

Union Leaders Rely on Truman, Not on Labor!

By DAVID COOLIDGE

The Hartley Bill has passed the House, the Taft Bill has passed in the Senate and both bills are now in the hands of a committee of the two Houses. While these bills were being debated, after they had passed and now while the bills are being prepared for final passage, the leadership of 15 million organized workers did nothing that makes any sense, nothing that will make any impression on the Congress or raise the morale and self-respect of labor.

The labor leaders know, or ought to know, what is the source of this labor control legislation. They know, or ought to know, that the Republican Party, the most reactionary and most moth-eaten political section of the ruling class, is ravenously hungry and wants to stay at the trough today and from 1948 on. The labor leaders should know that this party is directly amenable to suggestion from the big business interests, because of its traditions, because it has been away from the trough for 14 long years. Also the Republicans believe that they can depend on the support of the middle class.

The labor leaders should know that the Republicans have allies in the ranks of the Democrats; that there is a bloc between the Republicans and the Southern Democrats, and that Truman himself wants some form of "union-control" legislation. That is, the leaders of the 15 million organized workers ought to understand by now that both the Republicans and Democrats are in favor of anti-labor legislation. The fact that Wagner says he will vote against the bill, that Senator Green calls the bill a plan of "the industrial bourbons," that O'Mahoney is mad and that Kilgore is against the bill, will make no difference whatsoever. The Senate-House bill will pass despite the opposition of these "liberals."

With all these brutal facts staring them straight in the face, the leadership of labor does nothing. They provide no leadership, not enough to justify even one-half the salaries they are paid. They have no program and no plan of attack. Labor sits and waits for some sign of leadership, but sees none.

The trade union leadership today has abdicated everything except its offices, salaries, expense accounts and its bureaucratic hold on the unions. They are incompetent, sterile and senile. They are well-fed, paunchy, well-groomed, and listless except when some worker in his union takes the floor to exercise his democratic rights to demand action, to demand that something be done to halt the depredations of the employers and the Congress of the employers. Then, these crafty and aging bureaucrats come to life and spring into action. After they have squelched the "revolt," they return again to slumber or the quiet repose of the union headquarters. They do nothing that makes sense about the Hartley and Taft Bills. They do nothing which does any good about wages and the high cost of living. They do nothing about the fact that their members live in shacks, that they don't get enough decent food and decent clothing. They meet in the union convention to brag and bluster about the progress the union has made, but they have no program for the continuation of that progress in the face of the attack being made on labor by the employers and the government of the employers.

WAITING FOR A VETO

These labor bureaucrats don't know enough to unify the labor movement. They don't even know enough to come together for united action against the assaults on labor, and the masses. They are alert to their own bureaucratic interests but they have no program for the protection of labor which they are paid to serve.

They have learned from reading the papers that Truman might veto the Taft Bill. Immediately they pounced on this and adopted the veto as their program. That's what they are depending on now: a Presidential veto. They expect Truman to be a "friend of labor." It would never occur to Green and Murray to depend on the 15 million organized workers. They quake at the very thought of calling on labor to assemble at Washington and show its power and numbers. A 24-hour stoppage by millions of workers would not be "responsible unionism" in the minds of the Greens and (Continued on page 2)

LABOR ACTION

MAY 26, 1947

A PAPER IN THE INTERESTS OF LABOR

FIVE CENTS

We Propose: National 24-Hour Protest Strike

By the time this issue of LABOR ACTION appears the House and Senate Committees, meeting for the purpose of reaching agreement on a joint anti-labor bill incorporating the common aims of the Taft Senate bill and the Hartley House bill, will have completed their work. The differences between them relate to specific concrete questions and in no way touch on the fundamental aims of the reactionary Congress.

They both seek to outlaw the closed shop, grant the government the right to seek injunctions against labor, outlaw "unfair" union practices, grant employers certain rights of injunction, ban unions for foremen and other supervisory employees, forbid the checkoff unless written consent is obtained from every individual worker, and in general, destroy those positive legislative measures an organized and fighting labor movement achieved for itself in the Thirties.

The House and Senate are quickly getting agreement without great difficulty. The more drastic House bill was passed as a demonstration against the labor movement, the authors and the champions of the bill knowing in advance that their senatorial colleagues would not accept it.

The more experienced Senate leaders are, in turn, concerned primarily with producing a final measure incorporating the essential aim of the Republican Party and its Democratic allies, but one that will make it difficult for President Truman to veto. What reliance can be had in Truman is indicated by the fact that he has signed the bill outlawing portal-to-portal pay suits.

