always express their moods and serve their special inbeen "labor lieutenants of the capitalist class," terests. as De Leon called them, and didn't have to change much. But even many of them, if not section of the leading staffs of the Communist the majority, began better than they ended. Not Parties in the capitalist countries at the same a few of them started out as trade union militants time, and from the same cause. The stagnation previous year, the vote the tax increase by maintaining and picket captains who showed energy and cour-of the movement and the apparent — though only against the tax increase carage in defending the immediate interests of the apparent - recovery and resurgence of the capiworkers in struggles against individual employ- talist system from its war-time and post-war since November, 1944. This elecers. Lacking socialist consciousness, and any shocks and dislocations, seemed to empirical tion marks the sixth attempt by broad and comprehensive view of the class strug- leaders to postpone the realization of the social- Big Business interests in Flint gle as a whole, they succumbed to the pressure ist program to the distant future. They mistook of the class enemy all the more easily than was a temporary situation for an historical epoch. homeowners. the case with the ex-Communists and ex-Social- This created the conditions for the dry-rot of ists but the end result is essentially the same: bureaucratism to set in, even among the leading The transformation of working class militants staffs and the paid party functionaries and trade Labor Party candidates laid a that Big Business feared its tacinto conservative bureaucrats who view the con- union officials of the most revolutionary parties flict of labor and capital as a struggle without history had ever known. They began to visualize toral activity Jack Palmer, a goal

case or over-simplify it by thus seeming to iden- them, and not for the purpose of organizing and tify two currents in the labor movement - the leading a proletarian revolution. Stalinists and the anti-Stalinists-who appear to be always at each others' throats in the fiercest Fate Of Revolution At Stake antagonism. But this contention can be granted only conditionally, and within very narrow limits parties in the capitalist countries, as well as in which do not encroach upon the essence of the the Soviet Union, could not be easily or smoothly question. It is not even correct to say without qualifica- everywhere, supported by the most militant prothe immediate allegiance of the anti-Stalinists ary program and tradition and resolutely fought is to America's imperialist government of the the course of degeneration. They were the first Sixty Families, while the Stalinists are indubi- to stigmatize Stalinism, to analyze and expose its tably the direct agents of the Stalin regime in real tendency and to declare irreconcilable war the USSR. But the Kremlin gang is itself an against it in the name of Communism. And they agency, and the most important agency, of im- have been its most consistent, most uncompromperialism in the world labor movement. That is ising opponents ever since. its most essential role. The Stalinists hate and This struggle, organized and led by Trotsky lies, their organized terror, their assassinations, tion of the Communist Parties was a stubborn overthrow it.

against the workers. The fierce struggle between them is a clique struggle, and not a principled

The anti-capitalist "ideology" of the radical intellectuals and the "Socialist" labor leaders and functionaries was scarcely more than skin-deep to start with. Their transformation from fellowtravelers of the proletariat into fellow-travelers of the bourgeoisie was accomplished so quickly and easily and smoothly, under the first squeeze of real pressure with the approach of World War II, that it was hardly noticed by anybody. They hardly noticed it themselves.

The degeneration of the Communist Party along the same lines, however, was a far more serious matter. Here it was a question of changing the fundamental nature of a party that was genuinely revolutionary into its counter-revolutionary opposite. This took a much longer time and was unavoidably accompanied by the most violent and bloody convulsions.

Stalinism originated in the Soviet Union after the death of Lenin, when the retardation of the expected European revolution on the one hand, and the subsequent temporary stabilization of capitalism on the other, raised doubts of the revolutionary perspective. These doubts, soon crystallized into a complete disbelief in the capacity of The converted Stalinists campaign in every the workers in Europe and the rest of the world to in all countries put together. A conservative program of narrow-minded nationalism, and of collaboration with the world of capitalist imperial-

The same doubts and sentiments infected a

careers for themselves as functionaries of a party It may be maintained that we over-state the machine which existed for itself, that is, for Local ran eighth in a field of

Survivors Of Mine Explosion **Tell Story To "The Militant"**

Picket Signs Demand Living Wage

THE MILITANT



"We are striking for higher wages" read many of the picket signs gathered together by the New York telephone workers' picket captains at their strike headquarters. Prepared for a long strike, George Myerscough, strike committee chairman remarked: "Supervisors are moving into operators jobs. But they're not used to hard work; our strikers will outlast them." Federated Pictures

Flint Labor Party Committee Scores Success In Election

By Sol Dollinger

FLINT, Mich., Apr. 12-Flint workers in response to As for the old-line labor fakers, if they didn't ism, was evolved by the privileged bureaucrats to the call of the Labor Party Committee of Chevrolet Local 659 successfully defeated the proposed property tax increase by 7,044 to 6,123 votes at last Monday's election.

Although the total vote dropped in half over the of GM hoped to sneak through ried a majority for the first time broke through this silence with The Labor Party Committee the leaflet distributed at factory gates. The day before the elections the boss press announced to increase property taxes on their slate and reported the possible danger of victory for the

In their first campaign for in- Labor Party, candidates. This dependent political action, the last minute development showed solid foundation for future elec- tic of silence was backfiring. Four days after the election Vice-President of the Chevrolet 17 candidates with a vote of 1, candidates with a vote of condemned the Labor Party we left behind in the chamber tion must have been blocked. Dick and Harry of all jobs. He Johnson in tenth place with 1,312 votes, while Lawrence Jones re-votes while Lawrence Jones rerich would pay a proportionately pita

By George Lavan

WYOMING, Pa., Apr. 11 - Joseph Kolesar, one of the and not filling," he said, miners who got out of the Exeter mine disaster alive, back to mine work, Goryl reheroically went back in without a gas mask to aid in the plied, 'I'm 33 now and if I don't rescue of his comrades. He was afterwards taken to the guit while I'm still young I'll Pittston hospital

day he was released from the squeeze you out of your job." hospital. He looked through a copy of The Militant, saw of the state and federal inspecsaid he was glad to give me an a telephone system through the interview.

Kolesar is a handsome, wiry man of 38 with black curly hair. His three young children played around us in the kitchen as we talked.

He described the disaster: "Me and my buddies were in the chamber just beginning, to work. We had just had an argument with the boss who wanted us to work in water. A few weeks before my crew had got a two-day layoff because we refused to work in water over our boots. The boss stepped out around seven o'clock and we were just beginning to drill. Suddenly there was a swisning sound and a big puff of white smoke. My buddy said, 'It's a gas explosion.' I thought it was a rock fall. We went out to the gangway. It was all filled with smoke. I saw a cap. It belonged to a friend of mine. He had been carrying a keg of powder; the keg was there, air was still good. Another crew of us all told.

A voice hollered out, 'Joe, Joe, I'm hurt.' It was Gene — Eugene Vivalda — he's dead now. We thing." went out and pulled him in. He was all burned. We got him some water. I asked him, 'Gene, how you block the crosscuts?' He tried stated, "We've got to live here

place. Three of us volunteered ting through. That was me, Andy Goryl and Benny Foglia. We told employment is a real and immethe others we'd send back for diate threat. them if we got through. When was we saw the dead and in- able causes of the explosion: jured lying all around. We had

"They're pulling out the pillars When asked if he were going

done this way or that way. But never get out of the mines. Ten more years and I try to quit — I visited Joe Kolesar the if you talk too much, they'll it wouldn't be possible. I see lots of kids in their 'teens in the Goryl didn't think too highly mine. I tell them, for Christ's sake what are you doing down what kind of paper it was and tions. He pointed out, "There's here? Get out while you can, get some other job.

mine. When an inspector comes "There's an old man at the around the boss calls up on the mine. It's a crime he's working phone. He says, "The inspector's when he's so old. He can hardly coming down your way, get this breathe. Keeps gasping for air and that fixed up, put this here all the time. That's me ten years and so forth.' But after the in- from now if I don't get out spector's gone, the boss doesn't now care how things are."

"Where I work with my buddy, he's only a few feet away. But

COMPANY ROBBERS His mother broke in saying, all I can see of him is the blur 'Sonny, I don't want you going from his lamp - the dust is in the mines no more, I've suf- so thick. If you want an idea of fered too much." Then she went what it's like in the mine, goon to tell how the companies down the cellar and keep throwwere not interested in safety but ing handfuls of dust in the air. getting coal. "They're robbing That dust gets you. You can't everything," she cried. "They go breathing it all the time and just want coal coal. coal. Everyworking hard. You get like that thing is caving in. This house old man-gasp, gasp, gasp. is caving in."

"The papers talk about how Her son went on to explain much the miners make. You that the companies were taking ought to see what a miner gets. out the pillars of coal previously Especially trying to support a left as supports. As a result family with the prices going up. streets and houses throughout And we're outlaws when we go the district were settling. on strike - like during the war."

too, but there was no trace of him. Back in our chamber the Mine Explosion Kills 9 More came through a crosscut into our chamber. That made eight In Year's 2nd Big Disaster

(Continued from Page 1)

couldn't "put his finger on a pened right next to the hoisting engine, which is set on one

However, the miners and sur- of the highest points in this part vivors were reluctant to be of the mine. And as every miner do we get out of here? How did quoted by name. As one of them knows, methane gas rises.

