

# The Heritage Of Leon Trotsky

By James P. Cannon

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# THE MILITANT

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## Chilean Workers Win Great Strike Victory

By Diego Henriquez

SANTIAGO, Chile, Sept. 7 — I am writing this report for *The Militant* and its readers this night of victory to tell you of the resounding general strike of the hospital workers (porters, watchmen, nurses, internes, service personnel) which today won 18,000 strikers full satisfaction of all their demands.

For months the worst-paid employes of the Republic demanded a raise. The government, aided by the Alianza Democratica (Democratic Alliance — made up of Radicals, Democrats and Stalinists) and the Department of Public Welfare, denied these raises. September 2 at 11 a. m. the 2,000 hospital workers of Valparaiso declared a total strike. That same night the Medical Society of Valparaiso and the Medical Association of Chile, which includes the majority of the hospital medical personnel in the country, declared their support of the strike.

### NATION-WIDE STRIKE

On the following day, the strike broke out in Santiago. Five thousand workers abandoned the hospitals, leaving only skeleton crews to handle emergency needs. That night the Central Headquarters of the AMECH solidified itself with its Valparaiso affiliate. By Sunday night the hospital strike was nation-wide (with the exception of the doctors). The government characterized the strike as "criminal."

On Monday, powerful unions, such as the Bakers and the Streetcar and Railwaymen, informed the government and the national leaders of the CTCH (the Trade Union Center) that they were ready to join in a national strike, if the leadership gave the order.

Monday afternoon the government announced that it would not give more than \$15,000,000 (pesos); it had offered \$12,000,000 Saturday. The president of the Republic denounced the "moral crisis" of the country. The Central Council of Public Welfare threatened complete reorganization of the services and the firing of all workers who did not return to work.

### STRIKERS ENTHUSIASTIC

But the enthusiasm of the strikers was enormous. The moral aid of the Chilean Medical Association, of the Trade Union Center, made the leaders more firm. The threat of the Central Council of Public Welfare to "dissolve the unions" of the powerful Confederation of Hos-

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## INDO-CHINESE REVOLT AGAINST FRENCH RULE

By Joseph Hansen

With the collapse of Japan, the people of Indo-China have struck out on the road to complete independence from all imperialist domination. In the face of de Gaulle's moves to seize control over this former colony of France, the nationalist forces are drilling with arms. The situation is still confused, but a few dispatches leaking through the tight censorship around Indo-China indicate the uprising is nation-wide.

"Annamite nationalists collaborating with Communists," reports an August 31 Associated Press dispatch from Kunning, "have been allowed by the Japanese to seize control of Hanoi, capital of Indo-China, following a wave of demonstrations and uprisings which spread through all the French colony."

The reference to the role of the "Japanese" sounds suspiciously like an Allied attempt to smear

the nationalist movement. Actually it is the Allies who are collaborating with the Japanese to put down the movement. According to a September 6 United Press dispatch, "British authorities sent word to the Japanese commander to put guards around the Continental Hotel and to keep order in the streets of the city with armed guards."

The real character of the uprising is indicated by the slogans reported to have appeared on the streets: "Down with French Imperialism," "Death to French Domination." The slander that the nationalists are Japanese-inspired is still further exposed by such slogans as: "Long Live the United Nations Commission," and "Welcome Allies." Which political group advanced these slogans is not revealed. At first the banners were in French, but now they have been changed to English. From many windows wave American, British and Soviet flags.

The Japanese placed Lt. Gen. Charles Chemagne in charge of the colony, but this Frenchman, according to AP "has no control over the civilian population." The king of Annam, second largest state of the colony, is reported to have "been deposed by the nationalists."

### ANOTHER OUTBREAK

Twenty thousand Annamites staged a demonstration in Hanoi on August 16 and 18. They fired at the Metropole Hotel, threw knives at windows and marched through the French quarter. An "uprising" followed "throughout the country."

A September 8 cable from Sai-

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### ON THE INSIDE

Beginning with this issue, the editorial page, formerly 8 is now 4; the Workers' Forum page formerly 7 is now 5. Pages 7 and 8 are rearranged. A post-office order requiring publication within the first 5 pages of the data in the editorial masthead box has made this general rearrangement necessary.

### COLUMNS AND FEATURES

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## Detroit UAW Heads Demand Convention

DETROIT, Sept. 14 — The "Presidents Committee," composed of the presidents of the major locals of the CIO United Automobile Workers in this area, tonight went on record unanimously condemning the action of the union's International Executive Board in postponing the UAW convention until April 1946. The motion was made by Gordon MacDonald, vice-president of Briggs Local 212, on behalf of the local's president, John Murphy. The motion demanded that the UAW international leaders call a convention not later than December, so that the pressing problems confronting the auto workers might be properly considered as soon as possible.

A meeting last night of the Briggs Local executive board unanimously concurred in Murphy's resolution on the convention. It also condemned the strikebreaking action of the International Board in the Kelsey-Hayes strike and offered support to the Kelsey-Hayes workers.

## Flint Union Head Sees Vital Need For Labor Party

(Special to THE MILITANT)

By Jerry Kirk

FLINT, Mich., Sept. 10 — That the CIO United Automobile Workers, largest and most dynamic union in America, will have to "start the ball rolling" for the formation of a national labor party, was stated here today by Archie Meyers, president of AC Sparkplug Local 651, in an exclusive interview with this correspondent.

"The delegates to the next convention will certainly map out a good program to solve the economic problems," said the head of the militant AC local of some 12,000 members. "And I am sure that proposals will be made at the convention for calling of all groups that represent labor to a conference to lay the groundwork for a labor party."

### SPEAKS FRANKLY

Sitting behind his desk at the local's office opposite the sprawling red brick AC plant across Dort Highway, Meyers spoke frankly and forcefully of the tremendous problems confronting the auto workers and the growing sentiment among the ranks and local leaders for a militant independent program on the political as well as economic field.

As we sat talking over the old days when the local was getting started, and the slow hard upward climb to build a powerful union, a member came in and said, "Well, I'm still not working, Archie. When do you think I'll be called back?"

### A REAL PROBLEM

Meyers explained, "Management is calling back two of the six thousand laid off. You'll hear from them in a few days. In the meantime, you better get an out-of-work receipt."

Straightening up his wry frame and shaking his head back and forth, Meyers turned once more to me. "That's a real problem," he declared. "I don't know all the answers to it yet. Four

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sale. All of the pamphlets taken on the mobilization were rapidly sold out. Many copies of "The Struggle for Negro Equality," an e r l i e r Pioneer Publishers' pamphlet, were also sold.

### WARM RESPONSE

Many of the purchasers, despite the inclement weather, stopped to ask questions about the Socialist Workers Party, and to receive a copy of *The Militant*. The purchasers were informed that Charles Jackson, author of the pamphlet, writes a column "The Negro Struggle" each week in *The Militant*.

"These two highly successful mobilizations," declared C. Thomas, organizer of the New York Local, "are a fitting answer to the attempt to extend the already established practice of segregating colored people in Jim Crow neighborhoods in this city by building a wall around Harlem to keep white workers away from their colored brothers."

Both Mayor LaGuardia and the Police Commissioner, Thomas pointed out, have refused to take action against this police incitation. "But we New York Trotskyists will continue our fight against those who are lifting a page from Hitler's book to spread the virulent germ of race hatred throughout this city."

## John G. Wright Speaks at Boston On British Labor

BOSTON, Sept. 14—An audience of 50 workers heard Comrade John G. Wright, Associate Editor of *The Militant* and the Fourth International, lecture tonight on "The British Labor Victory—Its Meaning for American Workers." Comrade Wright traced the development of the British Labor Party, pointing out the reasons for its success in the recent elections.

"The leftward movement of British labor will continue," he predicted. "This process will not stop with the parliamentary victory of the Labor Party."

### POST-WAR CRISIS

The victory of the British Labor Party, Wright declared, will profoundly affect American workers. As mass unemployment spreads, the American workers will turn to political action to defend their interests. All the ravages of the post-war crisis will impel them on the road of militant political struggle. The example of the British workers

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## Simpson Bares Role Of Police In Harlem

By Louise Simpson

Trotskyist Candidate for New York City Council

Even we Negroes who live in Harlem and know the viciousness of the police toward us, got an extra shock out of two of the latest incidents.

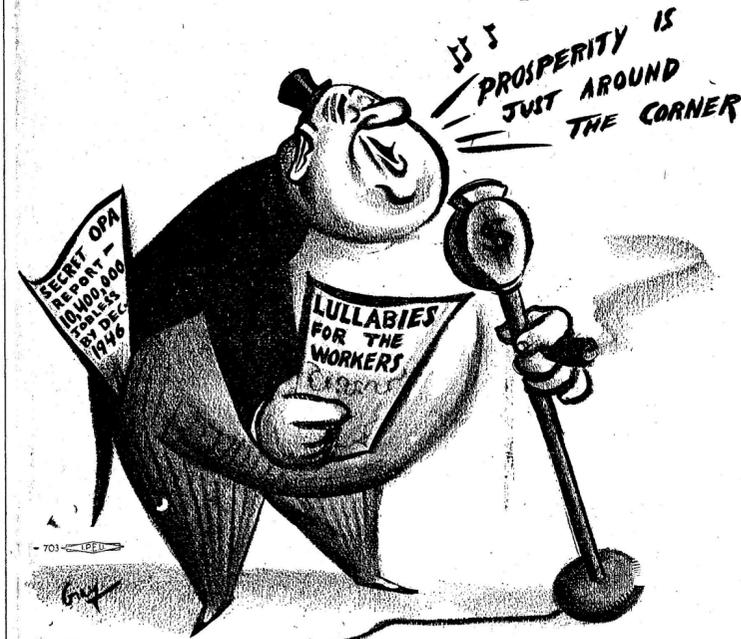
Police stopped white friends of Roy Wilkins as they entered Harlem to visit the Negro editor of *The Crisis*, monthly magazine of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. The cops warned them it was a Negro neighborhood — as if they didn't know.

Two plainclothesmen on a Harlem street stopped Bob McAlpin, staff photographer of a Negro newspaper. They didn't know he was colored and demanded to know why he was in Harlem. When he protested, they hauled

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## Auto Workers Prepare For Show-Down Battle

Wall Street Theme Song



NEWS ITEM: "Many corporations . . . are aware of a secret OPA report which predicts that 10,400,000 persons will be jobless by December, 1946. The OPA's researchers told their chiefs the other day that the 10,000,000 would be pounding the streets by 1947 although the U. S. will have reached a production and profit level higher than any previous peacetime year." (Victor Reisel, N. Y. Post, Sept. 13).

## UAW National GM Conference Calls For Congress Of Labor

(Special to THE MILITANT)

By Howard Smith

### IN THE NEWS

#### Their Fat, Labor's Blood

Commenting on the increase of corporation working capital by \$1,400,000,000 in the first three months of 1945 to a peak of \$46,900,000,000, the current issue of *Labor*, organ of the railway unions, states: "Millions of workers may have a hard time getting along in the post-war period, but corporations could live on their war profit 'fat' if they did not turn a wheel for years."

#### Why Millions Died

Herbert L. Matthews, N. Y. Times correspondent, wrote from London, September 13, about the current "Big Five" conference: "Already there is a striking parallel to Versailles in 1919. The grab for colonies is no different than it was in those days. One finds here now the same struggle for economic mastery in such questions as the Ruhr and the Rhineland, the clash of the two great ideologies, the intense national rivalries, the secret treaties secretly arrived at, the spirit of revenge and domination."

#### His Side of the Fence

Secretary of Commerce Henry A. Wallace, speaking September 13 at a private dinner in New York's Waldorf-Astoria Hotel to 200 business men, guests of National PAC, described himself as "the representative of business in government."

#### With Red Flags Flying

"BERLIN, Sept. 10 — Crowds estimated by German police at 80,000 to 90,000 marched through Berlin's shabby east side yesterday waving red flags and singing the 'Internationale' in tribute to the victims of Fascism." (Associated Press).

#### Soviet People Please Note

The Stalinist government has leased the palatial million dollar mansion of the late J. P. Morgan on East Island, Glen Cove, R. I. This 73-acre estate and its brick, stone and glass palace will be used by Soviet officials in this country for recreation and entertainment and as headquarters for the Soviet Purchasing Commission.

DETROIT, Sept. 15 — CIO United Automobile Workers delegates, representing more than 300,000 General Motors workers, at the national GM conference held here yesterday and today unanimously adopted a resolution calling for a gigantic United Congress of American Labor in Washington to advance labor's own program against unemployment, insecurity and wage cuts.

This program for united national labor action against the hunger program of Wall Street's government was enthusiastically adopted today in addition to the conference's spirited endorsement of a corporation-wide strike "to take place within two months" to secure a general 30 per cent average increase in GM wage scales.

#### "A REAL PROGRAM"

Condemning the failure of Congress to act in the interests of labor and the unemployed, and warning against the forthcoming employer-government-labor conference sponsored by Truman, the GM conference recommended that the UAW International Executive Board take the initiative in mobilizing a National Labor Congress of representatives of all union bodies "to draft and adopt a real program for labor

#### Full Text of GM Resolution Page 2

which would be the only solid basis for negotiations with the employer and government representatives on the general and pressing questions facing labor today."

The call for such a Congress of American labor, to convene in Washington, D. C. in "the shortest possible time," says the resolution, would be addressed to "all sections of the labor movement throughout America, including the internationals of the CIO, AFL, Railroad Brotherhoods, United Mine Workers, and all others."

These organizations would "issue a call in turn to every local union body within their jurisdiction to the effect that delegates from all such bodies shall meet in one gigantic Congress of American Labor in Washington, D. C."

The resolution, introduced by rank and file delegates, was first

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## FORD LOCKOUT OPENS "BIG 3" COUNTER-DRIVE

Strike Vote Impends;  
Demand 30% Raise

(Special to THE MILITANT)

DETROIT, Sept. 17 —

As hundreds of thousands of militant auto workers moved toward a decisive battle for a 30 per cent wage increase and CIO United Automobile Workers leaders under pressure of the ranks announced plans for strike votes against General Motors, Ford and Chrysler, the Ford Motor Company opened the "Big Three" counter-offensive on September 14 with a demonstration.

See Editorial  
"Time for Showdown"  
Page 4

five and provocative blow against the union—the deliberate national lockout of more than 50,000 workers.

This lockout was timed as the immediate challenge and brazen answer of the auto barons to the announcement by the UAW International Executive Board, meeting in Flint, Mich., that the union would make demands on the entire industry for a 30 per cent average wage boost to compensate for drastic slashes in take-home pay and wartime frozen wages.

### FORD REPLY

It was likewise the immediate reply of the Ford dynasty to the "strategy" of the UAW leaders. The latter have proposed to strike the auto corporations one at a time, starting with General Motors, on the theory that the

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## Goodrich Lockout Attempts To Break Foremen's Strike

(Special to THE MILITANT)

By Joseph Andrews

AKRON, O., Sept. 18 — The strike of 800 foremen of the B. F. Goodrich corporation here is in its fifteenth day, with the deadlock between the rubber company and Chapter 98, Foremen's Association of America, still unbroken. The corporation has refused to deal with the foremen's union in any way. Up to this point, 15,000 production workers have stayed away. They have refused to work with scab foremen.

It has now become clear that the company's strategy is to starve the production workers to the point of desperation, so that they can be maneuvered into smashing the foremen's picket line in order to break the strike and permit the company to herd in scab foremen.

Upon the request of Goodrich Local 5, CIO United Rubber Workers, the Foremen's Association agreed to return to work provided the company would state it would not discriminate against any striking foreman. This the company arrogantly refused.

Some 18,000 employees total are still out of work today because Goodrich corporation, undoubtedly backed by all the other profit-swelled rubber companies and the National Association of Manufacturers, is determined to smash the foremen's union in what is regarded as a crucial test struggle.

John Saylor, president of Goodrich Local 5, URW-CIO, has consistently used the powers of his office to pressure the foremen, thus playing directly into the hands of the company. Instead of denouncing the company's strike-breaking methods and publicly demanding that the company guarantee no discrimination against the striking foremen so that the strike can be terminated honorably, Saylor and his supporters have claimed that the

strike is not "legal" and that Local 5 has "no interest" in the foremen's strike. However, a large group of militant unionists in Local 5 have fought against Saylor's policy and defended the right of the foremen to organize. They have demanded that the union's power be used to expose the company's plot to make strikebreakers out of good union men.

At a huge mass meeting in the Akron Armory last Sunday, September 16, attended by more than 3,000 Local 5 members, the local's executive board recommended a return to work. After prolonged debate, the workers, who had already suffered two weeks of unemployment, voted to return to work, but not to accept any supervisory jobs.

There was a large opposition to the vote to return. They predicted that it would not work out and that it would be playing into the company's hands by permitting the utilization of production workers to help undermine the foremen's strike.

Yesterday morning, Monday, the company informed Local 5 that there would be no work available due to the lack of supervision. Thus, the situation at the present time is tantamount to a company lockout of the entire working force of 18,000 men and women.

