

MINERS FOES: THE BOSS, THE GOVERNMENT & LEWIS

May 15, 1946 — As we go to press the outcome of the Miners' fight is still in doubt. A twelve day truce is in effect and negotiations between Lewis and the operators has been speeded up. The forty day strike, however, is rich in lessons for the rest of the working class.

Four hundred thousand workers — less than 1% of the whole working population — were able by their strike to halt innumerable industrial activities and had the strike continued, would have paralyzed the whole American economy. Let the working class learn from this strike just how strong it is! Before their unity the whole power of the capitalist is ineffective!

Labor Faker Lewis

John L. Lewis, the most capable labor lieutenant of capital of our times, has gained considerable popularity amongst the workers of the nation as a result of the struggle of the coal miners. But the credit should really not accrue to Lewis. As a matter of fact John L. is in a terrible dilemma at this moment. To win a complete victory in this strike it is necessary to POLITICALIZE it, to broaden its scope from a mere struggle for economic demands to a political struggle against the bourgeois state. John L., a staunch advocate of "free enterprise" is obviously in no position to do so.

President Truman is attempting to keep the AFL miners limited to the 18 1/2% formula gained by the CIO steelworkers and autoworkers. He is also dead set against permitting the Mine Workers Union to handle a 70 million dollar health and welfare fund. In his last press conference before the strike ended Truman threatened to use the whole power of the state to smash the strike. He accused the mine workers of creating a "disaster" and he implied that he considered this a "strike against the government."

Forty Fruitless Days

Mr. Truman knows better and so does everyone else. The coal operators, after forty days, finally agreed to accept the health and welfare fund "in principle." Why didn't they accept it before the strike began? They have been assured by the government that the cost of the wage increases (and presumably of the welfare fund) will be made up in higher prices for coal. Obviously the coal operators had nothing to lose by acceding to the Miners' demands.

Why, then, did they hold out?

Any child knows the answer. The mine owners and Mr. Truman, along with the other capitalist stooges in Washington, are attempting to use the miners' strike as a whip to force anti-labor legislation in Congress. They are trying to "prove" to the American "public" that workers are

"threatening the whole American economy." Their present fire is directed against the United Mine Workers, but in reality it is a blow against the whole working class. The bourgeois state, through the Case Bill and other bills, is attempting to outlaw the Union Shop, to impose forced arbitration and many other controls over Labor.

Spread the Strike!

The miners' strike, therefore, will fall far short of a victory unless it becomes a political strike. In every community, in every large city, committees of workers must be formed to defend the miners and to protest by demonstration and sympathy strikes against the impending anti-labor legislation. Workers should elect delegates from each plant to form central Workers Councils to combat the united drive of the capitalists against labor. More than that — defense squads must be organized in each factory and in each city to defend the miners and other workers against the inevitable terror that Mr. Truman hopes to unleash against the working class.

Against the boss class plans, the working class must rise in defense of the miners to . . . SPREAD THE STRIKE AND TO POLITICALIZE IT!

Only then can victory be assured!

Economic Demands Just

As far as the economic demands of the miners are concerned they are unquestionably just. In fact, they are much too modest. The Welfare Fund is an absolute necessity. Out of 32,019 miners in Illinois in 1944, for instance, 87 were killed. That means one out of every 369. This compares with a fatality rate in the rest of industry of one to every 10,000. One out of every twenty-five is hurt in the mines each year. Obviously this is one of the two or three most hazardous industries in the country.

The United Mine Workers are correct in refusing to permit either the government or the operators any say in the administration of this fund. If the government were anything but a stooge instrument for the big steel companies who own the "captive" mines and for the other operators, it would long ago have eliminated this disgraceful condition. And the operators themselves are obviously unfit to participate in the fund administration, since they are the cause of the high accident rate.

Rank and File Control

But the rank and file of the coal miners shouldn't permit Lewis to administer this fund, either. The 70 million dollar fund, if it is gained, should be administered by specially elected committees of WORKING (Continued on Page 4)

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THERE IS NO PEACE

May 12, 1946 — For the fourth time since V-E Day, more than a year ago, the foreign ministers of the "Big Four" are in session in Paris to work out "peace" treaties with the conquered nations. A conference of the 21 powers involved in the "peace-making" to ratify the actions of the Big Four was scheduled for May 1st. But May 1st came and went, and no conference. Secretary of State Byrnes is now proposing a June 15th conference — whether the Big Four can agree or not. More than likely this date will also not be kept.

Following the first World War a conference was held two months after the armistice and the Versailles Treaty was ready six months later. But the antagonism amongst the big powers — particularly between Britain and the U.S. on one side, and the Soviet Union, on the other — is so great today that after one year of full discussions not a single treaty has been worked out for even one nation.

Just to emphasize how close the world is to "peace" an American military committee was going thru some serious research in the United States — from Carlsbad, New Mexico to Howe Cavers, New York — trying to find impregnable underground hideaways where American communication centers, factories and aircraft hangars would be safe from the atom bombs of other powers. A gigantic plan for underground cities is being quietly developed and prepared.

Far from Peace

One year after V-E Day and about 8 months after V-J Day the world itself was very far from peace indeed. Instead of a "peace" without indemnities and without aggrandizement, the world is torn with land-grabbing. The French are demanding the rich Saar valley of Germany. The British are demanding control of the German Ruhr. Unquestionably both will get what they want. The Allies will dress these imperialist grabs up in the fraudulent verbiage of international diplo- (Continued on Page 2)

O.P.A. Guardian Of Profits

The Office of Price Administration is rapidly dropping many of its controls as the ruling class fights hard to shake itself free from all governmental regulation, and the working class continues to strike for higher wages to take the edge off of the steep climb in the cost of living.

Every day now there are reports of price increases granted by the OPA. Vegetables, gas turbines, cloth, processed goods, unprocessed goods, on every front along the price line from food to caskets, the OPA has yielded. It will continue to do so.

