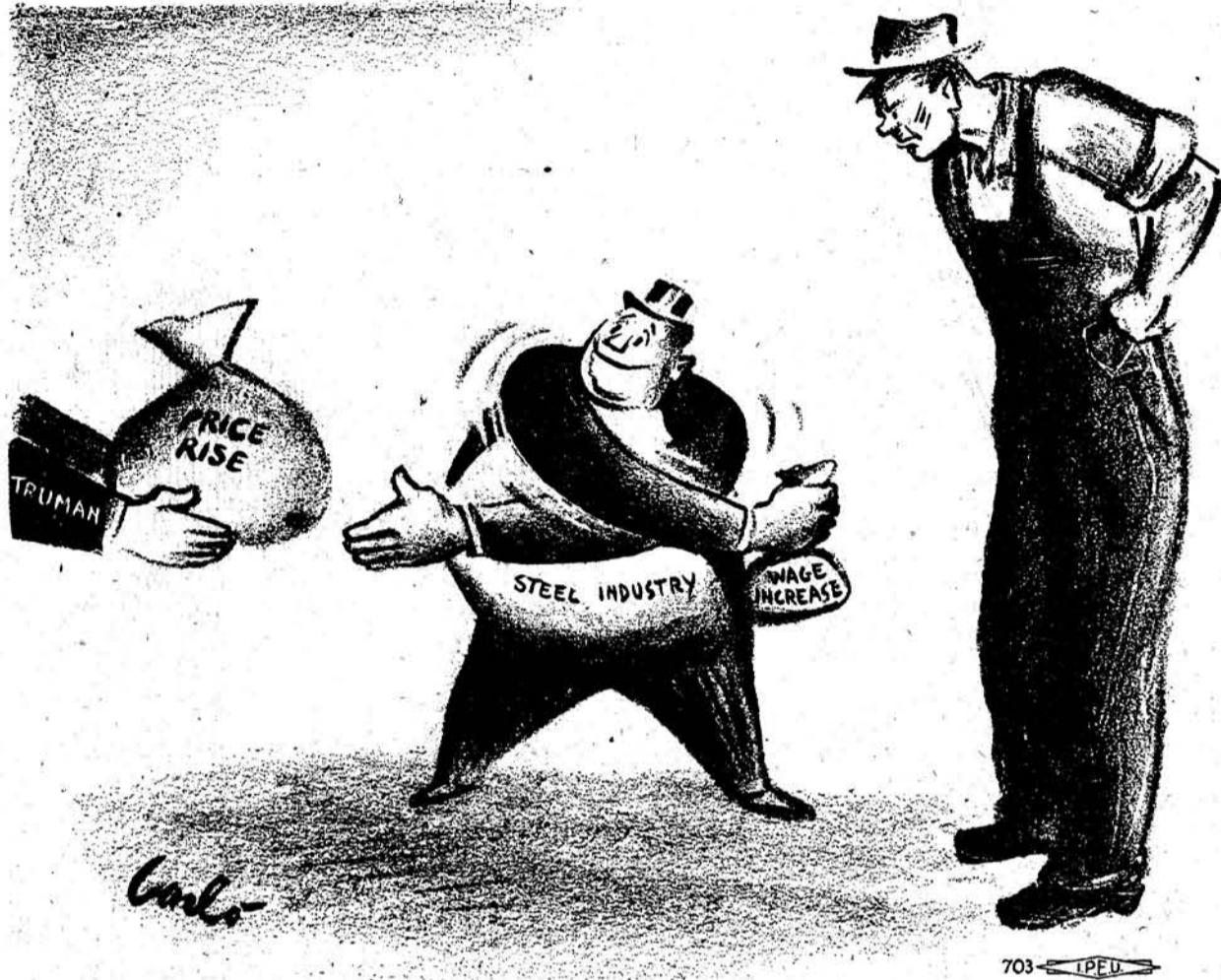




FEBRUARY 25, 1946

# FIGHT "BIG STEAL" FORMULA!

## "Your Government" at Work



By MARY BELL

The executive of big business in the White House, after much hocus-pocus and shadow-play to fool the working class, has loyally responded to the bidding of his class by inflicting a "Big Steal" formula on organized labor.

The Truman edict on wages and prices is no more than a repetition in peacetime of the wage freeze imposed on labor during the war! But labor was dragooned into acceptance of the "Little Steal" wartime formula by the promises of Roosevelt and its own leaders that the formula would stand only "for the duration."

Now a "Big Steal" formula marches upon the heels of the "Little Steal" pattern. Just as the wartime pattern had its origin in the settlement of the dispute in the little steel industry, so this new formula has its origin in the dispute in big steel.

The "Big Steal" formula, while freezing wages with 15 to 20 per cent of the 1941 average—which does not permit workers to come up to their wartime earnings — does even more for big business than even the elastic war price ceilings permitted. It gives the green light to price increases! This is best exemplified in the basic agreement in steel, where the price rise of \$5.00 a ton exceeded the expectations of even the Wall Street Journal which had expected \$4 at most.

### AN EDITORIAL ON THE STEEL SETTLEMENT

## Picket Line Wage Gains Stolen in Washington!

The steel strikers won a wage increase on the picket line. But a large part of what they won was stolen from them in Washington.

That is the real meaning of the \$5.00 a ton increase in the price of steel. It means that, instead of actually winning an 18½ cents or 17½ per cent increase in wages, the steel workers and all other workers are going to discover that EVERYTHING THEY BUY HEREAFTER IS GOING TO COST MORE.

Truman's man, Chester Bowles, has the gall to tell Congress that the result of the steel-price increase will be felt only "in some of the metal-using industries, a relatively small section of the cost of living," but won't be felt in food, clothing and rent. Bowles is lying, and knows that he is lying. Fairless, president of U. S. Steel, was at least more frank in his February 15 statement announcing the end of the steel strike when he said "There is bound to be a substantial increase in the price of the goods and services which we purchase."

It was Chester Bowles' predecessor as OPA chief, Henderson, who, in the original price-fixing order of April 28, 1942, explained that a price rise in steel means a price rise in everything else under conditions of scarcity. Henderson said: "The interdependence of prices, when prices are rising generally, prohibits any possibility of piecemeal control." In plain English that means that the steel price-rise is very quickly going to be reflected in everything you buy.

That means that the steel workers did NOT get a 17½ per cent increase. At least half that increase is going to be eaten up IMMEDIATELY by higher prices for what the steel workers buy with their wages. And that is only the beginning.

Was the steel price rise actually necessary in order to make it possible for poverty-stricken U. S. Steel, Bethlehem Steel, etc., to pay the wage increase? NEITHER THE STEEL MAGNATES NOR THE GOVERNMENT DARES TO PUBLISH ANY FIGURES TO TRY TO PROVE IT WAS NECESSARY.

Who doesn't know of the ill-gotten gains of the steel kings, the blood money they piled up in war production, the brand new plants paid for entirely by government money and handed over to them? Fairless says the wage increase and higher prices for materials that go into steel will cost U. S. Steel \$100,000,000 during the life of the new contract with the United Steel Workers. But Fairless did not tell you that that extra money—even taking his word for the figures—is only a fraction of the war booty piled up by U. S. Steel and which it is high time to start taking away from U. S. Steel.

This, then, is the situation: What labor is winning on the picket line is being stolen from labor in Washington.

Philip Murray, president of the United Steel Workers and president of the whole CIO, knows all this as well as we do. If you look in the back files of the CIO and steel union newspapers, you will find all the facts there.

But when the steel magnates went to Washington to arrange this steal, Philip Murray kept quiet. He didn't say anything when Chester Bowles as OPA chief declared a \$2.25 price rise for steel was more than enough. He didn't say anything when that \$2.25 ended up as a \$5.00 rise.

Philip Murray is not telling the steel workers that their so-called 17½ per cent wage increase isn't going to buy that percentage more of groceries, clothes, rent, etc. Instead he has his henchmen pat him on the back for his "labor statesmanship."

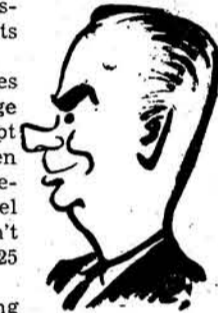
### GM STRIKERS SHOWED THE WAY

The General Motors workers showed the way. They demanded a 30 per cent wage increase WITHOUT A PRICE INCREASE. They demanded that the corporation open its books and they would demonstrate that the wage increase could be made without a price increase. To the considerable extent that the lower middle class and the farmers do not blame the workers' wage demands for the price increases, it is due above all to the effective proposal of the GM strikers that there be no price increases.

But Philip Murray and his associates, the leaders of the CIO—not to speak of the zombies who head the AFL—didn't follow up the lead of the GM strikers. It was too revolutionary for them. It means that labor would be saying, as it should, that industry should be run for the benefit of the masses and not for the privileges of the profiteers. It means that labor would have to back up its demands not only on the picket line but also in Washington. And that means speedily establishing an INDEPENDENT LABOR PARTY which would seek to become the WORKERS GOVERNMENT that this country should have.

The Philip Murrays wouldn't go for that. They ducked their responsibilities to the workers they are supposed to lead. They abdicated labor's right to determine wages, prices and profits. They went back to the usual piddling business-unionism in a period when only POLITICAL INTERVENTION can protect the interests of labor.

That's why you'll have to pay higher prices now. You can thank the Philip Murrays for that. IT IS HIGH TIME FOR A NEW LABOR LEADERSHIP.



## Companies Have Plenty of \$ \$ \$ For Anti-Labor Ads, Not Pay

By MIKE STEVENS

Every newspaper in the country is carrying full page advertisements against the trade union movement. These advertisements, paid for by the big corporations, are obviously part of an organized campaign by all the corporations in which even the smallest details have been worked out.

By analyzing the contents of the advertisements and the specific areas where these ads have appeared it is crystal clear that the "public relations" departments of the various corporations have been working very closely with each other. And if the public relations departments of the different corporations have worked out an advertising campaign, you can be sure that it is only part of a fuller and complete anti-labor program worked out by the top bosses of the various corporations.

The biggest advertisers have been General Motors, General Electric, Western Electric, U. S. Steel Corp. and the American Iron & Steel Institute. All their advertisements fall into the following categories: "Let's have peace," "Open letters to our employees," "Statement to our employees," and "Look what it's doing to the country."

### APPLY ANTI-LABOR PRESSURE

The campaign was started with the General Electric advertising, almost a month before the strike began in their plants. GE's first three advertisements appeared in all big city newspapers. When the strike started, GE placed large advertisements in 1,400 rural weekly newspapers.

