

ALLIES TURN GUNS ON GREEK MASSES

Union Contributions Swell Christmas Fund To Aid Imprisoned Twelve

The nation-wide appeal to the labor movement for contributions to the Civil Rights Defense Committee's \$5,000 Christmas Fund to aid the Minneapolis Labor Case prisoners and their families has evoked a splendid and ever-increasing response from trade unions, labor fraternal organizations and many individual defend-

ers of labor's rights. During the week ending December 11, no less than 32 union and other labor organizations added their contributions to the many already received. The CRDC plans to extend the fight for unconditional pardon of the 18, 6 of whom terminated their sentences, and for repeal of the anti-labor Smith "Gag" Act.

Encouraging and sympathetic letters have accompanied the contributions. A typical letter comes from Irving Rosenberg, Business Manager of CIO United Retail Employees Local 108, Newark, N. J. "Enclosed you will find our contribution to the victims of the Smith 'Gag' Act. We extend our sympathy to the families of these victims and have done all that was possible for us to do in protesting the railroadings of these pioneers for Trade Union Democracy."

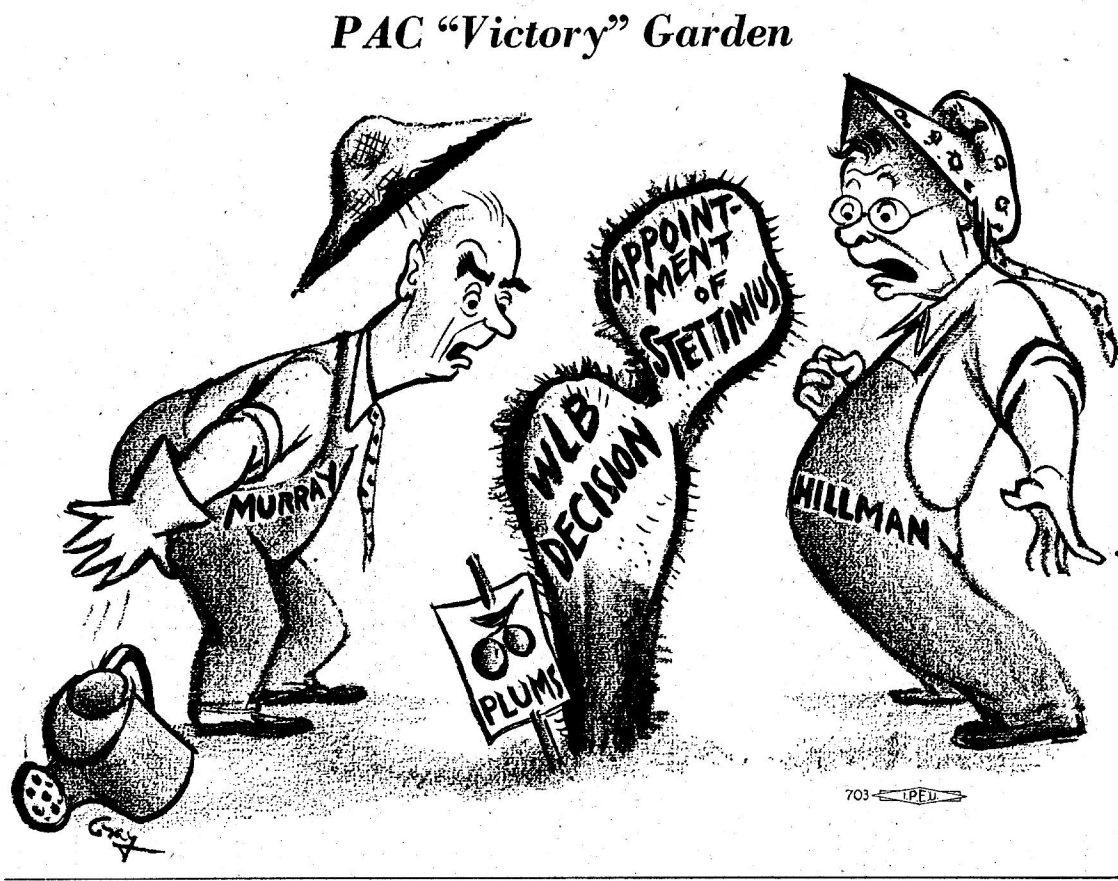
"Enclosed find check to be used as Christmas cheer for the imprisoned brothers, wives and their families. We hope that by next year at this time the 12 still behind bars will be on the battle line again firing against the enemy," says the letter from Brotherhood of Railway Carmen Lodge 652, Reading, Pa.

Recording Secretary Fred J. Winstanley, CIO United Auto-

mobile Workers Local 898, Milford, Mich., writes: "Enclosed is our contribution to assist in carrying out the good work. Do not hesitate to call upon us if we can be of any help in your future programs. With best wishes for your continued success."

RECENT CONTRIBUTORS Recent contributors include: UAW-CIO locals 329, Detroit, 898, Milford, Mich., 942, Detroit, 659, Flint; ILGWU-APL Locals 144, Newark, 266, Los Angeles, 305, Port Huron, Mich., 91, N. Y. C., 285, Hoosick Falls, N. Y., and the Philadelphia, Cincinnati and Chicago Joint Boards; CIO Rubber Workers 191, Camden, N. J.; CIO Amalgamated Clothing Workers Local 54, Brooklyn; United Retail Employees Local 108, Newark, N. J.; United Grocery and Produce Local 329, Chicago; Brewery Workers 28, Detroit; Blacksmiths, Drop Forgers and Helpers Local 197, Reading, Pa.; Railway Carmen Lodge 652, Reading, Pa.; Women's Auxiliary, Amalgamated Lithographers, N. Y. C.; Workmens Circle Lodges 182, Williamsburg, N. Y., 736, Chelsea, Mass., 937, Lynn, Mass., Women's Club 815, Brockton, M a s s.; Workmen's Benefit Fund Lodges 162, West New York, N. J., 44, Woodside, Long Island, 7, Syracuse, N. Y., 9, Hoboken, N. J.; Socialist Verband, Lynn, Mass.; Jewish Socialist Verband, N.Y.C.

Send your contributions to James T. Farrell, Chairman, Civil Rights Defense Committee, 160 Fifth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.



Spurious Munition 'Shortage' Used As Labor-Baiting Pretext

By R. Bell

One week following the national elections, Administration spokesmen began using an alleged munitions shortage as the springboard to launch a new labor-baiting campaign. This campaign is mounting in fury with every passing day.

The anti-labor campaign coincided with the launching of the Sixth War Bond drive. To stimulate the sale of bonds General Eisenhower issued a statement deploring the "optimism" of the home front and warning that a shortage of munitions was delaying the offensive. It was alleged that the shortage was so acute that shells had to be "rationed." How explain this "shortage" that suddenly occurred immediately after the elections? The war leaders always have a ready answer to such embarrassing questions.

"Workers who quit critical war jobs," ranted 'Commander-in-Chief' Roosevelt, "were costing American lives on the battlefronts because it was necessary to ration shells hurled at the enemy." This was the cue the labor-baiters were waiting for. The rabid labor-hating head of the Army Service Forces, General Somervell, stumped the country slandering and vilifying the workers in speeches before various employers groups and associations. "The war end is being delayed," declared Somervell aping Roosevelt, "because thousands of men have left the shipyards, the forges and foundries, and because thousands of others have sought employment away from other war industries where production is lagging."

300,000 WORKERS Who are these workers, estimated at 300,000, who decided to "retire" and live off the interest of their debts right in the middle of the war? "They are the members of the group of optimists," ways Somervell, "who have already guessed that the war is about over. . . They have taken a furlough or have come to believe their term of enlistment is over." What is the source of this deplorable "optimism" against which Generals Eisenhower and Somervell rail and thunder?

The N. Y. Times military analyst, Hanson Baldwin, traces the source directly to the Roosevelt administration and its military leaders. "The people have taken their cue from their leaders," he says, "and especially their military leaders." To prove this contention he adds: "Admiral William F. Halsey's famous prediction about the end of the Japanese war led the list of optimistic 'boners,' but Gen. H. Arnold has not been far behind; he has 'destroyed' most of Germany's economy many times and is engaged in doing the same thing for Japan. Gen. Douglas MacArthur's communiques speak for themselves, they have often been prematurely and overly optimistic."

"Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower's hopes of ending the European war in 1944 misled many people and even Gen. Geo. C. Marshall, in a recent article, written some weeks ago, wrote that 'before this statement is published (on Dec. 7) hostilities might have terminated in the European theatre.'"

PLANT SHUTDOWNS It was on the basis of this "optimism" of the General Staff, that the Army and Navy initiated a program of contract cancellations, drastic cutbacks and plant shutdowns that closed numerous munitions plants. The workers were given a "furlough" which threw them onto the streets to shift for themselves. Believing that the war was almost over, the brass hats ended

Anti Union Terror, Open-Shop Laws Threaten Workers

The open shop offensive of Big Business, sweeping forward in the wake of Roosevelt's "great progressive victory," is assuming ominous proportions.

"Slowly, almost without any public notice, a wave of anti-labor laws and old-fashioned Klan-like vigilante action has swept half the nation," reports Victor Riesel, labor news correspondent of the New York Post. "Labor circles are certain that there is an undercover conspiracy to incite anti-union violence after V-Day."

The campaign to legislate the unions out of existence or into complete impotence gained great impetus with the passage last election day of state constitutional amendments in Florida and Arkansas barring union shop agreements. A similar "right to work" measure was narrowly defeated in California.

But reactionary and semi-fascist agents of Big Business in California are already engaged in circulating petitions for another state referendum for an even more vicious measure than the defeated one. A "housewives" outfit called Women of the Pacific is the ostensible sponsor and front for the California bosses. Its head, Mrs. Edwin Selvin, has been making a profession out of crusading for the "American plan of the open shop" since 1936.

STATE LAWS

Alabama, Texas, Colorado, Arkansas, South Dakota and Idaho already have state laws requiring licensing of union officials. The licenses can be revoked in the event of strikes, subjecting the union officials to possible imprisonment for conducting union business without a license. Scores of towns and municipalities, especially in the South, have passed similar local measures. Behind present anti-union campaigns for similar laws in Kansas and other states is the fascist-like "Christian American Association," which exploits religious bigotry as a cover for the union-busting program of its big business financial backers.

Anti-labor vigilante activity is on the rise. Recently in North Carolina, several AFL organizers were given a "going over" with brass knuckles by Ku Klux Klan vigilantes and driven out of town. Anti-labor propaganda is being circulated by army brass hats to incite the soldiers against the unions, as in the instance of a Camp Davis, N. C., officer who has been writing anti-labor inflammatory letters to hundreds of enlisted men urging them to attack unionism.

In addition, Hanson Baldwin reveals that "there are today no real shortages." What shortages do exist are "not actual" but "potential." They consist largely of certain items the need of which were not foreseen by the General Staff. "Some of them,"

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British-Provoked Civil War Rages Throughout Greece

Churchill Bares Reactionary Allied Aims; Demands Suppression of European Revolt

By Joseph Hansen

The dark curtain of Allied censorship closed over the civil war raging in Greece as Winston Churchill, spokesman of British imperialism, brazenly and insolently proclaimed Allied counter-revolutionary aims in Europe.

Allied censorship, strict as it is, could not hide the fact that ELAS, the armed forces of the EAM coalition, is putting up a valiant struggle. The British admit that more than 25,000 ELAS, with more detachments arriving, are fighting counter-revolution in the streets of Athens.

ELAS still holds most of the police stations captured when British-armed police of the puppet Papan-dreou cabinet opened fire on unarmed demonstrating men, women, and children. The general strike remained effective after eight days.

While Allied tanks, planes, warships and field artillery poured death into the ranks of the heroic Greek workers and peasants, Churchill cynically revealed what the Allies want in Europe. From his speech it is possible to make out part of the secret deals hatched by Roosevelt, Churchill and Stalin at Cairo, Teheran and Quebec. They plan to convert devastated Europe into a vassal of the Allied conquerors, carve up the continent into colonial "spheres of influence" of the "big three" and impose on the European peoples, reactionary Quisling regimes propped up by Allied bayonets.

PUBLIC INDIGNATION

Churchill openly proclaimed British imperial aims in his speech of December 5: "We shall not hesitate to use the considerable British army now in Greece, and being reinforced, to see that law and order are maintained." By "law and order" Churchill referred to the hated Glucksburg dynasty that imposed the bloodthirsty Metaxas military dictatorship upon Greece in 1936. The heroic resistance of the Greek workers was termed by Churchill "an attempt to impose by violence a Communist dictatorship."

As public indignation mounted over the Allies' flagrant use of troops to suppress the Greek working class, Churchill took the

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Hands Off Europe

In Italy, Belgium and Greece, troops are being utilized against the revolutionary masses to bolster up counter-revolutionary regimes headed by puppets wholly subservient to Allied imperialism.

The troops in these Allied armies were dragged into the war on the assurance their mission was to destroy fascism and to safeguard democracy. Their use in disarming the Belgian workers, in checking the Italian revolution, and now in shedding the blood of the Greek masses proves that the assurances of Churchill and Roosevelt about democratic aims were false to the core.

Roosevelt's and Churchill's real aims are emerging for all to see. They are simply fighting to retain world domination against the challenge of German imperialism. They aim to crush the revolutionary movement of the insurgent masses and impose on them, by force of arms, the rule of the same old crew of bloodthirsty monarchs, Fascist generals and exploiting capitalists and landlords that ground down the European masses before the outbreak of the present world slaughter.

Two crimes have thus been committed against the workers and farmers in the armed forces. First they were forced into the war under false pretenses. Secondly, they were sent not to further democracy but to crush it by shooting down their class brothers in Europe.

The people cannot afford to stand idly by while the Wall Street plutocrats and the British Tories thus shackle the workers' movement. The soldiers cannot easily express themselves. It is all the more imperative that the workers at home should energetically protest these crimes being committed against the people of Europe.