This noisting engine has an to tell us but that way was so and work here and if we get in electric motor that is sealed airthick with gas we couldn't do it. bad with the company it can be tight. However, the controller "Then I said, the only way out is right where the explosion took mighty tough." This is the an-box of this engine is not airtight and the men have seen it spark-"the depressed area" during the ing frequently in the past. Most to take a 'suicide chance' of get- depression. Anthracite is the sick of the bodies of the victims were part of the coal industry and un- found near the engine. The men stated they were sure the controller box was not permissible

Four survivors of the explosion equipment by the Federal Burwe got to where the explosion pointed to the following prob- eau of Mines standards.

There were other safety de-The explosion did not occur in fects. Some mines have regular to put our shirts over our heads the chambers where the men full-time bratticemen (these are and feel the way with our hands. work, but on the gangway. For the men who direct the current of When we got out we met the boss gas to collect in such an area air and keep it flowing. One surthe Flint Journal, spokesman for and brought out some of the where the air is generally kept vivor pointed out that in this the business interests, editorially men still living. All the others moving means that the ventila- mine "the bratticeman was. Tom, fore, by being filled up to the rock unloader, car unloader. There was no regular fire-The company had installed a boss in the Marcy vein. The firerunning for several days. One would come in long after the Another safety measure negtrapped men who survived the explosion. The deadly gas seep-~~

PAGE THREE AS

Both Serve Imperialist Master

The Stalinists and the anti-Stalinists serve the of our troubled and stormy time. same master - world imperialism - in different ways. Every labor bureaucracy has a contra- essentially reformist program for the original proand they also frequently come into conflict with to serve the socialist end. They misrepresented ally. The opposition of the entire American la- pictured the Left Opposition of Trotsky as counlation in Congress is a case in point. But in the the Leninist doctrine. They slandered the Opposiboth the Stalinist bureaucracy and the other bur-

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SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY		some p
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	W. Barrier Sciences	- All th

But the transformation of

accomplished. A section of the leading staffs

fear the proletarian revolution more than any- and supported by other authentic communists in and clear in pointing to the the local press. thing else, and their unbridled demagogy, their every country in the world, against the degenera- glaring disparity between low tax assessments on the huge GM and their organized mass murders have been em- struggle, long drawn-out and irreconcilable, con- property holdings in contrast to ployed to prop up decaying capitalism, not to ducted with unexampled energy and courage. How the high assessments on small could it have been otherwise? The fate of a homes. Hundreds of voters carrevolution was at stake, and the leader of the ried the slates to the polls with them.

fight was the greatest man, and the best man, Thousands of workers voted Before they could succeed in substituting an against the tax increase and then proceeded to vote for capdictory nature. The Stalinist bureaucracy has gram of proletarian revolution, and transforming italist candidates who favored its own special interests and seeks to serve them the nature of the Communist parties accordingly, the increased property tax. This first of all, and this frequently brings them into the Stalinist bureaucrats who had seized the ap- indicated that these workers did conflict with the imperialists, as is the case at paratus of the Russian state and of the Commun- not tie up the Labor Party canthe present time. But the anti-Stalinist bureau- ist parties, had to resort to every kind of method didates with the Labor Party crats also seek to serve first their own interests, alien to socialism and alien to the means required program.

ceived 1.026 votes.

tee was unable to reach.

In spite of this, votes were the capitalist class which they serve fundament- everything, turned every question upside down, cast for the labor candidates in every precinct. In three prebor bureaucracy to the pending anti-union legis- ter-revolutionary and themselves as defenders of cincts Palmer received more votes than the winning candiessence of the matter, in the great fundamental tionists in the press, which they had monopolized, date, a representative of Genand irreconcilable conflict of historical class in- and deprived them of the opportunity to answer. eral Motors, and tied him in anterests between the workers and the imperialists, They abused the principle of party discipline, de- other.

signed by Lenin to insure united action against Apparently the Chamber of ss enemy and turned it into a trap for the Commerce and representatives

inist workers, a device to suppress critical and free discussion within the party. eration and transformation of the Communist literature in the entire history of the world labor corrupted the parties by advancing sub- parties. The revolutionary tradition was so strong, movement was produced by the Opposition in careerists and removing the independent- the Marxist logic of the Opposition so powerful, that period, primarily by Trotsky himself. revolutionists from party posts. They that opposition groupings kept rising anew. The the good-faith of the communistic work- parties had to be purged again and again. But came the great and final test, and the turning rywhere by confronting them with ac- the struggle did not end. The Stalinists then point in the tactics of the Trotskyists. The Stalshed facts, and then compelling them to turned the fatal corner on the road of counter- inists surrendered the German working class to the actions under penalty of expulsion as revolutionary infamy from which there could the Nazis without a fight — the greatest and -revolutionaries and enemies of the Soviet be no turning back: the physical annihilation of most criminal betrayal in all history. Then it

his did not suffice. The opposition could ists in the Soviet Union, with Trotsky at their inist Comintern was corrupted to the core, and terrorized and could not be silenced. One head, were arrested and imprisoned by the tens that its reformation was impossible. The Stalinllowed another on the reactionary course of thousands. When that failed to quell the Op- ists had gone over into the imperialist camp. as fatal logic. Next came the wholesale ex- positionist movement, Trotsky was deported from had the bureaucracy of the Social Democracy in s of the leaders of the Opposition in Rus- the country in which he, side by side with Lenin, 1914, only even more shamefully, more brazenly in all the parties of the Comintern. After had led the greatest revolution in all history. uggle had raged for five years, the great | But the ideas of the Trotskyists were correct, ty of the original leaders of the Communist and therefore could not be destroyed. The im- tional. The mortal struggle still goes on, no longin almost every country, those who had prisonment of tens of thousands of the best bold the parties and carried them on their shevik fighters in the Soviet Union, the deporta- party. Since 1933 the Trotskyists have conducted ers through their most difficult years, had tion of Trotsky from the country, and the ex- their struggle on a world- wide scale as a compelled. In place of the independent-mind- pulsion and isolation of the incorruptible com- pletely independent movement, irreconcilably hosolutionary fighters who had created the munists from the Communist Parties in the capi- tile to Stalinism as well as to capitalism. This is ent in struggle, a new type of leader was talist countries, did not end the struggle of the the most important struggle in the world, for its d, the type of functionary who looks to Left Opposition (the Trotskyists) to correct the goal is nothing less than the socialist reorganizaower for instructions and does what he policy of the Comintern and turn it back on the tion of the world.

Marxist road. They continued to fight as an ex- Next Week: The Crimes and Betrayals of Amhis was not enough to complete the degen- | pelled faction; and some of the richest Marxist | ican Stalinism.

larger share of such a tax than

parts, the Labor Party Commit-itant auto workers. They know home. I was introduced to his tee succeeded in covering almost cincts the Labor Party Commitcampaigned against the tax in- every moment." Labor Party slates, advocat- crease and gave full support to

Not More Taxation," were sharp position was widely published in

U. S. Mines Most Dangerous

The U.S. mine accident and death rate is the highest in the world, and four times as great proportionately as that of Great Britain. In the last 35 years an av-

erage of 1889 miners were killed and 2.135 permanently disabled annually. Total reported injuries from 1930 to 1945 were 1,032,995; a yearly In the last five years alone By statistics every man who

will either be killed or injured every six years.

Andrew Goryl, another survi- roof with water, and it very like- pipe man and a hundred other Although the worst flood in the poor." This argument is not vor of the nine blast, invited ly was blocked at the time of the things." its history divided Flint into two cutting any ice among the mil- me into the parlor of his modest explosion.

It is not even correct to say without qualities everywhere, supported so the succeeded in covering annose that thousands lost their nomes wife, his mother and nis three pump to keep the needs that the solution half the precincts with slates. during the depression while no year old son. Throughout our at this dip. However it was not for gas with the permissible The vote cast for the labor can-one ever heard of GM or the conversation he played with his always kept running. It would be flame safety lamp. There was an dicates in these precincts was rich losing their homes or prop-youngster. Delivered from his run for a while and then shut acting fire-boss but he wasn't erty because of increased taxes. fear he would never see his boy off. Three of the survivors said paid for this job. He had other The Socialist Workers Party again he wanted to hold him that the pump had not been jobs to perform. He very often In answer to my guestion of stated it had not been running men had started work, although ing "Vote for Representation- the Labor Party candidates. Its how the mines could be made for a full week. With the circula- a fire-boss is supposed to test safer, he gave me the following tion of air blocked in this fash- the area before the men begin example. "The fire department ion, the gas could easily have work.

once had, a test out here of a accumulated. The mine is offinew aluminum ladder. They cially designated as a gassy mine, lected both at Exeter and Cenraised it straight up and a fire- and the deserted old workings tralia was a supply of oxygen man was going to climb up. A are filled with gas that could masks. Without masks, rescue big crowd went to watch and I readily seep down to the scene workers could not reach the remember how they had all pre- of the disaster. parations in case anything went PROBABLE CAUSE

wrong. They had a first aid tent As to the question of what ed in and suffocated them. Had and nurses and all that stuff. had ignited the gas, the men there been masks at the mine That's how it should be at the were quick to point out a prob- these men might have been mines in case something hap- able cause. The explosion hap- saved.

pens. After the explosion in the mine they had to send all over for oxygen masks for the rescue men to go in. Now the gas isn't going to wait until these masks arrive. If they had masks there they could have put one on me. I'd have known just where to go for the others and we could have got some of those men out

He added: "The company should listen more to the miners about safety. We talk lots of times how something should be

In 1933, after ten years of unceasing struggle, the Communist Left Opposition. The Opposition- became finally clear beyond dispute that the Staland more criminally. The Left Opposition thereupon raised the banner of the Fourth Internaer as faction against faction but as party against

Meaning Of The Truman Doctrine

The Truman-Marshall Doctrine marks a new stage in the preparations of U.S. imperialism toward World War III, states the main editorial in the April issue of Fourth International. The period of the diplomatic armed truce has now been succeeded by the diplomatic "war of nerves."

