

ADMIRAL LAND TELLS BANKERS ASS'N HE WANTS "UNION ORGANIZERS SHOT"!

Hearst Press Incites Lynch Attack on Labor Rights

The campaign against the American labor movement has been going on for a long time and from various quarters. One of the most vicious opponents of the organized labor movement and of the working class in general is that scurrilous New York Hearst sheet, the Daily Mirror.

The Daily Mirror is not a serious newspaper. Yet, because it lacks even a standing in the world of the kept press, it is more untruthful, more vicious, more reactionary than the rest. The only material of interest in the paper are the columns of Drew Pearson, Dan Parker, their able sports editor, and the notorious gossip, Walter Winchell. There is little to this yellow rag except low intelligence, general ignorance and anti-labor viciousness.

For some time it has denounced the labor movement, preaching Hearst's fascist ideas about regimenting and controlling American labor. It is true that there is no essential difference between the Daily Mirror and the rest of the boss press, but it lacks the finesse of most of the other rags; it is more blatant, more militant in its anti-labor bias, and more open in its vicious demands for curbs against the working class.

Calls Strikes "Treason"

In an editorial of October 19, the Daily Mirror denounces strikes called to defend labor's right to live a decent life! It calls such strikes:

War Bill

In 1932 \$797,000,000 was spent for war purposes by the government.

In 1939 \$1,251,000,000 was spent for war purposes by the government.

In 1943 \$74,000,000,000 will be spent for war purposes by the government.

Ninety-three cents of every government dollar now goes for war purposes.

TREASON AND MUTINY. And then calls upon the government to regulate the trade union movement and to impose its rule over it by "severe penalties." It calls the striking cartridge workers of Alton, Ill., whose bosses refused to arbitrate their demands, "hoodlums." It calls for control of the trade unions, putting forward two proposals: an auditing and accounting of all union funds, and supervision of union elections.

This is what the bosses have been trying to accomplish for a long time: control of the organized labor movement so that they can destroy whatever independence the workers have. This is a fascist proposal designed to destroy the power of the workers to resist the attacks of big business!

But the Daily Mirror has a precedent for its proposals. The precedent was given them by Wayne L. Morse, representative of the public in the War Labor Board, who declared in a speech before the Printers National Association in Chicago that:

"It seems more than likely that...

Read Our Big Exposure!
HOW THE RICH ARE SACRIFICING AND SUFFERING IN THE WAR!
SENSATIONAL! HEART-RENDING! UNBELIEVABLE!
YET-SUPPORTED BY ALL THE FACTS AND FIGURES!
IN NEXT WEEK'S LABOR ACTION

CIO Protests Hitlerite Report On Mexicans

By G. ORDO
LOS ANGELES, Oct. 14—Last week local CIO unions protested against a sheriff's office report to the 1942 grand jury. The report dealt with the problem of Mexican boy gangs and espoused a doctrine not unlike Hitler's theory of Aryan supremacy.

The report, prepared by Lieut. Edward D. Ayers of the sheriff's foreign relations bureau, said that the problem of Mexican youth delinquency is a "biological one." The report also attacked the unions as being guilty of keeping Mexicans from employment. While this may be true of the AFL, it certainly is not true of the CIO. There are now 15,000 Mexican workers in the CIO in Southern California.

In keeping with Hitler's ideas, the sheriff's report says:

"Let us view it (the problem) from the biological basis—in fact as the main basis to work from.

"Although a wildcat and a domestic cat are of the same family, they have certain biological characteristics so different that while one may be domesticated the other would have to be caged to be kept in captivity; and there is practically as much difference between the races of man, as so aptly described by Rudyard Kipling when he said: 'East is East, and West is West, and never the twain shall meet,' which gives us an insight into the present problem because the Indian, from Alaska to Patagonia, is evidently Oriental in background—at least he shows many of the Oriental characteristics, especially so in his utter disregard for the value of life."

Social experiments have failed, the reactionary document goes on, and when "higher wages are given and an opportunity for a higher standard of life is opened to them, instead of availing themselves of that opportunity, they prefer to work half a week instead of a whole week—and we find that same condition in a great many instances among the same element."

The report advocates taking "out of circulation" Mexican youths—"until they realize the authorities will not tolerate gangsterism."

Attacking the Mexican people again and again, the report says that all the Mexican youth "knows and feels is a desire to use a knife or some lethal weapon." In other words, his desire is to kill, or at least to let blood "when he gets in a fight."

The report concludes that the biological reasons are the reasons for

any juvenile delinquency problem among Mexicans and says that the same biological aspects account for the crimes committed by Chinese, Japanese, Filipinos and the Negro people.

CIO Protests
Appearing before the grand jury to protest the report, the CIO's representative attacked the problem in its proper light:

"We have to look for the causes of the current situation among Mexican youth in other places than the unions. We might ask ourselves why are such slum situations in Jintown and Happy Valley allowed exist. Why are the Mexican people refused the opportunity of moving out of slum areas? Why do the country housing authorities completely keep out Mexican families from their slum clearance projects?"

"We might examine the attitude of the county officials themselves, who, until a few years ago, were giving less relief to Mexicans than to other Americans on the theory

(Continued on page 3)

The Blitz on the Home Front!



Reactionaries Press Drive-- Waring Wants Strikers Shot

Reporting to his bosses at a convention of the Investment Bankers Association in New York, Admiral Emory S. Land, chairman of the U. S. Maritime Commission, said: "As far as any (union) organizers are concerned, for the duration, in my opinion, they ought to be shot at sunrise."

Admiral Land spoke in the proper setting: a convention of bankers. The interests of the bankers and labor are at two opposite poles. They are class enemies. And, as everyone knows, many union organizers HAVE been shot; not by the bankers themselves to be sure (there are others to do the dirty work), but by other representatives of their class.

We all know where the bankers stand in relation to labor and labor organizations. Were this an incidental speech delivered by an ardent, outspoken banker to his fellow-bankers, it would not rate the lead spot in LABOR ACTION. We would merely have recorded it as an illustration of the bankers' mind and intention.

But Admiral Land spoke as a government official, a man to whom President Roosevelt has entrusted the welfare of thousands upon thousands of Merchant Marine sailors. He is, in short, a government spokesman, a ROOSEVELT APPOINTEE, and a sworn enemy of labor.

And further, Admiral Land's speech was one in a series of systematic and increasingly frequent attacks on labor: by the kept press, by the American Legion, by the WLB, by the Roosevelt Administration, and so forth. There is a sweeping campaign against us, loosed on all sides and in every field.

Admiral Land is no maverick, wildly shooting his mouth off without the knowledge of his superiors. Admiral Land's record is well known, and it is a record of consistent labor-baiting.

Since 1937, when he retired from the Navy to become head of the U. S. Maritime Commission, Admiral Land has revealed himself on one occasion after another as a bitter enemy of labor. Roosevelt knows that; YET ROOSEVELT HAS KEPT LAND IN OFFICE and even increased his powers!

In 1941 he proposed to break a

(Continued on page 4)

Three Mississippi Negroes Lynched

Southern Rulers Launch New Wave of Violence to Keep Oppressed Negro "In His Place"

By R. CRAINE

The state of Mississippi celebrated Columbus Day by lynching two 14-year-old Negro boys who had been accused of way-laying a 13-year-old white girl. This was followed by a third lynching several days later and brings the total number of KNOWN lynchings this year up to five.

The story surrounding the lynchings is the usual one. Two youngsters, Charlie Lang and Ernest Green, both of Shubuta, Miss., had been placed for "safe-keeping" in the Quitman, Miss., jail following their arrest on a charge of attempted rape. Before they could be brought to trial, a mob of "indignant citizens, outraged at the alleged crime," broke into the jail house, "overpowered" the sheriff, "robbed" him of his keys, removed the two boys from their cells, lynched them and left their bodies

hanging from the bridge on which the attack on the girl was supposed to have occurred. The lynching party over, the sheriff came to, rushed to the scene and found the two dead boys.

Same Old Story

Everything about this lynching leads to the conclusion that it was all pre-arranged. The sheriff is left without adequate protection for his prisoners, he responds to a hammering at the door (an enraged mob could scarcely have tapped gently), and is "overpowered." After the whole ghastly affair is over, he is recovered and sets out on a search for the bodies, which are found suspended from the bridge where no less than six previous lynchings had occurred.

Five days later, on October 17, another Negro, Howard Wash, convicted and sentenced to life imprisonment for the shooting of his employer, was dragged from his cell and lynched near Laurel, Miss., some thirty miles from the scene of the Columbus Day atrocity.

As is usual, the perpetrators of these acts will most likely not be found and the cases will be closed as "murder by persons unknown." The slate will be swept clean and ready for the next victim.

Even when the criminals are discovered, the press refuses to name them, as in the case of Cleo Wright, who was murdered in Southern Missouri. Those who dared name the lynchmen were almost lynched themselves—and driven out of the community by a tar-and-feathers mob. LABOR ACTION, defying such threats, and seeking to bring to justice those who lynched Cleo Wright, carried full and detailed information about the circumstances of the murder and named the persons guilty of the crime. The criminals are still at large.

Why the Lynchings?

This year America is setting all sorts of records, especially in production, as a result of the war. The new high rate of lynchings is part of this record. What is the connection between the two?