If Allied imperialism succeeds in placing a counter-revolutionary straitjacket on the European masses, reaction will be enormously strengthened here at home. The emboldened industrial tycoons will feel free to turn the screws still tighter on the labor movement behind the lines. The cause of labor in Europe is thus the cause of labor everywhere..

The fateful hour is sounding in Europe. The peoples who were ground down under the heel of fascism and other bloody forms of military dictatorship, who have endured occupation by imperialist armies, who have suffered untold wretchedness and destitution in the Second World War are rising to put an end to capitalism which brought all these miseries upon them.

They and they alone have the right to decide what form of government shall be theirs. The imperialist politicians and their puppets who stand in the road of the masses represent only predatory capitalist cliques who make up for smallness in numbers by viciousness of purpose. They stand only for blackest reaction.

Let the people of Greece, Belgium, Italy and the rest of Europe themselves decide what their course shall be!

Hands off the European revolution!

Roosevelt Turns State Department Keys Over To Direct Agents Of Wall Street

By Art Preis

As one of his first major acts following his recent "progressive victory" at the polls, Roosevelt is converting the State Department into a direct branch office of Wall Street. To his nomination of Stettinius, white-haired boy of U. S. Steel, General Motors and the Morgan interests, as Secretary of State, Roosevelt last week added several additional big business executives and reactionary career-men as nominees to the key posts under Stettinius.

Will Clayton, world's greatest cotton speculator and pre-war associate of German, Japanese and Italian interests, was named as Assistant Secretary of State in charge of foreign economic affairs. Nelson Rockefeller, scion of the Standard Oil and banking trust, was another Roosevelt choice for an Assistant Secretaryship. As Undersecretary of State, Roosevelt nominated former Ambassador to Japan, Joseph C. Grew, who proposes to keep Emperor Hirohito and the Japanese Imperial Family in power as a safeguard against social revolution by the Japanese masses.

Archibald MacLeish, librarian of the Library of Congress, was named for Assistant Secretary in the field of information and cultural relations. This capitalist pen prostitute has exercised his literary talents since the war as a government propagandist for the "democratic" aims of American imperialism. He will have little to say about State Department policies.

FAKE HORROR The nominations of Clayton, Rockefeller and Grew are such a brazen demonstration of Roosevelt's alignment with Wall Street that even a few of his "liberal" henchmen in the Senate have been constrained to draw back in fake horror. Thus, Democratic Senator Guffey of Pennsylvania, opposing Clayton's appointment, wailed: "I was very much disappointed when these nominations came up here. I thought the liberals had won the election. I can't say that I am as certain of that now."

A small section of Roosevelt's "liberal" wing in the Senate, after appealing in vain for administration floor leaders to oppose the Roosevelt slate, were

able to generate enough heat to forestall a final vote on the Roosevelt appointments. The issue has been shunted into the hands of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee for public hearings.

Clayton was under Senate investigation a few months back because as Roosevelt's one-man Surplus Property Disposal Board he was charged with "disposing" of government lands and mineral reserves to the advantage of the big real estate and mining interests. Former Assistant Attorney General Littell exposed Clayton's activities, one of the acts of "insubordination" which led to Littell's dismissal two weeks ago by Roosevelt.

COTTON MONOPOLIST

Now Clayton has been proposed for the strategic post of guardian of American imperialist economic interests. He is particularly suited for this task. At the time of Pearl Harbor, Clayton's firm of Anderson, Clayton and Co., had 26 subsidiaries in 6 foreign countries and investments in 14 others. His domestic holdings include 22 companies, dominating every phase of cotton production and sale from ginning to textiles, and even insurance.

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floor December 8 in the House of Commons, snarling to frighten the weak-kneed members of the parliamentary opposition, lash-

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With half his \$60,000,000 business in foreign holdings, Clayton was closely associated with the Nazi, Fascist and Japanese cotton interests. Shortly before the war, the New York firm of Anderson, Clayton and Fleming was connected with a committee lobbying to break the boycott against Nazi and Japanese goods and to arrange for the sale of cotton to Germany and Japan.

Clayton's world's largest cotton combine, according to the findings of the LaFollette Senate Civil Liberties Committee, maintained the notorious "farm labor bureaus" in Arizona and California which lured thousands of impoverished farm workers into the cotton fields of the Pacific Coast to drive down wage standards and then left them stranded after the season. Clayton's representatives helped organize and were among the largest financial supporters of the labor-hating "Associated Farmers" of California, the big business vigilante organization which broke strikes and spread bloody terror amongst the union agricultural workers.

Nelson Rockefeller has been

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# TRADE UNION NOTES

By Joseph Keller

The recent American Federation of Labor convention witnessed a sharp disagreement between the AFL chiefs and their guests from the British Trades Union Congress. This controversy between the two leading sections of the International Federation of Trade Unions occurred over the British organization's sponsorship of a "World Labor Conference" to be held next month in London. It is reported as a move to establish a new international union organization which will include the CIO and the Soviet "trade unions." The AFL tops vigorously opposed having any truck with either the CIO or the Soviet bodies.

It is no news that the AFL heads, guardians of the narrow precincts of craft-unionism, jealously refuse to "recognize" the CIO. For years the AFL leaders have blocked participation by the CIO in either the IFTU or the International Labor Office, a government-sponsored agency whose "labor" representatives are appointed by the respective capitalist governments. The constitution of the IFTU gives representation priority to the major and oldest organization in a given country. On this ground, the IFTU has persistently refused to share representation in the IFTU with the CIO.

The claim of the craft-union moguls is that participation with the CIO in any organization constitutes support of "dual unionism." Their real objection, of course, is that the CIO represents industrial unionism, against which the craft-union vested interests have fought with consuming hatred.

These AFL objections, however cut no ice with the British union heads and the Roosevelt and Churchill regimes which have given tacit blessing to the London conference. The latter recognize the CIO as the most decisive union in America, whose leadership is utterly subservient to the dictates of Allied imperialism.

The proposal to collaborate formally with the Stalinist trade union bureaucrats in the Soviet Union was especially objectionable to the AFL leaders. Their alleged objections were stated most sharply by Daniel J. Tobin, AFL Teamsters Czar and one of Roosevelt's most devoted labor servitors. Referring to the Soviet "trade unions," Tobin piously protested before the AFL convention that he would not "sit down at the same table with labor organizations that are not free — whose wages are set by the government."

Tobin's sanctimonious utterance is, of course, pure fraud. He simply skipped like a ballerina over Roosevelt's wage-freeze and Little Steel Formula. Tobin himself, together with all the AFL and CIO bureaucrats, has upheld the principle of government "wage-stabilization," that is, the fixing of maximum wage scales by government decree.

Moreover, there has been a powerful trend, accelerated by the imperialist war, for all the

labor fakery, AFL as well as CIO, to collaborate with the capitalist government and subordinate the unions to the government apparatus. The AFL flunkies have been abjectly servile before the Roosevelt regime and its war machine.

They support all of Roosevelt's compulsory arbitration agencies and act as cops for the government in policing their unions against strikes and other forms of independent militant action. For years, the AFL leaders have worked together with the government in the International Labor Office.

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Their real reason for objecting to collaboration with the Soviet "trade unions" is utterly different than that claimed openly by Tobin and Green. That real reason is starkly reactionary — their rabid anti-Sovietism. In this they mirror the smaller and more backward layers of American capitalists with whom the AFL deals to a great extent. This sector of American capitalism, hard-pressed by the monopolies, still years after the "free enterprise" of a by-gone competitive era, fears "interference" by the government and mistrusts Wall Street's dealings with the Kremlin, despite the latter's demonstrated counter-revolutionary and anti-labor policies. Their anti-Sovietism is so virulent that they react violently against anything, however, which bears a "Soviet" label. This is the attitude which likewise conditions the AFL leadership's rejection of collaboration with the Kremlin's trade union agents.

The AFL leaders are no more independent of the government than those of the CIO. They have demonstrated as little desire to struggle for free unionism. Their lesser merit, in the eyes of the political leaders of American imperialism, lies in their lesser capacity to readily adapt themselves to the swiftly-changing diplomatic requirements of their imperialist masters. The CIO bureaucrats, harder-pressed by their militant ranks and seeking government support against these ranks as a prop for their union positions, are more flexible in responding to the diplomatic demands of Roosevelt.

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The issue of collaboration with the Soviet trade unions has come to the fore sharply only in the past year with the full and open swing of the Stalinists to the extreme right wing of the labor movement, following the Teheran pact between Roosevelt, Churchill and Stalin.

That pact was in substance an agreement to collaborate in the crushing of the developing European socialist revolution. In the fulfillment of that pact, Anglo-American diplomacy requires the cooperation of all the labor opportunists and betrayers including the Stalinists.

The British Union officials, anti-Soviet to the core, had rigorously opposed collaboration with the Soviet trade unions in the past. But as ever loyal handmaidens of British imperialism, and in response to its diplomatic needs, these reactionary labor lackeys are prepared today to make common cause with the Kremlin's agents against the militant workers of Europe, not excluding England.

For the same reason, the CIO leaders, acting in accordance with the dictates of American imperialist diplomacy, are collaborating with the Stalinists here at home against the militant CIO ranks and are preparing to join with the British and Soviet trade union bureaucrats in aiding the counter-revolution against the European working class.

# SWP Opens \$18,000 Fund Drive In Big Party Expansion Program

## \$18,000 Party Expansion Fund

A Fitting Welcome to Our 18 Class-War Prisoners

By Rose Karsner, Campaign Director

In the words of Comrade Cannon: "People cannot live without perspectives, without hope for the future. . . The greatest power of Marxism derives from the fact that it gives a rational basis to the impulse of the masses to make a better world; a scientific assurance that the irresistible laws of social evolution are working on their side; that the idea of socialism, of the good society of the free and equal, is not a utopian fantasy but the projection of future reality. When this idea takes hold of the people it will truly be the greatest power in the world. It seems somewhat undignified, somewhat lacking in the sense of proportion, for one who has grasped this idea to be deterred or turned aside by such trifles as concern for one's personal fate. What matters, as the Old Man expressed it is 'the consciousness that one participates in the building of a better future, that one carries on his shoulders a particle of the fate of mankind, and that one's life will not have been lived in vain.'"

This was the guiding line of our recently concluded convention of the Socialist Workers Party. It was this spirit that motivated the delegates to unanimously pledge the raising of the \$18,000 Party Expansion Fund, in spite of the heavy expenses the branches had just been under to finance their delegations. This conviction, that expressed itself in enthusiasm, optimism and confidence at the convention, now assures the success of the Fund Campaign.

### THE BRANCHES WRITE

In Cleveland comrade Black put it this way: "The thing that impressed me most was that there were no screwballs in the party — just regular American workers who make any worker feel at home. I feel sure the SWP is going to tear across this country like wildfire. We have absolutely no competition."

O'Connell of Milwaukee says: "Please increase our quota. A canvass of pledges shows a total of over this sum, with one comrade pledging a week's wages."

Local New York organizer Grant states: "Considering the favorable objective situation which makes for the possibility of an immediate expansion of our press and recruitment to our ranks, the members of Local New York are backing the \$18,000 Fund with confidence and enthusiasm. We have already oversubscribed our quota and we have a few more pledges to come in. The members of the Maritime Club are setting a fine example by their extraordinary sacrifices. They too expect to go over their quota."

The Boston Fund Director F. Daniels writes: "I should like to inform you that our branch has revised its quota from \$300 to \$400. We of course expect to exceed this sum."

Newark also revised its quota upwards and tell us: "Most of this sum was subscribed by the members of our Executive Committee. We expect a few more pledges and we have no doubt that we will go over the top."

Buffalo accepts its quota and writes: "We will make every effort to complete it by January 23 to greet the release of our comrades from prison."

Members-at-Large and Friends have made the following pledges:

Branch	Quota	Paid	Percent
Massachusetts	\$100	\$100	100
Allentown	25	0	0
Dayton	25	0	0
New York	100	0	0
Quakertown	25	0	0
Texas	25	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$300</b>	<b>\$100</b>	<b>34</b>

"The concrete walls and the steel bars are real. But after all, they are only one kind of prison. There are also the prisons of ignorance and prejudices, of selfishness and of thought limited to the present day. If one sets himself to the task of breaking out of these prisons, if he feels that with every day's work and study he has made a little headway; then time passes and the concrete walls don't crowd in so closely." So writes one of our 18.

And we confidently answer: we feel sure that when you return to our ranks, you will find that our party, "whose members are bound together and inspired by common ideas" has gone forward during your enforced absence. That we are ready to make sacrifices for the party in the same undaunted spirit which characterized your "farewells." That the confidence you have placed in the membership is fully justified.

Forward to a mass revolutionary party!  
Forward to a speedy and successful completion of the \$18,000 Expansion Fund Campaign as the first step in that direction!



The latest report from our Los Angeles agent is so full of enthusiasm and inspiration that we quote at length.

"We obtained the first two recruits from the subscription campaign last week. Two Negro comrades who saw the paper for the first time with the campaign have decided that their place is

with the Party which has the only correct program for the Negro and white workers. . .

"One of our comrades decided that it would be a good idea to see if he couldn't get the various newsmen on the street corners to carry The Militant. On his first try six out of nine newsmen accepted the paper. If they continue carrying it, I will give you their locations for an ad.

"I was very glad to see that people are sending in for literature. In response to The Militant ad someone came into the Southside Bookshop the other day and bought \$8 worth of literature. "Things sure look good."

Letters from our agents in every section report progress and growth.

Minneapolis: "Our list of long-term subscribers is growing. Comrade Field reported last night that we had picked up six new 1-year combination subscriptions during the past month."

Seattle: "The comrades have been selling a lot of literature with the trial subs."

