

# NEW MILITANT

Weekly Organ of the Workers Party of the U.S.

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## INTO THE STREETS ON MAY DAY!

### Tobin Lifts Charter of Drivers Union, 574

JOINS WITH CITIZENS ALLIANCE

But Thousands of Truckers Swear Fealty To Local Leaders in Reinstatement Fight

By F. X. FERRY

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., April 25.—Local 574 of the General Drivers, Helpers and Inside Workers, which during 1934 began to write a new militant labor history in Minneapolis, was again thrust into the forefront of the labor struggle. This time, however, the fight which is to be waged by "574" is against a united front extending from the "Citizens Alliance," a new reactionary bosses' "Committee of One-hundred," D. J. Tobin, President of the Truck Drivers International Union, reactionary labor leaders in Minneapolis, to—the C. P.

The fight was brought into the open on Monday, April 14, when in an undated letter "574" was informed by Tobin that its charter had been revoked; the reason given for the revocation was "non-payment of per capita tax." Tobin's communication was read, on Monday evening, to a meeting of between 900 and 1,000 members of the union. The workers, who successfully battled the forces of police and specials: who drove 1,500 armed vigilantes from the Market Place during the strike in May, 1934; who fought on the picket line until their demands were met, and the Citizens Alliance was forced to its knees—these valiant workers now heard Tobin's statement outlawing them as union men. Some truckers heard the letter with a bitter curse against the reactionary leaders of the International, others (and they appeared to be in the majority) felt that the new attempt to disrupt their ranks will be repulsed and that the union will come out of the fight stronger than ever.

#### Fight for Reinstatement

Officials of "574" in speaking to the membership pointed out the need of fighting for reinstatement in the International, if necessary to appeal to the convention. One by one the workers who, tested in strikes of 1934, became the leaders of 574, showed that the interest of the workers in general and of those of Minneapolis in particular, will be best protected by retaining the charter, and continuing the fight against the bosses and against the reactionary gang of the International, as part of the A. F. of L. The workers were not easily convinced, but at last accepted the words of Vincent and Grant Dunne, of Wm. Brown, of Frank Dunne, of Wm. Brown, of G. Dobbs and others of the executive, that no effort be spared to gain the favorable vote of the delegates to the Central Labor Union and thus to prevent the expulsion of 574 from the local A. F. of L. central body.

There was no denial that the per capita tax is not paid up to the minute. But it was paid to the full financial ability of 574, which after the victorious strikes of last summer, was left with no money, but with the crushing burden of large debts, increased in the conduct of the strike. The fact, known to all members of the local, was pointed out to the meeting that two workers, Henry Ness and John Belor, were murdered by the strike-breaking crew of Police Chief Johannes and that about 50 pickets were shot. The local considered it as its duty to care for the families of the murdered workers and to pay for the hospitalization of the wounded ones. These emergency factors had been submitted to Tobin himself in a letter sent last October, asking for time to pay up the per capita tax, which request was never denied since the letter remained unanswered up to now.

#### Tobin's Real Reasons

Of course everyone knows that the charter of 574 was revoked, not because of the non-payment of a few hundred dollars (just a drop in the bucket for an International with a treasury of between three and four millions), but because local 574 is becoming too militant, and its leaders too dangerous to all the members of the latest "united front." During the strike, the employers more than once declared that "574" is O.K. but its leaders are "radicals" and "Bolsheviks." Tobin, in the magazine of the International (July 1934) pointed out that the "Communists and radicals who are bobbing up, here and there, in our newly organized local unions . . . were very prominent in the strike of Local No. 574" and called upon " . . . our people to beware of

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### March with the W.P. On May Day in N.Y.

All friends and sympathizers of the Workers Party in New York are urged to fall in with the W. P. contingent of the New York May Day parade. The party's section of the march will form in front of 2 West 15th Street—15th Street and Fifth Avenue—at 12 noon sharp.

Take your place with the revolutionary party of the workers in the march of New York's unions and labor organizations on May 1st.

### Broad Unity For May Day In Allentown

#### Monster Parade to Voice Important Labor Demands

ALLENTOWN, Pa.—Sixty-nine organizations representing more than 6,000 workers have joined in a solid united front for the biggest May Day demonstration that Allentown has ever witnessed. Among the organizations participating are: the Workers Party, the Communist Party, the Socialist Party, the Lehigh County Unemployed League, the American Federation of Silk Workers, the United Ribbon Workers, and many other union groups.

A monster parade will be formed which will march past the principal factories and end at Center Square where a huge mass meeting will be held, culminating in the singing of the International. A request has been made for the dismissal of all schools for the day. Many workers plan to call a one day strike.

A May Day Manifesto has been drawn up to be distributed to every worker in Allentown. Among the demands are:

1. For the complete unionization of all workers. IN UNITY IS STRENGTH.
2. For the right of collective bargaining and the right to strike and picket effectively.
3. Against Mayor Lewis' proclamation limiting picketing.
4. For CASH RELIEF and a 50 percent increase in relief allowances.
5. For a 5c car fare and free transportation of the children of the unemployed.
6. For the abolition of toll on the 8th St. bridge.
7. Against all sales taxes and for a steeply graduated income tax and the foreign born.
8. Against the destructive policies of the Roosevelt administration which have as their main purpose the raising of prices.
9. For the repeal of the Flynn Sedition Act and all criminal syndicalism laws. For the freedom of speech and press.
10. For the unconditional release of all political prisoners: Tom Mooney, the Scottsboro boys, the Sacramento prisoners, the Fargo workers, etc.
11. For equal right for Negroes and the foreign born.
12. For the 30 hour 30 dollar week; with union rates where they are higher.
13. For the Lundeen Unemployment Insurance Bill.
14. Against imperialist war and the division of relief funds for war preparations.

### CARRY ON!



## First of May Manifesto of the Workers Party of U.S.

Fifty years ago American workers struggling for the eight-hour day made the First of May a labor holiday. Later the workers of other lands made May Day the International Labor Day—a day to commemorate the struggles of the toilers and to do homage to the martyrs who had fallen in those struggles; a day of protest against nationalism, militarism and war; a day symbolizing the solidarity of labor; a day over regardless of nationality, color, race; a day of defiance of labor's foes and oppressors; a day to march and to sing of brotherhood, of hope, of the ultimate victory, of a workers' world in which plenty, justice and truth shall reign!

The boss press and other capitalist agencies, and reactionary labor leaders as well, taught American workers for many years to shun the observance of May Day as something "foreign" and to regard themselves as set apart from the workers of other lands, leading a charmed life of perpetual prosperity under a "new capitalism." Today in 1935, after six years of economic crisis, which has afflicted unspeakable suffering on the masses in the United States and all other capitalist nations and which has clearly revealed that this capitalist system is everywhere in decline, greater numbers of American workers than ever before, thousands upon thousands of trade unionists who have never in the past participated in a May Day demonstration, are pouring into the streets. Brushing away from their eyes the webs spun by the bosses' propaganda, they are making May Day their own again. We of the Workers Party hail with joy this evidence that the feeling of solidarity with the workers of all the world, against the capitalists of all the world, is growing in the hearts of our fellow-workers.

In the year that has passed since May Day, 1934, the workers of the United States have fought on many a field—Toledo, Minneapolis, Milwaukee, Kohler, San Francisco, Portland, the textile towns of North and South! In the face of opposition from the czars of American industry refusing to recognize the elementary right of workers to organize; of the deceit of the Roosevelt administration which had led the masses to believe that it would protect this right; of betrayal at times by their own union leaders; yes, faced by police, militia, machine guns, the workers have marched on!

We pause on this May Day to salute the

heroic workers who were killed by ruthless capitalist violence in the strikes of this past year. These dead shall not have died in vain!

The thousands in other lands who have died this year at the hands of reactionary and Fascist butchers, we salute on this May Day. Their blood shall fertilize the soil out of which new forces shall arise to crush reaction and Fascism!

To the workers in capitalist jails and Fascist concentration camps, to Tom Mooney in San Quentin, to the latest capitalist frame-up in Sacramento, to the victims of race discrimination such as the Scottsboro boys, and to all class-war prisoners everywhere, we shout our greetings. Surely they will hear even in the innermost cells of the vilest jails the marching feet, the singing voices of the May Day demonstrators. Fellow-workers, comrades, we shall not cease to storm these prison walls that hold you now until we have battered them down and set you free!

But the hour of release and victory has not yet struck. For fresh struggles, for mightier struggles than ever before, must we gird ourselves on this May Day.

Serving the interests of the capitalists, the Roosevelt administration has launched through its Public Works program, a vicious assault upon the standard of living of the American masses. Wage rates are being completely undermined. As many as possible are to be struck from the relief rolls so that they may be forced to take work from private employers at any wage. Hundreds of thousands of young men are to be forced into the Civilian Conservation Camps to prevent them from organizing to demand a decent standard of living, to train them to break strikes and shoot workers, to prepare them for service in the next war. Employed and unemployed must united without delay for a nation-wide struggle for the six-hour day, the thirty-hour week, against wage cutting, against the share-the-misery program.

The sharpest struggle is being waged by the employing class against every attempt of the workers to organize. At the least hint of a strike, machine guns are mounted in American factories. The answer to this must be a nation-wide campaign of organization. Every worker into a union or unemployed organiza-

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### Toledo Strike Solid; Auto Plant Paralyzed

STRIKE PAPER TO BE PUBLISHED

Militants Active, Promise Real Fight, No Fake Agreement; Bosses Frantic

By Wire from A. J. Muste

TOLEDO, April 25.—Strike ranks solid. Plant tied up tight as a drum. Strikers preparing to vote down General Motors contract. Sentiment is for finish fight against company unionism. Militant battle will establish firm majority for bona-fide union, affirming the right to collective bargaining. All attempts of the company to provoke trouble have been crippled by effective union action. First issue of the strike paper, called "Truth" will make its bow Friday.

Special to New Militant

TOLEDO, Ohio, April 23.—The first militant thrust of the auto workers against the ramparts of the giant General Motors Corporation began here today with the walk-out of all of the 2,900 employees of the Chevrolet Motors Co. Toledo plant. Organized in the Automobile Workers Federal Labor Union, Local 18384, whose representatives recently secured over 90 percent of the votes in the Auto

### Beat Company Union in Calif. Auto Election

Workers Vote for AF of L Despite Extensive Fink System

OAKLAND, Cal., April 20.—Balloting under the supervision of the Wolman Board, two thousand workers in the Chevrolet and Fisher Body plants here voted their emphatic opposition to the company unions. In the Fisher Body plant the company union received only eighteen percent of the total vote and at Chevrolet this minority was a still smaller thirteen percent. At Chevrolet the A. F. of L. candidates received a majority of 462 out of 956 votes cast, over the unaffiliated and company union candidates.

The vote indicates the determination of the workers to have bona-fide representation and further indicates a growing ability to see the necessity for a genuine union. This becomes clearer in light of the following facts; first, the existence locally of the A. F. of L. union was unknown to most of the workers until two days before the election (and then they were reached only by handbills); second, the bulk of the workers have had no organizational experience; third, the bosses used all available methods of intimidation, aided by their notorious and extensive spy system. The stool pigeon organization is so extensive that most of the company union voters can safely be placed in that category.