The Office of Price Administration cannot be viewed apart from the total government pattern to meet the war crisis. In order to manufacture the maximum amount of munitions and armaments in an economy normally run by market demands, the government had to intervene and allocate resources, manpower and production. Essential materials were rationed for production, and many necessities were rationed for consumption. In the latter case the government did not act too rigidly as billions of dollars in goods were siphoned off into the black market. In many important fields the black market became the real market, and the working class in order to live, was obliged to spend an abnormal share of its income for food. For the rich rationing was little more than an inconvenience.

OPA Part of "Class Peace"

The purpose of the OPA was to keep the class peace at home while the government waged war. Prices had to be brought under control because the greatest labor force — over 43,000,000 in non-agricultural pursuits — was mustered into the economy practically drying up the reserved army of unemployed. Those who were too old to work in pre-war days, those who normally would be too young, all went to work. The working class had its greatest bargaining point in American history from the angle of its scarcity in relation to the needs of the economy. Individual factories vied with one another to attract workers and in some cases the capitalists went so far as to violate federal restrictions on wages in order to hire and retain workers.

(Continued on Page 4)

All Aid to Coal and RR Strike!

May 21, 1946

The Government has seized the mines and RR. The labor misleader Whitney of the Trainmen's Brotherhood, and Johnstone, Chief of Engineers, have agreed to a 5 day truce at Truman's request . . . John L. Lewis has agreed to recognize Secretary of Interior Krug as Government mine boss.

The Government has seized these industries to break the strike; to safeguard the profits of the entire capitalist class of the country who stand to lose by a shutdown of production; seemingly acting as an "impartial arbitrator" it is able to confuse many workers.

These labor misleaders, sitting on the powderkeg of the workers' demands for higher pay and better conditions have so far successfully thwarted a strike. In the RR situation only 2 of the 5 Brotherhoods were called upon to strike . . . this leaves the others to scab. Lewis has done the same thing in coal by keeping hard coal at work while soft coal strikes.

All 3 of these renegades recognize and agree to support the Government action. Only Rank and File CONTROL of the Union with strike committees of the workers can successfully wage this battle. To win the strike the workers must politicalize it; enlist all aid of other workers by strike action, against the Governments—FOR THEIR DEMANDS.

Grocery Clerks Leave CIO, Join AFL

A do-nothing policy is just as harmful in the CIO as when practiced in the AFL.

Five years ago a group of militant grocery workers in Chicago ousted a racketeer named Max Caldwell in their Retail Clerks Union, AFL. After considerable maneuvering they joined the United Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Employees CIO, led by Sam Wolchok and Leonard Levy.

The new International leadership, however, since then has failed to bend a single effort towards organizing the grocery industry — retail and warehouse both. This permitted the AFL organizations to recoup from their loss and to reorganize. In this five year period the AFL regained 9,000 members in the industry in Chicago. Wolchok and Levy, interested only in bureaucratic domination of their International and of the locals, did nothing at all to organize. Their efforts in fact, were pointed merely at trying to "take over" the Chicago grocery local in their own international from a leadership that was militantly opposed to it.

Sam Wolchok is an apostle of the theory of "soft contracts" and making himself acceptable to Management. During a strike at Gimbel Brothers a number of years ago he openly attacked the strikers in the press and praised the Gimbel management. For actions such as these he has been praised in many capitalist magazines, including the Saturday Evening Post, as a "labor statesman."

Local 329, grocery local in Chicago (Continued on Page 2)

U. S. IMPERIALISM 'Must Have Armed Forces'

So overwhelmingly do the working people oppose conscription that even the House of Representatives, Republicans and Democrats backed up by their political machines, retreated from the extension of the draft for fear of the people's wrath during the coming election. The House bill, passed four hours before the old draft bill expired, extended the draft until July 1, but exempted almost all of the men eligible for the draft, 18 to 20 year olds (which make up over 70% of the eligibles) and fathers.

Yet, the officialdom in Washington generally concedes that some form of conscription must be maintained. For, "We must have armed forces to meet our foreign commitments." Somehow men must be drawn into the army and navy.

Washington is faced with the contradiction of upholding and enforcing the will of American Imperialism

throughout the world and the growing apathy of American workers toward anything except their own problems — wage increases, rising prices, the melting away of their savings, increasing unemployment, and the housing shortage.

The only argument left among the "civic leaders" of American capitalism is how to raise and keep these armed forces.

But when pressed to support these armies and navies, the worker debates the question, "How will they be used?"

Armed Forces Prepare for War

In answer to this question evidence is already before us:

At a three-day conference, on May 15, the Navy announced that it had seventy-three carrier air groups, and 21 marine air detachments, training as a reserve "second team" for the Navy. The smallest of these groups will consist of 30 fighting

planes, with all of the latest model planes being used. Even using this modest figure, 30 planes per group, the Navy has 2,820 reserve planes with their crews on land.

Down in the Caribbean Sea the Navy has reorganized itself into the first, full-fledged battle-maneuvers since the war. The operations being carried out are the exact plan that was used against Japan, including the landing of thousands of marines on the "hostile" shores of Porto Rico.

Preparations Go On

On April 18, of this year, General Spaatz, commander of the Army Air Forces announced that the core of the new U.S. forces in Europe would be 200 "Flying Forts" which had already been shipped. These were to be followed by 300 more.

Undisclosed thousands of American police troops are being trained in Europe and Asia. What do these add up to?

This is not a "defensive" army and navy but one of swift, vicious aggression. A Navy skilled in landing operations, bombers capable of a 2,000-mile run, troops that can be swiftly transported to crush the revolt of starving workers against their enslavers.

For the coming desperate struggle of American Imperialism to crush rival imperialists, to crush the Soviet Union, and working-class revolt, armies are being backed by a mounting supply of atomic bombs and long-range rockets.

WE WORKERS WANT NO PART OF SUCH AN ARMY. It is the tool of our homeguard Hitlers. It will be eventually used against ourselves. Our only army now is the picket line and the flying squad where we can fight for what we want — not the enslavement of the workers of Europe and Asia, but freedom for ourselves.

"Uniting" the Western Hemisphere

President Truman's request to Congress that he be given authority to transform the Western Hemisphere into an armed bloc, reflects the further move on the part of American Imperialism to tighten its control over those areas which it now dominates economically.