Cleveland: "We had an interesting conversation with a Negro contact of ours who, incidentally, subscribes to The Militant. He told us that when he first began reading our paper he couldn't understand it. This naturally alarmed us since we publish the paper 'in the interest



### SCOREBOARD

Branch	Quota	Paid	Percent
Youngstown	\$300	\$316	106%
Reading	75	35	47
N. Y. Maritime Club	3,000	1,160	39
Boston	400	76	19
Buffalo	400	73	18
Cleveland	250	45	18
Detroit	1,250	193	16
New York Local	3,000	423	15
Newark	450	50	11
Akron	300	0	0
Bayonne	400	0	0
Chicago	2,500	0	0
Los Angeles	2,500	0	0
Milwaukee	100	0	0
Philadelphia	200	0	0
Rochester	50	0	0
San Diego	150	0	0
San Francisco	1,000	0	0
Seattle	1,000	0	0
Toledo	300	0	0
Twin Cities, Minn.	1,000	0	0
Members-at-Large and Friends	300	100	34
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$2,472</b>	<b>14%</b>

## "Labor Party" Is Forum Topic

"Labor's Need—An Independent Labor Party" is the topic of the Sunday, Dec. 17 forum to be held at 8 p. m. at the New York School of Social Science, 116 University Place.

Roosevelt's appointment of Big Business lieutenants to the State Department, his continuation of the wage freeze, his acquiescence in the Allied shooting of Belgian and Greek workers prove that Wall Street won the last election.

Roosevelt can get away with these reactionary moves only because labor has not yet organized its own independent party. As the Second World War plumbs new depths of destruction and death, the need to organize such a party will become a matter of life and death to the labor movement.

Joseph Hansen will discuss this burning question at the Sunday night forum. He is author of a pamphlet just off the press, "American Workers Need a Labor Party."

Last Sunday Mark Braden spoke on "Labor's Fight Against the Wage-Freeze." The audience of workers and friends discussed their shop problems in the light of facts presented, during the question period.

of the working people.' But he clarified the statement later by saying that he couldn't understand why a Negro paper should have white agents soliciting subscriptions! This Negro by the way also told us that his fellow workers at the foundry like the paper enough to take it into the factory and distribute it to others."

Boston: "In regard to the leaflet about which you asked, we attach such a leaflet to The Militant which is distributed at meetings, factory gates, and even house-to-house (especially if the house-to-house is a special distribution for some specific purpose.)"

## Pioneer Notes

Pioneer's latest major publication, "The History of American Trotskyism — The Report of a Participant" by James P. Cannon, has been greeted with unanimous enthusiasm.

The Milwaukee literature agent writes: "The History of American Trotskyism was well received here. All the comrades had nothing but praise and admiration for the book. Well written, well reasoned and extremely informative."

From Toledo, just three weeks after they had received their books: "We sold out the cloth-bound copies almost as soon as we got them. Now we have sold most of the paperbound copies. We would like to get five more copies of the clothbound as soon as possible."

Cannon refers to his book in a recent letter: "I see by the N. Y. Times Book Review that a book of Roosevelt's speeches, entitled 'Rendezvous with Destiny' is edited by J. B. S. Hardman. This advertisement struck me as a timely footnote to my remarks about him in my History."

The branches report increasingly good results in selling pamphlets at public meetings, and are particularly successful with the Negro pamphlets.

Boston writes: "Last Sunday A. Clayton Powell spoke in Boston. We covered the meeting with Negro pamphlets and sold 97 of them, the largest sale of pamphlets we have had in the past few years."

"Many of the people attending this meeting told our salesman that they had already read these pamphlets and asked if he had any more on the same subject. It looks like the proposed Jackson pamphlet (a compilation of Charles Jackson's writings in the Negro Struggle column) will fill a need."

## British-Provoked Civil War Rages Throughout Greece

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ing out with a rhetorical whip to encourage those in his own ranks faint-hearted at the prospect of having to put down the mighty force of the rising proletarian revolution. His speech was a principled exposition from beginning to end — a principled exposition of counter-revolution. "I must point out that it does not only deal with Greece, but with other parts of Europe and with the suppression of these popular movements which have valorously assisted the defeat of the enemy in other countries besides Greece." What is involved, said Churchill, is "the whole of this question of our intervention in Europe."

Churchill, the old imperialist gangster who organized the Allied intervention against the Bolshevik revolution of October 1917, then turned to Belgium as "another case" of "the friends of democracy being disarmed in favor of the organized constitutional administration."

In Belgium "the friends of democracy, the valorous assisters in the defeat of the enemy . . . organized an attack upon the Belgian state." This "attack" actually was a protest demonstration against giving up their arms as ordered by the puppet Pierlot government. "We British," continued Churchill, "placed light tanks and armored cars in the streets near the front of the Parliament House." Churchill referred to the spilling of workers' blood in Belgium to demonstrate that the British are not alone in the plot to bolster counter-revolution in areas "freed" from the German armies. The orders for this use of force came, Churchill revealed, from General Eisenhower. "I have no hesitation in saying not only did we obey General Eisenhower's orders, but we thought those orders were wise and sensible."

Churchill further revealed that "We have a joint arrangement with America about Italy." Even in the case of Greece, Roosevelt shares equal responsibility. "At the Quebec conference it was proposed by the combined chiefs of staff that the British should prepare the forces to occupy the Athens area and pave the way . . . for the installment of the Greek Government which we and the great bulk of the United Nations had formally recognized."

Stalin too shares responsibility, Churchill declared. "We came, therefore, to Greece with American and Russian consent." N. Y. Times reporter, Clifton Daniel, writing from London December 10, amplifies this point:

Hearst, a sponsor of fascism in America, picked up Churchill's line rhetorically. "On the Red riots in Greece," the publisher declared in a December 11 editorial. " . . . Churchill puts his finger squarely on the spot . . . the ELAS, Greek Reds, anarchists and other groups of gutter hoodlums, substituted bullets for bal-

lets." The importance of Greece to Britain's empire lines of communication is fully understood by Moscow. "Needless to say, neither Stalin nor Roosevelt have denied their joint conspiracy with Churchill against the insurgent masses."

Churchill likewise revealed the principal aim of all this bloody pacification of workers driven to desperation by World War II. "It would be pretty hard on Europe, if, after four or five years of German tyranny, she liquified and degenerated and plunged into a series of brutal civil and social wars." Tens of millions of young men dying in the bloody war of the imperialists, fighting for markets, spheres of influence and colonies equals "liberation" for Churchill. The struggle of the masses for their genuine liberation from capitalist tyranny and exploitation — that is "anarchy," and "riots" to Churchill and his fellow conspirators in Washington and Moscow.

### SINISTER PROMISE

Contemptuously challenging his "left critics" in Parliament, Churchill ended with a sinister promise: "If I am not dismissed, make no mistake, we shall persist in this policy of clearing Athens and the Athens regions of all rebels to the constitutional government of Greece . . . I hope I have made the position clear both generally as it affects the world and the war, and Government." Parliament voted confidence in Churchill 279 to 30. The British Labor Party, crawling tail between legs before the vast indignation of the English working class over Allied counter-revolutionary policy, took no stand, permitting its members to vote as they saw fit. 23 voted for Churchill, 24 against while 33 abstained. The Labor Party shares Churchill's responsibility in fostering counter-revolution since they are members of his coalition government.

Reactionary forces in America voiced their approval. The N. Y. Times, mouthpiece of Big Business, said December 6: " . . . an outright attempt at a Communist coup d'etat" has been "precipitated." The Times dubbed the resistance forces who fought so courageously against the German armies, "private armies on the Nazi storm troop model."

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## Advocates Of Forced Labor Claim Munitions 'Shortage'

(Continued from page 1)

says Baldwin, "could not be foreseen; battlefield tactics have changed too rapidly. But some — particularly the need for medium artillery and mortar ammunition and especially new types of tanks to meet or outclass the German models — could have been foreseen." A good many officers, he adds, "foresaw these needs months, or even years ago, but could not 'sell' their ideas."

The blame for this lack of foresight, he concludes, rests primarily on the Army and Navy — that is, on the top military circles.

### CONSPIRACY EXPOSED

Baldwin completely exposes the conspiracy to make a scapegoat of the workers. He points out that the potential shortages are to be met by new factory construction and by reopening munitions plants formerly shut down. "No other solution than the building of additional facilities had been found for solving the infantry mortar ammunition problem," announced WPB chairman Krug, who added, "his agency therefore had approved the \$500,000,000 building program which would be started at once." Mr. Krug disclosed that: "A year ago, when three ammunition plants had been closed down to reduce output, officials believed they had 'ammunition to burn.'"

Despite all this evidence, the hue and cry for drastic action against the unions continues. General Somervell appeared before the Senate Truman commit-

tee and threatened that "if production is not up in a month, we may be back asking for legislation from Congress." What kind of legislation? "I am still in favor of a national service act," said the General.

### SLAVE LABOR

J. A. Krug, chairman of the War Production Board, appeared before the same committee and complained that "there are no teeth" in manpower controls . . . Primarily because Congress refused to pass a national service act." Taking the field against the workers, Under-Secretary of War, Robert P. Patterson announced that "the War Department still advocated enactment of a national service law."

While the "munitions shortage" may be purely fictitious, there is never any lack of ammunition in Washington to be hurled against the labor movement. Every campaign to put across compulsory labor conscription has been preceded by a frenzied hallyhoo about the "manpower shortage." This most recent campaign is no different.

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# Business Moguls Explode Myth of 60 Million Jobs

## Roosevelt Promise of Full Employment Under "Free Enterprise" System Is Gigantic Hoax

By C. Thomas

Capitalist candidates for public office are notorious for making the most extravagant campaign promises in their bid for votes. The recent presidential campaign was no exception. Roosevelt and Dewey vied with each other in promising all things to all men. The master demagogue in the White House has made and broken so many promises in his four campaigns he probably felt that one more whopper wouldn't make much difference. And so, in his Chicago speech last October, he topped anything Dewey had to offer by promising 60-million jobs "after the war." That figure is 5-million more than were employed during the peak of wartime production and 7-million more than are employed today. Obviously some very radical changes will have to be made in our economic system to even approximate the promised number of jobs Roosevelt so glibly rolled off his tongue in Chicago. How did he propose to implement his promise?

In the same speech, the fourth term candidate expounded his creed: "I believe in free enterprise — and always have. I believe in the profit system — and always have. I believe that private enterprise can give full employment to our people." Roosevelt advanced his creed as an expression of "faith" in the ability of "private enterprise" to provide 60-million jobs. Nothing is to change. Big Business is to be given a free hand to perform "miracles" of production. But Hoover also had faith in miracles. The profit-mongering capitalists were turned loose after the last war to produce "miracles" and succeeded only in producing the most profound economic crisis in history. If the so-called free private enterprise — in which Roosevelt says he "always" believed — can give full employment "after the war" why didn't it do so before?

### PUPPET'S CHORUS

The devout labor bureaucrats share Roosevelt's "faith" in the profit system. Like a well trained choir they have responded to their cue and are singing hosannas to an era of "free enterprise" prosperity buttressed by Roosevelt's 60-million jobs. The Stalinists, of course, reinforce the Gospel of Teheran with Roosevelt's revelation. This puppet chorus is intended to drown out the growing clamor for wage increases NOW to meet the rising cost of living.

### CAMPAIGN ORATORY

The liberals are a little more reticent. While they hail Roosevelt as the "greatest liberal of them all" they hedge his promise around with a number of ifs, ands, and buts. Thus the editors of the New Republic, writing on "prosperity and how to get it" say: "The only way to keep purchasing power growing is to pay higher wages or charge lower prices, or both... If employers follow the policy of passing on to workers and consumers the gain from technological advance, all is well... If private enterprise is to bring full employment without much governmental assistance, it must turn over a new leaf in this respect. It must consent to the abolition of all monopolistic practices. In cases where monopoly does not exist, but where the price policy is decided by big corporations, these corporations must promptly pass on to the workers and consumers all gains in efficiency of production." And so on and so forth. Such monopolists and corporations exist only in the liberal never-never land.

In contrast to the labor skates and liberal middleheads the "free

enterprisers" themselves frankly dismiss Roosevelt's promise as so much campaign oratory. The December bulletin of the National City Bank asserts that the goal of 60-million jobs is a fantastic figure impossible of realization in the foreseeable future under the "free enterprise" system. The Wall Street bank expresses alarm that: "Positive harm may be done by setting employment goals at higher figures than are sound or reasonable. Both business and the public may be misled."

A recent issue of The Guaranty Survey, bulletin of the Guaranty Trust Company, another Wall Street bank, explodes the myth of "reconversion" to prosperity when it says: "The war boom has obscured but not altered the fact that the depression which began with the stock market crash in 1929 was still present when the war broke out ten years later, and that the war has postponed but not necessarily solved the problem of sound and lasting recovery."