If the correct tactics are used the union will have strength enough to demand recognition before the seasonal campaign begins. A direct contact campaign by organizers, reaching every worker in the two plants must be embarked on immediately. The stool pigeon system and intimidation makes it impossible for the workers to join the union at open mass meetings. In many instances the mere presence of a worker at a meeting has resulted in threats of discharge or actual discharge.

Any tendency to rely on Federal Board arbitration, in the cases of discharged workers must be firmly opposed. The season will soon be drawing to a close. The workers want a union and correct strategy will build it. The time element will be one of the determining factors in the success or failure of the union, hence a correct organizational campaign must be started without delay.

On Monday evening, April 29, the workers of Brownsville will hold a united front rally in preparation for the city-wide May Day demonstration. The rally will start at 7:30 P.M. at Pennsylvania and Sutter Avenues and the demonstrators will march to Hopkinson and Pitkin Avenues. Speakers from all the affiliated organizations will address the workers.

Labor Board elections, the Chevrolet workers marched out of the plant in a body and formed mass picket lines which quickly succeeded in shutting the plant down cold.

Toledo's auto workers, who set the tone and tempo for the great strike wave of 1934 in the Auto-Lite strike of last May, may again have the distinction of touching off the strike bomb-shell which will have national repercussions. Top-notch company officials, including William S. Knudsen, executive vice-president of General Motors, and M. E. Coyle, president of Chevrolet, flooded into Toledo yesterday in a desperate effort to delay or divert strike action which threatens to spread throughout the automotive and other major industries.

#### Progressives in Leadership

Leadership in the strike rests at present in the hands of young, militant and progressive elements, led by Jim Roland, chairman of the Chevrolet union group and head of the strike committee. Other militants who stood in the forefront of last year's historic battle are playing an outstanding role in the strike, leading and organizing the pickets, arranging publicity, instilling militancy and discipline into the ranks and developing effective lines of mass strike strategy.

The strike came swiftly, as predicted in the New Militant of April 13, following the presentation of the union's proposed contract to the Chevrolet management last week which was turned down every major clause in a completely arbitrary fashion. Following rejection of the contract, a huge meeting of the Chevrolet workers was held and a strike vote taken. The vote was unanimous in favor of strike, although the actual moment for the calling of the strike was left up to the decision of the plant executive committee.

The militancy and solidarity of the Chevrolet workers so worried the employers that they voluntarily requested another conference with the union representatives early Monday morning in a last desperate effort to head off the strike. This is the first recorded instance of the untouchable General Motors deigning to stoop to confer with representatives of a genuine union.

#### Company "Conditions"

Counter-proposals of the company for a 5 percent wage increase for workers in the lower wage brackets, diluted by a deceptively worded provision which would lower the wages in higher brackets 10 percent, were promptly rejected by the union committee. The company flatly refused to sign any contract, grant genuine union recognition or seniority rights without a merit clause, or to consider the union's demands for a minimum wage of 70 cents per hour.

Already the daily press is beginning to poison the air with misleading stories, misquoting strike leaders and confusing the issues. Inspiration that the papers are prepared to launch a "red scare" shortly in an effort to discredit the strike was revealed in headlines and news items today. The Toledo Chamber of Commerce has swung automatically into line behind the auto barons with large scare-head ads denouncing the strike. Full-page company ads appeared today which played up the "outstanding" (Continued on Page 6)



Comments On Life, Liberty and Pursuit of Happiness

By BILL REICH

SWEETNESS AND LIGHT: Chained in a standing position in the "hole" of a Carolina prison for 12 cold January days, Woodrow Shropshire and Robert Barnes suffered frozen, gangrenous feet which had to be amputated. . . . Convicts at the Texas prison farm chopped off hands and feet to escape going to work under brutal guards. . . . In the brief period since the opening of Alcatraz Federal Prison four inmates have gone insane from brutal treatment. . . . National Broadcasting Company sound experts have developed new noises to delight radio fans: dripping maple syrup resembles the plopping of blood from a fresh wound, splitting a head of cabbage with a cleaver cannot be distinguished from splitting a skull, cracking raw spars resembles the crushing of human bones. . . . Two employees of the Pennsylvania Health Department have been indicted for redating old diphtheria anti-toxin and selling it for use in charity cases

HIGHER LEARNING: The Department of Superintendence of the National Education Association voted overwhelmingly against the discussion of controversial social subjects in the classrooms. . . . Five boys arrested in a school strike at Wilkes-Barre, Pa., were accused of molesting the children of scabs. . . . Director Roscoe Ingalls of Los Angeles Junior College blew a tin whistle into the campus amplifier to drown out pacifist speakers. This falling, he turned on the sprinkler system and called the riot squad. Two co-eds were badly beaten. . . . School children at Nanticoke, Pa., walked out in protest to anti-union sentiment of teachers. . . . President McCracken of Vassar objects to students joining the picketline in nearby garment strikes. . . . Dr. S. B. Freeborn of the University of California, after years of diligent research, discovered that orange is the favorite color of houseflies. He received honors. . . . Students at Oglethorpe University stopped spring football practice long enough to run out of town a visiting radical professor. "It was a most refreshing exhibition of good, old-fashioned Americanism," remarked President Thornwell Jacobs. . . .

FEARLESS JOURNALISM: The newspaper publishing business is the only industry that refused to sign an NRA code abolishing child labor. Newsboys are "little merchants" say the publishers and should not be deprived of the valuable education of selling papers on the streets. . . . "Never before has it been so clearly the duty of newspapers to think long and work devotedly to bring suggestions to men in public office," blab-blahs Grove Paterson, President of the American Society of Newspaper Editors in annual convention. . . . A survey by the Children's Bureau of the Department of Labor reveals that the average weekly earnings of newsboys in 1934 was \$1.41 for 15.6 hours, approximately 9c an hour. . . .

SALARIES: "There are no pockets in shrouds," cried Widow Mary Gallagher, Bethlehem Steel Stockholder, in protest against the enormous salaries paid to Eugene Grace, Charles Schwab and other officials. "Forty four thousand men get 67c an hour by the sweat of their brows while three officers draw \$480,000," protested Stockholder Cothland. . . . "There are no rich men left in the old sense of the word," says Charles Schwab, "but we have made up for that in happiness." . . . Stockholders of the Pennsylvania Railroad proposed a \$15,000 increase to the \$60,000 salary of President Atterbury. . . .

COERCION: Says Governor Curley of Massachusetts: "Unless government aid is given the textile industry not a spindle will be turning in New England in six months." . . . The National Association of Manufacturers accuses the American Federation of Labor of "coercion" and "deliberate fostering of strike talk" to influence legislation. . . . James Sinclair, President of the Fall River Cotton Manufacturers Association declares he will go to jail rather than pay the cotton tax and asserts he will close his mill and discharge 750 employees in protest against the levy. . . .

MORALS DEPARTMENT: Mae West lauds movie decency campaigns: "I never took sex seriously," she says, "I helped put it back in proportion." . . . Arch-Bishop Glennon of St. Louis, leader of the Legion of Decency, condemns scanty athletic costumes as "a vulgar pagan tendency to indecency." . . .

SOCIETY NOTES: At the wedding of General (Blood) Purge Goering, Premier of Prussia, General of Aviation, Chief of Secret Police and Master of the Hunt, to actress Emmy Sonnemann, "bridesmaids" were used instead of bridesmaids. Adolph Hitler was "best man." . . . Edward Riley, hitchhiker from Denver, collapsed in the Plaza of the City of Brotherly

August Upswing is Strategic Time for Silk Union Victory

Thorough Preparation is Vital - Organize Nationally, Raise \$500,000 Strike Fund, Publish Strike Paper Now

By FELIX GIOARDANO

At the last meeting of the Plain Goods Department of the American Federation of Silk Workers in Paterson, the membership was confronted with a burning issue: the approving of a national strike in the silk industry to enforce the union demands, should the manufacturers refuse to accept them. These demands as well as the proposed strike have been submitted for approval to all other locals of the A.F.S.W.

Needless to say, these demands will not be granted by the manufacturers of their own accord. The strike which today is as yet a threat, will have to be fought tomorrow.

Every silk worker must of necessity look to the impending strike. In the light of these circumstances a number of questions arise.

What are the possibilities for a really effective strike? What are our chances of victory? What must we do to best assure victory?

The correct answers to these questions bear vitally upon the outcome of the strike itself. We shall therefore analyze the situation and answer them one by one.

Need of Organization

From the national standpoint a really imposing and effective response to the strike call demands the expansion of unionization of the silk industry to every field. This applies particularly to Pennsylvania, where even the last general textile strike either did not penetrate at all in a good many towns, or lasted only for a day or two. In this territory there is no union as strong as in Paterson, for instance, and in several centers there is no union at all despite the most miserable and unheard-of conditions prevalent. No town in Pennsylvania is more than fifty percent organized, and, worse yet, the largest mills are the ones least unionized. Allentown, one of the key towns in the industry, has approximately 1,000 union men out of some 7,000 workers. Northampton, only seven miles away, with three big mills, has no union at all. In Hazleton only a few mills are controlled by the union, with almost no organization at all in the most important mill in the industry, the Duplan. The throwsters in and around Scranton are hardly unionized as yet. Such is the situation that prevails in the most important district of the industry, Pennsylvania, where, we must not forget, over fifty percent of the industry is located. What happens in eastern Pennsylvania will to a large extent make or break the pending strike, both as regards its effectiveness and striking power. The first thing that must be done, therefore, is an intensive drive for union organization, preparing for and leading up to the strike. Only if this is done can the strike be really effective.

Perspectives

Unionization alone is no guarantee of victory. Militancy and courage are equally important. Love. "Death from excessive walking," was the verdict. . . . Investigators recently found \$46 of Ivar Kreuger's \$300,000,000 match fortune. . . . Boy triplets were born to Mrs. Walter Kiser in an abandoned schoolhouse near Somerset, Pa. The father was removed from relief rolls when gifts reached \$50, the limit of cash allowed relief recipients in Pennsylvania. . . . Pennsylvania legislators receive \$2,500 a session. . . . Born to Mrs. Nicholas Suttis, on relief at Johnstown, Pa.—triplets. . . . The solid gold dinner service of King George of England is valued at \$16,000,000. . . . L. M. Crouch, unemployed, of Milwaukee, made himself a serviceable set of false teeth from plaster of paris and pieces of broken china. . . . Governor Davey of Ohio requested an appropriation of \$18,000 for the purchase of oriental rugs for his office. . . . Fat back and sow-belly have become luxuries in many parts of the South. . . . Last year the government spent \$20,730 on ammunition for military salutes. . . . An Associated Press reporter, mistaken for a union organizer, was chased out of Wardsburg, Arkansas. . . . When John McCullough, Arkansas sharecropper, attempted to get the law on two plantation bosses who raped his 15-year old daughter he was beaten up and evicted from his miserable shack. . . . Helress Doris Duke is peeved because Mahatma Gandhi won't see her and explain his philosophy of life in a few words. . . . More than 660,000 families are affected by unemployment in New York City. . . . Mayor La Guardia banishes hurdy-gurdies from the streets and orders Civic Virtue (the statue) removed from City Hall Park. . . . The chickens of Charles Settles of Bowie County, Texas, are laying eggs shaped like torpedoes. "If another war doesn't break out, my hens don't know their business," says Charles.

rect tactics are of vital importance. And correct tactics can flow only from a correct appraisal of the immediate situation and of the perspectives ahead, otherwise no amount of militancy will avail. Above all it is essential to choose the proper time to initiate the struggle, that is to say, to strike when the bosses are weakest and the blows of the union are most effective. The best possible organized strike initiated during the slack season gives the bosses the best chances of playing their chief weapon—wearing out the workers through a drawn-out struggle. In silk, the most seasonal industry in textiles, it is of primary importance to strike at the very beginning of the busy season. That is why it would be only adventurism to initiate the struggle in the weeks immediately ahead, the period when the industry is at its lowest ebb. All indications point today to the latter part of August as the beginning of the next busy season, as the best time to enforce the union demands and to strike.