# GM National Conference Calls For Congress Of Labor

(Continued from page 1)

reported out favorably by the top leadership committee for the UAW's GM division, which acted as a resolutions committee at the conference. It received an overwhelming response from the delegates.

Plans to implement the proposal for a corporation-wide strike to enforce the GM wage demands were discussed at length in the conference.

The demanded wage increase would be provided in the following manner, according to the wage program adopted. Of the total 30 per cent increase, 22 per cent would be a blanket boost amounting to approximately 26 cents per hour on the average. Of the remaining 8 per cent, 1 per cent would be used to eliminate wage differentials now prevailing for equal skills within GM plants; 3 per cent would level out inequalities throughout all GM plants; and the final 3 per cent would provide for a union social security fund for "complete health, accident, hospital, surgical, and medical coverage, including provisions for sick benefits of 60 per cent of weekly wages for a period of 52-weeks in the year."

### BASIC STRATEGY

UAW Vice-President Walter P. Reuther, head of the union's GM Division, declared that the conference's program constitutes "a basic strategy" in which the GM workers are to "spearhead wage increases for the entire industry, as part of an industry-wide plan adopted yesterday by the decision of the UAW executive board."

For months the auto workers have been pressing for strike action against the opposition of the top union leaders, including Reuther. The Detroit Regional Conference of 400 UAW local officers last June voted overwhelmingly for an industry-wide strike vote, which the UAW top leaders subsequently failed to initiate.

Adapting himself to the fighting mood of the GM workers, who have been building a fire under him for months, Reuther now said: "This is the fight. Now we talk the language the automobile corporations understand. The oratory and pretty language we have been putting out in the past has gotten us little. All existing wage demands that we still have before the WLB will be withdrawn. Our wage demands will be uniform for all GM plants — no local will be permitted to accept less."

The UAW leaders are still seeking industry-wide negotiations, involving all the big corporations, if possible, Reuther said, but this

has been refused so far. The alternative, he stated, was concentrated strike action against each auto giant. "GM was selected at my proposal to the IEB because it is the biggest, best able to pay and it establishes the tune for the auto industry."

Reported war profits in the auto industry are staggering, the conference learned, being five times the pre-war "norm." GM alone spent \$45,000,000 just to advertise its "victory is our business" slogan.

Reuther's plan would call for a strike vote through the NLRB under the terms of the Smith-Connally Act. This can prove a delaying action that might stall off a strike beyond the two-month deadline adopted by the conference. Reuther reported to the conference that "no short cuts will be permitted. Every local union must take a strike vote under the Smith-Connally Act. Furthermore, the UAW constitutional procedures regarding strikes must be followed to the letter." This latter means that the International Executive Board must first approve any strike.

Meanwhile, the International Executive Board, including Reuther, is using the promise of a general strike action months away as a pretext for attempting to break militant walkouts in progress in this area today. Thus, Reuther sought to justify the vicious action of Ford in locking out 50,000 workers in a move to crush the Kelsey-Hayes strike here.

"Ford is not locking-out 50,000 workers today," Reuther claimed. "This plant had to stop operating because the Kelsey-Hayes strike and the Ford strike in Canada shut off all supplies of wheels." This argument is taken right from the mouth of Ford himself.

When delegates from the Big Three — GM, Ford and Chrysler — would "gang up" in defense of GM, Reuther denied this, saying, "if so, it will be the first time." He promised reassuringly, "However, all UAW members will be similarly instructed to process Smith-Connally votes and we will be able, without delay, to declare a general strike, if necessary." "Anyway, I am willing to take the chance," he added.

But the Ford lockout, contrary to Reuther's lame excuse, is part of a concerted auto industry offensive against the UAW and its wage demands. The conference delegates expressed concern and skepticism of the "one-at-a-time" policy proposed by Reuther. They showed they mean business.

## GM CONFERENCE RESOLUTION FOR A CONGRESS OF LABOR

The following is the text of the resolution calling for a Congress of American Labor, adopted September 15 by the national General Motors conference of the UAW in Detroit:

WHEREAS: The thousands of GM workers and millions of workers throughout the nation are faced with unemployment, insecurity and poverty in the postwar period, and

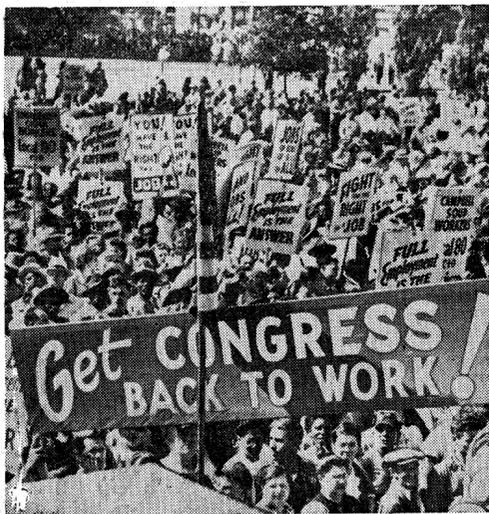
WHEREAS: The end of the war found Congress contentedly occupied with a lengthy vacation despite the fact that no machinery had been established by them to meet labor's needs in the drastic curtailment of war production and its resultant layoff of labor, and

WHEREAS: Congress in its handling of the questions of unemployment compensation and profits taxes showed clearly their willingness to provide millions to the corporations while they pinch pennies with us, and

WHEREAS: We cannot expect any relief from the forthcoming labor-government-management conference called by President Truman, but rather must be warned not to continue to accept a No-Strike Pledge as has already been proposed;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That this conference recommend to the UAW International Executive Board to issue a call to all sections of the labor movement throughout America, including the international of the CIO, AFL, Railroad Brotherhoods, United Mine Workers, and all others, to issue a call in turn to every local union body within their jurisdiction to the effect that delegates from all such bodies shall meet in one gigantic Congress of American Labor in Washington, D. C., at the shortest possible time. This truly representative body of labor could draft and adopt a real program for labor which would be the only solid basis for negotiations with the employer and government representatives on the general and pressing questions facing labor today.

### Jobs Demonstration in Camden



More than 25,000 workers poured into Camden, New Jersey's Roosevelt Plaza to protest against mass layoffs and to demand full employment when this photo was taken, August 28. Virtually every plant in the city was shut down as CIO, AFL and Railroad Brotherhood workers united in the demonstration (See The Militant, September 8).

## Auto Workers Prepare For Show-Down Battle

(Continued from page 1)

"Big Three" would not take concerted action against the union. Heads of General Motors, Ford and Chrysler met secretly during the last few days, it was disclosed here today, and are planning to issue simultaneous statements rejecting the UAW's demands. At the same time, GM and Chrysler are threatening to follow Ford with lockouts against their employees.

The pretext for the Ford lockout was the strikes at Kelsey-Hayes Wheel and other feeder plants in this city, as well as the strike of Ford workers across the river in Windsor, Canada. Ford is attempting to throw the blame for the shutdown on the workers, by claiming the lockout is due to lack of parts and materials as a result of the strikes, which in every instance have been caused by intolerable corporation provocations. However, the timing of Ford's union-busting blow was clearly intended as a demonstration of solidarity with General Motors, after it was announced that GM was next on the list for authorized strike action.

By means of the lockout, through which Ford and the other corporations hope to place responsibility on labor for blocking "reconversion," the billionaire industrialists intend to create the anti-labor smoke-screen behind which their agents in Congress can railroad through drastic new legislative curbs against the organized labor movement. They wish also to provide a pretext for immediate government intervention against the union.

PHONY PRETEXT The strike of 4,500 Kelsey-Hayes workers here, now in its 20th day, has served as the immediate pretext for the corporations' counter-offensive. In an effort to break this strike, demoralize the workers and cripple the union, Ford two weeks ago laid off 17,000 workers, claiming the strike was preventing necessary parts for production of cars. However, last Monday, Ford recalled the laid-off workers with the claim that other means had been found for getting parts. The first move to break the Kelsey-Hayes strike having failed, Ford now has followed

through with a general lockout, involving especially the huge River Rouge plant. Most of the Ford workers claim the pretext for the lockout is a phony. One official of Ford UAW Local 600 has declared the factory could operate on a 60 per cent basis for an indefinite period. Joseph McCusker, president of Ford Local 600, told a meeting of the River Rouge Machine Shop and Foundry Units that Ford did not have to close down the entire plant for lack of parts and that the lockout was an attempt by Ford and the corporations to utilize the strike situation here to break the workers' morale and discredit the union. However, when asked if he supported the Kelsey-Hayes strike, McCusker evaded the question by saying the International had not authorized it.

In fact, the International Executive Board, after unsuccessfully ordering the Kelsey-Hayes workers to end their strike, last week arbitrarily imposed an administrator on Local 174, of which Kelsey-Hayes is a unit. Percy Llewellyn, a former Ford Local 600 officer and the IEB's hand-picked administrator over Local 174, was unsuccessful at a meeting here yesterday in changing the determination of the Kelsey-Hayes members to continue their strike until three fired militant leaders are reinstated. Llewellyn's proposal to end the strike was tabled by the strikers.

FIGHTING TEMPER The fighting temper of the auto workers in this key industrial area has broken forth in a wave of strikes. Detroit is seething with dissatisfaction and unrest. Several hundred thousand have been brutally fired from their jobs, while those still on the job are suffering huge cuts in take-home pay due to reduced hours and every day are confronting increasing arrogance from the corporations.

At this writing, strikes are in progress at some 90 plants in this area. The biggest walkout involves 10,000 workers at four Windsor plants of the Ford company. This is the first strike authorized by the UAW's international board since Pearl Harbor. The Canadian Ford workers are conducting militant picket lines and an intensive campaign to mobilize the entire working class of Windsor behind them. They have the pledged support of Mayor Reaume and Alex Parent, president of UAW Local 195 and a member of the Canadian parliament. Mayor Reaume has pledged to call no troops against the strikers.

WELL ORGANIZED In a paid radio broadcast on September 12, the company called on the office workers to return to work, assuring them of police protection. The well-organized pickets, operating on a 24-hour day basis with four-hour shifts, refused to permit the office workers to pass the line. Even the president and vice-president of the company were denied entrance. The president's son tried to drive through the picket line, injuring several workers. He was nearly dragged from his car, and was saved from the workers' wrath only by the hasty intervention of the police. All signs point to the readiness

## AKRON UNIONISTS OPEN 30-HOUR WEEK CAMPAIGN

AKRON, O., Sept. 11 — The opening blow in the developing struggle to provide full employment and protect the take-home pay of the rubber workers was struck here yesterday. Heads of two leading CIO rubber locals and the CIO Council executive secretary made public their program calling for the 30-hour week with no reduction in take-home pay for the rubber workers.

In a large, hard-hitting advertisement in the Akron Beacon Journal, September 10, I. H. Watson, president of Firestone Local 7, C. V. Wheeler, president of Goodyear Local 2, and George Bass, executive secretary of the Akron Industrial Union Council, called on the rubber workers to "back to the hilt" the militant program endorsed by all Akron rubber locals, for the reduced work week with the same weekly pay. Their public declaration was timed with the United Rubber Workers executive board meeting in Washington to consider the wage problem.

CORPORATION PROFITS This is a "just and an easily realizable program," says the statement, pointing out that the rubber corporations "grew fat with super-profits; the rubber barons increased their profits during the war by 612.4 per cent above their prewar average, according to an OPA survey."

At the same time, the corporations "have amassed huge 'hidden' profits" in the form of all types of "reserve" funds, and, in addition, "the federal tax laws provide that for two full years after the war the wartime profits levels of industry shall be insured by means of tax refunds to the corporations." But "OUR INCOMES ARE NOT GUARANTEED. WE GET NO REFUNDS FROM THE EXORBITANT TAXES WE HAVE BEEN FORCED TO PAY DURING THE WAR."

The statement further shows that the corporations can institute this program without increasing prices. "We call attention to the fact that the price ceilings on tires and other rubber products were set high enough to provide for the payment of overtime to the worker. The companies are still charging the public for the cost of premium pay—which the rubber workers no longer receive. This premium is going into the profit side of the ledger."

At the same time, the corporations "are far more interested in having a large surplus of labor and long lines of unemployed workers in order to be able to force wage scales down by fear and intimidation. BUT LABOR WILL NOT GO BACK TO THE DAYS OF THE HOOVERVILLES, THE CORNER APPLE STAND, THE BREADLINES AND W.P.A. We will fight for a job for every worker at wages which will insure a high standard of living!"

The statement points out that the Akron rubber locals "pioneered the fight for the 6-HOUR DAY AND THE 36-HOUR WEEK,"

and won this fight. "Today the national 6-HOUR DAY and the 30-HOUR WEEK is a prime necessity if we are to avoid the most acute unemployment crisis in history."

To enforce this demand, the program calls for the corporations to be required to pay premium wages for all week-ends and holidays and "time and one-half for all work over 6 hours per day and 30 hours per week."

But the reduced work week, the program emphasizes, "must be accompanied by a wage which will keep the workers' standard of living at least at wartime levels. THIS MEANS WE MUST HAVE THE 30-HOUR WEEK AT NO REDUCTION IN WEEKLY TAKE-HOME PAY."

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At the same time, the corporations "are far more interested in having a large surplus of labor and long lines of unemployed workers in order to be able to force wage scales down by fear and intimidation. BUT LABOR WILL NOT GO BACK TO THE DAYS OF THE HOOVERVILLES, THE CORNER APPLE STAND, THE BREADLINES AND W.P.A. We will fight for a job for every worker at wages which will insure a high standard of living!"

The statement points out that the Akron rubber locals "pioneered the fight for the 6-HOUR DAY AND THE 36-HOUR WEEK,"

## 5,000,000 LAUNCH WAGE OFFENSIVE

A gigantic wage offensive, involving unions representing over 5,000,000 workers, has been shaping up in the past two weeks. American workers, their wages frozen during the war while prices soared, and now suffering sharp slashes in take-home pay due to reduced hours, are reaching out for a good slice of the scores of billions in war profits amassed by the corporations.

Spearheading the drive for big pay increases are the key unions of the CIO, auto, steel and rubber, which last week virtually simultaneously announced demands for general wage increases. AFL unions are following suit, with the AFL Railway Employees Department, representing more than 400,000 workers in seven crafts, announcing its wage demands last week.

The average demands call for boosts between 25 and 30 per cent in wage rates. Such large increases are more than justified by the profits position of the corporations, the tremendously increased

and determination of the auto workers for a show-down struggle. The national conference of GM delegates here last Friday and Saturday clearly revealed the militant mood of the workers, in the unanimous support for a resolution calling for corporation-wide strike action. A conference of Ford delegates has been announced for September 29 to decide on a strike vote. The Chrysler locals will take similar action this coming Sunday.

The UAW top leaders are insistent that the ranks go through the rigamarole of a vote through the government machinery as established by the Smith-Connally anti-strike act. As their whole past records have shown, and as their anti-strike actions against current walkouts further confirm, these leaders are not anxious for a real struggle against the corporations. They are projecting all kinds of "grand strategy" to stave off or restrict the struggle.

But the pressure of the ranks is becoming irresistible. An explosion, which may well set off a general strike in the auto industry, is imminent. The auto workers, who built their union by bringing GM, Chrysler and Ford to their knees before the war, know the answer to beating them again — and they are waiting eagerly to give that answer.

productivity of labor in the past five years, and the need to compensate for the vast decline in mass purchasing power because of the general return to a shorter work-week with no overtime.

A million CIO auto workers are pressing for strike action to enforce their formal demands, announced last week, for a 30 per cent general average wage increase.

STEELWORKERS DEMANDS The CIO United Steelworkers last week sent registered letters to 86 basic steel manufacturers demanding that they meet with the union negotiators on September 25 to discuss the USA-CIO's demand for a general \$2-a-day increase for 1,000,000 steelworkers.

Their demands are backed by the evidence of steel war profits contained in the union's special pamphlet, "Five Years of War Profits." By comparison with the immediate pre-war years, gross steel profits rose for the 1940-1945 period by 276 per cent, "from \$933,000,000 to over three and one-half billion."

Last week the General Executive Board of the CIO United Rubber Workers, speaking for 300,000 in the industry, announced it will make demands for a wage increase of 30 cents an hour, the six-hour day and 30-hour week.

WON'T COMPENSATE Rubber union officials pointed out that even a 30 cents an hour increase would not compensate the rubber workers for their loss in take-home pay since their return to a 36-hour week. During the five war years labor productivity has grown from 100 tires per day by machine to 180.

The United Radio, Electrical and Machine Workers Union is seeking a 25 cents an hour raise. A dollar a day boost is being sought by the Amalgamated Clothing Workers. Others are making similar demands.

The AFL railway shop workers are serving demands on the carriers on September 25 for a reduction in the work-week from 48 hours to 36, with no reduction in weekly earnings. Wage demands have been made by a total of 750,000 railway workers. Another 250,000 will join the campaign soon.

# TRADE UNION NOTES

By Joseph Keller

### One Down, One to Go

Striking members of AFL Newspaper Carriers Local 450, whose walkout, aided by the other newspaper workers, closed down the three big St. Louis newspapers on August 16, won a victory with the announcement of a settlement on September 6.

