

Workers of the World, Unite!

THE MILITANT

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# What a Workers and **Farmers Government Would Do About Prices**

#### An Editorial

What would a government genuinely representative of the workers and dirt farmers-a Workers and Farmers Government put into power by an independent working class partydo to ensure low prices and plenty?

Such a government would attack high prices and scarcity at their source-monopoly price-fixing, limitation of production, extortionate profits.

I. It would institute rigid price regulation and equitable rationing of scarce commodities, controlled and enforced by the consumers themselves through mass committees of the unions, consumers and farmers organizations.

2. It would crack down on all speculators and hoarders: impose severe penalties on those who withhold food and other essentials to gamble on scarcity and high prices. The mass consumers committees would ferret out violators of laws against speculation and hoarding and confiscate all hidden food and other supplies.

3. Books and records of all corporations would be opened for inspection by the workers to uncover evidence, of profiteer. ing, price-fixing, curtailment of production, mismanagement fraudulent practices, etc.

4. All basic industries, starting with the food processing industries, would be taken over and nationalized by the government-that is, expropriated. Private ownership and profit would be eliminated. The nationalized industries would be operated under the control of the workers themselves.

5. National planned production, based on the needs of the people, would replace the present wasteful and chaotic system of production for personal gain. All new processes and inventions for expanding production would be utilized. Freed from the private monopoly stranglehold, production would constantly increase.

Cost of production for the small farmers would be sharply reduced through cheap credit, cancellation of mortgages, lowpriced fertilizer, seed, machinery and manufactured goods, cheap freight rates, etc. Profiteering middle-men and speculators would be eliminated through cooperative marketing and distribution. Big corporation farms, however, would be expropriated and operated under control of the farm workers.

7. Minimum wages sufficient to maintain high standards of decency, comfort and health, would be established by law. Real wages would be protected by a cost-of-living bonus system to compensate for any rise in living costs.

eliminated. Diversion of labor and resources for the destructive purposes of imperialist war would be ended. All government funds would be utilized for peaceful and beneficial social purposes. Necessary sixes would be levied strictly on the ability-



The Giant-Killer



# **To Enforce Slave Law**

The new National Labor Re- Czar" Denham, NLRB General them. Moreover, through the NLRB Federal Reserve Board reports.

# Profits, Not Wage Costs, Labor Must Begin Drive Boost Prices To Protect Real Wages

#### **Federal Reserve Study Backs Labor's Charges**

Capitalist newspapers this week almost completely suppressed the most sensational prices that has come from Washington in months.

This was the report in the able high cost of living. + Since 1943 union leaders have bulletin, issued Sept. 23, conlarly higher wages. The Federal Reserve bulletin re-

veals that the profits of manufacillusion The chief political spokesmen for turing and mercantile concerns Big Business are fully aware that have gone up faster than their the major immediate threat to big costs. It gives the lie direct to the corporation profiteers and pricecorporation propaganda that presgougers lies in a national wage ent high prices are a result of higher wages and other production a preventive campaign against wage cscalator wage clause). costs. increases.

A study of 2,600 leading compan-This campaign was signaled by ies, states the Federal Reserve bul-Republican Senator Tuft last week letin, discloses that profit margins in his "six-point" program—the "increased significantly" for most first and main point being the corporations in 1946, the very year "stabilization" of wages-that is, a when labor won its highest wage wage freeze. boosts

The CIO News last week reflected "During 1946 most businesses exthe growing desperation of the workperienced not only a larger dollar ers. "If the trend continues at the volume of operations but also a present rate much longer," writes greater volume of profits for each the CIO paper, "American workers dollar of business transacted," the wil find themselves in about the same economic position they were

#### **By Art Preis**

A major union drive on the wage front has become imperative. Only such action can prevent the dizzy rise in prices from slashing living standards to hunger levels.

Substantial wage boosts, protected by cost-ofand important news about high living bonuses, providing automatic increases for every further rise in living costs, are the only immediate and realistic defense against the intoler-

latest Federal Reserve Board No other course re- pleaded repeatedly for a "roll-back" mains open to labor. All of prices—yet prices shoot higher appeals to the profiteers firming the charges of organized appeals to the profiteers protection the workers have gained labor that high prices are the re- to "restrain" themselves is through their struggles for highsult of profiteering and not of in- are so much wasted er wages Now it is apparent that flat wage creased production costs, particu- breath. Any expectation increases alone do not meet the

that the capitalist government in- threat of constantly rising prices. tends to "roll back" prices is an Every wage increase has soon been wiped out by further price increases. There would have been a different story to tell, however, if during the past struggle for higher wages the workers had ulso fought for a costof-living bonus (sometimes called

drive. That is why they have opened the sliding scale of wages or the From June, 1946, to Sept. 22, 1947.

the cost of living has soared not less than 35%. Under a cost-of-living bonus system, workers today wou be getting 35% more wages in relation to prices. And every further price rise would bring a correspond

ing wage increase. Under such a cost-of-living bonus clause, the Sinclair Oil Workers, affiliated with the CIO Oil Workers International Union, secured a total of 28 cents an hour in wage in-

to-pay principle.

We know the present government of, by and for Big Business will not take any of these necessary measures to halt price inflation and safeguard living standards. It is a class government of the rich owners, whom the Democratic and Republican parties serve.

These are measures that only a government of the workers and farmers themselves will put into effect and thereby ensure plenty and security.

# **RUBBER UNIONISTS** TO SPURN NRLB

#### By Joseph Andrews

BOSTON, Sept. 20 - Five hundred delegates to the 12th annual convention of the CIO United Rubber Workers this week decisively repudiated President L. S. Buckmaster's proposal that the union qualify to use the NLRB under the Taft-Hartley Slave Labor Law.

Thus, the first convention of an important CIO union since the passage of the law Goodrich Local 5, moved to strike tected printing trades workers for Further enforcement of the Taft- Motors Corp., SKF Industries, Marhas provided a militant lead out the phrase "abide by the law

for the coming conventions of and our way of life." the United Electrical Workers, Speaking on the amendment, Gel-Auto Workers and others ler said, "I do not know whether the resolutions committee meant to which will be held this year. limit or qualify democratic rights In his keynote speech opening or to restrict the enjoyment of libthe convention, Buckmaster pleaded erty to those who abide by the law with the delegates to reverse the and our way of life. stand taken by the International

"As for me, as long as the Taft-Executive Board to boycott the Hartley Law remains on the book, NLRB. He wanted the URWA to will not be a law abiding citizen." go on record, prior to the CIO convention which will take place next month in Boston, to make use of and live with the Taft-Hartley Act.

"As for our way of life," Geller The proposal aroused great oppocontinued, "that much abused sition in the convention. Conscious phrase is subject to many interpreof this, Buckmaster maneuvered to stall the report of the resolutions life being prepared for us by Sencommittee, which he controlled, so ator Taft . . . I do not subscribe that this key point would come to it and never will." up very late in the convention, when

The resolutions committee, being many delegates would have left and full discussion would be impossible. provoked into a discussion of this Oakland, Chicago and other union candidate. But the issue was catapulted onto point, revealed its thinking on the the floor by a discussion over a Taft-Hartley Act, when the chairproposed amendment to a resolu-man said, "We are law-abiding citi-to emerge that may fix a new and Cleveland, where CIO Political Ac-which can quickly be converted all national labor party will have been establish a new party based on Lewis for President in 1948; tion dealing with the democratic zens and must live under the laws progressive national political pat- tion Committee clubs in two work- over the country into a highly-ef- established. rights of all minority groups. The of the land. Our representatives in tern. resolutions committee recommended Congress are the chosen spokesmen a resolution which advocated com- for the vast majority of the people, has already been scored in Dayton cil. The 22nd Ward PAC group is labor's own program. plete equality for all groups re- and we must abide by the laws they

gardless of race, creed, religion or pass." political affiliation "who abide by the law and our way of life." AMENDMENT PROPOSED

Delegate Jules Geller of Akron

ations Board, set up under the Counsel, an employer can compel a and courts the machinery exists to ations board, set up under the union to sign a contract, refusal to really put teeth into the Act. Labor ast week bared its teeth in in the details of the set of ast week bared its teeth in in "good faith." Thus, the Act may must conduct a struggle on the concerns were not matched by proarnest against organized labor. be used to force unions to sign non- economic and political field to smash

It began, action to enforce closed shop contracts. It began action to enforce the Taft-Hartley Act in two ion is charged with refusing to work Ball-Bearing Trust cases that foreshadow a whole on a building where the floor, wall series of blows against the and coverings were being installed Displays Contempt by non-union employes of an openinions.

The board issued complaints, on shop specialty store.

he appeal of employers, against two This NLRB charge has been filed AFL locals — International Typo- before a Federal District Court, on price-fixing arouses no more than 10%. graphical Union Local 12 in Balti- which has already ordered the union concern among the giant corporanore and United Brotherhood of to show cause why an injunction tions than a mosquito's buzzing standing example of how the mon-Carpenters Local 74 in Chattanooga. should not be issued against it for among a herd of crocodiles. The Baltimore union was charged conducting a "secondary boycott." with refusing to bargain with a Both cases illustrate how the filed suit against the ball-bearing roup of 22 employers because it Taft-Hartley Act and the agency trust, charging them with conspirailed to negotiate a contract and established under it will be used to ary to fix prices, they did not even simply posted the ITU's standard break down union security and to bother to contest the suit. It was the International Association of conditions under which the ITU force workers to work under open cheaper to pay the \$5,000 chicken- Machinists, last week charged that

nembers will work. shop conditions. This policy was adopted by the re- They also demonstrate the diffi- attorney to argue about their law- 8.6 cents on the dollar to offset a cent ITU convention in an attempt culty facing the unions in attempting breaking. o circumvent the provisions of the to evade various provisions of the

shop contracts such as have pro- clauses or elimination of contracts. to the government were General lar decades.

According to the interpretation of is so full of anti-union provisions Co., Federal Bearings Co., and Nor- creased production cost. There's the Taft-Hartley Act by "Labor no union can hope to legally evade ma-Hoffman Bearings Corp.

"In other words," it added, "the back in 1939. That is, they will un-

rose more than costs.

#### 17 BILLIONS IN 1947

Corporate profits this year are running at a rate of about \$17 billion annually compared to \$12 bil-For Government Suit lion last year. Prices are 25% The Justice Department's "war" higher. Wages have gone up less

The steel industry offers an outopolies have used the pretext of When Attorney General Clark higher costs, especially wages, to boost prices sky-high and rake in

feed fine than detail a corporation the steel industry lifted its prices Among the companies who flipped the cost of steel production by only Taft-Hartley Act which bar closed act either through special contract the \$5,000 maximum penalty over eight-tenths of a cent on the dol-

portionate increases in their total adds the CIO News, "working men The cost-of-living bonus adjusted unit cests." Prices-and profits- and women, through their unions, to living costs does not supplant.

ing.'

bigger profits.

Harvey W. Brown, president of coal miners' raise that increased

The price increase for steel was

where your money goes.



it in entirety.

of major significance are shap- ceived in any similar primary. land, are running their own in- He is running in the Fourth Ward, ward on the political field by Amertations. If you mean the way of dependent labor candidates in previously a Democratic stronghold, ican labor.

> centers. A trend of independent The newest swing toward inde- litical action. They already have velops into a broad movement, a labor political action is beginning

The amendment, proposed by large majority to concur in Gel- the November elections. Charles Local 45 at Fisher Body. (Continued on Page 2)

Labor political developments dent, got the highest vote ever re- | are straws in the wind. They re- of the discredited Democratic Party, flect the growing desire among in the Congressional race in the Youngstown steelworkers are workers everywhere to break away Allentown, Pa., area, proved a fiasco. has succeeded in destroying many quests the 11th International Con-of labor's gains of the past 150 quests the 11th International Coning up in Ohio. CIO Political campaigning to elect their own can- from the old campaigning to elect their own can-Labor did not grow by abiding by reactionary union busting laws, but by vigorously fighting against them. Ing up in Onio. CTO Political campaigning to elect their own can-didate to City Council, John Aus-nehmer, a leading member of CTO the Big Business parties, Demo-the Big Business parties, Demoby vigorously fighting against them. groups in three key cities, Day- United Steel Workers Local 1330 at cratic and Republican. They point two old parties will labor make cans intend to submit legislation in a conference in the state of Michton, Youngstown and Cleve- Carnegie - Illinois' big Ohio Works. the way toward a great march for- real political strides.

PAC will grow in strength and in-

The Local 1330 Political Action Here is the answer to the political fluence. It will become a powerful against the labor movement gives local elections against both Committee has launched a vigorous dilemma of the American workers attractive force for all unionists, warning that while labor is a tre-Democrats and Republicans. campaign that is arousing wide- who are caught between the two including members of the AFL, and mendous power economically it is Similar campaigns have been con- spread enthusiasm for Ausnehmer boss parties. They do not have to establish the possibility for broad politically helpless before the comducted during the past months in as an avowed independent labor create completely new machinery united labor political action. Once bined attack of the two-party sysfor genuine independent labor po- the trend reflected in Ohio de- tem of Big Business, and

pendent labor candidates is in a developed organization in PAC, solid basis for the formation of a of labor stems from its failure to such as Philip Murray or John L.