Most of these small-town papers are located thousands of miles from GE plants. These ads played up the idea that GE wanted to sell its products at a low price, that it was more than fair to its employees, etc. With this ad GE hoped to arouse the conservative farmers and small-town people to put pressure on Congress for anti-labor legislation. It is estimated that GE ads in the rural papers reached over 53 per cent of the entire U. S. population.

GE's campaign in the cities where its plants are located was to put pressure on strikers through their families and local traders. Starting January 15, ads were run in the plant city newspapers (these ads will continue for the duration of the strike) giving a report of what the strike is costing in wages, etc.

The U. S. Steel Corp. and the Steel Institute have also poured hundreds of thousands of dollars into paid advertisements and like General Electric they too have used the small-town weekly newspapers. The U. S.

Steel Corp. printed Fairless' open letter to President Truman in 1,000 rural weeklies. The Steel Institute ran its advertisement "Is This a Scrap of Paper?" in 1,400 rural weeklies as well as in all the metropolitan dailies.

But the biggest campaign has been put on by General Motors. In addition to paid advertisements, utilizing all newspapers, they have Henry J. Taylor, who delivers a "commentary" on the strike over the radio twice a week. Program time for their commentator costs GM \$8,000 a week. This corporation has also been "planting" stories in big national magazines, with the consent of the publishers, of course.

One of the biggest stories appeared in the Saturday Evening Post, signed by a Peter Drucker. This story told how GM could not go on if it paid higher wages, capitalism was at stake, the stockholders were suffering—in short, the whole sad, pitiful tale. What the Post readers were not told is that Peter Drucker is on the GM payroll as an "economic adviser."

The Society of Sentinels, which appeared in Detroit, has already been

covered in LABOR ACTION. Nobody knows who paid for the advertisements of this union-busting outfit. But it has been proved positively that one of its top officers is Stephen Du Brul, who is on the GM payroll as an "economist" and handles the important GM function of negotiator for union contracts.

A full-page anti-labor editorial that appeared in the Detroit Free Press has been reprinted and mailed out to everybody with a telephone. The entire cost of printing, envelopes, stamps and mailing was supposed to have been met by a "public spirited" individual by the name of Henry Grady Weaver. The R. L. Polk Co. of Cincinnati mailed it out for him, sending it to names taken from telephone books. This old telephone angle is supposed to reach the people in each community who are small business men, professionals and "responsible" family men. It now turns out that public-spirited Henry Grady Weaver does not personally have the wealth that it requires to send out such a mailing, but that he too is on the GM payroll as "consumer counselor."

## Murray Dependence on Truman Costly to Workers

By DAVID COOLIDGE

Before the beginning of the steel strike the leaders of the Steel Workers Union announced that the union was demanding an increase of \$2.00 a day or 25 cents an hour. Before the strike began, President Truman recommended an increase of 18½ cents an hour. Philip Murray told U. S. Steel that he would not settle for less than 19½ cents. This was 5½ cents less than the original demand. Murray also demanded that the wage settlement be retroactive.

Benjamin Fairless, representing the steel corporations, told the government and the steel union that the steel manufacturers could not consider raising wages unless the government agreed to an increase in the price of steel. Mr. Olds, chairman of U. S. Steel, demanded that the increase allowed be \$6.25 a ton. Representatives of the government suggested \$4.00 a ton. The steel corporations also took the position that they would not agree to make the settlement retroactive.

### WHO WON THE STRIKE?

These are a few of the relevant facts in connection with the steel strike, and the negotiations between

the United Steel Workers, the corporations and the government. It is necessary to ask the question: who won the strike? Thousands of steel workers must have asked this question when they were told about the agreement which their elected leaders had made with the steel corporations and the government.

It is necessary to emphasize that the rank and file steel workers had little if anything to do with the wage agreement reached between their elected leadership, the government and the steel companies. It is true that the membership of the union has accepted the original demand for a \$2.00 a day rise in pay. The corporations refused and the strike was called. The strike was a very listless affair. The steel workers stood in their places, so to speak, and only marked time. They were only waiting, and thousands of them must have wondered what this strange waiting was all about.

The Workers Party, in LABOR ACTION, told what the waiting was all about. Murray and the leaders of the steel workers were waiting for Truman to act in behalf of the demands of the steel workers. They

were waiting for the government of the steel manufacturers to do something for the steel workers and against the owners of the steel mills. Therefore striking steel workers were ordered to "mark time." Everybody knows or ought to know that while you are marking time you do not advance, you do not move toward your objective. On the other hand, marking time may permit the enemy to move toward his objective.

This is precisely what happened during the steel strike. While the steel workers were watchfully and hopefully waiting, the steel manufacturers were maneuvering and conspiring with THEIR government for an increase in the price of steel before they consented to any increase in wages above 15 cents an hour. The steel manufacturers put a gun to the head of THEIR government. Any class which has a government can put on pressure when and if it becomes necessary.

The working class cannot do this because we do not have our own government. If there were a Labor Party and a labor government in Washington, instead of the present capitalist government, the steel work-

ers would not have had to stand marking time. They would have put pressure on this government to enforce the demands of labor, or they would have removed that government.

It is necessary to emphasize also that the steel manufacturers won a victory. They got everything important they were contending for. They got a substantial price increase. That is really what they were after. They were not primarily concerned with the difference between their offer of 15 cents an hour and the 19½ cents recommended by the "fact-finding" committee. They wanted that \$5.00 price increase. They got it. To this day nobody outside the steel corporations knows what this increase will mean in the way of profits for the steel companies. The government doesn't know and the workers don't know. This is a secret hidden away in the intricate accounting systems of the steel companies.

### WHY THE STRIKE?

This wasn't the whole story of the steel corporation's victory. Instead of retroactive pay beginning as of January 1, as Truman "suggested," the

union leadership agreed to accept steel's offer to pay a 9½ cent increase for work performed between January 1 and the end of the strike, February 17. Furthermore, not only did the union leadership not hold to the original \$2.00 a day demand, it did not even hold the line for the 19½ cents increase. It accepted 18½ cents. This was the very figure which Truman had recommended BEFORE THE STRIKE BEGAN.

The steel workers might well ask: "Why did we go on strike?" The only answer that can possibly make any sense is to say that the steel workers were on strike, to get 3½ cents more than the corporations had offered before the strike began. This was Truman's recommendation. This can only mean that 700,000 steel workers were on strike to force their employers to accept, not their own demands, but the wage rise recommended by the capitalist government of their capitalist employers.

Why did the steel strike turn out as it did? Why didn't the steel work-

ers win their demands? There can be but one answer. Murray and the other leaders of these workers retreated. They retreated without a fight. They retreated at a time when millions of CIO workers in steel and other mass production industries were on strike or ready to go to the picket lines. Murray ordered his men to fire over the heads of the employers. When the employers did not frighten and run, Murray ordered his own men to run.

Murray and all the rest of the CIO leadership ABDICATED their leadership of labor. Murray turned over the leadership of labor to Truman; to the political representative of the employers, to the political leader of the capitalist class, to the government of the capitalist exploiters and oppressors.

We say again: Labor needs a GENERAL STAFF, a Political General Staff. Labor needs a government, a government of its own at Washington: A Workers Government.

LABOR'S PICKET LINE GAINS WERE STOLEN IN WASHINGTON BY THE "BIG STEAL" FORMULA!

Labor's original demands for a 30 per cent wage increase were based on the solidly backed argument of bringing labor's wage UP TO the war time level, which had sunk radically after V-J Day because of lessened hours, cutback employment, etc. (Continued on page 3)

### TROTSKYISTS CAMPAIGN IN BELGIUM

As the first returns from the Belgian elections are coming in, pre-election issues have just arrived of La Lutte Ouvrière, newspaper of our Belgian comrades, the Parti Communiste Internationaliste, section of the Fourth International.

The election campaign of the PCI called upon the advanced workers to make sure that the voice of Trotskyist deputies would ring out in Parliament where not one voice has been raised against wage-freezing, the monarchy, the massacres of colonial peoples.

"Your vote will give to the PCI the most striking revenge. Persecuted by the Gestapo and the (Belgian) Security Police, calumniated as no other militant workers have ever been, long isolated in the vanguard of their class, the Trotskyists have paid dearly for their unbreakable fidelity to the cause of the working class."

NEWS AND VIEWS FROM THE LABOR FRONT

Transit Strikers Rallied Phila. Labor

PHILADELPHIA — Although last week's transit strike lasted less than 48 hours, the strikers showed a unanimous discipline and intelligence, and succeeded in enlisting overwhelming popular support.

Throughout the strike, mass membership meetings were held on short notice. Mass picket lines began their patrols of car barns and terminals during the very first minutes of the strike. The lines contained hundreds of men and operated on a round-the-clock, 24-hour basis of four-hour shifts in spite of the bitter and damp cold. Almost every one of the more than 9,000 strikers was on the line. The AFL Teamsters Union, which has most of the PTC office workers, agreed not to cross the lines.

The picket lines were colorful with placards. The 69th Street terminal union band toured and loud speakers played more music and explained the strike at every terminal. Of the 9,000 strikers, 2,000 were returned veterans. They formed a veterans' strike committee to hold a demonstration at the 10th and Luzerne Street barn, the largest in the world.

In the working class neighborhoods especially, the strikers received overwhelming support. Kitchens were thrown open for hot coffee and sandwiches. Housewives boiled huge pots of coffee, which they themselves paid for. Many local restaurants offered free coffee and doughnuts to pickets.

A poll conducted by the Record revealed three-to-one sentiment for the union, placing blame for the strike on the company in spite of the propaganda of the boss press, led by the vicious Hearst-Annenburg Philadelphia Inquirer.

KNEW THE ENEMY

The strikers knew their enemy from past experience. The PTC board of directors is chaired by Edward Hopkinson, Jr., chief partner in the Drexel & Co. banking house, Philadelphia's branch of Morgan & Co. Hopkinson and the Drexel bank have been closely connected with most of Philadelphia's newspapers. (Hopkinson was vacationing in Florida while he was denying over the telephone the union demand for a 25-cents raise.) R. F. Tyson, vice-president of PTC, is a labor baiter with a long anti-union record, so bad that last October the Transport Workers Union requested his removal. The Mitten traction interests, whose municipal transport tentacles reach into scores of cities, are also well represented on the board. The union was challenging a major capitalist stronghold.