In addition, brazen moves are under way to "consolidate strategic positions, to mobilize the forces in Europe, and to intensify the war propaganda."

The Truman-Marshall doctrine "speaks the language of unbridled militarism. There is a deadly parallel between this doctrine and the doctrines of all militarists in modern times." The editorial points out that the end result of this policy can only be a new war.

The editorial explains why Truman by-passed the United Nations. This was "not a careless oversight but a thinly veiled warning to all governments, including UN members, that now they had to choose between tagging along with U.S. imperialism or passing into limbo."

The insurgent masses of Europe and Asia stand as obstacles in the path of U.S. imperialist ambitions to rule the world. "With all their capitalist rivals lying prostrate, the U.S imperialists are still unable to pluck the prize of prizes, the colonial East." Thus, intervention in the Near East, they hope will pave the way for successful intervention in the Far East

Wall Street is moving into Greece and Turkey in order to bolster up the dictatorial regimes and fortify European reaction. In the United States the ruling class has set into motion an "unprecedented wave of reaction" as part of its plans for world conquest.

But, states the editorial, "the unfolding economic crisiwill spur the masses at home, in Europe, in Asia, throughout the world to ever fiercer resistance to the attempts by American capitalism to saddle them with all the burdens of decaying capitalism." Instead of conquering the world, the U.S. imperialists will "detonate revolutionary explosions at home and in the world."

Single copies at 25 cents, yearly subscription for \$2 can be obtained from Business Manager, 116 University Place, New York 3, N.Y.

average of 64,562. 6,000 miners were killed at work and 300,000 injured. alive." goes to work in a coal mine

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THE MILITANT Published in the interests of the Working People Saturday, April 19, 1947 Vol. XI. - No. 16 Published Weekly by THE MILITANT PUBLISHING ASS'N at 116 University Place, New York 3, N. Y. Telephone: ALgonquin 4-9330 FARRELL DOBBS, Editor THE MILITANT follows the policy of permitting its contributors to present their own views in signed articles. These views therefore do not necessarily represent the policies of THE MILITANT which are expressed in its aditorials. Subscriptions: \$1.00 per year; 50c for 6 months. Foreign; \$2.00 per year; \$1.00 for 6 months, sundle orders: 3 cents per copy for 5 copies or more in the United States. 4 cents per copy for 5 copies or more in all foreign countries. "Entered as second class matter March 7, 1944, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879." "Against a bounding rise



in prices . . . one can fight only under the slogan of a sliding scale of wages. This means that collective agreements should assure an automatic rise in wages in relation to the increase in price of consumer



"Criminals"

When Governor Driscoll of New Jersey signed the anti-strike law during the telephone strike, he created 20,000 "criminals." These "criminals" now walk the picket lines under threat of \$500 fines and 30-day jail sentences for each day they stay off the job. Their unions face \$10,000 a day fines. Three women leaders of these 20,000 "criminals" are already under arrest.

What are the "crimes" of these telephone operators? They organized unions. They asked the company to bargain. The company refused. They asked the company to arbitrate. The company refused.

So they joined more than 300,000 other phone workers in strike action to enforce their just demands against the arrogant 71/2 billion dollar Morgan-controlled AT&T Bell Trust.

Their list of "crimes" rapidly grew longer. The Governor, with a Bell official as his right hand advisor, "seized" the phones and ordered the strikers back to work like so many slaves. But these American workers, the majority of them young women never before on a picket line, refused to bow their heads before the Governor's legislative whip.

The State of New Jersey then called on its courts to impose the savage penalties of the new law upon the "criminals." Now came another "crime" of the 20,000 phone workers. They refused to be scared or intimidated by fines or Governor Driscoll's jails.

In brief, their "crimes" are defending labor's right to organize and strike against one of the most powerful trusts in the land and resisting a State Administration that has acted as the compliant tool of this trust.

ers are willing to take on not only the most powerful monopolists but the governmental agents of the monopolists as well.

It's not the workers who are reluctant to fight, but their comfortably-situated, lily-livered top leaders. No one can point to a single instance since the end of the war when union leaders called on the workers to fight and the workers did not respond.

The union leaders who spread stories about the passivity of the workers do so only to cover up their own timidity and cowardice. Let, the leaders of the steel, auto, electrical and other mass unions summon the workers to resist the aggression of Big Business and arm them with a militant, effective program of struggle, and the workers thorughout the land will fight with the same courage, energy and determination now demonstrated by the embattled telephone workers.

The Price Spiral

Every housewife knows how prices have soared. A \$5 bill doesn't go any further in the grocery store today than a \$2 bill went a few years ago. Even the conservative government statisticians admit that food prices have about doubled since 1939.

In the light of these facts, it is instructive to recall what the capitalists said when they smashed price controls. They claimed that once controls were ended, industry would quickly produce in such quantities that prices would be brought down. If prices did soar "slightly," it would prove only temporary.

Prices soared alright. Not slightly nor temporarily. The capitalists and their press and political agents then blamed this on wage increases. But with all guiet on the labor front for some months, prices continued to shoot up like a V-2 rocket on its way through the ionosphere.

What was happening is shown by the figures the White House released April 12. The Council of Economic Advisers appointed by Truman declared that profits in 1946 were 30% greater than in 1945. As you study that figure, ask yourself if your wages in 1946 were 30% above 1945.

But this is only the beginning. Profits in the last quarter of 1946 were 30% higher than the year as a whole. Wages in that three month period were marking time.

On top of this, in the first quarter of 1947 ending March 31, profits were 30% above the rate for the last quarter of 1946!

In cold-cash figures, profits after taxes for the first quarter of 1947 were at an annual rate of 15 billion dollars compared with a 1946 level of 12 billion dollars. By comparison, profits in 1929, the last of the fabulous boom years, were 7 billion dollars.

Truman's solution to the price spiral is to put "moral suasion" on the profit-gouging monopolists to slash prices voluntarily. But as one Washington correspondent observed, the "general futility" of this approach is "all too evident." Big Business will not pay the slightest attention. to such "moral" pressure.

The only fear of these capitalists is the swiftly approaching depression which will cut prices the way the depression of the 30's did. Many of them simply shut their eyes to the writing on the wall, hoping to get theirs while the getting is good.



"Imagine! I had to fly all the way up from Florida because I couldn't get you on the phone."



COLOR BLIND by Margaret | turn, means the end of the capi- | confusion. There is only one way Halsey, Simon and Schuster, talist "divide and rule" policy. to conduct an effective and pro-160 pp., 1946, \$2.50. We must substitute a Workers gressive struggle against this --Color Blind presents a vivid

and realistic picture of the canopportunity. teen in which the author worked during the war years. Because

STALINISTS ON THE WA- directly from their political pro-TERFRONT by Art Preis, gram. They became the most Pioneer Publisher, 31 pp., zealous champions of the war

- for this reason the most ele-The Communist (Stalinist) mentary interests of the work-Party has had undisputed con- er on the job were sacrificed by trol over the National Maritime them. During the war the Stal-Union for the past decade. They inists became the political police have had every opportunity to in the service of the war machcarry out their full program. But ine. These are the abysmal at the present time the Stalin- depths to which the politics of

ists. Won ind red herring" to obscure the real Stallnist record are fairly well skyists said and did during the cause of discrimination. The known on the waterfront, there war stands as a proud record statistics which the author pre- is considerable confusion about of militant working class loyalty. sents on the low incidence of the reasons for this betrayal.

War Dept. Considering **Factory Military Units**

Secretary of War Robert P. Patterson, it is said in Washington, will soon discuss with leading industrialists a "factory unit plan" of organized reserves for the armed forces. The plan calls for "genuine marching and drilling units" among factory workers throughout America. Veterans of World War II would play a leading role in these factory military units.

What should be labor's attitude toward this proposal? The correct answer can be found only by considering the plan in relation with labor's struggle against a Third World War.

The catastrophe of an atomic war can be avoided only if labor succeeds in organizing its own political party and putting a Workers and Farmers Government in power in Washington. Such a government would end the rule of the capitalists and reorganize the economy along socialist lines, integrating America's industries according to a general plan and thereby ending the economic cause of war.

If one lesson of history is clear, however, it is the reluctance of a predatory minority to give up its privileged position. In the United States we saw how the Bourbon slave-holders refused to bow to the will of the majority and organized rebellion, plunging the country into civil war. The working of the same general political law was observed more recently in Spain where the military caste headed a rebellion against the lawfully-constituted government of the majority.

Looking ahead, therefore, the labor movement would do well to take this contingency into account and prepare accordingly. This means it should not reject training in military, subjects. It would be especially valuable to have labor units thoroughly skilled in these arts. In case native fascism should threaten to take over in America, they could play an invaluable role in saving us from the fate that befell the Italian and German workers.