An inspiring preliminary victory prominent unionists for City Coun- electing labor's own candidates on labor party, especially the top union the union movement, and

where two PAC-sponsored candi- campaigning for Robert Sivert, of Such a porcey, in fact, will re- not practical now. The proof to the in the state of Michigan, where the the cause of the Labor Party; and dates were nominated in the August the International Association of vitalize PAC and inspire a tre- contrary is the developments in UAW-CIO has the bulk of its mem- Be it further resolved: That copies This moss-back conservative stand primary for City Commission and Machinists, and the 32nd Ward mendous response from the workers Ohio and elsewhere which indicate bership, close to half a million of this resolution be sent to all was overwhelmingly repudiated by will run as independents against PAC is backing John DeVito, Presi- and their allies among oppressed the great possibility of utilizing workers, a labor party can be es- locals of the UAW-CIO, the top ofthe convention which voted by a a Democrat and a Republican in dent of CIO United Auto Workers racial minorities, the lower middle PAC as a powerful lever of real tablished, and class and poor farmers. The latest independent labor politics leading

E. Sims, Dayton CIO Council Presi- These PAC campaigns in Ohio attempt of PAC to sell a candidate toward a labor party.

1947. Other CIO unions received gains of from 8 to 15 cents in the If price rises do not halt quickly, same period.

will demand wage increases. They the basic wage scale, but supplewill have to do so if they are to ments it. It protects the real maintain a decent standard of liv- wages during a period of price in-

But there is no sign that prices With the profiteers and speculawil soon reverse their present trend. tors sending prices on an unre-The corporations are on their wild- strained rampage, labor has no clause.

flation.

est spree in history. Neither Dem- choice but to launch a militant ocrats nor Republicans offer the drive for basic wage increases proslightest prospect of relief from high tected by 3 cost-of-living bonus

## **Murray or Lewis for** President in 1948, **Auto Local Urges**

FLINT, Mich., Sept. 22 - Chevrolet Local 659 of the UAW-CIO at its last membership meeting voted enthusiastic-Hartley Act will demonstrate that it lin-Rockwell Corp., Fafnir Bearing thus ten times as great as the in- ally for a resolution advocating the establishment of a national Labor Party so that the workers "may run a labor leader such

as Philip Murray or John L. Lewis for President in 1948." The text of the resolution, sive union in the country, can and which will be presented to the should set the course for independcoming national convention of ent workers political action by pushthe UAW in November, reads ing for the formation of a National

Labor Party;

as follows: Whereas: The Taft-Hartley Bill It is precisely along this line that than the Taft-Hartley Bill, and

Whereas: This all out offensive

labor and its failure to run candiing class wards are sponsoring fective apparatus for running and Those who oppose the idea of a dates for office from the ranks of

officials, usualy argue that it is Whereas: It is most apparent that

Whereas: The UAW-CIO is the Committee of the 11th annual con-

Therefore be it resolved: That the 81st Congress far more drastic | igan within 90 days for the purpose of organizing a Labor Party in Michigan: Be it further resolved: That the newly elected officers do everything

in their power to help build Labor Parties in all the states of this country with the objective of establishing a National Labor Party Whereas: The political weakness so that we may run a labor leader

> Publicity Department, Educational Department and the press of the UAW be used to educate and further ficers of the UAW, the Resolutions

largest, most militant and progres- vention.

Be it further resolved: That the

#### PAGE TWO

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# Lewis-His Strength and His Weakness

#### By Art Preis

The recent AFL Executive Council meeting revealed again the worst and the best among the top American trade union leaders. During a sharp dispute over compliance

with the Taft-Hartlev Act in the matter of filing affidavits of non-communist affiliation, John L. Lewis once more showed how far he stands above the runof-the-mine union leaders.

All the other leading AFL officials were ready to capitulate and sign affidavits. The United Mine Workers President took a firm principled stand against submitting in the slightest degree to the infamous Slave Labor

Act. He thereby temporarily blocked an AFL surrender on the disputed issue. But it is expected to provide the major debate before the coming AFL convention in San Francisco. Lewis berated his colleagues as cowards and weaklings. He correctly contended that organized labor cannot both submit to the Slave Labor Law and fight it. Each such act of submission, he pointed out,

altogether helpless. He proposed instead a vigorous and unrelenting struggle against the Taft-Hartley Act in all its parts and as a whole.

Militant union men and women, regardless of affiliation, will applaud Lewis' stand. As against the vacillating and cringing attitude of other union leaders, they will uphold the bold and aggressive position voiced by Lewis. Lewis fights, he has guts; and that's the least the American workers should expect from those who head their unions.

But that is only the beginning of the matter. Lewis said a great deal at the AFL Executive Council meeting-but he did not say enough; or rather, he stopped short of the most important thing of all. He said American labor must fight—but he did not say HOW it must fight. He offered nothing specific by way of a program. For on the arena of political action-where the issue of the Taft-Hartley Act will be finally and conclusively decided-Lewis differs in no fundamental respect from the very union leaders he so justifiably castigated.

Let us imagine Lewis speaking before the AFL delegates at the San Francisco convention. He scathingly rips to pieces the timorous arguments of Green, Tobin and the other snivelling counsellors of retreat. With his well-known powers of oratory, Lewis arouses the delegates to fighting enthusiasm for a show-down struggle against the Taft-Hartley Act. And then ...?

But that is all. Lewis takes them no further. Drive out the Representatives and Senators who voted for the anti-labor law, Lewis has told them. But how is this to be done? Lewis has no answer, other than

would undermine and weaken labor in a "war of the shop-worn, shoddy political policy traditionally to propose? What will be tell the AFL delegates? attition" that would eventually render the unions peddled by the old-line union fakers: Vote in some can or Democratic parties

> This lack of real political understanding and perspective on the part of Lewis underlines all the more sharply the basic weakness of the union leadership as a whole.

14 ·.

It was Lewis who led the break with AFL craftunionism in 1935 and organized the mighty industrial union movement of the CIO. It was Lewis who repeatedly defied the powers of the capitalist state during the war, while the other top labor officials were in retreat, and led the miners to magnificent victories. It was Lewis who again dared to confront the government in a 13-month struggle that ended last July with the miners' greatest wage gains. And today Lewis defies the entire leadership of the AFL in his principled stand on the NLRB and the anti-

Communist affidavits. But there is another side to Lewis. He is pitifully lacking in a broad comprehension of political realities. He continues to trade in the small coin of political deals with the enemies of labor. He is chaired to narrow and antiquated conceptions of the struggle between capital and labor.

Lewis as early as 1937, during the Little Steel Roosevelt and expose the fraudulence of the Demo-Lewis could support the openly pro-Big Business Republican Party in 1940 and 1944.

Now, after the Republican-dominated Congress dominate our time, and a far-reaching, effective workhas passed the Taft-Hartley Act, what has Lewis ing-class program of social and political action.

"Freedom Train" Document

Surely, he cannot in good conscience tell them other capitalist politicians of Wall Street's Republi- to vote Republican in 1948. Vote for the party of the Taft-Hartley Act-that would be a monstrous betrayal!

> Can he tell them to vote the Democratic ticketthe party he correctly denounced years ago? Can

he tell them to back the party of Truman who tried to break the mine strike last year, called for a draft-strikers law, incited an injunction against the miners, led the whole howling pack of reaction against the UMW?

Yet Lewis offers no other course. Like the other union leaders, he points no way out of the political dilemma of American labor. Like them, he narrow-mindedly shuns and opposes the formation of labor's own party. He too stands as an obstacle in the way of the next great forward leap of the American labor movement.

This fundamental weakness overshadows Lewis' outstanding positive qualities as a union leader. Be-22nd Ward. cause the question of political action is so decisive today, this weakness nullifies the merits by which he shines in contrast to other union leaders.

The shortcomings of a man like Lewis demonstraic what a thorough overhauling the American trade union leadership requires. The new leaders will have the elementary qualities of courage and Strike, could dare to challenge the demagogy of aggressiveness. But they will far surpass Lewis because they will have no ties to the capitalist system cratic Party as a "friend of labor," But the same and its political machines. They will have a deeper understanding of the fundamental problems of the

workers, a keener appraisal of the class forces that

TRADE UNIO **By Art Preis** 

candidates.

Robert A. Sivert, member of the International Association of Machinists and a staunch union man for 30 years, is challenging the Democrats and Republicans in the

Joint Labor PAC. He is campaignlot of these others." ing on a program calling for municipal rent control and no evictions,

Youngstown steel workers are conscious of the significance of their campaign to elect their own labor candidate to City Council from the Fourth Ward. Merlin Luce, in his

Ward is John DeVito, president of izer, organ of CIO Steelworkers UAW Fisher Body Local 45. He Local 1330, vividly describes the

Although the possibilities of served in the Navy during the war. achievement by this one labor coun-His official campaign program lists cilman will be limited, "the possihis sponsors, including the Cuya- bilities springing from his election He recalls how a few hundred cals, the Ward 32 PAC, CIO steel, men at Concord Bridge in 1775 electrical and other locals, as well kindled the flame of the American Revolution and how John Brown tion of Machinists (independent) with forty men at Harpers Ferry in

and Association of Cleveland Train-1859 lighted a spark that two years men (Brotherhood of Railroad later flared into the great Civil War to end Negro slavery. In the early '30s a relative handful of in-

The prolonged and bitter CIO dustrial workers defied company Men in Congress," more than auto workers strike at the Huck spies, tear gas and death on the 1000 working men and women Manufacturing Co., Detroit, (pre- picket line to inspire the growth of the great CIO.

> "A labor victory in Youngstown's 212 on Sept. 14. The company was Fourth Ward will echo through the forced to back down on its demand whole state of Ohio," writes Merlin. on labor is going to shape with its

Harry Lundeberg, head of the own hands the distribution of wealth call of the CIO which is organizing AFL Sailors Union of the Pacific, and the nature of society in which picket lines against Taft wherever has long described himself as we and our children are going to "against politics." His "anti-poli- live."

### **Our Program:**

I. 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!

veterans during the entire period of unemployment

- For the 6-hour day, 30-hour week! A sliding scale of hours-reduce the hours of work with no reduction in pay to prevent layoffs
- and unemployment! operation of all idle plants under workers' contr Unemployment insurance equal to trade union wages for workers and

### Lower Wages Sought By Senator (Eat Less) Taft reduce their purchases. This can By Arthur Burch

In his campaign to obtain the Republican presidential nomination Sen. Robert A. Taft last week. outlined to his wealthy cronies of the San Francisco Commonwealth Club a sixpoint program on high prices. It is a frank class program directed against labor and calculated to aid big Business whom Taft faithfully represents.

According to the N. Y. Times he proposes "to discourage all wage increases; to seek a stabilization of prices and wages in the hope that an increase in supply and some decrease in the abnormal demand will bling prices down; to reduce governmental expenses and taxes; to restrict exports; to educate business

tailment in consumption of products benefits of socialism. like meat. KEY POINT

Together with his wealthy spon-

Taft's program is calculated



to reduce some of their profits  $by_{n}$  which did not have to reach its goal cutting prices; to undertake a cam- through periods of heavy unemploypaign to encourage voluntary cur- ment"-an obvious admission of the for profit-gouging.

rises.

ing cost of living. Here is why: the fiction that wage increases are ers while taxes of the monopolists He knows it is only a question of responsible for price increases, detime before the reduced purchasing spite convincing proof to the conpower of the masses must force a trary. During the war when wages would put the whole world on a sharp drop in production heralding were frozen, prices began their up-starvation diet. "Eat less" is his the next depression and huge un- ward spiral, with black market opemployment.

to partially camouflaging the real rise



Taft, like Truman and the other capitalist politicians, is against government price control not because it is an effective instrument against Big Business but rather because it further exposes the class nature of the Washington government as the tool of monopolists. Moreover, the industrialists know how to flout government control by curtailing production and utilizing the black

ward spiral, with black market op-erations and deterioration of goods national result in the workers throughout the world, including this country.

be done either through a wage reduction or freezing wages while prices continue to skyrocket. Then no government controls will be necessary. Under capitalism the worker's limited pocketbook is the best "regulator" of purchasing power. The wealthy will keep on glutting themselves while the workers will be forced into "voluntary" rationing.

The key point in Taft's program is tion would mean a saving of less sors, Taft is worried about the ris- the freezing of wages. He continues than a week's salary for the work-

market but they balk even at the slightest restrictions on their arena " Taft is anxious to reduce govern-

ment expenses and taxes. But Taft's specific proposal for a tax reducwould be cut by thousands of dollars. Taft is for restricting exports. He

Chanting "We Want Union thor of the infamous Slave Labor Law, last night. The dem-

**Picketing Taft** 

By Al Lynn

The slogan was begun by members of the SWP, and was immediately and enthusiastically taken up by the entire line including rank and file Communist Party members. The leaders of that party failed miserably in their attempts to prevent this

swer to the Taft-Hartley Bill.

Trainmen). LOS ANGELES, Sept. 17keted Senator Taft, co-au- viously reported in The Militant) ended in victory for UAW Local

onstrators, members of CIO, for an incentive, speed-up plan and "The industrial workers can prove AFL, and Railway Brother- to grant a 15-cent hourly increase this year that they are reaching pohood unions, and solidly backed by with retroactive pay averaging \$45. litical maturity and that from now members of the Socialist Workers. Farty, came out in response to the he appears in California.

Abraham Lincoln's emancipation proclamation freeing the slaves put into an air-tight sealed plastic case for the nation-wide tour of the "Freedom Train." When the "Freedom Train" ceremonies began in Philadelphia, two conscientious objectors were arrested for dis-Federated Pictures

slogan from catching on because it so obviously represented the an-

Taft rolled up to the doorway in slick, plush black limousine to speak to an audience of businessmen. Stepping outside the car he was immediately surrounded by a guard consisting of a half dozen goons, and a double row of uniformed police. After a moment's pause to survey the threatening crowd he quick scurried through

sistance to the Taft-Hartley Act, etc. struggles in the city's history. He L.A. Unionists Arrested for



honorable records as militant fight- longer be considered a friend of ers for labor, have entered the elec- labor," Lundeberg discovers "Warren tions as avowed independent labor has proved himself a friend and if the labor movement doesn't support him, it's crazy."

Last week, Lundeberg had a parley with Senator Taft, co-author of the Taft-Hartley Slave Labor Law. The SUP leader emerged with kind words for this vicious en-He is endorsed by the Ward 22 emy of labor, claiming Taft "doesn't give you a lot of sweet corn like a

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1947

more municipal recreation facilities and playgrounds, opposition to injunctions and police in strikes, re-



has led several of the greatest strike importance of this campaign. hoga County PAC-CIO, the District are unlimited," Merlin states. UAW Council and eight UAW loas the local International Associa-

hold off this evil day as long as in prices. When wage increases goal of socialism. To use his own steel and auto barons could continue did Truman's. words, they "might try some system making sizable profits without price Taft's last point, a campaign to



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by Truman.