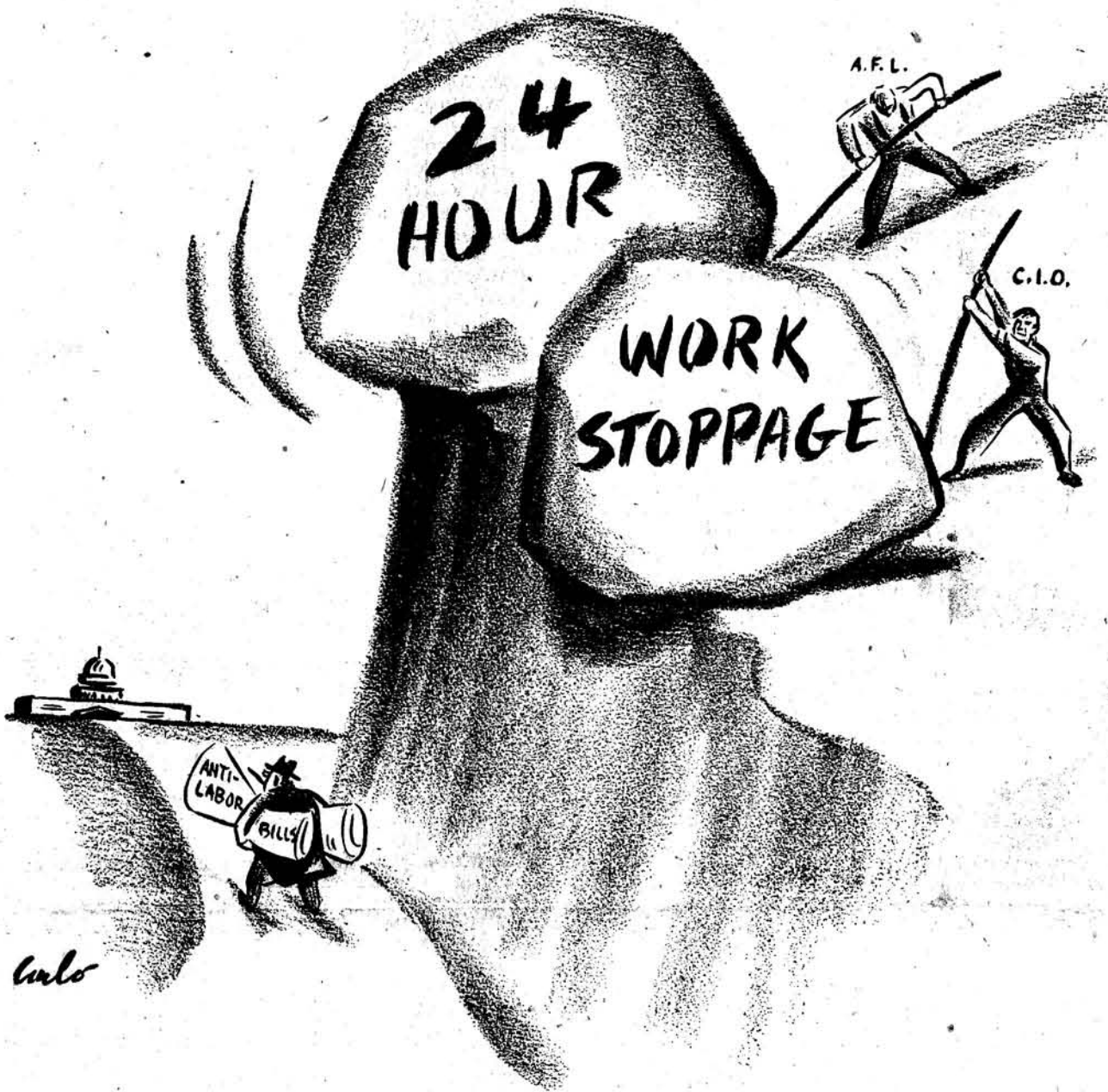
What Truman will do on receipt of the bill is not known. He has kept a discreet silence thus far, but permitted feelers to be sent out that he might veto the bill. Truman has his sights set on the 1948 presidential campaign and his action will be determined largely by what he believes will be demanded by that expediency.

The labor movement, however, through its officialdom, has decided to rest all of its hopes on a presidential veto. The AFL and the CIO are pouring out big funds in advertising and publicity campaigns to win the sympathy of the population at large and to increase its lobbying activity and pressure upon the President.

The Workers Party and LABOR ACTION have proposed, as a measure of labor's strength and determination to beat back the bosses' offensive, A MARCH ON WASHINGTON BACKED THROUGHOUT THE NATION BY A 24-HOUR GENERAL PROTEST STRIKE

No amount of pleading, begging or lobbying by the Greens and Murrys will help the workers of this country. Nothing will more effectively stop the big monopolistic employers who write the anti-labor bills for the senators and representatives whom they own body and soul, than a demonstration of labor's real strength and determination to fight the anti-labor conspiracy. Hope in a Truman veto will turn out to be largely illusory. The way out is the one we have proposed!

The Need of the Hour!



Raise It In Your Union!

Various sections of the union movement have already called for a national 24-hour work stoppage to protest the anti-labor bills. Among these are the Packinghouse Workers Union, the Flint CIO Industrial Council and the Mahoning County CIO Council. The Westinghouse local of the UE in Philadelphia has called for a March on Washington as well as for a work stoppage. Ask your union to follow suit. Call for a conference of unions to plan common action. Raise it on the floor of your union! Demand action!

Labor Backed Slate Wins Oakland Vote

OAKLAND, Calif., May 14—Four out of the five candidates of the Oakland Voters League won a smashing victory over the big business machine in elections for the Oakland City Council here yesterday. The fifth, Ben Goldfarb, was nosed out by incumbent Frank Shattuck by 1,000 votes. Goldfarb's defeat was the result of a pure fluke as the alphabetical arrangement of names on the ballot placed him in the same row as the four defeated incumbents. He is currently contesting the results.

A record vote was cast heading up the hottest municipal campaign seen

in these parts for many a year. The incumbents, supported by the strike-breaking city machine dominated by Joe Knowland, all-powerful publisher of the Oakland Tribune, tried to get re-elected on the basis of a straight red-scare campaign. Every effort was made by the Tribune and its supporters to scare the voters by howling that Communism incarnate would sit in the City Hall if the Oakland Voters League candidates should be elected.