Wars cannot be fought by guns

alone—they are fought by people, who are called upon to make all kinds of sacrifices. The working class has lost its right to strike, has had its wages frozen, is threatened with job freezing, has had high taxes imposed upon it, and is sending its sons to die in the front lines. These sacrifices cannot be gotten without some sort of promises about what victory will bring. Hence the speeches about the "new world," "the people's century," the rights of man, the four freedoms—and Roosevelt's exhortation that racial prejudices be forgotten.

Afraid that the Negroes will take seriously these lofty speeches and that they will seek to enforce them here, in the United States, the Southern rulers who are determined to perpetuate the rule of "white supremacy," are resorting once again to lynchings as a method of keeping the Negro in his place. Five acknowledged lynchings in less than a year is no accidental phenomenon; it is the answer of reaction to the attempt of

(Continued on page 2)

Who Is Behind The Conspiracy to Suppress Labor Action

By Max Shachtman

There is a conspiracy afoot to suppress our LABOR ACTION. We know who is behind it and we know why. Every one of the growing number of our readers should know, too. And they, in turn, should acquaint every workingman within their reach of the facts. Why? Because this conspiracy is not confined to an assault upon the rights of LABOR ACTION—it involves the rights and interests of the whole labor movement.

What is the conspiracy?

It is a plan to give a "legitimate labor" cover to an attack upon the right to a free press—and, as we shall show, an attack with a purpose. LABOR ACTION has been telling the damaging truth about conservative and reactionary forces. They can't answer our exposures. So they seek to frame us, to gag us, to bury us.

For example:

At the recent national convention of the Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers of America, a vicious resolution against LABOR ACTION was railroaded through at the very

tail-end of the sessions, with three-quarters of the delegates unaware of what was being put over. That resolution had the audacity to attack LABOR ACTION as a "fifth column" journal, promoted by "Nazi agents," and called upon the government to "investigate" our paper. Of course, even before this "investigation" has taken place, the resolution already called upon the government to suppress LABOR ACTION!

There was only one paper in the country that went out of its way to give special prominence to this resolution and to cheer itself hoarse. That paper was the Daily Worker, spokesman of the Communist Party in this country. Make a mental note of that.

Next:

A little paper called "Shop News," published in New York by Local 450 of the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America, Sperry Division, followed right behind the Shipbuilding Workers Union convention resolution with an inflammatory article against LABOR ACTION, in the issue of October 2. The arti-

cle is hysterical with praise of the resolution. Listen to what it writes:

"Intelligent people who are loyal Americans cannot be misled by the obvious attempts of the mysterious editors of LABOR ACTION to slow production and throw discredit upon the all-out war effort of President Roosevelt and other government leaders. The secrecy concerning its origin is in itself proof that the paper's motives do not invite investigation. The CIO and all other organizations interested in the preservation of America as a bulwark of democracy demand such investigation NOW!"

All right, gentlemen, we will come back to these three sentences. For the moment we point out this fact, which is known to every active union militant in New York: The organizing staff of the Sperry Local of the UE union, which is only now having an election of regular officers, is dominated by the Communist Party—to the detriment of the union. So is the editorial staff of the local union paper, Shop News. Make another mental note of that.

Further:

A few weeks ago the United Rubber Workers of America had

its national convention in Akron, Ohio. As an inseparable part of the American labor movement, as the voice that expresses the feelings of thousands of workers, LABOR ACTION addressed itself to the delegates of that convention on the problems facing the rubber workers and their union. As usual with us, we didn't mince words. We called a spade a spade. Emphasizing, as always, our unflinching allegiance to the principles, the interests and the institutions of the union movement, we exercised at the same time the right and duty to point out some of the shortcomings and weaknesses of the union which are due to the rotten policies of belly-crawling and surrender practiced by many union leaders.

These leaders could not and cannot answer our indictment of their policies, which have cost the members so dearly in the loss of rights and the loss of living and working standards. So they figure on turning over the job of "answering" us to—the cops. This time, to be sure, they didn't adopt a resolution against LABOR ACTION. The only reason why they didn't is revealed by Robert

(Continued on page 3)

Europe in Revolt

News from the Socialist Camp

FRENCH WORKERS ACT AGAINST FORCED LABOR

At least ten thousand workers of the industrial region of Lyon and of the districts bordering the Franco-Swiss border are on strike in protest against forced labor. The metal and textile workers of Lyon and Chambery are demonstrating in the streets against Laval's efforts to ship them to Germany. There have been street fightings in several French towns and the Pétain police is reported to have used hand grenades and machine guns against the demonstrators. The victims among the workers are said to be around fifty so far.

The French workers in the occupied zone were rather slow in realizing what had happened to them the day Pétain took power. For a long while they were bewildered and hopeless. There was apparently little reaction against the multiple provocations of Pétain-Laval and their guards. As a result, certain people despaired completely of the power of French labor; if they swallow all that, said these people, then there is really no hope that French labor will ever rise again.

These workers did indeed swallow a great deal, but when on the factory bulletin boards lists were posted advising the workers to prepare for shipment, the breaking point was reached; the old spirit of resistance, so deeply imbedded in every French worker, revived. They did not want to go to Germany to slave for Hitler and they said so, demonstrating in the streets and stopping work in many factories.

This is the first workers' movement in France on a mass scale since the armistice. It is like a first ray of sunshine announcing a brighter day.

FREE FRENCH TRY TO EXPLOIT WORKERS' MOVEMENT

The Free French clique of monarchist generals and reactionary politicians, as well as a little clique of former socialists, are trying to exploit the magnificent movement of the workers for their own purposes. They suddenly come out with a declaration of support for this strike movement. Only recently they held, with the New York Times, that "it would be a tragedy of the first order if the inevitable uprising develops prematurely; before the arrival of Allied military forces on the ground, before a national leadership is developed, before it can acquire the shape of a truly representative movement."

Today they call: "Meet violence with violence" and proclaim an "open war" against Vichy. They now say that "the hour has come to

WOMEN DEMONSTRATE WITH MEN

From the New York Times: "It was revealed tonight that German officials put down last Friday an insipient revolt against labor conscription in the big Renault war plant outside Paris by threatening the summary execution of fifty hostages in the factory yard."

"Workers in the plant, in which tanks are made and repaired for the German Army, went on strike for three hours in protest against the arbitrary selection of special lists of laborers for service in Germany. The

We do not think that these first outbreaks are already the beginning of a new revolutionary movement in France, but they clearly point to the fact that the will to action is being revived.

The Laval regime is already badly shattered. The Nazis ask categorically for the shipment of 150,000 skilled French workers in the near future, but Laval is unable to recruit them. Propaganda and threats, intimidation and appeals to "patriotism," all proved of no avail.

Skilled workers cannot be shipped like cattle, because they will simply not work according to anything like normal standards. Mr. Laval is therefore deeply worried. And last Saturday's occurrences are only the forerunner of greater troubles for him. Trouble is also spreading to other parts of unoccupied France and the tide of sabotage and strikes is rising. Special armed guards are patrolling the streets, presenting a picture of imminent civil war.

What a striking similarity: Mr. Churchill's "democratic" guards are killing Indian strikers and Mr. Laval's "authoritarian" guards are killing French strikers. The streets of Lyon look very much different from the streets of Bombay. Nevertheless, much the same thing is happening here and there; in the camp of "democracy" and in the camp of totalitarianism, workers fight for their liberties; workers fight for their right not to be treated like slaves and human cattle. It is in their fight against oppression, in their strikes, mass action and militancy that rests the future of the world. That is why we feel that their fight is our fight.

resist with all possible means the sending of French workers to Germany." But let nobody be fooled. These people are just as reactionary now as they were a month ago. If they make declarations of this kind now, it is only an indication that they are without real influence on the French masses, who do not wait on Gen. de Gaulle for their watchword.

Since the movement has already started, de Gaulle gives his support because this is obviously the only way not to lose all influence. But fundamentally it must be his policy to oppose all mass action by the workers; he is and remains the valet of English imperialism and as such he can only disapprove of every attempt of the workers to take their fate into their own hands.

German ultimatum was delivered under the muzzle of machine guns. "Marshal Henri Philippe Pétain, the Chief of State, has proclaimed the family as one of the keystones of his new order. French mothers today are taking him at his word. At Annecy and other places they have demonstrated to the cry "We do not want our boys to go!" Some have laid themselves across the tracks to prevent the departure of trains carrying workers to Germany."

Says Sperry Workers Ought to Back UERMW

Correspondent Chooses UE as Against AFL Union—Says UE Could Win by Displaying a Militant and Aggressive Policy

Dear Editor:

One of the lowest wage scales in the industry, uneven and discriminating pay rates, dictatorial foremen, speed-up, poor sanitary conditions—all this can be found in the Sperry Gyroscope Co.

Foremen and company stooges make life miserable for the worker who speaks up alone for a change in conditions. The second-class man who wants to get a raise by getting in on the learnership program finds he must first take a cut. The fellow who loses his belongings because there are no lockers is just out of luck.

And no ONE person can settle anything against the might and strength of the Sperry Gyroscope Co., backed by the Sperry Corp. To solve their problems, the Sperry workers must and are beginning to unionize.

Inspire AFL Drive

The attempts of the Sperry workers to remedy their conditions by joining the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers Union, CIO, has been fought by the company with typical boss cunning. Their weapons against the union have been intimidation, discrimination, the Brotherhood of Scientific Instru-

Gates Speaks On Elections

Speaking on Sunday, October 18, at a meeting organized by LABOR ACTION, Albert Gates, editor of the New Internationalist, traced the development of a totalitarian economy in the United States and linked this development with the current election campaign.