But there is a catch in the plan as outlined by spokesmen of the War Department. Under the control and supervision of the brass hats, these units could be utilized as a most dangerous anti-labor force. At least the capitalists would undoubtedly count on using them to break strikes.

To forestall this possibility the labor movement must insist on having control and supervision over these military units. A thoroughly practical plan would be to place them under control of the trade unions so that they constituted an auxiliary force to the labor movement.

Since they would be performing a public service in training themselves for emergency use in case of a fascist threat or other danger, they should be financed by the government and at the full trade union scale of pay,

This seems to us the answer to the proposed plan that best accords with the interests of the labor movement.



The Truman "doctrine" began paying off in blood April 9 when the fascist-minded Greek government launched large-scale operations to wipe out armed partisans in the northern part of the country.

The puppet monarchy installed by the Allied powers at the close of World War II began the blood bath as soon as Wall Street flashed the green light with Truman's announcement that Washington intends henceforth to intervene openly in behalf of reaction on a world scale.

British-trained troops under orders to "crush the

insurrection" moved swiftly against the partisans

who refuse to recognize the monarchy kept in power

by Allied bayonets. Villagers were warned to stay

in their houses. Anyone stepping outside would be

automatically considered an "insurgent" and shot

Staying inside, however, is no guarantee of sale-

ty. Anyone taken by the Allied-supplied troops will

not even be granted the treatment accorded prison-

ers of war but will be turned over to drum-head

courts-martial empowered to pass and execute sen-

Supported by artillery, tanks and airplanes, the

troops of King Paul I were freely using bombs and

rockets on the guerrillas. With America as an

arsenal and 250,000,000 American dollars assured by

Wall Street's political representatives to help in the

civil war, King Paul I appeared confident of stamp-

In the Larissa area 600 paratroopers, armed with

rifles, pistols, grenades, and heavy machine guns

bailed out on the rocky hideouts. It was not report-

ed whether these arms were made in England or

Near Frangista in a single battle 116 "rebels" were

reported killed, 95 wounded and 75 captured. Cas-

ualties in other battles were laconically indicated

The present strife marks another stage in the

civil strife begun by the British in December 1944.

As the Germans retreated, the Greek people began

setting up their own government. Stalin had made

a secret deal, however, with Churchill and Roose-

velt marking off Greece as a British sphere of in-

In accordance with this foul secret agreement,

the Stalinist heads of the EAM (National Libera-

tion Movement) welcomed British troops to Greece

and hailed their entry into Athens. When the Brit-

ish had landed sufficient military supplies they

launched civil war on Dec. 3, 1944, firing on a

demonstration that included women and children.

Churchill admits in an article in the April 11

N. Y. Times that he sent a telegram about 2 in the

morning of December 6, 1944, personally ordering

without warning.

tences on the spot.

the USA.

as "severe."

fluence.

ing out all resistance to his rule.

periences in a practical program of social equality. They have led 1947, ten cents. her-in the main-to some progressive conclusions. However, her proposal that the North open its door to Southern Negroes in order to relieve "tension" in the South is completely unrealistic. Adequate economic and social opportunities must be made

ists within the NMU are fighting Stalinism led inexorably. a desperate battle to hang on in | Preis shows on the contrary the face of widespread popular the role of the Trotskyists dur-

revolt against their leadership. | ing the war. True to revolution-

lem" is primarily economic. We can also agree that the use of the bogey of "rape" is a "sexual

segregation and ghettoes is a must go further than that. We and simple, of betrayal.

graceful, disease-breeding hovels into which Negroes are herded. and replace them with modern. We can certainly agree with the author that the "Negro probis a factual chronicle of the unity and the permanent nocrimes committed by the Stalin- strike pledge are now being paid

Although the Yacts of the side the NMU. What the Trot-The rule of the Stalinists has

The reason for this lies in their ary politics the Socialist Workshameful record especially dur- ers Party fought vigorously to ing wartime. It is a record, pure defend the interests of the working class. The Trotskyists on Pioneer Publisher's new pam- the waterfront fought for the inphlet, Stalinists On The Water- dependence of the maritime unfront, documents this record of ions from government control betrayal. Written by Art Preis, and regimentation. The Stalin-

abor editor of The Milltant, it ist slogans of shipowner-seamen for in the current struggle in-

real rape cases are a good answer Many workers repelled by the brought the seamen's unions un-

Government in which all men have equal freedom and equal of Stalinism and exposing its reactionary character. -Norma Christiansen Art Preis demonstrates how the acts of the Stalinists flow

According to Governor Driscon and the ca italist press, they are criminals. According to all that organized labor holds dear, the 20,000 phone workers are NOT criminals but heroic defenders of the labor movement now battling in the front lines against Wall Street and its political agents.

The New Jersey phone workers must be defended to the hilt. From coast to coast, the entire labor movement must raise its voice in one concerted shout of solidarity: Full support to the New Jersey phone workers!

Defeat the real criminals-Big Business and its government strikebreaking agents!

The Workers' Mood

If ever there was a time for American workers to be fighting in defense of their living standards and democratic rights, this is it. Their real incomes have been drastically slashed since the abolition of price controls last year, and in Washington Congress is busy on bills to cut the unions to ribbons and leave the workers helpless to protect themselves.

But despite the great power lodged in organized labor, the unions on the whole appear passive and unprepared for defensive action on a large scale against their enemies. Why is that?

According to the explanations privately offered by some union leaders, the American workers are in no mood for struggle at the present time; they have been discouraged by the government's defeat of the mine strike last winter; they are afraid of anti-labor legislation if they strike now, etc., etc.

But this is a thoroughly false and distorted picture of the reason for the labor movement's apathy, and there is no better proof of it than the current telephone workers' strike.

That strike is a truly authentic example of the American workers' readiness to engage in militant defensive struggles even in the face of a hostile administration and a rampantly anti-labor Congress. It proves that even today, when the unions are led by officers with backbone, independence and spunk, the work-



A Sample Poll

With Congress preparing to rush through rubber-stamp approval of Truman's demand to open up the sluices of the U.S. public treasury and Army arsenals for the brutal dictatorship in Turkey and the blood-thirsty puppet monarchy in Greece, the capitalist press has turned its editorial loudspeakers on full blast, claiming that the American people wholeheartedly approve this new "doctrine."

They have been singularly slow, however, about publishing any polls of public opinion on Truman's steering America straight down the highway to World War III. What the public really thinks, however, can be judged. from the first returns in a sample poll taken by the Mutual Network.

Trumans' proposal was discussed in the program, "Opinion-Aire." A 12-man jury panel from the audience voted 11 to 1 against the Truman plan. The first batch of mail from the listeners showed 2,354 against and only 467 in favor.

These sample letters from voters in New York, New Jersey, Connecticut and Pennsylvania show why the usual assortment of polls that generally appear after a big turn in policy have been missing from the press. The facts give the lie to the claim of the capitalist editors that the people favor Truman's getready-for-war policy.

American Gestapo

We have long been pointing out in The Militant that the Federal Bureau of Investigation, glorified as the "gang-busters" in the movies, on the radio and in the press, is steadily being transformed into an American political police no less sinister to the American people than was Hitler's Gestapo to the Germans.

The latest, and among the most brazen examples of this process is the April 13 announcement from Washington that the FBI "will make an undercover check to determine whether the United Mine Workers Union faithfully complies with the Supreme Court order ending the coal strike."

We recommend that the mine workers make a check of their own-not "under cover" but out in the open-to publicly investigate, expose and condemn every one of these Gestapo rats wherever he may be found.

Watch out, miners, for another dirty frameup like the one that sent coal-miner William Patterson to jail in 1945 as the first victim of the savage anti-labor Smith-Connally Act. to those misled white workers Stalinists fall victim to the false der their control, perilously close who oppose social equality be- conclusion that Stalinism reprecause of a supposed "sex prob- sents revolutionary working class mentary act of self preservation lem."

Although the author states gandists seek to identify Stal- and destroy Stalinist control and that the real problem is eco- inism and Communism and influence. nomic, she does not point to any thereby discredit genuine Compractical way out. The only munism. Therein lies the major REAL solution to the race prob- crime of Stalinism. lem lies in the elimination of In its wake Stalinism leaves a to our arsenal. the profit motive-and this, in wide trail of demoralization and

Congressmen At Work

this canteen carried out a no-

discrimination policy, the au-

thor had some very useful ex-

available to ALL people in ALL

One can agree with Margaret

Halsey that the elimination of

much-needed reform. But, we

must tear down the filthy, dis-

sections of the country.

houses.

Blueprint For World War III

Senator George W. Malone (R., Nevada) is what is known as a "freshman" in Congress, having been elected only last November. Perhaps that accounts for the freedom with which he spoke on March 25 about the plans for World War III.

He explained that "there are two great world powers in the world today . . . Russia and the United States." The other powers, England, France and China, "we are simply leading by the hand."