The working people of Oakland didn't flinch for a moment under the barrage of lies, personal abuse and red-baiting. The Oakland Voters League was created and run by the Central Labor Council, the Building Trades Council, the CIO Council and other labor bodies in the area. The vast majority of campaign workers were trade union members, and the victory was the result of a heavy vote piled up in the East Oakland and West Oakland working class and Negro districts. Even the Oakland Tribune has admitted that labor's victory in this campaign has come as a belated aftermath of the general strike in December when all AFL workers struck against scab-herding by the Oakland police in the Kahns and Hastings department store strike.

Though the workers were not scared by the attacks of the opposition, the policy of the Oakland Voters League in the closing phases of the campaign showed that the labor leaders at the head of the league were unduly impressed. This was demonstrated by the literature put out by the league, which tended more and more to de-emphasize the labor character of the slate and its support. To the general public, the Oakland Voters League tried to appeal on a general program which had as its labor plank: "Impartial statesmanship in (Continued on page 2)

Trial of Willie Earle's Murderers Focuses Light on the Lynch System

Since Comrade McKinney's article was written, there have been the following developments in the Greenville, S. C., trial:

- Judge Martin ordered the acquittal of three defendants who refused to admit participation in the lynching "on the grounds of insufficient evidence."
- The Judge also ordered the acquittal of seven others from charges of murder and accessories after the fact.
- Defense Attorney John B. Culbertson shouted: "Willie Earle is dead and I wish more like him were dead."

By E. R. MCKINNEY

As I write this, a court in Greenville, S. C., with a jury of 12 white men, is trying the case of 31 white men charged with the lynching of a Negro. There are four counts in the

indictment: murder, accessory before the fact, accessory after the fact and conspiracy. These 31 are charged with taking Willie Earle, a 24-year-old Negro, from the county jail, driving him out on a lonely road and killing him. The 31 were armed with knives and shotguns. They dragged Earle from the car, beat him, mutilated him and chopped him with their knives. While the 31 were hacking away with the knives Earle cried: "Lord you done killed me." To be absolutely certain that Earle was correct, the mob then shot him to death.

The day before Earle was hacked with knives, mutilated and then shot to death, he had been arrested and lodged in the county jail for fatally stabbing a taxi driver in a hold-up. Twenty-six of the 31 made statements confessing that they participated in

the lynching. Six of them made written statements telling how the murder of Earle was committed by the mob.

Here are some of the things these men wrote in their statements and said in their testimony. One said that he wanted to put the same scars on Earle that Earle "put in Brown," the dead taxi driver. Martin Fleming "told the nigger he didn't have long to live and that he shouldn't want to die with a lie in his heart. The nigger confessed and said that he stabbed Mr. Brown." Before Earle was taken from the jail "the jailer asked that no profanity be used before his wife and someone in the mob shouted, 'No more cursing.'" Hurd, the lyncher who was named as the "trigger-man" by the mob said: "I know what a mistake I made." Hurd also said that before the shooting "Everybody started

beating him." (Earle) One of the 31 was named as the man who had mutilated Earle. He was sitting with his wife in the courtroom. She "shook with laughter" when one of the statements described how her husband cursed because the butt of his gun was broken while Earle was being clubbed.

DEFENSE TACTICS

All of the members of the mob were not taxi drivers. One was a businessman, one the owner of a luncheon and a third was the son of a wealthy mill owner. The trial is being held in a small court house with 200 seats on the ground floor for the white people and 100 seats in the balcony for Negroes. The wives of the 31 sat with them as is permitted by South Carolina law. (Continued on page 7)

Mass Resistance Rising Against Starvation

U. S. Rulers Threaten Starving Germans With Death Penalty

By HENRY JUDD

The German food crisis has now reached a critical stage, opening up the definite possibility of death by outright starvation for hundreds of thousands. The food situation has reached tragic depths throughout all of Europe, but in Germany its acuteness affects greater masses of people.

The British and American military authorities are in a panic. Their every word and action reveals it. The American Military Government is utilizing its last, specially hidden 30,000 tons of food for "prevention of disease and unrest" in an effort to combat the crisis. The British authorities are busy blaming everyone but themselves for the situation, while admitting that it has gone beyond their control.

The average weekly ration for a German in the British, American or French zones (the Russian zone is apparently still able to supply higher rations) is reported as follows:

Three pounds, two ounces of bread
Seven ounces of meat (one large lamb chop!)
Seven ounces of cereal
Two ounces of fat
Some fish and potatoes

This diet approximates 1200 calories a day, as compared with the 3,000 calories medically recognized as necessary for normal health. (New York Times, May 18, 1947.) The Russian zone of occupation has failed to live up to its trade agreements with the other zones. Fifty thousand tons of potatoes, for example, have been shipped instead of the promised 160,000 tons. There is no doubt the Russians are quite willing to see the situation worsened, in the interest of their German policy of attempting to strengthen their Stalinist puppets in the western half of Germany.

All this has contributed to a situation where even the ration cards that have been issued, calling for

minute amounts of meat, butter, cereals, potatoes, etc., are not honored. Edward A. Morrow reports, "In the industrial cities, existence is solely dependent upon the people's ability to supplement their rations by paying high black-market prices or by spending large amounts of time scouring the countryside."