116 University PL, N. Y. 3, N. Y. 1 lized if the workers are forced to watchdog of Big Business.



Taft would educate Big Business possible for he fears the inevitable were obtained in steel and auto, the to lower their profits. But his perstriving of the people toward the CIO correctly pointed out that the suasion will acomplish as little as

> increases but Big Business figured induce the people to "eat less," is after George R. Bass, President of it could further mulct the public already being carried out under Tru- Goodrich Local 5, said, "Labor and blame it on the measly wage man/ The inadequacy of existing should feel perfectly free to ignore wage scales acomplishes this pur- any law which is designed to wreck

The recent boost in the price of pose far better than any campaign. steel was a signal to all other mon- NO WEASEL WORDS

opolists to dip in to the consumer's Although Taff tries to saddle the dollar as much as the traffic would blame for inflation on the Demobear. Taft now wants to shift the cratic administration, there is no ready been pushed onto the floor, responsibility for the inflationary fundamental difference between his the resolutions committee came out elected. But the two-thirds major- line.

wave onto labor. Taft tries to blame Truman for httle franker than the rest. He ley Act, advocating that the URWA be mustered by the Stalinists and doubtedly have the effect of bringthe previous wage increases although speaks openly and unashamedly on qualify under the act by having all he is fully aware that the workers' behalf of Big Business. He does not officers register. After several gether.

to gain even the small wage con- tradition of Roosevelt and Wallace. treat, the convention referred the cessions. In these labor struggles As a spokesman for the monopolists matter to the incoming executive against General Motors, the steel he is loval to his trust, and speaks board, which is made up of a mamonopolists, shipbuilders, etc., Tru- boldly in their defense.

man either kept hands off or aided If only the official labor leaders the profiteers. He was responsible were half as bold and loyal to the for breaking the railroad strike and class they represent as Taft is to his! did everything in his power to check- In that event they would confront

mate the miners. But Taft is still own class program and enter one of only victory. nct satisfied. He thinks Big Busi- their own number in the presidential

small wage boosts of last spring if for an opportunity to vote for their by summarly rejecting a proposal gathered together enough of a vote the Case Bill had not been vetoed own interests against the monopo- of the Laws Committee to increase to prevent a two-thirds majority.

Taft says that prices can be stabi- Dewey, a Wallace, or some other



tributing anti-conscription leaflets.

(Continued from Page 1)

ler's amendment. This vote came

unions. We built the CIO by fight-

Since the whole question had al-

ing against injunctions."

POLICY OF RETREAT

**Rubber Union Spurns** 

TO.

It has long been known that Buck-

wherever they can.

STALINISTS DEFEATED

jority of members who are committed to a policy of boycotting the

NLRB. Although this was the most important victory for the progressives cry about "democracy" in an effort Taft's anti-labor program with their in the convention, it was not the to push this measure across. Most

President Buckmaster's salary from lists—and not for a Truman, a \$6,500 a year to \$7,000. Later it was

reported that Buckmaster privately complained about being denied a 15 cents an hour increase.

In addition, a proposal to increase George R. Bass against Buckmaster, dues from \$1.50 to \$2 a month was but although all informed delegates roundly defeated. The convention felt it would be a very close race, passed an amendment allowing it was reported that Bass felt it local unions to increase their dues with all of the increase going to the was too scon for a decisive test. local union. This was designed to The International Executive Board provide relief to small locals which was considerably changed. It was cannot get by on the \$1.50. cleaned of all pro-Buckmaster men, A long and rather vague discus-

and now consists of a loose alliance sion took place on the question of amending the constitution to pro- between a few Stalinists and a group vide for the election of the Organi- of non-Stalinist militants who rezation Director, who is now an ap- acted strongly against Buckmaster's pointed official. The present di- conservative stand. It remains to rector, Harry Eagle, has long been be seen whether the Stalinists the center of controversy in the union. Considered to be a Stalinist, emerged stronger from this convenhis power rests on a machine of tion.

International Organizers. For years By and large, this was the most he aided the International officials progressive convention held by the against the militant opopsition of rubber workers in many years. The the Akron locals. independence of the delegates from This year he appealed to the domination of International officials Akron locals for support against was marked, and reminiscent of the

Buckmaster, whose policies will lead militant spirit so characteristic of inevitably to the dumping of Eagle. the UAW.

the entrance, barely escaping the wrath of the angry workers who forcefully surged up against the police lines, jeering and booing.

NEWARK

JOSEPH HANSEN

The

**Truman-Marshall** 

Plan

Police arrested six of the pickets master would like to get rid of for "masqueradiry without a li-Eagle and his clique, under the impulse of the top CIO officers' drive cense." They had committed the to get rid of Stalinist influence heinous crime of looking 'ike Taft and carrying banners reading "I may look like Taft but I'm no stooge for the N. A. M." They were held Eagle and his group had hoped on bail of \$500 each. The police to push through the amendment also restrained the UAW from op-

providing for his election, since he erating its sound truck except for felt he had a necessary vote to get the purpose of disbanding the picket Taft's California tour will un-

the allies they had gathered toing vividly to the attention of the labor movement the need for inde-

It was a rather comical fact that pendent political action on the part those who in the past had fought of labor for the election of the Organizational Director, in an effort to get

rid of Eagle, opposed the election at this convention, while the Stalinists, who had been against this in the past, put up a great hue and

Militant Labor Forum Friday, Oct. 3-8:30 P. M. of the non-Stalinist progressive

Early in the convention the dele- forces in the convention voted for ness might have avoided even the race. Millions of workers are hoping gates showed their state of mind the amendment, but Buckmaster There was no opposition on the convention floor to the election of the present officers. Caucus com-

binations had mentioned running Wall Street Drive To **Dominate Europe** 

423 Springfield Ave. Admission Free

> WEST LOS ANGELES "LABOR PARTY

DEVELOPMENTS IN CALIFORNIA"

speaker Myra Tanner Weiss Los Angeles Organizer of the Socialist Workers Party

Friday, Oct. 3—8:00 p. m.

122 Pier Ave., Ocean Park auspices

> West Side Branch SWP and The Militant

3. Against all anti-labor laws and government strikebreaking! No restrictions on the right to strike and picket! No injunctions! No compulsory arbitration! 4. Build an independent labor partyl 5. Tax the rich, not the poor! Repeal the payroll tax! No sales taxes! No taxes on incomes under \$5,000 a year! 6. An 18 billion dollar appropriation for government low-rent housing! 7. Full equality for Negroes and national minorities! End Jim Crow! End anti-Semitism! 8. For a veterans' organization sponsored by the trade unions! 9. A working class answer to capitalist militarism and war. Take the war-making powers away from Congress! Let the people

vote on the question of war or peace! Against capitalis: conscription! Abolish the officer caste system! Full democratic rights in the armed forces! Trade Union wages for the armed forces! Military training of workers, financed by the government, but under control of the trade unions! 10. Solidarity with the revolutionary struggles of the workers in all lands! For the complete independence of the colonial peoples! Withdraw all American troops from foreign soil! 11. For a Workers' and Farmers' Government! Join the Socialist Workers Party ! SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY 116 University Place New York 3, New York I would like the week To join the Socialist Workers Party. To obtain further information about your organization. To attend meetings and forums of the Socialist Workers Party in my city. NAME (Please Print)

STREET 

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1947

#### THE MILITANT

PAGE THREE



– By J. R. Johnson

We are approaching the one tion of this imminence by Marx | Manifesto on the following note hundredth anniversary of the that the Communist Manifesto could The advance of industry, whose inbe written as it was. Communist Manifesto, the

that mankind has ever pro- er of the Manifesto, is the tremenduced. As the actual date of dous intensity and momentum with the anniversary approaches, all which each aspect of bourgeois soshadings in the socialist move- ciety which Marx describes drives ment will have their say on the exorably to one ultimate conclusion, contemporary or historical sig- the victory of the proletarian revolunificance of the Manifesto. tion. Marx in the Manifesto de-Social - Democrats, Stalinists, fines the distinctive task of the all those who parade as Marx- Communist as representing analytic the interests of the proletariat as a ists and in reality betray the whole, the ultimate general results revolutionary combination of soproletariat at every step, will of the proletarian movement. make the most of the ceremonial

the inheritors of Marxism.

that revolutionary party which sees drive and vigor with which he wrote which unites men from the factory in it a living document for the was based on the anticipation of the to the governmental power. thinking and guidance of revolu- actual drive and vigor with which tionary workers.

Here I can point out only a few violent revolution. His theories were of the various aspects of the Mani- based on solid rock bottom because festo which will be occupying our they were based on revolutionary attention in this period of the an- confidence in the instinctive and niversary. For nearly a century, it elemental drive of the proletariat. has been the Bible whose study. It is this which has distinguished the revolutionary crusade to build a legitimate heir to Marx. Marx, and point the rend out. new society. But it is not only rev-the great Marxist, could open up olutionary workers and intellectuals theoretical avenues because they who have studied it.

or clime, in universities from one reserves of human energy and reend of the world to another, could sourcefulness in the revolution itfeel that he had become a part of self. the educated elite of civilization until he had at least read the Manifesto and put it aside as past histual preoccupation into bourgeois politics or responsibilities, he was always haunted by the fear that one removed from the historical archives and become in actuality the theoritical foundation for a new orwell' as friends studied or cremembered the Manifesto.

Hence, the Munifesto belongs to modern civilization and modern culture. Nothing, not even the burning tion, the uninterrupted disturbance urally followed with interest such a place.

ment of society.

Scientific socialism is the con-scious expression of the unconscious historical process; namely, the in-stinctive and elemental drive of the stinctive and construct society on communist beginnings. These or-ganic tendencies in the psychology of workers spring to life with ui-most rapidity today in the epoch of crises and wars. -Leon -Trotsky, 1940

voluntary promoter is the bour-

greatest document of the people that mankind has ever protheir revolutionary combination due to associaiton. The development of modern industry, therefore, cuts from under its feet the very foundation on which the bourgeoisie produces and appropriates products. What the bourgeoisie therefore produces above all, are its own gravediggers. Its fall and the victory of the proletariat are equally inevitable.

cialized labor with the need to cre-He could see this movement as a ate new social ties pervading all occasion to pretend that they are whole because he could see that layers of society which will both the revolution was coming, and that, usher in and distinguish the new They will do their best, but the like every revolution, it would pose socialist society. The Soviets, the Manifesto remains, and must al- ultimate questions of the whole fu- workers' councils, have shown us ways remain, the property only of ture of humanity. The theoretical one form of human association

Th old soci ty is rotting. Its the broad masses would explode in economics, its politics, its morals are blighted hy n crisis which for thirty years has grown in intensity. The revolutionary worker who on a spare evening sits and re-reads the Manifesto, is once more astonished at the genius which could so powappreciation and application marked all the grit Marxists and it is this erfully anticipate the crisis of conthe initiation of an individual into which made of each of them the temporally society and so confidently

knew always that the proleturiat No student, in whatever culture would open up hitherto unexplored

One theme underlines the whole development of the Manifesto-on tory. If he graduated from intellec- the one hand, the growing incapacity of the bourgeoisie, as compared with its past accomplishments, to represent the interests of the whole day the Manifesto might indeed be of humanity; on the other hand, the ever-expanding union of the workers which would make them not only ganization of society. Enemies as society but also reveal their destiny as the creators of a new freely associated humanity.

> According to Marx, it was the "constant revolutionizing of produc-

in the Manifesto. But no one could tion of "his relation with his kind." awakening in ever larger numbers and that every step of it could be tegrating before our very eyes. All think with increasing interest about checked against the actual develop- 11 tions face one another with sus- political questions in general.

festo on the eve of the revolutions tual hostility and hate. Nothing ture I have followed on the subwhich swept Europe in 1848. This so distinguishes the strident shricks ject as well as the discussions I' has seemed to many a happy acci- and hopes of the bourgeoisie as their heard or took part in convince me dent of history. Nothing could be breeding of antagonisms, on the one that these reactions are quite varied. further from the truth. In reality hand, and their pleas for interna- Workers are asking a great many

# Wall Street Drive for New War **Touches Off Bitter Fight in UN**

South Africa Vets Rap Franco



When (. Spanish naval training ship reached Capetown, South Africa, thousands of ex-soldiers demonstrated against the visit of what they termed "the fascist delegates from Franco Spain." City police, however, refused to permit these peaceful protests and broke up the meetings.

#### Federated Pictures

# **Coming—Answers to Your Questions on England**

#### By John G. Wright

In the fall of 1945 it was my privilege to go on a national tour for the Socialist Workers ion. Party on the subject, "The British Labor Victory, It's Meaning for American Workers." THE FRUITS OF VICTORY While drawing the political lessons that workers in this country still had to learn, most of into a force to overthrow bourgeois my speeches sought to explain the background, significance and probable consequences of the British Labor Party's decisive \*

to strike against it to prevent a Since that time I have natterrible speedup?" a miner asks in Pennsylvania. "What's the good of of books, could ever remove it from of all social relations, the everlast-not only the march of events in things if miners and other workers did so because they identified us ing uncertainty and agitation" of Britain but also the reactions to don't get any benefits from it? And Men could reject the road which burgeois society which would force it in this country, especially among what is the good in building a labor Marx mapped out for human society man to face the fundamental ques-the working people who are now party here if that is the result?" ever deny that he mapped a road, Today, bourgecis society is disin- to political life, and beginning to most widely raised, especially by The last question is among those workers whom we of the Socialist Workers Party approach on the

picion and fear. Political opponents My correspondence with friends need for the unions here to build Marx wrote the Communist Mani- try to lead their followers into mu- throughout the country, the litera- a labor party of their own.

"What kind of Labor Government tions in the U.S. where production parliamentary victory in the have they got there, if miners have has hit new peaks in recent years. On New York's East Side, Jewish workers booed some members of an outdoor meeting there. They (wrongly, of course) as comrades of Bevin, that is, as members of the Socialist Party or Social Democratic Federation. Among the epithets

they hurled was: "Bevin fascists!" Troubling them were mainly ques-

#### By Joseph Hansen

Tension between Washington and Moscow reached a new high last week as Andrei Vyshinsky attempted a counteroffensive against an attack launched by Secretary of State Marshall in the United Nations.

Marshall aimed at two ob- Vyshinsky also pointed accusingly jectives in his Sept. 17 keynote to the British troops still remaining speech to the General Assem- in Egypt and Greece and the Ameribly. (1) He sought to sharpen can troops still in China. He tried the dispute with Moscow even to cover up the Soviet troops still at the risk of blowing up the ern Europe with a feeble formula United Nations. (2) He sought about "guarding of communications to place on Moscow all the with ex-enemy states. blame for the continued failure to ATOMIC CONTROL ISSUE

achieve world peace and for the On the issue of atomic control mounting threat of a Third World Vyshinsky charged Washington with War. trying to maintain a monopoly and

He raised, for example, the question of "threats to the political independence and territorial integrity of Greece." But instead of admitting that these "threats" emanate principally from Wall Street domination of the puppet Greek monarchy, he fixed responsibility "upon Albania, Bulgaria and Yugoslavia. the realization of disarmament." He added that the U.S. delegation would introduce a resolution calling on these countries "to cease and desist from rendering further assistance or support to the guerillas in Greece.'

not so hateful after all to those Similarly in the case of Korea, Marshall blamed Moscow for the hardships of wartime for the purcontinued failure to grant this unpose of enrichment," he said. happy land its independence.