Chief among union demands were a 25 cents an hour raise, union shop and revision of the pension plan so that there would be no deduction from the company pension for government pensions amounting to the meager sum of about \$85 a month.

While the men on the picket line were yelling and carrying banners for the 25 cent raise, the union leaders submitted this demand to immediate arbitration—and tacitly agreed to a 12 cents an hour raise. The AFL office workers had previously won a 12 cent raise without a strike.

As usual, the company claimed it could not pay the 25 cent raise. But this was an obvious lie since it is known that profits went up at least 65 per cent during the war, while additional millions were set aside each year for new equipment, of which almost none has been added. PTC demanded higher fare but withdrew its demand temporarily in the face of popular attack.

STALINIST LEADERSHIP

In the afternoon of the second day of the strike, Michael Quill, TWU president, spoke at a picket line, promising that the union was adamant and was prepared for a struggle to bring PTC to agreement. "The issue is the cash which the PTC has in their possession. It belongs to you. Before it is over they will have to part with some of that cash. There have been rumors that the union has been letting up in its demands and that the PTC was starting to give in. The rumors are false." This was after negotiations had collapsed.

However, Quill and the union leadership had already accepted, though not openly, arbitration of the wage demand and the 12-cent offer which the AFL had previously won without striking. While the men were only beginning to feel their strength and preparing for intense struggles, the union leadership was preparing to be "reasonable" under the combined pressure of federal and state conciliators and Mayor Samuels.

When an agreement was reached between PTC and the union two thousand union men assembled to hear the report and vote. The negotiating committee had accepted the 12-cent an hour offer of the company. The pension demand had been granted. The closed shop had been watered down to "maintenance of membership" with further discussion and arbitration in August. However, these were positive gains for the union.

When Dougherty announced the 12-cent raise there were boos and heckling. There was considerable disagreement. Many of the men were willing to continue the strike, certain of a more substantial raise because they were certain of their tested strength. McMahan called in the police to arrest three hecklers. He then accused all who opposed the settlement of being AFL teamster union members trying to upset the TWU. And he concluded with this threat: "You can get out or we'll throw you out. We're going to have a decent and democratic union through the closed shop." And right then and there he called in the cops to enforce "decency and democracy"—McMahan style.

After this threat the terms were accepted by an overwhelming voice vote. And even at the conclusion of the strike the men showed their unity and discipline, in sharp contrast to the indecisiveness and amenability to company pressure of the leadership of Quill and McMahan. Twenty-one minutes after the vote the cars started rolling. By 1:30 a.m. full schedules were operating.

The TWU men and the workers of Philadelphia exhibited profound understanding of working class solidarity. They learned a class lesson, which their leadership did not. The Quill leadership is the same that rammed

through the no-strike pledge during the war. It is a leadership corrupted by Stalinism, trying to swing the workers this way and that, according to the needs of Stalin's policies and without regard to the needs of the rank and file. Such a Stalinist leadership was unable to carry through the PTC strike to complete victory.

HUGE DETROIT MEETING BACKS GM STRIKERS

Over 20,000 people joined in the big demonstration in support of the GM strikers held at the Olympia stadium here last Thursday night despite a winter storm.

This expression of solidarity with the GM strikers deserved better than it got from the UAW-CIO leaders who arranged it. Originally, even Walter Reuther was left off the speakers' list, while Adam Powell, the congressman from N. Y. C., Melvyn Douglas, movie star, Helen Gahagan Douglas, congresswoman from Hollywood, Edward G. Robinson, movie star, and others, were billed as main attractions.

This sniping at Reuther was a bit too raw, and he was made a speaker at the last minute. The others gave, of course, the usual song and dance patter about "progressive politics," support progressive congressmen, etc., etc.

Reuther spoke briefly on the GM strike issues. His insistence on wage increases without price increases drew the only real applause of the evening. The other high point of the meeting was the announcement that Harold Ickes, former Secretary of the Interior, had become national chairman of the National Citizens' Committee to Aid the GM Strikers.

This announcement, and the composition of the crowd, which was by no means restricted to unionists alone, testifies again to the effective appeal of the original UAW demands and slogans in the GM strike. GM officials must have turned a little sour when they received a report on the splendid support the GM strikers are still getting from broad sections of Detroit and the nation, even though the strike has now lasted almost three months.

R. J. Thomas, UAW president, was a pathetic figure in his brief speech. One could only hear the word "I" which began every sentence, and was used frequently within each sentence. What he said was anybody's guess. He was so pre-occupied with himself that one couldn't help recall Lewis' classic description of Thomas as "Blubbermouth."

NEW YORK WORKERS PARTY SCHOOL:

FEBRUARY 26 TO APRIL 5 REGISTER NOW—\$1.50 PER COURSE

- 1-Program of the Workers Party Tuesday: 7:30-8:45 P.M.
2-Social Forces in Amer. History Part I—Tues.: 9:00-10:15 P.M.
3-Theories of Trotskyism—II Fridays: 7:30-8:45 P.M.
4-Marxist Economics—II Fridays: 7:30-8:45 P.M.
5-The World Today Fridays: 9:00-10:15 P.M.
6-The Negro in Labor History Fridays: 9:00-10:15 P.M.

ALL SESSIONS AT LABOR TEMPLE, 14th ST. AND 2nd AVE.

Pledge Fight Against McNear At Funeral of Murdered Pickets

By MIMI SLATER

CHICAGO—The four-year-old strike against the Toledo, Peoria & Western Railroad reached a climax recently when two of the strikers were killed and three others wounded by company guards at Gridley, Ill.

The strike was originally called on December 28, 1941, when 100 members of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen & Engineers walked out in an attempt to secure higher wages and better conditions.

ISSUES OF LONG STANDING

Actually, the struggle has an even longer history. It goes back to 1926 when George P. McNear, Jr., President of the T. P. & W., bought the line. It was then that the workers of the Toledo, Peoria & Western took a wage cut, on McNear's promise that if the men "shared in the economies they would share in the earnings when business is better." Needless to say—the men are still waiting to "share in the earnings."

Between December 28, 1941, when the strike was called, and March 22, 1942, McNear rejected five requests by Roosevelt and the War Labor Board to arbitrate the strike. He had also refused to attend WLB hearings on the case.

On March 22, 1942, the railroad was seized by the Government. It was the first private corporation to be so seized after America's entry into the war. The line remained under government control until October 1, 1945, when it was returned to McNear.

But the 2 1/2 years of government control had not settled the issues in dispute. What's more, they seem to have given McNear time to develop more and better methods of strike-breaking. His first act was to issue an immediate order which, according to W. C. Kelsler, International Vice-President of the Union, would result in the firing of pre-strike strikers and the retention of strike-breakers.

No trains moved over the T. P. & W. tracks from the time the government turned them over to McNear in October until January 15, 1946, when a test run was made. The run was less than a mile long, but proved sufficient for a picket to be shot by one of the company guards.

The running of the train this week was McNear's first operation of the line. The train, composed of a locomotive, a gondola, a loaded coal car and two steel cabooses, had been sent on an inspection trip of company property, according to McNear. Reports in the Chicago Sun, and testimony of the sheriff at the scene of the shooting, state that the two steel cabooses had been turned into armored cars carrying 14 armed guards. With them they had six shot guns,

three rifles and four revolvers. Sheriff Richards was emphatic in his assertion that none of the pickets had been armed. He said that his men and the state police had searched them all, including the dead and wounded, and had also searched the vicinity of the shooting and the automobiles used by the pickets.

SHOT IN THE BACK!

The company has claimed "self-defense" in the face of "mob violence." "Self-defense" on the part of 14 armed guards against 15 unarmed pickets is not readily accepted. This is especially so, since all but one of the pickets WAS SHOT IN THE BACK! The company's request that Gov. Green send out the state militia to "protect the railroad," is almost funny.

The Union has charged four of the company guards with murder. They are being held over to the Grand Jury, and are being held without bail. The four guards being held are the

ones directly responsible for the shooting. The Union has made it known that it holds McNear equally responsible for the killings, and that it is their intention to place a murder charge against him, too.

The Chicago Industrial Union Council (CIO), Local 20 of the United Mail Order, Warehouse & Retail Employees Union (Montgomery Ward) and other union groups have added their protests to the killing of the two union pickets and have demanded legal action against the officials of the Toledo, Peoria & Western Railroad.

Meanwhile they've buried the two slain pickets. At the funerals, unionists from nearby localities joined the mourning widows of the two men. They added their promise that the guilt for the killing would be placed where it belonged. They added their voices to the thousands already protesting the strikebreaking, union busting activities of McNear and his henchmen.

With the Workers Party

AKRON

"Trade Unionism and Socialism" A six-week class. Albert Gates, Editor of L. A. Instructor. Tuesday evenings at 8. For information write to Bill Ford, Box 221, Akron, Ohio.

BUFFALO

HEADQUARTERS, 639 Main St.

CHICAGO

LABOR ACTION, 1703 West Madison St., Room 3, Chicago 12. Telephone: CHESAPEAKE 5798. Office Hours: 3-5:30 p.m. daily, except Sunday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings.

DETROIT

Detroit Workers Party announces a six-week

WORKERS PARTY SCHOOL

March 4 to April 10. Mondays: 7:00-8:30—The Role of the Trade Unions. Instructor, Ben Hall, Detroit organizer of the WP. Mondays: 8:30-10—History of the American Labor Movement. Instructor, Robert Stiller. Wednesdays: 7:00-8:30—Public Speaking and Current Events. Instructor, Martin Harvey, LABOR ACTION staff writer. Wednesdays: 8:30-10:00—What Is Trotskyism? Instructor, Henry Judd, author of India in Revolt. Fees: 50 Cents per six-week course; free to striking workers. Enroll now at Labor Action Hall, 3773 Gratiot (at Mt. Elliott).

LOS ANGELES

LABOR ACTION HALL, 127 South Broadway.

NEWARK

LABOR ACTION HEADQUARTERS in Newark at 248 Market St.

NEW YORK CITY

CITY OFFICE—114 West 14th St.—open all day until 7 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday—open until 10 p.m. SUNDAY, MARCH 3, members and friends of the Workers Party are assembling at the places listed below

Where to Buy LABOR ACTION And THE NEW INTERNATIONAL:

AKRON

News Exchange, 51 South Main St. Kallas Cigar Store, corner Howard and Market. National News Co., 333 South Main Street. La Salle Fountain Service, 620 South Main Street.

CLEVELAND

Wheatman's News Store, 735 Prospect Ave.