Only last Wednesday, our General Manager, A. Williams, speaking before a chairman's meeting, reported that in his trip through Pennsylvania he found most of the mills shut down, and the rest curtailing production and in the process of shutting down. And yet Williams approved of a stoppage following the presentation of the union demands to the bosses! Empty threats not only can have no effect upon the bosses, but may easily force the union into a position where it may have to resort to action under most unfavorable circumstances. For example, what action are we forced to resort to should the bosses openly flout the union by ignoring our demands? Can we back up our demands with a general strike in Paterson at the present time? Then, under no condition should the union put itself in a position where it might be forced to strike when the bosses wish.

What Must Be Done?

We must PREPARE now. This means in the first place that we must obtain the sanction of the parent organizations and secure their full support for the strike.

This means that in the meantime we must raise the necessary funds for the struggle, a war chest of at least \$500,000. These funds can be raised through assessing the membership, sponsoring affairs for that purpose, setting up committees throughout the country to solicit funds from labor organizations and liberals. In this way we shall have the necessary funds for the fight.

An equally important preparatory step is the initiation of a series of preliminary regional conferences in the various territories, for the purpose of unifying the organizational steps for the strike. At these conferences committees should be elected to carry out the work relating to the strike preparations in collaboration with the union leadership. These regional conferences should culminate in a special National Convention of the A.F.S.W., devoted only to the question of the general strike.

Strike Organ Needed Now

An immediate and necessary instrument throughout the period of preparation and especially during the strike is a national union organ, which shall in every issue popularize the union demands and build up support for the strike. Such an organ must be established at once. The struggle of the employed silk workers must not be separated from the daily problem of the unemployed. All A.F.S.W. locals must take the initiative and directly aid in the organization of the unemployed. In this way the unemployed will be assisted in securing relief, a close bond will be established between them and the union, and the strike will be assured of their support.

Throughout the preparatory period as well as the strike itself, all elements must be drawn into active participation, in this way presenting a solid front. There can be no question of discrimination. At the same time, there must be no changes from the present policy of carrying on a guerrilla warfare of individual shop strikes to obtain and to maintain union conditions. Only if we realize these concrete proposals will we be able to lead our struggle to a successful conclusion.

These steps must be realized. It is the duty of all the silk workers who recognize the urgency of this program to get together in each local as an organized body for the purpose of translating this program into action.

Once again the most important point on the agenda is the formation of a genuine left wing nationally in the silk union. Only the left wing, organized on the basis of this program can lead the general strike to victory.

branches woke up to the fact that the farmers of Montana are making a better job of construction work than the proletariat of the metropolis. The standing of the other branches leaves much to be desired. Here is the actual number of subs sent in:

Table with 2 columns: Location and Percentage of Subs Sent. Includes Boro Park (4.5%), Bronx (11%), Central (10.5%), E. Side (4%), Flatbush (3%), Harlem (3.5%), West Side (7.5%), Philadelphia (24%), Charleston (20%), New Haven (20%), St. Louis (20%), Minneapolis (41%), Chicago (18%), Guilford (18%), Toledo (18%), San Francisco (15%), New York (12%), Boston (12%), Pittsburgh (11%), Newcastle (10%), Paterson (10%), Los Angeles (9 1/2%), Cleveland (7 1/2%), Newark (6%), Kansas City (6%), Detroit (6%), Columbus (4%).

New York, as has been pointed out several times, is woefully lagging behind in the campaign. We think it is about time that the

MAY DAY GREETINGS FROM St Louis Branch Workers Party of the U. S.

Mpls Council For one Union In Railroads

By a Railroad Worker

MINNEAPOLIS, April 20.—On October 23, 1932, the Minneapolis Railroad Council was organized by eleven volunteer members from six of the 21 railroad unions. The Council is composed of volunteer and elected delegates from the various local unions in the City. The aim and purpose of the Railroad Council idea is to provide a medium at each terminal for getting the railroad workers together during their present divided condition.

The railroad workers of this country are today maintaining the most antiquated trade union structure in the world. In no other industry on this globe do we find the workers organized into 21 separate and autonomous unions. This useless and extremely expensive arrangement is driving thousands of workers out of the railroad unions and is keeping other thousands from joining. And although there has been a union on the railroads since 1864, the industry is now only about 50% organized.

This backward condition of the railroad unions naturally reflects the condition of its leadership. The unions are literally infested by swarms of overpaid officials who act as a dead weight or that many stuck brakes on the movement. This top heavy official bureaucracy has gradually entrenched itself in power behind all kinds of gaglaws, "obligations," secret work, and a strictly censored labor press. A bankrupt leadership must have this artificial protection for its own preservation. Otherwise it would be unable to maintain itself at the expense of, and against the interest and welfare of its membership.

The Minneapolis Railroad Council has been organized to meet this situation in the railroad unions. It has adopted a definite program of needed changes in our union structure, policy and leadership. We are building the Council movement around this program, which is in brief as follows:

Set up Railroad Councils at terminals to permit members of the present 21 R. U. unions to get together to discuss and take action on their problems.

We pose the question sharply for ONE union in the railroad industry instead of 21.

We propose that the leadership of the 21 crafts join in a movement to organize that 50 percent of the railroad workers who are now in the company unions or in no unions at all.

The Council program provides for joint strike action instead of voting one single craft. We want and propose one joint strike ballot for all railroad crafts when necessary to take a strike vote. We stand for lower salaries for the officials and lower dues for the members. Abolition of gaglaws, obligations and secret work, and for joint trade union action for the six-hour day without reduction in earnings. Watch these columns for further reports on the Railroad Council movement.

MAY DAY GREETINGS ARTHUR BRICKLEY, N. Y. C. ARCHIE—New York City OLGA—New York City A. Donist—New York City H. DAVIDOFF—New York City S. BRICKNER—New York City JOHN BECK—New York City A. Williamsporter—New York City

IN THE UNIONS

By KARL LOEBE

The workers at the Toledo plant of Chevrolet have walked out in the first major revolt in the industry since a general auto strike was knocked on the head by the Honorable F.D.R. over a year ago. It is hard to imagine a better place for the show-down to come. The auto workers showed their militancy last year. The working class of Toledo knows what it means to rally to the picket lines. The unemployed are organized in one of the best Unemployed Leagues in the United States. And the leadership of the local automobile workers which ousted the reactionary Ramsey some months ago is a militant one and has been putting the Toledo organization into fighting trim ever since.

Go to it boys. The workers of the nation are looking to you to raise the banner of unionism high over the feudal barony of General Motors. You have rescued it from the dirt in which a cowardly labor leadership dragged it.

BANKS

Do we throw our hats in the air when we hear that a large New York bank has recognized the Bookkeepers, Stenographers and Accountants Union and has signed an agreement with it providing for a classified minimum pay scale, closed union shop, overtime and vacations? We do not.

Not, at any rate, when that pioneer bank is the Amalgamated Bank, owned by the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America. Its employees should, of course, be organized on this basis too long and too exclusively. It has become a sort of genteel racket, a union which organizes almost exclusively among the office workers who are themselves employees of unions. When we hear that the B.S. & A.U. has taken steps to organize the Chase National or the National City Bank we promise to get excited and to get excited plenty.

All of which does not mean that the union is in the best possible position to do a real organizing job. Ever since its formation many years ago it has functioned as a local (Federal Labor) Union of the A. F. of L. There has been no national organization of office workers to undertake a real drive among the white collar men and women. At the last convention of the A. F. of L. in San Francisco the delegate of the B. S. & A. U. introduced a resolution requesting the Federation to grant the office workers of the nation a regular international charter. The question was referred to the Executive Council.

Certainly the time is ripe for such a step. Office workers have been organized into Federal Unions in a good many places. There is an awakening recognition among them of the need of solidarity with or-

ganized labor. The unions can use them far better than the legions of fascism. . . . NATIONAL GUARD A. C. Jindra, member of Mt. Morris (Ill.) local of the Typographical Union was an anti-militarist. Kable Bros Co., printers, are deeply interested in the national guard band and their employees are threatened with discharge if they do not enlist and play in the band Jindra, although a good musician, did not join. He was fired in July 1928 but the union had him reinstated two days later.

In 1932 he was again fired on a trumped up charge, was ordered reinstated by the local but denied employment. He is still out of work. Now he is suing for reinstatement and \$10,000 back wages because he charges: ". . . a conspiracy wrongfully to bring about the discharge of the plaintiff because of his continued refusal to participate in or become a member of Kable Brothers 129 Infantry Band."

YELLOW DOG UNIONS

Warm weather seems to be bad for company unionism. Right after the news that the company outfit at the East Pittsburgh plant of Westinghouse has boomeranged, comes word that the Chesapeake & Ohio Railway Clerks Association has been forced to give up the ghost to the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks. At Pittsburgh the company union modestly asked for a 33 1/3% wage increase all around, with double time for Sundays and holidays and equal pay for equal work for women. The biggest piece of company gall in a long time comes from Kankakee, Illinois, where employees of the Bear Brand Company are being forced to shell out their hard earned cash to pay for gasoline and extra wages to a gang of spotters and thugs who have been hired to "protect" the workers from union organizers. . . .

BRIEFS

There is collusion among manufacturers to defeat collective bargaining according to the Hartford, Conn. Central Labor Union, and a general strike may be the answer.

. . . The International Ladies Garment Workers Union has asked Baseball Commissioner Landis to take action against Leo Durocher, shortstop of the St. Louis Cardinals. His wife is scabbing at the Forest City Mfg. Co. and Durocher himself is doing his damndest to get union members to go back to work. Organized labor goes to baseball games, the union reminds the sport czar. . . . The International Union of Mill, Mine and Smelter Workers is getting ready to put the axe to the union hating Phelps-Dodge Corp. at Bisbee, Arizona. Peaceful preparations for the last eighteen months have convinced the miners that real action is necessary. . . .

MAY DAY GREETINGS G. E.—Bethlehem, Pa. J. K.—Bethlehem, Pa. R. S.—Bethlehem, Pa. R. S.—Bethlehem, Pa. Boro Park Branch WORKERS PARTY GREETINGS The NEW MILITANT Headquarters: 1850 43rd STREET Brooklyn, N. Y. GREETINGS TO THE New Militant SO. SIDE BRANCH CHICAGO LOCAL Workers Party of the U. S.

May Day Greetings TO THE NEW MILITANT FROM BRANCH ONE, W. P. NEW HEADQUARTERS — 420 E. 19th STREET HOUSEWARMING AND DANCE SATURDAY, MAY 4, at 8:30 P.M.



Capitol News Letter

By JACK ELDER

WASHINGTON, D. C.—To the despair of the Brain Trust "economic planners," the cotton textile mess grows worse from day to day.

True, the AAA program has succeeded in raising raw cotton prices, which was its primary objective.

