

"The History Of American Trotskyism"

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AUTO CONFERENCE URGES STRIKE VOTE

FIRST-HAND REPORT

Class Conflicts In Italy Today

Editor's Note: This report is dated Rome, June 8 and was therefore written just before the fall of the Bonomi cabinet.

The history of the Bonomi Government since its inception has been that of crisis following crisis.

Composed of six parties representing divergent social classes and divergent groups within those classes, completely dependent for its source of power on the Anglo-American military occupation forces.

Economically the country is on the verge of bankruptcy. Inflation is rife, produced, in the first place, by the rate of exchange imposed by the victorious Allies on vanquished Italy.

Workers Want to Break With Capitalists

The current crisis had its origin directly in the "liberation" of Milan, Genoa, Bologna, Turin and the other cities and towns in Italy's industrial heartland.

Meanwhile, Messrs Togliatti and Norzi, leaders of the Stalinist and Socialist Parties, respectively, hastened to Milan to check their impetuous followers.

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NEW YORK SWP ISSUES STATEMENT ON ELECTION

The New York Local of the Socialist Workers Party, which is running two candidates in the forthcoming New York City municipal elections, this week issued a statement defining the broad issues around which the party's official campaign platform will be built.

TEXT OF STATEMENT

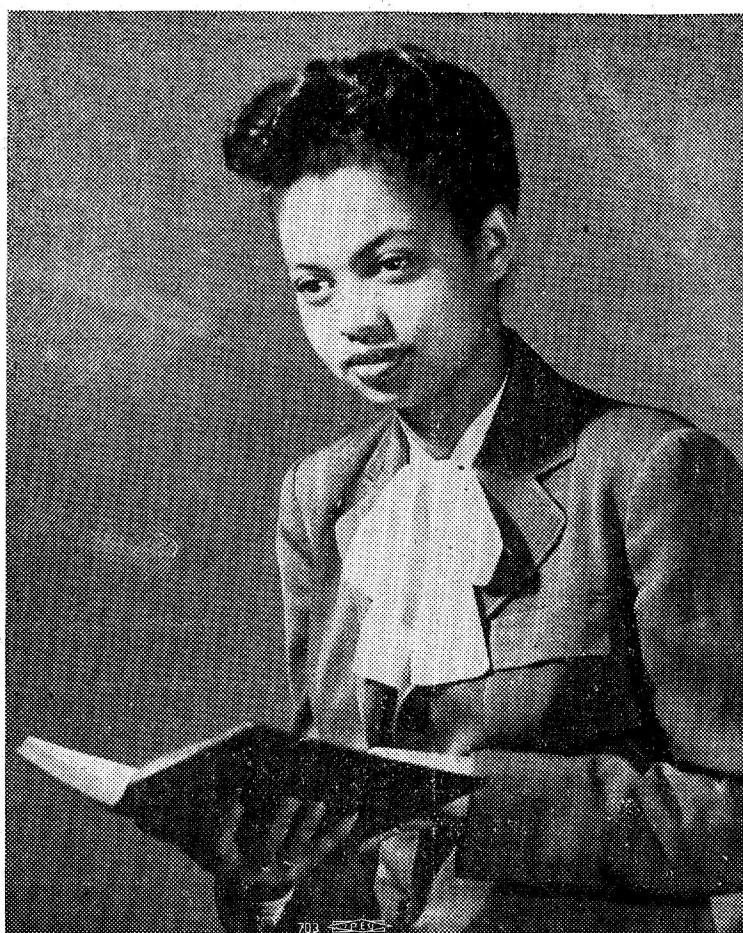
Wall Street's political parties are equally responsible for plunging the United States into the catastrophe of the Second World War.

unending bloodshed. That is why both Republicans and Democrats support peacetime conscription and the Prussianization of American youth.

The American Labor Party and the Liberal Party are simply

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Trotskyist Candidate for N. Y. City Council



LOUISE SIMPSON

European Peoples Ready for Socialism

"All of depressed and discouraged Europe is ripe for Communism," declared Representative W. Sterling Cole of New York, to an AP correspondent in Washington on June 13.

He further stated that "France is particularly susceptible to the idea of Communism because its peoples, with their long history of modern wars, are now more interested in peace and security than in their 'traditional governmental concept of Liberty, Equality and Fraternity'."

Reaction Hounds The Trotskyists Thruout Europe

Capitalist reaction in Europe, aided and abetted by the Stalinists, has unleashed a campaign of persecution and repression against the partisans of the Fourth International.

1. The Trotskyist newspaper La Voie de Lénine (The Road of Lenin), organ of the Parti Communiste Revolutionnaire (Revolutionary Communist Party), has been suppressed by the Belgian government.