Black marketing, hoarding of grain, feeding of vital foods to cattle by farmers—all these are common occurrences throughout the various zones. The British zone is hardest hit and, under the leadership of the revived labor and trade union movement, the masses in this area have demonstrated their unwillingness to slowly starve to death. These demonstrations have thrown them directly into conflict with the occupying powers, revealing the basic fact that the very struggle for life in Germany centers around the struggle for national existence.

In Hamburg, 150,000 workers demonstrated before their union

headquarters and proclaimed their refusal to perish without a struggle for life. In Dusseldorf, one of the great Ruhr cities, union leaders announced the readiness of their workers to engage in mass strikes unless food was forthcoming. The entire industrial area of the British zone is a network of unrest and readiness for action.

What has been the American and British reaction? (Of the French zone, where food conditions have been appalling for many months, little is known due to stringent French censorship.) The British are completely dependent upon America, inasmuch as England has a food crisis all of its own. The British authorities have, therefore, turned completely to the United States to pull them out of the situation. They are hoping that America can meet its promise to ship 1,200,000 tons of food to Germany within the next 75 days. Even with this, they are preparing an official cut in the calory

ration to 1,200 per day from 1,500, indicating they have little hope of alleviating the situation.

American imperialism, in occupation of a huge area of Germany, has spoken out in the unmistakable tones of the conquerer, threatening and hysterical, one at the same time. A "get tough" with Germany policy is announced by the military government. Imagine these ungrateful Germans! We are shipping food to them—true, not enough to prevent them from wasting away at a slow but steady rate of deterioration that can only lead to an early death—and they, wretches, are daring to complain! They even protest, threaten us with strikes and demonstrations, demand more food and a purging of the administration we set up for them! We will show them, proclaim the voices of authority. And, straight from the books of Hitler, they swing into action.

A scoundrel named Dr. James R. Newman, Military Governor of Hesse,

threatens the Germans with the death penalty, in a radio talk; he also promised to invoke his powers of search and confiscation; cutting off the rations of protesters and blamed everything upon the Germans. The Military Governor of Bavaria, a Brigadier General Muller, repeated the same threats to labor unions and farmers in his area. General Lucius D. Clay, head of the entire administration, has pointedly reminded the German people of the powerfully armed and fast-moving American constabulary forces in Germany, amounting still to 150,000 men.

Starve if you must, say the American authorities, but by God starve quietly, peacefully and in perfect order, or we will let you have it! Those who have wondered what American penetration and domination of Europe and Germany might lead to are now close to witnessing the answer. It is too early to say whether there will be large scale and continued popular demonstration,

but certainly the American authorities will not hesitate to use American troops against starving German workers who refuse to pass out quietly, according to military regulations.

The celebrated German-born author, Thomas Mann, has contributed his contemptible bit to the general attack upon the German people. One would almost think that the days of the war have returned! "Germany is again already misusing her liberty and democracy," says Mr. Mann. If only the Germans would recognize that others too are suffering from hunger and food shortages! This recognition, apparently, would help alleviate their hunger. Little wonder that Mann fears to visit Germany where, he acknowledges, he would have to travel around "with an American MP or conducting officer at my side."

A press campaign is already underway to place full responsibility for (Continued on page 7)

NEWS AND VIEWS FROM THE LABOR FRONT

Modify GM "Disciplinary" Penalties

By BEN HALL
DETROIT — The General Motors Corporation replied to the mass demonstration of April 24, during which half a million Detroit workers laid aside their tools and left their machines, by disciplinary penalties affecting almost 500 unionists.

received layoffs were to return to work immediately but without back pay for the more than two weeks loss of work; twelve of the fifteen originally discharged go back to work on the first week in June and the remaining three in the first week in July without back pay.

THE SETTLEMENT

This settlement was endorsed by an overwhelming vote of the affected GM workers and was accepted by a unanimous vote of a meeting of local union presidents held on Monday night, May 12. The top policy committee gave unanimous approval to it.

- 1) It was clear that nothing more could be gained by "peaceful" negotiations and that rejection of this agreement had to be accompanied by strike action.
2) The strike would have had to be a bitter one especially because anti-labor developments in Congress

had led the company to adopt an irreconcilable attitude of arrogant confidence.

3) Steel shortages had resulted in losses of work through temporary layoffs and the immediate prospects ahead were for a continuation of these shortages.

4) The GM workers had themselves gone through an exhausting four-month strike and needed a certain respite to recover their strength. Despite these considerations, had a single worker remained discharged a strike would have unquestionably followed.

This settlement is undoubtedly a setback for the union. The April 24 demonstration had the full support of the international which pledged to back up anybody who suffered for answering the call. GM has succeeded in penalizing many participants although it was compelled to modify its stand.

GM has arrogated to itself the dictatorial right to declare that it will use its power over the workers' jobs to prevent them from engaging in certain types of political action. The company has therefore not only hit out against the unions but it has struck a blow at the very heart of the workers' democratic, political rights in the most direct sense.

We would not be so foolish as to believe that every and all grievances, under any and all circumstances must be fought out to the bitter end by strike action.