Speaking on "The Election Campaign in New York," Gates explained the indifference of the New York workers to the campaign in terms of the many pressing problems which confront labor. On the fundamental issues of the day—war, wages, taxes and such—the principal candidates, said Gates, hold a common view. Hence there is no real issue in the campaign save that of power and party politics.

In the greater part of his exceedingly interesting lecture, Gates explained the meaning of the growing anti-parliamentary feeling; the differences in the capitalist class as it reflects itself in the clash in Congress; the trends of the war economy, its systematic pauperization of the middle class, and its polarization of the classes—big business on one side, labor on the other.

Analyzing the parties, among them the American Labor Party, which he described as a faction of the Democratic Party, Gates concluded his lecture with an exposition of the need and meaning of a genuinely independent labor party in the light of present-day problems.

The next in the series being held at Irving Plaza (15th Street and Irving Place) by LABOR ACTION will be a lecture by Max Shachtman on the Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of the Russian Revolution. In this lecture Shachtman will discuss the nature of the Soviet state today as it differs from the state created by the proletarian revolution of 1917.

ment Makers, a company union, and a vicious hiring policy.

The UE fought the company union until the Brotherhood was kicked out by the National Labor Relations Board and the courts. But the company has one last trick, one it has used before to the same end. The company is using the AFL to prevent unionization of the plant. All the former Brotherhood men and company stooges have joined the AFL.

The International Association of Machinists (IAM) is following the same road in Sperry's that it did in Curtiss Aviation, Buffalo. It came into the picture after the company union was kicked out. It hadn't helped and a few years ago (in Sperry) had definitely hindered the campaign against the Brotherhood. Profiting by the poor leadership and program of the CIO, the IAM won the election in Curtiss in the last three

months of the campaign.

After being awarded sole bargaining rights by the NLRB, the AFL split the workers at Curtiss into a score of craft unions. Men working in the same building, on the same floor, but in different departments, belong to different craft unions. Each union has different union conditions, standards, rates of pay and grievance machinery. Under such conditions, each craft union fights with the other over jurisdiction in one department or another. In the meantime the workers in the plant get nowhere and the company sits back and rakes in bigger and bigger war profits while the unions fight one another.

UE Needs Aggressiveness

In dealing with the company-inspired AFL drive, the UE leaders have not been aggressive. To pre-

vent splitting the Sperry workers into a score of craft unions fighting among themselves, the UE needs more than a sign over the headquarters. The UE has talked too much about production and not enough about labor-management committees to SPEED UP production and almost nothing about conditions in the shop. They use the grievance machinery granted by the courts too much for making friends of the management and not enough for settling grievances.

The UE must stop these tactics and show the workers in Sperry the union means to fight for them. It must prove that the UE can improve conditions and get raises despite wage-freezing. Let it ignore the advice of the Washington representative of the UE, Russ Nixon, who speaks at a stewards' council for "wage sta-

bilization." Let "Foxy" Gillmor be "stabilized" first. The UE must remove the fear of the draft as punishment by the company. It is a stumbling block to organization.

UE Can Win

The workers in Sperry are ready for a militant union; witness the sitdown in the tool room at Bush-First Avenue; witness the reaction to the time-clock situation in Nassau; witness the lateness situation at Bush. After almost two years of organizing, the workers want action.

The UE, an industrial union of all the workers, can win if it changes its tune and really fights in the interests of the Sperry workers; if it doesn't permit the company to get away with any measures designed to hinder the organizing drive and hurt the Sperry workers.

Sperry Worker.

Three Negroes Lynched - -

(Continued from page 1)

the Negro to establish democracy for himself at home.

How hypocritical are the "patriotic" pratings about liberty, equality, freedom for all, when in eight states millions of Negroes and poor whites are still disfranchised by the poll-tax!

Congress and the Poll-Tax

Congress, under a great deal of pressure from labor and liberal organizations, has finally passed the anti-poll-tax law. The bill is now before a Senate committee, which is stalling in an attempt to make the law invalid. If it is not passed by January 1, the previous work done on it will have to be started over again. The poll-tax bloc knows that time is precious and it is seeking to kill the bill by wasting this precious element. In this it has the tacit support of those members of the Senate

Judiciary Committee who are "uncommitted" on the bill.

Passage of the anti-poll-tax bill is only one small step in the direction of abolishing the system of Jim Crow. Next is needed an anti-lynch law which will make it a crime for any state or local peace officers to fail to protect their prisoners from mob violence, and which will seek out the lynchers and punish them. Such a bill has been before Congress for many years—each time defeated in its passage by Southern and reactionary representatives.

Labor—black and white—must unite in an effort to get this legislation passed and to see to it that it is carried out. That is the only way. Pious speeches on holidays won't do the trick—nor will appeals by the President that racial prejudice be forgotten bring this about. United

and determined action will.

Now is the time to act! Demand the passage of the anti-poll-tax bill by the Senate! Demand the immediate reintroduction and enactment of the anti-lynch bill!

Pamphlet on India To Be Published By Workers Party

An up-to-date and fundamental pamphlet entitled "India in Revolt" by Henry Judd is being prepared for publication by the Workers Party. The pamphlet will deal with the history of the British seizure of India, the nature of its imperialist rule, the rise of nationalism and the periodic struggles for Indian independence up to and including the most recent fight against British rule.

The pamphlet will be off the press in about two weeks. Those who are interested can obtain copies by writing to the Workers Party, 114 West 14th Street, New York City.

Press Action

The regular press run and circulation of LABOR ACTION—America's leading labor paper—has now reached an all-time high of TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND COPIES PER WEEK!

Subscriptions: For the first time in history, our Buffalo literature agent has succeeded in turning in more subscriptions than New York City. Congratulations, Buffalo! But New York is out to get back on top! The list below includes subscriptions for the past two weeks:

Buffalo	33
New York City	8
Philadelphia	1
Washington, D.C.	1
Total	43

CBS Cancels Program

The first of the series was to have been broadcast over WCCO, the CBS Minneapolis outlet. Time had been cleared. Then CBS in New York ordered WCCO, as well as WJVS, its Washington station, to cancel the program, "because of the controversial nature of the issues." "The Columbia policy," its statement reads, "is founded upon the premise that the ability to buy time should not determine the extent to which a particular side of a public controversial issue should be broadcast. If the Cooperative League bought time to promote its interests, time could be bought by a powerful group of retailers... The soundness and public desirability of this policy has seldom been more apparent than in this case, where a departure from the policy would be directly harmful to the interests of the League itself." (Sometimes you might almost suspect that these men have a sense of humor behind their paunches.)

The broadcast by the Independent stations has been postponed until the issue is settled with the national networks. John Carson, Coop League Washington representative, who, years ago, as secretary to Senator James Couzens, wrote the law setting up the present Federal Communications Commission, will attempt to fight the decision there and through the anti-trust division. First step, however, will be to try to get a congressional investigation. There have been other attempts to throttle the coops, brought on by the war. A wholesale coal cooperative is now illegal in Pennsylvania. In both Canada and the United States, attempts were made to choke off cooperatively owned oil wells. Big business will not tolerate even that mild challenge to its profits as is represented by the tepid cooperative associations.

Buy Labor Action In Harlem at:

125th STREET
Northeast corner (8th Ave.)
Northeast corner (8th Ave.)
Northwest corner (7th Ave.)
Northwest corner (Lenox Ave.)
Southwest corner (Lenox Ave.)
116th STREET
Northeast corner (Lenox Ave.)
Southeast corner (Lenox Ave.)
Southwest corner (Lenox Ave.)

In Detroit:

LABOR ACTION can be bought each week at the newsstand at the corner of Fort and Woodward.

In No. Philadelphia:

S.E. Corner—19th and Columbia.
N.W. Corner—18th and Master.
N.E. Corner—20th and Turner.

When you've finished reading this paper, don't hog it. Pass it on to a friend.

Better yet—why not buy him a sub? Twenty-five cents for six

The Readers of Labor Action Take the Floor...

"Democracy" in Caruthersville

Dear Editor:

On the courthouse lawn at Caruthersville, Mo., is displayed a list of the local white men serving in the armed forces, but the names of Negro soldiers and sailors are not included. The Caruthersville Junior Chamber of Commerce, which arranged the display, had voted to put the names of Negroes at the bottom in a separate list, but when Negro organizations protested this arrangement the Junior Chamber of Commerce voted to leave them off altogether.

The president of the Junior Chamber of Commerce then sent a letter to the newspaper in which he pointed out that Negroes are Jim-Crowed in all other activities of that community, "therefore, we could not see the advisability of arranging white and colored names all together on one large panel."

In this we find the Junior Chamber of Commerce quite consistent. Not one word about a "war for democracy!" The workers of Southeast Missouri, too, know that he is right. They know that there is no democracy in Caruthersville. They know that they were run out of Caruthersville last spring when they tried to hold a union meeting. That is why the Junior Chamber of Commerce does not have to make any pretenses about democracy—because no one around Caruthersville would believe them even if they did.

Well, Brother Editor and readers of LABOR ACTION, we can't say very much to recommend social conditions in Swampy Missouri, but we claim that in some respects the bosses are more open and honest than they can afford to be in other parts of the country.

Yours for a Workers' Democracy! Missourian.