DETROIT

At Michigan and Shelby. At Cass and Michigan. Family Newsstand in front of Family Theater, Cadillac Square. Carl's Bookstore, Woodward near Clairmont.

NEWARK

Mosiman's Bookshop, 20 Academy St.

BROOKLYN

Currio Bookshop, 365 Sutter Ave., near Stone. Portnoy, 414 Rockaway Ave., newsstand, near Pitkin Ave.

LABOR ACTION BOOK SERVICE

New York 11, N. Y. 114 West 14th Street

INDIA IN REVOLT By HENRY JUDD

25 Cents per Copy

Write for Free Book and Pamphlet List

Get "No Job" Welcome, Vets Buck Cab Monopoly

By GEORGE WHITNEY

"No jobs," "Nothing today," "Not hiring"—these favorite old phrases of the "thirties are greeting the returning veterans at the Akron rubber companies. These are the same companies that wanted to remain on the eight-hour day because of a labor shortage!

The veterans aren't taking very kindly to the situation. Letters to the local newspaper are beginning to admit that we were all taken for suckers again. A group of these ex-servicemen decided to try to open up a small taxicab service in the face of a one-company monopoly. They went to the City Council for a franchise and so far have gotten a lot of advice on all the other opportunities there are for them. William McClenghen, one of the veterans, said: "Councilman Robert C. Ryder suggested a lot of other businesses that we might get into, but we still want a cab company." Look out, boys, or they'll have you selling apples again.

Not a few CIO members and members of other groups here, including the Workers Party, were more than interested to read of the demonstration last week in Chicago against Gerald L. K. Smith, No. 1 fascist in the U. S. There are more than a few of them who feel confident that they will do an even better job on Ger-

ald Lyman Kenneth if he ever makes good on his threat to come to Akron.

The Negroes of Akron must have really appreciated a new article appearing locally telling how President William S. Campbell of the YMCA, speaking at the 75th annual business meeting of the Y, called 1945 "a year of rich attainment and high standards." First among the accomplishments mentioned was the establishment of the Glendale Community Branch of the YMCA. The fact of the matter is that Negro leaders have been fighting for years to have something done about a situation that allowed the YMCA to operate on funds contributed by the public, Negro and white alike, and prohibited the Negro youth from entering the Y. The Akron Industrial Union Council, CIO, went on record some time ago condemning this policy and refusing to allow CIO basketball teams to play at the Y because Negro players were not allowed to participate.

As a result of all this pressure, the Akron YMCA finally gave an exceedingly small sum for the establishment of the Glendale Branch for Negroes. Now the directors of the YMCA congratulate themselves on this marvelous accomplishment.

P.S.—You'll still find the Glendale Branch basketball team playing games at Local 5 of the URW.

Readers of Labor Action Take the Floor...

Veterans Join GM Picket Line

Dear Editor: In spite of the phony propaganda they had been fed over a long period of time in various parts of the world, more than 20,000 veterans of World War II who have returned to work at General Motors are in the forefront of the battle against this giant corporation and its industrial brass hat, Charles E. Wilson. Stars and Stripes continuously carried vicious anti-labor propaganda attempting to discredit strikers and the issues which had caused them to hit the picket lines. Not once did Stars and Stripes mention that Charles E. Wilson, GM president, was "earning" about \$200 an hour (this figure based on a forty-hour week).

For almost a year before D Day, then through Normandy, the battle of Metz, Belgium, the Battle of the Bulge and Germany, this writer recalls reading vicious, phony, anti-labor propaganda daily. Some of the stories told of the colossal wages being earned by war workers—weekly earnings of one hundred and more dollars per week. Well, we returned to find out that these stories were a lot of hokum.

General Motors, for instance, was not paying its workers the wage that Charles E. Wilson was getting, but was paying an average hourly rate of \$1.13. For forty hours this would total only \$45.20 per week, BEFORE DEDUCTIONS, and for a forty-eight hour week, with time and a half for the additional eight hours, only \$58.76, BEFORE DEDUCTIONS. This accounts for the solidarity be-

tween the veterans and their union brothers. Both groups, veterans and those who worked the war machine, are faced with the same problem, that of attempting to make ends meet under existing social and economic conditions. This accounts for the fact that not one union veteran attended a back-to-work, union-busting, strike-breaking attempt to organize a meeting in Flint, Mich., by a company stooge, Captain Jack Packard, an Army officer on terminal leave at that time.

Another attempt to organize the veterans to scab on their union brothers was made by Earl Hallaway, a supervisor in the Fisher Body plant in Flint and a former lieutenant in the Army. This, too, failed. The veterans of today obviously know the score and are beginning to realize that all the talk about strikes and wages back home that we held in those bull sessions was just that—a lot of bull.

The veterans on the GM picket lines are not only fighting for themselves. They are also waging a fight to improve the general living conditions of their ex-Army comrades here and those who are still overseas. They deserve the support of every working man and woman in the country and especially the support of those with whom they fought side by side in all parts of the world. Sam Bagradian.

Wants Filibuster Against Case Bill

Editor: I would like to suggest that LABOR ACTION call upon the trade

unions, especially those represented in the PAC, as well as the PAC itself, to demand that those Senators whose election was a result of labor's support, and who are supposed to be "friends" of labor, conduct a filibuster in the Senate against the anti-labor bills. Surely, if the poll-tax Senators can conduct a filibuster to preserve the reactionary interests of the Southern landowners, the "friends" of labor can conduct a filibuster to further the progressive interests of labor.

When an anti-labor bill is passed, the "friends" of labor always say "we did our best but we were outvoted by the coalition of the reactionary Republicans and the poll-tax Democrats." Why should we let them fall back on this old excuse? If they are really labor's friends, let them conduct a filibuster. Let them insist that they prove that they are labor's friends, to the same degree that capitalists insist upon their friends in Congress conducting a struggle in their interest.

I propose this as another method of exposing the "friends" of labor for what they are—fakers. Fraternally, B. DONALDSON, Seattle

Reader Is Sadly Wrong on Stalinism

Dear Editor: My son, for some reason or other, brings home a copy of your periodical occasionally—and I read it. While your objectives seem to be OK, still I can't understand why you always, on every provocation, put in a

dig against the only socialist country—the Soviet Union. Knowing a little bit about Marxism, I read the Daily Worker whenever I can procure it. And really, there is so much intelligent discussion about true Marxism in each issue that it would be truly an epic if your publication could be fused with the Daily Worker. Of course, I know they can't stand, and rightly so, as true Marxists, your Trotsky line—much disavowed as you know by one of the most illustrious characters that ever lived: Lenin.

If there could be arranged a co-relationship, it would be healthy for the body politic in America. If you could come to the realization that communism cannot be shot into a country by the constabulary such as Leon believed, but has got to take its natural development, you'd join forces with the CP of America—especially since it has gotten rid of Browderism. Socialism can be built in one country, as in Russia under Stalin—the protégé of Lenin—and the man carrying out his dictates. You and your associates must realize after reading Stalin's latest speech that they will be making in their five year plans wonderful economic, scientific and social progress—watch them carefully, and I'm sure you'll come around, and I guess, using the vernacular, I can say that again.

Mind you, there is no animosity—and your folks might think you're on the right track but I really have come to the sincere conclusion that you by your activities, like Norman Thomas, are of immeasurable help in keeping the capitalist scyphants and tycoons in power. For Christ's sake, why can't the Socialist Party,

the LABOR ACTION 4th Int. and the Communist Party all get together just like the capitalist party has, and then there would be an unsurmountable front and progress would be made. The way you are all going—GM, Ford, Steel, etc., love you all—as you are all separated and fighting one another. One says: Soviet Union OK; the other, says, terrifically terrible, the fallacy of it all. C. H. K., Brooklyn, N. Y.

To reply to only a few points of this letter:

1. There is no socialism of any kind in Russia. There is a totalitarian dictatorship which enslaves the workers. That is why we are against the Stalin régime. It has not fulfilled the great Russian Revolution; it has betrayed it.

2. Our "Trotsky line," as the reader calls it, was not disavowed by Lenin; it is rather the line of continuing the internationalist, revolutionary and democratic socialist ideas of Lenin. To kill those ideas in Russia, the Stalin dictatorship had to kill millions of devoted Bolsheviks, the co-workers of Lenin.

3. We can't get together with the Stalinist Communist Party because they are the tools of the Stalin dictatorship. They act not in the interests of the workers of America or any other country, but solely in the interests of the Russian rulers. We want a revolutionary socialist party which opposes Stalin's betrayal of socialism. That's why we support the Workers Party.—Ed.

A PAPER IN THE INTERESTS OF LABOR

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WORKERS PARTY PROGRAM FOR ORGANIZED LABOR IN THE RECONVERSION AND POST-WAR PERIOD

FOR THE UNEMPLOYED AND VETERANS

- 1. Full Unemployment Insurance Full unemployment insurance beginning with \$30 a week for single men and women and graduated upward for dependancies to all workers for whom government and industry do not find jobs. 2. Less Hours—More Pay Absorption of all workers thrown into unemployment during reconversion by reduction of the work-week with no reduction in weekly take-home pay. 3. Jobs and Full Opportunities for Veterans Two years' base pay grant to all demobilized veterans, with the option of trade school and higher educational facilities at government expense, guarantee of adequate family maintenance and guarantee of decent jobs.

FOR THE POST-WAR WORLD

- 4. Jobs For All at a Guaranteed Annual Living Wage A job for every worker with a guaranteed minimum annual wage of \$2,500 per year. A rising standard of living, by means of government planning to insure the highest national production and income. 5. A Planned Rise in National Income A guaranteed \$5,000 annual income to all workers' families by means of a planned rise in the national income and a thirty-hour maximum work week. 6. For a Democratic Peace which means no land-grabbing under any pre-against peacetime military conscription of text; no reparations; no slave labor. Complete independence for all colonies and subject peo-American youth! For a truly democratic peace,

ple's and the right of all people to democratically decide their own future.

7. Full Social, Political and Economic Equality for Negroes Complete democratic rights. The right to vote, to run for and hold any elective or appointive office, North or South. The right to equality in employment; to hold any job, skilled or unskilled. The right to be free from insult, segregation and Jim Crowism; anywhere and in any place, North or South.