Vyshinsky accused these groups Marshall declared that "the control of atomic and other weapons of mass destruction has perhaps the highest priority if we are to remove of the whole world. The warthe specter of a war of annihilation." mongering propagandists now do not He added that Washington "also even try to conceal it." This war, recognizes the importance of regulating conventional armaments." war, but it is "directed first of all In both instances, however, he against the Soviet Union." fcisted responsibility for the current armaments race on the Soviet Un- LUDICROUS PROPOSALS

Marshall proposed two revisions

unacceptable to the Kremlin in the organization of the United Nations -limitation of the veto and establishment of a special standing committee of the General Ascembly to consider disputes the Security Council cannot resolve. Marshall held up the United Nations as "the hope of mankind" but the picture he drew of the world situation two years after V-J Day Moscow's policies.

was grim. He was forced to admit that "the fruits of peace and victory demagogy. Will American imperial- speech.

tions about the foreign policy of tion lags everywhere; the basic re- goal of world conquest? The entire hide. Should Wall Street meet Stal-Attlee-Bevin and their ilk. Why quirements of life are scarce; there axis of Wall Street's foreign policy in's asking price, then we will see doesn't Britain's Labor Party Gov- is desperate need throughout great is preparation for atomic war, the American Stalinist seals perform A high school student in Chicago ernment get out of Palestine and areas . . . In place of peace, liberty, against the Soviet Union in the first another of their spectacular flip wants to know: "What do they let the people there settle their own and economic security, we find place, is Stalin, through Vyshinsky, flops, becoming the most ardent exhave in England, socialism or capi- problems? Many Negroes ask the menace, repression, and dire want." now admits. To plead with the ponents of the "progressive" charactalism? If it's socialism, why can't same question about Africa — why in reply the next day, Andrei American monopolists to reduce

Marshall Plan as designed to sub-



GENERAL MARSHALL

rull its own teeth and go on a vegeresisting "any attempts to dismantle tarian diet. the existing stock of atomic bombs World War III can be prevented and outlaw their further production. only by ending Wall Street's govern-At the same time USA systematically ment monopoly, putting a Workers' increases the production of such and Farmers' Government in power, bombs." It is the US and Great and organizing economy on a so-Britain, he said who are "unwilling cialist basis. But Vyshinsky, one of to disarm" and who "put brakes on the chief figures in the execution of the old Bolsheviks in the Moscow Seeking to convert his defense of Frame-up Trials, did not breathe.

the Kremlin's policies into an of- a word about ending Wall Street's fensive, Vyshinsky cited the billions rule. In his entire 92 minute of dollars in war profits piled up speech he did not mention socialism by American corporations. ."War is once. Despite his cutting remarks about

groups who skillfully utilize the Wall Street's war preparations, Vyshinsky's speech in essence was an attempt to divert the masses away from the socialist solution to the of fomenting a new war: "The world's ills and to instil confidence preparations for a new war is being in the United Nations which has carried on literally before the eyes proved to be nothing but a thieves' debating society.

What Moscow still wants is a deal with Wall Street. The present shoutonce begun, will become a world ing about Wall Street's war-mongering is reminiscent of the Kremlin's pre-war shouting ngainst the Nazis. That shouting, it should be remembered, paid off with the Stal-After this indictment Vyshinsky advanced ludicrous proposals for

in-Hitler 10-year "non-aggression" past. Today the Kremlin aims to duplicate that feat with Truman, exc! nging counter - revolutionary services for a "non-aggression" pact and dollar credits.

'pain of criminal punishment" and During the war, the Stalinists to begin "reduction of armaments." packed Wall Street. They peddled Although Vyshinsky said many the lie that World War II was not true things about Wall Street's plans imperialist. As the loudest-mouthed. for, unother world slaughter, his war-mongers, they came out for the speech was nothing else but a confession of the total bankruptcy of ers while Wall Street piled up the wage freeze, serving as strikebreakmountainous profits to which Vy-Vyshinsky's proposals were sheer shinsky so belatedly referred in his

are still beyond our grasp." "Men ism "prohibit war propaganda" or For a price, the Kremlin is prelook anxiously toward the future begin "reduction of armaments" pared once again to whitewash the " he continued. "Reconstruc- when it has consciously set itself the imperialist spots on Wall Street's ter of predatory American imperial-

it was only because of the immi- intional and class collaboration on questions about what is occurring nence of revolution and the recogni- the other.

#### Second Anniversary Of Viet Nam Govt. Hailed by SWP

message of greetings to tonight's Wilkie used the phrase "One World" meeting celebrating the second an- and common men everywhere reniversary of the Viet Nam Republic, James P. Cannon, national secretary of the Socialist Workers Party, declared:

"As one of the first organizations fight for freedom of the Indo-Chinese people, the Socialist Workers organized movements. These move-Party salutes this second anniversary of the independence of the Viet Nam Republic. The brutal attempts of French imperialism to reconquer Indo-China must be repulsed and will be defeated.

"Long live the complete independence of the Viet Nam people from all oppression! Long live the Viet Nam Republic!"

**Madras Strike Beaten** 

ist Party of India.

struggle against heavy odds, but boss clan." reformist cajolery.

The Congress ministry demonstra- part in the strike. ted its hostility to the workers by setting up a "Labor" sub-committee been arrested and detained," reports enjoyed at first. to organize strikebreaking.

tection. When the workers refused Workshops and students." to return, police conducted nightly New Spark considers the defeat try. children."

than 1,000 were driven out of their history of the Indian labor move- government. homes. Clubbing them with lathis ment.'

On the other hand, nothing goes becoming disillusioned. This great so deeply to the roots of the hopes interest, concern and questioning and aspirations of the broad masses flows in the first instance from an as the desire for intimacy with their understanding that there is an intikind, with human beings like them- mate connection between the evoluan irresistible. urge to establish new in the U.S. social ties, new bonds between peo-

NEW YORK, Sept. 23 — In a strength and confidence. Wendell ple, from which each can draw new sponded. This yearning for new human re- my attention.

lations, pervading the great masses of the people in Europe, America in this country to support the heroic and Asia, is in itself a social force. It exists not merely in the actual

ments themselves take on a new color when men desire to join something or somebody and thereby achieve some continuity of development in the uninterrupted disturbance of all social conditions, some perspective in the everlasting uncer-

tainty and agitation of the modern world Marx ends the first section of the

# After 100-Day Battle

After 100 days of battle, the and truncheons, police forced 150 workers of the Buckingham back into the mills. and Carnatic Mills at Madras, All the other parties deserted the of his government. India, were forced to call off strikers in the face of this savage

were finally forced to retreat before The Indian Trotskyists had to pay bound in feudal servitude.

New Spark, "and with them several The European management re- worker comrades of the B. & C. him from office thus feared no pop- that two of its leaders supported cpened the mills under police pro- Mills and the M. S. M. Railway ular opposition. Without forces able Mancheno.

next struggle. The workers of chain of capitalist dictatorship in premises of capitalist politicians or

Mancheno lasted less than two Farmers government in power.

by the developments; some are even selves all over the world. There is tion of British politics and politics are passing are as bad as any ever put over by the Thereis put over by the Tories."

> Beginning with the next issue of Reactionary dailies and weeklies "Why do the English workers keep The Militant, it is my intention to in this country are sounding heavily on supporting the Labor Party?" answer some of the questions being on this note, using it to discredit In the last two years the Laborites raised by workers in this country. and condemn the struggle for so- have not lost a single by-election, Here I shall merely list a few of cialism, while painting up and something that never happened bethose that have repeatedly come to boasting about the alleged superior- fore in Britain's long electoral hisities of "free enterprise" as it func- tory.

**Ecuador Palace Revolt Topples Ibarra Regime** By J. Gomez

The recent overthrow of the dictatorship of Velasco Ibarra in Ecuador was a palace revolution.

Velasco Ibarra came to power when the dictatorship of Dr. Arroyo del Rio fell in 1944. He was backed by the Demo-

cratic Alliance of Ecuador, a weeks and was then replaced by rica, Aug. 26 — The Fourth coalition of capitalist forces, suarez Veintimilla, who in turn was International Organization of Stalinists, Socialist parties and replaced within three days by Car- South Africa is calling on the the Labor Confederation of Ecuador. los F. Arosamena. They hailed the Ibarra regime as Arosmena was "elected" President

'progressive and democratic." by an extraordinary session of Con- age of a proposed Industrial But the promises which this cap- gress. The press reports that this Conciliation (Natives) Bill italist politician made the workers wealthy banker was supported by which will be considered at didn't survive the honeymoon period | "leftists." This is a lie. He was put in office by the most reactionary Velasco Ibarra represented the forces in Ecuador.

repression, but the Bolshevik Lenin- native feudalistic bourgeois forces The masses in Ecuador appear Proponents of the measure allege their strike, reports New Spark, ists stuck it out with the strikers. on one hand, and on the other Yan- confused and disoriented by these that it will provide conciliation maorgan of the Bolshevik Lenin- They published a daily leaflet "tell- kee imperialism. He was not in- shifts. The Stalinists and "social- chinery for the African trade ing the truth to the workers and ex- terested, consequently, in helping ists" who claim to represent the unions. In reality it is a vicious The workers put up a valiant posing the lying propaganda of the the workers and the Indian field la- workers are not able to give them attempt to outlaw and suppress the borers (50% of the population!) a clear political perspective. Theirs African trade union movement.

is the politics of supporting the the "fascist-like combination of a heavy price for their loyalty to the Ibarra ruled with an iron hand. Ibarras and their kind. The Stalinbrute force, lying propaganda and workers. Anthony Pillai was sen- Civil liberties were stifled; repressive ists shift in accordance with the tenced to one year in jail for his measures taken against organized wind from Moscow. The so-called labor. As a result Ibarra swiftly "Socialist" party is not a Marxist

"Other leading comrades have lost whatever popularity he had party but rather a radical populist party. It is no accident that its The military clique that removed paper is called Tierra (Land) and

to defend him, Ibarra fled the coun-Bitter experience is once again demonstrating to the workers of rand strike in August of last year. raids of working class areas, 'bru- only a temporary one. The advance The new regime, however, repre- Ecuador that they cannot achieve tally terrorizing men, women and guard "is already preparing for the sented only another link in the their emancipation by relying on the

These raids were stepped up in 'backward' Madras have written a Ecuador, despite the two "socialist" their supporters. They must build tempo until on June 18, not less never-to-be-forgotten page in the ministers included in the Mancheno their own political party with the

stand it, is supposed to make pos- they gave up formal power in India weakest points in Mar. hall's nttack. sible a great increase in the pro- but not anywhere else? Isn't so- He denied that Albania, Bulgaria duction of things needed by the cialism supposed to be the opposite and Yugoslavia were intervening in people, but in England they are of imperialism and how do you ac- Greece; and pointed an accusing getting scarcer than ever. Not only count for Britain's imperialist role finger at the Truman Doctrine and that, but 'labor control' laws they in world politics today? Finally, there is still another ques-

tion puzzling many union militants:

If any Militant readers have other member of the United Nations." questions on the British Labor Moscow, of course has done nothing Party they would like answered, about the attack on Indonesia ex- claring that the union will back to of hearings. The official transcript send them in and I will try to han- cept kick it around in UN debates the hilt any of its members who redle them among the others. for demagogic reasons.

## Unions in So. Africa **Face Repressive Law**

striking.

CAPE TOWN, South Af | 2. No official may be elected to office in any African union unless he is officially approved by the government workers to fight against pass African unions. the next session of the Unior

Parliament in January 1948. that industry.

African unions at present are free to organize and co-operate with one another and even strike, although they are not recognized by the government. Despite the severe from functioning. handicap of non-recognition, Africans are nevertheless able un-

officially to organize unions such as the African Mineworkers' Union be declared filegal. which waged the heroic Witwaters-

Even these meager rights will be taken away if the proposed bill becomes law. Here are some of the provisions:

1. No one may organize an Afrision from the government.

they do something about the lag in don't they get off the masses' backs Vyshinsky, Moscow's spokesman, armaments and give up war is as ism just as they did in the days of in Britain; some have been argered production? Socialism, as I under-there? Cr again, how is it that jabbed at what he considered the futile as pleading with a shark to Earl Browder.

achieving enduring peace. These

were to reject any revision of the

UN procedure, particularly the veto,

"prohibit war propaganda" on

**International Notes** 

jugate "the European countries to RESIST ALLIED DESTRUCTION forces and rushed them to Washthe economic and political control -When the German workers are ington.

exercised by the USA." ordered to dismantle some 900 He then called attention to the plants, factories and mills earmarked WIN 40-HOUR WEEK-Beginning 'unprovoked military attack by for destruction or "reparations" on Jan. 1, 1948, workers throughout Holland against the Indonesian Re- the Allied list, occupation forces in Australia will go on a 40-hour week public." This attack, he said, "can- Germany expect "strikes" and dem- as a result of a unanimous decision not be qualified otherwise than an onstrations on a scale far larger by the Federal Arbitration Court. act of aggression perpetrated against than the hunger protests last

the Indonesian people by a state- spring."

adopted by 80,000 metal workers defuse to work on this Allied project.

to cripple the productive capacity of Europe's industrial machine.

"PLOT" IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA -Another "terrorist plot" to overthrow the quislings of the Kremlir in the Soviet-dominated countries o Eastern Europe has been "discovered.' This time it is in Czechoslovakia.

The number of arrests has reached more than 600 and at least 80 "ringleaders" in the "plot" have been seized. The aim of the "plot" 3. Socialists, Communists and was allegedly to assassinate Presiwhites are barred from office in dent Benes and overthrow the government

Real reason for the arrests appear 4. No African may organize or to be nothing but a typical Kremli: belong to a union of any particular attempt to smash an actual or po

industry unless he is a worker in tential political opposition. NEXT WAR'S BATTLEFIELDS-5. African unions are barred from While Wall Street's propagandist shout about the "peaceful" inten tions of American Big Business, the 6. An arbitration board of white U.S. Department of the Army i members appointed by the government and employers' associations rations for war.

the Army had purchased the out 7. The African Mineworkers standing maps, photographs and sketches of central Asia belonging to the famous Swedish explorer Svei

8. All African unions not registered under terms of the Act will

Conciliation (Natives) Bill is as ing cartographic material of these vicious and reactionary as the no- strategic regions. They will prove torious Labor Front set up by the invaluable in blueprinting projected Nazis in Germany. If it is passed military operations against the it will doom the few rights the Soviet Union.