Truman's plan would authorize him to give the most modern land, sea, or air weapons to any nation in the Western Hemisphere. Payment would depend upon what the President deems satisfactory to U.S. interests. The plan further requests that the United States provide these nations with enough ammunition for these weapons, and for its proper maintenance, repair, and rehabilitation. Furthermore the proposal envisages the training of naval and air cadets from the Latin-American republics in the U.S. naval and military academies at Annapolis and West Point.

The plan, if adopted would mean the complete control by American Imperialism of all the armed forces in the Western Hemisphere, including Canada. The plan further states that weapons shall not be available to "any groups which may use them to oppose the peaceful and democratic principles to which the United States and other American nations have so often subscribed." This would force more pressure on Argentina, (the last remaining country in the Western Hemisphere that is outside of U.S. economic control) to move closer towards U.S. leadership. The plan would also bring into line the various military cliques and dictatorships throughout Latin America, many of whom were trained in Nazi Germany before the war, and whose thinking poses future potential dangers of unity with the Argentine military dictatorship or any other forces opposed to U.S. Imperialist power.

Power Blocs Forming

It is especially significant that Truman presents this plan to Congress for approval now during the "Peace" conference in Paris, since it has been discussed in the Army, Navy and State Departments since last August.

The Truman proposal is a move to counter the Russian attempt to build an Eastern Soviet bloc of powers. It is also noteworthy that the proposal is made just after the British Empire conference in London, which attempted to create a military defense system for the Empire. In effect it means that the United States is willing to go ahead with the consolidation of its own spheres of influence, and its own plans for policing the world, despite the propaganda of Truman and Byrnes, that American Imperialism is relying solely on the United Nations for a solution to world problems. In effect the U.N. is an agency through which the U.S. hopes to mobilize the various capitalist powers around its own program for world domination.

It is very significant that the plan includes Canada which technically is a dominion of Great Britain.

Truman's proposals for an armed Western Hemisphere under the control of the United States is but one step on the part of American Imperialism to complete its domination of the world's markets and to curb working class revolution throughout the world.

WORKERS OF THE WORLD

The private police force which guards the gambling casino and the three expensive hotels at the luxurious resort town of Deauville, France, has been reinforced by gendarmes from Paris. This action was taken because the former prisoners of war from Lisieux, Caen and other war-devastated towns stated that they will raid Deauville if necessary to get food for themselves and their starving families.

Shops in Deauville offer plenty of good quality meats, vegetables, fruits, and dairy products, to the rich clientele. But a soldier in the former resistance movement said no potatoes, milk, eggs, butter, or meat had been distributed in Lisieux or Caen in five months.

A food official at Caen explained that they had been ordered by Paris to close their eyes to this situation because English and American tourists must be welcomed and fed to provide France with dollar and sterling exchange.

The Communist Party leader, Palmire Togliatti, of Italy, was termed as being violently opposed to the plans of King Victor Emmanuel III to abdicate the Italian throne, according to a United Press dispatch. Is this how the Communist Party of Italy fights for the working class?

It's the workers and not the dogs of Berlin who lead a "dog's life." In the American zone the German receives 1,250 calories a day. Almost 6,000 dogs who are breeding animals for exportation receive official rations as high as 2,260 calories a day.

Three hundred and fifty thousand Irish workers are being thrown out of Britain unless they are willing to work in the mines. All who refuse have their passports stamped "no work available" and are given a travel warrant.

In Edinburgh, Scotland, nine families who are members of the Edinburgh "housing association" saw that the government could not and would not provide housing for the homeless. They therefore took matters into their own hands and barricaded themselves in a vacant 12 room house with food and fuel supplies. Experience teaches the workers that only by their own actions can they solve their problems.

On May 4th, 15,000 Arabs marched through Jerusalem shouting, "Down with the British and Americans." The British army rushed out flying squadrons to disperse the demonstrations. The ruling class knows that even a nationalist movement that displays militancy is dangerous to their "safety."

A Chicago Tribune dispatch of May 1st reports that in Georgetown, British Guiana, the import taxes make necessities exceedingly high priced and export taxes hold down the pay of the natives. As a result the natives show their resentment by refusing to stand in the movie theaters for the playing of the British national anthem, and shout down anyone who attempts to rise.

Four thousand Jews in the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration's displaced persons' camp in Germany went on a hunger strike recently. They took this action to gain the release of 20 of their comrades from the Landsberg, Germany prison. The crowd jeered and yelled at their soldier-guards. These are the people of Germany whom the Allies are supposed to have "liberated" from the yoke of Nazism.

Buick Workers Struggle Anew

Dear F.W. Editor:

Here is the way things are at the former Buick plant at Melrose Park. The Buick plant shut down on V-J day. The Reconstruction Finance Corporation took it over and sold it to International Harvester at the beginning of 1946. International Harvester brought part of its machinery and personnel from Milwaukee, Wisconsin and immediately began to introduce its policy of speed up.

The former Buick workers who are here in the plant find that the conditions and wages which were established at the General Motors plant are only things of the past. As a result of the shut down following the end of the war, most of the workers left the plant. Local 6 (UAW-CIO) is no longer recognized by the new ownership. The Farm Equipment Workers of America (CIO) who represent the International Harvester workers in other plants, has moved in and is now contending for control at the Labor Board election. In the meantime we are subject to open shop conditions of speed-up, insult, abuse, and the lowest wage paid in any mass production plant.

Since the Stalinist-controlled Farm Equipment Workers union had obtained one of the worst contracts in the other Harvester plants, for a mass production industry, I believe that by retaining the UAW we will have a better opportunity to fight for rank and file control and to improve our conditions here.

Your friend,

J -

Grocery Clerks

(Continued from Page 1)

go, finally reaped the harvest of the do-nothingness of Wolchok and Levy last month. With the rest of the grocery industry and all the workers who service the industry, such as transportation, maintenance, and others, organized inside the AFL, the union has been under considerable pressure to leave the CIO. The AFL unions, working together in a loose but fairly effective fashion, have been able to gain economic improvements that surpass the Wolchok local's contracts. Despite the militancy of the Local 329 CIO leadership, lack of solidarity with other workers has been an insurmountable handicap. In addition the disruptive and divisive efforts of Levy and the close relationship of the International leadership with the managements, have been other factors pushing the Local 329 workers out of the CIO.