Plantation owners, for the time being, enjoy larger incomes. Section 77 of the law notwithstanding, the plantation owners have not seen it to share more than a microscopic portion of the benefit payments with their tenants.

Higher prices for raw cotton have raised the cost of living for workers and farmers in general. It is not the manufacturers in the last analysis, who pay the processing taxes.

Equally fatal to the public welfare have been the consequences of the NRA. Minimum wage rates have gone up under the cotton textile code—in theory, on paper.

Cotton textile employers, during the early days of the code at least, made money hand over fist. They were able to do so because prices soared abruptly, while labor costs remained virtually stagnant.

The latest development is vigorous lobbying by the cotton textile manufacturers to get rid of the processing tax. They threaten to call a strike of capital, to close down their mills, unless the government dips into the Work Relief funds to pay the plantation owners their benefits.

While share-croppers are kicked off the land; while textile mill operatives go jobless; while America's share of the world cotton trade dwindles; while spindles and looms shut down; while high clothing prices impose a heavy burden on the wage earner's purse, the New Deal plunges ahead blindly as before.

In Every City and in Every Nation History of May Day Strikes, Demonstrations, Revolution

May Day, as a day of revolutionary labor demonstration, was born in America during the struggle for the eight-hour day.

On October 7, 1884, the Federation of Organized Trades and Labor, meeting in Chicago, drew up an audacious resolution: Resolved, that eight hours shall constitute a legal day's labor from May 1st, 1886.

Chicago Center of Struggle The center of the eight-hour day movement was Chicago. From that city radiated the eight hour leagues, formed for the sole purpose of pushing the eight hour day.

In 1889 the first congress of the second international adopted May Day, and instructed all its sections, in all cities and all countries on the appointed day to demand of the state authorities the legal recognition of the working day to eight hours.

May Day Comes to France France, the home of revolution, first took up the banner. In 1890 there were monster strikes throughout the industrial sections of the North.

In 1898 in Italy the whole working class came out to protest the rise in the cost of bread. There were continuous battles with the army from April 27 until the 6th of May.

In Russia during the years 1902, 03, 04, 05, the years of rising revolution, May Day was the occasion for fierce battles, omens of the revolution of 1917.

May Day During the War The Great War intervened. The second international betrayed its trust to the working class. During the war the official parties counseled the workers to pass over May Day, to observe it in peace.

"YOUNG SPARTACUS" OUT! The monthly organ of the Spartacus Youth League, "Young Spartacus" is off the press. Articles concerning May Day, the Yipsels, Student Strike, etc. are featured.

WORKERS Protect Yourselves Against the Hazards of Life. Join the WORKMEN'S SICK & DEATH BENEFIT FUND OF THE U.S. 1884-1935 Organized, managed by and for workers with only one purpose: to render protection to members and their families.

But May Day cannot be downed. In every country a few true revolutionists worked to celebrate May Day as it should be celebrated.

In Germany Kari Liebknecht, almost alone against the Prussian government, against opposition of his own party, organized the masses in Berlin, the workers protested the senseless war; the germ of the German revolutions of 1918 and 1920 were born in the war time May Day celebrations.

After the War In 1918 and 1919 May Day was celebrated in every country of the world by innumerable masses of workers. The post-war revolutionary upsurge was in full swing.

Back to the U. S. Even in America, which for years disregarded the Day, woke up. In many cities there were parades and demonstrations.

On May Day 1935 the American workers are celebrating in larger numbers than ever before, even than during the driving days of 1886.

On May Day 1935 the American workers are celebrating in larger numbers than ever before, even than during the driving days of 1886. The eyes of the workers throughout the world are turned with hope toward America.

New Deal Paradise Summed Up

18,000,000 people dependent on emergency relief. 10,000,000 people on relief work. 1933, 14,500 persons fatally injured in industry. 55,000 persons sustained permanent injury.

Machine Guns In Ohio Strike

COLUMBUS, Ohio.—The county authorities have evolved a novel method of "preserving peace." When strikers of the Columbus packing Co. who are out four hundred strong, displayed some home-spun militancy in treating scabs, the authorities retaliated by ordering 10,000 rounds of machine gun ammunition.

Neither Sheriff Anderson nor the chief of police are any too popular with the strikers. When the police chief, Kunds, came around to investigate he was greeted with boos and cat calls from the pickets.

Of four hundred and fifty men in the plant four hundred are out. The company has succeeded in hiring a few scabs, but has been unable to make any deliveries.

WHAT TO ATTEND

May 4, Saturday, 8:30 P.M.—Branch 1 Housewarming and Dance at new headquarters, 420 E. 19th St. Dancing, refreshments, entertainment, chess and checkers.

May 3, Friday, 8:30 P.M.—"What the \$5,000,000,000 Bill Means for the Unemployed Worker." Speaker: E. R. McKinney, 420 East 19th St. between Avenue A and 1st Ave. (W. P. night up) Auspices Branch 1, W.P.

AKRON NOTICE

New Militants and New International can be purchased at: NEWS EXCHANGE 29 So. Main Street, Akron CONFECTIONERY STORE 1 West Market Street, Akron

CORRECTION The Columbus Branch headquarters of the W. P. is located at 546 Sixth Avenue.

Battles in Chicago and in Milwaukee The First May Day

Let us Remember the Martyrs of 1886

The first of May, the workers' international holiday, is still regarded by many workers in the United States as something foreign, imported to these United States by a "lot of foreign radicals."

The response of the workers to the first May Day in history was truly magnificent. All sections of the labor movement responded. Parades and torchlight processions were held in dozens of cities.

On the first day of May of each year the workers also commemorate the death of those who struggled and died for a better and more decent life here on earth.

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world. Following is a brief review of the turnout in various cities of the country called for the May 2, 1886, issue of the New York Tribune.

Chicago: There is no exaggeration in the statement that scarcely an industry in the city has escaped being enormously affected. More than two-thirds of all manufacturing establishments closed. Streets were carried in parades.

St. Louis:—All plumbers out on strike. 7,000 turn out (for May Day). Jay Gould hanged in agony.

Philadelphia:—Street car companies threaten use of colored workers as scabs if men go out. men go out.

Cincinnati:—About 1,000 workers work today to demonstrate for the 8 hour day.

Coucord, N. H.:—Woolen mills close. Men out on strike. Special policemen hired.

St. Paul and Minneapolis:—All plumbers in twin cities quit work. Demand shorter workday and increase in pay.

Louisville:—6,000 working men paraded the streets here on May 1.

Pittsburg:—3,000 coal miners threaten strike unless company grants ten percent increase in pay.

Milwaukee:—Over 3,000 men out on strike this first of May.

Baltimore:—2,000 carpenters strike for eight hour day with increase in pay.

Akron:—The new eight-hour law which went into effect has caused great excitement. Business men are depressed. Workers are demanding ever greater and where will it all lead to asks the Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce.

1st May Day in Union Sq. New York:—20,000 in Union Square. Working men march into square with torches blazing.

Brooklyn receive tremendous ovation as they enter the Square. Workingmen's leaders address throng in German, Bohemian and English. Said Jim Swinton addressing the workers in Union Square:

"From St. Louis to New York, from the Missouri Pacific to the Third Avenue Railway, from Sioux to Hart the labor organizations of America are united, arm exchange with each other their material as well as moral support. It is not reform in the twentieth century you want nor stretching of your arms up to the minute—but in tangible and just settlement and that you shall have very soon. There was the red terror in '73, we are having the black terror now—hundreds of men arrested at the beck of rotten representatives of the judiciary and thrown into prisons. 'Terrible is the right' said Mirabeau to Louis XVI. Terrible is the right say we to those who are now striking to crush freedom of action and free speech. We will no longer be disregarded by mercenaries in uniform and scoundrels in ermine. . . . Tonight the cause of labor may look dark—but tomorrow it will be bright and triumphant."

Historically the above is one of the first May Day speeches made in America or anywhere in the world. Swinton's speech in 1886 can be repeated today, May Day, 1935, 50 years later, with much greater hope of its fulfillment.

A Sacramento Juror Weeps

CP's "Vigilante" Is Only Human After All

(Herbert Solow, newspaper correspondent and editor, is one of the founders of the Non-Partisan Labor Defense, and was its special representative in California during the Sacramento trial.—Ed.)

By HERBERT SOLOW Eight young men and women have been sentenced to San Quentin for one to fourteen years. . . . Because they dared to organize fellow-workers in the rich agricultural valleys of California and to strike for higher wages and better working conditions. The jury required 66 hours to reach a verdict. Little more than 66 hours later, Juror Howard S. McIntire deposed before a notary that the verdict in the criminal syndicalism case was not based on law or evidence but was the outcome of a horse-trade in the jury room.

Attorney Albert Goldman, Chicago Socialist retained by the Non-Partisan Labor Defense on behalf of Norman Mini, a member of the Workers Party, moved for a new trial for all defendants on the basis of McIntire's affidavit. Judge Lemon denied the motion as well as the new trial motion of Grover Johnson and Leon Gallagher, attorneys for the International Labor Defense. The judge said that the verdict is legal even though a compromise. It seems that about the only illegal way to reach a verdict of guilty in a labor case is to shoot crap for it. Whatever the higher courts may have to say about this, the story of the McIntire affidavit is interesting and illuminating.

McIntire Talks Half an hour after the verdict was recorded the writer, accompanied by Goldman, walked past a Sacramento hotel. From a lobby

window, McIntire and Mrs. Keith, another juror, signalled us to come in. We sat with them for about an hour and a half while they talked. Jack Warnick, one of the six defendants who had just been acquitted, being present during the latter half of the talk.

Believed Defendants Innocent Both jurors declared that at the outset of the trial in November, they determined to eliminate prejudice, and that when they went to the jury room at the end of March they desired to acquit all 14 defendants on the two counts remaining in the indictment. Above all, they were convinced of the innocence of Caroline Decker, Norman Mini and Jack Warnick.

On the first ballot they voted to acquit Pat Chambers on count one. On the second ballot two other jurors joined them in this stand. Subsequently the vote on some defendants who were eventually convicted, stood six to six.

McIntire went on to relate that the jury majority at first wanted to convict all defendants on both counts. Juror Mrs. Perry, for example, expected that the job would take an hour. When Juror Jackson showed inclinations toward acquittals in some cases, he was called a "Red." He was reminded that the Southern Pacific Railroad pension, off which he lives, can be revoked. The majority's slogan, repeatedly dinned into the ears of the minority, was: "The community wants a conviction."

Trading in Lives McIntire could not refer to the compromise which terminated the 6-hour conflict without shedding copious tears. With Mrs. Keith joined him. "They gave up a little of what they wanted," he told us, "and we gave up some of what we wanted. We made a compromise, trading off people we thought innocent in order to get everybody acquitted on count one and some acquitted on both counts. Nobody voted exactly the way he felt on all cases." No crap-shooting seems to have

Hollywood Fury

It is not often that films are reviewed in the columns of the New Militant. The truck disgorged by that moulder of "public opinion," the Hollywood cinema industry, is usually so banal as to make comment at all quite unnecessary. But when Hollywood sets out to present a "slice of life" as it is lived by a section of the working class in this country one has to sit up, take notice and give warning.

For what is presented is not the way the workers live or act; nor is it the way workers should live and act under given circumstances—but the way Hollywood and its barons want the workers to live and behave.

Such a presentation is the recently released and much touted film "Black Fury" dealing with miners and their union and bosses and their hired thugs.