Letter to Green "A Masterpiece"

Dear Editor:

The letter addressed to John Green in the LABOR ACTION of October 5 is a masterpiece! That letter should be printed as a separate piece of literature and widely circulated. A paper like LABOR ACTION and a periodical like The New Internationalist should receive efficient cooperation in their circulation.

A. M.

Sell-Out Artist In San Pedro

Dear Editor:

It may interest you to know that another government "friend of labor" has parked himself in San Pedro to "settle disputes." We know what that means—he wants to settle the union's hash. The last such gentleman we had here, Eugene Greene of the Ship Stabilization Committee, stayed just long enough to put the staggered shift over on the union. This new arrival, by the name of Pollard, comes from the WPB and HIS assignment seems to be to smash the union hiring hall.

This character Pollard is palming himself off as a WPB man and a union "brother" at the same time. He was here once before, when we were fighting Bethlehem's ten-hour day; he came in then and promised to stand by till Bethlehem was back to eight hours and had signed a union contract. Right in the middle he skipped out and Bethlehem went ahead with the dirty work.

Now "Brother" Pollard is back with a new set of promises: a new contract with the Los Angeles yard, in exchange for the hiring hall. So far, though, he's been busiest attacking the paper that is fighting hardest

to defend the union and union conditions. LABOR ACTION.

Let's tell this combination of government sell-out artist and labor fakery: You're no friend of the men who do the work in the shipyard! You come in here to try to help the LA bosses to bust our hiring hall and to smear the people who are working hardest to preserve it. Get rid of your sheep's clothing, Pollard, and drop that "brother" baloney.

You and your War Production Board represent the bosses, and you don't belong in our union meetings! Shipyard Worker.

Local 1 Shipworker On Sunday Pay

Dear Editor:

I have read with great interest the articles about the problems facing the San Pedro (Local 9) ship workers.

Here is a problem of our own (New York Ship Workers, Local 1): Recently the company put a stop to all Sunday work. Naturally, the best thing for us workers would be the five-day week based on a decent living wage. Still, going back to the six-day week at our yard has worked a lot of hardship on all of us.

When I first got my job in the yard, Saturday work was something new. Then Sunday work began. We grumbled about giving up our one day off, but the way prices were going up, \$20 a week more was not to be sneezed at. We found as many things to buy as we had money. We began to make down payments on homes, buy much needed furnishings, clothing and so on. Everything on installments!

So much for that. Now Sunday work is no more. Almost all of us counted on the income of the seven-day week. How can we, with the

equivalent of two days' less pay a week, meet our debts to the FHA, the department stores, loan companies, etc.? How can we meet the rising costs of living? How can we continue to take out 10 per cent of our wages in bonds which we do "voluntarily" with a union and company blackjack over our heads? And what about the new income taxes and "Victory" taxes that are coming up?

Something should be done about this situation and done quick. What we really need and should fight for is seven days' pay for six days' work. We've got to put up a fight because the real squeeze is coming. We want action, and if our national and local officers don't give it to us, we'll take it.

BILL IUMSWA Local 1.

Interracial Club Holds Forum on Politics and Jobs

NEW YORK—The next lecture and round table discussion of the Open Forum series held by the Interracial Club will be on Sunday, October 25, at 4:00 p.m., at 360 West 125th Street, corner St. Nicholas Avenue.

The guest speaker obtained for this occasion is Max Shachtman, national secretary of the Workers Party, well known writer and speaker on economic and political problems. Mr. Shachtman's topic and the subject of the round table discussion to follow his talk will be "Politics and Jobs for the Negro."

According to the announcement of the Open Forum, the session will be devoted to analyzing the programs and accomplishments of existing political organizations as well as the particular party which the speaker represents. The public is invited to attend. Admission is free.

Hospital Workers Fight Henry Ford

Henry Ford Hospital, one of the well known labor-hater's so-called "charities," has been charged with continuing the vicious anti-labor practices of Henry Ford in a leaflet issued by the Hospital Workers Union, Local 814, of the State, County and Municipal Workers of America, CIO.

The attempt of the workers at the hospital to raise their wages, which are below a decent standard of living, and to improve their working

conditions by organizing into a union was answered by Ford with the firing of the president of the union.

Although no strike is in progress, the hospital workers are making their plight known to the public by picketing and distribution of leaflets. The solidarity of all workers and professionals in the Henry Ford Hospital is clearly demonstrated by the sight of internes, nurses and service workers joining and encouraging the pickets at the hospital gates.

Detroit, Mich.

G. W.

Attention, Los Angeles Workers!
The address of the Labor Action office in Los Angeles is:
233 South Broadway, Room 415

Introductory Offer
TO:
LABOR ACTION
114 WEST 14th STREET
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SIX MONTH SUBSCRIPTION 25¢!
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WE CHARGE: The Communist Party Liars Are Behind The Conspiracy to Suppress Labor Action

(Continued from page 1)

H. Stopher, columnist for the Akron Beacon-Journal, in its issue of October 4. He writes:

"Delegates to the rubber workers' convention considered asking the FBI to investigate the paper's (LABOR ACTION'S) sponsors but finally decided not to do so on the theory that the Trotskyites would be flattered by the advertising. . . It is believed here that the FBI already has LABOR ACTION'S editors and backers under surveillance."

Who was pressing the "delegates to the rubber workers' convention" to adopt a resolution asking for the muzzling of LABOR ACTION? The representatives of the Communist Party!

COMMUNIST PARTY BEHIND THE DRIVE!

Behind this drive to suppress our paper is the American representative of the Stalinist bureaucracy in the Kremlin, the Communist Party. That's why it is an organized and systematic movement. That's why it appears wherever the Stalinists have any power in the union movement.

Why do they want to suppress us? Because THEY KNOW that we have their number. They know that we fight them tooth and nail, and that we make no deals with them. They know that they cannot bribe us or intimidate us, as they have succeeded in doing with others. They know that we always tell the truth about them, whether they are allied with Hitler in the war, as they were for almost two years, or allied with Anglo-American imperialism. They know we fight every effort they make to seize control of the American labor movement and make it a docile tool of the reactionary rulers of the Russian people.

They cannot answer the truth we tell, so they tell lies about us, as they have always done about our Trotskyist comrades in Russia. They cannot answer our arguments with honest counter-arguments, so they try the frame-up system against us, just as their bosses in Moscow frame up every honest working-class critic and opponent. They cannot dispose of us here with their blood-

stained GPU, as their bosses have been doing with the best revolutionists in Russia, so they call upon the police of American capitalism to do the job for them.

THEY ARE THE ONES WHO PRAISED HITLER

Just read again the sentences we quoted above from the Shop News, which they control. Every word of it reeks with the style of the trained Stalinist liar and frame-up expert.

It talks piously about "intelligent people who are loyal Americans." The only thing the men it represents are loyal to are the interests of the Stalinist clique in Russia! Do they think workers are SO stupid, SO short in their memories, that they have already forgotten where these people were and what they were doing in the first period of the war?

Aren't THEY the ones who praised to the skies the unholy alliance between Stalin and his pal Hitler? Aren't THEY the ones who praised to the skies the rape of Poland, which the bandits divided between themselves, splitting the loot? Aren't THEY the ones who praised their master-paper, the Moscow Izvestia, when it wrote that "Fascism is a matter of taste"? Aren't THEY the servile followers of Stalin who said his alliance with Hitler is "cemented with blood"? Aren't THEY the ones who praised Russian Foreign Minister Molotov when he said that the alliance with Hitler is based on the "fundamental spite interests of the USSR and Germany"? Aren't THEY the ones who praised Stalin when he said that "it was not Germany that attacked France and England, but France and England that attacked Germany, thereby assuming responsibility for the present war"? Aren't THEY the ones for whom that same Moscow Izvestia spoke when it wrote, on October 9, 1939, that "to undertake war for annihilation of Hitlerism" means to commit criminal folly in politics?

And it is these Stalinists, with their abominable record, who have the unmitigated effrontery to label as "fifth columnists" those who, like us of LABOR ACTION, have NEVER wavered for an instant in their uncompromising hatred of Hitlerism, of fascism,

of the Nazis; who NEVER apologized for them, who NEVER pleaded their case, who NEVER made an alliance with them.

The Stalinists want to have us suppressed because THEY know OUR banner is without a stain and because WE know WHO they are and WHAT they are!

THERE IS NO "MYSTERY" ABOUT US

Like the lying frame-up artists they are, they speak slyly about "the mysterious editors of LABOR ACTION" and "the secrecy concerning its origin." There is no "secret," there is no "mystery."

They know who we are at least as well as we know who they are. They know who owns LABOR ACTION, who edits it, who writes for it, who "sponsors" it. Earl Browder, boss of the American Stalinists and director of the drive against us, knows particularly well who we are. They just PRETEND that we are "mysterious" people in order to further their dirty conspiracy to mix us up with the very Nazi movement with which their master was allied for two solid years.

The undersigned is known to Browder and the Stalinists. He was one of the founders of the very Communist movement in this country which Browder and his cohorts have distorted and betrayed. The undersigned was one of the editors of the Daily Worker back in 1926 and 1927 when it was still a working-class, revolutionary paper. The undersigned was a delegate to Communist conferences in Moscow from the American movement when Moscow was an international working-class center and not an international center of reaction. The undersigned was a member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party when he and his comrades were expelled from that party by Browder & Co. for the "crime" of Trotskyism, which is the name the Stalinists apply to socialist internationalism. The undersigned has been active ever since that time, that is, since 1928, in the Trotskyist movement, speaking, writing, organizing, always operating on the principle which is held by all the sponsors, friends and supporters of LABOR ACTION: "The working class and its interests—first, last and always!"