Last month, faced with a three way opposition — from employer, International leadership and the AFL retail unions, — the Hillman clerks left the CIO and joined the Building Service Employees International Union, AFL.

Needless to say the change in affiliation does not solve the problem of the Hillman workers. It may, however, act as an impetus toward that solution. If the support of various other AFL crafts is forthcoming it will intensify union-consciousness and make for a stronger organization.

The switch to the AFL was taken as a defensive measure when the very life of the union was threaten-

THERE IS NO PEACE

(Continued from Page 1)

macy and then present them to the victors.

The war, which was to end all struggles for territory and was to give the peoples the right to determine their own destiny, has accelerated the struggle for land. Italy and Yugoslavia are fighting for Trieste. France wants territory from Italy. Hungary and Rumania are fighting over Transylvania. And the Big Powers are perched in every area of the globe, from Germany to Japan, systematically robbing and starving the peoples.

"This is a time," said Winston Churchill a few weeks ago, "when many branches of the human family are plunged in bewilderment, distress or ruin. The world is very ill . . . Mankind cannot in its present plight bear new shocks without descending to altogether cruder and primordial forms." Mr. Churchill is here emphasizing the closeness of the world to a descent to barbarism. And if anyone should know, this imperialist windbag is well qualified to speak.

Not a single colonial nation on earth has been liberated from the clutches of imperialism. Even the Italian colonies are now to be given back to Italy. Not a single French, British or American colony has been given unconditional independence. Not a single people in Africa, Asia or Europe has as yet been given a vote to determine whether they want to be free from their imperialist masters.

Decade of Hunger

In fact the noose of imperialism is today much tighter than hitherto. The "century of plenty," which the war was to bring in, has dwindled into a decade of the most intense misery in the history of capitalism. Said Time Magazine: "the people were politically quiet, not because they were content, but because they were tired, confused, and above all hungry."

Literally hundreds of millions of people are starving, hundreds of thousands are actually dying. Such is the nature of "peace!"

Throughout the present post-war

ed. But to convert it into an offensive measure against the employer the rank and file consciousness of the members must be heightened and a militant core of leaders developed to round out the present leadership.

period American capitalist propaganda has been parading as a force for moderation, for compromise, for "freedom." Nothing could be further from the truth. America's gigantic economic weight is again being utilized the world over — but on the most grandiose scale in history — to effect political control. Each loan being made wrests political concessions from other nations. The loan to Britain breaks up the Empire system to a large extent. The loan to Poland is predicated on guarantees of an election that might bring a pro-American and pro-British puppet, Mikolacyk, to power. A proposed billion dollar loan to Russia is likewise predicated on political concessions.

The Almighty Dollar is being used as a more potent weapon today than all the armies of history from Hannibal to Napoleon.

War by Other Means

There is no peace. War is merely being continued by "other means," by diplomatic strife, by economic warfare, by political warfare. And in many parts of the world military slaughter still prevails, Manchuria, Indonesia and other spots.

The present period is an interlude between wars, an interlude during which the imperialist powers — especially the United States — hope to throttle the aspirations of the masses, to check-mate world-revolution and to impose the tightest dictatorial reign possible so that imperialism can extract its greatest profits from a world of shambles.

Imperialist "peace" — this time being effected with the connivance of Stalinism and the warped workers state — is a sham and a deception.

Peace is possible only through proletarian revolution, only through the ending of the profit motive and the profit system.

The workers of the world, plunged into misery, are nevertheless moving in such a direction of real peace. In the coming period the force of degenerate capitalism will soon collide with a force more powerful, the force — both military and moral — of an aroused proletariat.

RENEW YOUR SUB!

EXPLOITER and EXPLOITED

The protection of private property is the first law of the land as was evidenced when Clark Cummings of Chicago was sentenced to life imprisonment in Iowa State Penitentiary for robbing the Denmark (Iowa) Farmers Savings Bank. The amount he stole? \$79!

Let there be a clapping of hands, a ringing of bells and a barking of dogs! The United Nations meeting in New York has done its bit in emancipating the female portion of the human race. They adopted a resolution which reads in part, "Whereas woman is as much a human being as man and therefore entitled to share with him and therefore be it resolved to raise the status of women . . ."

The wives of the coal miners, share croppers and underpaid racial minorities will certainly be glad to hear that their status has been elevated to equality with that of the male wage slaves.

Is there a housing shortage? John F. Cuneo, Chicago printing magnate, real estate owner, and the holder of the controlling interest in National Tea, Meadowmoor Dairy, etc., etc., must not think so for he has just purchased another mansion, this time with 40 rooms.

When asked what he intended doing with it, he replied nonchalantly that it would be remodeled for his 14 year old daughter. Only forty rooms — poor girl!

On April 30, the Dearborn Glass Manufacturing Co. asked the Chicago Superior Court for an injunction against their workers picketing the plant. Twenty-nine workers were arrested in the course of ten days for trying to keep scabs out of the plant.

Two days later the Chicago courts handed down an injunction restraining them from mass picketing. It only took the boss two days!

Wonder how long it would take to get an injunction against the boss against starvation wages!

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Atomic Age Requires Socialist World

Many atomic scientists feel that atomic energy holds out prospects of immediate importance to pure research and medicine, biology, rather than industrial uses. They also predict the possibility of new industries comparable to synthetic rubber, plastics, and light metals.

While the harnessing of atomic energy opens up new fields for commercial and industrial use it is well to state at the outset that there are at least for the present, definite limitations

For instance a block of uranium can't be substituted for a kitchen gas range. It can't provide power for automobiles because 50 tons of shielding would be needed to protect passengers from the deadly ray. Nor can it be utilized for small pea sized power units. As yet the idea of driving streamliners or battleships across continents and oceans on thimblefull of water and ounces of coal belong to the realm of super scientific fantasies.