Were the film to deal with these situations honestly, that is, the conflict between miners and their bosses who hire thugs from scab agencies to supplement their own coal and iron police, the picture would mark a milestone in the development of the motion picture art. But unfortunately it does not. Nor could it be expected.

"Black Fury" tells the story of how the miners are incited by an agitator in the union who exposes the misery of the workers and calls upon them to defy the half-a-loaf policy of their timid leadership. This worker who makes the most militant speech in the course of the film turns out to be a plant of a scab agency. He works in the ranks of organized labor to foment trouble, thus enabling the flak agency to cash in when a strike is declared. The grievances being legitimated. The men go out on strike in defiance of the union leaders.

The scab agency then notifies the mine owners that they are ready to send in scabs and special armed deputies to protect property. The mine owners are shown to be really nice sort of guys who stand agast at the thought of trouble. No violence, they plead, just protect our property.

Then there are a few striking scenes of police brutality. Of course the real iron and coal police are not even so much as seen wielding a nightstick. It's only the agency police that do all the dirty work.

In an effort to rescue a girl from being pawed by one of the special thugs one of the striking miners, who didn't want the strike in the first place because he's solid behind the half-a-loaf union, is killed. His friend, who has been on a jag because his girl ran off with a cop, decides to avenge his friend's death. He learns that his friend wanted the men to stay out now until the old agreement was reestablished in the industry. Getting himself a lot of dynamite and bread he prepares for a single handed siege of the mine. And so by blowing up some sections of the mine and threatening to blow the whole damn mine to pieces the bosses finally give in, the New Deal steps in and arrests the trouble makers, the leaders of the scab agency—oh yes, and the girl who ran off with the cop returns to the arms of Mr. Muni and I presume they lived happily ever after.

I think that the synopsis of the story should be enough to caution any workers from wasting his two bits on this drunken jag into the class struggle. Pick up a good horse opera or a musical—the real movie of the class struggle in America is yet to be born.

Greetings FROM PIONEER PUBLISHERS AND BOOKSHOP 96 Fifth Avenue, N. Y. C. Books of All Publishers Special May Day Offer The History of the Russian Revolution By LEON TROTSKY 3 VOLUMES Reg. Price \$10.00 Our Price \$5.00



# The Negro Workers' Role in Past May Day Struggles

By SIMON WILLIAMSON

All class-conscious workers, black and white, will parade on May 1 in commemoration of the heroic martyrs of labor, who in 1886 were framed by the capitalist class because of their activities in the struggle for the eight-hour day.

According to the records of John W. Hayes, then general secretary of the Knights of Labor, there were over 60,000 Negroes who were members of his organization and were actively engaged in the struggle for this eight-hour day. Their militancy and solidarity in all the conflicts of their fellow workers during the short-lived period of the Knights, is one of the outstanding events of the labor movement.

In the Knights of Labor's Convention of 1886, a year before the Chicago revolt, Negroes responded so willingly to the stirring appeal of labor that it was proposed that a Negro organizer be appointed for each of the old slave states. However, this request was referred to the executive board. At the following Convention, in 1886, the general secretary reported that "rapid strides have been made in the South, especially in Virginia, the Carolinas, Georgia and Alabama. The colored people of the South are looking to us, being eager for organization and education, and when thoroughly imbued with our principles are answering in their idleness."

However, since 1886, the labor movement has met many set-backs in the organization of Negro workers. This has been partly due to the bad tactics of the American Federation of Labor, which propagated craft unionism and racial superiority of the white workers over the blacks, and in turn brought about a line of demarcation between skilled and unskilled labor and divided the blacks from the whites. These methods of the A. F. of L. only played into the hands of the capitalist class. This further led to the encouragement of the racial prejudice that the white workers have inherited from the semi-feudalistic system of the old Bourbon South and intensified great mistrust for the whites among the blacks. And in further consequence of these policies of the A. F. of L., it is much more difficult to rally

Negro labor around the banner of the class struggle today than during the Reconstruction Period that followed the Civil War, when the American Federation of Labor had not yet gained prominence.

Nevertheless, despite the setbacks the American labor movement has met in organizing the black proletariat, it is cutting some inroads into this unexplored reservoir of untouched militancy. And as a result of these gains a few thousand Negroes are going to participate in the coming May Day events.

There is no doubt about it: the Negro worker is the narrowest link in the present capitalist crisis; and his precarious lot is rapidly crystallizing his racial consciousness into a class-consciousness. He is, moreover, beginning to see in the white worker, whom he regarded in the past as a foe, a comrade and class brother suffering under the same oppression that can be eradicated only by the unity of the two.

More and more May Day is revivifying the old tradition of the American Labor movement of 1886. Then we struggled for the eight-hour day—today we are struggling for the six-hour day and the five-day week. Negro labor is also struggling for this, as well as for an additional demand. Its extra demand is for full social, economic and political equality. Under this special demand hangs such subordinate demands as equal pay for equal work, no discrimination because of race, color or previous conditions of servitude, better educational facilities and complete abolition of lynching, etc.

Since the victory of the eight-hour day the labor movement in America has passed through a period of reaction and defeat.

On the shoulders of the Haymarket martyrs and their continuators through the years a new revolutionary structure is being created, tested and grounded in the experiences of the great revolutionary thinkers of the world, especially the experiences of Marx and Engels. This edifice is the newly organized Workers Party of the United States—the harbinger of the Fourth International.

Negro and white workers! Unite under the leadership of this new revolutionary party of America. You have nothing to lose but your oppression—your chains!

# Huey Long--Workers' Enemy

## Share - the - Wealth Can Only Mean Share - the - Poverty As Long as the Capitalist System Endures

By ARNE SWABECK

From the state of Louisiana, where he boldly boasts of holding in the hollow of his hands "the finest collection of law-makers money can buy," Huey P. Long has now definitely entered the scene of national politics. He has the old line capitalist politician's worried. They stand against, watching with anticipation and fear the prospects of traditional party lines again being broken down and this time by a high pressure demagogue.

But—and this is important—Huey's grandiose promises to "Share our Wealth" and his demagogic appeals addressed to the common people have made deep inroads also in the politically unconscious working class layers.

**Out for Bigger Things**

Undoubtedly Huey Long's hat will be in the ring for next year's presidential elections. He is a candidate for leadership in the formation of a new third party. It is reported that he has already, together with Father Coughlin and Governor Olson of Minnesota, accepted an invitation issued by Minot Jeco, for the Farm Holiday Association, to attend a conference, to be held in Des Moines, Iowa May 7, to consider the formation of such a party.

Huey Long is the most spectacular and probably also the strongest of the candidates for leadership of such a party. Fortified already by his undisputed control of the state of Louisiana, he is reaching out for immediate political control of other southern states and apparently enjoying the undivided support of such a staunch defender of the "rights of the people" as Governor Lamange of Georgia, who declared martial law in his state during the national textile strike and put the strikers wholesale into concentration camps.

This example is typical of the make-up and political coloring of the Huey Long forces. They are taking on the form of a movement, 27,431 Share Our Wealth Clubs with a membership of 4,684,000 have been organized, he claims.

**Long as Roosevelt Supporter**

Huey Long began his national political career as a Roosevelt supporter. To the Chicago convention that nominated him for President in 1932, Roosevelt spoke, declaring: "Throughout the nation men and women . . . look to us for guidance and for more equitable opportunity to share in the distribution of national wealth." To the delegates these words were just empty rhetoric, noble sounding sentiments that did not at all have to be taken seriously, least of all literally. But Huey Long noted the power of the phrase, snapped it up as his own and is now making this the central point of his program while campaigning against the government of "alphabet wreckers and spoliars."

He proposes to cut down all large fortunes by a capital levy tax to a point where no one person may own more than from three to four million dollars and have a yearly income of not more than one million dollars. The surplus of all these big fortunes is to go into the United States Treasury. This is to be done by the simple process of issuing a questionnaire for all the plutocrats to list their fortunes at their own appraisal and to state in what sort of holdings they wish to

retain their three to four millions.

By his calculation he has arrived at a surplus already available on paper of \$165,000,000,000 to \$175,000,000,000. This surplus he will distribute to all families owning less than \$5,000, free of debt, so that each family may have at least that amount. This he says will take no more than \$100,000,000,000, leaving a handsome balance to spare. By means of the balance he proposes to provide for the reduction of the hours of labor so that all may be employed and have a yearly income for each family of not less than \$2,500. In addition he will also provide for a college education for all youth, for old age pensions and he proposes to care for agricultural production in the manner specified in the bible.

Huey Long himself claims that his proposals originate from the unfinished Roosevelt program. Similar to the Roosevelt New Deal program, the Long proposals have as their base the maintenance and strengthening of the system of capitalism but with a supposed increase of the purchasing power of the masses of the people. However, the Huey Long edition appears in a much more radical dress. "I believe in capitalism," exclaims Long, "but you cannot stimulate it unless there is buying power. You've got to have a foundation under the house, and that is a more even distribution of wealth."

**Huey's Discovery**

On yes, capitalism is again to have its "abuses" corrected. To substantiate his claims, the Kingfish refers very pretentiously to what he sees as the present social injustices and economic maladjustments. And surely, there is in the present situation of mass misery, deprivation and despair on the one hand together with the enormous concentration of wealth on the other hand, sufficient material for the unscrupulous demagogue to appear as the saviour Angel. But it did not require a Huey Long to make this discovery. Nor is he the first demagogue that has appeared on the political scene.

The Roosevelt program for increasing the purchasing power of the masses has so far brought us to the promised magnificent social security for some of the unemployed at \$50.00 a month maximum which in turn allows all present wage standards to be torn down to that level. Where would the Huey Long program lead to? Needless to say, in this proposed redistribution of wealth we have a repetition of petty bourgeois utopias advanced elsewhere and at other times.

**Ownership Determines Distribution**

That wealth exists in this country in abundance is well known and was known before Huey Long said so. But the distribution of this wealth proceeds according to the social relations of society. These are capitalist relations, resting upon the capitalist ownership and control of the means of production. In the Kingfish's plan these relations would remain, only the wealth would be redistributed by cutting down on the big fortunes and adding to the small ones or giving to those that have none. But this is impossible under capitalism since the ownership and control of the means of production determines the form of distribution of all wealth. So far this has meant and can only mean ever greater riches for the parasites and ever greater impoverishment for those who toil, who have nothing but their labor power to sell—and to sell only when the bosses see fit to buy.

What is the cause of this condition; what is the cause of this unequal distribution of wealth? The cause is to be found in the ownership and control of the means of production. This system secures the right to exploit labor by leaving in the hands of the capitalist class also the ownership of the surplus value produced by the laborer over and above what he receives as wages. This is how profits are acquired. Moreover, under the conditions of mass production, and in order to continue the process of production. In other words, sufficient only for their bare upkeep when they have jobs. Of course, the abundance of wealth available could easily guarantee to each family, as Huey Long proposes, a yearly income of \$2,500. But this is equally impossible under the profit system and it can be obtained only when the profit system is abolished.

**For Maintenance of System**

Huey Long proclaims in grandiose style for the redistribution of wealth; but he is equally vociferous in his proclamations for the maintenance of the present social relationship. His program assumes the continuation of the right to exploitation, however, with an increase of the purchasing power of the masses so that returns to bondholders in the form of unearned income may continue; so that dividends on watered stocks may be paid and the flow of profits taken out of the exploitation of labor may proceed uninterrupted. There are no other sources for profits to come from.