### NAM CONVENTION

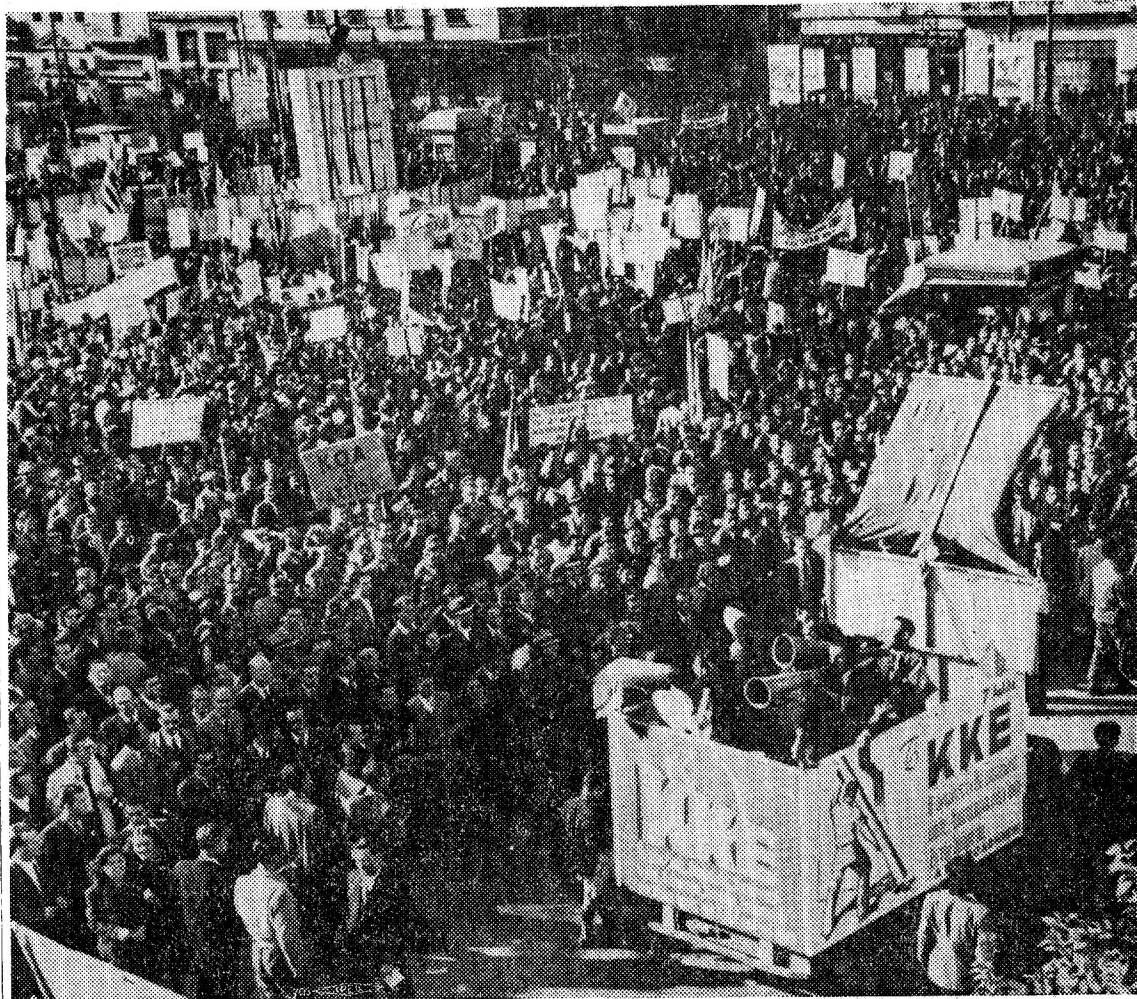
At the recent "War and Reconstruction Congress of American Industry" held by the National Association of Manufacturers, Robert Gaylord, president of the association scoffed at predictions that the present national income will be maintained "after the war." At a recent union convention, he said, "labor" was told that the nation could produce a \$200-billion income "with 60,000,000 jobs at forty hours a week." Gaylord then proceeded to demolish the fiction of "full employment" under capitalism. "Let's look at the facts," he declared. "In 1929, 45,000,000 people worked a little more than forty-eight hours a week and there were virtually no unemployed. That was 2,304 million hours a week and it produced a national income of \$83,000,000,000. Now, it is said, that 2,400 million hours a week, or only 4 percent more than we worked in 1929, can produce 240 percent more national income."

"Let's think straight. Are we talking \$200,000,000 real dollars or 50-cent dollars? If they are real dollars, we shall have to buy and build production on facilities far more efficient than we now have. This will take time, investment and hard work. Everybody is for that high income — but it will not be realized by wishful thinking."

### WISHFUL THINKING

The "hard-headed" business men do not indulge in the fantasy of "wishful thinking" nor do they share the faith of the Stalinists, labor bureaucrats and liberals. The promise of 60-million jobs under capitalism is a gigantic hoax. The war has served to tighten the grip of monopoly on the economic life of the nation. The monopolists are not interested in creating jobs — but solely in profits. "They can't afford to put people to work," says the National City Bank bulletin, "simply to provide a market for the products of other producers; they can only produce what they can sell, and in the long run sell at a profit."

## Demonstration in Athens



Constitution Square in Athens where British-armed police of the puppet Papandreou government fired into unarmed demonstrators killing 23, wounding more than 150, and starting civil war. The picture shows one section of more than 50,000 workers who gathered December 3 to celebrate the 26th anniversary of the Greek Communist Party. The treacherous role of the Stalinists in paving the way for the British invasion will now become clearer to the Greek masses.

# Canadians Struggle Against King's Conscriptioin Betrayal

By Alexander

Mr. King, who owes his position as Prime Minister of Canada and leader of the Liberal Party to his extraordinary political agility, has flipped back and forth on his trapeze as the leader of two irreconcilable elements in the Canadian political scene for many years. His success may be measured by the fact that the government support in the House of Commons numbers nearly 165 members as compared to 39 Conservatives, 10 Canadian Commonwealth Federation, 10 Social Credit and 10 others (including two Stalinists).

In the 165 supporters that Mr. King boasts are some 65 Quebec members, representing a clean sweep of that province made possible by his no-conscription pledge in the 1940 election. In breaking that pledge by moving to send conscripts overseas, Mr. King now stands to lose a great part of that support.

Canada's "voluntary" system of military service started off inauspiciously enough when the early days of the war featured a sit-down strike of Canadian manufacturers who refused to accept government contracts except on a "cost-plus" basis. To many a worker it was made clear right there that the war was going to be run on a "business-as-usual" basis so far as the bosses were concerned. Mr. Howe, Minister of Munitions and Supplies, speedily removed all offending clauses of his war contracts and Canada's capitalists lost no time in burying their snouts in the blood-stained trough of war profits.

Meanwhile, amid the usual blare of radio, press and movie propaganda, Canada's youth was hustled into the army. Since that first flush of voluntary enlistment, Canada's young birds have been harder to snare. But they have been snared, both by the creation of the so-called "Zombie Army," humiliating these home service conscriptees into going active, and by making it almost impossible for any man in the call-up age to get a job unless he has a rejection slip from the Active Army. Nevertheless, for the purpose of fooling the people of Quebec the fiction of voluntary enlistment for overseas service has been maintained.

### THE CONSERVATIVES

The Conservatives, despite their many changes of leaders, have been until now a moribund and disappearing force in Canadian politics. Unable to vie with the CCF or the Liberals, because of the frankly reactionary nature of their backing, their stock has steadily dropped on the political market. Now, suddenly sensing the split in the Liberal ranks on the conscription issue and taking advantage of front-line stories of inadequate reinforcements, their newspapers and mouthpieces have leaped into the fray, well-draped in the British flag. The final blow that precipitated the crisis in government ranks was furnished by the resignation of Defense Minister Ralston, when his demand for the sending of

draftees overseas was rejected by Mr. King. The double flip that Mr. King then offered his Canadian audience was this: "First, we will give the old barrel another working over. We will transfer everyone but the halt and the lame and the blind in home units of the Active Army to overseas service, and then, if we are still short on the needed 16,000 reinforcements, we will fill the gaps from the Home Defense conscriptees." All that double-talk boiled down simply to the fact that the great bulk of the needed reinforcements will come from the men who were conscripted for Home Defense and whom Mr. King had solemnly promised he would not send overseas. It was clear to everyone that he had double-crossed his French-Canadian followers.

Quickly Air Minister Power, who represents a Quebec constituency, resigned his post: for the opposite reason that led to Ralston's earlier resignation. Upon the day that Mr. King announced his stab-in-the-back for Quebec, four of his supporters from that province joined the opposition ranks. As this is written, Liberal ranks are seething.

At the cost of splitting his party, Mr. King at least removed the wind from the swollen Conservative sails. It is doubtful that they will dare vote against him when he puts his new policy to the test in parliament. But what of the parties of the "left"?

The Stalinists, as usual, rushed to Mr. King's rescue. When they arrived in their rowboat supporting his first tentative plan of "voluntary" reinforcements he had already climbed aboard his "Zombie" ship. For the records, here are a couple of excerpts from the declaration of the National Executive of the Labor-Progressive (Stalinist) Party.

"The National Executive . . . recognizes that the stand taken by the Prime Minister is the one which, in the existing situation,

best meets the needs and the real interests of Canada. We therefore endorse his stand and pledge our unequivocal support to the effort to secure adequate reinforcements through the voluntary system.

"We were compelled to restudy the question because until now we have advocated total war policies including universal application of the selective draft for overseas service."

### THE CCF

As for the CCF leaders, they have maintained silence on the issue. Too often, rank-and-file CCF'ers are shown that their leaders regard principles the way they regard a suit of clothes; something to be worn for an occasion. For the first days of the crisis, all that Mr. Coldwell could offer was that he was "studying the situation," he had to "examine the documents" in the case.

In the past the CCF adopted the position: No conscription of manpower without conscription of wealth. Mr. Coldwell and the party leaders have conveniently forgotten that slogan. It was left to demonstrating Home Defense units at Vernon B.C. to shame them by using the CCF slogan in a parade of protest against the King policy. Mr. Coldwell contented himself with a complaint about "coercion" in securing the transfer of conscripts to active units.

King's open betrayal of French Canada has given the CCF a valuable weapon in winning the potentially most revolutionary section of the country to its banner. The fact that the slogan of "no conscription of manpower without conscription of wealth" was raised by English-Canadian units of the Home Defense army shows that this demand has more than a sectional appeal. Right now the CCF has its greatest opportunity to sink its roots deep into the anti-war masses, already disillusioned by the cynical politics of Canadian capitalism.

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# British Tories Backed Bloody Metaxas Regime

By Joseph Hansen

The civil war raging today in Greece between the workers and peasants on one side, the bankers, industrialists and landowners on the other has smoldered for decades, sporadically breaking into flame. The influence of world imperialism has decisively influenced this struggle.

The conflict between German and British imperialism shaped the Greek capitalist class like the symmetrical halves of a twin crystal. Greece ordered naval craft from British shipyards, trained her seamen in the British tradition. She ordered armaments from Germany, sent her officers to German military schools and built her army in the Prussian tradition.

Britain, nevertheless, controlled Greece much as Wall Street has controlled some of the Latin American "republics." She has foisted five different monarchs on Greece. Three of these monarchs were dethroned once, one was dethroned twice, one was assassinated, and only one died in office—three years after coronation. The Glucksburg dynasty owes its uneasy throne to Britain and to no one else despite its inter-marriage with the Hohenzollerns of Germany.

### KAISER'S NEPHEW

The present king, George II, is a nephew of Kaiser Wilhelm. He was excluded from the throne following World War I because of pro-German intrigues at the outbreak of the conflict. However, he was educated in England and was an intimate of the royal British family. Finally enthroned in 1922, he fled for his life in 1923. The hated Glucksburg dynasty was expelled by the Greek people in 1924 and the king was exiled.

The destitute masses, suffering from over-population, lack of land, a feeble, narrow economy, unemployment, starvation, disease, the closing of all avenues of emigration, strove for a political solution to the chronic economic crisis. Dozens of parties sprang into existence. The political atmosphere grew hot, the masses moved leftward, especially after the world economic crisis of 1929. The workers and peasants of Greece were turning to the example of the October 1917 Bolshevik revolution.

The Greek capitalists feared a workers' revolution in Greece just as their class brothers feared revolution in Spain. In 1935, with the help of British imperialism and a sham plebiscite, George II was restored to the throne. The Kaiser's nephew constituted the pivot around which the capitalists hoped to establish a counter-revolutionary regime.

The king appointed as premier John Metaxas, former vice-president of Greece, who had been known in German military academies as "The Little Moltke." In the previous elections Metaxas had received 49,740 votes out of 1,119,350. His party held only 7 seats out of 300 in parliament.

On August 4, 1936—only shortly after Franco's bid for power in Spain—in response to a general strike called for the following day, Metaxas declared martial law, dissolved parliament and constitutional government in accordance with a decree signed by George II and banned political parties. "Liberty," he remarked, "is a nineteenth century illusion."

### WORLD HORRIFIED

Within two days 600 political opponents of Metaxas were under arrest. By December 1937 an estimated 13,000 were suffering on penal islands of the Aegean. They were imprisoned by simple decree without even the formality of trial. Five cents a day was the maximum allotted them for subsistence. Thousands died from cold, hunger and lack of water. The treatment of Metaxas opponents horrified the world. Their feet and heads were crushed in a vise. Fatal doses of castor oil were given workers accused of Communist beliefs. Suspects were brutally beaten and murdered. Women were violated and then subjected to hideous and unspeakable tortures.

The police who carried out these assignments were handpicked by Metaxas and organized on the model of Hitler's Gestapo. These same police served later under the Nazi occupation. They are tools today of the Papandreou cabinet and were the ones who opened fire on the unarmed demonstrators of Athens last week.

Metaxas abolished elections, outlawed trade unions, forbade teaching constitutional law, banned study of Sophocles, Thucydides and other classics, silenced all "subversive hymns of democracy" such as Lincoln's Gettysburg address, imposed rigorous internal censorship of mail, burned more than 300 standard works of authors such as Marx, Freud, Darwin, Tolstoy, Dostoevsky, Kant, Spinoza, Gide.

He converted the press into a house organ of his counter-revolutionary dictatorship.

### CAPITALISTS WAX FAT

He set up a system of tolls on transportation of merchandise from one city to another. Exorbitant tariffs swelled the profits of Greek manufacturers. Government subsidies further enriched the landowners. The Greek merchant marine became a byword for low wages and vicious working conditions, while inflated rates increased the profits of shipowners.