The editor of LABOR ACTION is known to the Stalinist gang, too. They know of his membership for years, since 1924, in the Communist movement of this country, when it WAS a Communist movement and not a racket of the Stalinist commissars. They know that he too has been publicly active for the past twelve years, since his expulsion by the Stalinist bureaucracy for the crime of thinking for himself, in the Trotskyist movement.

The labor editor of LABOR ACTION is known to the Stalinists. They know of his long years of untainted service to the labor and socialist movements. They know of his years as one of the finest leaders of the unemployed movement in this country. They know of his work in founding the American Workers Party in 1933, of his activity, subsequent to that time, in our Trotskyist movement. They know of his service to the great CIO movement in his capacity of organizer for the Steel Workers Organizing Committee in Pennsylvania and Ohio.

They know the records of all the rest of us, as well, and they know that there is not an unclean spot on any of them. Because LABOR ACTION, like the Workers Party, which wholeheartedly supports it, will not for a single moment tolerate in its ranks any faker or careerist or shady character or mercenary politician. They will not tolerate anybody who is not unreservedly behind the working class in general and the organized labor movement in particular—yesterday, today and tomorrow.

The Stalinists know the truth about us, but they refuse to tell it. And because we know the truth about them, they refuse to have us tell it! That is why they want us suppressed and wiped out by police action!

Next week we will show how the Stalinists have combined with non-Stalinist union leaders against LABOR ACTION; what that combination means to the workers and their unions; and what every militant and class-conscious union militant can and should do about it.

MAX SHACHTMAN.

Politics as Usual!

Some News and Comment On the Election Campaign

By SUSAN GREEN

When Dean Alfange—Tammany Hall politician—accepted the nomination as gubernatorial candidate for the misnamed American Labor Party he made loud claims to being the one and only true crusader for Roosevelt and for what Roosevelt stands for. Apparently, however, Roosevelt knows better than Alfange what Roosevelt stands for.

At any rate, no one can be arrested for making the kind of bid for presidential support that Alfange made. He just didn't have any luck. So Alfange shows signs of shifting his allegiance. While still wearing the drooping plume of a Roosevelt crusader, he is casting sidelong glances in the direction of the man he considers the "real" Roosevelt, namely, Willkie. Says Alfange of Willkie: "I recommend his courage and vision as an example of the type of leadership which is needed in these days of upheaval."

Will Mr. Alfange spare a moment of his precious time to show just why any working man or woman should support a candidate with a Tammany Hall background—running on the ticket of a fake labor party (of which he is not even a member)—and at the same time making eyes at the next presidential candidate of the Republican Party?

Thomas E. Dewey, the Republican Party white hope, has as little to offer the people as his opponents.

His main talking point seems to be "the blundering, the inefficiency and the inconsistencies" of the Democratic administration—although he is a bit timid even on this point for fear of being accused of "disturbing national unity."

Still, this being his main bone of contention, it is apparent that Mr. Dewey's is a case of the pot calling the kettle black. His lot is not a happy one. For who is there not acquainted with the blundering, the inefficiency and the inconsistencies of Republican administrations—notably those of the last Republican administration.

Is it Mr. Dewey's idea of enlightened democracy that the people must place their faith either in a soot-blackened pot or in a soot-blackened kettle?

"We must begin now to prepare America to receive home the millions of Americans who are fighting the battle of democracy. . . I shall do everything in my power to see that nothing is left undone to take the fullest care of those whose physical scars have been received through their sacrifice."

This post-war promise from Democratic Candidate Bennett sounds like the promise to a turkey that it will be roasted in grand style after its head is chopped off.

LABOR ACTION has a better idea—the Socialist system of society that will forever outlaw war, war casualties and post-war cripples.

Israel Amter, Communist Party candidate, follows the party line up and down the State of New York.

From the Kremlin came the ukase that all the brethren must start shouting for a second front p.d.g. So they are all shouting. Mr. Amter uses his campaign speeches to shout the loudest.

If the Stalin-Hitler pact had not been so short-lived, Mr. Amter would now be trying to convince his fellow citizens that nazism is quite innocuous—IN FACT, ONLY

A MATTER OF TASTE—as he was doing not so long ago.

American workers never had a taste for nazism. Neither do they or should they have a taste for a Charlie McCarthy for Dictator Stalin.

Here's another one for Mr. Alfange to answer:

He promises that as Governor of the State of New York he will "preserve labor's Magna Carta." He also promises that as Governor of the State of New York he will "place New York's full weight behind the President's seven-point economic program and implement it by state legislation."

Now then, Mr. Alfange, the right to strike is the MAGNA CARTA of labor's Magna Carta. Without that right, labor is like a glove without the hand in it. However, Mr. Alfange, President Roosevelt's economic program has taken that elementary right away from labor!

Would you seek to restore that right? Or would you "place New York's full weight" behind the President's no-strike edict "AND IMPLEMENT IT BY STATE LEGISLATION"?

Just a question, Mr. Alfange, YOU REALLY CAN'T STAND FOR BOTH, YOU KNOW!

In the past week the candidacy of Mr. Bennett, now blessed by President Roosevelt, has been endorsed by the capitalist Owen D. Young, by the Tammany politician, Alfred E. Smith—and by the officials of the "Big Four" Railway Brotherhoods, representing some 175,000 railroad workers.

It is altogether fitting and proper that Boss Young and Political-Henchman Smith should endorse the candidate of their favorite boss party. It is altogether unfitting and improper for officials of workers unions to endorse ANY CANDIDATE OF ANY BOSS PARTY.

That the officials of the Railway Brotherhoods and the officials of other unions do so, indicates that they are still engaged in the Judas job of keeping labor from realizing its full political power.

The millions of working people of this country need be beholden to no one for political favors. They don't have to worry about securing "the good will" of the New Dealers or of the Old Dealers or of any of the Raw Dealers.

Labor must get out of the straightjacket of boss politics into which false leaders have tricked them. With an INDEPENDENT LABOR PARTY and a WORKING CLASS PROGRAM, labor could actually fight for the things it wants.

Mexicans--

(Continued from page 1)

that the Mexicans did not need any more and were accustomed to a lower standard of living."

It is in the poverty and segregation to which the Mexican people are subjected that the cause of crime and juvenile delinquency must be sought—just as it is among people of all races and nations. Any other approach such as that of the sheriff's office, is a vicious slander of the Mexican and intended to perpetuate the same criminal injustice of race and national discrimination. The real crime here is in the report of the sheriff's office!

Hearst Press Wants Strikes Declared Treason - - WLB Assists Reactionary Drive Against Labor

(Continued from page 1)

as labor unions increase in power and assume a place of greater importance in our national life, they too will be subjected to regulations designed to protect the working man and the nation."

The working class will certainly need a lot of help if it is to be protected from such people as Wayne L. Morse and the Daily Mirror. Before this same National Printers' Association, Morse launched into an attack on labor, again for labor's own benefit, because it was fighting to maintain a decent standard of living through the maintenance of its wage standards to meet the rising cost of living. Said Morse:

"Not only is it right to expect labor to forego taking advantage of the exigencies of war conditions in order to push its real wages above peacetime levels, but when viewed from the standpoint of our wartime economy and from the standpoint of the welfare of labor itself, it is essential that labor forego wage profiteering."

This is a bald demand on labor to accept its lowered standard of living, a standard of living which Leon Henderson declared would reach, by the end of 1943, the low level of 1932. Nowhere does Morse attack big business for taking advantage of the war to enrich itself. Nor does he attack the "captains of industry," the big bosses who have boosted their salaries and bonuses sky high through the increased business given them by the government. Against this labor profiteering he has nothing to say. Like a typical lackey of big business, he attacks the worker earning up to \$80 a week as a profiteer! It is from officials like Morse that the Daily Mirror gains courage.

What Pearson Said

But in the same issue and on the same page in which the above-mentioned editorial appeared there was also the column by Drew Pearson, "Washington Merry - Go - Round." Pearson points out how the production of vital war materials has been held back by large industries with the aid of their dollar-a-year representatives on the War Production Board, and he cites the cases.

The Aluminum Company of America (Alcoa) refused to develop low grade aluminum clays in the United States and insisted upon their importation from the "submarine-infested Caribbean."

The British-American tin monopoly, with the aid of their friends on the W.P.B., have prevented the construction of a tin smelter plant in the United States because that might interfere with their tin monopoly after the war.

The big steel companies have prevented the development of manganese in the Far West because they

feared post-war competition.

Big Steel and the WPB have prevented the construction of iron and steel plants in the West and South which would produce these strategic materials through the sponge iron process, purported to be a cheaper method of production.

Pearson points out that the new "National Academy of Sciences" is nothing else but a window dressing for the large manufacturers, set up to "advise" the War Production Board on iron, manganese, aluminum and other such materials. Its report to the War Production Board rejecting the sponge

iron process of manufacture was written by William A. Haven, vice-president of Arg. McKee & Co., manufacturers of blast furnaces for the big steel companies. The WPB accepted this report. The connection here is that the use of the sponge iron process would make unnecessary the employment of blast furnaces. And so, big business sticks together for mutual profits.