But the struck papers, the Post-Dispatch, Star-Times and Globe-Democrat, did not immediately resume publication because the typographical union members refused to return to work until they received a new signed contract. Their old contract expired last December.

The report of the carriers agreement was carried in the only daily paper in St. Louis, The St. Louis Daily News, put out by the various newspaper unions as their own project. It was written by the CIO Newspaper Guild members, who supported the strike.

Main terms of the agreement included the purchase of the house-to-house routes of the carriers, valued by the publishers themselves at \$2,250,000, and recognition of AFL Carriers Local 450 as the bargaining agent for the news deliverymen. Previously, the publishers had contended that the carriers were "merchants" and refused to grant collective bargaining.

### Unemployed Committees

Flint Buick's 599 Headlight, speaking for over 15,000 CIO auto union members, recently reprinted in full, with acknowledgment to this paper, The Militant's August 25th front-page editorial on "The Unions' Duty." The editorial proposed the immediate establishment by all local unions of Unemployed and Placement Committees to give full union representation to the laid-off workers and defend their interests before the USES, unemployment compensation commissions and other government agencies. This proposal has struck a responsive chord and has already been adopted, in various forms, by a number of local unions throughout the country.

### Union Conventions

Pressure from the large unions, particularly of the CIO, played an important part in securing the lifting of the government's ban on conventions of more than 150 people. The War Committee on Conventions of the Office of Defense Transportation announced last week the ban will be removed on October 1. The CIO United Automobile Workers, which can be expected to have around 2,500 delegates at its next convention, threatened to defy the ban.

However, the AFL Executive Council has already announced that the national AFL convention scheduled for Chicago in October has been called off for a year.

The federation's officials also announced they had extended their own terms of office for another year.

### UAW Test Case

A War Labor Board panel has been set up to hear the first test case in the CIO auto union's demand for a general 30 per cent wage increase in the industry. The case involves 13 demands, including the key wage question, of the Houdaille-Hershey Corporation workers.

The United Automobile Worker, September 15, comments: "On the outcome of this case will be learned how the War Labor Board intends to act on general wage increases for postwar as promised by the Board before hostilities ceased."

Do the UAW leaders have any doubts about how the WLB will act? Months ago the UAW executive board itself called on the CIO to withdraw its members from the employer-dominated WLB. The big job is to smash the WLB and make serious preparations for an independent militant show-down struggle—the kind of struggle the UAW ranks have been demanding for months.

### Green Ends Pledge

AFL President William Green finally got around, on September 7, to declaring that the AFL's no-strike pledge had ended with Japan's surrender. When the first announcement of the Japanese surrender offer came, Green had hastened to reassure the employers that he was still opposed to strikes and called on the AFL members to exercise "restraint."

His present belated declaration is merely the formal acknowledgment that the union ranks during the past six months have already trampled the no-strike policy into the dust. But when will CIO President Murray take the plunge?

### Organizing Union Vets

Two applications for new union posts were recently turned down by the American Legion, which since its organization after the last war has been hostile to labor. When the Buffalo Federation of Labor and Kansas City, Mo., CIO Council applied for charters for posts, the Legion officials said they were not chartering any new posts. Judge Advocate Maurice A. Frank of the National Conference of Union Labor Legionnaires, termed the excuse for the refusal "weak and ridiculous." He pointed out that the Legion leaders boasted of setting up a new post in the liquor industry in New York. The answer to the Legion's anti-labor policy is for the unions themselves to organize the returning vets and conduct a real fight for their rights.

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# MacArthur Retains Japanese Despotism In Korea As Independence Movement Voices Angry Protest

Many Koreans hoped that victory of the Allies over Japan would mean the independence of Korea. These hopes are turning into bitter disillusionment. The armies of American imperialism are rolling into South Korea, and where they do not set up direct military control, they are bolstering the imperialist Japanese officialdom.

One of the first orders of the occupying forces was that Japanese administrative officials would remain in office. Demonstrations in protest broke out in Seoul, capital of Korea, and political groups covered the city with angry posters.

General MacArthur answered these protests of the Koreans with a proclamation from Tokyo that any act to disturb the peace in Korea or any hostilities there against Allied troops would be punishable by death or such other punishment as the occupation authorities decided to inflict.

When 500 unarmed Koreans paraded with small American flags to greet the Allied troops, Japanese police killed two and wounded 10. General Hodge, in charge of the occupation, told the Koreans that their desire for immediate independence cannot be granted. In this way he upheld the Japanese civil administration. General Hodge, acting under instructions from MacArthur, is dealing with the Japanese despots and "is likely to continue to do so for some time," according to the Associated Press.

**U. S. UPHOLDS JAPANESE**

Hodge told the press, "We had to leave the Japanese some small arms as protection against the Koreans since it is our duty to maintain order." He likewise declared, "As a matter of fact the Japanese are my most reliable source of information."

U. S. military authorities decreed that 30 per cent of the Japanese troops shall keep their arms for the time being "to avert outbreaks of vengeance by the Koreans against their oppressors."

Truman declared that MacArthur's policy of backing up the Japanese officialdom in Korea was reached in the theater command. Truman made it absolutely clear, however, that he backed MacArthur to the hilt.

As Hodge's troops swept further southward, the general said that U. S. Army troops

might be used as police in Korea to replace the Japanese set-up. But this would not be done immediately.

**POWDER KEG**

Bill Downs, a Columbia Broadcasting System correspondent, radioed from a stratoliner en route from Korea that this little-known land will rapidly become prominent as the "powder keg" of the Far East and the "Poland of the Pacific." Already, he reported, "the fuse of the so-called 'powder keg of Korea' has begun to sputter."

"No provision has been made," he continued, "for recognition of the Korean independence movement. We are following the policy in Korea that we are instituting

**See Editorial**  
**"Withdraw the Troops"**  
**Page 4**

in Japan." He reported that "the same Japanese policemen are standing with their bayoneted rifles on the streets. The people have to do business with the same Japanese or Japanese-employed civil authorities.

In contrast to the American policy, Downs reported, the Soviet Union is following a policy of removing the Japanese. The Koreans "are saying that the Russians have ousted all" the Japanese. "The Russians are not using" Japanese to operate "as usual under a liberation-directed government. And the word is spreading that the Russians are doing a more complete and better job of occupation than we are."

Downs continued: "In the capital of the country it is evident that there is an active Communist movement. The Russian flag is displayed in the streets of Seoul as often as the American flag. But how widespread the Communist movement is has not yet been determined."

"The people of this country expect immediate independence," said Downs, "particularly from the Americans, who stand as the symbol of freedom here and all over the world. This freedom has not been forthcoming, and a lot of Korean leaders are going to accuse us of selling them out. As a matter of fact, they already are making that accusation."



MacARTHUR

## INDO-CHINESE REVOLT AGAINST FRENCH RULE

(Continued from page 1)

gon reports "there has been another outbreak of rioting by Indo-Chinese nationalists." The cable declared, "The trouble began last Sunday, and there was some shooting in Saigon for the next two days. Armed rioters are said to have broken into houses and taken French families to the police station." The label, "rioters" is commonly used by the capitalists to describe strikers and revolutionists. The arms were probably seized from the Japanese troops who have been stationed in Indo-China.

The French imperialists charge that "the Japanese armed 60,000 Annamites in Saigon with machine-guns, rifles, revolvers, daggers and bamboo clubs and encouraged them to strike for independence from French rule."

On the first day of liberation from Japanese rule, triumphal arches were hung with the flags of all United Nations except France. Annamite flags waved from every important building of Hanoi.

**STARTED IN MARCH**

According to the August 31 AP dispatch, "The unrest started in March when the Japanese set up a puppet state in Indo-China, giving the Viet Nam (Nationalist) Party control of the country. Then on August 1, the Viet Nam consolidated with the Viet Minh, a Communist underground party, for a united front."

The leader of the "Nationalist united front" continues the dispatch, "is Nguyen Hai Quoc who has the title of President of the Annamite Republic and is believed to be a Communist. Another leader is Ho Chin Min, who claims the title of Premier, Foreign Minister and founder of Viet Nam."

A September 9 United Press dispatch from Rangoon declares that in Saigon "the Annamite crowd was incited by the Kaudist religious group, which apparently was backing the Viet Minh party." The dispatch adds that this party "includes three Stalinist Communist factions and two Trotsky Communist factions."

The Rangoon correspondent reports "a new riot broke out" in Saigon "last Friday when Annamites tried to break through the handful of British and Japanese guards in order to capture French residents who had taken refuge in the Continental Hotel. Two French officers who had parachuted into Saigon were killed."

Meanwhile Maj. Gen. Jacques Philippe Leclerc, announced from Yokohama that he will head 8,000

the members of his crew and therefore he should have known that his flagman did not drop a fuse. The responsibility for operating this train over these conditions is clearly, wholly and completely the responsibility of the company and only one conclusion can be drawn: The company was criminally negligent.

Allied troops scheduled to land in Indo-China. He added that negotiations are under way with Chiang Kai-shek regarding French economic interests in northern Indo-China. As for the freedom of Indo-China, Leclerc cynically declared, "Indo-China must follow its own evolution toward more freedom."

"What role the Trotskyists are playing in the struggle for the freedom of Indo-China cannot be made out from the dispatches. Prior to the war, the program of Trotskyism was gaining rapidly in popularity. In the Saigon area it was especially strong. A number of Trotskyist deputies were elected to the parliament.

**TROTSKYISTS GROWING**

Fearing the growth of the independence movement under Trotskyist leadership, the French imperialists initiated savage suppression. They burned down more than 2,000 villages, arrested outstanding militants and threw them into vile prisons where they were tortured.

During the war a news blackout covered Indo-China. From meager reports filtering through underground channels, it was learned that despite all difficulties the Trotskyist movement was forging ahead. Many Stalinists were joining. One report declared that the entire Indo-Chinese Stalinist party had announced its adherence to the program of the Fourth International.

**Truman Secretly Knives Measure For Jobless Aid**

President Truman himself secretly knifed his own proposal for \$25 weekly maximum unemployment compensation, which the Senate Finance and Banking Committee on September 13 dropped from the emasculated Kilgore bill.

Truman's confidential memorandum to the committee, prior to its vote, gave the green light to a majority of the committee to slash the \$25 provision with Truman's tacit approval.

C. P. Trussell, Washington correspondent for the N. Y. Times, reveals in the September 16 issue that "on unemployment compensation it is virtually agreed that the Truman-Kilgore proposals (and it is said authoritatively) that while the President wrote two messages urging \$25 for twenty-six weeks, he would take less" (Our emphasis).

The details of Truman's behind-the-scenes operations to kill the measure which he said was a "must" in his recent message to Congress, were revealed by columnist Drew Pearson in the N. Y. Daily Mirror, September 17.

Senator George, chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, read Truman's secret memorandum

## Workers In Chile Win Great Strike

(Continued from page 1)

pital Workers Unions, was met by demonstrations and angry protests in the heated daily meetings.

Wednesday, more unions declared their solidarity. The Socialist Party, which recently withdrew from the Democratic Alliance, publicly solidarized itself with the strike. Thursday night, the most powerful sections of the Industrial Railwaymen's Federation (Valparaiso and San Bernardo) gave a time limit of 24 hours to the government to "satisfy all demands" of the strikers.

**SANTIAGO DEMANDS**

Thursday night public assemblies were held throughout the whole country. In Santiago 5,000 hospital workers demonstrated in the streets, demanding satisfaction of their demands, full civil liberties, complete legality for their trade unions, and cancellation of the indictments served against their leaders. During this demonstration, the militants of the Revolutionary Workers Party (Fourth International) were the only political group to distribute a Manifesto, calling for support to the strike and urging the CTCH to declare a general strike.

Tonight the strike triumphed. The government has turned over \$18,000,000 to the Department of Public Welfare. The Department has promised not to take reprisals and not to attempt the dissolution of the unions. Tomorrow at 8 a.m. the strikers will return victorious to the hospitals.

**THE WORKERS CALL A HALT**

This strike of 18,000 hospital workers is the first resounding proletarian reply to the continued offensive of the bosses and the government. During the war, the working class was hamstrung by conciliation and arbitration, because the Socialist Party and Communist Party (Stalinist) leaders pledged "not to strike" during the war and "to accept compulsory arbitration." The SP and the CP, largest parties in the working class, pledged this policy of class collaboration during the Popular Front government which lasted from 1938 to 1945.

The capitalists took advantage of this sell-out policy in order to start a frontal attack upon the working class. Prices soared to astronomical heights; the cost of living became unbearable. The trade unions, submitting to conciliation and arbitration, obtained only crumbs from the government arbitrators. The landlords and capitalists, on the other hand, made fantastic profits.

But the answer given this week was "unexpected." The workers surged forward with fresh energies to the forefront of the struggle. Their triumph constitutes a true "Halt!" to retreat. It is the first encouraging bugle call for the new battles that are approaching.

**ALGERIAN TROTSKYISTS FIGHT IMPERIALIST RULE**

Party of Algeria, an organization fraternally affiliated with the French Trotskyists and the Fourth International.

Demonstrations at Setif, Guelma and other parts of the country by the "Friends of the Manifesto," as the movement is known, marched under banners inscribed "Long Live Independent Algeria" and "Freedom for Messali Hadj."

Messali Hadj is the leader of the PPA and is an old friend of the Trotskyists. He has been imprisoned for his militant leadership of the Algerian masses by French imperialism, first under the Third Republic, then under the Vichy regime of Petain, and now under de Gaulle.

The struggle began when the bread ration of the Moslem natives was cut to 250 grams (approximately one-half pound), one-fourth the amount a family normally consumes.

The government at the same time was giving free rein to profiteers who bought grain at 500 francs the quintal (about 200 lbs.) and sold it to the retail trade at 10,000 francs. While this situation persists, the Manifesto pointed out, the big French colonial landlords for speculative purposes are actually cutting down the areas sowed.

The colonizers, the Manifesto continued, only "organize" one thing: the destruction of the country. "Respect for what we are and for what we possess can be assured only within the framework of an Algerian Nation with a free government based on the sovereignty of the Algerian people."

The Parisian paper Le Figaro (July 13) reports from Guelma a resolution passed by the French parties there declaring that "the revolts are the beginning of an uprising of a clearly anti-European character, inspired by almost all the native intellectuals and followed by a large majority which is rallying the whole Moslem population of Algeria."

Stalinists and reformist socialists of the party led by Leon Blum associated themselves with the efforts of the de Gaulle government to suppress the movement. Only the Trotskyists in France, in Belgium and everywhere are unequivocally behind the mass movement of the Algerian masses.

## Great Northern Foists Blame For Wreck On Crew Members

(Special to THE MILITANT)

By C. Gustafson

ST. PAUL, Minn., Sept. 7 — Following the old familiar pattern, two members of the train crew of the Great Northern Railway's Empire Builder were charged with the responsibility for the wreck that killed 34 persons Aug. 9 at Michigan, North Dakota.

John S. Vaughn, conductor, and Henry Brusco, flagman, on the first section of the train were both fired from their jobs after an investigation of the fatal accident. They were made the scapegoats for the criminal negligence of the railroad.

The investigation disclosed the following facts: The second section of the Empire Builder crashed into the first section when the latter was halted because of an overheated wheel bearing.

The flagman ran back as far as he could — between 800 and 1000 feet — in a vain attempt to stop the oncoming train. The wreck occurred two minutes and 50 seconds after the first train stopped. For three years, the two sections of this crack train have been operating over this 80 mile piece of track, which is without automatic block signals and has only 3 telegraph stations with operators on duty at train time. (Actually this means that only one station is open because the stations at the beginning and end of this non-automatic block track do not help.)

### COMPANY NEGLIGENCE

The rules provide that trains operating on non-automatic block track shall be kept apart by the telegraph operator holding a train at his station until the preceding train is reported by the operator to be past the station ahead. (Automatic blocks are operated electrically by a train to warn a following train of its location.)

The Great Northern's negligence in operating trains on this kind of track was completely exposed by the fact that the company put telegraph operators on duty at all stations immediately following the wreck. This "working" of the rules as applied to

the company was of course ignored in the investigation.

The method followed in the Empire Builder case is the usual procedure by which the railroad companies are able to shift the blame on to some employee. The process is a simple one. The railroads throughout the country operate trains under a book of rules, "The Consolidated Code of Transportation Rules and General Instructions," which vary little from company to company. This book of rules contains 12 general rules (conduct, morale, etc.) and 1002 operating rules. All railroad operating employees are instructed and examined periodically on these rules.

**FUNCTION OF RULES**

Developed over a long period of time these rules are so devised as to make the employee responsible for anything that might happen. They have never been revised from the link and pin days, when cars were coupled by a trainman dropping a pin through the link by hand. Technological improvements (air brakes to streamliners) only brought additions, never revisions.