Atomic research is envisioned by atomic scientists as influencing not only the economy of the world but the very forms of man's social existence. The Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombings have dramatically demonstrated the danger of centralization of modern cities.

LARGE CITIES VULNERABLE

It is felt that the Eastern seaboard with its large population concentration would be extremely vulnerable from the air. The question of dispersal of large cities or even the building of underground accommodations is being raised. The factors which affect the amount of destruction are: 1) The number of bombs, 2) the destructive power of a single bomb, 3) accuracy of aim, 4) distribution of the population.

Obviously only the fourth factor can be controlled. It has been estimated that the ideal situation would be to distribute the population over the three million square miles of the United States. Thus three million square miles divided by 40 million dwellings would equal one-thirteenth square miles. There would be a distance of about 1/4 mile between any two neighbors. The price would be prohibitive under capitalism.

Comparative safety would be obtained even if people should continue to live in clusters provided these clusters are spaced properly i. e. the distance between any two towns should just exceed the diameter of the destruction area of the bomb. The Hiroshima bombs would call for dispersal into towns spaced about three miles apart. But if the destruction area widens the dispersal distances will correspondingly widen.

It is believed that linear or ribbon rather than round cluster cities would be less vulnerable. Such ribbon or linear cities could be stretched from east to west and could be crossed by another network of ribbons. Transportation in this arrangement would be cheaper than in clusters. For bombs of the Hiroshima type ribbons could be spaced 25 miles apart. Distribution of population in this manner would put 15,000 people on a stretch of 25 miles between two intersections. This would be 600 people and 160 houses per linear mile along a communication artery.

UNDERGROUND CITIES

The alternative to this plan would be to go under ground. Yet this is not without its dangers. Atomic energy could conceivably be used to excite earth vibrations similar to earthquakes. Strategic factories, offices, and military establishments which require a concentration of people would very likely go underground. Even mountains and natural caves could be utilized. The supply of water and ventilation would however be a complicating factor. With the stretching out of cities transportation would be relied on more than ever in the productive process. It is being proposed to augment present transportation by widely-spaced highways and single track railroads along ribbon cities, and by greater use of air transportation. Possibly the more important railroad stations and intersection points would go underground.

The full program would involve almost a complete replacement of dwellings as well as the transportation system. Factory buildings, blast furnaces, highways, gas, and water pipes would have to be built anew. The cost of building new dwellings on the basis of the 1940 figures — 21 million units at about \$5,000 per unit and including population growth — would be about \$130 billions. With new cities sized at 50,000 the cost would be \$80 billions.

Manufacturing plants could be located where there is easy access to raw materials and markets. This would reduce to a minimum the movement of empty vehicles. Construction costs for industrial units aren't available but plants exclusive of movable equipment are valued at \$115 billion. Government buildings are valued at about \$45 billion. That \$115 billion dollars includes railroads. The \$45 billion includes public roads. The total cost of relocating dwellings, plants and non-movable equipment would amount to between \$290 and \$300 billion, minimum.

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CAPITALISM UNABLE TO DO JOB

Capitalist economy would not be a match for such a task. This program would involve the expenditure of 30 billions for each of the next ten years. Even the peak of the war construction amounted to only 15 billion dollars per year. Considering that we live in a chronic condition of dying capitalism, it is extremely doubtful that capitalist economy can divert enough labor for such war economy without dislocating the rest of the economy, especially as far as production of light goods or consumer goods is concerned. Possibly the expenditure of 20 billions over a period of 15 years would lessen the strain. But will world capitalism permit such an interval without a third world war?

The expenditure of 300 billions would result in a decentralized America which would give the population the best advantages of rural and urban life. People would live near fields but would work in factories and stores. Life would depend on faster transportation. Slums would be completely wiped out. But then why go on with these proposals which have been worked out by atom scientists and city planners?

Capitalism which could spend \$300 billion in destroying human life and commodities, would find it an impossible task to spend the same amount for such constructive purposes.

Thus we see that atomic research has inadvertently turned a searchlight on problems which are at first glance quite remote: First of all the need for planning of cities and transportation with special emphasis on combining the best quality of urban and rural life.

Second, the location of industries near raw materials and markets.

Third, the need for decent housing.

Fourth, above all the need for battering down world boundaries, sovereignties, i.e. for establishing world socialism. TECHNOLOGY WALKING WITH SEVEN-LEAGUE BOOTS FINDS ITSELF MORE AND MORE AT WAR WITH THE NATIONAL BOUNDARIES WHICH CAN NO LONGER CONTAIN IT.

SCIENCE HANDICAPPED

The atomic bomb has brought many scientists to the conclusion that the further development of science is in contradiction to a world filled with national boundaries. In fact they have posed it as a question of — One World or No World. This is of course the high water mark of an accumulation of technological developments which have been posing that question for some time. Capitalist sociologists are now busily engaged writing books and treatises on the necessity for each country to give up all or part of its national sovereignty in favor of some world federation or a United States of the World. This of course will remain an idea whose "consummation is devoutly to be wished."

Napoleon aimed at a unification of all Europe. Hitler aimed even higher — at unification of the world. This was embodied by the slogan "Today Berlin tomorrow the World." The Clarence Streits and Ely Culbertsons in this country have also done a bit of fanciful thinking along those lines. The task of unifying the sovereignties will be left to the working class which began that task in October, 1917.

An Appeal for International Proletarian Solidarity Against Organized Starvation

The desperate plight of our comrades and revolutionaries in all of Europe has long been recognized by the RWL. We have been sending food and clothing and raising funds to the limit of our abilities. A Red Aid Committee has been established and functioning in Chicago. We appeal to YOU for help. Raise funds, collect clothing, contact us for further details thru Demos Press, 708 North Clark St., Chicago.

We publish below excerpts from an appeal from Vienna, forwarded from a comrade, survivor of Buchenwald: "Vienna, May 1st, 1946

... I want to address an appeal for help to all our friends in the whole world. Nobody can visualize what we suffer. After 12 years of hard activity for building and preserving cadres of true revolutionists all our work is threatened today by the misery of famine.