> Reality kes Brestin STATE OF STATE

African workers in South Africa The maps were in Germany dur- the primitive islanders." aim of putting a Workers and can union without official permis- have managed to secure in years of ing the war. U.S. occupation forces A British destroyer is now pabitter struggle. seized them in advance of Soviet trolling the islands.

An employer can require any em-

loye to work "reasonable" overtime A re olution lis already been but must pay overtime rates. The decision came after 449 days of the case contains some 6,000,000 words of evidence and 499 exhibits. Employers fought bitterly for a onger work-week, contending among ther things that "normal hours" in

ther countries are in excess of 40 jours.

It is now expected that the Ausralian workers will demand that he 40 hours be worked in 5 days, with Saturday and Sunday off.

### Ferment in

The Solomons

Anthropologists planning further tudies of the customs and habits of rimitive man in the Solomon Isands are due for a shock, if a Sept. 8 Associated Press dispatch from Darwin, Australia, is to be trusted. The British submarine Amphion n returning to Darwin reported hat island nationalists had planned n uprising against British dominaon to coincide with the arrival f American ships after the war, resumably in the hands of Amercan revolutionists.

When the Amphion entered the arbor at Santa Ana Island, a large number of islanders massed about flag. While officers landed, the ubmarine fired star shells over the rowd as a warning. The natives led.

The flag was later identified by natives as a "flag of freedom" bearng a symbol signifying "Marxian aw.'

The British Colonial Office in Lonicn explained it had expected that nodern ideas introduced by Amercan armed forces during the war would have an unrestful effect on

quietly proceeding with its prepa On Sept. 19 it was revealed tha Hedin.

These maps, covering Asiatic districts from the Yellow Sea to Rus sian Turkestan and from Hungary





#### PAGE FOUR

Working People Vol. XI.-No. 39 Monday, September 29, 1947 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 editorials. Subscriptions: \$1.00 per year; 50c for 6 months. Foreign: \$2.00 per year; \$1.00 for 6 months. Bundle orders: 3 cents per cepy 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." "The historical task of our epoch consists in replacing the uncontrolled

THE MILITANT

Published in the Interests of the

play of the market by reasonable planning, in disciplining the forces of production, competing them to work together in harmony and obediently serve the needs of mankind."

Leon Trotsky

#### When Thieves Fall Out

The efforts of Marshall and Vyshinsky to take each other's scalps in the United Nations reminds us of the old adage about truth getting a break when thieves fall out.

During the war Wall Street and the Kremlin toasted each other as "peace-loving" powers, champions of "four freedoms," benefactors of the common man and saviors of civilization.

Fruit of this ever-loving friendship was the United Nations which they magnanimously presented to the world as their contribution toward enduring peace. They christened it "mankind's only hope." 🐐

Today Wall Street's hope is to conquer the world. Cutting the throat of a former ally is a mere bagatelle to a ruling class drunk with power. To prepare the public mind for such a definitive conclusion to the back-slapping wartime friendship, Wall Street is now focusing the spotlight on a number of criminal faults in its former bosom partner.

The Wall Street wolves freely voice their horror at the Kremlin's lies, cynicism, disregard of human rights, contempt for civil liberties, brutality, bloodiness, premeditated murder of political opponents, oppression of minorities, etc.

Moscow in turn, alarmed over the intentions of its former "peace-loving" associate, is putting the finger on some of Wall Street's crimes. Such as the colossal profits harvested from the battlefields of World War II, the troops maintained in Greece and China, interference in Europe's internal affairs, stockpiling of atomic bombs, brazen preparations for World War III, etc.

This mutual pointing of fingers is all to the good. It helps expose the real character of the arch-reactionary architects of the U.N.

happened in San Francisco. There, as is well known, the Stalinists dominate the CIO Council, exercising decisive voice over political decisions.

The latest instance of Stalinist malingering

Last week this Stalinist-dominated Council enthusiastically endorsed Rep. Frank R. Havenner for Mayor. Who is Havenner?

1. He is a Democrat. A member of the same reactionary Wall Street party as Rankin, Connally, Marshall and Truman.

2. Havenner is a hand-raiser for Wall Street's war-mongering policy of bolstering reaction everywhere in accordance with its blueprint for world conquest. Havenner cast his vote in Congress last May in favor of the anti-Communist Greek-Turkish aid bill to implement the Truman Doctrine.

The moral of it all is don't believe the Stalinists. They swear they're teetotallers, but when temptation's finger beckons, they can't keep their mouths off that Wall Street bottle.

#### Join the SWP

On the front page of this issue of The Militant is an editorial explaining how a Workers and Farmers Government would end the price squeeze.

Obviously the measures outlined will never be taken by Wall Street's government, since such measures conflict with the economic interests of the big corporations.

It is likewise obvious that neither the Democratic Party nor the Republican Party will ever undertake the measures required to end the price squeeze. Both of these parties are maintained by the big corporations solely to fight for their interests on the political field.

Consequently labor has no recourse but to start down the road of independent political action with the aim of putting in power a Workers and Farmers Government.

How can labor succeed in this aim?

We can succeed only by combining all our individual efforts, uniting our forces, and pushing in organized fashion toward the common goal,

This means that if you agree on the desirability of the measures suggested in the front page editorial to beat the price squeeze, your place is in the Socialist Workers Party.

By becoming a member of the Socialist Workers Party you enter the main highway to a Marxist political education. You find your own effectiveness in the fight against the ills of decaying capitalist society immeasurably increased. Your voice gains weight and authority in the trade unions and wherever workers are faced with the need to make political decisions.

At the same time you contribute in the most effective way possible in building up the fighting power of the American working class in politics by actively participating in the Socialist Workers Party and widening its influence.

We urge you to fill out the coupon on page 2 for further information and mail it in to the Socialist Workers Party at 116 University Place, New York 3. Or if there is a branch of the Socialist Workers Party in your area, get in touch with the branch organizer.

Another Wallace Novelty





"Don't those Russians know they can't talk that way in our United Nations?"



HISTORY OF THE LABOR abated only after the turn of the continue the narrative. The first MOVEMENT IN THE volume is detailed and thorough.

One example of this is the mu- except that the most significant UNITED STATES, from tiny of the Pennsylvania troops facts often must be dug out of a Colonial Times to the Found- against the failure of the Conti- mass of irrelevant material. It is nental Congress, dominated by apparent at times that the reason ing of the American Feder- wealthy interests, even to provide for this is that Foner himself ation of Labor, by Philip S. food and clothes, let alone the deesn't understand what is importpromised pay. Later, Shay's Re- ant and what is not. Foner. International Publish- bellion in Massachusetts was only

He mentions the mutiny of the the largest of many similar revolts Pennsylvania line referred to above against the counter-revolutionary policies of the conservatives. We only in connection with their refor building a revolutionary social- can learn many lessons from this fusal to desert to the British. He record, not the least of which is the sees this action as a praiseworthy ough study of American working great power wielded by a few thourefusal to break the all-class coalisand scattered craftsmen in an agri- tion against the foreign enemy, cultural country, when they boldly whereas it demonstrates clearly the ciety. This book is an important struck cut for their own demands. will of these workers and farmers to fight both the foreign and native Even more important is the story enemy, to defend their own interphasis on the interests and life of of the Civil War, and of the Re- ests rather than to make a conconstruction era. The Republican temptible deal. Party, immediately after its forma-

The story of labor's early strugtion, faced the revolutionary task cially in its uncritical acceptance of of overthrowing the power of the gles to build the unions and a poalliances between labor and other Southern plantation-owners, and litical party of its own is an inspirclasses as uniformly "progressive," with that, chattel slavery, The ing one, filled with magnificent regardless of where the leadership workers of the Northern cities broke proof of the courage, devotion and away, in great numbers from their militancy of the American workers. traditional loyalty to the Democratic Anyone who still harbors the petty-We can learn much from our his- Party, to support the new party. bourgeois illusion, so vigorously in-

culcated by the schools and the It was the most class-conscious bourgeois historians, that the Amersection of the workers who entered ican workers are uniformly "backample, going back to the American into the new movement, including ward" and "conservative," needs Revolution, we can see now, and can the infant socialist movement. a solid course in the truths of hisprove by patient research (much of Again the workers and poor farmwhich Foner has done), that the ers proved to be the backbone of tory.

revolution probably would never the fight against the slave-owners. For generations, any attempt on have taken place if it had not been And in this fight, a mighty ally was the part of workers to combine to for the study, uncompromising militancy of the artisans and poorer contributed in whatever way they was legally a conspiracy, punishcould to the Northern cause, 200,- able by fine or imprisonment. Not 000 of them serving in the Army. | until 1842 was a ruling secured in

#### MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1947

#### Wall St. Expects a Bust; So Do All Big Profiteers

#### By John G. Wright-

When the Steel Trust decided, some 10 weeks ago, to boost iron and steel prices by \$5 to \$10 a ton, a general price rise became unavoidable. As The Militant warned at the time, prices have since shot up like jet-propelled rockets. Not only the food prices. The soaring cost of necessities tends to obscure the upward thrust which the steel profiteers have imparted to virtually all commodities.

This is strikingly revealed by a special index compiled by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, covering almost 900 commodities. For 10 consecutive weeks this index has registered one advance after another, and in recent weeks each advance has marked a new post-war high.

The columns of capitalist dailies are dotted with reports of new or projected price boosts. Even items which had slumped for months have been caught up in the inflationary spiral. For example, fats and oils have reversed their downward price-trend. So have coffee and cocoa and such depressed raw materials as natural rubber.

While the world of commodities is in this frenzy of speculation, we observe just the opposite development taking place in the holy of holies of all capitalist profiteers and speculators - the stock-market. Stock prices have been plummeting downward almost as spectacularly as commodity prices have zoomed upwards. In the same brief period that commodities have shot up more than 40%, stocks have declined almost 20%, with the gap between the two growing ever wider.

Periods of runaway inflation have never before witnessed such a remarkable discrepancy. The "normal" trend under capitalism, during inflation, would be for a flight of debased dollars-dollars which buy less and less-intc commodities-which cost more and more-and also into stocks, which in the last analysis likewise represent commodities. Why then are stock prices staying down?

The true explanation is now provided even by such conservative capitalist weeklies as Business Week, Sept. 20, which states flatly that: "Wall Street expects a bust." This leading article then goes on to pose two key questions: "How long can consumers follow the rising price of food and still have enough money to buy the other things they want and need? If this can't go on forever, will it mean a bust in commodity prices that might throw business into a tailspin as in 1920?'

The answer to the first question has already been given in large part. Retail trade continues to slump. The injection into the domestic market of almost two billion dollars in cashable veteran's terminal leave bonds has barely made a "ripple in the spending stream," lament, another article in the same issue of Business Week. Inventories continue to pile up; production slows down, with the backing up of high-priced goods, no longer accessible to the mass of the people.

The global picture is even more dismal than the prospects at home. European capitalism is bankrupt. "As the picture is viewed in Congress, the U. S. is being asked to revive a bankrupt Europe," says the weekly U. S. News, another mouthpiece of Big Business. As the receiver for a bankrupt concern, Wall Street does not intend to give away anything to insolvent creditors. It will only "lend"-and these loans will be kept at a minimum.

"Prevailing opinion is that 12 billion dollars-or three billion a year-will be as much as Congress (read: the Wall Street masters) can be induced to authorize. Even this amount probably will not be voted all at once. Instead at the coming session, Congress is expected to appropriate only enough for the first year of the (Marshall) plan" (U. S. News, Sept. 19).

What can the injection of a few billion dollars a year into crisis-torn Europe accomplish, when similar sums are swallowed up "without a ripple" by a seemingly nealthy capitalist economy at home? Obviously, the masses in Europe face the prospect of deeper slashes in their famine rations, while the masses in this country will see their own living standards degraded still further.

However, these criminals are still united on one point. Both of them still picture their thieves' debating society, the UN, as the only hope for

Just whom do these bandits still expect to fool? With Wall Street's mailed fist closing on Moscow's throat and the Kremlin screaming bloody murder, what's left of the gilt-edged claims about the UN guaranteeing peace?

It should be clear today even to those who placed the most persistent hopes in this second edition of the League of Nations that it was docmed from the beginning to suffer the same miserable fate as its predecessor. Now how about laying the UN away beside the League of Nations in a nice, quiet crypt in a mausoleum?

#### Tilting Wall Street's Bottle

When the Kremlin removed Earl Browder from public view two years ago, the American Communist (Stalinist) Party took a temperance cath and vowed never again to wake up in the gutter with a splitting hangover from hitting Wall Street's political bottle.

Like repentant drunkards they beat their chests in public about the evils packed in the bottle bearing Wall Street's label. They swore they were going to stick to the straight and narrow — the path leading to socialism; and they thought up serious differences with the Democratic Party to serve as texts for solemn. sermons in the Sunday Worker.

Lately they have even spoken about a "Third" Party - cautiously to be sure - but loudly enough for rank-and-file Stalinists to get the impression that what they really mean is a genuine independent Labor Party with union candidates on the ballot in opposition to both Democrats and Republicans.

The Stalinist leaders became especially vociferous about Wall Street's foreign policy, which is tightening a world-wide vise on the Soviet Union. They denounce the iniquities of the Truman Doctrine. As for the Marshall Plan, they roll their eyes heavenward in holy horror.

But if you think these case-hardened hypocrites and professional liars really meant all they said about laying off the Wall Street bottle, you don't know Dennis, Foster or their top boss in the Kremlin. They only washed and spruced up for appearance's sake. A capitalist politician need only give them the nod, and - you know where you can find them, arm in arm, trying out their voices for harmony.

Here's the latest novelty from the Henry Wallace political jewelry store:

"Reactionary capitalism would enforce high prices by means of scarcity and monopoly. They would take high prices out of us to pile up profits against the inevitable depression which they themselves make inevitable. Progressive capitalism believes in lower prices, high production and wages, giving the consumer a break and a high standard of living for all."

Exactly what Wallace meant in this New Jersey speech last week we cannot say, with any authority. When Wallace says "reactionary" capitalists "would" enforce high prices, he seems to mean they "wish" to, but haven't done so yet. In that case, which capitalists are responsible for the present very high prices — the "progressive" capitalists?