"Our own generation," Ma- of containment also includes lone continued, "has experienced dominance in Iran, Arabia, Italy, two devastating world wars. Our Syria, and to attain as much people were never properly in- control in Europe at key points formed of the approach of eith- as is essential for the purpose." er of them, or of the great prin-The Philippines will play a

ciple and policy upon which the strategic part as a base of operdecision to enter them was made. ations. The U.S. will "build har-This time they have a right to bors, military bases, air bases, know." fortifications, and many other

The decision to engage in a kinds of offensive and defensive Third World War has already works in all parts of the islands." been made: "The President of "The theory involved in this the United States has sounded containment program includes the warning note. He has said the purpose of establishing inthat the time has come for a show-down . . . our own Presi-- we here have only the right it is hoped, may be launched on dustrial mobilization." dent . . . has made this decision a light industrial-production

to accept or reject." program." Malone then outlined the "great principle and policy"

that is taking the U.S. into say the least. "The problem in- have reached "the conclusion World War III. It is called the volved in this entire program," that since some form of war is "containment" plan. The first Malone revealed, "is whether our apparently inevitable that now 140,000,000 people and their is the time to deliberately offer step is the "military-economic backing" proposed for Greece equipment, military forces, and Russia the alternative of fightand Turkey. "Korea will be the resources - which are not illi- ing, or confining her communnext country to be helped in mitable - can be scattered istic activities to their own the same way. It is understood around the globe to contain and sphere of influence as laid down China will follow Korea, and control 2,000,000,000 people - by your plan of occupation." that we intend to build a great which is roughly estimated to This means that Wall Street is naval base at Singapore, prob- be the populations who might serving an ultimatum on the ably also at other points along eventually follow totalitarian Kremlin either to grant major the China coast or the Asiatic leadership." concessions in opening up the

"The theory" on which this Soviet sphere to American dolwaterfront." The freshman Senator then scheme of world conquest is lars or to face the consequences spilled the news that "The plan based "is that Russia is weak of atomic war.

to disaster. It becomes an elepolitics. The capitalist propa. for these unions to repudiate

> Art Preis' pamphlet will help accomplish that end. We welcome this newest sharp weapon

- Art Sharon

∩ ► and still unorganized and poorly equipped and therefore is not able at the present to fight." Malone likened "these thoughts" to the "philosophy of the surgeon" but "in reverse." "The surgeon tries to operate while the patient is still strong. In this case we would operate while the patient is still weak."

> 'operation" on the Soviet Union takes place? "The thought seems to be" that the Soviet Union if left alone could recuperate from World War II "within 5 or 10 years, the military here says 5 years and the people abroad say 10 years." So the war would have to be launched before that time according to the "containment"

Malone outlined some of the immediate domestic consequences. "It will, and is already, recreating a war economy . . . It is inevitable that we will restore wartime controls with a war economy. . . It is inevitable that the armed services will buy enormous quantities of many dustries wherever we come to the materials and equipment. This aid of a country. Even Germany, means new United States in-

Malone also declared that "some people" confronting "the The blueprint is grandiose, to present situation with Russia"

How long before the military



the British General Scobie to launch warfare on the Greek people. The consequent blood-letting shocked everyone who had taken the promises about "Four Free-

doms" for good coin. On Jan. 15, 1945, the Stalinist heads of the ELAS (Greek National Liberation Army) signed a truce with the British. It was the opinion of The Militant at the time that the British would use this truce to consolidate their position and then proceed with the policy of blood and iron. On Jan. 20, 1945, we said: "Although the truce went into effect January 15, the British are still mopping up in the Athens area. When they have consolidated their positions, they will probably move against the area to which the ELAS retreated. The civil war provoked by the Allies is far from ended."

The British waited until they had the monarchy firmly in the saddle, had equipped and trained monarchist troops, and then with the announcement of the Truman "doctrine" proceeded according to plan.



SATURDAY, APRIL 19, 1947

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

Public Opinion and The Telephone Strike Editor:

The phone strike has been up- and bad air. setting a lot of preconceived notions about public opinion. For off now than he was several three days running the local press in New Jersey has been instead of up. A few day men screaming in front-page editor- got raises, but machine men and fals that the "Public Demands other miners got nothing.

Compliance" with the new slave labor law. But many people who previously accepted the newspaper as gospel are now beginning to form different opinions. In my shop the steel workers

solidly support the strike and are discussing how best to fight the strikebreaking laws being passed by anti-labor congressmen.

On the buses to and from work. discussion generally rewith more and more people showing an understanding of the strikebreaking political conspiracies between Big Business and the government.

The average theatre lobby is another open forum on the militancy of the phone girls. In the last week or so, wherever I have come into contact with workers, I have heard nothing but praise and support for the strikers.

The newspapers howl about the public demanding compliance with the law, but these wls are having no effect on growing consciousness of the workers in the state. They are forming their own public opinion. The proposed statewide sympathy strike is an example of this.

> Charles W. Newark, N. J.

Describes Conditions In Pennsylvania Mines Editor:

I was at the Miners' Celebration in California, Pa. I listened to the speakers of the United Mine Workers and others. They painted a glowing picture of what John L. Lewis has oners. done for the miners in getting them higher wages. It seemed to me that all they were doing was boosting the leadership of John L. Lewis, because all of them that spoke were on his payroll, and ten to one they were of the Lewis machine.

Before the mechanization of

ized. There are two reasons. Louis Kisner's Vote First, due to the noise, you are unable to hear the slate about In Los Angeles to fall. Second, due to the Editor:

Louis Kisner, Socialist Workmachines there is too much dust ers Party candidate for coun-Therefore, the miner is worse cilman in District 15, Los Angeles, polled a total of 728 votes years ago. Living conditions are in the April 1 elections. That much higher and wages are down was 4% of the total vote. In San Pedro, a working-class harbor city, we gathered votes in 62 of the 68 precincts! But, more inspiring than this,

Karl Miner California, Penn.

Trinidad Prisoners Send Thanks For Aid

Editor: We have received your postal skyists, orders and were very glad, as "Why?", "How come?" our funds are almost exhausted. One of our leading comrades,

'Mondezie," who is also a member of the Seamen & Watervolves around the phone strike, Front Trade Union, along with three others who are not members of our organization, is committed to the Supreme Court which is the highest in the land. We again thank you for mak-

ing known our struggle and we ask you on our behalf to convey our sincere appreciation to the comrades of the Boston and Bronx branches. Long live the unity of the working class!

Long live the Socialist Workers Party! Down with world imperialism!

Negro Welfare, Cultural & to the workers.

passivity. in Trinidad. The arrested strikers face prison bars. The March 1 Militant carried full details about this shocking case and published a letter from the Negro Welfare Cultural & Social Association appealing for funds to Editor: help in the defense of the pris-

Favors Compulsory Military Training Editor:

I don't see why you make such appointed, not elected officials a fuss about compulsory military training. Till now it was only the sons

representative of the labor-

Election officials brazenly miscandidates. Only five votes were cialist Workers Party candidate for Mayor; 16 for Albert Goldman, Workers Party candidate. in one precinct, which covered

a war-housing project, the Trotist Party candidate. skyist candidate polled more votes than any of the three capi- FRAUDULENT COUNT talist contestants. This fact has show that hundreds of votes bor leaders wish to put him in not gone unnoticed by the local cast for these candidates were city hall." press. Somewhat startled by such a strong showing by the Trotone reporter

davits from voters declaring they wrote in the names of either Bar-The obvious explanationthat most of the workers in that

votes were not counted. project are Negro, and in voting With these affidavits as eviwould certainly respond with dence the American Civil Liberenthusiasm to a revolutionary ties Union is preparing to go besocialist candidate with a fighting program against discrimin- fore the Board of Election Comation, for full equality — fell missioners, to demand a recount. on deaf ears. Still unclear as to They intend, not only to defend "how we did it," they remarked the rights of minority parties in their paper of the "landslide" and voters, but to use the case to vote for the SWP candidate. expose the undemocratic char-During the last period of our acter of Illinois election laws.

campaign, when the City Council voted in favor of outlawing Party, which ran a last-minute the Communist Party, with the write-in campaign in one ward, headlines full of the national is also protesting the count will red-baiting drive, we took to the make it difficult for the Elecstreets with a car decorated with tich Commissioners to ignore the militant slogans, and a loud protests of the ACLU and minor-

Amy Dowers stantly explaining our program Bartell for Mayor included three

ing in working class neighbor-

SWP Campaign Manager San Pedro, Calif.

The Real Power

given to Martin Kennelly, by union officials on the grounds that he is a "good employer," Bartell said, "Kennelly is a di-The real power, it points out, rector of Wilson and Co., th meat trust. If he is such a good for a living." The "evil men" who employer, why did, his packing house workers have to go on strike for a living wage? Why are the packing house workers

families and their periphery.