The cost of living sky-rocketed; wages plummeted downward. Metaxas, backed by the big banks and British imperialism, ruled on the model of Hitler and Mussolini. Lacking a mass base such as they at first enjoyed, his regime rested solely on the bayonets of the army and the police, a vast network of espionage, the most brutal use of terror. Bankers, industrialists and landowners had won for the time being. "Metaxas had exorcised the spectre of Bolshevism." Like Franco in Spain he had "put a stop to labor troubles." Metaxas ordered the people "to abandon all hope of an eventual return to democratic forms."

Churchill is now trying to re-establish this very same monarchist dictatorship in Greece as the "legal" government.

### MASSES REBEL

Despite sporadic manifestations of public opposition, not until the German invasion and the fleeing of George II into the arms of his British sponsors did the masses find opportunity to begin settling accounts. No sooner did they take up arms against the German armies, than they began purging their native oppressors, many of whom had remained as quislings to represent the interests of Greek capitalism during German occupation.

The bitterness of the masses toward the ruling class was forcefully demonstrated in the mutinies of the Greek army and navy in April of this year. An entire brigade stationed near Alexandria, Egypt, refused to take orders from Greek Monarchist officers. Sailors in Greek warships at Alexandria formed ship committees to take charge of the vessels. More than 6 per cent of the Greek army abroad and almost the entire navy joined the rebellion.

### BLOODY SUPPRESSION

Churchill on May 24 described in Parliament how the British put down this rebellion: "The . . . Greek ships . . . were lying under the guns of both shore batteries and our superior naval forces. . . The disorderly ships were boarded by Greeks under the Greek government, and, with about fifty killed and wounded, the mutineers were collected and sent ashore. The mutinous brigade in the desert were assaulted by superior British forces which captured the eminences surrounding the camp, and 4,000 men there surrendered."

From these facts it is clear that the present Papandreou government, which is provoking civil war, is simply trying to repeat what Metaxas did in 1936. Then the masses were unarmed, now they are armed. Then the monarchy rested on a well-groomed army, now it depends almost exclusively on British troops. In 1936 Britain remained like a sinister shadow in the background. In 1944 British imperialism stands openly as the most powerful supporter of reaction, seeking to anchor its economic and military interests in Greece by once more imposing a counter-revolutionary government on the Greek people.

# WALL STREET HANDED KEYS TO U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT

(Continued from page 1)

serving the interests of his billionaire family as co-ordinator of Latin American affairs for the State Department. His elevation to an Assistant Secretaryship provides the Rockefeller family with a direct representative who will look after their world affairs, just as Stettinius will keep an eye on the interests of the competing Morgan financial dynasty. Former Ambassador to Japan Joseph C. Grew is a professional State Department career man. In a speech on December 29, 1943, Grew spoke for preserving the top ruling class of Japan. "I know that many of the highest statesmen of Japan, including the Emperor himself, were laboring earnestly but futilely to control the military in order to avoid war with the U.S.A. and Britain. . . . Roosevelt's appointments to the

State Department constitute part of the Big Business program for establishing the direct operation of the government by the capitalists in person and their closest business agents. This is part of the growing fusion between the giant monopolists and the capitalist state.

### BIG BUSINESS CONTROL

This process has been tremendously accelerated during the war. The war production agencies are completely controlled by "dollar-a-year" corporation executives. Roosevelt's Cabinet is already composed largely of Wall Street executives and bankers. Now the State Department, the executive agency directing American foreign policy, is also to become a personal Happy Hunting Ground of America's Sixty Richest Families.



# WLB Decision, Called "Great Victory" By Murray, Gives Steel Workers Only Crumbs

By R. Wilson

YOUNGSTOWN, O. — After stalling the wage demands of the steel workers for over eleven months, the War Labor Board finally issued its steel wage decision. The WLB directive was hailed by Murray as "one of the greatest victories in labor's history." This contention would lead one to believe that the wage freezing WLB had changed its anti-labor spots and is now a "pro-labor" board. But how does all this boasting by Murray square with the facts? What concretely have the steel workers gained under the WLB directive?

The demand for an hourly wage increase of 17 cents was rejected as a violation of the Little Steel formula. The union admitted that the WLB had no authority to grant this increase and asked only that the board "recommend" that Roosevelt revise the wage freezing formula. This the WLB refused to do. The demand for an hourly wage increase is back where it started from—in Roosevelt's lap.

The grant of shift differentials is the only real gain made by the steel workers. But workers in other industries, such as auto, have had this long ago. In contrast with the 4 and 6 cent differential for swing and graveyard shifts they have been getting 5 and 10 cents. But what of the large number of steel workers, these with the greatest seniority, who work continuously on the day shift? They receive nothing! Nothing but the "promise" that Murray's "friend" in the White House will some day get around to revising the Little Steel formula.

## HOLIDAY CLAUSE

Similarly, the new vacation clause is an improvement over the old one. But there are thousands of steel workers who have been working in steel all their lives who benefit not one bit from this clause. The same with the holiday clause. The union leadership contends that great gains have been made in the new holiday clause. The new contract will provide for six holidays instead of three. That is true—but for the last two years the steel workers have been getting paid for six holidays. The holiday grant is purely a paper "vic-

tory" which recognizes the present status.

The important demand for the elimination of geographical pay differentials was rejected by the WLB. Geographical differentials in steel have resulted in competition between low pay and high pay regions. Workers in "high pay" areas, because of such differentials, were unemployed to a much greater degree in the last depression than workers in low paid areas.

For example, in the depth of the depression, the Pittsburgh area operated around 20 percent of capacity while the Alabama area, where wages were extremely low, operated at over 80 percent capacity.

The leaders of the steel union had made a prominent issue of the guaranteed annual wage. On this demand, the WLB recommended that a commission be established to "study" the question. If it took a year for the WLB to "study" the steel case, the commission on the annual wage will probably take ten years... assuming it is established at all. The dismissal or severance pay issue, was evaded by the board which referred it back for further "negotiations" by the union and the corporations. Other demands were also referred back for negotiations or for "study" by Roosevelt, commissions, panels, arbitrators, etc.

## FEW CRUMBS

In summarizing the deliberations of the WLB, we can say that after stalling for a year, it has granted a few crumbs to some of the steel workers, neglected others, thrown Murray his "maintenance-of-membership" sop, and laid the basis for a continuation of the runaround. The few concessions granted do not even begin to approach the 45% increase in the cost of living. But the union leadership had to hail it as a "great victory" in order to continue to "hold-the-line" against its own membership.

The reactions of the steel workers is not one of enthusiasm for Murray's "victory." They are beginning to realize that they must build a rank and file leadership that will fight for the interests of the membership. Many of them, remembering the great strike struggles of the coal miners in 1933 understand that they will get only what they fight for.

## Steel Barons Howl For Higher Prices After Wage Ruling

With the announcement of the WLB decision in the steel wage case, the steel barons threw into high gear their campaign for higher steel prices. Crying the blues about the "cost" of the miserable crumbs which the WLB dropped to the steel workers, the corporations have begun an immediate clamor for a big price boost on steel products.

Irving S. Olds, U. S. Steel chairman, announced that the "unjustifiable increases" in labor costs could only be met by a steep hike in steel prices. Ernest T. Weir, head of National Steel, proclaimed that the WLB decision "will naturally result in a substantial increase in the cost of making steel."

Their complaints have reached the receptive ear of the Roosevelt administration. Office of Price Administration spokesmen, according to the Associated Press, Nov. 29, have indicated the possibility of "price increases for some steel products."

An OPA spokesman admitted that "we could certify overnight that no price consequences are involved if the cost study is to be on an industry-wide basis" because "the industry's earnings are substantially above those of the base period, 1936-39."

But, he added, the industry runs "in the red" on certain items and the companies "naturally feel" that any survey to determine increased costs should be based on the individual products and not the overall costs. So, "OPA spokesmen indicated that the survey may be based on earnings for individual products."

"UNDUE HARDSHIPS"

It was a foregone conclusion that even the slightest wage concession would be used as a pretext by the administration to put through a steel price increase. Last December, in refusing to renew the old union contract while wage negotiations were pending, a steel industry representative declared that whether or not a wage increase were granted, the steel companies still required price increases "if the industry is to survive." (N. Y. Times, Dec. 22, 1943). Roosevelt then assured the steel companies that "undue hardship" occasioned by wage increases "will be given due consideration by the agencies of the government concerned with costs and prices."

Between 1939 and 1944, the steel corporations suffered the following "undue hardship": increased their total assets by \$1,107,980,000, or 22.4 per cent; boosted their undistributed profits to \$1,035,259,000, or by 74 per cent; added \$212,985,000, or 203.2 per cent, to their "reserves"; paid out 60 per cent more in dividends to the coupon clippers.

On the contrary, with the minds of small-town shopkeepers, these gentlemen open a shop right across the street from Mackenzie King. They inspect his store windows to see what bargains he is offering, and then they come out with a price war. The Liberal politicians are prolific and old hands in producing paper programs. Their "rehabilitation" program has been hailed as the most far-reaching ever attempted by any government. On paper, it is; and on paper it will mainly remain. This is the stiff competition that the CCF must face.

The CCF leadership refuses to break with the existing system and its wars, it dares be only slightly more "radical" than the Liberals, it fears to hold out an honest and friendly hand to the French Canadian people.

Minister of Munitions and Supply Howe is notorious both as a labor-hater and a blunt speaker. His deputy minister is no exception in the latter respect, according to a report circulating around Ottawa.

Said Deputy Minister Sheils to a group of his office heads: "We hear a lot of talk about post-war plans and prosperity, but take it from me, we are going to have the biggest depression this country ever heard of."

In these few words, Mr. Sheils ripped all the camouflage off the government's paper plans for the post-war, gave the direct lie to his Prime Minister and Cabinet, all of whom have been busy these last few months painting a rosy picture of Canada's "brave new world."

Stalin Regime And Germany

In an article entitled: "The Odds On A Communist Germany" published in the October issue of "Coronet Magazine," the well-known foreign correspondent Frederick Kuh makes the following significant comments.

"Even if Germany were to embrace communism after the war, it does not follow at all that she would march in step with Russia. We all know that Soviet Communism has undergone great changes since the Bolshevik revolution. The Comintern was dissolved, the orthodox church reinstated. Officer-cadet academies, suppressed when czarism was overthrown, have been reopened. The socialist bastion of State ownership of production and distribution still stands, but if Rip van Lenin returned he would hardly recognize the old place.

"History suggests that, if at the close of the war, German workers and soldiers rebel under the red flag, in the flush of revolution they will strike along the paths of radicalism, perhaps of Trotskyism. A Communist Germany could conceivably pursue policies that would collide with those of Russia today."

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## Belgian Workers Denounce Puppet Regime



"For the Punishment of the Traitors" reads the placard borne in this November 19 demonstration of workers protesting in Brussels, Belgium, against the British-sponsored Pierlot government. The parade took three quarters of an hour to pass a given point. Since then British troops, acting under orders of General Eisenhower, have fired on similar demonstrations.

## Packard Workers Fight KKK Anti-Negro Action

By John Saunders

DETROIT, Mich. — Less than two weeks after a strike over the transfer of several Negro polishers into the final assembly department, the membership of Packard Local 190 UAW-CIO in a splendid demonstration of unity at its monthly meeting on November 19 at Cass High School unanimously passed a resolution branding racial discrimination a tool of "reactionary forces" and insisting on strict adherence to seniority rights "regardless of race or sex." As further evidence that anti-Negro strikes are company-inspired and have the support of only that fraction of the union membership imbued with the Ku Klux Klan ideology, the Packard workers elected Joe Peoples, one of their leading Negro trade unionists, to the local vice-presidency by a vote of about 700 to 400 for the combined total of his two white opponents.

"I do not regard my election as a personal triumph," Peoples modestly volunteered, "but rather as a demonstration that the rank and file workers are desirous of achieving unity against the union-splitting tactics of the Packard Motor Company."

**FULL RESPONSIBILITY**

Peoples did not hesitate to place full responsibility for the recent flareups between October 30 and November 8 on the outrageous Jim-Crow policy of the Packard Corporation. A large section of the Negro workers was segregated in the Supercharger Department otherwise known as the CDE. Recently the company started to ship out the work previously done by the CDE to the Continental and Hudson Companies in Detroit and to plants in Toledo. Consequently most of the Negro polishers and grinders were laid off. Those polishers who had a higher plant seniority than some of the white workers were placed on final assembly where the work was far more exacting than on the rougher polishing jobs. The first dozen Negro workers shifted to final assembly were given only three days to turn out the regular daily quota of 12 connecting rods, a sum produced by the average worker only after he has been on the job for more than eight months. No such requirement had been previously made of the displaced white workers. "Out-

they go if they don't meet this test," the foreman was overheard remarking to some of the company stooges. And to make good his boast he marked "unqualified" on several of the cards of the Negro polishers who failed to reach the fantastic quota demanded of them after a two and a half day trial period. Nor did the Negro workers have the benefit of instruction from the gang leaders whose job was to break in the men. After holding a caucus on the "docks" in which the phrase "we Americans" was continually repeated, the gang leaders returned with an ultimatum that "we will return to the machines before we teach them." Although this was a clear breach of duty and a violation of the union contract, the company remained silent, obviously encouraging the stand of the gang leaders.

Seeing the plight of the Negro polishers who were receiving no instruction whatsoever, a white woman polisher showed her solidarity with her Negro brothers by leaving her work and saying in a loud voice "I will show the boys." Thereupon another white brother came to the aid of the Negro workers.