No, Wallace doesn't mean that; according to him, the "progressive" capitalists "believe" in lower prices, giving the consumer a break and so on. But since no capitalists known to anyone in the U.S. today are doing anything to lower prices or aid the consumer, perhaps this is Wallace's subtle way of saying there really are no "progressive" capitalists?

No, that can't be either, because in this same speech Wallace urged his audience not to "proclaim economic warfare" on all businessmen, for many of them believe as he does in "progressive capitalism."

Let's leave Wallace and try to put the matter straight so far as capitalism and progress are concerned. Capitalism was progressive when it first took shape in feudal society. It was progressive when it developed the productive forces to a higher level than was possible under feudalism. It was progressive when it took the path of revolution and smashed the feudal forces that barred the road to its development.

That stage in the evolution of capitalism ended long ago. Today it is reactionary to the core. Today it can only limp from one devastating war to the next. Today it can offer the masses only inflation, high prices, depression, unemployment, hunger, misery and slaughter. Today it bars the road to further development of the productive forces. Today it is playing a role toward socialism, the society of the future, such as feudalism once played toward rising capitalism.

Consequently, when Wallace declares that he believes in "progressive" capitalism, he might just as well say he believes in "progressive" feudalism, or going back still further, "progressive" slavery. It makes as much sense.

24:48

The Sons of Liberty, and the Committees of Correspondence which they organized, in a network that covered the colonies, were made up chiefly of the most exploited workers of the towns, who formed an alliance that was equivalent at times to an independent government with the small debt-ridden farmers bor and Negroes were abandoned. of the countryside and the frontier. The revolutionary movement at this time was not only anti-British, but Negroes for civil rights, for educa- anything which has yet appeared.

native exploiters, too.

ers, 1947, 576 pp, \$3.75.

One of the indispensible conditions

ist party in this country is a thor-

class history, illuminated by a Marx-

ist understanding of American so-

step toward that goal, in that it

attempts to tell the story with em-

the workers. It falls short of that

goal, in that its Marxism is twisted

and corrupted by Stalinism-espe-

tory of value to the movement to-

day, but only if our study hews,

closely to the class line. For ex-

workmen of the coastal towns

of the alliance lies.

Gradually, the merchants, lawyers, bankers, great landowners, and Southern plantation aristocracy took over the organs of power created by the workers and farmers. and before the revolution was even officially ended, class struggles within the American lines had gans of struggle against the brutal tory of our country which would be broken out with a ferocity that continued through the entire period of Foner carries the story only to for socialism.

adoption of the Constitution, and the 1880s, and another volume will

But the Republican Party was concerned only with winning power for the interest of Northern capital. The few concessions (like the Homestead law) passed during the war, were brushed aside in the fever to enjoy unrestricted exploitation of the continent's wealth. Both la-

The just demands of the liberated

exploitation of capital.

the Supreme Court of Massachusetts that a union was not of itself a conspiracy against the public welfare. Yet thousands of workers defied the courts again and again, demanding the rights which were properly theirs.

In spite of its faults, this book provides a more detailed and more readable account of the life and struggles of American workers than showed many signs of developing tion, and above all for land, were For that reason alone it is to be into a social revolution against the for the most part ignored. Within recommended to every worker. There ten years of Appomattox, labor's is evidence here of the breadth of standards had been so reduced as research which has been given to to drive the workingmen to the compiling a complete story, inverge of insurrection. The tri- cluding wide use of original sources. umphant coalition of 1860 was de- It is a pity that the industry of the stroyed, and the betrayed workers author was not matched by his unand farmers again turned to the derstanding of Marxism, so that we hard task of building their own or- might at last have a workers' hisa mighty weapon in the struggle

-John Hudson

The Truth About the LaGuardia Record

"A statesman is a dead politician." | even though the Stalinist Daily | ganized by the Socialist Workers That famous bit of American politi- Worker and other labor-fakers would Party in 1939. cal cynicism holds true for this like us to think so.

-By George Lavan-

epoch of capitalist politicians. Reams of eulogies printed throughout the nation following the death of Fiorello LaGuardia bear this out. Sad to relate, this glorification of one of America's shrewdest political actors is not confined to the kept press of Big Business but is also found in the newspapers of the labor movement.

What was LaGuardia's true role? He was too clever to be the ordinary stuffed-shirt, openly pro-capitalist politician. He sensed the disgust of the people with the two old parties and pretended to be independent. His independence, though, was limited to maneuvering between these parties. First working with, the Republicans then with the New Deal Democrats.

He also saw that the days of the mailed fist toward labor were over for a while and that reforms would have to be granted. Instead of fighting these reforms he was cunning enough to endorse them and claim credit for them. Here lies the basis of his reputation as a "friend of labor '

But the record doesn't end there against the big demonstration or- his death.

This true record of the "Little LaGuardia's record in New York Flower" could continue for pages. City Hall is a long record of anti- That is not necessary, however. All labor acts and pro-Wall Street deals. that is needed is to puncture the hot LaGuardia used the police force air balloon the Stalinists and others

gines, or reading the funny papers talent as an actor, he put over the this self-dramatization and posturnotorious subway steal which over- ing was carefully calculated. When paid the bankers for the transit he was engaged in putting over some

For a true estimate of whose side LaGuardia was really on, check his record. Read the accounts of strikes tion. Investigate the pay rates of city employes, his relations with the fascists at Madison Square Garden The workers lost exactly nothing by

Wall Street's own answer is clear enough. Another BUST is ahead. They know it and all the monopolists, above all the steel monopolists knew it, when they set off the general price rise ten weeks ago.

#### **Profits - Not Wages -Boost Building Costs**

It is the custom of the capitalist press to blame labor for everything. This holds especially for the high cost of home building today. It is claimed in loud voices and in off-the-record whispers that building costs are exorbitant because the wages of construction workers have shot up.

The facts show this to be pure bologna. Building wages have not increased much, but the profits of construction and building material companies have skyrocketed. This explains why the cost of building a home is so great that hundreds of thousands of would-be home builders have been priced out of the market.

The wages of building trades workers were frozen a year before those of other industries. "Adjustments" allowed by the wage-freeze boys in Washington, to mitigate inequities were very miserly. Since the end of wage-freezing in 1946, building wage increases have risen an average of 15%, it is revealed by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. This rise is less than that of other industries.

Even this increase did not mean much to the building trades worker. Severe shortages of material kept many workers only part time employes. Overtime, which had increased war time pay checks, was drastically reduced and the pay checks showed it. Unemployment was serious in the industry in many cities last winter; in some cities, including New York, unemployment was much more than seasonal, lasting well into the spring.

When things had improved during the summer a survey showed that for the month of June 1947 the average earnings of all building workers on private construction jobs as revealed by the AFL Building Trades Department were \$1.66 per hour. The average weekly wage was \$62.68.

When reading these figures it must be remembered that building workers don't work regularly. When the weather prevents work, there is no pay. When a building worker is moved from one job to another or his work is held up, he gets no pay. However, he has to pay rent for every day, feed his kids each day whether there is work or not and despite the weather.

What then explains the terrific cost of building? Speculation by the real estate profiteers is one of the answers. The cost of building materials, which always, runs over 45% of the total, has increased enormously. The materials in a \$5000 house cost \$2250 in 1939. In 1947 the same materials cost \$4410. Lumber costs are 198.6% more now than they were in 1939. Paint is 95.4% over pre-war levels. And so it runs down the

Along side of these staggering increases in construction costs, the 15% wage increase of building workers looks pretty puny. It's not high wages that prevent home building today but the collossal profiteering by the real estate and construction interests.

to break many a picket line. His are helping to inflate. treatment of the unemployed and ' LaGuardia chasing the fire enthe WPA unions was brutal. He kept the wages of city employes so over the radio may have succeeded low that emergency appropriations in fooling voters tired of stuffy pohad to be passed to keep them from litical bores. It may have convinced hunger and eviction. While divert- some he was a common man's man, ing the public's attention with his or a sidewalk candidate. But even

system and saddled the public with especially raw deal he stepped up debt and an unceasing fight against his public antics to divert attention a ten cent fare. He introduced the from the important work he was New York City sales tax which takes doing. the pennies of the poor in order to

spare the real estate interests. Although he paid lip-service to the fight against racial discrimination, in New York during his administrahe told the nation that New York didn't want any Americans of Japanese descent moving to the city. Transport Workers Union and un-He posed as an anti-fascist, but em-He posed as an anti-fascist, but em-employed organizations, and so on. pleyed thousands of cops to protect employed organizations, and the verdict then comes out clearly.

#### MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1947

#### PAGE FIV7

# Workers' Forum

#### This Veteran Held Out Longer Editor:

Unlike Albert Parker, I did not rush down to the bank on Sept. 2, the first day on which I could cash my hard-earned terminal leave eating strata of the population.

week after that my wife and I fig- more. ured out that rising food prices had When we first shifted over, it was

eaten into our budget so badly that salmon and halibut. Then the fish we had spent \$8 more than we had stores caught the price - raising earned.

end since Sept. 2, and when we up until we found our pocketbook On Freedom Train checked again, we found that the fit the cod and filet of sole notch. extra cost of food had given us an That was bad enough; but tem-\$11 deficit for the week.

I went to the bank and cashed it they look like minnows. this morning. At the present rate it will be all gone in two or three no. Once you run into a dollar months. In fact, it is going at a shortage it's hard to recover withto earn it.

#### **Dutch Friend** Seeks Correspondent Editor:

teresting and informative paper. I keep the stew pot lid on one of the to help out financially, morally and wonder if one of your young comrades, boy or girl, would be interand information about our respec- scales off my shirt front after suptive countries.

the Negro soldiers in the U.S. Army up on the news ---- what's hap- our civil liberties." (Aug. 11 Militant), telling of the pening to Li'l Abner and will Happy consciousness of these Negroes to Easter be rescued in time by Steve pertinent to challenge that. But fight their oppressors, we were Canyon from the blonde who wears just what are civil liberties if they very pleased with. Indeed, the most her evening gown backward and is are not allowed to function? Why oppressed give the best revolutionary material, as we saw in the case resistance front.

of A. Leon in Belgium during the war. Is there any possibility of our choice beef wholesaling at \$1.75 a

friends in America publishing his pound and choice fish retailing for erties for all," Martin went on. "If book — A. Leon's "Materialist Con- as little as \$.17 a pound, it makes we permit them to be wiped out for ception of the Jewish Question"?

Amsterdam, today in the Mirror's food budget them for all the people." Netherlands series. You will find her recipes Barring such a minority as the

Mirror been?

Penny's throat.

ED. NOTE: The Militant will and tips on page 24." gladly forward M.P.'s address to any I don't care if beef is \$1.75 or \$3. reader who would like to corre- a pound any more than I give a spond with him. Pioneer Publishers is now en- 000,000,000 or \$300,000,000. But gaged in raising funds from sym- "SAVE WITH FISH." They call above phrase: First for public ocpathizers for the publication of that news! TWO fish days a week! casions, and afterwards into the Leon's Marxist analysis of the Jew- Us nearer to seven! Where has the

ish question. "Daily Mirror" Tip

Arouses Reader's Ire Editor:

They say fish is good brain food. If so, I ought to be in the running with Einstein. We've been on a

The Workers' Forum column are open to the opinions of the **Atomic Bomb Makes** readers of "The Militant." Letters are welcome on any subject Labor Party Urgent of interest to the workers. Keep Editor: them short and include your name and address. Indicate if you want your name printed.

never met before. The capitalists themselves are aware of it. If we don't get a political party of our bond. Instead, I decided to hold Fish. Fish. Fish. We've been eatown, the atomic bomb will decide on to that \$125 as long as possible. ing fish so steady I can't tell the our lot. We will all have to lie Well, I've had it. In the first days in the week from Friday any down and die with the Philistines as Samson did.

fever. Our purchasing power stood Yesterday was the second week's still as the price escalator moved Martin's Eulogy

Editor: pus fugit, as I read in a book, and At that rate, we wouldn't be able next thing you know we were fry- air, ward heelers waxed eloquent, to pay the rent at the end of the ing flounders, porgies and some and Kate Smith's "God Bless Amermonth. There was no alternative- fish I don't know the name of but ica" blared forth from all the radio dom Train in Philadelphia. You'd think we'd hit bottom. But

much faster rate than it took me out a pipe line to the U.S. Public goguery about the rich heritage we Treasury. Last week we were try-Veteran,

Veteran, ing out tuna, First Avenue style. "30 cents worth," you tell the fishmonger and he swings his machete and whacks you out a piece from letter awaiting me. It was an apa big chunk of bloody-looking blub-

We aren't down to octopus yet, dependent Labor Candidates. A I am a member of the Dutch Trotskyist movement in Amsterdam We aren't down to octoped one of but I won't be surprised one of these days to find myself trying to branch organizer called upon me these days to find myself trying to branch organizer called upon me slimy monsters.

The pay-off was the other eve- County Board of Elections barring ested in corresponding with me, so ning. The wife brought in the Daily independent candidates from the that we could exchange opinions Mirror while I was still picking ballot in Philadelphia. I thought of Martin's rhetoric per. It calms me after I've gone "We have a Constitution and a Bill

The article of J. R. Johnson about through another fish dinner to catch of Rights," he said. "We have The Senator would deem it im-

South. . .

there anything new on the buyer pay lip service to something which is yanked back like a bone on a There on page two is some flash string when the time comes to ex-

We are all up against a crisis we

news: "SAVE WITH FISH. With ercise those liberties? "Guard these precious civil lib-

sense to have two fish days a week. some minorities - political, racial M. P. So says Prudence Penny, writing or religious - then we shall lose

Socialist Workers Party or Workers Party from the ballot doesn't obtain here. However it makes for damn if the national debt is \$260,- good platform verbiage. The Senator has two utilizations for the trash basket.