The Great Northern company used just this kind of technicality to victimize the train crew. The rules provide that the flagman shall drop off red-burning fuses whenever there is danger that this train may be overtaken by a following train. This was a fuse ran back as far as it was humanly possible in two minutes and 50 seconds in an attempt to flag the second train. At the speed of present day trains, it takes two thousand to three thousand feet to bring a train to a stop. Nevertheless, the flagman was fired because of the technicality of his not dropping a fuse. Theoretically, if he had dropped the fuse even 20 feet behind the standing train he would have been technically "protected."

The conductor was fired because the rules provide that he is responsible for the actions of

*Diary of a*  
**STEEL WORKER**  
By Theodore Kovalesky

Working on a blast furnace is a tough job. You get hot, so hot that you turn to water inside and wonder how much longer your legs will hold you up. You sweat so much that you can actually wring out your clothes when you take them off. You breathe all kinds of dust and gas; and as if that weren't enough, you're always risking your life up on the furnaces in the bargain.

But I'd hate to have anyone think that blast furnace work was the only tough work in the world. For instance, look at a machinist. One of my friends, Wally Snyder, runs a screw machine in one of the auto plants here in town, or rather, he did before the layoffs hit him. I used to work in a machine shop, too, some years ago.



Wally Snyder is a tall, thin, sad-looking man with the beginnings of a bay window. He's pale, a sort of grayish color, from working years in the stuffy shops, and he suffers from indigestion like a lot of other machinists.

Every day for years Wally was at his machine at seven in the morning when the whistle blew and he was there until three-thirty when the last whistle turned him loose. And in between those two whistles he, and thousands of others, put in their time something like this:

You start the machine after you check the blueprint for the dimensions of the pieces you're running. You run a piece and mike it up. Not quite right. You give the set-screw part of a turn and run another. O.K. Now you're ready to go ahead.

It's a simple job, today. Just turn a piece down and cut it to length: two dimensions to watch. But you'd better watch them. You've only got a couple thousandths of an inch tolerance. They allow you half a minute each: one hundred twenty pieces an hour.

You pull the bar stock part way out of the collet, move in the turret slide, and set the length.

Pull back the turret, and spin the handwheel on the cross-feed until you get it set. Clamp it tight and throw in the automatic feed. Move the little pipe over so the cutting oil flows onto the tool bit.

**Spin, Flip, Change and Spin. . .**

When the automatic clicks off, spin the handwheel and bring the square turret back. Flip it around to the cut-off tool. Change the speed. Spin the handwheel to bring the cutter in close to the piece. Throw in the automatic.

Catch the piece as it drops off and throw it into the pan. But don't forget to check them every now and then. You don't want to run a lot of scrap.

Pull out another length of stock. Watch your fingers, though. One of the girls lost her right index finger just a couple days ago in one of the little machines. Funny how many old machinists have a couple fingers gone. I guess it gets you sooner or later with all the time-study and speed-up.

You run the second piece and the third. You check the third one. It's all right, so you go on to the fourth and fifth. You look at the greasy old dollar watch you keep in your tool box. It's stopped, but that's all right. Shake it, and it'll run for a few minutes, long enough to time yourself. Half a minute! You've got to do better than that. You'll have to grind your tools and maybe run up to the toilet during the day. You'll have to work faster. Set the speed a little higher, so the automatic feed won't take so long. Not too high, though, or you'll burn up your tools and waste time sharpening them.

Run another piece. That damn cutting oil! It stinks, and the machine has sprayed it all over you . . . on your clothes, on your face, in your hair. Your hands and arms are covered with it. It makes some people break out in a rash. Lucky it doesn't bother you that way. But be careful. If you get it into a cut or even a scratch, you'll have an infection.

**You're Two Minutes Behind**

You work steadily, grimly. You try to pile up a little margin of time. When you're about ten minutes ahead, the cutter starts to smoke. Damn! You check the piece. Off size. Damn! You unscrew the tool bit and grind a new edge on it. Now you've got to set it all over again. Your ten minutes is gone. In fact, you're two minutes behind.

Go to it again. God, it must be almost lunch time. Ten o'clock. You wonder if the clock could be stopped. You always wonder that. But it isn't. Good thing, too. You'd be way behind.

The little old German next to you is turning some hard steel with a carbide tool, and the oil is smoking furiously, drifting right over so you have to breathe it.

You take a minute to run up to the toilet, and then you run right down again, wishing terribly that you had time for a few drags on a cigarette. You haven't. Besides, you'd get fired if they caught you smoking in the can.

Back to work. Then lunch, finally. You wolf your sandwich and coffee so you'll have time for a cigarette in the smoking area. Then the warning whistle and the whistle that says, "Go to it." So you start up again.

Pull out some stock. Set it. Run it. Drop it in the pan. Hundred twenty an hour. Oil slime on you. Oil smoke in your lungs. Monotony. Your legs are tired. Your back is stiff. Your finger stings where you cut it on a burr. Set your stock. God, won't quitting time ever come?

Finally the whistle. Mechanically you wipe your tools and put them away. You wipe your hands and arms and walk out tired and nervous, still feeling the motions you've been going through all day. You won't feel human for at least an hour.

And tomorrow it'll be the same thing.

**Simpson Bares Role Of Police In Harlem**

(Continued from page 1)

Harlem to see their Negro friends.

To the Negro-hating bosses and cops, a "nigger-lover" is just as bad or worse than immoral elements. But that kind of attitude has lost its hold on the advanced workers of New York. White and black together, in Harlem and all Manhattan, in recent years have voted for and elected Negro candidates on labor tickets. That will happen even more decisively this time.

And that will be the best answer to the outrageous attempt to put a ghetto wall around Harlem.

**VOTE FOR DOBBS & SIMPSON**

vicious ways of picturing Harlem as an area of vice and corruption. But these lies are now running up against the fact that during the war the capitalists were compelled by manpower shortages to bring Negro and white workers together in the war factories. In the process many white workers have learned to accept these stories for what they are worth. Nothing!

These renewed slanders against Harlem are part of the capitalist campaign to put the Negro "back in his place." Economically they are attempting to do this by the postwar return to the policy of "Sorry, we don't hire Negroes." Socially by attempting to make white people ashamed to come to

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Only the world revolution can save the USSR from socialism. But the world revolution carries with it the inescapable blotting out of the Kremlin oligarchy.

— Leon Trotsky

## Time For Show-Down

A reactionary hue and cry has been raised against the Detroit Kelsey-Hayes Wheel strikers who are fighting to reinstate three of their fellow-workers unjustly fired. All that is required to end this strike is to put the three victimized union men back to work.

Yet, the Ford Motor Company has locked out more than 50,000 workers nationally on the pretext that the Kelsey-Hayes strike has prevented shipment of necessary parts.

Why have these 50,000 workers been deprived of their jobs through the arbitrary and autocratic action of one profit-bloated capitalist, Henry Ford II, scion of the Ford dynasty of a billion-dollar industrial empire?

His cold-blooded act is calculatingly timed at the very moment when the Ford, General Motors and Chrysler workers are girding for battle to secure justly deserved and imperatively needed wage increases from the war profits-gorged auto corporations.

It is deliberately designed to divert attention from the real criminal saboteurs of production, the monopoly profiteers who have already thrown nearly 300,000 Detroit workers into the streets because they are no longer able to provide war profits. The lockout is part of a concerted attempt to create an atmosphere of anti-labor hysteria under cover of which the big corporations are conducting a well-planned and organized union-busting offensive.

During the war, the workers were kept down by frozen jobs and frozen wages. Every attempt they made to lift their heads met with vicious blows from the corporations, the government and their own top union officials. "Now is not the time to strike! Be patriotic!" the workers were told. Meanwhile, the corporations freely looted the country.

Today, we hear a new strikebreaking pretext. The bosses are now clamoring that strikers are "blocking reconversion." But when should the workers fight for their rights? According to the profiteers—never! In war or peace, whenever the workers dare to raise their heads, the money-moguls find new demagogic pretexts for denying the workers decent wages and conditions.

If today the pretext is "reconversion," tomorrow there will be some other propaganda lie—there is always the old prewar excuse of the "public interests." But the workers must cut through this fog of lies. They must stand ever ready to defend their interests militantly.

That is why the most far-seeing union militants consistently opposed the wartime no-strike pledge. And that is why today they are pressing for nothing less than a show-down battle against the corporations with every weapon of union struggle.

## Withdraw The Troops!

Letters are flooding the mail bag of Congress demanding immediate discharge of the war veterans. A typical letter, signed by more than 70 veterans, was sent to Senator Robertson of Wyoming. These men want to go home. They want to be "treated like a soldier and not like PW's." They sent Robertson the letter "after reading your name in the papers." And they asked the Senator to keep the names of the signers "secret due to Army repercussions."

The Washington columnist Drew Pearson reported September 15 that "Gen. Harry Lewis Twaddle, commander of the 95th Division, Camp Shelby, Miss., assembled his troops to explain occupation duty in Japan. The boos from the soldiers were so prolonged and frequent, it took him 40 minutes to deliver a 15-minute speech."

These incidents show how the soldiers in America feel. How much greater is the wish of the soldiers overseas to return home! In Belgium the homesickness of the men has been intensified by the universal hatred of the people who at first welcomed the Americans. At Verviers, near Liege, a group of American officers who tried to take some

German girls to a dance sponsored by the Belgian resistance movement were nearly "lynched." At Louvain, an American soldier last seen talking to a Belgian girl was found stabbed to death.

In Germany, soldiers—drilled to carry out the terms of a "hard peace"—among other things are shouldering the people off the sidewalks, according to a press report. Such acts add fuel to the flames of hatred against the arrogant Americans.

In Italy, where Allied troops have been longest in continental Europe, the hatred of the people for the conquerors has flared into open violence. At Rome two Italian girls were dragged from an American jeep and disrobed before a crowd of 2,000. Allied military police swung clubs and unleashed police dogs on the crowd. Captain Waugh declared on his return to the United States on September 6 that "Many American soldiers are still being killed by Italians."

The legitimate demand of the soldiers and their families for discharges is meeting with a cold reception in Washington. If Congress and the Truman Administration have their way, millions of troops will be kept overseas as police to hold down the people of Europe and the Far East. Besides Italy, Germany, Belgium, etc., a huge army of occupation is planned indefinitely for Japan. Already troops are pouring into Korea. And in China, in order to bolster up the reactionary regime of Chiang Kai-shek against the will of the Chinese people, American troops have been designated to occupy key cities.

According to the official propaganda at the beginning of the conflict, the Second World War was to be a struggle for democracy and the freedom of the peoples throughout the world. But as the Trotskyists predicted, it proved to be an imperialist war for redivision of the earth. Instead of bringing the promised "four freedoms," American troops are imposing the imperialist rule of Wall Street. Instead of crushing militarism, Wall Street has converted America itself into a hotbed of the most brutal militarism in history, with peacetime conscription projected to feed this militarism indefinitely. The "peace" itself is acknowledged by virtually everyone to be but a period of preparation for a new and more horrible Third World War. Against the plans of Wall Street it is necessary to fight for the interests of the veterans and the interests of the oppressed throughout the world. These interests demand the immediate withdrawal of American troops from Europe and the Far East. Let the peoples of the world decide their own form of government. Bring the soldiers back home!

## Women And Industry

During the war when they needed maximum labor power to build up their profits, the capitalists did their best to bring women into the factories. Their propagandists glamorized the girl in overalls, filling the press with articles and pictures of Hollywood lovelies behind drills, lathes and steering wheels. Moreover, declared these propagandists, work in the plants and mills not only paid well but offered opportunity to perform a patriotic duty in winning the war.

Cruel necessity aided the employers in their aim. Husbands and brothers drafted into the armed forces left families deprived of adequate subsistence unless wives and sisters went to work. In countless families during the war, women became the financial mainstay.

To further facilitate the entrance of women into the ranks of labor, the government set up nurseries throughout the country, enabling mothers to free themselves from their children during working hours with peace of mind. The nurseries as a whole were inadequate, but they nevertheless enabled tens of thousands of women to leave their kitchens for jobs in industry.

Now with the declaration of "peace" and the enormous swelling of the ranks of the unemployed, the capitalists are anxious to return the women to household drudgery. The glamor propaganda about girls in overalls has disappeared overnight. Now we suddenly hear again the threadbare moralizing about woman's place being at the kitchen range, the sink and the washtub.

Highly skilled women workers are given the axe as the war profiteers trim down their payrolls. In many instances, the slogan of the employers, "back to the kitchen," is a savage jest, for the former men wage-earners are still in the armed forces, refused discharges; while those returning to industry are greeted with the sign, "No Help Wanted."

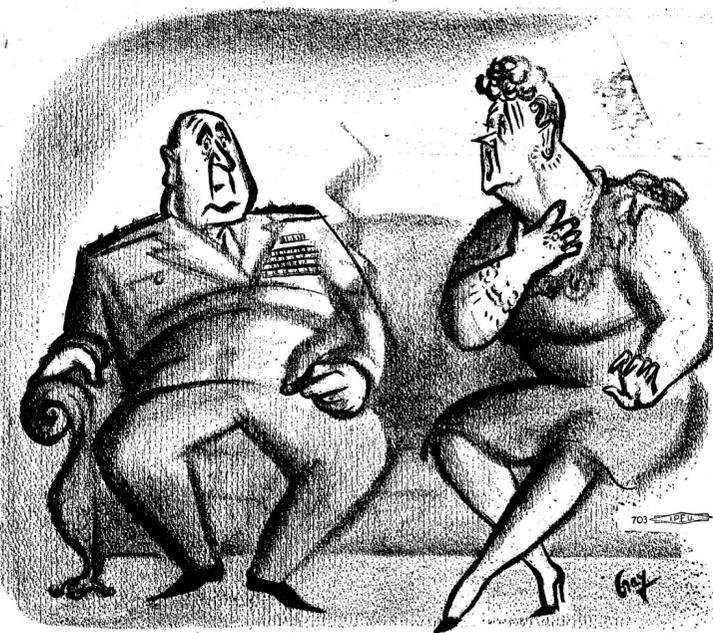
The government is cooperating with the employers. Throughout the nation the government is closing down the nurseries and child care centers, forcing working mothers to get out of the plants.

Thus under the capitalist system, women are herded into the factories when it is time to make flame-throwers, shells, arms, bombers, tanks, atomic bombs and all the other frightful instruments of destruction. When the world is in ruins, however, and civilization has been shaken down to its foundations, then the women are driven out of the factories. Precisely when the women workers could offer tremendous help in reconstruction they are among the first to be selected for the scrap heap.

Most of the women in war industry became militant trade unionists as they learned the lessons of the class struggle from first hand experience. These women must now draw a still more important conclusion: The capitalist system bars women from their rightful place in industry. In peace they are condemned to back-breaking housework. In war they are condemned to building instruments of destruction. Woman's only hope of freedom lies in joining the class-conscious workers to build the socialist society of the future.

READ

'THE FOURTH  
INTERNATIONAL'



"Isn't it dangerous for us to drive all the Japanese leaders to suicide? There won't be anyone left but the PEOPLE!"

## INTERNATIONAL NOTES

### Greece

Strikes that have broken out in Athens threaten to become nation-wide. On September 7 more than 3,000 bakery workers struck, demanding a 100 per cent wage increase. They were followed by 3,000 textile workers and 4,000 general laborers. Miners, transport and electrical workers are also out.

The strikes followed unrestricted rises in the already sky-high cost of living. In three days alone, reports the September 9 N. Y. Times, "food prices have risen 30 to 40 per cent following the removal of price ceilings."

How such price rises eat into the standard of living can be judged from the following sample figures: The average wage is 80 cents a day. Bread costs 40 cents a loaf. Olive oil, a basic necessity in Greece, costs \$6 for two and three-quarter pounds. Prior to the war the same amount of oil cost 8 cents.

No relief is in sight. Food shipments from the United States have been utterly inadequate and apparently will not be greatly increased. The harvest is the worst in 25 years with fields seared from drought to the "color of the Mojave desert."

The Greek prisons are still jammed with 10 to 20 thousand victims whose only "crime" was resistance against British arms during the Allied-provoked civil war of last winter. David Raymond, a British reporter, described conditions in these prisons as "appalling." In one cell in the prison Raymond visited, "31 prisoners were crowded into a space 20 ft. square. It was July and the heat was unbearable. Half-starved and in pitiful ill-health, many of them have been there for months, often without having any specific charges brought against them."

Meanwhile, the capitalists and their reactionary agents, who collaborated first with the Nazis and then with the Allied imperialists, are living in luxury. N. Y. Times reporter Dana Adams Schmidt wrote September 9: "Tonight . . . I was driven to a restaurant in the suburbs and dined among wealthy Greeks on two kinds of lobster, squab, vegetables, potatoes, pork, wine and fruit. . ."

India

What may be a significant indication of increasing militancy of the masses in the movement for independence is the following item from Bombay:

"The Bombay government has imposed collective fines on two more villages in the Satara District, 70 miles from Poona, India, where gangs are stated to have established a 'reign of terror.'"

This dispatch, released by Reuters under an August 29 dateline, does not specify the character of the alleged "gangs" nor what kind of "reign of terror" they established. The language, however, is strikingly similar to that used by Churchill in describing the Greek workers and peasants who defended themselves against British bombs.