WORKERS' FORUM SWP Candidate For Mayor Of Chicago Hits Vote Fraud Against Minor Political Parties

By Hayden Perry

THE MILITAN'

Chicago, won an easy victory over his Republican rival, profit. Since coal barons can Russell Root. Kennelly polled 922,967 votes while Root received 647.285. A major factor in Kennelly's victory was the must be taken away from them: endorsement a large number of union leaders gave this They must be nationalized and

industry?

hating meat trust.

represented the vote for write-in recorded for Michael Bartell, So-Kennelly and the other meat profiteers cold-bloodedly cut off raise prices and increase proand 62 for Gil Green, Communfits? Kennelly and his fellow

These completely false totals

fraudulently ignored. Both the PROFITS ABOVE LIVES asks SWP and WP are securing affi-

tell or Goldman, and that their

The fact that the Republican

Comradely yours, speaker touring the city, con- ity parties. , The campaign for Michael

Social Association This method of publicity ser- radio broadcasts, presentation of No. 1 St. Paul Street ved, not only to acquaint thous- the SWP program on housing Port of Spain ands of workers with our pro- by Bartell at a public hearing Trindidad, B.W.I. gram, but was evidence of our conducted by the Emergency Editorial Note: This letter re- determination to continue the Housing Committee of the City fers to the brutal police attack war against capitalism in spite Council, distribution of thousupon unarmed and sleeping men of the efforts of the government ands of leaflets at major indusand women oil workers on strike to terrorize minority groups into trial plants and door-bell ring-

Cynthia Rogalin hoods In the last broadcast on election eve the Socialist Workers

Party candidate was interviewed by Helen DeCova, member of the UAW-CIO.

Commenting on the support I think the editorial in the April 12 issue called "The Real Power" is very good, and should be emphasized over and over. are the "vast masses who work rule society today are "only a tiny minority." In the United States this min-

ority is composed of 60 richest among the lowest paid in all

them. A workers government Martin Kennelly, Democratic candidate for Mayor of would value human life above pense of miners' lives, the mines operated under the control of

the mine workers. The Centralia "Some union officials have disaster would never have ocvery short memories. Have they curred if the miners union had forgotten thé meat famine so the power to enforce its recomsoon? Have they forgotten how mendations made a year ago ... Asked about the Socialist Workers Party, Bartell said, "The the nation's meat supply to Socialist Workers Party is composed of men and women dedicated to the fight for socialism. profiteers should have been put The majority of its members are in jail for this attempt to starve workers and active trade unionthe people out. Instead, some laists. Our party campaigns in the interests of the working people 365 days a year . . . We fight on

the issues of today, and for the Asked what could be done to socialist society of tomorrow." prevent industrial disasters like ENTHUSIASTIC RESPONSE

the Centralia mine explosion, The broadcasts received en-Bartell said. "The responsibility thusiastic response throughout for that tragedy must be laid One listener wrote: first of all at the door of the the area. "Dear Sirs: I turned on accidenmine owners. The published record proves conclusively, that tally and found someone telling they put profits before the lives the TRUTH about what the USA of the miners . . . Federal offi- is going to do in Greece. It was cials aided and abetted their so welcome to hear honesty after murderous neglect of safety all this deception and falsehood, measures . . . It is clear now that | that I want your speech if posif safety measures eat too deep- sible . . .

Another wrote, "I heard Mr. ly into profits, then neither Republican nor Democratic admin- Bartell's speech over the radio istrations will enforce them. A today and thought it was excelgovernment of labor, however, lent . . . the best thing that has would know how to enforce come out of this election so far."

Gains Recorded In New York SWP City-Wide Convention

NEW YORK, Apr. 12 — The annual two-day convention of the New York Local of the Socialist Workers Party convened last Saturday with the largest delegated assembly in the history of the local. Seven branches were repre-

sented by 38 regular delegates, 15 fraternal delegates was noted in the excellent reports from comrades working in a and 25 alternates.

the metropolitan area.

neighborhood branches.

FREEPORT CAMPAIGN

In the number of delegates and number of the important industries in this area. Reporters from the character of the delibera- these industries confidently pretions this gathering marked a dicted the rapid growth of our new stage in the development numbers and influence among the organized workers. of the Trotskyist movement in

Neighborhood Work

Activities in neighborhood and The steady progress of the orveteran organizations by the loganization in the past year was cal were pointed up by reports outlined by the City Organizer, from comrades active in them. George Clarke. Among the Delegates underscored the posachievements he cited was the sibilities for recruitment among recruitment of 203 members and the members of these organiza-

the establishment of two new tions and called for more intensified activity in this field of work.

The convention dinner and

"Icebreakers" Leading In Milwaukee Campaign

THE MILITANT ARM

Socialist competition among lize a few times for renewal work comrades of the Milwaukee in Hartford."

Branch has put steam behind Rena Breshi comments about their Militant Subscription Camtwo of the subs sent in from paign. "There is some lively competition going on among the Boston: "Belle Montague got the four teams to get subscriptions." new subs. She generally meets reports Fred Martin, Milwaukee's new people while visiting friends Militant Manager. "The Ice- and she talks up the paper, which breakers are leading the way has proved very successful." with 15 subs. The Red Stars and Go-Getters are close behind with

Militant boosters are "on the 11 subs per team. Comrade O'- job" in getting their friends to Connell is tops so far with 8 subs read the paper.

PAGE FIVE

Mrs. Adolph Dostal of Olivia, and Comrade Gregory is only one behind with 7 subs. Com- Minn., renewed her own sub and rade Burns is in third place with sent in an extra 50c to cover 6 subs . . . We have reached the the cost of sending sample cophalf-way mark in the 6-week sub ies of The Militant to six people. A. J. Pirc of Cleveland, Ohio, drive. If we keep up the present tempo, the comrades can surely asked us to send the paper to attain the goal of 100 subs by several friends.

S. A. Martin of Portland, Oregon, also asked us to send sample copies to six of his friends.

Mildred Johnson tells us about Freddie McGee of Portland, the method Minneapolis Branch Oregon, wrote: "This is to say uses in getting the addresses of that I am sending in the name subscribers who have moved. of a person who I think will be interested in this paper. I asked you to mail him a copy of the paper and let him see what it is like. And send the full information on how to go about securclosing 16 cards which give new ing it.'

Norton Sorsby of Los Angeles sent in a \$2.50 contribution with Comrade Johnson also tells us that Minneapolis is "beginning

> AKRON. - Socialist Youth Club meets Fridays, 7 p.m. Followed by refreshments, dancing. South Howard St., 2nd floor. CHICAGO. - Youth meeting Fridays at 8 p.m. Discussion on

LOS ANGELES. - Socialist Youth Club meets every Tuescellent beginning for April, day, 8 p.m., at SWP headquarters, 3161/2 W. Pico Blvd. Educationals after every meeting. Refreshments served.

> NEW YORK. - For information on the Trotskyist Youth Group seno name and address to 116 University Place, N. Y. 3.

Saturday Nite House Parties: call GR 5-8149 for information. For information about Queens

Youth Group, write M. Kevin,

We welcome into the Militant Agent ranks Comrade Angie trade union movement of the city Travis who is taking over the literature work in Lynn and Comrade S. Silk who will be in charge of literature for Calumet Branch.

Anne Chester of San Francisco Adams, 2nd floor. sent in 6 subscriptions. She writes: "I believe this is an exstarting off the first week with 6 subs. Three of them were

brought in by a friend from Hawaii.' The Chicago comrades mailed in 12 subs they obtained during

the week.

May Day."

addresses.

a subscription campaign in an-

to work on renewals."

"Now that our sub campaign is over, "writes L. Morris of Conecticut State Branch, "we

"We sent out a mailing to our entire list of subscribers using a special envelope for which the post office agreed to supply us with any forwarding address they were able to get. I am en-

his subscription.



pamphlet Socialism On Trial. Games and refreshments. 777 W.



Notebook of An Agitator-A Letter To Elizabeth

It doesn't pay to sell the human race short. Up till now they have successfully resisted every assault on their right to live on this planet and reproduce their kind. Their instinct to survive, and even to make life more bearable and better, is still running strong, reactionary people-haters and weak-willed pessimists to the contrary notwithstanding.

Take this morning's news, for example. American reaction, which has been exceptionally aggressive and truculent of late, has met a formidable challenge from a section of the working population of the country which had hitherto seemed to be the weakest and the easiest to push around. We refer of course to the 350,000 telephone workers who are standing so valiantly in the breach today; and, in particular, to the all-woman union of 12,000 telephone operators and their woman officers, who looked New Jersey Governor Driscoll in the eye and told him to go to hell and take his slave-labor law with him.

The brightest news we have read for many a day was the report in this morning's paper. The three women officers of this all-woman union of telephone operators had appeared in court to answer to the charge that they had openly challenged and violated the slave-labor law. This law was drafted by an agent of the telephone company and rushed through the New Jersey Legislature in the record time of two hours. The law was intended to break the telephone strike. But the corporation hirelings, with Driscoll at their head, overlooked a trifling detail. They overlooked the fact that women telephone operators do not want to be slaves; they think they have certain inalienable rights. And they have leaders at their head who dare to assert these rights and flinch not from the consequences, law or no law.

The best touch of all was the report in the paper that the Secretary-Treasurer of the union, Miss Elizabeth J. Ryan, arrested and taken into court together with her two colleagues, the President and Vice-President, had calmly notified the judge that he would have to hold up the proceedings for a while. She explained that she had some important personal business to take care of, to wit: she intended to get married the following Sunday, and she and her husband would need a little time after that, all to

themselves, without any intrusion from policemen and politicians.

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Negro People

Flares In Flint

By Henry Robinson

FLINT, Apr. 6 — Violence

flared up last week in the

South End Negro commu-

nity of this city. Arcnur

Chapman, a barber on Clif-

ford Street and Edward

Watkins of 2121 Blades Ave.

were beaten, while other

Negroes were threatened by rov-

ing carloads of Ku Klux ele-

This afternoon a meeting of

tenants in the area was held to

propose action on the sudden

flareup of terrorism. Among the

speakers were Isiah Beck, rep-

resenting the Elm Park Improve-

ment Association. Charles Eason

of the Urban League and Har-

rison Johnson. executive board

member of UAW Chevrolet Lo-

The speakers pointed out that

unless something is done im-

mediately, the Negroes will find

it necessary to defend them-

selves. Up to the present, the

police have done nothing despite

the fact that the license num-

ber of one car was obtained.

ments.

cal 659.