What is this but the stabilization of the system of exploitation? To stabilize the system of exploitation means to stabilize the economic power of the class that owns and controls the means of production. Furthermore, it is well to remember that political relations are governed by this economic power which is another way of saying that those who own are also those who rule. They use their economic power to build up their political state, to build up their government and to reinforce it by courts, by police and by military forces, always ready to be used against the workers when on strike or in other forms of struggle and on a whole serving for the purpose of keeping the masses in subjection. This government, Huey Long proposes to entrust with the redistribution of wealth.

They will not consent to any redistribution of their wealth acquired by exploitation without a fierce struggle. They will not even permit the workers to organize into unions so as to obtain a living wage without the most stubborn resistance. They will not yield their economic power, as represented by their accumulated wealth, or give up their privilege to exploit labor without a life and death struggle. Nay more, they use this economic power to determine who can be elected to the public offices and to dictate the program of those so elected and its execution as well.

A real redistribution of wealth and a real program of social security can be carried out in no other way than by the overthrow of the system of capitalism. That is not at all the purpose of the Huey Long third party movement. Only the working class revolution can accomplish that.

# For the American Workers --Labor Day or First?

Two days a year, on May first and on the first Monday in September workers may be seen marching to the sound of bands, listening to speeches. But what a contrast! Their outward similarity serves only to emphasize the profound historical and political difference of the celebrations. Both holidays are American in origin, both started in about the same period of the labor movement. Yet it would be difficult to find two days celebrated for more opposed purposes.

On Labor Day the bosses can smile at the parades, smiling with pride, because they know that the holiday is a gift they gave to the workers out of the kindness of their hearts. Though originally sponsored by the Knights of Labor in 1884, the idea of a holiday for the workers gained approval. On March 15, 1887, one year after the first great May Day strike in Chicago, Labor Day was made legal in Colorado. Other states quickly followed suit and it is now a national holiday. But it is also a day in which workers are herded by corrupt union officials to places where they will hear politicians make promises that are never kept after election day, two months later. Therefore the bosses want the parades to be a success. They want great numbers to attend. Police bands play patriotic hymns.

**Clubs and Bands**

But cops don't play piccolos on May Day. They wield clubs. The bosses are afraid. They hope the parades will be a flop. They know that the workers are celebrating their class independence and reviewing their fighting strength. May Day is not a gift. It is a holiday for which workers have to strike, as they did for the first time half a century ago in America.

The A. F. of L. was a young fighting organization then, known as the Federation of Organized Trades and Labor Unions. The fight for the eight-hour day was the most important question facing the working class as a whole. The organization of the Knights of Labor was soon to explode like a balloon with too thin a shell. So the Federation took up the struggle. At its fourth convention in October, 1884, it resolved that on May 1, 1886 there should be a strike in favor of the eight-hour day. During the following twenty months the movement gained the active support of workers and unions throughout the country despite the sabotage of Powderly, head of the Knights of Labor.

That first May Day was most successful in Chicago where 80,000 workers attended. In Chicago too the bosses hit back most cruelly. Four days later at a demonstration in Haymarket square a bomb exploded, killing a policeman. Four

of the workers' leaders, Parsons, Spies, Fischer, and Engel were arrested and hanged. But the movement revived. In 1888 the Federation, now known as the A. F. of L., called for a strike on May 1, 1890. In the meantime, in Paris, the Second International was founded and the founding convention hearing of the fight for the 8-hour day in America resolved to support it. May Day, 1890, was the first international celebration of the working class. After that, the purpose of May Day was broadened. The International resolved that the demonstration should demand improved conditions for the workers in general, and that the workers should demand peace among nations. In Czarist Russia it became symbolic of the liberation of the people and, as everywhere, of the independent action of the proletarian masses, against war. May Day has become a political demonstration of working class solidarity throughout the world.

**A. F. of L. Condemns May Day**

The international character May Day has acquired is one of the things the bosses fear most. They know they cannot stand before a united working class. The A. F. of L. bureaucracy, forgetting the militant tradition which its organization founded, and having acquired a fat vested interest as strike breakers and disrupters, fear May Day as much as the bosses. The Executive Council submitted to the 1928 Convention of the A. F. of L. a report which read: "Hereafter May 1 will be known as Child Health Day, as the President (Hoover) is directed by the resolution passed by Congress . . . The object is to create sentiment for year-round protection of children. A most worthy purpose. At the same time May 1 no longer will be known as strike day. . . They are now the main celebrants of Labor Day, because they know that it is a harmless holiday, like St. Patrick's day, and very useful to them. Labor Day hypocritically glorifies the 'dignity of labor.' It is a celebration of the workers as part of the American capitalist community, of which the reactionary magazine 'World's Work' could say: 'It is like circus day.'"

But May Day is not a religious holiday like Christmas or Easter. Nor a national holiday like the 4th of July or Labor Day. It is something new: a workers' celebration of defiance for which the main slogan is "Down tools."

**MAY DAY GREETINGS, NEW MILITANT!**

A month to go on the sub campaign; Not to succeed would be one damn shame!

CARA COOK, Former Bus. Mgr.

---

The Southern Branches of the Workers Party Greet the NEW MILITANT on May Day

---

KENSINGTON BRANCH of the Workers Party Philadelphia

---

W. A. SBEGRERS, Philadelphia

FR. DAUB, Philadelphia

**CHICAGO NOTICE**

The Italian Spartacus Workers Club has moved into its new headquarters, 1008 South Ashland Blvd. All comrades are requested to note this change of address and to communicate all matters hereafter to the above number.

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South Philadelphia Branch Workers Party from Greetings to the NEW MILITANT

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MAY DAY GREETINGS from WORKERS PARTY OF CANADA Vancouver Branch

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GREETINGS FROM THE PATERSON, N. J., BRANCH

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MAY DAY GREETINGS COOP. WORKERS UNION

**Long as Roosevelt Supporter**

Huey Long began his national political career as a Roosevelt supporter. To the Chicago convention that nominated him for President in 1932, Roosevelt spoke, declaring: "Throughout the nation men and women . . . look to us for guidance and for more equitable opportunity to share in the distribution of national wealth." To the delegates these words were just empty rhetoric, noble sounding sentiments that did not at all have to be taken seriously, least of all literally. But Huey Long noted the power of the phrase, snapped it up as his own and is now making this the central point of his program while campaigning against the government of "alphabet wreckers and spoliars."

He proposes to cut down all large fortunes by a capital levy tax to a point where no one person may own more than from three to four million dollars and have a yearly income of not more than one million dollars. The surplus of all these big fortunes is to go into the United States Treasury. This is to be done by the simple process of issuing a questionnaire for all the plutocrats to list their fortunes at their own appraisal and to state in what sort of holdings they wish to

**MAY DAY GREETINGS**

SYDNEY WALLACE—Phila.  
 ABE MAU—Philadelphia  
 SAM ORDET—Philadelphia  
 SOL THOMAS—Philadelphia  
 R. PAINE—Philadelphia  
 A Party Member—Philadelphia  
 A Friend—Philadelphia  
 H. SILVER—Philadelphia  
 V. LANE—Philadelphia  
 M. SCARF—Philadelphia  
 M. V. STONE—Philadelphia  
 A Friend—Philadelphia  
 GOLDBERG—Philadelphia  
 SWIFT—Philadelphia  
 S. BOLEFF—Philadelphia  
 A. D.—Philadelphia  
 JOE BECKMAN—Philadelphia  
 TOM HALLIGAN—Philadelphia  
 A. McLEOD—Vancouver, B. C.  
 JAMES SIFAKIS, Pittsburgh, Pa.  
 JAMES SIFAKIS—Pittsburgh  
 NICK LEFIRIS—Pittsburgh  
 JOE HINICK—Pittsburgh  
 A Friend—Pittsburgh  
 IRVING OKLIN—Pittsburgh  
 FRANK SOLOV—Pittsburgh  
 MICHAEL BASIN—Pittsburgh  
 D. SHAPPY—Pittsburgh  
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**The Cleveland Branch**

... Greets ...

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**Onward to a Fourth International!**

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**May Day Greetings**

TO THE NEW MILITANT AND THE WORKERS PARTY of the U. S.

Allentown Branch W. P.  
 Allentown Branch S. Y. L.

**MAY DAY GREETINGS**

SYDNEY WALLACE—Phila.  
 ABE MAU—Philadelphia  
 SAM ORDET—Philadelphia  
 SOL THOMAS—Philadelphia  
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**The Cleveland Branch**

... Greets ...

The NEW MILITANT

**Onward to a Fourth International!**



MARCH OF EVENTS

By JACK WEBER

THE CLASS STRUGGLE IN FRANCE

The lull in the storm that occurred in France with the advent of the Flandin government, gives every indication of coming to a close.

With the aid of big finance capital, the fascist forces have been closing their ranks in preparation for the coming coup d'etat directed towards the overthrow of the Third French Republic and with the aim of savage repression of the organizations of the working class.

THE RANKS OF THE WORKERS

The danger to the working class is rendered all the more acute, as the Marxist knows, by the lack of a revolutionary party in France at this critical juncture.

revolutionary program to lead the workers along the road to power. This fraction has gradually become a force in the left wing of the S.F.I.O. and has won over to its views a large section of the revolutionary workers in the Federation of the Seine, both youth and adult.

ROLE OF THE BOLSHEVIK-LENINISTS

At this Congress the Bolsheviki-Leninists will present their program in the form of resolutions. They will review and sum up the history of betrayal of the Second and Third Internationals that brought about the victory of fascism in Germany, Austria, etc.

Tremendous Strikes For 8 Hour Day Shook Nation

The May Day demonstration of 1886 the climax of a mighty mass movement for the eight-hour day which reverberated throughout the length and breadth of the nation.

The American worker of 1935 would have found himself in a bitterly familiar atmosphere in the days of 1886. The industrial and financial crisis of 1884 had been followed by all the catastrophic consequences of a capitalist crisis.

As soon as the workers recovered from the first paralyzing blows of the depression, they began to rebel against the unendurable deprivations laid upon them by the owners of industry. Spontaneously, almost overnight, they felt the need of organization.

The Knights of Labor, which dominated the American labor movement from 1877 to 1887, was in most respects the superior of its successor, the American Federation of Labor.



of new found strength came into conflict with the die-hard opposition of the bosses and the pacifism of their leaders, however, producing situations that could only be resolved by strike.

In the summer of 1885 strikes began to explode in one industry after another. 100,000 members of the Amalgamated Association of Iron and Steel Workers around Pittsburgh struck against a threatened wage cut and won.

Inspired by these victories, gained in short order and with little organization, workers everywhere throughout the country joined the vast army of strikers. The strike wave assumed unprecedented proportions.

The agitation in favor of the demonstration on May 1 for the eight-hour day had been spread by the radicals among the working class—the Socialists and Anarchists—against the opposition of the official labor leaders.

gathered such momentum that Powderley was impelled to order the Knights not to participate in the demonstrations.

Meanwhile, the strike wave rolled on, reaching its crest in the strike of the railroad workers on the Missouri Pacific system controlled by Jay Gould, the most notorious of the money monarchs.

Alarmed by the aggressive tactics of the workers and the increasing power of the Knights, the management and receivers of the Railroad determined to have a showdown to decide who was master in the house.

State and federal troops had been used to break the bloody railroad strike of 1877. This time different methods were brought into play.