THESE AIMS TO BE ACHIEVED THROUGH

- 8. Slum Clearance A \$250 billion five-year program to provide decent housing for all, extensive public works, rural electrification and modernization. 9. Nationalization of Big Business Nationalization of the banks, big industrial monopolies and transportation systems, and handing over of government-built and owned plants and facilities to private ownership. 10. Taxing the Profiteers A 100 per cent tax on all war profits above a five per cent maximum on invested capital; a \$25,000 ceiling on total individual income, and a graduated capital levy on all accumulated wealth over \$50,000 to cover war costs and provide post-war security for labor. THIS PROGRAM TO BE CARRIED OUT BY 11. Workers Control of Production Control of production by democratically-elected workers' committees. 12. An Independent Labor Party and a Workers' Government—For a Socialist America with Plenty For All! Make the machines that now produce only for war and capitalism produce for the needs of all the people!

One-Tenth of the Nation

Southern Negro Vets Fight for Vote

By J. R. Johnson

Negro veterans in Alabama have made an organized demand for their voting rights. They marched through the streets of Birmingham and to the Jefferson County Court House for registration. They presented their discharge papers. Whereupon the three-man board asked them questions like the following: What is the Constitution made of? Can you repeat the Constitution? How does the government of the U. S. operate? How many departments are there in the U. S. government? The majority of the veterans were rejected as being unfit to exercise their vote, because they were unable to answer these and similar questions.

The demonstration is one of a series being organized by the Southern Negro Youth Congress. It was headed by a chaplain, Captain H. C. Tesser, a U. S. Army chaplain wearing his uniform. He was arrested and told not to use the army uniform for any political purposes. He replied diplomatically that the aim of the movement was to increase the number of registered voters and to stimulate the interests of the Negro veterans in government. He was released. The veterans have given notice that they intend to file suit in support of their claims.

THE NEGRO SOLDIERS Yet this demonstration and the similar ones that are planned hold immense possibilities. Never before have Negroes been so organized in the U. S. government organized them in the army. Negroes from all over the U. S. have been segregated in Jim Crow regiments. Their degraded status has been concretized to themselves on a national scale hitherto unknown. It has been demonstrated to some ten million white fellow citizens who were brought face to face by law and order with this most brutal manifestation of the Negro's official position in American life. The degradation of the Negroes has been carried to every quarter of the globe, civilized and uncivilized.

THE NEGRO SOLDIERS (Continued) The Negro soldier has seen himself as he is. To this has been added the bitterness that the whole world now knows him as an outcast and a pariah in his own country. The Negroes have responded by fighting some of their bitterest battles not against the enemy abroad, but against the enemy at home. Their concentration in regiments and divisions, the common consciousness of strength in unity, the sense of common humiliation, en-

sist on voting on Monday could easily mean arrest on Wednesday on some flimsy charge for which conviction and a heavy sentence would automatically follow.

Even this prostitution of the law is not necessary. A Negro who wishes to exercise the revolutionary privilege of casting the vote and insists upon registration can be told to get out of town. And if he is "wise," he packs up his wife, children, and baggage and gets out as fast as he can. The veterans of Birmingham may win their suit in the courts. That will not mean anything but some more publicity for the Negro cause. Congress and the courts are always giving the Negro rights in theory which he does not dare exercise in practice. At a certain stage, the passing of such legislation becomes a mockery of the Negro people.

BILBO'S VOTING BANE

It is by procedure of this kind that Senator Bilbo and other members of the Democratic Party are able to get themselves elected to Congress year after year; to filibuster against the rights of the Negro people, and oppose all progressive labor legislation. Where maneuvers of this kind are not sufficient to keep away the Negroes the Southerners use threats and, if necessary, violence. For the most part, however, in the smaller towns and counties in particular, the Negroes keep away from the registration boards and the polling booths. They know that they have to live with their oppressors for 364 days in the year besides voting day. To in-

abled them to demonstrate their resentment wherever Negro troops were stationed. The story of their battle for their rights and their self-respect, particularly against the American troops, will certainly be told and soon. But with discharge from the army they have lost the sense of cohesive action.

In many areas of the South, however, they have been getting together as veterans, determined to fight with the vigor and the coordination that they have learned in the army.

It is too early to speak with any precision of these Negro veterans in the South. One thing, however, seems certain. In the year of the great strikes and the mass upsurge of labor, the Negro veteran in the South is ready to go the limit in defense of his rights as a citizen. Over and over again during the last five years this common thought has emerged from all discussions on the Negro question:

THE COLORED BOYS, WHEN THEY GO BACK TO THE SOUTH, WILL NOT STAND FOR IT ANY LONGER.

The white Southerners themselves are aware of this. Rumors, and not all of them wild, have come from the South showing that the upholders of white supremacy are aware of the challenge and are preparing to meet it. Filibusters in Congress will not diminish, but will accentuate the tension.

Among these Negroes are some of the forces for the socialist revolution in the United States. For the moment their consciousness may be circumscribed within the limits of their own special problem, but they are men who have seen the world and have been trained and disciplined in a hard school. With flexibility and understanding the revolutionary movement will not find it difficult to share the trials which await them and bring them to the knowledge that nothing but the overthrow of bourgeois society will give them their democratic rights.

Challenge Vishinsky to Prove Purge Charges at Nuremberg

By JESSIE KAAREN

As reported in the February 11 issue of LABOR ACTION, the British Trotskyist party (Revolutionary Communist Party) has called upon the Russian and British prosecutors at the Nuremberg trial and upon Prime Minister Clement Attlee to "prove either that the charges leveled against Trotsky and the other collaborators of Lenin in the October Revolution of 1917, were in fact true, or that the Moscow Trials were a gigantic frame-up."

The Stalinist charges against the leaders of the Russian revolution were exposed as a monstrous frame-up by the Commission of Inquiry led by the noted American educator and liberal, John Dewey. This commission made an exhaustive analysis of the evidence produced by the Moscow trials as well as every shred of evidence it could lay its hands on apart from the testimony at the trials.

The Moscow trials were also exposed as a frame-up by the action of Leon Trotsky in calling on the Stalin regime to ask for his extradition from Norway and later from Mexico. Such a request for extradition would have brought comrade Trotsky automatically before the Norwegian and Mexican courts where the Stalinists would have been compelled to produce their "evidence" or withdraw the charges. Obviously, this "evidence" could not stand the light of scrutiny outside of Russia, and so the Stalinist regime never allowed itself of its legal rights.

The Moscow trials were also repeated with ridicule by the press throughout the world, much as some of the newspapers which were violently opposed to Trotsky's, revolutionary and socialist principles would have liked to discredit him. Only the Stalinist parties and their lackeys throughout the world placed any credence in the fantastic charges voiced at the GPU-manufactured trials.

As the letter of the British Party to Clement Attlee, states: "Whatever you or your Party or your Government might think of his (Trotsky's) theories and political ideas, he was, you will agree, a distinguished socialist revolutionist who dedicated his whole life to the emancipation of the working class from the wage slavery of capitalism. In the interests of truth and of history, of the struggle of the workers for socialism, your Government as the representative of the British Labour movement, has the moral duty to pursue the matter so that the validity or otherwise of the Moscow Trials can be established once and for all in the eyes of the world working class."

The Nuremberg prosecutors have not acknowledged the appeal, nor have they yet taken up the challenge. The Stalinist prosecutor at Nuremberg is none other than Andrei Y. Vishinsky, the same who presided at the Moscow Trials. Vishinsky does not dare to use the

Nuremberg trials for a repetition of the so-called evidence used during the Moscow trials. The risks of presenting manufactured evidence and phony confessions in a court which is not completely controlled by the GPU are too great. If this were not the case, wouldn't Vishinsky seize this dramatic opportunity to convince the doubters that Trotsky actually entered into negotiations with Germany and Japan? Wouldn't there be corroborating evidence in the German archives to prove what was charged in the Moscow trials? "During the course of negotiation with one of the leaders of the National-Socialist Party of Germany, Rudolph Hess, the enemy of the people L. Trotsky promised in the event of a Trotskyite government coming to power as a result of the defeat of the Soviet Union to make a number of economic and territorial concessions to Germany and Japan at the expense of the USSR" (Report of Court Proceedings in the case of the Anti-Soviet Trotskyite Centre—Military Collegium of the Supreme Court of the U.S.S.R.)

Trotsky, Radek and Sokolnikov, the three who were accused of negotiating with Hess, are dead, murdered by the GPU. But Hess is present in the courtroom for Vishinsky to

question as he pleases. Why not produce the "evidence" of which Vishinsky talked so glibly in Moscow? Why not ask Hess some pertinent questions about the "conspiracy"?

The answer is obvious: It is not so easy to produce framed evidence at Nuremberg. Not because the Allies have any scruples on the subject but it probably would not suit their interests at the moment to go along with Stalin on such a frame-up.

We look forward to the day when history will force open the Stalinist archives. We expect to find there records not of a Trotskyite conspiracy but of a Stalinist conspiracy to wring "confessions" through inhuman methods of torture.

But until that day comes, it is important to take every opportunity to expose the Soviet frame-ups. As the ewey Commission said:

"On the basis of all the evidence we find that Trotsky never recommended, plotted, or attempted the restoration of capitalism in the U.S.S.R. On the contrary, he has always uncompromisingly opposed the restoration of capitalism in the Soviet Union and its existence anywhere else."

"We therefore find the Moscow trials to be frame-ups."

"We therefore find Trotsky and Sedov not guilty."

Frankenstein Resignation No Surprise, No Loss

By JACK WILSON

The resignation of Richard T. Frankenstein, UAW-CIO vice president, did not come as a surprise move to the top leadership or to many militants in the auto workers union. It was the final step in a process that began long ago.

Recently, Frankenstein received some unfavorable publicity for night-clubbing at New York City's famous Stork Club, hangout of the parasitic scum known as café society. He was chided for this by several union colleagues. After all, the bill for one person at this place would provide enough money to support a GM striker and his family for a week. Frankenstein was supposed to be co-ordinator of relief work in this strike. He shrugged his shoulders at the criticism.

More recently, he took off for Florida, and absented himself from any duties in the GM strike. This, while still drawing a union salary and expenses.

Such irresponsibility and scandalous conduct simply reflected his whole attitude towards the UAW and the union movement generally. Frankenstein felt washed up in the labor movement since he was defeated in the Detroit mayoralty election. Even then he had indicated that if he were elected mayor he would sever connections with the la-

bor movement. This was not just a piece of minor political chicanery to get some middle class votes. It was Frankenstein's philosophy. His personal ambitions do not rest on being just another union bureaucrat.