"Tambave village has been fined 1,500 pounds sterling (\$5,000) and Supane village 750 pounds sterling (\$3,000)," continues the dispatch. "A collective fine of 375 pounds sterling (\$1,500) on the village of Bhikwadi Khurd, in the same area, was announced yesterday." How many other villages have been fined by the British imperialists was not revealed.

### Germany

Belated press reports continue to give the lie to Allied war propaganda which alleged the German people supported Nazism. When the Red Army entered Mecklenburg Province, according to an Associated Press dispatch of September 9, "many of the feudal owners fled." Of those who remained, "most" were "killed during a peasant revolt in the province when the Hitler regime fell."

The uprising of the peasants against the hated landlord supporters of Hitler has made "relatively easy" in this province the land reforms decreed by Soviet authorities. All estates of large landholders, "German war criminals and Junkers" have been ordered expropriated. The estates are to be divided among the farmers, each to receive from 5 to 10 hectares (12½ to 25 acres), depending on the fertility of the land. Similar action has been taken in Saxony and Brandenburg. Schwerin appears to be next on the list.

The workers in the industrial areas, however, are in the throes of despair, according to press reports. Only through socialization of industry can they hope to begin rebuilding the factories gutted by bombs and looted by the Allied conquerors. Meanwhile devastating unemployment brings them closer each day to death by starvation.

In Berlin, reports United Press correspondent Charles P. Arnot, "hunger, despair and suicide" are universal. "This afternoon I watched a middle-aged woman, her head bound in a ragged shawl, turn slowly away from a little shop in the Postdammer Platz. She had been standing there four hours trying to buy two loaves of black bread for her family. When her turn came, there was nothing left."

At that moment, he continues, "a young girl and an elderly woman passed us in the gutter. Heads down, they were pulling a rickety wagon bearing a crude black casket." Another suicide.

Conditions are so bleak that under the Allied military regime "there are three times as many suicides" as under the Hitler regime before the war.

Production has broken down to such an extent that those in need

of shoes or clothing are reduced to hunting out those with surplus items. They then offer in exchange what few personal possessions the war may have left them. The Allied Kommandatura, representing the Stalin regime and Anglo-American imperialism, have agreed to provide "at least one market area" to facilitate this return to the primitive barter system in the industrial heart of Europe.

Precisely how "hard" the Allied military rulers intend to make their "peace" conditions can be judged from the fact that the Berlin Kommandatura vetoed an increase of the milk ration. The proposed increase would have made it possible to give children between 9 and 14 years of age, together with tubercular patients, one half pint of milk a day.

### Italy

Under the protection of Allied troops, the Italian capitalists are organizing a new edition of Mussolini's fascist regime. In Milan, Turin and Genoa, according to Thomas E. Healy, foreign correspondent of the N. Y. Post, there is "daily dread of an armed clash between the forces of the industrialists and labor, and between the big agriculturalists and peasant farmers."

The industrialists and big landlords, "faced with the threat of popular ownership of industries and estates," are "preparing to resist by force attempts by workers to take over plants and farms." The industrialists and landlords are storing away arms. They have likewise "formed strong-arm squads and armed them." In Milan the Association of Industrialists and Agriculturalists has "a fund of 180,000,000 lire (\$1,800,000) to finance 'protective' activities."

The workers are demanding, according to Healy, "land concessions to the peasants, an increased share in management and control of industries and, in some cases, outright socialization, and swift and heavy punishment of industrialists who collaborated with the Germans and amassed huge war fortunes."

The Allied Military Government is doing its utmost to bolster up Italian capitalism against the wishes of the masses. A typical instance of the protection offered arch-reactionaries is the Roatta case.

Libera Stampa charges that Roatta, who escaped under suspicious circumstances from a prison hospital in Rome last March during his trial as a war criminal, hid out in a villa requisitioned by the AMG. The fact the Allied conquerors had requisitioned the villa prevented anyone from searching there. Roatta is the notorious fascist who led the Italian forces under Gen. Franco in the Spanish civil war.

In direct contrast to the strange manner in which the hated Roatta evaded capture are the ferocious sentences meted out to anti-fascist fighters. On July 6 seven Italian partisans broke into the Schio jail and shot 54 fascists. An Allied Military Court at Vicenza tried the seven. The sentences were made public September 13. Only two were "absolved." Two received life imprisonment. Three have been sentenced to death. These opponents of fascism are scheduled to be executed by the Allied conquerors on October 13.

## PROBLEMS FACING WAR VETERANS

By CHARLES CARSTEN

### Broad Program Needed to Provide for Disabled Veterans

A minimum of 1,795,000 American servicemen have been disabled in World War II, according to figures contained in Bernard Baruch's report to General Omar N. Bradley, Veterans Administrator.

Of these disabled servicemen, there are at least 15,000 amputees — men who have lost one or more of their limbs. Baruch's letter and other reports indicate that amputees are not receiving the most advanced medical treatment nor artificial limbs of the latest type.

Other thousands of veterans suffer from paralysis caused by wounds to the spinal cord or key nerves. Baruch mentions the "hopeless defeatism that now prevails" in their treatment and states that "with the best modern care, it has been demonstrated, many patients now discarded to hopeless invalidism can be enabled to move about on their own and even become self-supporting."

Already several hundred thousand veterans are suffering from some kind of nervous disorder. There are approximately 3,000 psychiatrists in the country. About 2,500 of them are hospital psychiatrists normally needed for the care of insane patients. This leaves only 500 to treat the great number of returning veterans who need psychiatric aid.

Authorities have stated that Veterans Administration hospitals are poorly equipped, understaffed, overcrowded and in the "backwaters of American medicine."

An article describing the shortage of space, the critical lack of doctors and technicians in the Veterans Administration Hospital in the Bronx appeared in the N. Y. World-Telegram, September 14, 1945. The author declared that more than 1400 veterans are on the waiting list of this one hospital.

Lack of provisions for the wounded is in glaring contrast to the manner in which the Government and the General Staff prosecuted the war. They made early and ample plans to draft millions of men into the armed forces. They made advance plans for the production of billions of dollars worth of material to be used for destruction. They didn't hesitate when it was a question of plunging men into battles that cost countless lives and the wounding of hundreds of thousands of soldiers.

The government planned thoroughly and well in advance, every stage of a war that had cost \$300 billion by July 1, 1945.

The government spent \$2 billion to develop the atomic bomb, which demonstrated that science is capable of achieving undreamed of goals when all the resources of the nation are marshalled to solve a specific problem.

Why hasn't the government mobilized all the resources of medicine and science to improve treatment for servicemen disabled in the war? Why haven't the additional thousands of psychiatrists and technicians been trained to care for the veterans? Why haven't ample and modern hospital facilities been built?

The answer is that the government considers men — like the guns, planes and bombs — expendable. When it is to the interest of the capitalist class, the government will spend billions of dollars, mobilize all the resources of the country.

But when the expenditure is for the benefit of the workers, the nearly two million disabled veterans, the capitalists don't consider it profitable. Therefore the Veterans Administration will not attempt, even belatedly, to establish what is so clearly needed: a broad program mustering all the resources of medical science to rehabilitate the disabled servicemen.

## Why the Big Corporations Can Afford Higher Wages

While millions of workers are being fired after suffering frozen wages during the war, America's corporations in the six years since 1939 piled up enough super-profits to provide a back-log of profits equal to the high average "normal" take of 1936-39 for the next eight years, even if they don't turn a wheel.

In the first over-all survey of corporation war profits, made by the New York daily PM from the official treasury figures, it was revealed on September 16 that total corporation profits, after taxes, amounted to more than \$47 billion, or what the capitalist barons would have had in 14 years at prewar levels.

The bulk of these stupendous profits were made since Pearl Harbor. During the past four years, net corporation profits have averaged over \$9 billion annually, or three times the average profits of the best years of the decade prior to the war. The total since Pearl Harbor is \$35½ billion, almost equal to the national debt of \$40 billion at the outbreak of the war.

Actually, the big corporations which made the profits netted over \$56 billion during the war. The smaller over-all profits figure of \$47 billion was arrived at by deducting the losses of many smaller firms, including those wiped out by priorities, failure to get war contracts, etc. Undistributed profits and "reserves" of the big profitable corporations now total over \$31 billion. Working capital increased by \$21 billion to over \$45 billion, an 85 per cent leap since Pearl Harbor.

An SEC report shows further that the corporations have paid off \$1 billion in long term debts and have accumulated postwar refunds of \$2 billion, in addition to unestimated billions which the government intends to hand back in profits tax rebates as provided by the federal tax laws. They have also gained about \$4 billion worth of new plants paid for by the government out of taxes squeezed from the people.

PM points out that "striking as these war profit figures are, they probably are far short of the full story of war profiteering that will only come out years hence. In the last war, shipbuilders' profits estimated at 10 per cent turned out to be 25 per cent, and it was years before the country got the full story. . . . By the end of the war it was estimated there were more than 42,000 millionaires in this country." How many BILLIONAIRES did this war make?

# WORKERS' FORUM

The Workers' Forum columns are open to the opinions of the readers of "The Militant". Letters are welcome on any subject of interest to the workers. Keep them short and include your name and address. Indicate if you do not want your name printed.

## A Soldier's Report On 'Divide and Rule'

Editor: When talking to workers, both white and colored, I have always sensed their feeling of doubt that racial, national and religious prejudices are some of the tricks the bosses use to divide the workers. Many have continued to believe that these prejudices are fundamental to human nature and not even the abolition of the capitalist system would wipe them out. Therefore I wish to add a bit of further evidence to prove the reality of the Socialist Workers Party's claims.

As a member of Uncle Sam's Imperialist Army I was stationed in Italy, where I observed the following. Because there are no racial minorities in Italy, the bosses cannot use racial prejudices to divide the workers, nor have the people developed racial prejudice. So, when Negro troops from America, the British and French Empire came to Italy, they were welcomed by the people and treated as equals among men.

However, while the Italian bosses cannot utilize racial prejudice, they DO resort to religious and national prejudices to keep the workers divided.

I also saw Russians of many racial and national varieties traveling about hand in hand. When I remembered the racial, national and religious riots I read about which took place in Czarist Russia, and which continue to take place in all capitalist countries, these sights gave conclusive proof that a Socialist economy, which does away with capitalism and the need for all forms of prejudices, is the only way out.

J. H. Newark

## His Family Lived In Hiroshima

Editor: Last Saturday, I was sent to do some work in a rather well-to-do house; in fact it was one of those \$250-a-month penthouses. I was told by the person who sent me that the owner would not be there and that I would be admitted by an amiable Chinese house-boy. Upon my arrival, I greeted him in Chinese (the only words I know in Chinese are "How are you," and a simple reply to this greeting). His response was altogether foreign to me. I asked him if he was from north China. He answered by saying, "I'm not Chinese, I'm a Japanese." Then I said what a terrible and horrid thing it was to drop the atom bombs on the Japanese cities. He calmly replied: "Those are not the words for that deed. My whole family lived in Hiroshima, my wife and my six children. They had no part in the war. We worked all of our lives. In America I work as a houseboy, but in my spare time I'm an artist. Would you care to see some of my paintings?"

I am no art critic but I like to look at things that are pleasant to my eyes, and the pictures he showed me were really very nice. He went on to state, "they would have not dropped bombs like that on Germany. But because the Japanese people are only a minority in America they feel that the Japanese are animals to experiment with."

R. Murdoch New York

## What Have Workers Gained?

Editor: Why did the workers celebrate V-E and V-J Days? They have gained nothing. Instead, millions of workers' homes throughout the world, thousands in our own country and hundreds in our own vicinity, have vacant chairs never to be filled again. Others have the once-vacant chairs now occupied by invalids who were previously fine, healthy young men.

What else have the workers gained? FROZEN WAGES, and those, in a majority of instances, were much lower than pre-war days. At the same time the cost of living has continued to rise. All the while Big Business enjoyed largest profits in history. Then, for fear the workers would migrate — in some instances to better paying jobs — not only your cheap wages were frozen, but to be sure you could not better them, YOU were frozen to your job.

Of course, everyone the world over was happy for the boys who were lucky enough to come through alive. That's what the workers were celebrating.

As workers you should have the same feeling toward ALL soldiers and realize that other soldiers are working men the same as our own, fighting not because they want to but because they have to, under the form of society in which we live. The workers had no choice as to whether they would go out and murder each other or not. Do you think that if the war-

lords had been armed as individuals and gone out to settle the differences, there would have been any bloodshed? NOT A DROP!

Almost every day you read of the almost unbelievable atrocities in German prison and concentration camps. Doubtless, they must be true. But, do you think for one instant that the rank-and-file soldier who, in reality, is just another workingman, was operating on his own initiative? Never. These soldiers no doubt were of the same opinion as our own soldiers, but in such wars, only opinions of the ruling class are used, and not those of the rank-and-file soldiers who are workers.

We must admit that whether German, American or British soldiers, they are only a group of workers mobilized and sent to fight other workers. Let's take an appraisal as to how labor has been affected. Millions of workers' lives have been sacrificed, and millions more are maimed for life. Countless millions throughout the world have seen their homes destroyed, their families exterminated or scattered by the war. And, doubtless, throughout the world the boys are saying to themselves: "What WERE we fighting for?"

Your writer's opinion is that the masses of people in the world are getting tired of peace with depressions and mass unemployment, and are more tired of bloody wars. Through the smoke of battle, the thundering of guns and flying debris in the final phase of World War II, one can discern that capitalism in a number of countries is in its decaying stage, getting nearer to its final resting place — oblivion. Only those who have profited by the system will mourn its passing. The time is here and has been for ages, when the masses of the people must use their mentality to acquire knowledge that is more essential to their well-being and advancement than the thoughts or propaganda of the exploiting or ruling class.

Ray Tucker Flint, Mich.

## "Let Labor Be Boss"

Editor: The Catholic Archbishop Cushing said in an address here yesterday that Labor and Capital must go into partnership and share profits. What does a cleric of the Catholic Church mean? There is only one way in which Capital and Labor can become partners and share profits, and to it Capital will not consent. At present, corporations and companies consist of a president and officers, who are at the top; shareholders who are in the middle, and labor at the bottom. The top group gets large salaries and profits; the shareholders get some profits, and the laborers get wages, and not very good ones as compared with the salaries and profits of the upper groups.

The only fair way to go into partnership is for the top, middle, and lower groups to be equal partners, have equal rights in the company, and get equal pay and profits from the company. Why must the upper group get thousands just because they thought out and planned the company? They put money into it, to be sure, but so did the shareholders, who get poor dividends; and Labor puts more than money into the concern. The worker's is a contribution more important than all the others, because without him the company could not exist or make profits. He should be the Boss.

There is only one way to correct the unjust present system of running companies, and the people are strong enough to make it. Let Labor take over the companies, and become the Boss, and let the president and officers, be their servants. Let an equal wage be given to all, from the highest to the lowest, and let all profits be pooled and divided equally every quarter, between the officials, shareholders, and laborers. Thus will the socialist dream come true. We would all have equality, brotherhood, peace, and plenty. Let it be tried, and without delay.

Sam Brown Boston

## The Power Of Thought

Editor: I sent you the dollar for The Militant, the first time I ever read it. I was riding on the street

Newark

The Militant and Fourth International can now be purchased at Market and Halsey Street Newsstand.

## WINNERS ANNOUNCED IN GRAY CARTOON CONTEST

The Militant herewith announces the three winners in the Cartoon Contest conducted to find the most appropriate descriptive name for Laura Gray's "poor rich" family which is featured each week on the Editorial Page.

First Prize — THE UPPER TRASH, submitted by Burt Hommel, Akron, Ohio.

Second Prize — LEECHES OF SOCIETY, submitted by Joe Donalds, Reading, Pa.

Third Prize — THE PLUTOBLOATS, submitted by Ben Brown, Long Beach, Calif.

The prizes awarded are three originals of these feature cartoons, personally inscribed to the winners. First choice goes to the first-place winner; second choice to the second-place winner; third choice to the third-place winner. The three winners may now proceed to make their choices. Their prizes will be mailed to them as soon as the selections are received.

The editors of The Militant were the judges of all names submitted in the cartoon contest which opened on July 14, and concluded on August 31.

ear here one day, when some workman gave me a copy. I had never heard of The Militant before.

You know, our every word accomplishes something because it is the testimony of our belief. We are bound or freed by the testimony of our word; it is the nature of thought, or the word—the spontaneous choosing element of man—to be creative, to accomplish that with which it is fraught, be it hope, despair, fear or faith.

Whether we go through an involved process of reasoning and observation or whether we can take it just on the authority of the statement, doesn't matter. It is the nature of thought to accomplish. Thought is equipped to accomplish; we are equipped to think.

So often we do not feel free to think. We feel that we must think as other people think—as some great or learned person has thought.

From the learned we do gain aid in thinking intelligently. However, the findings of any person, though termed by one as authoritative, are refuted by another as unsound. Let us then acquire knowledge by listening, reading and investigating the findings of learned men, and from knowledge thus gained, as well personal experience and observation, learn how to think wisely, never depending upon the fluctuating opinions which we hear on all sides. They are only a crutch on which we may lean. Always we must remember that it is not the authority of any great man which gives power to our thought. Our own thought has the same power to accomplish, as has that of the greatest or the humblest man.