But even before these disclosures we have had the agreements between American and Nazi firms, notably I. G. Farben and Standard Oil, General Electric and Carbopol. These

are only a few samples. We have had the refusal of big business monopolies to produce on government contracts unless they were guaranteed enormous profits. We have had the "super-profits" of concerns given Navy contracts.

And it was only a short time ago, when the Truman Committee was in session, and when the Vinson Committee was examining war contracts, that many of these firms ran helter-skelter to the Navy Department to return their super-profits and renegotiate contracts with a more "reasonable rate of profit." We recall clearly the

charge of the Truman Committee that the actions of Standard Oil and the dollar-a-year men was "treason."

But what has the Daily Mirror to say about these things? Nothing, literally nothing! Being a mouthpiece of big business, representing the low intellectual level of the unscrupulous Hearst, its chief aim is to smear labor and the organized labor movement, to seek its destruction and thus render a miserable service to a bloated, profit-soaked big business! HERE IS AN ENEMY OF LABOR. LET THE LABOR MOVEMENT BE ON GUARD!

The 'Good Life' Under Capitalism

A Bottleneck on Technical Advance

By WESLEY EVEREST

Twelve new battleships. Fifty-three new airplanes. New taxes. New army divisions. Ships. Planes. Armaments. Men. Money. Millions of men. Billions of dollars. To keep up with capitalism at war you need a mind trained in astronomical figures. This enormous expenditure for death has to be seen against a backdrop of the technical possibilities for life for you really to appreciate the degree to which this is a decadent and dying culture.

The rate of technical advance is such that even the best trained technicians find it difficult to keep up with it outside their own little fields. Here we want to do not more than point out a few high spots, to indicate what kind of civilization is possible now, today, if the present technical knowledge were put into effect. Put into effect for LIFE.

Machines for making brick can turn out 30 times as many per man-hour as a hand-making process. Cigarette production per operator has been speeded up ten-fold in the past few years. The blowing of electric light bulbs is done with a machine that produces them 500 times as fast as the manual operation of a few years ago. One machine is in use that can turn out a quarter of a million bottles per day, using only a few operators.

An Illinois coal mine uses a power shovel that picks up 30 tons at a bite. With this shovel the basement of the average house could be excavated in ten days.

Using modern equipment, which almost no farmer does, three men can harvest sixty acres of wheat in a day.

When, several decades ago, the linotype was invented, it displaced eventually three printers out of every four. Under capitalism such a

machine can be a major tragedy to even the most highly skilled worker. Now there is perfected a sort of combination teletype-linotype, by which the standard press association releases, which make up a major part of every newspaper, would be set up only once on a master machine, and all over the country (or all over the world, for that matter) lead slugs would fall automatically into place. A greater tragedy—under capitalism.

In the 20's, as a climax to a dramatic struggle of half a century, U.S. Steel Corp. was finally forced to reduce working hours from 12 to 8. But in the same period the output of pig iron per man-hour was almost exactly doubled. Profits did not suffer.

The earth's crust holds more aluminum than iron. Yet until about 50 years ago, when Charles M. Hill discovered a process for extracting it from bauxite, aluminum metal was a rarity. It cost \$140 a pound. That process opened up vistas of virtually a new civilization, based on light, rustless metals. But the results have been what? Shiny gadgets, bombers and as watertight a monopoly as even Mellon himself could hope to see—the voracious Aluminum Company of America. There is, apparently now a practical process, using Utah alumite, by which aluminum can be extracted from impure clay as well as from bauxite ore. But even in the midst of all the fanfare about scrap campaigns, we hear nothing of it. To break so perfect a monopoly would be a shame.

Fifty Cents Becomes Fifty Dollars

By 1929 there were being made in this country almost five million automobiles a year. Three-quarters of the frames for these cars (excepting Ford's) were made by one com-

pany, A. O. Smith Co. of Milwaukee. These frames were not only being produced in one plant, they were being made on what is essentially a single machine. When operating, this machine produces one completed frame every eight seconds, fully 10,000 a day. The staff required is about 120 men, mostly in supervisory capacity. That is about sixteen man-minutes to convert rolled steel strips to the underpinnings of a car. Throw in as an estimate of the amount of labor to build the machine, maintain it and replace it when it is worn out, and the result is that the total labor investment is about 30 man-minutes for each automobile frame. Here is an object costing some \$50 to \$300 made with labor costing somewhere between fifty cents and \$1.00. It is enough almost to make you a socialist.

The 1929 cost of an automobile door was \$4.00. The 1935 cost was 33 cents. Hand-finishing body frames of wood before paneling cost \$3.00 in 1929 and 20 cents in 1935. One line-up for finishing motor blocks used 250 men in 1930 and 19 men in 1935 for the same production. No wonder the UAW wants a 5 per cent increase once in a while.

In 1909 Baekeland invented bakelite. There are now over 1,200 plastics, of different colors, textures, consistencies, uses. But when we get into the field of organic chemistry, the most important fact is not what has been done but that the process of discovering and synthesizing the millions of products has hardly begun.

Natural silk and natural rubber have not yet been surpassed, except for certain special purposes, by their synthetic counterparts but it is a matter of only a few years. When Adolf von Baeyer of Munich, after

15 years of work, perfected the synthesis of indigo from coal tar, the Badische Anilin- und Soda Fabrik was able to manufacture it at 15 cents a pound, compared with \$4.00 a pound for the natural product.

The result under capitalism: during the first decade of this century 1,000,000 more Indians starved than usual. With today's headlines about the slow rumbling of India's 400 millions, we can hope that when rubber synthesis is perfected there will be a different story to tell.

The Rust cotton picker can pick as much in one day as a shapersoper in an entire season. It can eliminate 75 to 80 per cent of the labor of cotton growing. The Rust brothers have some vague conception of the sociological possibilities of their invention. Their solution under capitalism: to restrict its use, letting it supplant human drudgery only very gradually.

Photo-Electric Supervisor

Not only has recent technical advance made possible the elimination of half or more of the necessary man-hours in industrial production, but even the supervisory jobs that such machines at first created are being displaced. Checking, sorting—any routine job, and some that do not seem quite routine—can be better done by a photo-electric eye than by any human operator. A photo-electric cell can judge color much more finely than any human eye.

And the power for all this? Actually in use today in the United States are 15 million water horse power, compared with a potential, using reserve storage dams, of 100 million. Such a water power system would not only furnish half the total present needs for power and heat—apart from coal and gas and other sources of power—but it would substitute irrigation for floods, rich fields for barren wastes. Why then is not the project being rushed? There really isn't a MARKET for so much power.

That is the basic trouble. There really is a market for so many things. There really isn't a market for the good life—that is, there isn't a profit in it for capitalism. Machines, techniques, power, raw materials, labor—everything is bursting, waiting to build a standard of living such as even the lying campaign speeches never dreamed of. The bottleneck is the market. The bottleneck is the fact that none of these factors operate unless the operation lines the pockets of the handful of capitalists that rule the country. That bottleneck must be broken —BROKEN BY SOCIALIST PRODUCTION FOR USE!

British Workers Get Wrong Steer

At the annual conference of the British Trade Union Congress, delegates were told by their president that the German people as well as their rulers must be made to pay for the suffering they have brought upon the world. Frank Wolstencroft declared: "I am one of those who feel bound to recognize that a vast majority of the German people—all that matter—were behind the Nazi gangsters when they gave effect to their policy of attempting the conquest and domination of Europe." He concluded that "it is far, far better for the world that 80 million or 90 million people should be held under bond, if necessary, than that countless millions yet unborn should

be called on to undergo what many millions have gone through twice in our lifetime."

This theory, namely, that all Germans, workers and leaders alike, carry the war guilt, was first promulgated by Lord Vansittart. Its announcement at the TUC conference created a stir among the delegates, many of whom felt that it was anti-working class.

When capitalist statesmen advocate this theory it is quite understandable, because from their point of view they are interested in raising the war fever to the highest possible degree. In order to get the masses to support the war, to make the necessary sacrifices without too

much grumbling, they believe that they must instill such race and national hatred in their hearts. Capitalist leaders dare not tell the British workers what fascism really is, namely, the form of government which big business utilizes in order to crush working class organizations and strength in order to perpetuate the rotten capitalist system.

All the more reprehensible is Wolstencroft's statement, for who is not a leader of the trade union movement, should see to it that the war, started in the first place without the consent of the toiling masses throughout the world, should not break the international solidarity of the working class? On

the basis of this theory, the Spanish workers are to blame for Franco, in spite of their heroic struggle against fascism in which Wolstencroft refused them the assistance and support of his organization. On the basis of this theory, every slave is guilty of the crimes of his master.

How effective can any appeal be to the German people to overthrow Hitler when they learn that even the working class leaders in the democracies hold them responsible for the war, when these leaders declare the differences between the Nazis and the German workers to be a myth, and propose to punish the whole nation?

Editorials

Land 'Retracts'

Admiral Land stirred a hornet's nest with his speech before the Investment Bankers Association in which he expressed his belief that "union organizers should be shot at sunrise." The liberal capitalist press, accustomed to more gingerly talk, was shocked by his unapologetic invitation to mass protest; they prefer smoother methods. Union leaders demanded an explanation.

Well, Admiral Emory S. Land couldn't understand the fuss. His office informed Bill Green of the AFL that Land "denies having made the statement attributed to him in the morning papers." Shortly afterward, however, Land came back fighting with his own "clarification."