NOT A GREAT LOSS

The departure of Frankenstein is hardly a loss for the labor movement. It may well turn out to be the best thing he ever did for the CIO. It is a blow to the clique that has been working with him, and which tried repeatedly "to bring Dick to his senses." This clique centers around George Addes, and the Stalinist machine in the UAW. They have now lost a mouthpiece, an unprincipled politician, and a stooge in the UAW. The reported break between Addes and Frankenstein is precisely over this headache now confronting the Stalinists.

Needless to say, the private opinion of the Reuther faction is one of ill-concealed joy. They intend to make the most of it at the coming convention.

In announcing his resignation, Frankenstein put his foot into it again. This time, by saying he would personally intervene to support Richard Leonard, UAW Ford director, for his post. This is the kiss of death treatment. Just who at the coming convention is going to take anything said by a turncoat seriously?

ONE LIMITS

By JAMES M. FENWICK

THE WORM IN THE APPLE

The results of an Army poll taken last fall among 1,700 United States occupation troops have caused considerable stammering in the capitalist press.

The New York Times, for instance, stated with its usual combination of malice and falsehood that authorities "declared it revealed an amazing lack of knowledge of the causes of the war, and that it appeared to indicate that the United States soldier in some cases had fallen for the propaganda of Germans echoing Joseph Goebbels."

To lay the blame upon Goebbels is false if for no other reason than the fact that conversation with Germans—that is to say, German women—all too generally reached no higher level of abstraction than was necessary to consummate a few simple, fleshly pleasures. Discussion on any other level was neither intensive nor extensive.

If reactionary conceptions were found present in the minds of American soldiers, the blame must be placed largely on the shoulders of American capitalism, which in civil life and especially in the Army, molded their thinking. For United States capitalism is both unwilling and unable to dispel such reactionary conceptions.

That is a job which only revolutionary socialists can perform.

SOME IDEOLOGICAL NETTLES

Fifty-one per cent of the soldiers polled "said they believed Adolf Hitler did the Reich a lot of good before 1939."

Only persons who sincerely believed that the war was fought for human ideals and not capitalist profits have a right to be surprised at that figure. The capitalist class, for whom the New York Times adequately, if dishonestly, speaks, never really worried what crimes Hitlerism committed INSIDE Germany. In fact, that fascism destroyed the German labor movement, the Socialist and Communist Parties, and civil liberties was viewed by the real rulers of the United States with secret satisfaction and envy.

It was only when Germany began to rearm and menace United States foreign markets that American capital began to get noisily indignant over Hitlerism. It was, consequently, Hitler's foreign policy, Hitler's war of aggression, etc. which was, in the main, subjected to a propaganda barrage.

THE RACIAL QUESTION

Thirty-two per cent of the soldiers thought that the Germans had good reasons for the persecution of the Jews or were undecided on the issue of German anti-Semitism.

There is the symbol of the end result of the great democratic war against fascist intolerance!

Unemployment and depressed living conditions are characteristic features of capitalism. German fascism used the Jew as a scapegoat, loading upon him the blame for these conditions—blame which normally would have been directed at the system itself. Only socialism, which alone can permanently eliminate unemployment, is capable of destroying anti-Semitism. To drive home this lesson was, of course, impossible for American capitalism.

In addition, no soldier could be expected to take seriously the propaganda against German anti-Semitism when he knew that anti-Semitism at home was not a subject for vigorous government action. He could not be expected to condemn abroad what was accepted as more or less normal at home.

WAR GUILT

Despite the millions upon millions of dollars spent on Allied propaganda, whose aim was to din one or two simple ideas into the heads of the American soldiers, and despite all the dangers and inconveniences to which they had been subjected by the German army, thirty-one per cent of the soldiers stated that Germany "had either some or a good deal of justification for starting the world conflict," or said they were not quite sure!

If that proportion were to hold good for the entire Army, nearly ONE-THIRD of the American soldiers were unconvinced of the fundamental justice of the war! There is a real victory for American capitalism!

The motivating reasons underlying this almost incredible point of view are suggested by the following: "Twenty-four per cent of the soldiers questioned said the Germans had a 'very good' or 'fairly good' argument when they said that since Germany was Europe's most efficient country, she had the right to be a controlling influence on the continent. The soldiers compared Germany's position with that of England in the British Empire and the United States in North and South America."

It would be political wishful thinking to say that this attitude represents a full-blown insight into the fact that the recent war was one of imperialist plunder on both sides.

But what it does say is that for nearly one-fourth of the American soldiers, politically backward as they are, Germany's war aims were no better or no worse than those of England or the United States!

Therein begins working class wisdom. And therein, for the capitalists, lies the worm in the apple!

NEW YORK LECTURE: CRISIS IN FRANCE Sunday, March 17, 8 P.M. HOTEL DIPLOMAT 108 West 43rd Street Near 4th Avenue CRISIS IN FRANCE TODAY and 75TH YEAR OF THE PARIS COMMUNE Speakers: NATHAN GOULD National Organizer, Workers Party EMANUEL GARRETT Editor, Labor Action

Editorials

The Boys in the Back Room

When thieves fall out—we mean the oil grafters who connive inside and outside the federal government to grab profitable contracts for their firms—honest workers get a peep at the inner workings of capitalism.

Truman's nominee for Under Secretary of the Navy, the Assistant Solicitor General in the Department of Justice, the Deputy Oil Administrator, California judges and officials, and executives of petroleum companies—all are involved in lobbying, campaigning, bribing, lying and deceiving the public in a scandal which President Truman felt constrained to deny was a new "Teapot Dome." The more he excuses, the more he accuses.

At stake in the present fight in the Senate Naval Affairs Committee over the confirmation of Edwin W. Pauley as Under Secretary of the Navy is the control of the rich, submerged oil fields between the low tide mark and the three-mile limit off the coast of California.

The fight is being waged between two groups of oil interests. It breaks on the head of the officeholder in the Navy Department because of the weight of this office in determining whether the federal government shall hold title to the oil fields and whose palm shall be greased.

Pauley, through his intercession in the past for California oil men and their contributions to the Democratic National Committee, got a five-year delay in this particular suit. It amounted to something like \$300,000 in return for 1,000 barrels a day for five years!

But don't have any illusions that the ruckus over Pauley is undertaken by men who have the

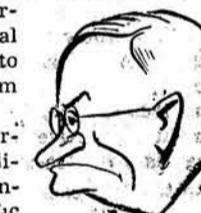
interests of the pee-pul at heart. Oil flows in their veins, too. When asked why the suit was finally filed, Norman Littell, former Assistant Attorney General, pointed out that Thomas G. Corcoran was the attorney for some of the oil interests that would benefit from federal title to the oil lands resulting from the suit.

Since Harold Ickes, whom even the spineless PM takes to task for his conciliation of oil interests during his tenure in the Department of Interior, has made the issue one of the prestige of the PAC-backed President, Truman will undoubtedly press to the end for the nomination of Pauley. Truman, let us not forget, is "the boy who made good" as a graduate of the school of machine-politics of the notorious Tom Pendergast. He knows the rules of the game he is playing, as Roosevelt, who was involved with Pauley, knew them before him.

Pauley was the go-between in the negotiations between the Mexican and United States governments and the oil interests which tried to obtain a scandalous agreement with Mexico. This deal came to light in the same fashion as the tideland oil scandal—because a rival set of oil companies wanted the contracts. Both Ickes and Roosevelt were in on the former project of Pauley.

The Mexican government, fed up with the profiteering of U. S. oil capitalists, expropriated their companies.

LABOR ACTION and the Workers Party believe that the oil companies and all other big companies—since they all operate in a similar fashion—should be nationalized under workers' control. The oil lobbying scandal is an effect, not a cause. Only when profiteering is eliminated and the working people have a government which truly represents them will bribery, graft and robbery be eliminated.



Fight "Big Steal" Formula - -

(Continued from page 1)

The Department of Commerce, hardly a labor-biased institution, reported at the time of the GM strike that an increase in wages up to 23 per cent could be granted without price increases.

The most militant section of the organized labor movement backed up their demand for the 30 per cent increase with the demand to open the books and demonstrate for all to see, the ability of the big corporations to pay. The corporations have not dared to open those books to reveal the tremendous profits and the hidden reserves.

The demand of labor for holding the price line was in the interests of the entire public. It meant that wage increases should come squarely out of profits—that legalized plunder fund extracted from the sweat and toil of the working people.

Now comes the Truman decree. That "impartial referee," labor's PAC-backed friend in the White House and inheritor of the mantle of Roosevelt, gives business exactly what it wants: a formula to freeze wages and relax prices. Truman's support of the Bowles-Porter team as against that of Snyder-Small was merely a see-saw game of big price increases as against bigger price increases.

Labor has done a valiant job on the picket lines. But that is not enough. As soon as the strike banners are furled and the new contracts signed, the struggle begins anew. Labor will be forced to continue the battle against the new assault on its standard of living inflicted by the price increases.

That is why labor must organize ITS OWN CLASS POLITICAL PARTY to assist on the political front its class battles on the economic front. It must free itself from the class parties of the enemy, the parties supported by big business, the Democratic and Republican Parties. Unions which are dominated by the bosses and permit the bosses

to enter their meetings are known by all organized labor as COMPANY unions. Similarly with political parties. The Republican Party and Truman's own PAC-backed party are COMPANY parties.

U. S. labor is husky, mature and undefeated in its economic struggles. Politically it is still in swaddling clothes. The first step toward political maturity is the break with capitalist politics and the formation of an independent Labor Party. That party should be a party of, by and for the working people.

It should open the books of the corporations. If the corporations refuse, or if their books show they cannot operate their business to provide a higher standard of living and plenty for all, then labor must demand the nationalization of big business and its operation under workers' control!

For labor does not have any profit interests at stake. It has shown in its recent struggles that it wants a decent wage at the expense of profits and not, as the corporations and their Washington representatives desire, at the expense of labor and all consumers. Therefore, all of the little people who have no vested interest in the profit system of capitalism must support the movement toward INDEPENDENT POLITICAL ACTION, toward a LABOR PARTY!

LOS ANGELES FORUM: PICTURE OF SOCIALIST AMERICA Speakers: Hal Draper and others SUNDAY, MARCH 10, 8:00 P.M. Grand Theater Bldg. 730 Grand Street

# Korea: Victim Of the War for "Liberation"

By Susan Green

Korea, small and indivisible as is its economy, still is divided into two parts—not by choice, but by compulsion. Upon "liberation" from Japan, the armies of Russia moved in and took over the land of the Koreans north of the 38th parallel, while the United States Army dived south of that imaginary line. General Shitkov's military establishment is ensconced at Heijo, while some miles to the south at Seoul the American General Hodge and his forces hold sway.