I enjoy reading The Militant. F. B. Los Angeles

## "Hands Off South America!"

Editor: In a Montreal newspaper yesterday (September 13) I read that the U.S.A. lifted 75 per cent of the export restrictions—but not to Spain, Argentina and other countries.

This kind of policy is not new, but it is the first move that I know of—after the war—a direct pressure from the states to change a government she does not like. Peron's government represents the effort of the industrial bourgeoisie of that country to stand by their own and form around Argentina a solid economic bloc.

I do not like Peron's government; but I will not like either another "democratic" government that must have the approval of Washington. If Argentine people would elect a government that does not agree with Wall Street, the restrictions due to "political reasons" would continue.

Argentina, as the whole of South America, will be now more and more in the hands of U.S.A., who will help the local bourgeoisie to become stronger, and thus be able to preserve the "social peace" under U.S.A.'s supervision. That will make it more difficult for our workers' party to grow up successfully.

The position of the Socialist Workers Party of U.S.A. is, and will be, of increasing importance related to the imperialistic growth of your country in the world. In the same amount that the U.S.A. would succeed in her imperialism, the well-being of your workers would improve—for a while—based on the impoverishment of South American (and other) labor men. Your party would be weaker in the very moment when its help would be most needed to support foreign movements, provided you did not warn your workers beforehand.

Don't you think that the moment has arrived to denounce this special aspect of the imperialist move, making a campaign around "Hands Off South America?"

I know this is in accordance with your political line. R. S. Montreal, Canada

## Religion Supports Capitalist System

Editor: I am the writer of "The Dangerous Three." I am anxious to help labor get better conditions. I suppose you know that the clergymen and the churches are the worst enemies that labor has to fight, because they are "so nice" and so well concealed that they confuse the workers. I hope I may live to help bring some of them out in the open and expose some of their pretension and sham.

A capitalist politician is a mixture of law, patriotism and religion. The capitalist church is an enemy of labor; its purpose is to promote capitalism. If we oppose the church enough to get a "rise" out of them, we shall have the opportunity to educate workers in socialism in the controversy.

Exposing the law, money, religion and patriotism that sustain capitalism and its churches, is a good way to promote the growth of socialism; to get better conditions for labor. J. D. Rochester, N. Y.

## Union Bureaucrat Aids the Boss

Editor: Just to show how the minds of the bureaucratic labor leaders work. At our local union meeting of quite a large industry, the paid union representative gave a report from the president of the company, at a banquet which the company president gave for all the union representatives. One thing the union representative stressed was the fact that the company would not contract any work outside if they could bring the difference in cost down, which was around 18 per cent.

The representative took it upon himself to go through the shop and try to find this lost motion or reason for the 18 per cent difference.

Now in the first place he is forgetting his correct position, that is, to see that the company fully complies with the agreement with the workers. In the second place he doesn't point out this is the beginning of the pressure they are going to put on the workers. "The war is over — now we must cut down cost."

He didn't say that during the war the workers produced more than anyone ever anticipated but now there are workers to be pitted against each other to squeeze and exploit more out of the workers, and that we must fight against this. That is, he doesn't put forth and fight for the right programs for labor and a labor party.

I am a new reader of The Militant and a few months ago I might have thought he was trying to do the best thing for me, to keep the work in our shop. Now I realize there will only be work as long as the big-shots see fit. That is to say, if their profits don't warrant it, we won't have any work. Thanks for the education I have received so far from The Militant.

A New Reader Reading, Pa.

## Pioneer Notes

Pioneer Publishers herewith announces a sharp reduction in the prices of The History of American Trotskyism, by James P. Cannon. The paperback edition which formerly sold for \$2.00 is now priced at \$1.00; the price for clothbound, formerly \$2.75, is now \$2.00.

In the year since its publication, approximately 1,500 copies of this book have been sold. Thousands of new readers of The Militant have also become acquainted with it through the weekly installments, the 18th of which appears in this issue. Many of these readers will welcome the opportunity of obtaining the book at these new low prices.

Cannon's book—the "report of a participant"—is the story of the origin and development of the Trotskyist movement in the United States, told by one of the founders and most prominent leaders of the movement. A worker-veteran who has just joined the Socialist Workers Party in New York tells us: "I am not just reading this book, I am STUDYING it. There is so much in it to learn, and I don't want to miss a thing."

Cannon writes in a simple clear way that every worker can understand. One of the best chapters for me is the one on the Minneapolis strikes — there is plenty to learn here, especially for the days right ahead of us, with all the big strikes that are going to break out all over the country."

The History of American Trotskyism, by James P. Cannon. New low prices: paperback \$1.00, clothbound \$2.00. Order from Pioneer Publishers, 116 University Place, New York 3, N. Y.



The National Red Sunday mobilization on September 9th, held primarily to sell the new Pioneer pamphlet, A Practical Program to Kill Jim Crow, resulted not only in a spectacular sale of pamphlets, but added many new readers to The Militant. Detroit sent in 4 subs, Chicago 6, Cleveland 3, Philadelphia 6, Minneapolis 1, Boston 2, and New York obtained 3 at a social held after the mobilization.

Buffalo added this note to their report: "We covered a district in which we have sold innumerable subs. We received many favorable comments on The Militant and Jackson's 'The Negro Struggle' column."

P. Mertens of St. Paul writes: "The inspiring thing about the pamphlet mobilization was the proof we had of how well known our press and our party is. Almost everyone we saw either knew The Militant, or Grace Carlson, or they had seen and read one of the other two pamphlets we had with us. And of those who were getting, or had read individual copies of The Militant, the reaction was universally the same—they liked it tremendously."

Joe Simpson, outstanding pacemaker in our spring subscription campaign, is now working in the Kansas City area. He sent in this very enthusiastic letter:

"We took our first stab at soliciting subscriptions to The Militant about a week and a half ago. This was the first door-to-door work done in this city. Three of us went out for about an hour in a white and Negro workers' neighborhood. During that time we sold 11 six month subscriptions."

"No one seemed to suffer from any illusions about the ability of capitalism to provide jobs and give racial equality. The workers of this area seemed only waiting for an opportunity to learn about the ideas of revolutionary socialism, the ideas which The Militant puts forth with such clarity. A member of our Trotskyist Youth Group, going out another evening, sold two more subscrip-

tions, this time in half an hour. Everywhere she went she reported she was received with friendliness and interest."

This has been an outstanding week in Militant Army history. Over 125 subscriptions were sent in from all parts of the country. New Haven heads the list with 53 new subscribers, Flint is next with 30, and Pittsburgh now reports 4 one-year and 16 six-month readers among the coal miners. On a smaller scale, but still outstanding, San Francisco sent in 10 six-month, 2 one-year new subscriptions, and 1 one-year renewal. Toledo added 2 six-month and 4 one-year new subscribers.

A. Rowe of Michigan sent the following in a letter to a friend: "I am no longer shipping, and am now a member of the UAW-CIO. The Militant is passed around the plant until it is worn out. I am opening the boys' eyes about capitalism, and I find they are sure interested in the Socialist Workers Party. I would like to tell you all to keep up the good work you are doing."

A survey of our August records, presents some very interesting figures. Comrades and friends nationally sent in 156 six-month and 68 one-year subscriptions. . . a total of 227 new Militant readers. In addition, 23 six-month and 43 one-year renewals were obtained, plus 6 one-year new combinations and 7 one-year renewal combinations to both The Militant and the Fourth International.



## FIGHT FOR THIS PROGRAM:

1. Full employment and job security for all workers and veterans!
  - A sliding scale of hours! Reduce the hours of work with no reduction in pay!
  - A rising scale of wages! Increase wages to meet the increased cost of living!
  - Operate all government-built plants under workers' control!
2. Independence of the trade unions from the government!
  - Rescind the no-strike pledge!
  - Withdraw union representatives from the War Labor Board!
3. Organization of the war veterans by the trade unions!
4. Full equality for Negroes and national minorities! Down with Jim Crow!
5. Working class political action!
  - Build the independent labor party!
  - Establish the workers' and farmers' government!
6. Tax the rich, not the poor!
  - No taxes on incomes under \$5,000 a year!
7. A working class answer to capitalist militarism!
  - Military training of workers, financed by the government, but under control of the trade unions!
  - Trade union wages for all workers in the armed forces!
8. Hands off the European and colonial peoples!
  - Withdraw the Allied Occupation Troops from Europe!
  - Solidarity with the revolutionary struggles of the European and colonial peoples!

## Join the Socialist Workers Party!

SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY  
116 University Place  
New York 3, New York

- I would like:
- To join the Socialist Workers Party.
  - To obtain further information about your organization.
  - To attend meetings and forums of the Socialist Workers Party in my city.

Name ..... (Please Print)

Address .....

City ..... Postal Zone .... State .....

# All SWP Branches Meet Full Quota In Inspiring Finish To Campaign For \$5,000 International Solidarity Fund

By FARRELL DOBBS  
Campaign Director

The two-month \$5,000 International Solidarity Fund Campaign, which ended on September 15, went over the top with 103 per cent of the quota, amounting to a total of \$5,160.28. Every one of the 24 Socialist Workers Party branches wound up its local campaign with its quota 100 per cent fulfilled or over.

The inspiring conclusion of the campaign demonstrates again the firm solidarity of the American Trotskyists with their co-thinkers throughout the world. When the campaign was launched, the SWP branches were informed that speedy and effective action was needed to meet the urgent appeals for aid from the Trotskyists in the war-torn and devastated countries. We pointed out that in addition to suffering, starvation and disease, the Trotskyists in Europe have been subjected to vicious persecutions because of their adherence to the principles of revolutionary socialism.

In Belgium, the puppet government arrested Trotskyists and suppressed their paper, *La Voie de Lénine* (The Road of Lenin). In France, the de Gaulle government jailed a number of Trotskyists and suppressed their paper, *La Verité* (The Truth). In Greece, 250 revolutionary fighters were assassinated by the Stalinist gangsters and the Greek puppet government. Redoubled persecutions against the Trotskyist vanguard in India were launched by the British imperialist police. From Italy, where the Trotskyists suffered from vicious Stalin-

ist attacks, an urgent appeal for aid underscored: "YOU ALONE can expedite this urgent help!" Recognizing that the most urgent need was financial help, all of the Socialist Workers Party branches entered the campaign with energy and determination. Ten branches went over the top in their quotas: Milwaukee—147 per cent; Buffalo—134 per cent; Newark—129 per cent; St. Louis—120 per cent; San Francisco—111 per cent; Allentown-Bethlehem—108 per cent; Chicago—107 per cent; New York—106 per cent; Toledo—105 per cent. And the New York Trotskyist Youth Group, which volunteered a quota of its own, went over the top with 200 per cent.

Every one of the remaining fourteen branches reached their quota 100 per cent: Reading, Pittsburgh, Rochester, Cleveland, Philadelphia, Bayonne, Detroit, Los Angeles, Youngstown, Akron, Boston, Seattle, San Diego, Twin Cities. Members-at-large and friends contributed \$138.80. New readers of *The Militant* in many parts of the country sent donations and expressed their desire to help the fighters for socialism in the devastated countries.

## GRACE CARLSON ADDRESSES MEETING IN KANSAS CITY

KANSAS CITY, Mo.—Sept. 4—Eighteen members and friends of the Socialist Workers Party tonight heard Grace Carlson speak on "Women in Prison" at the first public meeting held in recent years in Kansas City by the Socialist Workers Party.

Comrade Carlson declared that the capitalist system is responsible for poverty, misery and "crime." Referring to an article in *Collier's* by former Attorney-General Francis Biddle, she pointed out the contradiction between his statement that crime is produced by poverty, and his action against the 18 Trotskyists and CIO trade unionists who were fighting to abolish poverty by struggling against the capitalist system which is the direct cause of poverty.

**TERRIBLE INJUSTICES**  
Endowing with living reality some of the terrible injustices produced by capitalism, Grace Carlson told about some of the girls she had known in the Federal Reformatory for Women, at Alderson, West Virginia where she was incarcerated for 13 months. These young girls, she said, were not "criminals," but victims of a criminal social system.

Quoting the famous words of Eugene V. Debs, Comrade Carlson declared that she would continue her struggle for the abolition of capitalism and for the liberation of all victims of this brutal society, including those in capitalist jails and prisons.

In a spirited discussion and question period, Comrade Carlson answered numerous questions about revolutionary socialism and put forward the program of the

Socialist Workers Party. A collection was taken and many copies of "Socialism on Trial" by James P. Cannon were sold. The meeting helped to build a firm foundation for the new Kansas City branch of the SWP.



GRACE CARLSON

## 200 Hear Carlson In Twin Cities

MINNEAPOLIS, Sept. 9—Winding up her three-month national tour, Grace Carlson spoke to 100 workers tonight on "Women in Prison" at the Minneapolis SWP headquarters, 10 South 4th St. This was the conclusion of a series of three Twin-Cities meetings, two of them held in St. Paul. Attentive audiences totaling more than 200 workers heard Comrade Carlson condemn the capitalist system as the source of all poverty and "crime."

"SWP AIDS THE OPPRESSED"  
The audience responded enthusiastically to Grace Carlson's concluding remarks, when she declared: "The Socialist Workers Party is pledged to aid the oppressed everywhere, whether in capitalist sweatshops, capitalist tenements, or capitalist prisons." A generous donation of \$58 was contributed by the audience. After the meeting literature amounting to \$6 was sold. Sale of the two new Pioneer Pamphlets, *A Practical Program to Kill Jim Crow* and *Jobs for All* was promoted by signs the length of the hall, reading: "Down with Jim Crow" and "We Fight for JOBS FOR ALL."

## Jackson's Pamphlet Against Jim Crow Completely Sold Out In Three Weeks

On September 11, just three weeks after an edition of 10,000 copies of the new pamphlet by Charles Jackson, *A Practical Program to Kill Jim Crow*, was delivered from the bindery, Pioneer Publishers had not a single copy left in stock. This sets an all-time record for speed in the distribution of Pioneer pamphlets. It testifies both to the immediate response to the subject-matter and to the energy of the Socialist Workers Party branches in getting the pamphlet into the hands

of workers everywhere. In announcing the campaign for the sale of these pamphlets and the plans for National Red Sunday Mobilization on September 9, Pioneer wrote to the branches: "In the past it has taken an average of a year and a half to two years to sell out an edition of this size. We think that now, with correct campaign methods, it is entirely possible to sell out the full edition in not more than six months. This is the goal we are setting."

But already, within three weeks, Pioneer has sold out the entire edition! Although detailed figures have not yet been received from all branches, it is clear that they have already sold more than 6,000. The remaining pamphlets in their hands will undoubtedly be sold within a very short time. A number of branches—including New York, Minneapolis, Chicago, Portland—have written that they are planning additional mobilizations immediately.

Letters from the branches regarding the Red Sunday mobilization confirm the enthusiastic reports of the first telegrams reported in last week's *Militant*: "Pamphlet sells itself. . . Very few refusals. . . Many purchasers know Jackson by name because they are subscribers to *The Militant*. . . Very friendly reception, almost all gave their names for the mailing list for a Jackson meeting. . . Great Success, idea of Red Sundays for new pamphlet sales is splendid and should be definitely continued."

Los Angeles writes: "We must inform you of the tribute Pioneer Publishers and Charles Jackson have already received: 'I mailed ten complimentary copies of the pamphlet to the local Negro press with a letter urging them to review it. Four days later I received the following reply from an editor of one of the papers: 'Recently you sent a copy of *A Practical Program to Kill Jim Crow* to this office, and after reading it I am very much interested in joining the party. Will you send me details for membership as soon as you possibly can.'"

## Hungary Decrees Death Penalty As Inflation Spreads

Not even the threat of the death penalty has been able to halt the vortex of inflation in Hungary. The food shortage in Budapest is so acute that within the past two weeks alone the price of most food stuffs has doubled. Soldiers of the Red Army are reported to pay no attention to orders of their superiors prohibiting dealing in the black market and are among the principal traders. They deal not only in food but in clothing, lingerie and other commodities they apparently obtained while in Germany.

The Hungarian pengo is fluctuating uncontrollably. Within a two-week period its value changed by one-third; from 2,000 pengos to the dollar, to 1,300 pengos to the dollar. Currencies are exchanged openly on the sidewalks despite threats of police raids. The unrest of the Hungarian masses has been expressed in a series of demonstrations. Recently they smashed coffee-house windows in Budapest to indicate their anger against speculation, profiteering, high prices and the black market.

"The Militant" Is Now On Sale at All New York City Stands

## Wright Talks In Boston On British Labor Party

(Continued from page 1)

In cutting loose from the capitalist parties will inspire labor here. The next step for the American workers on the road to political action, Comrade Wright pointed out, is to reject the Democratic and Republican parties and to organize an independent labor party of their own. "Today the English working man has his chance," he concluded, "tomorrow the American working man will have his chance." Many new readers of *The Militant* attended the meeting. Literature sales were good.