ARRESTS IN FRANCE

2. Confirmation has been received of widespread arrests of members of Parti Communiste Internationaliste (Internationalist Communist Party) in France and the suppression of its organ, La Verite. Censorship still veils the details, but a letter from Paris warns of the danger that the Stalinists may succeed, under the auspices of the de Gaulle government, in staging a frame-up trial of the well-known Moscow type in which the attempt will be made to link the Trotskyists with the Nazis.

3. The most terrible news comes from Greece. Stalinist murder gangs in that country, during the period of fighting against the British troops and their Greek puppets, took advantage of the situation to round up and murder a hundred Trotskyists.

4. In Italy, until recently, even the Stalinist hoodlums had to behave within certain limits toward working-class opponents

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Housing Project Bars Negro Vets

One more proof of the fact that Negro soldiers returning from the war which was supposed to spread the "Four Freedoms" all over the world, will find very little freedom at home, comes in the revelations about the Federal Housing program.

PM's reporter, W.H. Baldinger, in a story in the June 15 issue, tells of an interview with FHA authorities in Washington D. C. in which he was told very frankly that the new government project at Paisley Woods, near Arlington, Va. would be restricted to whites.

Inquiry at the Washington NAACP office brought forth the information that "there are no known projects, FHA-financed or otherwise for the development of any new housing restricted to Negro heroes of the war."

WHEREAS: The thousands of UAW-CIO members have been thrown out of work and weekly earnings of additional thousands have been drastically cut as a result of the reduced work week, while the cost of living continues to sky-rocket, forcing real wages of the workers lower and lower, and

Wall Street's "Peace" Plan



Brass Hats Push Legislation To Militarize American Youth

By Joseph Hansen

Wall Street's spokesmen continued this week to press for peacetime conscription in their drive to Prussianize American youth. The real purpose of the proposed legislation was apparent in the testimony of a number of the militarists who appeared before the House Committee on Post-War Military Policy.

The capitalists want huge "peacetime" armies to put down working class revolutions and colonial rebellions. Maj. Gen. William F. Tompkins, for instance, advocated that "the trainee should be put in a reserve corps for five years" after completing his year of training. Thus out of a six-year stretch, a youth would spend only one year "training" but five years "serving."

WAR UNENDING

Wall Street has no other perspective but unending war. They want peacetime conscription as part of their preparation for the Third World War. Secretary of War Stimson admitted as much in his testimony June 15: "We have no right to gamble on the hope that our country for the third time will have even the little breathing space she has had in the last two wars."

The ultra-reactionary Chamber of Commerce backed up the warmongers with the declaration June 14 that "a year of compulsory military service for America's young men would be good

business." The Chamber of Commerce, looking at the practical side of waging war, believes that the annual cost of "maintaining say 1,000,000 young men training would be far less than that of the alternative necessary standing army and navy of several million men."

In a letter to the House Committee, June 15, General Eisenhower marshalled arguments in support of the legislation along two lines. One is the benefit of military training to a soldier thrown into battle. The General, naturally, explained these benefits from the viewpoint of Wall Street in addition to the "individual's chances of survival in war."

ARMY PATTERN

"The great forces necessary in war," he said, "must be produced through a citizen military training system in time of peace... Pay must be nominal. There must be no attempt to compete with industry in the matter of wages... Psychological indoctrination and

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IN THE NEWS

For 'Fair' Price-Gouging

Speaking before a Senate hearing on price-control Senator Taft of Ohio recently stated he was for "the prevention only of unfair price inflation."

The Two Big Questions

All edicts to the contrary, fraternization between Allied troops and German civilians is "widespread and increasing," reports Daniel De Luce, AP correspondent, from Germany, June 12. "I have yet to meet a soldier, whether he comes from London, the Mississippi Valley or the Alberta wheatfields, who wants the ban (on fraternization) continued... With Americans, Britons and Canadians the two big questions are the same: When do we go home? When can we fraternize legally?"

"Let's Have It In"

Senator McKellar, president of the Senate, who draws \$15,000 annual salary for his post, voted in committee against an additional \$2,500 "expense account" for Congressmen. The same bill provided McKellar, as president of the Senate, with \$15,000 additional for "office help." When this item was read off for final vote in committee, without hesitation McKellar said: "I think you'd better leave that in. I won't use it unless I have to, but let's have it in."

Between Wars

"Administration leaders assured the nation today that there would be no economic collapse during the reconversion period... Throughout the period between wars, the emphasis will be easing up government production control to let the forces of free enterprise and competition get back to work." (Indianapolis Times).