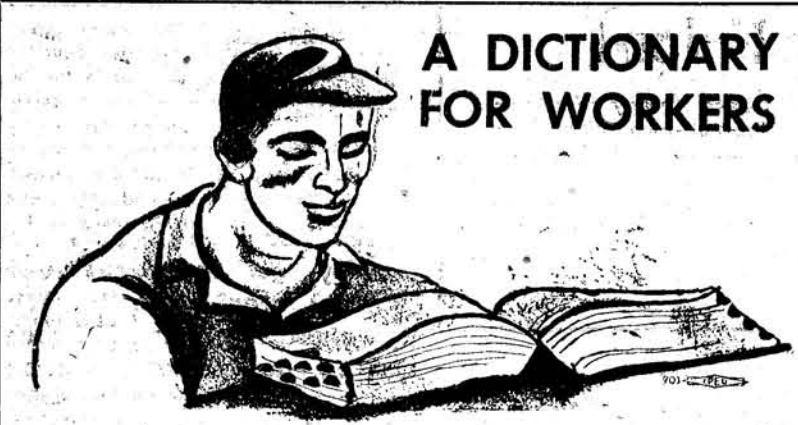
One militant from the Budd local made a beginning in putting things in their proper light. He pointed out how the decision to accept the modified penalties was a direct consequence of the compromising policies of the union leadership on the political field.

WHOSE FAULT IS IT?

At the May 12th meeting of local presidents, in the absence of any serious opposition, the representatives of the Addes-Stalinist bloc had a field day. These demagogues, without any political ideas to propose, were in unanimous agreement with the proposed settlement.

Two Articles...

analyzing the General Motors-UAW situation and the roles of the various political tendencies will appear in the next issue of LABOR ACTION.



Compiled by JACK RANGER

Communism; theoretically that advanced stage of socialism where all need for force in society will have vanished, since there will be an abundance of goods and services for all, and since people will have become accustomed to observe the elementary conditions of social existence without force and without subjection.

Company union, a general term applied to employees' organizations promoted and controlled by the employer. In the ordinary sense, they are not unions. Often they are not called unions, but have such names as Employees Welfare Plan, Mutual Benefit Association, Employees Representation Plan, Associated Independent Unions, etc.

Compulsory arbitration, a policy of the government which forces a union to accept arbitration and which prohibits strikes, thus greatly weakening organized labor. Such arbitration laws are often claimed to be impartial inasmuch as they usually state that the employer is likewise restrained from instituting a lockout.

Conciliation, an effort to bring about peaceful agreements between unions and employers. The conciliator is assumed to be that fabulous character, a neutral person. Neither party is bound to accept decisions of a conciliator, thus distinguishing conciliation from arbitration.

Congress for Industrial Organization, the CIO, originally the Committee for Industrial Organization, formed under the leadership of John L. Lewis within the American Federation of Labor late in 1935.

that group had opposed the demonstration but they took a different tack after it had been conclusively proven that the demonstration in Cadillac Square was finally called upon the motion of Emil Masey, one of the leading men in the Reuther group.

It is true that thousands of GM workers did not stop work for this demonstration. It is also true that during the OPA demonstration of last year, the Ford Rouge plant controlled by the Addes group did not stop work.

These elements of disunity are the direct result of the policies of the union leadership during the war years. The top leadership planted disunity in the ranks of the workers; they insisted upon disunity. All the leaders without exception upheld the no-strike pledge.

One militant from the Budd local made a beginning in putting things in their proper light. He pointed out how the decision to accept the modified penalties was a direct consequence of the compromising policies of the union leadership on the political field.

But more voices like this must be heard in the UAW.

Union Heads Rely on Truman, Not Labor

(Continued from page 1)
The Murrays. They wait on Truman and rely on Truman.

Bill Green spoke over the radio recently against the Taft-Hartley bills. He uttered a great deal of nonsense as Green always does. John L. Lewis remarked once that he had looked into Bill Green's head and, said Lewis, "I give you my word, there's nothing there."

Green also said that the purpose of the bill is to "weaken and destroy labor unions."

BOSSES CAN'T WRECK UNIONS

Green also said that the purpose of the bill is to "weaken and destroy labor unions." Bill Green either understands nothing about capitalist society today, his role in that society—or he was merely taking up time. Undoubtedly the purpose of the bill is to weaken labor unions.

TAPPING THE WALL STREET WIRE

By JACK RANGER

STATE OF THE ECONOMY

President Truman has no doubt gained his limited objective of boosting his popularity by conducting the sham battle against high prices. But the battle was and is a sham, and the kickback is going to be a stunner.

Corporation profits climbed to an annual rate of \$15 billion in 1947's first quarter, according to the Commerce Department. That's \$3 billion above 1946 profits. The N. Y. Stock Exchange reported, May 17, that 322 companies reporting for the first 1947 quarter earned a net of \$707 millions, up 112.9 per cent from the corresponding 1946 quarter.

As to the widely heralded "10 per cent off" sales in the small towns, those were largely devices to pawn off shoddy merchandise on the public. The "Newburyport" plan was dropped in several areas after it fizzled.

What is more, it is the important commodities, like food and steel, which are not budging. Let's listen to the authentic voices of the masters in these industries:

Clarence Francis, General Foods Corporation chairman, says housewives shouldn't expect a sharp break in prices. Profit for his company's first quarter this year was equal to 98 cents a share (after plunking aside a million for contingency reserves).

Benjamin F. Fairless, president, U. S. Steel Corporation, purses his lips and says his company is giving no consideration at this time to price reductions.