Land claimed that he had been "misinterpreted" and then went on to repeat everything he had originally been reported as having said. In fact, he got downright belligerent all over again. All he meant, said Gauleiter Land, was that he had a few "peevess" and the principal peevess was union organizers whom he would like to see "shot at sunrise." Thus the "clarification" and the "repudiation."

The British New Leader prints a letter from the secretary of the so-called "International Workers' Front Against War," Marceau Pivert. He says: "The more I observe the evolution of the American Socialist Party, the more I rejoice to see the traces of the ideological influence of the ILP (Independent Labor Party). The American Socialist Party is evolving from a purely negative, pacifist position to a straight socialist position..."

Pivert lives in exile in Mexico. We underline this fact for our readers may conclude from his letter that he resides on the far side of the planet Neptune.

Land knew very well what he was saying. He is evidently a man not given to beating around the bush. He's gotten away with words and deeds as bad as the speech he made at the Bankers' Association. It has not gotten him anything but promotions from Roosevelt up to now and he doesn't figure it will get him into much trouble now.

We have covered the full story elsewhere in this issue. Just as Land sticks to his guns, so we stick to ours. His statement needs no clarification, neither does ours. There is a systematic reactionary drive against labor. Now that they can operate under the protection of the "war for democracy," the reactionaries are openly saying what they have had in mind all the time.

And we further reiterate that it will do no good for the union leaders to hang around the government corridors, waiting to buttonhole Knox or somebody with a request that he publicly rebuke Land. That is evidently what Green was doing and what Murray intends to do. A little union pressure, applied as union pressure, to get Land ousted and the affirm the RIGHT OF LABOR TO STRIKE AND ORGANIZE, will do a lot more good than a million tete-a-tetes with Knox or Roosevelt.

NOTE: While we are at it, we would like to ask how come Bill Green waited for Land's speech before he got excited? After all, Gauleiter Land spoke in a reasonably proper place for his ideas—a bankers' convention. But there were a couple of fas-

cists—Roane Waring, American Legion commander, and Admiral Moreell—who addressed the AFL convention with much the same ideas as expressed by Land. Why didn't Green toss them off the platform?

Hess in the News

Some strange tales have been coming out of the European and Russian battle fronts lately. They indicate—if only in a confused way—the growing breach that is separating imperialist Mr. Churchill from totalitarian Mr. Stalin.

First, the Communist Party of England is conducting, in effect, a campaign against the Churchill government. It is true that they do not yet attack Churchill directly, but they have mighty unpleasant things to say about the members and leaders of his cabinet and his party. This, of course, is all due to the fact that Churchill has refused to open up a second front despite Stalin's insistence. Churchill has also deliberately and angrily attacked any idea or talk about the second front.

The entire activity of the English Stalinist organization is directed toward the Second Front Now campaign. Operating solely as Stalin's agents, they don't care when, why or how the second front is opened, just so long as the terrific pressure on Stalin-grad is relieved. But Churchill has his own imperialist war axe to grind.

Stalin gave them a few fighting slogans last week when the Russian government, in an official note, demanded trials for the Nazi leaders and said that Rudolph Hess, the mysterious parachutist, should be tried now.

Stalin is not overly concerned with what happens to Herr Hess—whether that Nazi gangster is shot, hung or drawn-and-quartered won't make much difference to the Russian war effort. But he is much concerned with a second front and quick, too! So he gives the English representatives of his Stalinist dictatorship another weapon and club with which to hit the Churchill government, deceive more English workers and put pressure on for the Second Front Now. We can expect to see the English (and America) Stalinists start a big campaign now: "Hang Hess" added to "Open the Second Front."

We don't care two hoots in hell about Herr Hess (as a matter of fact, that butcher should be hung by the German workers), but we don't want anyone deceived by the cheap demagoguery and propaganda of the Stalinists. They exist today for one and only one purpose: to make the capitalists of America and England launch the second front. They don't care how many American and English youth and young workers die in the imperialist effort, just so long as it helps Stalin remain in power. The capitalists will launch the second front when they consider it militarily and politically feasible. Meanwhile, LABOR ACTION predicts a growing break between Churchill and Stalin as the crisis of Russia gets worse and worse. "When thieves fall out..."

QUESTION: Why didn't Wendell Willkie go to India on his round-the-world trip to talk to the Indians about the need for democracy?

ANSWER: Maybe because Winston Churchill threatened to make a trip to the United States to talk to the Negroes about the need for democracy.

British and Nazis Carry On Harmoniously in World Bank

By SAM ADAMS

We learn from the New York Times of October 14 that the Bank of International Settlements, more commonly known as the World Bank, continues to function and carry on its business despite the war. Even though the nations which are members of this institution are at war and their armies seek to destroy each other, we find that representatives of these same countries conduct their business in virtually the same way as before.

The matter of the World Bank arose in the British House of Commons when G. R. Strauss, a Labor representative from Lambeth, asked that the British sever all relations with this body. The debate brought out the following interesting facts: The Bank of International Settlements is now under control of the Germans. Of the sixteen directors of this bank, two are neutral, two are British and the rest either Germans or representatives of countries dominated by the Nazis. The president of the bank is Thomas H. McKittrick of the United States, in whose neutrality (in the midst of the war!) Sir Kingsley Wood, British Chancellor of the Exchequer, has the

greatest confidence. Says Sir Kingsley:

"The banks are so pledged that actually no transactions have taken place or can take place under the present arrangements which would confer any economic or financial advantage on any belligerent nation to the detriment of another. There have been no meetings of the board since the outbreak of the war and they have had no contact, direct or indirect, or any association with the enemy directorate... The bank carries on only what might be called routine business."

One can imagine what this routine business is about, for the Chancellor pointed out that Great Britain had, according to the Times, "substantial interest in the bank under the International Trust Agreement among the various governments and there was a British deposit amounting to between two million and three million pounds." In addition, the Bank of England had a sharehold of 4,000,000 pounds, of which 25 per cent was withdrawn. And now we come to some of the routine business, again quoting the Times' remarks of Chancellor Wood:

"Britain's association with the bank, he insisted, had brought no advantage, economic or financial, to the enemy, adding that it was significant that Germany paid interest to the bank, and from the bank's assets whereof these dividends formed a part, Britain had received a dividend."

Perhaps this dividend wasn't much but big business, in England, as in all other countries, will go a long way before it gives up anything resembling a dividend. It's the principle of the thing, don't you know! But the Labor representative pointed out that the World Bank in its report had set forth proposals for post-war economic reorganization, and declared that:

"There's some form of collaboration between the Nazis and the Allies and that somewhere in this country appeasement still lives."

What the Laborite meant to say is that even though there is a war on between Great Britain and Germany, the capitalists of both countries still find a way to work together to insure their post-war existence and profit-making. And that's not strange. It happened in the last war; it is happening in this one.

U. S. Maritime Head Would "Shoot Union Organizers"

(Continued from page 1)

strike in a San Francisco shipyard by using TROOPS. Last April he urged a six-day week in shipyards without extra rates for overtime work. The newspaper PM reports that he has been charged with "being unduly friendly to the steel interests." Time and again he has clashed head-on with the seamen's unions.

We have cited only a small part of his record. From first to last it's a consistent record of union-busting and anti-labor venom. About the only favorable accomplishment we could find in his record is that in the 1900 Army-Navy football game he made the winning touchdown!

And that's the man whom President Roosevelt placed in complete charge of shipping and shipbuilding! Until he is fired we must assume that he speaks the opinions of the Roosevelt Administration, though the latter would no doubt prefer less provocative and more demagogic statements.

Under cover of the war, reaction is stalking the land with greater boldness. The hypocrites speak less hypocritically. Under the cover of "patriotism" they brandish their anti-labor weapons out in the open.

The Hearst press wants strikes declared "treason." The WLB and Roosevelt speak more cautiously, but with the same practical intent. They have, in effect, outlawed strikes, assailed labor's standard of living and sought—by sweetness and deception, where it works, and by outright assault, where necessary—to stinging the unions into a state of paralyzed helplessness.

So bold and open has the campaign become that they dare speak up at a union convention!

Addressing the AFL convention in Toronto, Roane Waring, commander of the American Legion (a notoriously anti-labor outfit) delivered what the correspondent for the United Automobile Worker, union paper, called the worst labor-baiting speech he had ever heard.

The man who goes on strike, said Mr. Waring, "no matter how cruel or unfair" the grievances, "is a criminal, a saboteur, a traitor, and as such should face the consequences."

Questioned by reporters after this speech as to whether he would shoot strikers, Waring replied ("unhesitatingly," reports the New York Times): "Yes, if I had the authority!"

Waring padded his speech with a lot of mouthy compliments to "the great majority" of labor, the kind

of tribute that Hitler might and does deliver while sinking a Gestapo knife into the back of labor.

And a week earlier, addressing the Building and Construction Trades Department of the AFL in Toronto, Rear Admiral Ben Moreell issued a Hitlerite blast against unions which made the front page in the New York Times, Wall Street's proudest flower.

Rear Admiral Ben Moreell (his commanding officer is President Roosevelt!) warned that "no one can live without labor, but they certainly can live without labor unions. They are living without them in Germany and in Italy and in Japan, and they seem to be doing right well—at least for the moment—and in my opinion they will damn well live without them here if all of us don't get in there and pitch."