The importance of Korea to the Russian and American imperialists is not that it is a country for forty years ruthlessly exploited and cruelly massacred by the Japanese imperialists, a country with a fighting people struggling for freedom and independence. To the new conquerors of Korea its importance is in its strategic position for power in the Far East.

Justing-out due south from Manchuria, Korea flanks the Sea of Japan with Nippon on the other shore and also flanks the Yellow Sea with the mainland of China to the west. A fortified Korea could undoubtedly dominate the whole region, closing in famous Port Arthur, the port of Dairen, the Chinese cities of Peking and Tientsin, to say nothing of the Russian port of Vladivostok directly north and almost contiguous to Korea. And, of course, there are resources to be had and a market to be exploited.

The flame of rebellion burst forth in Korea after the 1945 Moscow conference of the Big Three, where the fate of the Koreans was decided as follows: military occupation to continue above and below the 38th parallel; no independence; a five-year "trusteeship" under the big powers—to "prepare" the Koreans for independence. The Koreans understood the earlier Cairo conference to have promised them independence after Japan's defeat. They did not take the broken promise kindly, nor was their temper assuaged by assurances that they had "misunderstood" the Cairo conference or that their misunderstanding was due "to a bad translation."

What the angry Koreans did in the north zone is locked behind the usual Russian censorship. But from the American zone came news of street fighting, of native attacks on the invading American soldiers, of Koreans in the employ of the American military government walking out and leaving officers to stoke their own furnaces, of policemen leaving their posts, of demonstrations demanding immediate recognition of a Korean provisional government. A projected general strike, however, was called off by Kim Koo, leader of the provisional government formed in exile, who yielded to pressure from General Hodge and to intimations from Secretary of State Byrnes that the trusteeship might be dropped.

However, no such thing has happened. Instead, a commission of Russians and Americans met in Seoul, and for three weeks, beginning January 16, the horse trading went on behind the scenes with no word to the public. The commission was supposed to coordinate "in administrative-economic matters." While the meeting was in progress, there were more demonstrations against trusteeships, more demands for the removal of the 38th parallel boundary which divides southern agricultural Korea from the sources of fuel, power and manufactured goods in the north, and more proclamations for an independent Korean democratic government.

### "DEMOCRACY" UNDER IMPERIALIST GUNS

Finally, the secrecy was broken and it was announced by the august conferees that a ten-man commission was to be set up in Seoul, composed equally of Russians and Americans but no Koreans, to start work within a month and carry out the decisions of the conference. What were the decisions of the conference? The military occupation, of course, to remain; the 38th parallel boundary to stay; between the two zones there is to be railroad, motor and water-borne transportation, as well as the exchange of mail and the establishment of radio broadcasting frequencies. But the farmers of the southern zone still fear they may not get indispensable fertilizer from the north and that the Russians may at any time cut off the power generated in the north.

The Russo-American conferees magnanimously declared that the ten-man council will consult "democratic political parties and social organizations of both north and south Korea." At a later date there will be another meeting of the invading imperialists to establish "a provisional government of Koreans on a democratic basis" to face the task of working with "Russia and the United States for the unification of the country."

A "democratic basis" under the guns of two imperialist vultures! "Unification of the country" torn asunder by the greed of the invaders!

It is not for this that the Korean people—starving on a standard of living only a quarter of the low level of the Japanese, trampled on and massacred—have fought for forty years. It is not for this that they have carried on unrelenting guerrilla warfare against the Japanese beginning back in 1910. It is not for this that they grew to 500,000 strong in the resistance movement against Japan during the war.

Looking soberly at the native forces, active on the political scene, what are the chances of the Korean masses getting the freedom and national independence they have struggled to attain?

There are two groupings. One is around the Kim Koo provisional government formed in exile in China in 1940. This is basically of the same character as the provisional government created in Shanghai in 1919 after the gruesome purge of Korean nationalists by the Japanese. The same Dr. Rhee who was president of that provisional government is a leader in the present one. He was a close friend of Woodrow Wilson, believed in the latter's fourteen points, and had faith in United States intervention on behalf of Korean freedom. This is referred to as the "rightist" group with the Democratic Party as the chief political element. The leaders appear to have one ear open to the demands of the masses and the other to those of Washington.

The other grouping is around the Communist Party. It refuses to have anything to do with the "rightists"—accusing them of violating the "spirit of the Moscow decision" and of being unable to form a representative government, among other things. Dr. Rhee, in turn, declares that the CP is "acting on orders from above"—which undoubtedly it is—and that it demanded a fifty per cent representation on the provisional executive committee, or else.

There have been assassinations of prominent leaders on both sides. The Russian news agency Tass has accused the American military government of inspiring demonstrations against the decisions of the Moscow conference, and MacArthur himself is supposed to have taken a hand in rebuking Tass.

From all reports, therefore, it seems that the leaders of the Kim Koo group lean toward the Americans while the CP, of course, stooges for Moscow. Koreans who align themselves behind one or the other of the invading imperialists will not lead their people to independence. They will help turn their unhappy country into a battlefield of World War III. The fight of the colonial peoples must be directed against ALL imperialists.

## The Years of Decision for U. S. Labor:

# First Round of Post-War Social Crisis

By J. R. JOHNSON

Messrs. Capitalists have looked the American working class, 1946 edition, in the eye. What they have seen they have not liked. They have not liked it at all, and now they are beating a retreat, particularly on the ideological front.

When the strikes began, the journalists of the capitalist press made no bones about the fact that these were no ordinary strikes. The most expansive was Mr. Louis Stark of The New York Times. In a Sunday issue of the paper he said that the strikes were not strikes merely for wages, but for "universality." It is a long word, but a good one. It is a philosophical term which we can roughly translate as follows: The worker does not want merely to be a worker who goes to the factory, produces profits, goes home to sleep, goes back to the factory, produces profits and so on, indefinitely. He wants to live a truly rounded life, to take advantage of the innumerable opportunities for educated, cultured living which are afforded by the vast discoveries and products of modern capitalism. The worker enslaved to capital lives a poor, narrow, limited life. For him to aim at universality (in the words of Mr. Stark) means to aim at a full, broad, complete existence, what Karl Marx called the existence of a truly social being. In seeing that the worker was asking for more than a mere 30% Mr. Stark in our opinion showed great perception.

Victor Riesel of The New York Post spent column after column day after day proving that the workers had all sorts of extreme social and political ideas which were imperfectly concealed behind the demand for increased wages.

### MR. LUCE SEES A POINT

Perhaps the most distinctive contribution to this analysis was made by the press of Mr. Henry Luce, millionaire owner of Life and Time and Fortune, friend of Chiang Kai Shek and his semi-fascist regime, agitator for America to become the dominant imperialism of the 20th century, and husband of Congresswoman Luce, that enemy of the working class. In his publication, Time, December 3, 1945, Luce's journalists wrote as follows of the GM-UAW strike:

"It was not a strike for union recognition; it was not a strike of desperation. It was not a strike against outrageous working conditions or starvation pay; no one was starving.

"It was a new kind of strike... what made it new was that Walter Reuther has based his arguments on the sweeping effect an increase in pay in the vast motor industry would

have on the economy of the country.

But it was not only in the demand of Reuther that Luce saw the unprecedented quality of these strikes. In his other publication, Life, of November 26, 1945, he had already given some indication of what the workers thought:

"Neither selfishness nor strikes are anything new under the American sun. Yet it is hard to resist a feeling that there is something new about the current flavor of many familiar American phenomena. It is as though man's motives had changed or clouded while their acts and words followed the same old pattern from habit."

In our opinion an absolutely wonderful analysis. Men are repeating the old phrases, but they mean different things in the advanced social relations of American society. Luce's editorial sounds almost like Marxism. Nor are we stretching a point. Listen to this:

"Labor does not seem so genuinely interested in wages, nor management in profits, as both do in something undefined. Power, perhaps..."

Elsewhere in his publication, Mr. Luce says the same thing, but does not hesitate to add, as he does in this editorial, that the way to bring America out of the crisis is to work hard. "The zeal, sweat and collaboration of a lot of individuals..." The workers of course will provide the sweat and collaboration on the assembly line and the capitalists will show the zeal in raking in the profits.

### A THREATENING SITUATION

No less than President Truman analyzed the conflict as a conflict for power. But it was left for General Motors to go to the American public with their case. The UAW, they said, means socialism. It is the end of the American way of life as we have known it, if they implied, if they did not say, that if it had been a question of wages alone, they would have been more sympathetic. But they felt that their vital privileges as masters of the American economy were threatened. They complained bitterly to the union leaders and to the general public that the union papers continually vilified them. They resented being called fascist-minded, monopolistic cliques, enemies of democracy, and other unpleasant terms by which class-conscious workers usually express their detestation of capitalist society.

But after the UAW strike was well on the way and the capitalist journalists had expressed themselves thus freely, the situation began to assume more threatening proportions. Truck drivers, meat packers, steel workers, electrical workers, tele-

phone operators, oil workers—Messrs. Capitalists realized that the great masses of workers in the nation had similar ideas to the UAW workers.

Now imagine if two or three million workers were made to understand by the capitalist press that they were striking for universality, that it was a question of power, that they wished to change the American way of life, etc. If even the workers thought so, it was not the business of capitalism to encourage them in these subversive notions and to set them thinking in concrete, precise terms about matters that they would feel more as an instinct or an aspiration than as a set program.

Somebody may have sounded the alarm. Or, on the other hand, the capitalist instinct of keeping the workers dumb may have reasserted itself. That is as it may be. At any rate during the last week or two a noticeable change has come over the press.

### SING A DIFFERENT TUNE

Victor Riesel now writes a book-keeper's column. It is all a question of wages. Workers are interested in nothing more than dollars and cents. C. F. Hughes of the New York Times, giving "The Merchant's Point of View," proves that it is a mere question of wages and prices. Some months ago this same Hughes was writing bitter sentences about the extremists on the side of capital and the extremists on the side of labor who were itching to have a showdown as to the future of American society.

But, best of all, is our friend, Mr. Luce. Life magazine of February 4 heads its editorial:

**Mr. Fairless Should Pay 18 1/2c**  
Note the first three words in the subhead:  
**Right or Wrong, the President Picked It and We Have Got to Get On with the Job**

"Mr. Fairless has a case, but it is not good enough." Thus says Mr. Luce in his editorial. But, as for labor, "labor must work hard."