**WHITE WORKERS**

Fearing that the foreman and steward would be forced to continue the Negro workers on the job despite their failure to reach the impossible quotas, a small group of reactionary white workers on the night shift, left their machines on October 30 and the company readily closed down the plant. The plant did not open until the following Monday, November 6, after the bargaining committee and International officers had reached an agreement with the company. The rather vague agreement per-

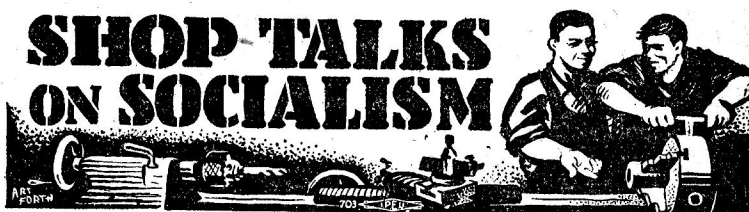
mitted the transferred polishers three days to adapt themselves to the new job but allowed them an indeterminate period in which to turn out the required production quota. Under this agreement only about a dozen out of more than 50 Negro polishers are able to hold on to their new jobs. The balance are forced to take bench jobs at a reduction in pay.

Even this rather meager concession was obtained by the Negro workers only after they staged a strike of their own. When the men returned to work on the night shift of November 6, after a week's shutdown, two Negro polishers who had previously refused to accept a reduction in pay were fired by the company despite the new agreement. Only when all the Negro workers in the plant showed that they meant business and walked out of the shop did the company agree to take back the two Negro polishers.

**UNION ENDANGERED**

The last flareup at Packard is only the most recent of many similar company-inspired occurrences that have pitted white workers against their Negro brothers thereby endangering the union and undermining conditions in that plant.

The Negro workers at Packard fully realize the dangers besetting them and the union and are ever vigilant in defending their rights. Although they comprise only about 12% of the working force their participation at union meetings is especially high, often comprising close to one half of the total attendance. They are also getting the support of the most militant and devoted white trade unionists who are acutely aware of the stratagem of Packard to weaken the union.



By V. Grey

Slim was sitting on the bench cross-legged, bending over to tie his shoe laces. It was a tough day. And Slim was tired. "You don't get anywhere working for a living," he said. "Guess I'll get myself educated and be a success in life like Pile-it-high-Patterson."

The fellows snickered. Because Patterson is successful mainly at shooting the bull. It isn't money that Patterson piles high.

Everybody sees through Patterson. He's a phony anyway you look at him—coming, going or sidewise. Everybody knows he's a phony. And nobody turns around when his self-important little pot-belly struts through the shop with a sheaf of pink and yellow papers by its side.

Patterson busies himself here, there and everywhere, doing approximately nothing. He tells you all about the latest contract or the latest cut-back with the air of a man just back from Washington, but he doesn't impress the gang very much.

He's a head clerk, a time study advisor, a staff assistant, a chief expeditor or any other fancy title depending on how wise the guy is that he's trying to snow under. To most of us he's just a dressed-up stock clerk, and a bull slinger in the bargain.

He spends half his time in the front offices—hobnobbing with superintendents, assistants, and other exalted people. (That's where he picks up his information and good cigar butts). Some of the fellows think he's a stool pigeon. But he's not. He never says anything bad about anybody. That's because he doesn't really say anything. He's just a glorified peg-sitter.

But the point is that the big shots must be a lot more taken in by him than we are, because they actually pay some attention to what he says. If there's a breakdown in the shop, a shortage of parts or anything like that, Patterson is the one who goes over to the front office to "explain" it.

There are at least thirty fellows in the shop that could tell you more about a machine in five minutes than Patterson could in five days. (And make no mistake—Patterson could talk about it for five days too.) But their advice is never asked. They are only working-men. Besides they don't know how to flatter. They don't know how to light a man's cigar within a twentieth of a second after it gets in his mouth. They don't know how to say "yes" in twenty different tones of voice. These things require finesse.

## WHAT KIND OF MEN ARE THEY?

But what about the big shots who can stand that kind of attention? What kind of men are they, anyway? Perhaps they are a superior breed to us guys in the shop because they can stomach this childish crap where we can't? Not by a good big jugful, they're not. They like that sort of thing. Their stupidity has to find an echo. And Pile-it-high Patterson is that echo.

The higher you go in the corporation, the lower you find the understanding about the plant or the industry. The higher the executive is, the less connection he has with the work, and the more time he uses to spend his profits.

But if their ability to work is lower, their ability to play and sling the bull is nevertheless very high. Where we take fifteen minutes at lunch time and concentrate on our work for eight hours, the big executive does the opposite. Patterson talks all day about contracts, machinery, labor costs, etc. And we don't pay any attention to what he says because he reverses everything the next day anyhow. But the big shots! For eight hours a day, day after day, they talk like a bunch of club women—about their score at golf, their girl friends, how drunk they were the night before, and so on. Next to most of them Pile-it-high Patterson is a model of industry.

Now, ordinarily we're a pretty tolerant bunch. "Live and let live" is about the way we see things. If these executives want to drink up a few acres of rye, get ulcers and liver trouble at an early age, play golf and fish all summer, hunt, ski, and bob-sled for the winter—and tell their brother executives all about it while they "work," and have a dozen Pile-it-high Pattersons listen to them pile it high, and say "yes" at the right intervals—why that doesn't sound so bad.

But the hard fact is that these super phonies—these originals that Patterson is only the copy of—these drips, ARE OUR MASTERS. Their antics are funny if you want to look at it that way. But it's we who have to pay the bill for them. And it's not so funny when you consider that they rule our lives.

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# The Negro Struggle

By Charles Jackson

## Tasks of the Negro Veterans

The returning Negro veterans of World War II who are starting to trickle back to civilian life should prepare now to play a leading role in the mounting struggle of the Negro people to gain complete equality and economic security.

These men are coming back every day from their terms of imperialist military discipline. They are emerging with a determined will to take battle stations in what is to them the real fight—the fight for full citizenship for the blacks right here in the U. S. A. A fiery militancy has been indelibly branded into their toughened hides by the white hot iron of official Army Jim-Crowism. While many of us here only spoke about it or wrote about it, they are the ones who had to swallow it—that "bitter dose" of government anti-Negroism ladled out in the glittering spoon of national patriotism.

Not only because they are ready to fight, but also because they understand, first hand, the reactionary role of the federal government itself, do we say that the returning Negro veterans will be both willing and able to assume leading posts in the fight for equality.

This added ability, however, simultaneously involves an added responsibility. If we are to achieve our aims, these veterans must understand and apply throughout the fight a correct political program. Many pitfalls have been prepared in the path and the warnings against them cannot be repeated too often.

10 TO 1

One thing the Negro veterans as well as the Negro workers must remember is this: We are booked to lose if we conduct the fight on a chauvinistic—or black against white—basis. We remain outnumbered 10 to 1. Such strategy therefore can lead only to disaster. We know, of course, that every act of oppression has been dealt out by someone with a white face. In the Army it was either an enlisted man or civilian who had been taught all his life to look down on the Negro or else a member of the white officer's caste who was carrying out the direct orders of Roosevelt's War Department.

But whether or not you in your own mind can overcome this perfectly natural distrust of every white person, at least you should be able to see that we are too small a minority to win on the narrow basis of color.

## Pioneer Paragraphs

### 'BOLSHEVISM IS THE UNITY OF THE WORD AND THE DEED'

The entire first phase of the Russian Revolution seems to me today to have been dominated by the utter honesty of Lenin and his group. It was this that attracted all of us to him, regardless of our nationality and our viewpoint. In Spain early in 1917, I discussed the Russian Revolution with a group of militants who were even then talking of seizing Barcelona and setting up a new Commune (one day in July we posted its program on the walls). Salvador Segui, one of the founders of the C.N.T., [Spanish Anarchist organization] questioned me on the subject of Bolshevism, which was fast becoming the world's greatest anxiety and its greatest hope. We were not Marxists, yet in the distorted echoes of Lenin's words that reached us, we could discern a remarkable integrity.

"Bolshevism," I said, "is the unity of word and deed. Lenin's entire merit consists in his will to carry out his program. . . Land to the peasants, factories to the

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front" a stab in the back. This is a malicious lie because the working people (including those in uniform) have a definite stake in the class war here, whereas they have nothing to gain from the imperialist war for foreign markets.

Furthermore, the big business interests are playing up the role of the backward trade unions which discriminate against the Negro. We should unalterably oppose such actions and tendencies in the unions, it is true. But we should not generalize from this that all unions are no good. Instead, we must go into these Jim-Crow unions and fight these policies of the reactionary leadership by showing the white worker his personal stake in working-class solidarity.

## MARXIST EDUCATION

How are the Negro veterans to arm themselves with a complete understanding of all forces involved so that they may help lead their people through to final victory? Only through Marxist education and training which can be obtained only within the party of Revolutionary Socialism. The present trend toward Negro radicalism today presages, of necessity, a swell of thousands on the morrow.

The capitalist economists now have their ears to the ground and you can almost hear them trembling in their boots. Professor E. Franklin Frazier, head of the Sociology Department at Howard University, last month complained that Negroes may "be drawn into the radical wing of the labor movement and seek a revolutionary solution of their problem. . . if (it?) is he kidding?) if they suffer economic hardships after the war." He stated that particularly the demobilized service men will be less disposed to remain unemployed because of race. "At one time such movements on the part of the Negro could be ignored," continues Frazier, "but in our urban civilization, they offer a serious threat to internal peace (read: capitalist exploitation)."

Yes, the returning Negro soldier who knows the score must take his stand now and prepare for the fight. The program must include militant mass action, mass demonstrations etc. in the struggle for abolition of all forms of governmental Jim-Crow. The aid of all militant groups must be sought out regardless of whether they are black, white or red—especially the support of the progressive trade unions.

As to those who tell us to "take it easy"—they are Uncle Tom traitors who yesterday subscribed to the psychology of "yassuh boss." The demands of the Negro masses as of today are revolutionary in scope.

working class, power to those who toil. These words have often been spoken but no one has ever thought seriously of passing from theory to practice. Lenin seems to be on the way. . . "You mean," said Segui, bantering and incredulous, "that socialists are going to apply their program? Such a thing has never been seen. . ."

I explained that just this was going to happen in Russia. It required all the ignorance and frivolity of the Western press to imagine that the Russian Revolution could be stabilized on the basis of democratic half-measures, while widespread misery, intensified by the most brutal repression, put before the Russian people all the basic problems: land, peace, power. An inexorable logic drove thousands of men into action, but they needed a clear conception of methods and aims. Would they achieve it? That was the question. The masses do not always at the decisive moment find men capable of expressing unflinchingly their interests, their aspirations, and their power. The cultured classes, that is to say, the propertied classes have plenty of representatives, plenty of conscientious guides and good servants—nor do they hesitate to draw them from the common people if that becomes necessary. The poorer classes are poor in men and that is one of their greatest tragedies. (From "From Lenin to Stalin," by Victor Serge, pp. 9-10. Pioneer Publishers, 1937, 112 pp., 50 cents. Order from Pioneer Publishers, 116 University Place, New York 3, N. Y.)

When the talk began to circulate about Roosevelt chumming up with the Big Business gang after he nominated Stettinius, Jr. as Secretary of State, PM, November 28, stashed the gossip; even though Stettinius is "a product of big business," he has an "adaptable nature" and trust Roosevelt to bring out the "good" in him. Yes, PM could stomach Stettinius and even Nelson Rockefeller, the "self-made man" of the Standard Oil trust, as an Assistant Secretary of State. But when Roosevelt nominated Joseph C. Grew, who favors retaining the Japanese Emperor, as Under Secretary of State and Will Clayton "whose firm helped Nazis fight boycott before war" as Assistant Secretary over foreign economic affairs, then PM went into hysterics. "In the conduct of foreign relations," wailed PM, "President Roosevelt has strengthened the hand of the Old Deal. . . staffing the State Dept. with a crew that would please Metternich."

INNOCENT VICTIM

But PM doesn't blame Roosevelt. He's just a victim of the influence of bad company. The Tragedy of the State Department centers on the selection of Will Clayton, world-famous cotton magnate and spokesman of monopoly business." So PM starts a campaign to block the appointment of Clayton. "We urge our readers to communicate their views"—to everybody but Frank-

## "Changing the Guard"



Reprinted from the St. Louis Star-Times

# PM 'Deplures' Roosevelt Choice Of New State Department Heads

By Art Preis

The professional liberals are going through one of their recurrent bouts of chills and fever. Only a month ago they were hotly-flushed over the "great progressive victory" scored by the re-election of Roosevelt. Now they are shivering in the public prints and tremulously wailing, "Who won the election?"

Most recently, the liberal press has begun to beat its by now well-battered breast over Roosevelt's nominations to the key posts in the State Department. Roosevelt has turned the keys of the foreign policy department over to the direct agents of the House of Morgan and Rockefeller. This is most embarrassing for Roosevelt's liberal apologists. It makes it tougher for them to fulfill their function of gilding the faded lilies of imperialist "democracy."

Take the typical case of PM, New York's most vociferous daily pleader for the "common man." Only a few weeks ago PM was bragging it all over town that "her Franklin" likes nothing better than to spend his evenings at home playing parchesi with his liberal cronies. Now PM is blating about "Liberals Under FDR In Danger—Who Won The Election?" (December 4), "State Department Tragedy—President Gives Old Deal New Power" (December 5).

## THE GOSSIP

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lin Delano Roosevelt who made the appointment! It's true, PM admits, that there are other people gunning for Clayton, but with less honorable motives. "Some Southern cotton interests are hostile to Clayton" who has been undercutting cotton prices with foreign imports. But these are "motives entirely different from our own." It is perhaps mere coincidence that Marshall Field, multi-millionaire merchant prince and owner of sweat-shop cotton textile mills in the South, is also the owner of PM.

PM illustrates the true role of professional liberalism today. Liberalism, a relatively honest

profession in the era of ascending capitalism, has long since degenerated into a dirty racket. The liberals provide the "respectable" front for the slimy business that goes on in the back-rooms of capitalist reaction. They are the hired "character witnesses" for capitalist demagogues like Roosevelt.