That's just the point! Germany is "doing without" unions in Germany, Italy and Japan. That is why the capitalist class chooses fascism: to crush the labor unions, to crush labor. That's the very meaning and essence of fascism, and it is also the meaning and essence of Admiral Moreell's speech.

There is no doubt about it: Ben Moreell and his class CAN do without labor unions. In fact, they'll do a lot better. But labor CANNOT do without them. Without unions, labor becomes the victim of fascist violence and suppression.

Admiral Moreell would like to see a state of affairs such as in Germany and Italy, tolerating only those unions which passively submit. There are "unions" like that in Germany and Italy—only we don't call them unions!

We won't go into it here, but if anything ever ripped the veil off the "war for democracy" and revealed the war in its true imperialist colors, it was Rear Admiral Moreell's speech—and Admiral Land's and Commander Waring's.

These three gentlemen delivered themselves of Hitlerite provocations against labor. Hitlerite, fascist! There are no other words for it. That one of them spoke at a banker's convention makes sense. It's to be expected. But that two of them spoke before union gatherings is a shame which we must wipe out! The leaders of the AFL who tolerated so great a shame must be brought to account. Moreell and Waring should have been howled down and chased from the hall, with a few husky union men helping them along.

In the very fact that an admiral

and an American Legion commander dare speak as they did before union conventions is illustrated the boldness of the reactionary drive. So emboldened are they by the restrictions on labor imposed by Roosevelt (whose methods are more subtle than theirs) and by Roosevelt's appointed agencies, that they dare enter the house of labor with the openly declared intent of violently robbing it of its valuables.

It is precisely in the face of this offensive that labor must undertake its own offensive. The military strategists say that the best defensive is an offensive. And it is by taking the offensive that labor must reply to the Lands, Moreells, Waring and their banker and publisher friends.

Precisely because they dare call strikes treason, must labor announce, and announce vigorously, that it has no intention of abandoning the RIGHT TO STRIKE.

And precisely because they would shoot union organizers is this the time to press organization drives!

If the AFL leaders won't go along, it is up to the ranks to raise such a clamor that there will be no mistaking their views. Add above all, it is up to the CIO, which in the past has demonstrated its fighting ability, to make it known that labor means to defend its right to strike, its right to organize and its right to better wages and conditions; and that it will take on all comers who stand in the way.

We have got to do something about it. Complacency, reliance on our "friends" in the government, will be ruinous. That is just what the reactionaries want. They know the real merit and mettle of these "friends" who are in actuality THEIR friends.

Behind-the-scenes wire-pulling in government quarters to mildly rebuke these gentlemen will be playing their game. They will laugh, and press their reactionary drive even harder. They speak for the organized power of big business.

We must rely on the mighty organized movement of labor, the millions in the unions and the millions who can be brought into the unions. We must use our organized force against the organized force of the Hitlerites and reactionaries.

FOR THE RIGHT TO STRIKE!

FOR A SWEEPING ORGANIZATION DRIVE IN THE UNORGANIZED FACTORIES AND INDUSTRIES!

MR. WILLKIE
"I Speak as I Damned Please!"

By Henry Judd

Wendell L. Willkie has now completed his world trip to "kingdoms, soviet, republics and monarchies" and has retired (temporarily, to be sure) to his Indiana log cabin for rest, repose and writing paper to set down his thoughts.

Mr. Willkie—America's most ambitious politician—says he went on the trip at the request of his friend, FDR, to carry out certain missions. The character of those missions are secret, so that's that. But what isn't a secret (heaven forbid!) is the gigantic build-up Wendell L. Willkie gave Mr. Willkie. Of all the blown-up, slap-on-the-back, blow-hard, self-inflated and self-advertising politicians America ever produced, Mr. Willkie takes the cake.

WHAT HIS ROUTINE IS LIKE

Picture Mr. Willkie to yourself as he goes through the routine of his act. Whether he's with the boys in Egypt, the soviet in Russia, or Madame Chiang Kai-shek in China, the act is always the same. "I am Wendell L. Willkie from Hoosier Indiana. I'm a real bluff and hearty American. I love everybody. I'm interested (intensely so) in everything about you and your country. I got terrific energy, so I can see everything you got to show in a couple of days, or a couple of hours if need be. Do you want more reinforcements in Egypt? I'm for it! Do you Turks want to join the United Nations? I'm for that! Do you want a second front, Uncle Joe? I'm for that! Do you want independence, Chiang, old pal? Just ask me, I'll get that too! I'm Wendell L. Willkie of Indiana, an up-and-go-get-'em American!"

And so our former presidential campaigner blew and blasted his way around the world, performing his mission and making himself, in the words of Arthur Krock of the New York Times, "the first world statesman of the United Nations."

Of course, while he was on his way, Mr. Willkie couldn't resist needing FDR a couple of times about such questions as aid to embattled China. But politics is politics and Mr. Willkie is mighty ambitious, especially with 1944 not such a long way off!

MR. WILLKIE, YOU'RE A FRAUD!

Mr. Willkie, you're a fake and a cheap politician to boot! You're about the crudest, most insincere and hypocritical peanut politician we ever came across.

Your whole career speaks against you. You're a capitalist and a corporation lawyer from way back; you've always defended the interests of the capitalist class against labor. That's why you got hardly any labor votes in the last elections (even though the workers mistakenly thought that FDR was somehow "better" than you). Furthermore, as everyone realizes now, on the issue of the war you didn't differ one bit from FDR. You were for American imperialist participation in the war; you supported every single step FDR took once the war began and long before it did begin.

You're tied up tight with big financial interests and with big publishers like Henry Luce of Time, Fortune and Life, Inc. You hobnob and pal around with big-shot bankers and industrialists. That doesn't get so much newspaper ballyhoo, does it, Mr. Willkie? You prefer those shots where you "mingle" with the workers, with a great big, happy-go-lucky grin on your face. Or where you're shown shaking the hand of some liberal Negro leader.

Demagoguery is your strong point. You're "for democracy for the Negroes," because they control a few million votes; you're "for freedom for China," because it makes a good platform appeal to liberals and American workers who sympathize with what China has gone through since the Japanese invasion; you're "pro-Stalin and pro-Soviet" even though you never expressed the slightest sympathy for Soviet Russia in those years before the reactionary Stalin gang got its hands on the country.

It's popular among certain circles (the Stalinists and the "artistic" friends) to be "hot for the second front." But at bottom, when it comes to anything that really counts, you're hottest of all for American imperialism; that's why you endorse the Henry R. Luce thesis that this is the "American Century," during which America must rule and dominate the entire world.

You talk about the people of Asia being skeptical and not really trusting the United Nations, something which is quite true. But do you ever suggest why? Do you ever suggest that these people (who, in China and India, live under United Nations rule), are skeptical and cynical about "democracy" because they don't have any?

And while we are on the subject, Mr. Wendell Liberal Willkie, how come you never spoke up against the British terror in India, where the "democracies" have killed almost 1,000 people? Who are you trying to kid, with your liberal pose and concern over the "common people" and the "people's century"? Every time a real issue comes up, you take your own side—the side of big business!

FDR AND WLW

FDR is America's war leader; he is spokesman for American capitalism. WLW is his errand boy, but ready and willing to take over FDR's seat. We doubt that he ever will because he lacks the necessary polish and cleverness that FDR has. American imperialism wants streamlined, slick and shrewd politicians. FDR has done a brilliant job for his class and they want someone of like caliber. WLW doesn't fill the bill—he's too crude. He sounds too much like a hog caller from Indiana!

WORKERS PARTY PLATFORM

Against Both Imperialist War Camps! For the Victory of World Labor and the Colonial Peoples! For the Victory of the Third Camp of Socialism!

LABOR MUST DEFEND ITSELF!

- Hands off the right to strike! For the defense of civil rights and all workers' rights! Against any wartime dictatorship measures!
- Thirty hours a week; thirty dollars the minimum wage; time and a half for overtime! Rehire the jobless millions by a six-hour shift!
- Wage increases which meet rising costs! No sales tax on consumer goods; no taxes on wages! Freeze rents and food and clothing prices at the 1940 level to stop the rise in the cost of living!
- No government contract without a union contract! The closed shop in all war industries!
- Maintain and increase all government social services!

SOAK THE RICH—LET THEM PAY FOR THEIR WAR!

- A government levy on capital to cover the cost of the imperialist war. Confiscate all war profits!
- Conscript all war industries under workers' control!
- Expropriate the "Sixty Families"—the 3 per cent of the people who own 96 per cent of the national wealth!

DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS TO THE DRAFTEES!

- The right of free speech, free press and free assembly for the men in the armed forces

- Sixty dollars a month minimum for draftees!

SMASH JIM CROW!

- Down with Jim Crow and anti-Semitism! All discrimination against Negroes in the Army and Navy or by employers in industry must be made a criminal offense!

- For full political, social and economic equality for Negroes!

BE PREPARED!

- For Workers' Defense Guards, trained and controlled by the unions, against vigilante and fascist attacks!
- For an Independent Labor Party and a Workers' Government! No political support to the Roosevelt government!
- For Peace Through Socialism! For immediate independence of all colonies! Only a socialist world will destroy capitalist imperialism and fascist barbarism. For a League of Socialist Nations!

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FEATURING:

THE KREMLIN IN WORLD POLITICS, by Leon Trotsky

(First time this article has ever been printed!)

NOTES OF THE MONTH... on Congress... by the Editor

THE AMERICAN MIDDLE CLASS, by Harry Allen

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