You see, the demand for steel is still far greater than the supply. Mr. Fairless and his colleagues are capitalists, and quite properly therefore believe in getting while the getting is good.

And don't count on any significant reductions on manufactured goods. The Guaranty Trust Co. of New York in its current issue reports that the prices of raw materials are "too high" for finished goods to come down.

Oakland Vote - -

him next year when The Man from Missouri makes an effort to keep his present address for 1948-52. Truman, of course, knows these things and he and his advisers are busy trying to expose the Republicans as the enemies of labor.

And all the while that this maneuvering and conspiring goes on, the leadership of labor sits and waits for a veto by Truman. While all the soundbells of the capitalist ruling

HEAT ON COUNCILMEN

The working men and women of Oakland have won a major political victory with their own strength and their own organization. Once and for all this should demonstrate the stupidity of those, both inside and outside the labor movement, who cry that labor can't win if it strikes off politically on its own.

And there are further campaigns to be fought by labor. What is needed here in Oakland to cinch the victory and extend it is a permanent political organization of labor, set up on a basis of representation from the unions which will keep the four councilmen toeing the mark.

With its four hold-over councilmen, and with the fluke election of Shattuck, the big-business machine still has a majority in the City Council.

doesn't mind lower food prices, because this means lower living costs for the workers, and less pressure on the factory-owners for higher wages. At the same time, the less the workers spend on food, the more they will have to spend on the products of industry.

Returning to the industrial viewpoint, here is the National Industrial Conference Board, crying that the real cancer in the present price structure is "the extreme imbalance" within the price level rather than the general level of prices.

Well, look at foxy Joe trying to chisel Atlantic passengers off the competition. The Soviet State Fleet has announced it will inaugurate this month a regular passenger service between Odessa and New York, and at prices far below those fixed by the North Atlantic Passenger Conference.

ECONOMIC NOTES

Trade union secretaries, take note: The three west coast states of California, Washington and Oregon are expected to have 5,800,000 workers in the labor market by 1950, an increase of 1,500,000, or 36 per cent, from 1940, according to the Federal Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Argentina is following the example of South Africa in industrialization and has completed contracts for its largest peacetime project, involving \$100,000,000 worth of plant construction machinery and equipment.

Japan operate 4,000,000 spindles. Before the war Japan had 12,000,000 spindles.

JOIN THE WORKER'S PARTY. WORKERS PARTY INFORMATION BLANK. I am interested in joining the Workers party of the United States. Will you please send me all information as to your Program and how I can become a member. Name, Address, City, State.

With the Workers Party

AKRON
Write to Box 221 for information.

BALTIMORE
Headquarters: 21 West Preston St.
Meetings of Socialist Youth League held every Friday at 8 p.m.
Public forums are held second Friday of each month.
For details of Workers Party branch, contact above address.

BUFFALO
HEADQUARTERS: 639 Main St.
Open meetings on Sunday evenings.

CHICAGO
LABOR ACTION, 1501 W. Madison, 2nd floor, Chicago 7.
Telephone—CHEAPEAKE 5798
Office hours: 3-5:30 p.m. daily, except Sundays, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings.

CLEVELAND
The Cleveland branch of the Workers Party meets every Sunday at 8:00 p.m.
The Cleveland branch of the Socialist Youth League meets every Friday at 8:00 p.m.
For additional information, write to Bernard Douglas, P. O. Box 1199, Cleveland 3, Ohio.

DETROIT
Headquarters: 6341 Gratiot, Rooms 9 and 10. Telephone: PLaza 5559.
Write or phone for information about the discussion group on "Stalinism."

LOS ANGELES
New headquarters address: LABOR ACTION, 3314 So. Grand, Los Angeles 7.
TEL: Richmond 7-3230 (if no answer, phone AX 2-9967).
Office hours: 2 to 5 p.m. daily except Sunday.

LOUISVILLE
For other information regarding LABOR ACTION, New International and Workers Party—Write Robert Durant, Box 1181, Louisville, Ky.

NEWARK
HEADQUARTERS: 248 Market St.
OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday—3 to 6 p.m.; Wednesday—12 to 2 p.m.; Saturday—3 to 4 p.m.
Forums every Friday at 8:30 p.m. at Labor Action Hall, 248 Market St.

NEW YORK CITY
CITY CENTER: 114 West 14th St., third floor. Open every day from 10 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. except Saturday until 6 p.m.
Telephone: CHELSEA 2-9651.
You are welcome to attend all open branch meetings of the Workers Party in New York City.

BRONX BRANCH: Meets every Thursday at 8:15 p.m. at Wilkins Hall, 1330 Wilkins Ave., Bronx.

HARLEM BRANCH: Meets every Wednesday, 8:15 p.m. at the Workers Party Headquarters, 2143 Seventh Ave. (near 126th St.), room 106.

CENTRAL BRANCH: Meets every Wednesday, 8:15 p.m. at the Workers Party City Center, 114 West 14th St., third floor.

CHELSEA BRANCH: Meets every Thursday, 8:15 p.m. at the Workers Party City Center, 114 West 14th St., third floor.

Industrial Branch meets Thursday at 8:30 p.m., at City Center, 114 W. 14th St.

Brooklyn Downtown Branch meets every Thursday at 8:15 p.m. at 276 Fulton Street, second floor.