Knights of Labor Sprang Up Almost Over Night

years later, the commission proved as impotent to settle any labor disputes as the present Labor Boards. The strike was finally broken by orders from Powderley.

Such was the state of the nation on May Day 1886. Despite the efforts of the Knights of Labor and A. F. of L. leaders to sabotage the demonstration, thousands of workers quit their jobs on the appointed hour and proceeded to give an unforgettable manifestation of their class strength and solidarity.

The demonstrators gained their most conspicuous success in Chicago. It was estimated that over 80,000 men had left work on May Day and as a result of their demonstration the packing house workers had been granted their demand for an eight-hour day with no reduction in pay.

This victory stimulated the fighting spirit of the Chicago workers and provoked police repressions. Then came the memorable events, the shootings, the bomb outrage, the trials and executions that have entered the annals of history as "Haymarket."

The Haymarket explosions and the vacillating, treacherous policy of the Knights of Labor leadership broke the back of the strike movement.

Torn by internal dissension, the Knights of Labor began to decline as rapidly as it had grown, giving way to the reign of Samuel Gompers and the craft-bound pure-and-simple unionism of the A. F. of L. Candidates put forward by labor tickets showed remarkable strength in the elections later in the year but these political successes did not compensate for the defeats on the economic field.

Nevertheless, the year when May Day was born in the fire of the class struggle and baptized in the blood of the Haymarket martyrs; the year when the American working class gave such magnificent examples of its courage and capacity for militant struggle; the year when the fight for the eight-hour day was hailed by workers throughout the world marks the coming of age of the American working class.

1886 will always remain a memorable year in its history, a milestone along the road to its conquest of power.

Question Box

By A. WEAVER

N. G., NEW YORK— QUESTION: Are not the two Stalinist theories, "socialism in one country" and "social fascism" contradictory and mutually exclusive, since the first led to united fronts from above with Chiang Kai Shek, Purcell, etc., whereas the latter prevented it from going into a united front with the Social Democracy against Hitler?

ANSWER: The contradiction here is only apparent. Do not forget that the united front with liberals "from above," i.e., the Amsterdam Congress, took place during the epoch of "social fascism". In reality the "theory of socialism in one country", i.e., the subordination of the international proletarian revolution to the national interests of the Soviet bureaucracy, expressed by the subordination of the various official Communist parties to the policy of the Soviet foreign office, is at the root of all of the Stalinists' actions.

Depending upon conditions the strategy which they therefore pursue involves making united fronts with anybody or the refusal to make united fronts under any circumstances. "Social fascism" and the "united front only from below" are merely the theoretical formulations, whether conscious or unconscious on their part, of the fact that the Stalinists never had any intention of trying to seize power in Germany. As results show, could any theories have been better calculated to maintain internal political peace in Germany and not interfere with the "peaceful building of socialism"?

May Day Greetings

TO THE

NEW MILITANT

Davenport, Iowa Branch

MAY DAY GREETINGS S. SCHAMMEL, Allentown, Pa. FRANK COLLINS—Allentown, Pa. FRANK PANE—Allentown, Pa. ROSE YONESHICK—Allentown

A Sacramento Juror Weeps

(Continued from Page 3) recommended for probation, which he has refused.

Juror Wants Sympathy When McIntire finished, he looked at us. "I tell you, gentlemen," he said. "I will never forget what I have done. It will always haunt me. I never faced a harder problem... and I don't know that I solved it rightly."

Here sat Warnick whose wife, and I whose friend, and Goldman whose client had just been condemned to incarceration in San Quentin, being asked for sympathy... by one of those who had voted to send them there!

On the following day Jack Warnick and I, along with Bert Hanman of the Workers Party, were in my hotel room when McIntire came in. For an hour or so we heard the same complaints over again... no sleep, the pangs of remorse, confusion.

Mr. McIntire, said Warnick, "what are you going to do?" "What can I do? I want to undo the damage. I want to set things right. Especially regarding Decker and Mini."

"Do you want to help these innocent people get a new trial?" I asked. "Oh, if only I could, I would do anything in the world," McIntire answered.

Jurors Condemn Statement He left to attend a Masonic meeting and came back to my room late that night. Goldman, Warnick and Hanman were there again. McIntire dictated a statement. In the morning he signed it before a notary. Goldman read it to the court.

The afternoon paper carried statements by eight jurors condemning McIntire's action. "His terrible conscience was always getting in the way of a verdict," said Carter, the youngest and one of the most reactionary of the jurors.

Who is McIntire? He was in the National Guard seven years. For 27 years he was in the office of the State Adjutant General. He is a Past Master of the Masons, a recent gave him a diamond-studded watch chain which is his proudest possession.

The officers of the order favored arbitration and boycotts and frowned upon strikes as a method of struggle. The militant moods of the rank and file and their feeling of indignation against the I.L.D., who expressed in open court brazen indifference to the jury's thoughts and feelings?

Pressure Counts Most The truth is that, even in political cases, the action of the jury can rarely be foretold. A principled, well-reasoned, moving argument by the defense counsel, and still more the activity of the popular masses outside the court (public meetings and other impressive, serious manifestations which eventually impinge on the jury's consciousness and may give to some the courage to vote their convictions rather than what the middle-class community wants) may result in a defeat of the reactionary forces behind the prosecution.

Support the Defendants As it is, McIntire, who felt that there was little popular pressure for acquittal and who admits he was very antagonistic toward Attorney Gallagher of the I.L.D., gave in. And now he wants sympathy because he can not sleep nights.

Let us be a bit stony-hearted about McIntire. True, he is no vigilante. True, he feels bad: he gave a rotten verdict... and now the prosecution is hitting him into the bargain. But any spare sympathy can well be reserved for the eight workers he convicted... and should be expressed in the form of active support of the appeal struggle already under way.

PIONEER BOOK NOTES

The first in the series of popular pamphlets to be issued by the Workers Party is off the press. The title is "Which Party for the American Worker?" by A. J. Muste.

The publication of the "Suppressed Testament of Lenin" has created quite a stir in Stalinist circles. Most C. P. members have never read Lenin's letter demanding Stalin's removal from the post of general secretary of the party.

The political significance of "The Kirov Assassination" (10c) is admirably dealt with in the pamphlet by that title written by Leon Trotsky. The brazen attempt of the Stalinists to link the Workers Party (through Comrades Muste and Cannon) to the plot makes it of the utmost importance that every class-conscious worker study the significance of the "amalgam" cooked up by the Stalinist scribes.

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Toledo and May Day

TOLEDO, one of the brightest spots of the labor map that was drawn in 1934, is again the scene of action. Cutting straight through the net of deception, intrigue and betrayal which government and misleaders of labor have woven around too many unions this year, the workers of the Chevrolet plant have taken the road of militant struggle to enforce their demands. That is the way. And the participation in the present movement of the same militants who led the magnificent battles of 1934 is an assurance that the strike will be waged with militancy and skill.

The Toledo strike is a direct challenge to General Motors, the great moloch of the automobile industry, in one of its key plants. A militant labor force employing the most modern strike strategy comes to grips with the masters of entrenched capital. These features invest the strike at the Chevrolet plant with national significance. Here is the setting for an epic battle. The bosses, sensing the unbounded possibilities of a spreading movement, have brought up their heaviest batteries. Armed thugs are mobilized and the daily press screams with paid advertisements to poison public opinion.

The strikers can expect every resource of the profit-swollen auto barons to be brought into play against them. The press will lie and slander, and the murderous thugs, in and out of uniform, will attack them with gas and club and gun. But far more dangerous than these direct instruments, as the tragic experience at Akron demonstrated once again, are the indirect agencies of the employers—the government boards and representatives and the faithless labor leaders who stand at the head of the A. F. of L. While fighting it out on the picket

line the Chevrolet strikers will have to watch out for flank attacks from Washington and stabs in the back from Green, Dillon and Co. This is the real danger. There will be fatal consequences for the strikers at Toledo if they forget it.

The infamous Auto Labor Board, or a new government agency of the same perfidious quality, can be relied on to try, with suave and oily promises and treacherous intrigues, to trick the strikers out of a victory and maneuver them back to work empty-handed. Remember Akron! Green and Dillon will undoubtedly attempt to take over the negotiations and trade away the workers' rights and interests. Again, remember Akron! From all their militant energy, courage and sacrifice the Chevrolet strikers will reap only the bitter ashes of defeat if they trust the Auto Labor Board or any other agency or representative of the Roosevelt administration. After all the sad experiences with the National Run Around, in the automobile industry especially, this ought to be clear to the Toledo workers. A more insidious, but no less treacherous, agency of betrayal is precisely the official machine of the A. F. of L.

The one and only absolute safeguard against both is a firm resolution of the local union from the start to run its own strike and make its own settlement. It is high time, anyway, for the federal labor unions to revolt against the status of "second class citizenship" in the A. F. of L. and to assert the right to run their own affairs with the same autonomy enjoyed by other affiliated unions. A curt rebuff to Madame Perkins and similars is overdue. A strike of a federal union conducted militantly on the picket line and settled by the union membership itself, without the nefarious "assistance" of Green and Perkins, is precisely what is needed now to put hope and heart into the newly organized workers everywhere. Toledo is just the place to set the example and the Toledo militants, unless we are greatly mistaken, are the people to do it.

The Chevrolet strike begins after a series of demoralizing experiences in the automobile industry, and the latest debacle at Akron. It is also somewhat late in the auto production season. But over against these handicaps the strike has in its favor a local leadership of demonstrated intelligence and audacity. These are the very qualities needed to lead great mass movements and to spread them. The bitter discontent of the masses, and their impatient restlessness under the intolerable conditions of life and labor, also speak for the possibility of spreading the strike.

The bosses stand in mortal dread of such a prospect, for neither they nor anyone else can prophesy where a spreading strike movement may stop. With these factors on their side the Toledo strikers can well enter their struggle with hearts undaunted. The eyes of the workers of America are on them this May Day. More, it can be truly said that every May Day parade is marching behind them with confidence and hope, for they, by their audacious action, have put themselves in the vanguard of the American labor movement this First of May.

Toledo Strike Cripples Plant

(Continued from Page 1) gains" offered the workers by the company proposals and feebly attempted to discredit the strike by labeling the progressive leaders as "extremists" demanding a "closed shop," although the closed shop has not even entered into the dispute.

Strikers Aggressive Morale of the strikers is very high and not even plant officials were permitted to go through the picket lines without the sanction of the strike committee. Efforts of the company to move freight-cars

of supplies from company sidings was prevented by militant action of the pickets. The real counter-attack of the company has not yet been launched. It is expected that General Motors will shortly pour millions of dollars into Toledo in an effort to smash the strike and the union. Every strike-breaking measure, from a bombardment of vicious propaganda, through efforts to disrupt the union from within, to outright murderous violence by a huge army of armed thugs and professional strike-breakers, is anticipated.

To Publish Strike Daily The union is preparing to meet this attack by the issuance of its own daily paper, "The Auto Workers Spark," exposing the boss lies and disruptive tactics, by gaining

the active support of the entire organized labor and unemployed movement in Toledo, and by spreading the strike into Detroit and other auto centers. The union men in the Bingham Stamping, Logan Gear, Auto-Lite and other plants are preparing to march in a body to the aid of the Chevrolet strikers whenever the call is given.