# Murray Blames WLB Scapegoat In Order To Shield Roosevelt

By Mike Bradic

On November 26 the War Labor Board delivered a new blow at organized labor by upholding the wage-freezing Little Steel Formula and the wage-freeze. By conceding secondary "fringe" demands of the steelworkers, and denying them their 17 cent increase, the WLB, after a year of stalling, has thus denied wage increases to the millions of organized workers whose cases hinged on that of the steel workers. This culminates a series of blows which the WLB has rained

on the unions; blows carefully designed to prevent labor from obtaining wage increases commensurate with the rising cost of living.

Chiefly responsible for the sorry plight of the unions is Philip Murray, head of the CIO and the Steelworkers. It is he and his lieutenants who have preached faith in Roosevelt, faith in the WLB. They have pleaded for "patience" and held out glowing promises of "revising" the Little Steel Formula.

What does Murray now have to say about the anti-labor WLB? The Board itself is OK, says Murray, but there is one scoundrel in its midst, George W. Taylor. He should resign. That is what the CIO "chief" announced at the Chicago Convention on November 24. Murray continues to shield Roosevelt, who is primarily responsible for the WLB set-up, and seeks to conceal his own responsibility for deluding the workers into support of the WLB.

## BANKRUPT POLICY

Even at this late date, when his whole policy in regard to the WLB has been revealed as bankrupt, Murray singles out one individual as a "scapegoat" in order to continue his support of the WLB. Remove Taylor, replace him with somebody else, and everything will be OK, says the "chief."

Will that win the 17 cents for the steel workers? Nobody is going to be fooled into believing it will. In case anybody has any doubts on the subject, the rest of the "public" members of the WLB have hastened to dispel them. For no sooner did the other public members, Davis, Graham and Garrison, learn of Murray's criticism of Taylor, than they hastened to solidarize themselves with Taylor, and to praise him for having "authored" the Little Steel Formula. He wrote it and we support it, they declared in effect.

All the "public" members, along with the industry members, stand four-square in support of the wage-freezing Little Steel straight-jacket. No, it's not one rotten apple, the whole barrel is full of rotten apples; the whole set-up is rotten. Assuming, however, that Taylor or some other of the "public" members resign. Then what, Mr. Murray? Should he be replaced by another carefully hand-picked college professor who, in the guise of being "impartial," will deliver new blows at the unions? Or isn't it time that the ranks of labor put an end to this shell game?

No matter who replaces Taylor, it is plain that labor will be sold down the river by the WLB. Pull the labor representatives off, and let the WLB stand exposed for what it is: a boss-controlled agency packed against labor. Pull the labor members off and put an end to the sham which has already cost the unions so dearly. Let's go back to real collective bargaining and relegate the War Labor Board to a museum.

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# Diary Of A Steel Worker

By Theodore Kovalesky

I saw it happen one day during the last depression. With my own eyes I saw living proof of how the bitter acid of poverty and despair will corrode the personality and cause a man to degenerate into a brute.

It was dusk of a cold, damp, dismal day in late October. A light rain, hardly more than a mist, was drifting down, and the bare, black branches of the trees were beaded with cold moisture. I, as usual, had been making the monotonous and heart-breaking rounds of the employment agencies and factories, hearing everywhere the same impersonal voices mechanically telling me, "Sorry, nothing today. We'll let you know." Tired, hungry, depressed, and chilled to the bone, I stopped to rest a few moments in the shelter of a doorway.

At first I didn't notice him, for it was getting dark, and I was buried in my own thoughts. I didn't notice the little man digging in the garbage can until the other man came up. The second man was a big guy, thin, ragged and rawboned. You could see that he must have been at one time very powerfully built. He too went up to the garbage can and started to dig into it.



But digging in a garbage can is strictly a one man proposition. If you have ever tried it, you will remember that there is room for only one pair of hands to turn over the contents of the can efficiently and room for only one head to lean over it to inspect the pickings. So there was bound to be a conflict. The big guy straightened up, put both big hands on the little man's shoulders, and pushed. Whining his righteous indignation, the other ran back to his place at the can and petulantly thrust his hands once more into it. A heavy blow on his cheek sent him reeling back again. His small shoulders sagged. He was defeated. With a whimpering sound he sat down on the curbstone not far from me.

Perhaps I shouldn't have said he was defeated. As I watched him, I could see that he had only suffered a setback. His face had become very shrewd. He never took his crafty eyes away from his enemy. The first battle seldom decides a war, and he was waiting, patiently and craftily.

Finally the big guy straightened up again, his face and manner both showing great satisfaction. In his hands he held some choice morsel that he had picked out of the corruption and filth. Hastily cramming it into his mouth and swallowing it in great gulps, he returned to his treasure hunt.

But suddenly he straightened up for the third time. Now there was no satisfaction. This time in his lean face there was agony, there was misery. He turned quickly from the refuse, took two jerky steps, bent double, and began to vomit.

It's always a horrible thing to see a man vomit, but it's worse when the man's half starved; because then his nearly empty stomach is speedily drained, but with dry, rasping sounds he continues his strained and agonized retching. There is no more food to be thrown up, but still he continues, as though he were trying desperately to disgorge his very life.

As I watched him, I felt sick with disgust and pity. Then I started in sudden horror. The little guy was laughing. He had won! He had waited and won, and this was his moment of triumph.

The big guy heard him. His face hardened, and he took a threatening step in the direction of that mocking laughter. But the misery flooded back into his face, driving the anger away. His whole body sagged. He turned and staggered off into the mist.

The little guy's face held its triumph, but it had turned shrewd again too. He watched the beaten man until he disappeared around a corner.

Then, with the leisurely saunter of a man who has plenty of time and nothing to fear, he walked over to the garbage can and began carefully to turn over its contents with his hands.

But, brother, what chilled my heart so, when I saw this happen, was the knowledge that if we were driven far enough, this could happen to you and me.

# 10 Years Ago In The Militant

DECEMBER 15, 1934

NEW YORK—In its first issue as the official organ of the newly organized Workers Party of America, formed by the fusion of the Communist League (Trotskyist) and the American Workers Party (Musteite), **The Militant** set forth the 11-point program of action adopted by the party. The program included doubling the party membership within six months, raising a \$5,000 Party Foundation Fund, broadening the circulation of the party press, issuing popular pamphlets at regular intervals, a scheduled national tour by James P. Cannon and A. J. Muste, and participating in the building of a strong Non-Partisan Labor Defense Committee.

WASHINGTON—Moving to halt a Senate munitions inquiry, President Roosevelt appointed a committee to "draft laws taking the profit out of war." Pointing out the true reason behind Roosevelt's design, **The Militant** declared:

"The reason is that the United States Government is definitely preparing for war. . . World War looms. The rulers of all the big nations are bending every nerve in that direction."

Evidence of Roosevelt's intention was seen in his selection of members of the commission: Bernard M. Baruch, Wall Street millionaire and chairman of the War Policies Board during the First World War; General Hugh S. Johnson, creator of the draft plan of World War I; General Douglas MacArthur, Army Chief of Staff, responsible for the shooting of the Bonus Marchers of 1932.

NEW YORK—Harold Robins and Andre Gras, railroaded to prison in April, 1934 for militant activity in the New York hotel strike, were granted a new trial after months of activity on their behalf by the Non-Partisan Labor Defense Committee. "The unanimous decision of the five appeal judges," said **The Militant**, "criticized the trial judge, Joseph E. Corrigan, for 'sarcastic characterization of the defendants'. . . and for attempting to indicate to the jury the court's opinion that Robins had been employed as a strong arm man by the union."

In an editorial citing the success of the Non-Partisan Labor Defense Committee, **The Militant** demanded that the Socialist Party give a clear answer as to its attitude toward the Committee. "The Workers Party has put the building of such an organization in its program. It is ready and willing to cooperate with other organizations to build it."

In Detroit BUY THE MILITANT and FOURTH INTERNATIONAL at THE MILITANT BOOKSHOP 3513 Woodward Avenue



# THE MILITANT

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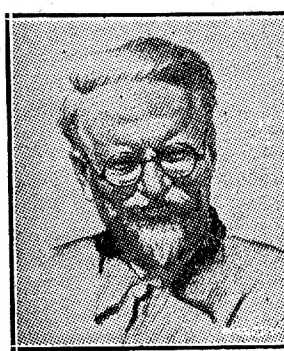
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To defend the USSR as the main fortress of the world proletariat, against all assaults of world imperialism and of internal counter-revolution, is the most important duty of every class-conscious worker.

— LEON TROTSKY

## JOIN US IN FIGHTING FOR:

1. Military training of workers, financed by the government, but under control of the trade unions. Special officers' training camps, financed by the government but controlled by the trade unions, to train workers to become officers.
2. Trade union wages for all workers drafted into the army.
3. Full equality for Negroes in the armed forces and the war industries—Down with Jim Crowism everywhere.
4. Confiscation of all war profits. Expropriation of all war industries and their operation under workers' control.
5. A rising scale of wages to meet the rising cost of living.
6. Workers Defense Guards against vigilante and fascist attacks.
7. An Independent Labor Party based on the Trade Unions.
8. A Workers' and Farmers' Government.
9. The defense of the Soviet Union against imperialist attack.

## Bitter Fruit

The election of Roosevelt for a fourth term is so recent that the boasts of Hillman, Murray and their kind over this "victory" still ring in our ears. They claimed labor had decisively defeated reaction and ensured that its friend would remain in charge of government. On top of this, Hillman, Murray and their kind boasted that a progressive Congress had been returned to Washington which would see to it that labor got a fair deal.

It hasn't taken long to harvest the first fruits of this "victory." They prove to be bitter fruit indeed.

When the labor heads handed Roosevelt his second term in 1936, it took some six months before he paid off with the notorious "plague on both your houses" which hit the Little Steel strike like a blow from the executioner's axe. In 1944 the blows began within a few days after Roosevelt hung up another four year calendar.

First, (Nov. 18) the War Labor Board reaffirmed its wage-freezing policy. Then (Nov. 25) the WLB specifically rejected the demands of the steel workers for a wage adjustment which had been pending for almost a year. Before the election, when the steel workers wanted to put pressure on the WLB, Murray put them off with the assurance that their "friend" Roosevelt would grant them the necessary adjustment after he got the extra four years.

Secondly, (Nov. 21) Roosevelt renewed Wall Street's drive for a national labor service act. Such legislation, shackling workers to the job in military fashion, follows the pattern laid down by Hitler and Mussolini. Roosevelt launched this new drive with a vicious attack on workers shifting jobs who allegedly were "costing American lives on the battle fronts because it was necessary to ration shells hurled at the enemy." Since then, the press has revealed that no rationing or sabotage of shells exists now, and if there should be possible future shortages, fault lies with those conducting the war, who have ordered cut-backs, reconversion and closing of armament plants.

Thirdly, (Nov. 17) Roosevelt renewed his campaign for a national compulsory military training

act designed to Prussianize the United States.

Fourthly, (Nov. 25) Roosevelt reorganized the State Department, reshuffling personnel and even creating new posts, in order to place Wall Street's spokesmen in direct charge of the foreign policy of the United States. Stettinius, a well-known overseer of the House of Morgan, was made Secretary of State. As if this were not enough, Roosevelt appointed one of the Rockefellers to work side by side with the Morgan henchman.

Twenty-five years ago, it would have been enough to be seen in public with a Rockefeller or member of the House of Morgan to have seriously compromised a politician. To appoint one of the robber barons to important public office would have sealed even a president's political fate.

Today, however, the ruling aristocracy, playing for world-wide stakes and feeling safe enough under cover of the war excitement to risk a few scandals, are taking over the most important posts for themselves.

A few weeks were thus sufficient to disclose the first fruits of the remarkable victory of Hillman and Murray—these labor lieutenants in the service of Wall Street. With such bitter fruit to begin with, what can labor expect during the next four years?

## Churchill's Puppets

The Allied Commission on December 10 officially approved the list of candidates submitted by Premier Bonomi for his second cabinet. The American and British conquerors in this way underlined once more the utter absence of democracy in the regime they are imposing on prostrate Italy.

First requirement demanded of every candidate was unconditional acceptance of the shameful terms of the secret peace treaty forced on Italy by the Allies.

Even this list of Quislings was first combed by the British before Bonomi was permitted to submit it for approval and the name of Count Sforza, head of the Fascist Purge Commission struck off as "inacceptable" to British imperialism.

After the British and American conquerors had unofficially checked the list it was submitted to Crown Prince Humbert who went through the farce of acting as the legally constituted government of Italy by pencilling an OK after each name.

The crisis of the Bonomi regime resulted from the deliberate plot to strengthen the monarchy in Italy as the pivot of the Allied puppet government. When Bonomi resigned following a provocative article on the monarchy written by the reactionary correspondent of the N. Y. Times, the Allied-sponsored premier presented his resignation not to the Committee of National Liberation but to Crown Prince Humbert.

This move was calculated to establish the monarchy as the stable part of the puppet government. For this reason, the "Socialist" party and the Action party did not follow the Stalinists in placing their names on the list of candidates for Italian Quislings.

If it is possible to differentiate degrees of reaction in a reactionary puppet set-up, then the second Bonomi cabinet can be classified as more reactionary than the first one.

Someone should debunk this self-imposed hysteria. We are not monsters, but men who want to go home and take up our lives. Someone should put in a defense of the soldiers. The adjustment will be no problem at all for 9999 out of each 10,000, if there is

## Military Training

Some months before the last presidential election, Congressional committees began planning of legislation on compulsory military training that will affect the character of the nation for decades to come. Yet the issue of compulsory military training dropped completely out of the press while the Republicans and Democrats conducted their sham public battle over "issues."

Compulsory military training was one of those real issues neither party dared to place before the voters. Nevertheless it is precisely the kind of issue that must be left to the people to decide if genuine democracy is to be observed.