In the Hitlerian concentration camps it was easier to resist the terror of the SS and the slow death by starvation than today. In the camps we had no family to take care of and we were better organized against the bandits of the SS and BV. Can you imagine what it means to receive 750 calories!?! It is too much to croak immediately and too little to live. These are not phrases but the most atrocious reality. 700 grammes of bread (1 1/2 lbs.), 140 grammes of flour, 60 grammes of fats, 120 grammes of beef — that is the WEEKLY ration for AN ADULT! Do the impossible to help our Viennese comrades. The most rapid help is worth twice as much. They who know what it means to work physically and mentally with 750 calories in the belly, they will understand... in one word everything is threatened and solidarity must prove itself.

YES, INTERNATIONAL PROLETARIAN SOLIDARITY MUST NOW BE PROVEN IN ACTION! Comrades, Workers, Sympathizers: the above is one of many letters THESE APPEALS MUST NOT GO UNANSWERED DELAY MEANS DEATH! Capitalism organizes economies of scarcity and starvation — DO YOUR BIT TO KEEP ALIVE the revolutionaries who can organize a SOCIALIST SOCIETY OF ABUNDANCE FOR ALL!

Phil Murray — Protagonist of Capitalist Politics

Phil Murray, president of the CIO, has declared war on "Communists and Socialists" who try "to infiltrate, dictate or meddle in our affairs" This statement, made at the convention of the CIO Steel Workers will act as "policy" for the rest of the CIO. A concerted effort against Stalinists — and other radicals — within the labor movement is about to be made.

Murray, tested stooge of capitalism that he is, is conforming his policy to that of the Truman regime. Significantly enough Murray's statement — although prepared some time ago — was made on the same day that Jimmy Byrnes announced that the four power conference in Paris was a "failure."

Murray's remark fits into the pattern of the anti-labor legislation offensive, the drum-fire propaganda against the miners which is a smokescreen behind which terror is being prepared against the working class, and other such actions. Murray is willingly permitting himself to be used as a tool for that impending terror against left wing organizations and individuals. In return he expects the capitalist regime to purge his unions of left wingers and permit him to maintain the same rotten bureaucratic control that has prevailed up to now.

The union, said Murray, "must never permit... the intrusion of ideological ideas or beliefs into trade union matters. We must continue to be a free, God-fearing, truly American institution." Although Murray attacked William Green, AFL president in the same speech, this is typical Green hogwash. The union must be a forum for capitalist dogma, Murray is saying, but not for any working class politics and education.

The Steel Workers convention is being called the "Victory" convention. Probably very few delegates, except the die-hard pie-cards can tell what the victory is about, since the recent raise really left the steel workers with a \$7 cut in take home pay

The red-baiting is merely a cover-up for the latest Murray sell-outs and an attempt to help the U.S. government in its foreign and internal policies. In that Murray is just as anti-working class as the masters who pull his strings.

Programmatic Highlights

1. WORKERS REVOLUTION IN U.S. AND ALL OTHER CAPITALIST STATES to destroy private ownership of the means of production

2. FOR A WORKERS COUNCIL GOVERNMENT IN U.S. and FOR A WORLD WORKERS COUNCIL GOVERNMENT, based on armed workers power.

3. DEFEND THE SOVIET UNION by re-establishing a Marxian Party, Soviets, Trade Unions and Armed Workers Militias to accomplish the Political Revolution against the Stalinist bureaucracy and extend the October Revolution throughout the world.

4. FOR A REVOLUTIONARY WORKERS PARTY IN U.S. For a World Revolutionary Workers Party, including the Soviet Union. For a New Fourth (Communist) International.

5. RIGHT OF SELF-DETERMINATION FOR ALL COLONIES AND SMALL NATIONS. For full and complete independence for the Philippines, Porto Rico, Hawaii and all islands and areas dominated by American imperialism.

6. MINORITIES — Full political and economic equality — right to vote, voice and organization, and equal pay for equal work — for Negroes, Mexicans, Chinese, Japanese, Jews and other minorities. Against Jim-Crowism, anti-semitism, exclusion laws directed against oriental peoples.

7. LABOR PARTY — Against a Labor Party or P.A.C. or other varieties of Popular Frontism, which can be only a political machine for the labor misleaders, Murray, Hillman, Lewis Green, Reuther, to mobilize American workers to support the capitalist government, as in England.

8. FASCISM — Oppose all efforts of capitalist political groups to impose on the workers open military dictatorship of finance capital by use of demoralized small capitalists, the unemployed, and misled veterans

9. SOLDIERS — End conscription now. Recall all U.S. occupation and other armed forces from abroad. Liquidate the armed forces of American imperialism. Fraternize with workers in the U.S. and abroad

10. FOR THE RIGHT TO STRIKE, including slowdown, sitdown, full stoppage and workers seizure of all production units. Against government strikebreaking against the no-strike or Company Security policy. Spread the strikes. Organize Workers Councils. For Workers Flying or Defense Squads to defend against police company and government terror. Arm the workers!

11. DEMOCRACY IN THE UNIONS. Unions to be under rank and file control.

12. 30 HOUR WEEK — 5 HOUR DAY with a sliding scale of wages to meet the rising cost of living

13. UNEMPLOYED — Trade Union wages for the unemployed. Organize the unemployed in Trade Unions.

World Parade On May Day

For the first time after five years of Imperialist war, workers throughout the world downed tools and went into the streets in mass demonstrations.

In Berlin, approximately 500,000 workers flooded Unter Der Linden under the leadership of the Freier Deutscher Gewerkschafts Bund, the new unity organization of the "Communist" and Socialist Parties. Men, women, and children paraded through the streets carrying thousands of banners representing unions in the heavy industries, municipal workers, and various crafts. Everyone wore scarlet armbands or red carnations. This runs counter to the capitalist propaganda that "all the German people" are Nazis.