BROOKLYN-BROOKLYN, EAST NEW YORK BRANCH: Meets every Wednesday at 8:15 p.m. at De Luxe Palace, 558 Howard Ave. (near Pitkin Ave.).

SOCIALIST YOUTH LEAGUE: Meets every Friday at 8:15 p.m. at the Workers Party Headquarters, 276 Fulton St., second floor.

So. Carolina Trial Focuses Light on Southern System - -

(Continued from page 1)

Not only their wives, but the babies and the little children were brought along.

At the beginning of the trial defense attorneys spent most of the day trying to ask questions for the record aimed at demonstrating "that the victim of the lynching had engaged the accused by bringing about the death of a white taxi driver who was their friend." This was a chief tactic of the defense: to emphasize that the man who was killed was a "white man."

Although the four-count indictment includes a murder count, the defense is putting most of its efforts on getting the conspiracy count stricken out. They do not discuss the murder count, but seek to include the question of conspiracy in the murder count. It is clear, of course, why this is being done. The aim is to make the trial drag out, to confuse the jury as much as possible and to lay the base for appealing to a higher court should a conviction be secured by the state.

MURDER COMES CHEAP
This is the picture of this somewhat unusual trial for the South. It is unusual because men have been arrested and brought to trial. As a rule no one is arrested. There is the standardized report: "met his death at the hands of persons unknown."

In this case there is a part of the traditional pattern: the jailer did not recognize any of the mobsters. Also, the defendants, their families and the white people of Greenville do not take the trial very seriously. At one point a defense attorney in objecting to the procedure remarked: "the nigger is dead, everybody knows that."

The Negroes sit in the Jim Crow balcony and, I suppose, wonder who will be the next victim. They also wonder what all this talk is about "conspiracy" when a human being has been done to death by a mob with knives and shotguns. They also wonder whether or not their will be a conviction. A conviction may worry them some. Because the streets of Greenville may not be safe for them if these 31 white men are convicted.

It is instructive that the defense does not have anything to say about the murder count in the indictment. The reason of course is that no white man in Greenville and no Negro certainly believes that these white men will get a murder verdict from a jury "of their peers," for killing a Negro. The papers report that "the defense indicating from its steady hammering at race prejudice issues that it is relying upon a southern jury to rationalize the crime on the basis of a life for a life." They are probably trying to get the jury to take the position that Earle brought it all on himself. They would say that he knew the feeling against Negroes, that he should not have killed the white man. The passions of the latter's friends were aroused. They didn't know what they were doing. At any rate, it is good in their opinion to kill a Negro occasionally to teach a lesson to the others.

Where You Can Buy Labor Action and New International

AKRON
Kallias Cigar Store, 1 W. Market St.
News Exchange, 51 S. Main St.
National News Co., 333 S. Main St.
La Salle Confectionery, 620 S. Main St.

BALTIMORE
Fayette and Calvert Streets

CLEVELAND
Wheatman's Store, 719 Prospect Ave.

DETROIT
Carl's Bookstore, 9109 Woodward, near Clairmont.
Cass Warren Drugstore, opposite Wayne University.
Family Newsstand, downtown, in front of Family Theater.
Highland Park Newsstand, 13501 Woodward, near Davison.

LOUISVILLE
Eilers Bookshop, betw. Liberty and Jefferson on 3rd.

NEWARK
91 Barkley Street.
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Northeast corner, Market and Mulberry.

NEW YORK
For Your NY:
Ask your newsdealer in Manhattan and Brooklyn. Carried on all main newsstands.
For Your LA:
On all newsstands on 14th and 42nd Streets.

READING
Southwest corner, Fifth and Penn Sts. LABOR ACTION only.

PHILADELPHIA
LABOR ACTION:
N.E. corner 11th and Walnut.
N.W. corner 13th and Market.
N.E. corner Broad and Arch.
N.E. corner 15th and Market.
Near N.E. corner Broad St. and Girard Ave.

NEW INTERNATIONAL
N.E. corner 11th and Walnut.
N.W. corner 13th and Market.
N.E. corner Broad and Arch.
N.E. corner 15th and Market.
West side of Broad between Columbia and Montgomery.

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San Francisco:
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Golden Gate News Agency, 81 3rd Street.
McDonald's Bookstore, 867 Mission St.
Paul Elder's Bookstore, 239 Post St. (N1 only).
Berkeley:
Whelens, Bancroft and Telegraph.

SEATTLE
142 Washington Street.

OHIO CONFERENCE DISCUSSES UNITY OF WP AND SWP

Meeting in Akron, the Ohio branches devoted a day long session to a discussion of how best to achieve unity between the Workers Party and the Socialist Workers Party in the interests of the American labor movement.

Unity between the two Trotskyist parties in the United States was the main topic of discussion at the second conference of the Ohio State Organization of the Workers Party held May 11th.

The conference met under the guidance of the Ohio State Committee, a continuations committee of the conference which coordinates activity of the Ohio branches. Comrade Nathan Gould, National Director of Organization, visited the conference and reported on unity for the national office.

Party sympathizers and members of the Socialist Youth League participated in the conference, which found the Ohio party with the largest membership rolls in its history, and excellent prospects for continued growth. At the conclusion of the conference, participants were guests of the Akron branch of the SWP at a showing of the film, "From Czar to Lenin."

Threaten Death - -

(Continued from page 1)

Whatever occurs—mass deaths from starvation, or bloody incidents involving hungry strikers and the military forces—upon the German people. The American labor movement cannot afford to accept this propaganda in the slightest sense.