What Americans must do according to this high pundit of capital-I say take those recipes and tips ism is to file docilely through Freeand shove them down Prudence dom Train and imagine themselves back in the 18th century. They

# Militant Fund Drive Des Multant ARMO Begun by Branches St. Paul Nets 15 Subs In Sunday Mobilization By Rose Karsner

### Quotas for the **Militant Fund**

(Tentative Quotas) L. B. Courts City Quota Hamilton, Ohio Akron ..... \$ 300 Allentown-Bethlehem .... 75 Boston ..... 275 Buffalo ..... 600 Chicago ..... 1,500 Cleveland ..... 250 Connecticut ..... 200 Today martial music filled the Detroit ..... 600 Flint ..... 200 Los Angeles ..... 1,500 Lynn ..... 125 stations as they launched the Free-Massillon-Canton ..... Milwaukee ..... 200 Listening to Senator Martin of Newark ..... 500 Pennsylvania unleash his dema-New York City ..... 4,500 Oakland ..... 2,550 in America enjoy, I thought of Philadelphia ..... 300 Sacco-Vanzetti, the Haymarket Af-Pittsburgh ..... 150 fair, Harlan County, Centralia, the Reading ..... 150 Rochester ..... When I arrived home I found a St. Louis ..... peal from the Provisional Commit-San Diego ..... 100 San Francisco ..... 1,250 tee for the Political Rights of In-Seattle ..... 300 Tacoma ..... 25 Toledo ..... Twin Cities ..... 1,000 West Virginia ..... 25 vocally in calling attention to the Youngstown ..... 600 General

(members-at-large, etc.) 450

# **Another Letter To Our Readers**

50

25

50

#### Dear Readers:

Many of you are not subscribers to our paper because though "Marxism in America" was you get it from a news-stand or from the MILITANT distributor. That gives us no way of reaching you by mail. We internationalism stole the show. Dis- ceived 10 more subs today from Los papers immediately." therefore take this public method of writing to you.

In the issue of Sept. 22 the the producers of the world's riches. editors addressed an Open Let- No social system can endure when in the working class struggles of India and Palestine. Canadian ter, requesting you to write it has reached this stage in its deabout your experiences on the velopment. Capitalism must go. It gles in that country. job, on the home front, in the must be replaced by a higher order neighborhood, and to send let-", use, a Socialist society. -a social system of production for ters to the "Workers Forum".

In these letters you should feel free figment of the imagination or plot pated in the Camp's activity. A total to make comments, criticisms, sug- of a handful of "reds." This is the gestions, or ask questions about hard reality of life, granted in part the classes held in Historical Masome issue in the labor movement even by capitalist economists. about which you want our point of When you believe in these ideas, Capital, and Public Speaking. view or clarification.

These are no idle words. The edi- Workers Party do, personal sacrifices Carbon Canyon which offers exceltors are in earnest. We are eagerly become relatively insignificant, be- lent paths for hiking and horseback Indignant must believe that the men who pro- awaiting your communications. We cause for serious people, to believe riding. In the midday heat the

THE MILITANT FUND campaign terminates with the Dec. 15 issue of this paper, leaving exactly ten weeks in which cialist Workers Party scored again to fulfill the quotas. If you will divide what you owe on your With 15 new readers to the Militant Agent, pledge by ten you will arrive at a weekly figure to shoot at. typed out the following report im-In this manner ou can achieve 100% comfortably in time for mediately after the comrades rethe Dec. 15 issue. The Local herewith is \$75 to apply on the Mil-New York Director follows this itant Fund Drive. We hope to meet will subscriptions were gotten by procedure and finds that it our pledge very promptly."

works.

Board will begin to appear in "The organizer of this branch last time, but still good and very enthe October 13 Militant. In the says: "We decided to take the as- courging. We also sold \$1 worth of meantime all branches are urged to signed quota which is achieveable literature this morning." rush their collections so we can be- and will try to raise as much money gin with very few zeroes from the as we can above this amount." MILWAUKEE — J. O'Connell:

start. 'The job will be a little tougher All copy for this column must be than last time, but we pledge ourin the hands of the editors by Tuesday of each week. That means that selves to do our best to meet the asyour letters must be in our office not signed quota." Total received to Tuesday, Sept. later than Monday in order to make 23-\$737, as follows: any given current issue. Bear this in mind, especially for your last Youngstown ..... Newark ..... 157 payment on the quota, which will New York ..... have to reach us not later than Buffalo ..... Monday, Dec. 12. Chicago ..... FROM THE BRANCHES St. Louis LYNN-Mary Paule: "We feel Philadelphia ..... confident that we will meet our full Akron quota before the closing of the Cleveland ..... drive.' Seattle ..... CLEVELAND - Almeda Kingsley: Eureka, member-at-large ....

We started our campaign off Sat- Don't let the first Score Board apurday evening with an open house pear with a zero next to your for friends who attended a conven- branch. Rush your collections and tion here. The enclosed check rep- make sure your remittance reaches resents the proceeds."

BUFFALO-T. Martin: "Enclosed 7, at the very latest.

West Coast Camp **Ends Successful Vacation School** 

the theme of the West Coast Vaca-

cussions on colonial problems were

friends described the political strug-

More than 150 persons coming from Canada, New York, Chicago, This is no wishful thinking. No and the Los Angeles area partici-Seattle, San Francisco, San Diego, terialism, Marxism in America. The Camp is situated in beautiful than original quotas to start with.

The St. Paul Branch of the So- Angeles by registered mail. \* \* \*

5 comrades who were out this morn-ST. LOUIS - Dick Clark: "En- ing for about an hour and a half. closed is a money order for \$25 as This is a score of 2-3/5 subs per

\* \* \*

rades," writes C. Andrews, Militant

Manager, "who was able to attend

\$200 subs. Not bad, eh?"

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ing it at former distribution points. Sales of The Militant at Longshore Union meetings have averaged \$4 The first complete Score our first payment toward our quota. This is a score of 2-3/5 subs per and \$5 a month. We will now try comrade, a little less than we did to call also at the Ford Union meetto sell also at the Ford Union meetings, but can't hope for such a ready response. We've distributed the paper to the Longshoremen for a good 5 years now and to the Ford

The San Pedro Branch of Los

Angeles Local is now reaping bene-

fits from previous distributions.

Cynthia Rogalin explains: 'We have stopped free distribution of The

Militant and the comrades are sell-

The Milwaukee comrades tend to workers only during this past year." prove the old adage, subs are where \* \* \* you find them. "One of our com-

Various comrades in the St. Louis Branch mailed in a total of 7 subthe Socialist Party picnic last week scriptions to The Militant during the here was able to get three Militant week.

\* \* \*

Comrade Andrews also reports This note from Beatrice Allen, that Milwaukee is planning its reg- Literature Agent for the Detroit; ular monthly mobilization to take Branch, acompanied 6 Militunt subs: . 80 care of expired subscriptions. The "There is no spectacular way in mobilization wil be preceded by an- which the comrades here get subsother waffle breakfast.

each one is aware of the value of \* \* \* The Militant and the aid it is when The following letter from J. Blake, sold to shop mates. For instance, Southside Branch, Los Angeles Lo- Comrade George who is Vice-Presical, arrived after the conclusion of L. A.s subscription campaign: "Now dent of his Local just tells the felthat the two months' sub drive here | lows in the shop that he has them is coming to an end, the competition on a list for a damn good paper and

the national office by Tuesday, Oct. for shop subs, at least, seems to that he wants a dollar from them. be getting keen. Enclosed is a This works. I know because I tried check for \$3.50 and 5 subs from one it." of our friends in General Motors. We'll probably have a slump in subs

for the next two weeks, since the Pitt burgh Bunch has requested West Coast Vacation School starts a bundle increase of 15 copies a Saturday, but Southside Branch will week.

make follow-up work on expirations

\* \* \*

one of its major routine tasks im-The Boston Branch sent the folmediately afterward." lowing telegram: "Can use 300 copies of the Sept. 22 issue for the United

tion School for Workers this year, . In addition to the above, we re- Electrical Workers Convention. Rush.



Pioneer Publishers' two newest line against Senator Taft in Seattle pamphlets, American Stalinism and Sept. 23, literature agent Joyce Anti-Stalinism, by James P. Can- Hesser ordered 80 more copies of non, 15c, and Fight the Slave Labor Fight the Slave Labor Law after Law, a statement by the National an original order of 75. Committee of the Socialist Workers Milwaukee quickly sold 50 of the Party, 5c, are selling so rapidly that Fight pamphlet (10 above quota) SWP branches are continually re- and ordered 30 more.

ordering, even after taking more \* \* \* St. Paul's first 75 copies went

fast and Paul Chelstrom ordered New York, N. Y. mulgated these documents meant want The Militant to be your paper. in something means to do what you modern swimming pool was crowded Z. reports: "Last night two com- the AFL, CIO and Railroad Broththem for an America of the type We want you to be a Militant con-which such "duly closted" admin tributor. Don't he shy about writ-





#### Diary of a Steel Worker The Furnaces and the Men -By Theodore Kovalesky-

When the alarm clock jangles in the darkness of when they see this, but it's true. He hates the early morning I hate to be a worker.' When I have furnaces, there's no doubt of that. To thim the blast to go to work on the night shift with the rest of the furnace means sweat that pours rather than seeps, town getting ready to sleep it seems fatigue that is deeper than any other kind known



I'll be able to take it. the sweaty hardships and fiery danfurnaces. . .

will start talking about one of the furnaces. Usually remote and not so real. what he will have to say is bad, for instance, "I be any good any more." Or: "A man's crazy to stay at a damn job like this!"

But there's always interest in furnace talk. Symptoms are cited. Number Three's been rolling and heaving all day. Number' Two's iron's had so much silicon for the past week and a half that you tear up the runners when you try to clean them. Then the gang begins to diagnose. The reason why Seven burns so many tuyeres is that they use a different kind of ore in her. They used that kind down in Sparrows Point in Bethlehem, and it did the same thing there. No, thinks somebody else, it's just that they use too much wind on the furnace, too' much blast; that's why the tuyeres burn out.

You always hear talk like this in Emil's place. Sometimes it mounts into arguments, not too heated ing on them." And Slim was quick to defend his grasp on furnace lore and deride Jimmy's ideas.

man at heart in a way. I know the gang will howl workers of tomorrow will find the way.

terrible. When there's a coke mess to him. It means the cutting scorch that shoots from on the furnace on a hot afternoon the iron and slag during cast. To the furnace man I begin to wonder how much longer the furnace is a monster that must be overcome, a looming evil spirit full of cunning ways to make But all in all, in spite of the high miserable the lives of the furnace gang, and someorices and low wages, in spite of times to kill members of that gang.

When I say he's a furnace man at heart I don't gers of the job, in spite of the shift mean he has any love for the furnaces. He feels work, there's something about blast a deep hatred for them; to him it often seems in a vague way that the colossus of the furnace standPAGE SIX

When we finish up a day's (or night's) work and ing solid and tremendous in the red-brown dirt of drop into Emil's place for a beer before going home, the furnace yard is his real enemy, his actual master, we talk about a lot of different things, but some- while the company itself, the management with its time before we walk out of the door one of us board of directors and stockholders is something very

But still there's something. . . . I've read about hate than damn Number Seven! Never know when how the sea gets into the blood of men, who, hating something is going to burn out and blow up. They it and fearing it, are yet drawn to it again and again. pushed it too hard in the war, and it's never gonna I know that men are actually drawn back to jobs they hate because they need money, and they can best earn money on the job they know. But it's not that alone

When the workers take control of the government one of these days and throw out the capitalists, there will still be sailors, and there will still be blast furnace men: "It's the romance of the open hearth," says a friend of mine who has spent twenty years there. And he's just a regular guy, not a dreamer or a poet. It's that way with us too.

This spell is on us. The iron has gone into our blood. But don't think that makes us satisfied. Down in the subterranean passages in our brains is the seed of a thought that will one day burst into bloom:

These furnaces that we work on must belong to us. We must take them from the bandits who "own" We know them. We have seen them cast them ones, of course. I've seen Jimmy leer into Slim's their red light against the midnight skies. We have face and say, "Man, you've never learned anything sweated and died upon them. We work them and about a blast furnace in all the years you been work- know, them and are one with them. And when we take them over in socialist production, we'll make the working conditions on them fit for men.

Just how you can make decent conditions on a The average furnace man is, I think, a furnace blast furnace, I don't know as yet. But the Socialist

#### The Negro Struggle-

### Your Verdict On James Hickman By William E. Bohannan

Where are your sympathies in the James Hick- for these restrictive covenants he would surely have man case - with the State of Illinois which wants rented a home elsewhere. Was Hickman responsible



stand-the whole background of the case. Otherwise landlord, who likewise did nothing about them and you are not qualified to judge his action at all, or who in addition, there is good reason to suspect,

to take sides in the coming trial. tenement house. Who was responsible for the hous- verdict of not guilty for James Hickman. ing shortage - Hickman? No, it was the capitalist Hickman must and can be freed to return to the

to convict and execute him on the charge of mur- for this? No, it was the capitalist system, which dering his landlord, or with Hick- rests on Jim Crow foundations, and it was the great man and those members of his fam- State of Illinois, which tolerates such discrimination ily who managed to survive the and now wants to take the life of Hickman, who is terrible fire that burned the four the victim of such discrimination.

Hickman children to death last And finally, you must think about the other facts in the case. The landlord ordered Hickman and the To answer that question, you must other tenants to move so he could convert the apartknow the facts. Not only the fact ments and get higher rents. He threatened to burn about Hickman shooting his land- them out when they didn't move. After the fire a lord; nobody denies that fact, but kerosene can, never seen before by the tenants, was there is more to it than that. You found near the Hickman attic. Who was guilty of must also know why he shot him, you these thirgs - Hickman? No, the guilt belonged must also know about the conditions under which to the Chicago authorities who did nothing about Hickman and his family lived, you must also under- the firetrap conditions in the building, and to the

himself arranged the murderous fire. First, you must take into consideration the hous- I don't know what capitalist politicians or judges ing shortage. If not for this housing shortage, Mr. or landlords will say, but I am sure that working and Mrs. Hickman and their seven children would people, Negroes, fathers of murdered children, tennever have been forced to move into a tiny attic anis evicted from their homes or forced to live in room, without lights, heat or water, in a firetrap firetraps, will have no difficulty in arriving at a

system and the greedy real estate interests who con- pitiful remnants of his family.

# THE MILITANT

#### NEW YORK, N. Y.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1947

# Flint UAW Locals Set Up Own **Grocery Store to Fight HCL**



Mayor Jeffries' police force in Detroit has unleashed a campaign of

bru'nlity against striking garage workers and their union, UAW-CIO bru'olity against striking garage workers and their union, UAW-CIO Trainor Opens orders issued against the union. Above the cops are shown with clubs ready for action as they try to push a path through pickets at the Jerry Boston Campaign

All ranks of the UAW are protesting the scab-protecting activities of the police. A city wide meeting of local union, leaders had pledged full On October 4 support; so has the UAW International Executive Beard. Detroit unionists are asking what Jeffries' cops will be like after the coming election if they are so vicious during his campaign for Mayor.