In Tokyo, one half a million workers paraded in the first May Day demonstration in forty-nine years. Banners called for a "Seven hour day," "For the removal of the Shidehara Cabinet," "Production sabotage and inflation are caused by capitalists who drink our life blood," "For people's foodstuff control," "A minimum wage regulated by the living cost," "GIVE US ENOUGH FOOD," "Our rulers should work more." As the workers marched they sang the revolutionary song, the "Red Flag." Twelve thousand American troops were alerted and all roof tops were occupied by armed soldiers who were prepared to enforce American Imperialist "democracy" in case the democracy of the Tokyo workers got out of hand.

In Mexico city, 60,000 workers rallied under banners criticizing the high cost of living. In Lima, Peru an official holiday was declared. Thousands of workers marched to the presidential palace in Havana, Cuba to pledge their support to President Ramon Grau San Martin, and present new demands. Work was stopped throughout Panama, as the workers demonstration was high-lighted by protesting against the racial discrimination policies of the United States in the Canal Zone.

In Vienna more than 100,000 workers turned out in what was termed the "biggest hunger parade" seen. Workers marched under the banner, "We can't work without food." The demonstration was under the leadership of the "Communist" and Socialist Parties.

Throughout France, in Marseille, Lille, La Rochelle, etc., demonstrations were held, highlighted by the parade in Paris. All work was stopped, even the cafes were closed as the waiters joined the parade. The demonstration was under the leadership of the "Communist" and Socialist Parties who rallied the workers under the slogan "YES, vote yes, for the new constitution."

In Korea parades were prohibited, but in Seoull 80,000 workers gathered in the athletic field under the banners of the Stalinists. The newspapers discussed the history of May Day and spoke of a "people's government in which no class distinctions would be recognized."

Under the military dictatorship of Franco, no demonstrations were held, but the working class expressed itself in Madrid through the explosion of three bombs, which had been planned at various parts of the city, in different government buildings.

Throughout the Soviet Union, May Day was celebrated by a two-day holiday. In Moscow, a military parade marched for eight hours past Stalin and the various other leaders of the bureaucracy. The banners called up "Working people of all lands, fight to destroy Fascism!" Returning to peaceful work we must constantly be alert to look after the armed forces in defense of our country."

Read the Fighting Worker Supplements.

RWL Meeting

In New York a parade of between 21,000 to 60,000 marchers, including workers from many different unions, both of the CIO and AFL, as well as 4,000 veterans marched in a four-hour demonstration, through the main section of Manhattan with banners calling for the withdrawal of troops from Greece, to break diplomatic relations with Franco, for world labor unity, peace and progress. The "Communist" Party and the American Labor Party were the main sponsors of the parade.

In Chicago, approximately 250 to 300 workers gathered at Newberry Square under the banners of the Revolutionary Workers League, where the history of May Day was reviewed and a talk was given showing that it is American Imperialism which is the main enemy of the American workers and the main counter-revolutionary force thruout the world that is responsible for the misery, starvation and hunger of the world masses. Speakers called for the overthrow of the capitalist system and for a Workers Council Government.

Reformism Predominated

Again, as in years gone by, May Day was celebrated under the banners of International Reformism, either the Stalinists or the Socialist Parties, or both. But the fact that so many millions turned out and that so many demonstrations were held for the first time in years, indicates the restive temper of the world proletariat and oppressed peasantry. The international holiday of the proletariat gained some meaning for the first time in many years. In the near future the masses will burst the bounds of their present opportunist leadership and again demonstrate on May Day under slogans calling for Revolution and a Workers Council Government.

Here in the United States the socialist consciousness of the working class was so low that, except for New York, no important demonstrations took place. The various organizations of the working class played a pathetic role. For the most part they refused any united action. A call to a united front in Chicago was refused by the Cannon and Schachtman Trotskyites, as well as the Wobblies and the Socialists. Some sentiment within the ranks of both the latter organizations for such united action was effectively held back by the top leadership. However an I.W.W. fellow worker was gladly invited to speak at the R.W.L. demonstration and spoke under our auspices.

As the hunger toll mounts May Day — so dormant and so unheralded for a number of years — will again become the day of international solidarity and struggle for socialism.

Miners Foes: The Boss, Gov't & Lewis

(Continued from Page 1)
miners in each coal mine, with some provision made to pool the funds and to ELECT central administration composed of rank and file.

Lewis will of course fight against such a move because it will threaten his bureaucratic rule within the union. But the fund must not become an instrument for Lewis' continued dictatorship.

The press tried with might and main to prove that the whole miners' strike was the work of one man. The press, as usual, lied. At the end of the strike — in fact three days after the truce began — less than two-thirds of the miners had gone back to work. In Pennsylvania, the seat of miners' militancy, over 75% of the workers had refused to accept Lewis' order. "No contract," they said, "no work."

LITCHFIELD — 'Democracy's' Dungeon

Little by little the brutal picture of the "discipline" used to force American soldiers into battle during World War II has taken form. Recently completed testimony at the trials of Litchfield (army guard house for American soldiers) guards rounded out the evidence. The medieval viciousness of a few, lowly enlisted guards has finally been revealed to be the policy of the entire European Command.

At first the Litchfield trials merely revealed that American soldiers, detained for infractions of army rules, had been mercilessly beaten by certain guards "with clubs and fists"

"Two guards held Alfred (an AWOL soldier) by the arms while a third asked him where he had been wounded. When he said his stomach, he hit Alfred repeatedly in the stomach until he collapsed groaning and crying, with blood flowing from his mouth." Prisoners were made to clean up the blood.

This is one of the many incidents related by both guards and prisoners. After months of testimony to this cruelty of the individual guards, these facts came out.

Testimony at the Trial

Defense Attorney Lt. Morris McGee asked: "Did other DTC's (Detention Training Camps) use methods similar to Litchfield that the guards might have been aware of, supporting their belief that they were carrying out a legal order?"

Lt. Granville Cubage, former Litchfield officer replied, "Yes. When I took prisoners to other DTC's I took guards with me from Litchfield . . ."

Then, he began to relate stories of solitary confinement cells, the use of "clubs for beating prisoners," "a dungeon so far below ground you couldn't see the light" . . . at other prison camps for American soldiers.