Luce declares that "right or wrong" Fairless must pay up. Luce actually writes that when Fairless says that he can pay 15c but not 18 1/2c, it "smells fishy." That is a capitalist way of saying that it stinks. Fairless himself beat a public retreat in asking the President to save his face by calling a conference. The Daily News, every page of which smells of fascism, denounced Fairless openly, told him that he could not continue to buck public opinion in this way, and even predicted that if he continued to be obstinate he would lose his job.

What has happened? Merely this: The determination, the confidence,

the refusal to be scared which labor has shown, have made all these gentlemen realize that they had better bring this business to a close as quickly as possible and above all play down labor's desire for universality, and power, and all the other indefinable demands. Philip Murray, who had begun by throwing some fierce words at Truman, showed soon that he at any rate had no sympathy with universality. He let everybody know that as far as he was concerned, he wanted a little money for the workers, and that was all. He denounced sympathy strikes.

The capitalists are bringing pressure to bear on Truman to raise prices, that is to say, to take away with the right hand what they give to the workers with the left. But one thing is certain. They have all had a glimpse that, to put it very mildly, by an increase in wages, labor means far more than the difference between 15c and 18 1/2c. They have looked the post-war American worker in the eye, and they do not like what they see.

### LARGER QUESTION POSED

Labor should ponder well over this development. The capitalists have shouted socialism, universality, struggle for power—and they have frightened nobody. An aspect of great importance is that large numbers of the middle classes have stood firmly by labor. History has shown us that when the two fundamental classes, capitalists and workers, meet in head-on collision, the intermediate classes are, by and large, ready to go with labor just so long as labor shows clearly that it means business and is not afraid.

We are now seeing the first round of the post-war social crisis. The later stages will pose questions even more fundamentally. As Philip Murray said before the war was ended: These years are "the years of decision." They are. They will decide whether the United States will be socialist or fascist.

That decision will depend to a large degree on who can win the middle classes, capital or labor. And labor will win them, not by hesitation, vacillation or retreat, but by saying boldly: "Yes, people of the United States, we mean socialism. We mean to control production for the interests of the whole nation and not for the interests of the fascist, monopolistic cliques. We mean universality. We mean everything the capitalists say and more. For we are convinced that only by the abolition of this system will we be able to have a genuine democracy and a truly social existence for the vast majority of the American people."

# From "Beloved Leader" to Hated Enemy

By Stephen Parker

Earl Browder, the former national secretary of the Communist Party, has been expelled from membership in the Communist Party. The erstwhile and devoted Stalinist hack who found himself out of tune with the latest change in line, dictated—as all Communist Party changes in line are—by the shifting Russian foreign policy, has been expelled "for betraying the principles of Marxism-Leninism and deserting to the side of the class enemy—American monopoly capital."

Browder's fall from grace and demotion from "beloved leader of the American working class" began last May with the publication in this country of an article written for Les Cahiers du Communisme, the theoretical organ of the French Communist Party. Jacques Duclos, a French Communist Party leader, wrote the article after a visit to Moscow.

The Stalinists of this country, always realists when it comes to such matters, recognized that Duclos wrote with Stalin's pen. Browder was immediately ejected from his leading posts and William Z. Foster, another old-time servant of the Kremlin, inherited the mantle of "beloved leader of the American working class."

## Obituary



The tragedy-comedy that followed Duclos' denunciation of Browder was a disgusting spectacle of humiliation and self-flagellation. It contained many of the elements of a Moscow trial; however, these captulators were not even faced with torture, threats to their families or death, as the Moscow defendants were! Leader after leader in an almost never-ending procession got up to confess the errors of his ways and pile mountains of abuse on the hapless Browder.

Now these self-confessed betrayers, misleaders, fabricators and revisionists have expelled Browder for the crimes for which they themselves were guilty. The final coup de grace is Browder's expulsion. Because the Stalinists do not have state power in this country they are unable to inflict the type of punishment their brethren resort to in the country they rule over. And poor Earl, who, after all, must maintain the standard of living to which he is accustomed, has established a "Distributors Guide, Inc." This "business" gives advice to small business men who are looking for materials, etc. Enough said.

### TARRED WITH SAME BRUSH

It must be assumed that when the present leadership of the Communist Party accuse Browder of "deserting to the side of the class enemy—American monopoly capitalism," they know whereof they speak. For their own services to American monopoly capitalism have been monumental.

From 1935 to 1939, during their Popular Front period, their main efforts were directed to tying the American working class to Roosevelt, who was preparing to wage a war in the interests of monopoly capitalism. From 1939 until Hitler's attack on Russia there was an interlude. Since Stalin was in an unholy wedlock with Hitler at the time, they switched their tactics and rendered support to German monopoly capital inasmuch as this coincided with Stalin's interests.

With Russia's entry into the war they started their real all-out services to American monopoly capitalism. They were the staunchest advocates of the speed-up and incentive pay. They were in the forefront of the "no-strike pledge" which paralyzed the labor movement for the period of the war. They were opposed to all movements on the part of labor for an independent Labor Party. They spread lies and myths about the character of the war and the aims of American imperialism in the war. They were the best stool-pigeons that capitalism had. And Duclos, who initiated the campaign against Browderism, was no less conspicuous in his services to the Allied imperialist alliance than Browder. Understand, of course, that as servants of Allied imperialism they were merely being farmed out by Russian imperialism. For the latter is their real master.

These services were necessary to Stalin during the war to strengthen the alliance. True, there were some frictions, such as the agitation for opening a "second front" during which the American Stalinists, Browder no less than Foster, did Stalin's bidding. But, on the whole, they did their job well.

### NEW TIMES, NEW TACTICS

Germany's defeat in the war meant that Stalin was demanding new services from the American Communist Party. The defeat of Germany precipitated the struggle for the imperialist spoils of the war. The Big Three began to fall apart and the Anglo-American partners began to offer active opposition to many of Stalin's aspirations in Europe. With the defeat of Japan the same conflict was aggravated in Asia.

New times, new tactics. Anglo-American opposition to Stalin's aims meant a new line of "militancy" in the United States. All of it has a purpose: to embarrass and obstruct American imperialism and in this way to facilitate Stalin's expansionism. And in this new line there was no place for Browder, who evidently had been passionately enamored of the old line.

Browder is gone and "Browderism" is now added to the vocabulary of the faithful. He is now in the ranks of the "business men" and there are few mourners. One thing remains certain. The American workers must remain constantly on guard against this vicious, reactionary agent of Kremlin totalitarianism, the Communist Party. For their interests are never those of the American workers, but always those of Stalinist imperialism and enslavement.

# First Labor Action Sunday March 3

By Reva Craine, Press Manager

On Sunday morning, March 3, all the members of the Workers Party, from coast to coast, are mobilizing in their respective localities for the first of a series of LABOR ACTION SUNDAYS. Everyone will meet at 10 a.m. and will cover designated territories with sample copies of LABOR ACTION for the purpose of obtaining a maximum number of subscriptions in the current drive.

Every reader of LABOR ACTION will want to participate in this very worthwhile and interesting activity. You can meet the members of the Workers Party at the mobilization points. See page 2 for listing of meeting places.

### NEW YORK WP ORGANIZER WRITES:

"Dear Reva: When I was in the LABOR ACTION office I used to think, dream and plot the ways and means to an eight-page LABOR ACTION and increasing circulation. Now you are in charge of getting 5,000 new subscribers in three months and I'm in your old job of getting the New York branches of the Workers Party behind this drive. The branches are all reorganized now and at a recent membership meeting our quota of 2,000 new subs was enthusiastically accepted. The City Committee is offering the following prizes:

"To each comrade who receives a minimum of thirty subs—a copy of THE FIGHT FOR SOCIALISM, by Max Shachtman.

"To each comrade who receives a minimum of fifty subs, in addition to the above—a copy of THE FIRST FIVE YEARS OF THE COMMUNIST INTERNATIONAL, by Leon Trotsky.

"We also have additional prizes for branches and the three highest subscription getters.

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

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City \_\_\_\_\_ Zone \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zone \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

"Tomorrow, Sunday, February 17, we are having our first LABOR ACTION SUNDAY. We will tell you the results later.

"In the last month our membership has increased almost by fifty per cent. Everyone is eager to put this drive over. Let us beat the rest of the country! PAUL BERN, Organizer, New York Local.

### LABOR ACTION PRIZES TO BE ANNOUNCED

The business office of LABOR ACTION is going to offer several prizes to individuals and Workers Party branches reaching the highest percentages in the drive—prizes consisting of some very rare and valuable items. Watch next week's Press Action for the announcement.

### HIBBING STILL IN THE LEAD

Our Hibbing supporters keep sending in subscriptions at an ever-increasing rate. This week they came in with FORTY-SIX subscriptions!

How do they do it? Well, let them speak for themselves:

"We hit the picket lines today. It has been a full day. I started out early this morning, picking the others up later. We covered every picket shanty and strike headquarters from Coleraine to Chisholm, where night overtook us... Besides distributing 1,000 copies of LABOR ACTION both individually and in bundles of varying sizes at the shanties and in the strike hall, we sold a number of subs. I was kept so busy talking with the striking miners that I could not do a good job of pushing the paper, nor did we sell house-to-house as we had planned. We were cordially greeted along the line and will follow up on it later.

"The strike situation is quiet, the miners confident. We are winning many friends here and doing a good job of educating. We'll try to get more subs next week-end."

Attention, New York! Does your challenge include Hibbing?

Branch	Quota	Week Ending Feb. 18	Total to Date	Percentage
Akron	200	5	16	8
Baltimore	10	1	16	1
Boston	10	5	6	60
Buffalo	200	1	5	2.5
Chicago	350	3	11	3.1
Cleveland	100	—	4	4
Connecticut	10	—	—	—
Denver	25	—	—	—
Detroit	1000	83	105	10.5
Hibbing	100	46	79	79
Los Angeles	250	6	28	11.2
Louisville	50	—	—	—
Madison	25	—	—	—
Newark	150	6	46	30.6
New York	2000	146	226	11.3
Oregon	10	—	—	—
Philadelphia	500	—	10	2
Reading	75	13	25	33.3
San Francisco	200	4	50	25
San Pedro	250	3	16	6.4
Seattle	200	—	9	4
Streator	25	5	5	20
St. Louis	25	—	6	24
Syracuse	10	—	—	—
Youngstown	25	—	—	—
Miscellaneous	—	21	30	—
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>5800</b>	<b>347</b>	<b>678</b>	<b>13.5</b>