The Allies, in complete control of Germany for two years, have done everything imaginable to create the present crisis. They have dismantled factories, shut down German industries, cut off Germany's ability to export its products in exchange for food. They have aided the Russians in their pillage of the country by shipping them many factories and much industrial equipment. They have set up administrative machinery heavily incrustated with former Nazis and reactionary. They have prevented the revival of Germany's industry; thus making impossible the essential production of machinery, tools, etc., needed by the farmers and for which they would be willing to turn in their crops and hoarded foods.

The present situation is a direct consequence of the entire two year policy of economic stagnation and strangulation. The guilty are the imperialist administrators and the gov-

"THE SHOE FITS"



NEW YORK SCHOOL ANNOUNCES EXTENSION OF FRIDAY NIGHT CLASSES THROUGH JUNE

Two of the Friday night classes at the Labor Action School are being extended until the end of June. The first class starts at 7:30 p. m. and is taught by Ernest Erber. The concluding four sessions will be *The Nature of the Stalinist Parties, The National Question and The Concept of the Party.*

The class on Political Trends in the Fourth International which starts at 9 p. m. is taught by Henry Judd. The concluding five sessions will be *The Politics of the Fourth International Since Liberation, The Russian Question in the International Today* at which Saul Berg will be guest lecturer. *The International and World Stalinism* with Ernest Erber speaking, *Views in the International on the Concept of the Party* with Emanuel Garrett speaking, and the final lecture will be delivered by Max Shachtman on *Perspectives for the Fourth International.*

In view of the discussions in the Fourth International in which we are discussing most of these controversial questions, these classes should be of particular interest to all members and sympathizers of the Workers Party.

Copies are still available of the March and April NEW INTERNATIONAL

which contain
"Nature of the Stalinist Parties" and
"Nature of the Russian State"
By MAX SHACHTMAN

Order From: THE NEW INTERNATIONAL
4 Court Square .25¢ Per Copy Long Island City 1, N. Y.

PRESS MANAGER'S
PRESS ACTION
BY HENRY JUDD

CHICAGO BRANCH COVERS WALLACE MEETING:
Continuing its excellent work in public sales of LABOR ACTION, the Chicago branch of the Workers Party turned out in large numbers to cover the recent meeting held by Henry Wallace in that city. Under the energetic direction of Shirley Waller, the LABOR ACTION sales squad sold over 360 copies of the paper before and during the meeting. Our congratulations to the Chicago comrades for the excellent job they are doing in circulating LABOR ACTION. We hope they'll keep up this work, and that more and more branches will follow suit.

San Francisco's agent, Peter Marlow, has written us about the steady and regular public sales efforts being made out in the Bay Area. And from Philadelphia, Frank Harper informs us that renewed efforts are being made to sell LABOR ACTION, particularly at the Westinghouse plant in that city. The practice and habit of selling LABOR ACTION out in public is growing, and can only lead to increased circulation if it is continued.

Subscriptions have slowed up the past few weeks. Here's the record for the week, with the Detroit branch, guided by sub-getter Billy Miller, keeping up its practice of sending in a regular, weekly batch of subs to LABOR ACTION:

NEW YORK	8
Detroit	7
Akron	3
San Pedro	2
Buffalo	1
Chicago	1
San Francisco	1
Streator, Ill.	1
Miscellaneous	1
TOTAL	25

For our money, the best bill-payer in the country is Comrade Ned Brant of Akron, Ohio, who never fails to pay his bills right on time!

INTRODUCTORY OFFER TO LABOR ACTION
4 Court Square, Long Island City 1, N. Y.

Please enter my subscription to LABOR ACTION as follows:

6 month subscription (26 issues) for 50¢.
 1 year subscription (52 issues), together with pamphlet "Plenty For All," to be mailed to me, for \$1.00.

Name
Address
City Zone State

ACEWR Plans to Cable Food Packages to Starvation Zones

NEW YORK, May 12—The American Committee for European Workers Relief today announced plans to cable food packages to the starvation zones of Germany. Cable food deliveries take from four to ten days. Such orders will go to companies holding food stockpiles in Holland, Denmark, Switzerland and in Germany itself. This method is more expensive but faster.

In its emergency appeal for aid to Germany, the ACEWR pointed out that the food situation is more critical than ever. In some parts of the Ruhr the ration is below 650 calories a day—the equivalent of three five-

50 Cents Buys Six Month Sub to LABOR ACTION

Aid European Hungry Workers

Will you undertake to help us send food and clothing regularly to a European working class family?

Will you support the AMERICAN COMMITTEE FOR EUROPEAN WORKERS RELIEF in its campaign to bring help in the form of food and clothing to families of European socialists, anti-Nazi and labor fighters?

If you can give us this support, please send all contributions (in the form of food, clothing and money donations) to us at the address given below. We will take care of seeing to it that these contributions of yours reach those who need them most of all.

AMERICAN COMMITTEE FOR EUROPEAN WORKERS RELIEF
197 Second Avenue
New York 3, N. Y.

Remember! \$10 will enable us to send a 21-pound CARE Food Package to a European Working Class Family.

ACEWR
197 Second Avenue
New York 3, N. Y.

I am ready to help a European family during the coming months. I am sending the following contribution: \$.....

..... food packages clothing packages

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City Zone State