Now that the election has "safely" been passed, the House Committee on Post-War Military Policy has announced through its Chairman, Woodrum, that the plans are going forward for legislation to militarize American youth. The proposed military training system will not follow the lines of the Civilian Conservation Corps camps or the National Youth Administration. As representative Wadsworth, co-author of the Selective Service Act and one of the public sponsors of this legislation puts it, Congress will not "set out to raise and maintain civic groups."

These cynical words, like the silence of the capitalist parties during election, betray the real sinister purpose of the proposed legislation. Wall Street envisions domination of the entire world. Maintenance of that imperial position requires armies numbered in the millions, with tens of millions of trained men in reserve. Wall Street consequently intends to Prussianize American youth. Wall Street intends to make the military uniform a permanent fixture of the educational system. We have entered the era when the military will dominate every phase of life in the United States.

All important problems of humanity will be solved eventually arms in hand. It would be stupid, therefore, on the part of labor to simply oppose compulsory military training. The working class must call for military training. But the interests of the labor movement call for military training under its own control instead of the control of Wall Street. Only by taking military training out of the hands of martinets culled from the ranks of reaction and placing it in the hands of the labor movement, will the masses be able to protect their own interests.

That is why we oppose the military training schemes of Wall Street. We call for military training, but under the control of the trade unions.

# WORKERS' FORUM

The columns are open to the opinions of the readers of The Militant. Letters are welcome on any subject of interest to the workers, but keep them short and include your name and address. Indicate if you do not want your name printed — Editor

## Steel Wage Decision

Editor:

There is much disgust and resentment in our plant over the WLB decision in the steel wage case. Many men are so fed up with all the stalling and buck-passing of the WLB, and the bad plant conditions, they feel the Union has let them down. Now, one of the things the WLB did was to give a 15 day "escape clause" from maintenance of membership in the Union.

Last week, the Company posted notices all over the plant quoting from this section of the WLB directive, that union members have 15 days to present written notice if they want to quit the Union. I have heard many men, even good union-conscious men, grumble and even say they are going to quit.

One thing about this "escape clause"—now when Murray got the check-off and the Company started mailing the dues direct to the National Office, then grievances piled up all over the place and there was no way the men could put any pressure on the staff Representatives. I think Murray made a deal to give up the strike weapon in exchange for getting the dues collected regularly. Now not only don't we get important grievances settled, and don't get our 17c., but Murray's lousy policies are beginning to boomerang on him.

Tony D.

## Cut Backs

Editor:

Already the axe has fallen. Cutbacks in Detroit alone number 74,800. A few have been able to find jobs; the rest are still looking in spite of the War Manpower Commission's announcement that there is a shortage. Good jobs are scarce and those who do find them go through miles of red tape and hours of waiting.

In the present set-up where the workers must go through the United States Employment Service, they are sent to so-called priority factories. This is but a means of forcing the workers into jobs that are not wanted by others and that no-one would ordinarily take. This lowers the standards of the workers by forcing them to accept jobs at beginners' wages.

It is no longer possible to take a job without the sanction of the USES. The workers are sent to the big plants with the belief that they will be hired in their highest ratings. After hours of waiting in the cold or on hard benches you are made to understand the company is doing you a favor by bothering with you at all. You are told that there aren't any openings in your trade; the only openings are for a labor hand.

Seventy-five percent of those applying at USES are Negroes and of the total number applying sixty-five percent are women. The axe falls on them more sharply. Lay-offs are occurring every day for women and Negroes on some pretext or other. What does the union plant committee do? Their hands are tied by the no-strike pledge. With the fear of being victimized they no longer fight as militantly as they used to.

E. Logan Detroit

## Jobs

Editor:

We notice one thing that is making us a little angry, and that is the fact that we are looked on as potential problems and menaces. Social workers are beginning to talk of the maladjusted returning soldiers, Eleanor Roosevelt advocates a six-week course to train us how to act in civilian society. The fear goes as follows: these men are used to bloodshed, to violence, they are potentially dangerous.

Most soldiers want to get home as quickly as possible. It is true that ex-soldiers formed an important bulwark of many fascist movements. But that was due to the conditions at home, they came home to a jobless, hungry set-up. If we return to jobs, no adjustment schools will be necessary, the adjustment will be easy. But if there are no jobs, there'll be difficulties.

Someone should debunk this self-imposed hysteria. We are not monsters, but men who want to go home and take up our lives. Someone should put in a defense of the soldiers. The adjustment will be no problem at all for 9999 out of each 10,000, if there is

work. But that is a big "if." If there is no work, or few jobs, the returned soldiers will undoubtedly put in a claim and demand the jobs. This may cause the trouble, but not the psychological problem. We are not semi-psychiatrists. If one out of every 10,000 soldiers commits a crime, it doesn't make a "problem" out of the other 9,999. I have been reinforced in my opinion of the case of adaptation of the human being through my army experience. The basic problem is economic, not psychological.

C.

## False Propaganda

Editor:

I would like very much to see an article in your paper showing the falseness of the propaganda that Germans and Japanese are innately brutal and savage. It is unfortunately true that many people believe this unscientific idea and come to the conclusion that these nations must be destroyed.

J. M. Los Angeles

## G. I. Joe

Editor:

I have been burning up for a long time about the title the press gives to the fellows in the army—"G.I. Joe." I used to be in the army years ago. And the phrase "G.I." definitely did not mean anything good. I don't know just

how the boys feel about it now, but I'll tell you how I feel, and what G.I. Joe means to me.

In the first place G.I. stands for "government issue." Everything that doesn't fit is "government issue"—you get the post tailor to make you look human. Garbage cans are "G.I. cans" because they stink. A real short military haircut is a "G. I. haircut" because it makes you look like a prisoner. The captain has plain black "G.I. furniture" in his quarters until he marries some money. Then he puts it down cellar and brings in the chippendale.

G.I. Joe is not an officer. Of course not. An officer is tailor made, not "government issue." G.I. Joe is lower class—the butt of jokes—a dope who hasn't made the grade. An officer is a gentleman by act of Congress, no less! Did you ever hear of a gentleman named Joe? Oh sure, Joe is a great guy, heart of gold, brave as a lion and all that. But he's just the unthinking obey of commands. He has to have an officer tell him what to think.

They call "G.I. Joe" a hero too, in their condescending way. When the heroes go out of camp looking for an extra drink, they're out of bounds. And the M.P.s. run them in. But the "G.I." sentry who's posted near the officer's club on Saturday night sees the gold braid stagger out with more than he can carry.

But the worst insult, and the lowest, I think, is the dirty gibe I see week after week in that "liberal" paper PM. They run a series of genteel, slightly deodorized pin-up girls, and underneath them the mocking refrain, "O.K. Joe?" I can imagine what a guy would feel like a thousand miles from nowhere in his tent at night—looking at a picture of some night club queen. It's bad enough that he can't see any live girls at all—much less the girl he left behind. So he looks at this night club babe who makes two or three hundred a week and hands out photos to keep up the boys' morale. He likes the picture. Yet he hates it because it reminds him of something he can't have.

V. Buffalo

## How Biggest Capitalists Swallow Smaller Bosses

Despite all the talk of the Roosevelt administration about "saving small business," the war has been speeding up Big Business monopoly and wiping out that "back-bone of the American free enterprise system," the small "independent entrepreneurs."

A typical example was recently described by The Iron Age, house organ for the large steel corporations. It tells how one of the few remaining subsidiary steel products industries—steel barrels and drums—was swallowed up during the war by the steel monopolies.

In 1939, 95 per cent of the industry, comprising 45 plants, was owned by relatively small independent firms. By this year, only 13 per cent of the industry remained "independent." U. S. Steel, Bethlehem, Jones and Laughlin, Inland and Republic Steel had swallowed up 80 per cent of the entire industry. Because the competition among the independents for sheet steel tended to force price reductions, reports Iron Age, the big steel outfits "yanked (the sheet business) out of the competitive field" and forced the drum barrel independents to sell out or go into bankruptcy.

"In 1939," says Iron Age, the industry was "firmly in the hands of a large number of individualistic entrepreneurs." But a few weeks ago "the purchase of Bennett Manufacturing Company, Chicago, by U. S. Steel Corporation pretty well completed the capture of the entire barrel and drum business by major steel producers."

## INTERNATIONAL NOTES

### Portugal

The November 17 British Tribune presents the following graphic picture of labor unrest in Portugal based upon information from the International Transport Workers' Federation.

In the jails and concentration camps of the Cape Verde Islands, the Salazar regime still holds as prisoners the workers who led the three strike movements in August 1943, at the turn of the year 1943-1944, and in the spring of 1944. The Greenshirts of the Fascist Legions crowd in factories and working class districts. Yet the regime has recently made preparations which show that it fears new labor unrest.

The workers of Portugal have scarcely ever known good times, and since 1926, under the knot of Salazar's Estado Nova (New State), they have been deprived of every opportunity of trade union or co-operative self-defense. There exist, indeed, State labor organizations of the compulsory type, but they are no more than contribution-collecting bodies. It is the rarest of occurrences for a worker to hear of a members' meeting and no trade union journal reaches him. The secretaries of these pseudo-unions are carefully selected. Before their appointment, candidates must obtain certificates of consent from the appropriate employers' organization, the police authorities and the Labor Ministry. Needless to say that those securing an appointment do not stand up for workers' interests against the employers and the State.

### country.

The fall of Mussolini was followed by the mass strikes of August 1943, and it was only ruthless police terror which quelled a mass movement after the liberation of the French capital.

Since the spring of 1944 Salazar's Greenshirt Legion has been staging demonstrations designed to intimidate the people. Anti-air-raid drill is organized, the streets are cordoned off by heavily armed Legionnaires, so that the public may see the modern war weapons with which they are armed—supplied by the Allies.

Yet the regime is uneasy. Twice, in August and December 1943, it ordered the arrest of all workers suspected of being leaders of labor resistance. These men are still under arrest. Nevertheless, new disorders occurred in May 1944. The regime realizes that in spite of the arrests the workers have found new leaders. The masses look hopefully across the frontiers and await an opportunity of throwing off the insupportable yoke.

Salazar and his gang of cut-throats and capitalists also look across the frontiers to their allies, Roosevelt and Churchill, hoping that the Anglo-American imperialists will help to save their threatened dictatorship from the wrath of the masses.

But radio and the "whisper press" reach also the illiterate. News of important happenings spreads very rapidly. The Spanish struggle, the fall of Mussolini, the liberation of Paris caused great excitement throughout the

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READ 'THE FOURTH INTERNATIONAL'

## Rent Hogs Lobby Seeks To Smash OPA Controls

Lobbyists for the big landlord and real estate interests are hammering away at the rent control regulations of the OPA in an attempt to put over an estimated half-billion dollar grab in increased rentals. The greedy realtors are using the special Smith Committee in the House as the instrument for pushing through abandonment of the few existing OPA rent regulations.

This committee, headed by Virginia's Democratic Post-Tax Congressman Howard W. Smith, author of the anti-labor Smith "Cag" Act and Smith-Connelly Anti-Strike Bill, has been attempting to pressure OPA's rent control division into removing a regulation prohibiting landlords from collecting more than one month's rent in advance.

Throughout the country, especially in areas where housing conditions are very bad due to the heavy migration of war workers, the landlords have been securing hidden rent increases by exacting large "deposits" from new tenants for "breakage" and "damages." As recently reported by CIO United Automobile Workers President R. J. Thomas, many Detroit war workers have been mulcted out of hundreds of dollars each by this practice.

Harry C. Bates, AFL Bricklayers President and Chairman of the AFL housing committee, exposed the purpose of the realtors in a letter to the Smith Committee. He charged that the landlords are seeking to get around rent controls by requiring "security" payments equivalent to as much as 50 per cent of the legal rent.

Bates stated that landlords rarely if ever refund such "security" payments. Victimized tenants are defenseless "against the trumped-up charge of breakage" used as a pretext by landlords for keeping deposits.

"War workers and families of men in the armed forces who seek rental quarters," said Bates, "can ill-afford to make such a large cash outlay at the time when the expense of moving and settling in the new apartment is bound to tax the family budget. Many families were forced to borrow money to meet the exaction before it was banned by the OPA."

## Two More Big Business Nominees of Roosevelt

On the heels of what the labor fakers term his "great progressive victory," Roosevelt is sending out engraved invitations to Wall Street's moguls to "Come and get it!" The choicest plum he proposes to turn over to the agents of Big Business is the Surplus War Property Board, a three-man agency empowered to "dispose" of some \$100 billion worth of government-owned property.

Roosevelt had originally set up a one-man board of Will Clayton, world's greatest cotton broker. Congress objected, establishing the larger and "more impartial" body. Two of the men Roosevelt has nominated to fill Clayton's shoes are Ex-Governor Robert A. Hurley of Connecticut and Lt. Col. Edward F. Heller.

Hurley qualifies for the job as a Democratic political lame duck, defeated for governor in the last election. Heller is a rich Californian with numerous corporation connections. He was formerly on the Democratic Finance Committee of his state and his wife is now a Democratic National Committee-woman.

A fact of further significance, however, is the connection of both Hurley and Heller with the case of the Narragansett Machine Company, a Rhode Island war plant. This outfit was under investigation by the House Military Affairs Committee because it induced the government to guarantee a \$2,000,000 loan made to the company by a private bank.

The House committee expressed the opinion that the War Department had not exercised "sufficient care and discrimination" in helping finance a firm involved in questionable stock transactions and manipulations. The government guarantee on the \$2,000,000 loan had been approved by Heller, a liaison officer between the Army Finance Division and the Federal Reserve District in New England.

It "just so happened" also that Hurley, after his enforced retirement as governor, had been made a vice-president of Narragansett Machine at \$12,000 per annum. The House committee reported "evidence indicated that Hurley spent as little as one day a week at the plant and had no specified duties" and was granted his sinecure because "it was necessary to bring in someone to elevate the standing of the company primarily for the credit effect."