Rally To Be Held for Federated Pictures

# Lerner-for-Mayor Drive **Gains Speed in Detroit**

DETROIT, Sept. 23 - The Socialist Workers Party cam paign for Howard Lerner for Mayor is in high gear now, with two weeks to go to the Oct. 7 primaries.

A successful open-air rally was held in the Negro section last Saturday. Rev. Charles A. Hill, progressive Negro Councilmanic candidate endorsed by + all candidates have been invited. the SWP, was guest speaker Lerner has called on the Detroit

and called for the election of Common Council for a hearing on anti-Jim Crow candidates statement on the SWP housing pro-Howard Lerner delivered a stirring speech interrupted several gram he said:

ring speech interrupted several times by spontaneous applause. He called for a struggle against a new war, the building of a Labor Party and the construction of a socialist society.

School Board Candidate short pay checks aggravate the local. (See story on Page 1.) BOSTON, Sept. 24 — The drive to elect Lawrence P. opened at the bang-up Social and Dance on the evening of Oct. 4, the Socialist Workers Committee announced today. Trainor, veteran of the socialist and trade union movement, will give a brief address during which he will point out the necessity for labor to elect its own representa-

tives to public office. All workers are invited to at- Secretary of the Socialist evictions and rent control. In a tend this Social and Dance at 30 Stuart St.; particularly the readers of The Militant. Here, besides hav- ment follows:

By Jerry Kirk

FLINT, Mich., Sept. 22 - All four General Motors locals of the CIO United Auto Workers here have made plans to establish wholesale grocery stores in their union halls to help relieve the pressure of high food prices. Each local is buying thousands of dollars of canned bitter feelings of the workers. None

food weekly and selling them of the fast talk about a steel shortat wholesale prices to their age has made an impression in members. This proposal has Flint. The auto workers are conevoked a very favorable response vinced the corporation is interested from the rank and file who want in maintaining a scarcity in order the unions to really do something to keep prices up. Short paychecks have given rise about the big squeeze on their pay checks. to the demand for an immediate

Two days after the Detroit Ford fight for the six-hour day at eight Highland Park local announced the hours pay. This was first raised plan, the United Progress and Action and Rank and File caucuses spearheaded the same idea in UAW Chevrolet Local 659. Simultaneously Bob Carter, president of AC hours pay. The miners have the Sparkplug, raised a similar proposal. The Fisher Body workers' can get it too. A new leadership attention to the wholesale grocery with fighting spirit can bring this plan was raised by a new caucus called Pioneer which is headed by Ray Tucker, a militant of long standing in the local. At the moment the Flint auto ficers have split away from the workers interest is centered on the Progress and Action Caucus, and UAW convention to be held in November. It comes at a time when Rank and File Caucus and drawn

tension in the plants is mounting up a joint slate for the UAW condaily. Scores of irate veterans and vention. seniority men. are expressing their pent-up ire on individual foremen. This results from many factors. The corporation has speeded up assembly lines while at the same time he convention was overwhelmingly

At the last Chevrolet membership meeting the united caucuses continued their fight for a Labor Party. A strong resolution addressed to chousands of workers are being sent passed despite the parliamentary home after six or seven hours. The bjections of two top officers of the

by the Pioneer group at Fisher

"We believe plans must be made

now for the 30-hour week at 40

6½ hour day at 8 hours pay! We

During the past few months a

regroupment has taken place in

Chevrolet. The administration of-

this body has since united with the

Body. In a leaflet they state:

to the UAW convention."

## drive to elect Lawrence P. Trainor to the Boston School Committee will be formally SWP Labor Secretary **Hits Deportation Drive** As Anti-Union Assault

MINNEAPOLIS, Sept. 23 — — A vigorous denunciation of government persecutions of foreign-born trade unionists was made here today by Vincent R. Dunne, National Labor

Workers Party. His full state-

"A news story in the Minneanolis Morning Tribune Sept. 18 states that Peter Warhol, who was ex-

pelled from the AFL Upholsterers

Union last June on the charge of



spire to prevent a large low-cost housing program achieved only if the working people, white and Negro, so that they can jack up the rents in existing build- com- to his defense and make their voices heard. ings. We should not wait until the trial is over; we should

Next, you must remember that Chicago, like most raise our voices in protest now; the greater the other American cities, is ruled by restrictive cov- protest, the greater the chance that he will be acenants, which permit landlords to get together and quitted. Let every mass organization swing into agree that Negroes like James Hickman shall not be action now and send copies of their resolutions and permitted to rent or buy a home anywhere except in financial aid to the Hickman Defense Committee, the Negro Ghetto. Hickman had a job, and if not 4619 South Parkway, Chicago 15, Illinois.

Li'l Abner Gagged - By George Lavan-

Of all the comic strips Li'l Abner, drawn by Al Senator Phogbound lends his aid to the defeat Capp, is one of the top favorites. This is deserved of a bill to broadcast the Senate proceedings. In since most funnies aren't very funny. The great reward for his services and vote, the other Senators majority are serialized soap operas or amazing stories. appropriate two million dollars to build a university But Li'l Abner is funny. It is noteworthy for its in his district to be known as Phogbound University original characters like Lonesome Polecat, Fearless or P.U. Now is this a dreamed-up libel of the Senate? Fosdick, Hairless Joe and many more.

whole week.

To justify this action, the paper ran an editorial your district." stating that the current episodes of Li'l Abner were It seems that Senator Phogbound of Dogpatch' is trayal of a Senator. Apparently he has studied Amercorrupt, ignorant and moronic. The editors of the ican politics and spent some time in the Senate Pittsburgh Press don't think our national legislators gallery listening to the proceedings and making should be portrayed that way, even in a comic strip. sketches. Well, let's look at the record.

during the war, has been convicted for his paytriotic her head. efforts. And just to show that this isn't a charto answer.

The facts are that Congress has for many years Now the steel trust stooges who own the Pitts- rejected bills to broadcast proceedings. It's very burgh Press have decided that their readers should not obvious why they don't want the voters listening in be corrupted by Li'l Abner. The installments of this on them. It is also a well-established fact that Senate comic have simply been left out of the paper for a porx barrel bills are passed on the basis of "you

vote for this and I'll vote for an appropriation for The author of Li'l Abner need not be credited 'objectionable" because they burlesqued a Senator. with great fictional ability on the basis of his por-

The pay-off, however, is when the Pittsburgh Press There are many cases of proven bribe-taking by hypocritically states that it is protecting its child our Washington "solons." You don't have to go back readers. What a laugh! This yellow capitalist sheet to the Teapot Dome scandal, just look at recent times. which goes all-out in coverage of murders, rapes, Huey Lang's shakedowns and corruption were hardly love-nest scandals, etc., is suddenly interested in the concealed by him. Champion race-hater and ignor- kids. They never worried about the effect of Little amus Senator Bilbo admitted taking juicy "gifts" Orphan Annie's glorification of scabbing, or the crime in connection with war contracts. Representative comics, or the sexy ones whose only form of "humor" May, head of the House Committee on Military Affairs is the girl reporter falling down with her skirts over

acteristic peculiar to Southern Senators, think of the was the Dogpatch character who was inside man at questions that Senator Brewster of Maine has yet the skunk works, but the editors of the Pittsburgh Press seem to have copped the title from him.

I thought the smelliest individual in the country

Notes from the News

SAME DIFFERENCE? - J. D. Watson escaped of special benefits under the GI Bill of Rights. In from the North Carolina State Prison in May 1946. August recruiting for the Army was 33% below re-Then he joined the Army. Last week he turned up at quirements and for the Navy 22% below. the prison gate and asked for readmittance because

he couldn't stand the Army. in the Georgia primaries. Segregation will be com- National Committee. plete; different buildings will be used for white and

Negro voters; use of partitions in the same building is outlawed. \* \* \*

LACK OF INCENTIVE - Recruitment into the get \$3 per 100 pounds - in Texas they get between armed forces has slumped notably since withdrawal \$1.50 and \$2.

STRANGE CAMP-Such union leaders as William

Green and A. F. Whitney are in the same camp as JIM CROW BALLOTS-Governor M. E. Thomp-a lot of labor-hating Southern Democrats in pushing son has approved arrangements for Jim Crow voting Gael Sullivan for the chairmanship of the Democratic

> LAND OF FREE? - Deputies are keeping thouands of agricultural workers from crossing the state line out of Texas. In adjoining states cotton pickers

Similar street meetings will be mobiles per day. At \$5,000 a pre-tion literature is now in the print- being a follower of the Communist held in this and other neighbor-fabricated home, 1,000,000 homes to not the prime is being contracted Party, had been arrested by fedcould be had in six months." Several of the big auto plants

To close the election campaign a and working class neighborhoods rally will be held at campaign headhave been canvassed with the SWP quarters on Sunday, Oct. 5, at 7

Next Tuesday Lerner will speak Tickets selling for \$1 to "Put Howat a meeting sponsored by Briggs ard Lerner on the Air" will serve friends of labor are urged to con- Michael Obermeier are geing tried Local 212 of the UAW, to which as admission to the rally.

**Protest Meeting** Held in Phila.

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 23-Irene P. LeCompte, Socialist Workers Party candidate for City Council, Jack Radar, Workers Party candidate, and David H. H. Felix, defense enough to accuse these people of attorney, addressed a large crowd that attended the Defense ever being self-sacrificing for the Rally Social held last Saturday night at the Militant Labor of them contributing a red normal

fense Committee to protest the labor movement."

martial injustice..

sentenced the two candidates to cf two young people demonstrating "Labor must put a stop to this \$100 or 30 days in jail, and their for the release of conscientious ob- con game of lying and deception we pre-emptors to \$50 or 30 days. jectors from the nation's prisons. and plunder. The only way to do They are now out on bail pending He urged all out support to the Pro- this is to elect labor's own members an appeal scheduled to come up in visional Defense Committee.

March.

an decree."

Defense Attorney Felix opened his pose the Republican - Democratic the denial of the ballot to the SWP and to make this one of the princi- goal by electing me to the School and WP has brought Pennsylvanie, politics, and Philadelphia politics ir particular, to a new low. He liker ed the action of Judge McDevitt in sentencing the four to a "totalitari-

ı place on the ballot. An appeal was then made to the udience for aid in publicizing and

expressed their determination to ex-

ral issues in the coming municipal

ampaign. Both are set to proceed

inancing the activities of the De-"The Republican Party, which ense Committee. A good response lominates state politics, and its cept woman, the Democratic Party, ollowed. Donations of close to \$144 which plays along for little favors, vere contributed and many volunhave their own interpretation of the Bill of Rights—only Republicans

and Democrats are allowed on the The hearing on the writ of manballot," he said. "This is the Pennylvania counterpart of the Jim jamus calling upon the County Elec-Crow white primary in the South tion Board to show cause why it had The action against the SWP and rejected the nomination papers of WP emphasizes the need for basic the two parties will come up Sept. corrections in the treacherously worded Pennsylvania election laws 26 before Judge McDevitt, Attorney which place the right of minority Felix announced.

crowded people of Detroit. Ford's The Committee's campaign plans assembly lines roll off 5,000 auto- are already being carried out. Elecfor and a sound truck has been eral immigration authorities and hired for the closing days of the faces deportation.

campaign. The number of people "It is important to note that the reached in the campaign will na- arrest of Warhol coincides with the sound equipment and election lit- P.M. Lerner will address the au- turally depend upon the meager arrest of two New York trade union dience by radio over WJLB at 9. resources of the Committee, which officials by the immigration auis made up of working people. All thorities there. John Santo and on the same charges. tribute whatever they can possibly

> "The Socialist Workers Party despare. With regards to campaign exclares that these actions by the penditures. Trainor issued the folimmigration authorities are proof lowing statement: that the administration at Wash-

> ington is moving swiftly and brut-"Isn't it a bit strange that the professional political parasites who ally against trade unions. Such a dominate Boston's political life will drive is obviously intended to terspend up to \$20,000 - \$25,000 in cam- rorize the American labor movepaigning for an office that pays ment.

"That Warhol's birth place hapno salary? Surely, no one is stupid pens to be Russia furnished a convenient pretext for the government action against him. Can any inof them contributing a red penny formed person doubt that this move Forum Hall. The rally was parties to the ballot at the mercy of courts and judges hostile to the righteous cause of labor is the reactionary group of labor-hatalien to them except at election ers, who are now developing their

program for war upon the Soviet Union? "Socialist Workers Party oppositends to bring democracy to the people of the Soviet Union. Free-

Stalin's bureaucratic machine. "In this campaign I ask labor to do we condemn all capitalist in- the challenge and decided in favor

term these persecutions of Warhol, the fact that the electorate and not Committee. There I will speak in Santo and Obermeier as steps on the court must decide which party with write-in campaigns if denied the name of labor — and labor the bloody path marked out by had the right to call itself "So-Mussolini and Hitler!" cialist."



**SWP Wins Right** To Use Name on **New York Ballot** 

NEW YORK, Sept. 19-The Board of Elections today upheld the right of Robert Williams, candidate for State Senator in the 23rd Senate District, to appear on the ballot in November under the designation of Socialist Workers Party. The decision was made in response to ob-

This was the second time that official agencies in New York State dom will come to the Russian work- had decided in favor of the Socialers and farmers only when they ist Workers Party's right to use themselves find a way to overthrow its name on the ballot in opposition to complaints by the SP. In the "Jus: as we oppose American im- 1946 Gubernatorial contest, the SP perialist interference in the affairs brought legal action before the of the Soviet peoples, so likewise State Supreme Court which heard remarks at the rally by stating that conspiracy to monopolize the ballot make a beginning towards that terference in the internal affairs of the Socialist Workers Party. The of working class organizations. We decision at that time was based on

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alone.' Food Prices at Al-Time High \$31.30 1 \$26.40 \$16 al 1939

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sered their services to the Commitee's work.

time. arbitrary rejection of the legal Felix concluded his remarks by nomination papers of the two calling attention to the glaring con- "They are not weating individuals." parties and to mobilize support radiction between fact and ballyor the four victims of Repub-tion to this city at the very time the devil take the hindmost.' And is well known. But we do not be-

licans and Democratic court- two violations of civil liberties oc- playing with Boston's \$18,000,000 lieve that American imperialism in-

curred-the denial of the ballot to school budget is not to be sneezed Labor-hating Judge McDevitt had two minority parties and the arrest at.

to public office where they will be the State Superior Court next The candidates in their remarks responsible to labor.