On May 1, a United Labor Demonstration, called by the Joint Action Committee, representing the Toledo Building Trades Council, Lucas County Unemployed League and Workers Alliance of Lucas County, and the Committee of 23, representing the entire organized labor movement in Toledo, will be held. It is expected that this demonstration will be the greatest outpouring of workers in the history of the city. The demonstration

May Day Manifesto of the WP

(Continued from Page 1) tion! Every city a union town! Every factory a union factory! Every industry a union industry! A united nation-wide trade union movement!

The rights of the workers—free speech, free press, freedom of assemblage, freedom to organize, strike and picket—are systematically violated. The end of this process has been witnessed in countries where Fascism has destroyed every vestige of freedom, every independent institution of the workers and farmers. All the unions, all the unemployed organizations, all the farmers' organizations, all the political parties and groups of the working class, the Negro masses who in all these matters are subjected to the most ruthless attack, must fight to the death against every encroachment upon their rights, against every tendency toward Fascism!

In 1935, as the children born in 1914-18 come to manhood, the capitalist powers are feverishly preparing to slaughter them in another world-war. The supposedly liberal and peace-loving Roosevelt administration is playing a leading part in this betrayal of humanity, promoting the most colossal naval and military building program in the entire peacetime history of this nation in order that the interests of American capitalists and imperialists may be protected and advanced. The masses everywhere must rally for the fight against imperialist war, organize to overthrow the governments that make machine-fodder out of men in time of peace and cannon-fodder in time of war.

In order to break the chains of poverty, unemployment and tyranny that bind us, we must first break from our minds the chains of false ideas:

We cannot rely for the righting of our wrongs upon "cooperation" with the bosses. Their interest is profit from our labor. Our interest is freedom from wage slavery.

We cannot count upon "cooperation" from the Roosevelt administration or any other capitalist government.

We cannot trust trade union leaders who tell us to count upon the "cooperation" of our enemies, the bosses and the bosses' government.

We cannot gain plenty and security and peace under this capitalist system, nor by any reform of it. Capitalism leads to Fascism and War. We must smash capitalism and build a Workers' World!

Eighteen years ago the workers in Russia pointed the way. Under the leadership of the revolutionary party they demolished czarism

and capitalism, took political power, and then began to lay the foundations of a socialist society. There is no other way out for the workers of the United States and of other countries.

Both the Socialist Party and the Communist Party, the Second International and the Third International, have proved in recent years their utter inability to organize the masses for defense against reaction and Fascism. They have organized defeats, not victories for the workers.

A mighty gain of the past year, which we celebrate on this May Day, is the birth of the new revolutionary party in this country, the Workers Party of the United States. Born directly out of the great class struggles of 1934, out of the union of the forces which led the historic battles of Toledo and Minneapolis, the founding of the Workers Party marks the end of the period of splits and disintegration in the revolutionary movement. Unity of THE VANGUARD WORKERS IN THE REVOLUTIONARY PARTY will be the basis for the unification of the workers and their allies for the final struggle to overthrow capitalism.

In Canada, Holland and other countries sister parties of the Workers Party of the U. S. have been established. Together they are working for the establishment, at the earliest possible moment, of THE NEW, FOURTH INTERNATIONAL, LEADER OF THE FUTURE VICTORIES OF THE WORKING CLASS OF THE WORLD.

Forward march! With hope, with faith, with unshakable determination! Forward to mighty struggles! Forward to Victory! This is the slogan of May Day 1935!

Against wage cutting, for a decent standard of living, for security against unemployment, accident, sickness, and old age!

For the six-hour day and thirty-hour week! For the unlimited right to organize, strike and picket!

For the 100 percent unionization of the workers in every industry!

For a united trade union movement!

For solidarity of the employed and unemployed!

Against the capitalist system which offers nothing but misery, insecurity, brutal oppression, degradation for the masses!

For the unity of the workers of every race and of all lands against their oppressors!

For the Workers Party of the U. S.!

For the Fourth International!

For a Workers' World!

Tobin Revokes Union Charter

(Continued from Page 1)

these wolves in sheep's clothing."

Following behind the Citizens Alliance and D. J. Tobin came the C. P. with the mimeographed leaflets (since then the mimeographing machines are looked upon rather unfavorably in 574) in which once more the famous "Rank and File Committee" without any rank and file called for the removal of the strike leadership and of the officers of Local 574. This was one of the many united fronts in which the C. P. participated and did not get to first base. The leaders of 574 were thoroughly disliked by almost everyone—by the vigilantes,

will have a three-fold purpose, to raise the slogan for a thirty-hour week with no reduction in weekly pay; to force a show-down with the Lucas County relief authorities in the ten-week general FERA strike; and to support the fight of the Chevrolet workers with the solid massed strength in action of all Toledo labor.

Rely on Own Strength

The W. P. militants in the union are exerting a healthy influence on the strike at present, and so far have succeeded in carrying to the union men the fact that the strike will have to be fought out to the bitter end; that no reliance of any sort is to be placed upon government agencies for mediation or arbitration; and that the rank-and-file of the union are to conduct their own strike and make their own terms of settlement.

Already the pressure of the labor situation in the auto industry and the stand of the local union has forced an endorsement of the strike from Bill Green with a promise of full support from the A. F. of L. Green, however, fell into character following his endorsement and promise by stating that "there is grave danger that the strike might spread throughout the automotive industry." This would be a grave danger to the auto barons but the sign of a great resurgence of American labor.

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by the bosses, by Tobin, by the C.P. But they were rather liked by the workers of 574, and that is what counts with these boys in the militant leadership of 574 who remained more than ever for militant unionism in Minneapolis and the Northwest.

574 Remains Firm New methods were tried to separate the workers from the leaders. Newspaper publicity and mouth-to-mouth propaganda spread the rumors that 574 or its leaders are ready to break the agreement made at the conclusion of the strike, and prepare for a "general strike" in May. A new organization was formed, made up of preachers, business men, representatives of bosses organizations and last but not least, officers of the local A. F. of L. The purpose of this "Committee of 100" was to "find the facts and bring about friendly relationship between employers and employees." Members of 574 were approached to "get rid of the leaders and then reorganize the local" which came into disrepute before the bosses. The workers of 574 did not bite, but stood with their many-times tested and proven militant leadership.

The "United Front" But the "united front" against unionism did not figure with the real rank and file of Minneapolis, which rank and file considers 574 the teacher of labor in the fight for labor rights in the Northwest. They are rallying around Local 574 and its militant leaders to give the whole reactionary gang the fight of their lives.

But where is the Communist Party? They are also taking their place in this "united front from above" which the "fourth period" proscribes. In the evening of April 22, while the meeting of 574 was in progress a new mimeographed leaflet was distributed in front of the union headquarters. The Communist Party, in this leaflet, went the whole way with the Citizens Alliance, the Committee of One-Hundred, Tobin and the local labor fakers. The leaflet pointed out the many misdeeds of the leaders of Local 574—repeating all the old stale slanders—and declared that "the full responsibility of this (the revocation of the charter) lies upon your leadership," although they forgot to explain why the Citizens Alliance would be so anxious to get rid of these leaders and why Tobin would revoke the charter of the union, if the leaders had been guilty of betraying the interests of the workers. The union membership couldn't understand this logic, either. That is why they are standing solid behind the leaders who are under attack of the bosses, the labor fakers and their "left" allies—the Communist Party.

Greetings

TO THE New Militant FROM East Side, Branch 2 Workers Party of the U. S.

Branch 3, West Side Greets THE New Militant AND Workers Party of the U. S.

2 WEST 15th STREET New York City

LEFT . . . JABS

By BILL SHERMAN

MAY DAY IN BRITAIN

Taking time off from preparations for King George's silver jubilee (which the Labor Party supports), such labor leaders as Lansbury, who voted for 50,000 pounds (\$250,000) for the king's festivities, will mouth some phrases about "socialism in our time." Leaders of the British Communist Party almost gagged into silence by Moscow's praise of the British national government, will no doubt reiterate the battle cry of that stalwart Stalinist, Harry Pollitt: "We are ready to kiss King George if that will help stop war." Such "leaders" will be the major speakers at the May Day demonstrations in the heart of the Bloody Empire, where, we are told, they are "marching steadfastly to socialism."

MAY DAY IN BERLIN

Herded by Nazi police, the workers of Berlin will turn out on May Day on orders of Hitler. The Nazi press will hail this prison muster as an enthusiastic demonstration for Nazism. The real voice of Berlin's proletariat is stifled in concentration camps or prisons, or heard only in secret meetings behind locked doors. So was it one time in Czarist Russia, and in Germany as in Russia, from these secret meetings will rise the leadership of the masses, which will put Hitler in a place reserved for him, side by side with the one-time powerful Czar.

NORMAN MINI

The eight Sacramento organizers found guilty of being militant union men are now behind the bars in San Quentin. Included in the eight is Norman Mini, whom the Daily Worker denounced as a "stool pigeon" etc. Under a barrage of criticism from without and within the Stalinist ranks, the Daily Worker has ceased its slanderous attacks on this courageous fighter. It has not, however, withdrawn its slanders, nor apologized to its readers for its William Randolph Hearst methods of attacking political opponents.

"JUSTICE" IN NEW YORK

That "justice" like God "moves in mysterious ways its wonders to perform" is again evidenced by the quashing of the indictment charging Louis J. McNally, former Superintendent of the City Home for Dependents, and his wife, with "conspiracy to defraud." The judge, in quashing the indictment, and clearing the McNallys, stated that "all the circumstantial evidence discloses the manipulation of two avaricious individuals exercising undue influence over a feeble-minded woman of 75 to obtain from her all her worldly possessions." That, according to the judge, was all that the McNallys did, so he quashed the indictment. The "aged woman," Mrs. Matilda R. Beecher, was the widow of a Spanish-American war veteran. Her savings of \$10,000, almost entirely made up of money she received as a pension from the government, was transferred to the bank account of the McNallys' infant son. It will be recalled that the same McNallys were charged with having an ex-sailor act as a surgeon in the Home for Dependents, cutting out ulcers with a jack knife. He was paid in chewing tobacco, though the city did appropriate money for proper medical and surgical services. McNally is a stalwart supporter of the Democratic Party, always lining up the entire vote of the Home for Roosevelt, Smith, etc. An excellent example of "American" non-alien, non-Communist, rugged individualistic practices and politics for Hearst to write about.

Y.C.L. AND UNITY

John Little, of the Young Communist League, begged for "unity of the working people" on May Day. This is the same John Little and the same Y.C.L. that as late as October last made as a condition for a united front with the Young People's Socialist League that they should break a united front already established with the Spartacus Youth League. At every move the Stalinists make for a "united front," their past and present tactics form the best arguments for the reactionaries to oppose them on. We, who constitute the Workers Party, fought for united front of organization to organization when the Stalinists denounced it as counter-revolutionary. We have today in our ranks not a few former Y.C.L. and C.P. members who were expelled by the Stalinists for urging a united front of the S. P. and the C.P. against Hitler while it was yet possible to stop him. On the other hand, every time a Stalinist opens his mouth for "united action," he has to eat every word he uttered on this question from 1929 to 1934.

MAY DAY GREETINGS FLORENCE WYLE—Los Angeles H. SHAPIRO—Los Angeles G. FERRIS—Los Angeles SOPHIE SLAVIN—Los Angeles PHIL TAPLIN—Los Angeles IDA ALTMAN—Los Angeles E. EVERITT—Los Angeles BILL MONROE—Los Angeles

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