This week John G. Wright is speaking in three Pennsylvania cities: Philadelphia, September 19; Reading September 20, under the auspices of the Berks County Workers Forum; and in Allentown-Bethlehem, September 24. Following these meetings, he will cover the New York-New Jersey centers of the Socialist Workers Party.

## JOHN G. WRIGHT TOUR SCHEDULE

CITY	DATE
ALLENTOWN-BETHLEHEM	Sunday, Monday, Sept. 23-24
NEWARK	Tuesday, Sept. 25
BAYONNE	Wednesday, Sept. 26
NEW YORK	Thursday, Friday, Sept. 27-28
ROCHESTER	Sun., Sept. 30-Tues. Oct. 2
BUFFALO	Wednesday, Friday, Oct. 3-5
YOUNGSTOWN	Sunday, Tuesday, Oct. 7-9
AKRON	Wednesday, Friday, Oct. 10-12
CLEVELAND	Saturday, Monday, Oct. 13-15
TOLEDO	Tuesday, Thursday, Oct. 16-18
DETROIT, FLINT	Friday, Wednesday, Oct. 19-24
CHICAGO	Fri., Wednesday, Oct. 26-31
MILWAUKEE	Thursday, Friday, Nov. 1-2
TWIN CITIES	Monday, Friday, Nov. 5-9
SEATTLE	Tuesday, Friday, Nov. 13-16
PORTLAND	Sun. to Tuesday, Nov. 18-20
SAN FRANCISCO	Friday, Monday, Nov. 23-26
LOS ANGELES, SAN DIEGO	Thurs., Nov. 29, Wed. Dec. 5
KANSAS CITY	Monday, Tuesday, Dec. 10-11
ST. LOUIS	Thursday, Friday, Dec. 13-14
PITTSBURGH	Sunday, Tuesday, Dec. 16-18

## HEAR: JOHN G. WRIGHT

speaks on "The British Labor Victory — Its Meaning for American Workers" ALLENTOWN-BETHLEHEM Monday, Sept. 24, 8 p. m. Labor Forum, SE cor. Front and Hamilton BUFFALO Friday, October 5, 8 p. m. Militant Forum, 629 Main St.,

## International Solidarity Fund SCOREBOARD

BRANCH	Quota	Paid	Percent
N. Y. Youth Group	\$ 15.00	\$ 43.48	290
Milwaukee	30.00	44.00	147
Buffalo	125.00	167.00	134
Newark	100.00	129.00	129
St. Louis	25.00	30.00	120
San Francisco	375.00	417.00	111
Allentown-Bethlehem	60.00	65.00	108
Chicago	500.00	533.00	107
New York	1000.00	1064.50	106
Toledo	100.00	103.50	104
Reading	25.00	25.00	100
Pittsburgh	25.00	25.00	100
Rochester	15.00	15.00	100
Cleveland	75.00	75.00	100
Philadelphia	125.00	125.00	100
Bayonne	100.00	100.00	100
Detroit	400.00	400.00	100
Los Angeles	750.00	750.00	100
Youngstown	85.00	85.00	100
Akron	75.00	75.00	100
Boston	125.00	125.00	100
Seattle	350.00	350.00	100
San Diego	25.00	25.00	100
Twin Cities	250.00	250.00	100
Members-at-Large and Friends	245.00	138.80	57
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$5,000.00</b>	<b>\$5,160.28</b>	<b>103%</b>

## Vote Trotskyist! In the Coming New York Elections

Among other important issues, the Socialist Workers Party Election Platform advocates: A SOCIALIST SOCIETY! Only a planned world economy can end capitalist wars and depressions. Vote against postwar hunger and misery! Vote against the profit system! Vote against a Third World War! Vote for revolutionary socialism! Vote for the Trotskyist candidates! Vote for Dobbs and Simpson!

# The History Of American Trotskyism

Previous installments of Comrade Cannon's book described the emergence of the American Communist Party out of the left wing of the Socialist Party in 1919. Factional struggles between the proletarian and petty-bourgeois elements in the party began in 1923, culminating in the expulsion of the proletarian left wing for "Trotskyism" on October 27, 1928. Slandered, ostracized and physically attacked by the Stalinists, the handful of American Trotskyists nevertheless won over individual members of the Communist Party. First contact with Leon Trotsky was made in the spring of 1929, and the program of the Left Opposition published in *The Militant*. At their first national conference, the Trotskyists operated as a faction of the Communist Party. In 1933 the small group, with its cadres trained, began to penetrate the trade union movement. When Hitler became Chancellor of the Reich, the Trotskyists everywhere sounded the alarm against fascism. The false policy of the Communist Party which had contributed to the defeat of the German working class, proved the bankruptcy of the Comintern. Therefore the Trotskyists ceased to work as a faction of the CP. They called instead for the formation of a new revolutionary party and a new international. This is the eighteenth installment of Comrade Cannon's book.

## HOW PIONEER TROTSKYIST MOVEMENT COMPLETED PREPARATIONS FOR MASS WORK

By James P. Cannon

and down their spines. These shivers were rationalized in "principles." That marked the beginning of the fight against sectarianism in our organization, a fight which was carried through to the end in classic form.

We began to recruit faster. We attracted greater attention with our propaganda on the German events. People began to come to us unexpectedly, unknown people, to obtain our literature. "What does Trotsky say?" "What did he write about Germany?"

### National Speaking Tours Arranged

We passed a great milestone: Toward the end of our first five years of struggle we had built up the New York branch to a total of fifty people. I remember this because a rule in the constitution of our organization limited the size of branches to fifty members. A branch reaching that size was required to be divided into two branches. We wrote this into the constitution at our first conference in 1929. We could have put the whole national membership into two branches in those days, but we were looking forward to the day when our ship would come in. I remember the question arose in 1933 for the first time of complying with the constitution on this point, and we had a dispute as to how the branch should be divided.

On May 1 and 2, 1933, the great national Mooney Congress was held in Chicago, initiated by the Stalinists, but with many trade unions participating. We sent a delegation to this Congress and I had the opportunity to speak to several thousand people. It was a refreshing experience after the long confinement in the restricted circle of internal debate. There I entered into the beginnings of political collaboration with Albert Goldman who was still in the Communist Party but on the way to breaking with their line. Both his speech at the Mooney Congress and mine on the united front were direct attacks on Stalinist policy. This prepared the ground for Goldman's expulsion and his later affiliation with us. That was the start of an extremely fruitful collaboration.

From Chicago, *The Militant* reports, I went on tour, speaking on two subjects: "The Tragedy of the German Proletariat" and "America's Road to Revolution." A group of Stalinist intellectuals in New York, who had either belonged to the party or worked in its periphery, began chafing under the manifest falsity of the Stalinist line as revealed by the German events. Eventually they broke with the CP and came over to us. This was our first acquisition in

bulk. Up to then, people had been joining us one by one. Now a group joined us, a group of intellectuals. That was significant. The movements of the intellectuals must be studied very attentively as symptoms. They move a little faster in the realm of ideas than the workers. Like the leaves at the top of a tree, they shake first. When we saw a group of rather serious intellectuals in New York breaking with Stalinism, we had to realize that this was the beginning of a movement that would soon be manifested in the ranks, and that more Stalinist workers would be coming to us.

An important development in the last months of 1933 was the action taken by the Conference for Progressive Labor Action. Under the impulse of growing radicalization in the ranks of the workers whom they had recruited, and sensing no doubt that the Communist Party was becoming less attractive to the radical workers, the CPLA held a conference in Pittsburgh and tentatively announced the formation of a new political party. Tentatively, that is, it elected a provisional committee charged with the task of organizing the "American Workers Party."

### Ferment in Workers' Organizations

The split of Benjamin Gitlow and his little group from the Lovestonites occurred at that time. That period also saw a big upsurge of the centrist Left Wing in the Socialist Party, and a more and more radical position taken by the Young Peoples Socialist League. In all workers organizations there was ferment and change. One who had a political eye could see that things were really happening now, and that this was not the time to be sitting in the library mulling over principles. This was the time for action on these principles; this was the time to be right on top of things, to take advantage of every opportunity presented by the new developments in the other organizations and movements.

I must say that not a single one of them got away from us. We didn't wait for any invitation. We approached them. We issued a manifesto on the front page of *The Militant* calling for the formation of a new party and a new International. We invited all groupings, whoever they might be, who were interested in forming a new revolutionary party and a new International, to discuss with us the basis of the program. We said, we have a program, but it is not presented to you as an ultimatum. It is our contribution to the discussion. If you have other ideas for the program, let's put them all

on the table and discuss them in peaceful and comradely fashion. Let's try to resolve the differences on the program and join forces to build a new united party.

We campaigned for the new party. Our great advantage over the other groups — the advantage which assured our hegemony — was that we knew what we wanted. We had a clearly defined program and that gave us a certain aggressiveness. The other left elements were not sure enough of themselves to take the initiative. That fell to us. We were beating the drums every week, in fact all the time, for a new party, writing letters to these people, writing critical but sympathetic reviews of their press and all their resolutions. Our rank and file comrades were instructed and drilled to establish connections with the rank and file members of these other groups, to interest them in the discussion from all sides and top and bottom, and thus prepare the way for the coming fusion of the serious and honest revolutionary elements in a single party.

### Agitate for a New Party

Meantime our own organization was growing, attracting more attention and gaining more sympathy and respect. In all these radical circles there was respect for Trotskyists as the honest Communists, and for Trotsky as the great Marxist thinker who had understood the German events when no one else did. We were admired for the way we had stuck to our guns and stood our ground despite persecution and adversity. Our organization was respected throughout the labor movement. This was important capital for us when the time came to promote the fusion of the various left groupings into one party.

After five years of struggle our ranks had become consolidated on a firm programmatic foundation. They had been educated in the great principled questions, had acquired facility in explaining them, and in applying them to the events of the day. We were ready, prepared by our past experience. In many respects that experience had been somewhat dismal and negative to be sure. But it was precisely that period of isolation, hardship, discussion, study and assimilation of theoretical ideas that prepared our young movement for this new time of bloom when the movement was opening up in all directions. Then we were ready for a very sharp tactical turn. Our ranks were infused in those days with new hopes and with great, high ambitions. By the end of 1933 we felt confident that we were on the way to the reconstitution of a genuine Communist Party in this country. We were sure that the future belonged to us. A lot of struggles were yet ahead of us but we felt that we were over the hill, that we were on our way. History has proved that we were right in those assumptions. Thereafter things moved very rapidly and continually in our favor. Our progress from that time on has been practically uninterrupted.

(To be continued)

**NEW YORK**  
Hear  
**JOHN G. WRIGHT, Associate Editor**  
of  
*The Militant and the Fourth International*  
speak on  
**The British Labor Victory — Its Meaning for American Workers**  
Added speaker:  
**LOUISE SIMPSON**  
Trotskyist candidate for City Council  
8 p. m., FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28  
**WEBSTER HALL**  
119 EAST 114th STREET  
(between 3rd and 4th Avenues)



# The Heritage Of Leon Trotsky And The Tasks Of His Disciples

We reprint below, excerpts from the speech delivered by James P. Cannon, National Secretary of the Socialist Workers Party, at the Trotsky Memorial Meeting held in Webster Hall, New York City, August 22, 1945.

By James P. Cannon

Five years ago today, when the world stood in the depths of the reaction engendered by the imperialist war, our great leader and teacher, Comrade Trotsky, perished at the hands of a Stalinist assassin. We memorialized him then as the great man of ideas, not yet acknowledged by the world, but a man whose ideas represented the future of mankind. Today, on the fifth anniversary of his tragic and most untimely death, as we stand at the beginning of the greatest revolutionary crisis in the history of the world, when thoughts and words must be transformed into deeds—today we pay our grateful tribute to Trotsky as the man of action.

## A Preparation for the Future

When we celebrated the tenth anniversary of our party in 1938, at a great jubilee meeting, Comrade Trotsky was one of the speakers. He couldn't come to New York, but he spoke to us on a phonograph record which he had made for the occasion—a greeting to our party on its tenth anniversary. Many of you no doubt have heard that speech. You will recall that he said we have the right to take time out to celebrate past achievements only as a preparation for the future. In the same sense we can say, that if we take time tonight to memorialize our noble and illustrious dead, we do it primarily as a means of preparing and organizing the struggle of the living for the goal which he pointed out to us.

The main ideas of Trotsky, the ideas for which he lived and died, are comparatively simple. He saw the great problem of society arising from the fact that modern industry, which is necessarily operated socially by great masses of people, is hampered and constricted by the anachronism of private ownership and its operation for private profit, rather than for the needs of the people. He saw that the modern productive forces have far outgrown the artificial barriers of the national states. These two great contradictions—the private ownership of the means of production and their operation for private profit, and the stifling of industry within the outdated framework of the national states—are the sources of the great ills of modern society—poverty, unemployment, fascism and war.

## Socialist Nations Will Unite

Trotsky saw the only way out for humanity in the revolutionary overthrow of outlived capitalism. Industry must be socialized and operated on the basis of a plan, for use and not for profit. The national antagonisms of the separate capitalist states have to give way to an international federation—the Socialist United States of the World. Socialized and planned economy can produce and provide an abundance for all the people—not only in one nation, but in all nations. The separate socialist nations, having no need or incentive to exploit others, having no conflicts over markets and spheres of influence, and fields of investment, no need of colonies to exploit and enslave—these separate socialist nations will necessarily unite in peace and cooperation based on a world-wide division of labor. The strength of one nation will become the strength of all, the scarcities of one will be made up by the plethora of others. Humanity will organize the cooperative exchange of all the conquests of art and science for the use of all peoples of all lands.

Trotsky taught that only the workers can bring about this revolutionary transformation. Only the working class, the only really progressive and revolutionary class in modern society, standing at the head of all the oppressed and exploited and enslaved—only they can bring about this great revolutionary transformation and reorganization of society. The workers are the only progressive class, and they are the most powerful class by virtue of their numbers and their strategic position in society. All the workers need is to become conscious of their historic interests and of their power, and to organize to make it effective.

## Not Like Other Parties

Trotsky taught that this struggle for the revolutionary transformation of the world, which is on the historic agenda right now, requires the leadership of a party. But—Comrade Trotsky emphasized—not a party like other parties, that was his message to our 10th anniversary meeting—"not a party like other parties," not a half-hearted, not a reformist, not a talking and compromising party—but a thorough-going revolutionary party, a thinking and acting party; a party irreconcilably opposed to capitalism on every front and to capitalist war in particular. Such a party, he said, is required to lead this grand assault against an outlived social system.

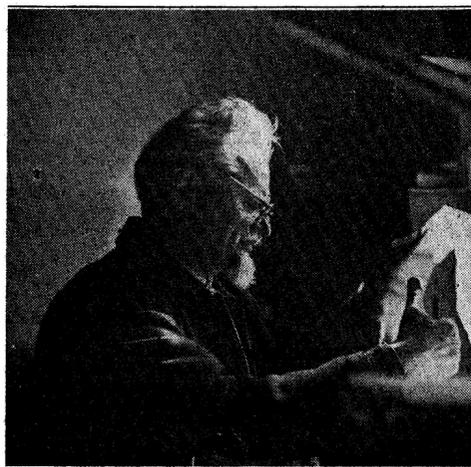
The workers of the world needed the ideas of Trotsky in 1940. All the material conditions for the transformation of society from capitalism to socialism had long since matured. What lagged behind was the consciousness and the understanding of the masses of the workers and their organizations. They had need of Trotsky's ideas when he spoke out—the one great voice in the world—against the slaughter of the second imperialist war. But they were not yet ready, they were not yet properly organized, to understand the ideas of Trotsky and to act on them.

The great organizations of the workers, political and industrial, had fallen under the leadership of men who were, in effect, not representatives of the interests of the workers, but agents of the bourgeoisie within the labor movement. The Social Democratic parties; the Communist Parties of the Comintern, which had turned traitor to communism and to the proletariat; and the great trade unions—they all rejected the revolutionary program of Trotsky. They all supported the capitalist governments; and the governments plunged the people into the bloody shambles of the war.

## Trotsky Was Confident

Trotsky died confident of the victory of the Fourth International, as he said in that last message which we carry above our platform tonight. He died confident of the victory, but without having the opportunity to live and participate in it.

We have had six years of the war. The war that was supported



Leon Trotsky

by the labor leaders. The war that was defended by the professors and the intellectuals. The war that was blessed by the church. And now we can count up the results. What are the fruits of this war which, it was promised, was going to bring benefit to mankind? Look at Europe! Look at Asia! Or, closer home, look at the closing factories and the long lines before the unemployment offices, lines that will grow longer and hungrier, lines in which the returning soldiers will soon take their weary places—if they come back alive and able to walk from the battlefields.

Under capitalism the factories ran full blast to produce the instruments of destruction, but they cannot keep open to produce for human needs in time of so-called peace. The whole of Europe, the whole of great cultured Europe, is a continent of hunger and despair and devastation and death.