While relating these details, naming two other such camps at Langford and at Sudbury, England, the army court judge ordered them "to cease this line of questioning." (Chicago Sun, April 19, 1946).

But it was too late. Lt. Cubage had already spilled another fact: Defense attorneys . . . drew from Lt. Granville Cubage, details of a top secret plan whereby some 3,000 men were sent to the battlefield at the point of a gun from Litchfield.

Now, "top secret" plans do not originate with the small fry officers in charge of an army camp. They must come from the top command. The general staff needs manpower; so many men for this battle project; so many men for that.

When the imperialist war effort reached the peak of its frenzy in Europe, no measure to force American soldiers into the slaughter was too cruel.

The brutality of the American high command undoubtedly matched that of "enemy" commands.

O.P.A. Guardian of Profits

(Continued from Page 1)

To keep the class struggle at a minimum with this swollen mass of proletarians was the rub. The OPA pretended to be the impartial guardian of the people's interests and thus hoped to deny the working class reason for acting in its own interests. The CIO-AFL reported that the cost of living rose about 45%. If the OPA had failed to keep prices somewhat in check and they had spiraled upward too abruptly, the working class would have been compelled to enter into major battles to defend its living standards. Class harmony — economic and political stability would have been seriously impaired and the success of the war jeopardized.

"Cost-Plus"

During the war the capitalists did not find government regulations and the OPA too distasteful. In the first place this was their war and above all they had to win it; but more immediate considerations were in operation. "Cost-plus" was the basis for doing war business, the government built the war plants and leased them out at liberal terms, and in cases where industries expanded to meet armament contracts the government arranged rapid amortization rates. In addition there was round-the-clock production, concentration on the manufacturing of the most expensive item in the commodity bracket — clothes particularly is a good example. But above all there was the Little Steal Formula which guaranteed that wages would be more or less kept within 15% of 1941's scale.

On the part of the working class there was a higher family income from longer hours, a greater number of the family employed and soldiers' incomes and allotments. Of course the OPA could not have achieved such relative stability in the economy if the government and the trade union bureaucracy did not act night and day to prevent the workers from striking and in the event of strikes smothering them.

Strikes and Prices

With the war's end came the shift to peace time production, accompanied by shorter hours and more intensive speed-up. The cost plus days were gone. All this cut deep into the workers' income while prices continued to mount untiringly. The result was the strike wave which still continues in some industries.

The ruling class was forced to give into the struggle for higher wages and could not reconcile this to the price ceilings still in effect. Therefore, in meeting part of the workers' demands, the ruling class did so only in that the government permitted an increase in prices. OPA not only compensated the industrialists for the wage increases but allowed price raises beyond that point.

But even — and it was excluded

in advance — if the working class had not battled for higher wages many capitalists could not be content with continued price regulations. American economy has not only weathered the war, but emerges from it as the most powerful imperialist force eager for control of the world's markets. Government regulation cramps its style. OPA being part of such regulations is doomed to go. The prewar days of pump-priming appear out of date to an economy which has intra-business reserve funds greater by 10 times than the federal budget of 1939, then about a measly \$6,000,000,000. Of course these are the hey-days for the American capitalists and they are trying hard to forget the 30s.

Want Lid on Strikes

OPA and the other administrators recognize that OPA is on its last legs, but they want to sustain it a little longer until the economy completes the shift to peace time production, and the consumers market is somewhat appeased. Otherwise they fear that rapid price increases will only provoke new strike waves, higher wages, higher prices, and once more the same until everything is shot to hell.

To quote Chester Bowles as he appeared before the Senate Committee on Banking and Currency on April 16, 1946: "The upward spurt of prices could not fail to produce demands for further wage increases to match the increase in the cost of living, with an outburst of strikes to enforce the demands. By this time the country would be launched upon a free-for-all fight of industry, labor and agriculture to get its share in the general scramble . . ."

But the ruling class can see no further than their immediate profit. They want the getting while the getting is good. Already the working class is preparing an answer. On April 30th, 6,500 members of local 101 of the United Rubber Workers, CIO, unanimously passed a resolution calling on the international union to reopen negotiations for higher wages. They asserted that the price allowance of the OPA had more than offset the 18 1/2% wage increase.

Until it is finally killed by legislation the OPA will stumble more helplessly to its death. In the meantime the working class will once again be faced with the task of struggling to defend its standard of living.

ARM AGAINST TERROR

On the heels of the strike wave the capitalists are already organizing forces for terror against the workers and their organizations.

In California and Georgia, the Ku-Klux-Klan has already been reorganized and is spreading throughout the South. Terrorist action against Nisei, Japanese, Jews and Negroes has begun. In Illinois, the Illinois People's Political Federation has been formed to fight left-wing groups, with plans for a nation-wide movement of one million members.

We workers must answer this organized terror of the capitalists by forming workers defense squads in each local union that will arm and train workers to defend themselves and their organizations.

Opposition Not Organized

Unfortunately this rank and file opposition to Lewis has not yet crystallized into strong rank and file committees to take over the operation of the coal miners' affairs from Lewis. It must be clear even to a child that Lewis' great love for "free enterprise" — for capitalism — will result in compromising the position of the workers. The miners' strike is a direct threat to the capitalist system and it must be understood as such before any victory is possible. Rank and file committees, and only such committees can steer the strike to victory.

In the final analysis the coal miners can gain security only by the overthrow of the capitalist system — together with the rest of the working class. Otherwise we shall soon see more ghost towns in the mining

areas and more unemployment, more starvation.

Cut in Miners

From 1923 to 1944 in the State of Illinois there was a reduction of over two-thirds of the labor force. There were 103,566 coal miners in 1923 and only 32,019 in 1944. Yet with only one-third the labor force the Illinois miners produced two million more tons than in 1923. Mechanized equipment has accounted for this reduction in the labor force. This trend is sure to continue. The insecurity of the miners will increase.

Only the destruction of the profit system can bring any permanent amelioration to the problem of the coal miners. The strategy in the present strike can not bring full victory unless it is geared to that ultimate goal.