No Discrimination -- But

The Beverly Hills (Hollywood) Chamber of Commerce and Civic Association is a sponsor of the Mayor's Community Council on Anti-Racial Discrimination. A committee of the chamber, headed by Harold Lloyd, wrote residents of Beverly Hills to advise them that the "original deed restrictions" on their property had expired. "Our committee has been formed to renew the original restrictions," said the letter, advising the recipients to sign a statement saying that they wanted their residential areas to be owned and occupied exclusively by those of the "white or Caucasian race."

Detroit Local Leaders Demand Action Program

400 Heads of UAW Locals Call for Militant Policy to Fight Wage Cuts, Unemployment

By John Saunders

DETROIT, June 14 — More than 400 top local officers, representing over 400,000 CIO auto workers of Regions 1 and 1A, Detroit, at a conference held this afternoon at the Local 157 UAW-CIO hall, voted overwhelmingly to take industry-wide strike action to break the wage-freezing Little Steel formula.

20,000 Goodyear Rubber Workers Strike in Akron

By JOSEPH ANDREWS

Special to THE MILITANT

AKRON, O., June 18 (By Wire) — Some 20,000 Goodyear Tire and Rubber Workers early yesterday walked out on a strike officially called by the executive board of Local 2, CIO United Rubber Workers.

The strike was solid as a rock from the start. Pickets covered all gates of the five Goodyear plants here. Departmental committee men worked their regular shifts on the picket line. With these union men as the backbone of their battle lines, the pickets guarded the plant gates 24 hours a day.

SOLID ACTION

For the third time since 1935 the huge furnace of the Goodyear Rubber plant was down. But unlike the events in all previous Goodyear strikes, there were no battles on the picket lines. There were no cops attempting to smash them. The strike was impressively strong and militant.

This walkout followed an NLRB strike vote on May 28, when the Goodyear workers voted 3 to 1 in favor of strike action.

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With only 20 dissenting votes this meeting called upon the UAW International Executive Board to petition the NLRB to conduct a strike vote in all UAW plants under the terms of the Smith-Connally Act in order to "guarantee success of their negotiations" for a "30% hourly pay increase."

This conference is one of a series of regional meetings called by the UAW International at the insistence of the local union presidents who a month ago demanded this opportunity to discuss and change the present do-nothing policy of the leadership.

Roused by the drastic cutbacks, smaller pay checks as the result of the reduced work week, growing mass unemployment in the face of price increases readily granted by the OPA, and huge profits guaranteed to the big-business hogs, the workers in the shops are clamoring for action.

RESIST COWARDLY ADVICE

Although the local officers' meeting was but a pale reflection of the militancy that would have prevailed in a representative delegated conference, nevertheless the pressure from below was sufficient to drive the top UAW leadership to cover, and force Walter Reuther, UAW vice-president, to talk of "reevaluating the basic policy of the union." Nor is this sentiment confined to Detroit. The Region 1-B conference, covering a nearby Mich-

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Chicago Drivers Walk Out, Defy Army Strikebreaking

CHICAGO, June 18 — Defying government attempts to whip them back to work with the use of 5,000 troops, some 13,000 truck drivers today continued their militant strike begun Saturday after the government "seized" all trucking lines and threatened the workers with fines and imprisonment under the vicious Smith-Connally anti-strike law.

Government officials, army brass hats and big hauling firms are working hand in glove to smash the morale of the strikers. Several hundred troops were put on to drive trucks today, but between 12,000 and 13,000 trucks are admitted to be tied up. Army-driven trucks, as strikers pointed out, were largely empty.

JOIN WALKOUT

Thousands of members of Local 705, AFL Teamsters, have joined in the walkout initiated by the 6,000 members of the Chicago Truck Drivers' Union, independent. Their action of solidarity with the independent union drivers has been taken in direct defiance of the condemnation of the strike by the AFL Teamsters local leaders.

They have also given the only fitting reply to AFL Teamsters President Tobin who recently said that any member of his union who refused to break a picket line was "yellow."

The strike was called in protest against a WLB decision rejecting the independent union's demands for a \$5 wage increase for a 48-hour week. The WLB granted a \$4.08 increase for 51 hours, which the union voted down last week. These Chicago drivers get overtime only after 51 hours, instead of the standard 48 fixed by the government.

Following a previous week-long strike, the independent union drivers returned to work on May 23 after the government first "seized" the struck lines and when the WLB intimated it would reconsider and grant the union's demands.

STRIKEBREAKING DRIVE

A vicious campaign of government strikebreaking is under way. Ellis T. Longenecker, Office of Defense Transportation official in charge of the "seizure," today said: "The Army will break the strike." He stated further that he has proposed the drafting of strikers under 38 to be put in the Army tomorrow and be put behind the wheels of trucks the next day.

Strikers are militantly resisting attempts to operate scab trucks. Some ten strikers were arrested and have been held without charge since Saturday. But the number of strikers has grown from 6,000 to 13,000 since Saturday.

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