Bless your heart, Elizabeth. I am really sorry that I can't be present at your wedding; and I daresay millions of people who read your story in the papers feel the same way on this bright morning. It would be a real pleasure to see you step out of the picket line, with the consent and good-will of all your associates, to get married. It would be nice to throw rice and old shoes at you, and wish good luck and happiness, and health and prosperity, and freedom, to you and your husband and your children, when in due time they come along.

I am not acquainted with your husband but he must have plenty of merit to be able to win a girl like you, and plenty of manly courage, too, to step up and claim his bride on the very day that Governor Driscoll hailed you into court and tried to brand you as a criminal.

You make one feel good all over about the prospects of the world. You make one recollect once again what a wonderful country America is, and what fine people are in it; how brave and unselfish and light-hearted they are; and how easily they will be able to fix up everything that is wrong when they get mad enough, and realize that things need fixing. The country is O.K., Elizabeth, and the people are O.K. too. The only trouble is that the country has fallen into the control of a little handful of selfish rascals who think their profits and privileges are more important than human lives and human rights. They have got to be given their come-uppance. They have got to be told off and put in their places. And it is people the likes of you that are going to do it.

You and your worthy associates in the leadership of the union, and the brave girls on the picket-line whom you represent and symbolize, have set an example to all America. You are lifting up the hearts of the workers everywhere with new hope and new inspiration.

So good luck, and the top o' the mornin', and thank you kindly, Miss Elizabeth Ryan, soon to be Mrs. Pasquale Siciliano. You and your kind are the real America, the America of Tom Paine and Valley Forge, and the Declaration of Independence, and the Bill of Rights, and John Brown at Harper's Ferry, and Abraham Lincoln and the Batle of Gettysburg. You are the U.S.A. And that ain't hay.

J. P.C.

Harrison Johnson stated: "In view of the reactionary period we are now approaching, even though many Negroes are still employed, we will soon be faced with many more problems. When layoffs start the employers will

use their chief weapon of dividing the workers and setting whites against blacks."

Johnson proposed as an im-

War I.

These outbursts of violence



Strike Of 100,000 Protests. Jailing Of Trotskyist In India

New Jersey Cops Aid Strikebreakers **Violence** Against

An arrow points to the feet of picket Frances Webber as she gets trampled by strikebreakers escorted by police in Newark, N. J. The cops got the green light from Governor Dris-Federated Pictures coll's new slave-labor bill.

Five Labor Candidates Elected In So. St. Paul

SOUTH ST. PAUL, Minn., Apr. 14 - Delegates from District No. 2 CIO Packinghouse Workers meeting in Eau the Prime Minister who made a Claire, Wisconsin, March 22-23 unanimously adopted a res- special appeal over the radio,

olution for an independent Third Ward, and also William political organization, devot-Cole, another labor - endorsed ed to the interests of all candidate. Enthusiastic over the working people. results of their first effort in in-Voicing complete disgust and dependent political action, mem-

dissatisfaction over the attempt bers of organized labor in this of Big Business to legislate or- area intend to immediately or-

ganized labor out of all its gains, ganize to elect a labor mayor shop workers (Comrade Tony is numerous delegates went on rec-ord to dump the political repreof labor to office in the next engineering workers.

By V. Karalasingham

COLOMBO, Ceylon, Apr. 8-While Bombay and Calcutta and other cities in India are in the throes of communal clashes, the class struggle in Madras reached a new dramatic height today when over 100,000 workers downed tools in protest against the Congress Government's arrest and detention of Comrade Antonypillai, Trotskyist President of the Madras Labor Union. Comrade Antonypillai, who is a member of 9-

the Central Committee of and cry in the Congress press. The Central committee of The Conservative "Hindu" called the BLPI, is also a member for special legislation to illegof the General Council of the alize strikes of this nature. All-India Trade Union Con- There was not a single bourgegress. ois paper in Madras that did not

Panic-stricken by the magnif- denounce the strike. This howlicent unity of 14,000 Bucking- ing found a feeble echo across ham and Carnatic Textile Mill the Palk Strait, in Ceylon where workers who are on strike since the imperialist Times of Ceylon March 11, and anxious to ap- traced the source of all trouble pease the European owners of to "the export of Ceylonese Bolthe mills and to demonstrate to sheviks to India!" the imperialists the willingness Despite the unmistakable mass

of Congress to defend imperialist protest of a one-day general interests, the Congress Ministry strike, the Congress Ministry has sought to break the strike by ar- so far not yet released Comrade resting the President of the Un- Antonypillai. The strike of the ion. Comrade Antonypillai. On March 28 Comrade Antony- The Madras Provincial Commitpillai was arrested because he tee of the All-India Trade Unhad, in the words of the gov- ion Congress has given notice to ernment communique, "foment- the government that if Comrade ed an illegal strike, challenged Antonypillai is not released, the authority of the government steps would be taken to organand offended against the law re- ize a general strike in the whole quiring the immediate return to of the Madras presidency. This work of the strikers." INSULT TO INJURY

The Madras Minister, Congressman Ramasami Reddiar, followed this up with an appeal **Detroit Unions To** to the strikers to return to work. This was adding insult to injury. The infuriated strikers immediately set out to galvanize the other unions in the city to protest against the arrest of their strike leader. The Stalinists 800 UAW stewards and local tried to sabotage this move by playing for time but were caught union officers gathered here. in the whirlwind of mass indigtoday to organize a great nation. Unwillingly they were mass demonstration on April swept into this massive strike 26 in Detroit's historic Cadillac action.

Square in protest against the Despite the frantic appeals of anti-labor drive. the Congress bosses, including UAW Local 15 President, to shut Detroit's auto plants down at 2 well over a lakh of workers (100,p.m. on the day of the rally was 000) joined in the protest strike. unanimously accepted. Speaker The protest strike embraced the after speaker rose to express the entire City Transport services. burning need to turn labor's trams, buses, trains, haulage defensive role into a militant ofworkers in the harbor, tannery fensive against the profiteering workers, municipal and shop corporations. employes, MSM Railway Work-

Unanimous and fervent support was given to a motion calling for an end to the factional vrangling in the UAW

a giant united effort to set the

textile workers still continues.

will bring the government to its «

DETROIT, Apr. 12-Over

A motion by John Anderson,

knees.



The Negro Struggle -

is a clear indication that the Negro people support the phone strike even though the number of Negroes employed in the industry nationally is very small.

Today the employers can no longer look to the colored worker as a means to weaken the unions as they did during the great steel strike after the first would war At that time most white workers had not yet learned the importance of recruiting Negroes into the unions. This neglect made it easier for the steel trust to break the strike by importing thousands of backward and uninformed Negroes as scabs. This and similar tragic experiences began to open the eyes of many workers to the crucial need for unity of all workers against their common exploiters. That was partly why a different story can be told about the great labor struggles of the 30's and 40's. When production revived after the worst depression years, Negroes held jobs in many factories and mills as unskilled workers and were therefore directly in the path of the big CIO organizational drives. The unions of-

The telephone strike provides another example workers responded magnificently in the big strike struggles. Even white workers fresh from of the militant role played by Negroes in the labor movement. At the big Kearney, N. J., the South were able to learn that the Negroes were indispensable allies in the fight against plant of Western Electric, the AT&T subsidiary, 40% of the the corporations.

The new status of the Negroes in the unions paid off splendidly for all the workers. The fight between the United Auto Workers and Ford, the great open-shopper, was a good example. The popular saying was that Ford could never be organized, and that anyhow it would be out of the question for the union to get the Negro workers' support against Ford. After all. Ford was among the first capitalists to hire Negroes, and he went to great pains to cultivate outstanding professional Negroes as his stooges in colored communities. But when the chips were down, the overwhelming majority of Ford's Negro workers lined up with the union and cinched its victory over Ford. That proved the employers could no longer use Negroes as strikebreakers, and they have never since that time seriously tried to do so. By their very position in society Negroes have more to gain and less to lose than other workers; that is why they instinctively rally to the support of such struggles as the phone strike and show the strongest kind of solidarity with their white brothers and sisters. It behooves the white workers to remember this and to join, in self-interest, in wiping out all discriminatory practices which still bar Negroes from their fered them membership this time, and the Negro rightful place in the phone and other industries.

ing the following statement: "The Russians know

This raises a few questions. Does Freda Kirch-

wey read her own magazine? Does she believe

what it regularly reports about the growing mili-

tarization of the government; about the huge

expenditures for the military forces; about the

ever faster production of atomic bombs and

other weapons of destruction; about the drive

for universal conscription of the youth? Or does

she use The Nation the way the Collyers used

the press - to make bigger and better junk-

I don't know why Freda Kirchwey thinks the

government is spending all these billions of dol-

lars for war preparations. But I contend her

statement is as far out of this world as the

And a lot more dangerous. After all, the Coll-

yers never really bothered anyone and never hurt

anyone but themselves. Cimillo may have of-

fended his employers' notions about the sacrea-

ness of private property, but the only effect he

had on most other people was a cheering one.

we do not intend to fight them with arms . . .

mediate step the formation of a city-wide protest and investigating committee of all Negro organizations, which should seek the support of the Flint unions.

This sudden flare of violence is an indication of what lies in store for the workers, especially the Negroes, when the economic depression comes. Unless precautionary measures are taken now. the workers will be confronted with riots, wholesale murder and violence against Negroes on a nation-wide scale, even greater than was witnessed after World

against Negroes, although at sentatives of Big Business monpresent on a small scale, should opolies and elect people who will not be taken lightly. Behind all support labor and the working this are the forces of reaction farmers and pass legislation for striving to crush the labor movement and to destroy the gains CANDIDATES FROM RANKS made by the workers, both white and Negro.

6.000 Akron **Workers Lead New Strike Wave By Milton Genecin**

the ranks, in the April 1 municipal elections. They were successful in electing: Mike Verderosa, from Local 167; Joe Moser, from Local 160, Stockhandlers; and Donald L. Swanson, member of the AFL. These can-AKRON. Apr. 12 - 6,000 didates replaced company foreworkers from five widely se- men who had held these alderparated industries were on manic positions for the last sev-

their benefit.

strike here today with sev- eral years. Following the same procedure eral thousand additional workin the elections for members of ers in other Akron industries preparing to decide shortly the School Board, local unions attack of the state governelected Matt Sames, Vice-Presiwhether or not they would join dent of Local 167, Swift Local. the picket lines. This is the widest strike movement locally in for a four-year term in the more than a year and a half.

The largest group affected is **Aid Indo-Chinese** the Seiberling Rubber Local 15, which is conducting its first **Through Boycott** strike in 25 years. 2,000 workers left their jobs in this plant when the corporation refused to meet union demands for a just settlement of inequalities.

The next largest group consists of 1.300 telephone workers who closed down the local exchange last Monday and have resolution to organize a boymaintained a picket line ever since. The telephone workers have resisted all efforts by the loading them. corporation to get them to settle independently of their national

Other strikers include clay nected with the loading and un- pany. product workers, plumbers, foun- loading of French ships. Among PRESS PROSTITUTION dry workers and insurance sales- them are the Singapore Dockers men. Issues range from demands Union, the Singapore Seamens for higher wages to re-instate- Union, the Charcoal Workers Union, the Rice Transport Work-

Workers who are considering ers Union and the Lightermens State" and the "impartiality" of phone workers face heavy fines lish state ownership under workstrike action include city em- Union. ployes, boilermakers, bus main-

This magnificent solidarity tenance workers and chemical with the Indo-Chinese struggle of claiming that the "law actu- is thus shown to be a masquer- and Democrats would shake interview. workers. The issues here are for freedom sets an example to ally is a great advance in behalf ade for strikebreaking. The their boots at such a proposal. principally around the wage the workers of the West. It is of public utility workers!" A "authority of the state" means But labor can make its voice question.

The increasing number of of all countries to boycott the eat his own vomit. strikes and the broadening field sending of goods to the imperialthey take in indicate that many ists attempting to drown in workers are tired of corporation blood the fight for independence stalling and resistance and are on the part of the colonial utilizing the strike weapon. peoples.

elections.

To the workers in South St. Paul as well as all the packing-To carry out the intent of the

resolution, local unions affiliated with the UPWA-CIO in the South St. Paul area endorsed tecting themselves politically as masses. and ran candidates directly from well as economically.

IMPERIALISTS HOWL

The protest strike raised a hue illac Square on April 26.

the General Strike, was quite on their heels. Active support was unanimousreminiscent of the August 1942 house workers in District No. 2, days. Armed police at every ten ly voted for the striking telethe slogan "Build a Labor Party yards, Gurkha troops and mo- phone workers. A vote of soli-Now" takes on a new signific- torcycles with machine guns, darity was given to the miners ance. They are sure that they armed trolleys, patrolling rail- and the unanimous recommendare on the right road to pro- way lines. This was the Con- ation was made to invite a repgress answer to a protest of the resentative of the Centralia min ers to speak at the rally in Cad

Monday, March 31; the day of labor-baiters and profiteers back

State Ownership Of Utilities . **Urged For N. J. Constitution**

By Alan Kohlman NEWARK, N. J. Apr. 15

SWP CANDIDATES for the New Jersey The drastic strikebreaking **Constitutional Convention** from Essex County ment on the phone workers William E. Bohannon in New Jersey gives pointed George Breitman emphasis to the Socialist Alan Kohlmon Workers Party's demand for Constitutional Revision recognizing labor's unconditional

Militant.) We now raise a second demand him to amend the Constitution: State expropriation of all public utilities, and their operation by the agement continues to function -

right to strike. (See last week's

LONDON, Apr. 1 - Eight state under workers control. by Gov. Driscoll's savage new the Company. And all profits laws. cott of all French ships with strikebreaking law, which was will continue to go to the Comrespect to loading and un- written in part by his personal pany.

The kept press, like the Eve- that the police will break up ning News and the Star Ledger, picket lines, as Attorney General is howling about "public inter- Van Riper has ordered them to ests," the "authority of the do. State "seizure" means that the laws. The editorial hacks and jail sentences.

by this kind of editorial-prosti- the fact that this is a battle (This is the third in a series tution to the corporations. Every between the working class "pub- of articles on issues facing the worker knows that state "seiz- lic," who constitute a majority New Jersey Constitutional Conure" consisted of sending Labor of the population, versus one of vention to be elected in June.)

the most bloated profiteering monopolies of the handful of Sixty Families.

Private monopolies like AT&T. the huge Public Service trust, the railroads and other utilities. operate under state franchise and wring millions of dollars profit from the wage labor of their workers. Republican and

Democratic politicians show Commissioner Harper down to themselves time and again to be the office of N. J. Bell, where the political agents of these big they only dusted off a chair for trusts.

USES THE STATE Meanwhile Bell's actual man-

Thus Big Business utilizes the and continues to seek $10\frac{1}{2}$ mil-State government to maintain The importance of this matter lion dollars in rate increases! its stranglehold on public utilimet on Jan. 30 and passed a is sharpened by the week's de- Users of dial phones will get ties and beat the workers in the velopments in the phone strike: their bills payable as usual to head with brutal anti-labor

This stranglehold must be broken. The fight against encounsel Russell E. Watson, while 'So all that state "seizure" trenched monopolies and their

All these eight unions are he was serving as a director of means is re-inforcement of the vise-like grip on state governeither directly or indirectly con- the N. J. Bell Telephone Com- arrogant AT&T and Bell trust in ment is a part of labor's sight. its attempt to destroy the phone It must now be carried into the unions. State "seizure" means Constitutional Convention.

The Convention has the legal right to end state franchises to private monopolies, to expropriate these parasites, and to estabers' control.

even go to the fantastic lengths The "impartiality" of the state A convention of Republicans. the duty of the working class man who can write that could a policeman's club to smash the heard — by supporting this prounions. All talk of "public inter- posal and the SWP candidates The workers are not deceived est" is a smokescreen to conceal for delegates to the Convention.

any one can commit today. "A Little Too Radical"

wildest fancies of Langley Collyer.

U. S. State Department officials were recently preparing a package of literature for Nepal, India, including copies of the U.S. Constitution and the Declaration of Independence, Drew Pearson reports. Suddenly one official, Mr. Chester Chartrand, in charge of cultural relations for Southeast Asia, objected: "I'm afraid the Declaration of Independence is a little too radical for people over there. We'll send the Constitution, but not the Declaration of Independence." And that's what happened.

A Case Of Political Escapism

piles?

The Negro Worker's New Status

By Larry Carter

- By George Breitman -

The desire to escape from the ugly realities of life is very strong under the capitalist system, and naturally grows stronger as this sys-

tem, already in its death agonies, moves toward destruction through atomic warfare. This accounts in part for the great public interest in two recent cases involving escapism in the metropolitan area.

Interest in the pathetic Langley Collyer case was great enough last week for most of the New York press to take

phone and mine strike headlines off the front page when Collyer's body was finally found under a pile of rubbish in the fantastic Harlem mansion where he and his blind brother had tried to build a little world of their own.

And millions of people read with sympathy and a touch of envy the saga of the Bronx bus driver, William Cimillo, who suddenly decided one day, after 16 years on the job, that he was sick of the routine and, on an impulse, started south and kept whizzing past people waiting for a bus until he reached Florida.

Some people have complained that the Collyers were crazy and should have been committed to an insane asylum. The bus company Cimillo worked for has brought charges of grand larceny against him. It's too late to do anything one way or the other about the Collyers now, and from the hero's reception Cimillo got on his return it appears that public pressure may quash the charge against him.

But if people want to get worked up about a really dangerous case involving escapism, I have one for the record which has got practically no publicity at all.

The week after Truman made his March 12 speech setting forth the government's goal of world subjugation, Freda Kirchwey, the editor of the liberal weekly, The Nation, wrote an article criticizing the Truman doctrine and contain-

ment of fired union officials.

While Freda Kirchwey, insofar as she has any effect in influencing people, is misleading them organization. and disarming them in the struggle against war. And that is about the greatest disservice

Of French Ships trade unions in Singapore