The victors at Potsdam announced to Europe the fruits of the victory and the liberation. They decreed the break-up of German industry, the most powerful and productive industry, on the continent of Europe. They announced that the living standards of industrialized Germany, the work-shop of Europe, can be no higher than that of the devastated backward agricultural states. Not to raise the lowest to the level of the highest, but to drag the highest and most developed and cultured countries down to the level of the lowest and least developed countries—that is the explicit program of the makers of the so-called peace. Such is the program for Europe.

## Fruits of the Potsdam Conference

And what are the results in terms of human beings? I read a dispatch in the N. Y. Times today from Frankfurt. It is a casual, matter-of-fact informational piece from which I quote a reference to an official report of the situation in that area. "The figures," says the correspondent of the Times, "show that the average consumer in this zone is living on 1100 to 1300 calories a day, in contrast to the army's ration of 3600." Less than one-third of the food estimated by the army to be required to maintain the soldiers at a level of efficiency, is allotted to the "liberated" people of Germany in the American zone. Surely the European people will develop a great love and appreciation for the liberators.

Surely the foundations are being laid for the peace of a thousand years. Capitalism in its death agony is dragging humanity down into the abyss. Capitalism is demonstrating itself every day more and more, in so-called peace as in war, as the enemy of the people. Bomb the people to death! Burn them to death with incendiary bombs! Break up their industries and starve them to death! And if that is not horrible enough, then blast them off the face of the earth with atomic bombs! That is the program of liberating capitalism.

What a commentary on the real nature of capitalism in its decadent phase, is this, that the scientific conquest of the marvelous secret of atomic energy, which might rationally be used to lighten the burdens of all mankind, is employed first for the wholesale destruction of half a million people.

## Real Nature of Capitalism

Hiroshima, the first target, had a population of 340,000 people. Nagasaki, the second target, had a population of 253,000 people. A total in the two cities of approximately 600,000 people, in cities of flimsy construction, where as the reporters explained, the houses were built roof against roof. How many were killed? How many Japanese people were destroyed to celebrate the discovery of the secret of atomic energy? From all the indications, from all the reports we have received so far, they were nearly all killed or injured. Nearly all.

In the Times today there is a report from the Tokyo radio about Nagasaki which states that "the center of the once thriving city has been turned into a vast devastation, with nothing left except rubble as far as the eye could see." Photographs showing the bomb damage appeared on the front page of the Japanese newspaper "Mainichi." The report says: "One of these pictures revealed a tragic scene ten miles away from the center of the atomic air attack" where farm houses were either crushed down or the roofs torn asunder. The broadcast quoted a photographer of the Yehama Photographic Institute, who had rushed to the city immediately after the bomb hit, as having said: "Nagasaki is now a dead city, all the areas being literally razed to the ground. Only a few buildings are left, standing conspicuously from the ashes." The photographer said that "the toll of the population was great and even the few survivors have not escaped some kind of injury." So far the Japanese press has quoted only one survivor of Hiroshima.

In two calculated blows, with two atomic bombs, American imperialism killed or injured half a million human beings. The young and the old, the child in the cradle and the aged and infirm, the newly married, the well and the sick, men, women and children—they all had to die in two blows because of a quarrel between the imperialists of Wall Street and a similar gang in Japan.

## Bringing "Civilization" to the Orient!

This is how American imperialism is bringing civilization to the Orient. What an unspeakable atrocity! What a shame has come to America, the America, that once placed in New York harbor a Statue of Liberty enlightening the world. Now the world recoils in horror from her name. Even some of the preachers who blessed the war have been moved to protest. One said in an interview in the press: "America has lost her moral position." Her moral position? Yes. She lost that all right. That is true. And the imperialist

monsters who threw the bombs know it. But look what they gained. They gained control of the boundless riches of the Orient. They gained the power to exploit and enslave hundreds of millions of people in the Far East. And that is what they went to war for—not for moral position, but for profit.

Another preacher quoted in the press, reminding himself of something he had once read in the Bible about the meek and gentle Jesus, said it would be useless to send missionaries to the Far East any more. That raises a very interesting question which I am sure they will discuss among themselves. One can imagine an interesting discussion taking place in the inner circles of the House of Rockefeller and the House of Morgan, who are at one and the same time quite by accident of course—pillars of finance and pillars of the church and supporters of missionary enterprises of various kinds. "What shall we do with the heathens in the Orient? Shall we send missionaries to lead them to the Christian heaven or shall we send atomic bombs to blow them to hell?" There is a subject for debate, a debate on a macabre theme. But in any case, you can be sure that where American imperialism is involved, hell will get by far the greater number of the customers.

## American Imperialism — Enemy of Mankind

American imperialism has brought upon itself the fear and hatred of the whole world. American imperialism is regarded throughout the world today as the enemy of mankind. The First World War cost 12 million dead. Twelve million. The Second World War, within a quarter of a century, has already cost not less than 30 million dead; and there are not less than 30 million more to be starved to death before the results of the war are totaled up.

What a harvest of death capitalism has brought to the world! If the skulls of all of the victims could be brought together and piled into one pyramid, what a high mountain that would make. What a monument to the achievements of capitalism that would be, and how fitting a symbol of what capitalist imperialism really is. I believe it would lack only one thing to make it perfect. That would be a big electric sign on the pyramid of skulls, proclaiming the ironical promise of the Four Freedoms. The dead at least are free from want and free from fear. But the survivors live in hunger and terror of the future.

## The Only Victor

Who won the war that cost over 30 million lives? Our cartoonist in The Militant, with great artistic merit and insight, explained it in a few strokes of the pen when he drew that picture of the capitalist with the money bags in his hands, standing on top of the world with one foot on the graveyard and the other on destroyed cities, with the caption: "The Only Victor." The only winner is American imperialism and its satellites in other countries.

What are the perspectives? How do our masters visualize the future after this great achievement of the six-year war? Before the Second World War, with all its horror and destruction of human life and human culture is formally ended, they are already thinking and planning for the Third.

Don't we have to stop these madmen and take power out of their hands? Can we doubt that the peoples of all the world are thinking it cannot go much further, that there must be some way to change it? Long ago the revolutionary Marxists said that the alternative facing humanity was either socialism or a new barbarism, that capitalism threatens to go down in ruins and drag civilization with it. But in the light of what has been developed in this war and is projected for the future, I think we can say now that the alternative can be made even more precise: The alternative facing mankind is socialism or annihilation! It is a problem of whether capitalism is allowed to remain or whether the human race is to continue to survive on this planet.

## The People Will Rebel

We believe that the people of the world will waken to this frightful alternative and act in time to save themselves. We believe that before American imperialism, the new master of the world, has time to consolidate its victories, it will be attacked from two sides and defeated. On the one side the peoples of the world, transformed into the colonial slaves of Wall Street, will rebel against the imperialist master, as the conquered provinces rose against imperial Rome. Simultaneously with that uprising, and coordinating our struggle with it, we, the Trotskyist party, will lead the workers and plebeians of America in a revolutionary attack against our main enemy and the main enemy of mankind, the imperialists of the United States.

Five years ago today we first mourned and commemorated our great man of ideas, Comrade Trotsky. Today, as revolutionary action is becoming a life and death necessity for hundreds of millions of people, as we prepare to go over from ideas to action—to action guided by ideas—we commemorate Trotsky as the great man of action, the organizer of workers, the leader of revolutions. That is the spirit in which we commemorate Comrade Trotsky tonight. He enjoined us above everything else to build a party. And again I repeat what he said: "Not a party like other parties," but a party fit to lead a revolution, a party that does not dabble, does not go half-way, but carries the struggle through to the end.

## Join Us in This Party!

If you are serious; if you mean business, if you want to take part in the fight for a better life for yourself and for the salvation of mankind, we invite you to join us in this party and take part in this great struggle.

There is no place for pessimists or faint-hearted people in our party, no place for self-seekers, careerists and bureaucrats. But the door is wide open to resolute workers who are determined to change the world and ready to stake their heads on the issue.

Trotsky has bequeathed to us a great heritage. He gave to us a great system of ideas which constitute our program. And he set before us the example of a man who was a model revolutionist, who lived and died for the cause of humanity, and who, above all, showed how to apply theory in action in the greatest revolution in history.

## Answer the Imperialist Program

With this heritage we are armed and armored for struggle and for victory. All that we, the disciples of Trotsky, need for that victory is to understand those ideas clearly, to assimilate them into our flesh and blood, to be true to them and, above all, to apply them in action.

If we do that we can build a party that no power on earth can break. We can build a party fit to lead the masses of America—to answer the imperialist program of war on the peoples of the world, with revolution at home and peace with the peoples of the world.

## The NEGRO STRUGGLE

by CHARLES JACKSON

### Fruits of "Victory"

The Negro soldier from the very inception of this war has had to swallow an overdose of bitter pills in the name of "democracy." Inducted into Jim Crow units, intimidated and beaten by white civilians and officers during training, and relegated to the very dirtiest and most menial tasks available, his lot has not been a savory one.

Recently a number of reports have trickled in which would indicate that now that we have been "victorious" in vanquishing Germany and Japan, the fruits of "victory" in the immediate postwar period will not be any sweeter or any more digestible for the dark-skinned American G. I. Joe.

It was revealed in the September 15th Afro-American that the 614th Tank Destroyer Battalion is being broken up in Marseilles, France and the men will be shipped to the Pacific as service troops. You may remember how the 614th under the command of Capt. Charles Thomas, a former Ford worker, blazed through the Siegfried Line in Germany with a loss of one half of its men.

### DEPRIVED OF INSIGNIA

They received numerous decorations for their valor and under normal circumstances would have returned to the States as heroes. With their deactivation and transfer to quartermaster, etc., they will not be allowed to wear their unit citation insignia. Thus this official war department move has removed impediments from the evil way of our local fascists who are slandering the Negro soldier by spouting the lie that he was a coward in action and contributed nothing to "victory."

Ollie Stewart reports in the same paper from Mannheim, Germany that most of the colored service units are being kept there as "occupation" troops. "For colored troops," says Stewart, "German occupation means guarding ration dumps, hauling construction material and digging up American bodies to be removed from German soil."

"If they get to town, American propaganda, spread often by their own officers, keeps most girls from speaking to them. . . Tan Yanks near small towns are told by German girls that their officers had gone from door to door telling Germans to shun them. . . German waitresses in officers mess audibly voice objection to serving them. . . Not a single Tan Yank has been given a job at Gen. Eisenhower's headquarters at Frankfurt. Lily-white pattern is maintained among the officers. . . All Negro GI's want to get home as soon as possible if only to get from under prejudiced white officers."

### REGIMENT BROKEN UP

In a letter to the editor of the Afro one soldier writes from the South Pacific, "I am one of the fellows that helped start the 366th Infantry at Fort Devens, Mass. and served with them when we lost a lot of men with the 92nd Division for which we didn't get any credit. We got a dirty deal when the regiment was

broken up into two engineer outfits and we were not allowed to go home, but sent directly to the Pacific where we built a hospital on Luzon. . . After serving in two theaters we find that we will not see America but must go to Japan even though the war is over. . . most of us feel terrible."

Frank Bolden, war correspondent who has just returned from the China-Burma-India theaters of war, states in the September 15th Pittsburgh Courier: "Segregation in the Red Cross, just as in the U. S., is common all over the area. . . there is an Army Jim Crow swimming pool in Calcutta where colored soldiers are barred."

Colored soldiers, says Bolden, took a beating from the prejudiced Southern white officers and "All they want now is to get out." Bolden says he plans to rewrite for publication all the dispatches the censors held up and refused to transmit when he was overseas.

Charles N. Loeb, now in Tokyo, cables to the Pittsburgh Courier Sept. 15, that "military police are displaying a u. t. 'Colored Troops' for special restriction to their bivouac areas." Revealing some of the duties of the Negro troops in the Army of Occupation in Japan, Loeb says "they spent a week killing rats in the big Japanese warehouses near the docks."

### "STRANGE FRUIT"

After having been oppressed before induction, segregated while in uniform and been assigned to such duties as described by the correspondent, they are no doubt having difficulty in fitting General MacArthur's words into their lives. The words which MacArthur said while these boys were on combat duty against the warehouse rats, were:

"Have our country's flag unfurled in Tokyo's Sun and let it wave in its full glory as a symbol of hope for the oppressed and as a harbinger of victory for the right."

And such, my patriotic pigeons, is the first taste of the fruits of "victory" in "democratic" America. Another case of . . . "Strange Fruit" . . . No?

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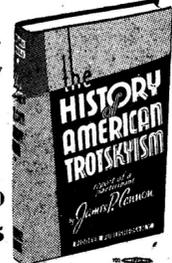
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# Congressmen At Work

The mounting wave of mass unemployment throughout the country created scarcely a ripple among the capitalist Congressmen last week. The political representatives of Big Business came back from their vacations ready to discuss anything except what to do for the jobless.

Senator Wiley of Wisconsin did get around to attacking a proposal to provide Federal workers with a 5-day 30-hour week. "Enactment of such a work-week would be an insult to every taxpayer," he argued. Apparently he believes Federal workers are not taxpayers. Furthermore, he contended, "It would be an insult to every farmer and farm laborer who have been and are continuing to work a minimum of 10-hours a day, 7 days a week in exhausting duties."



The Senator raised his sword and shield to defend others too from this deadly "insult." "Such a work-week," he insisted, "would encourage the cry for similar weeks in private industry. Thus, this proposed measure would be an insult to every businessman in the country who is trying to secure a peak output of goods in order to meet the huge backlog of consumer and industrial demands. It would be also an insult to every consumer whose need for goods would go unsatisfied for needlessly long periods." Someone should tell the Senator about the factories closing down.

Having disposed of this "insulting" proposal, Senator Wiley got down to the problem closest to his political heart: "Mr. President, I was just called to the telephone and informed that OPA has taken the ration points off cheese. It looks as if happy days will soon be here again, and I hope it will be my privilege early on to see that my fellow Senators will be privileged to sink

their teeth into some vitamin rich, luscious aromatic Wisconsin cheese, let it be Cheddar or Swiss or Blue, brick, or other brands produced by that great state."

The Senators came to attention. Senator Tobey of New Hampshire broke in: "Mr. President, will the Senator yield?"

Mr. WILEY: "Certainly."

Mr. TOBEY: "Is that a threat, or a promise?"

Mr. WILEY: "I never make threats to a fellow Republican. Once in a while I may threaten when I am talking to a New Deal Democrat, but not when I speak of cheese, that is too pleasant a subject. It is the stuff, sir, which you, of New Hampshire, need to nourish that fine working brain of yours and to put a little added vitamin into your blood corpuscles."

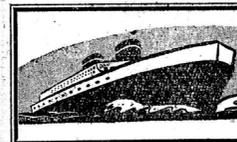
Senator Wiley was not the only Congressman to consider the problem of spreading the work. Representative Schwabe of Oklahoma took up the cudgels for Wall Street too. "Full employment," he stated, is "a dream." "Of course," he continued, "it goes without saying that all consider a system of economy ideal where every person able to work would be provided with a job. This would be a utopia."

Naturally Schwabe is against any such nonsense. It can't even be "closely approximated," he held. "It is only a dream, a day dream. It is merely a catchword calculated to lure those who will not think for themselves. It is a beautiful theory, but not workable." Naturally the Representative didn't get around to explaining precisely why full employment is "not workable."

Not all the Congressmen are back from their vacations. Eleven of them, for instance, are still touring Europe at taxpayers' expense. Last heard of, they were somewhere in the Middle East. They are part of the group who ran the gamut of the gay spots... the Folies Bergere in Paris... a ride on Hitler's yacht... receptions at embassies... the beach on the French Riviera... a trip on the Mediterranean with Bob Hope... the gambling casino at Monte Carlo.

There is talk of making these foot-loose Congressmen cough up the expenses of their vacation. The Army Air Transport rate for passengers to Paris alone is \$631, plus 15 per cent tax. That makes \$725 one way and \$1451 round trip. Since then they have used government facilities to visit more than 20 countries.

However, it is not likely their fellow politicians will stick them for expenses so obviously in line with the duties of a representative of Big Business. After scouting through Europe's luxury resorts for 45 days, they will undoubtedly be able to tell Congress how to put new zip in Wisconsin cheese.



## Postwar Notes for Seamen

The Government Printing Office has issued the full 325-page report on postwar shipping prepared for the Maritime Commission by a research committee from Harvard University's faculty. This report shows that 50 per cent of America's estimated postwar foreign trade can be carried by a "quality fleet" of 10 million tons. This is one-fifth of the war-built fleet which totaled 50 million tons.

The poor ship-owners' took a "heavy" blow last week when the WSA, after months of deliberation, cut operators' fees from \$80 to \$75 per day for each ship. This "drastic" \$5 cut exceeds the daily earnings of an able seaman.

Almon E. Roth, president of the National Federation of

ships to operators having no outstanding financial disputes with the War Shipping Administration. This WSA-sponsored measure is "a dubious means of frightening any operator who might in the future wish to question a financial settlement proposed by the WSA," says Stanley Ferguson, shipping expert for the Journal of Commerce. The WSA only wants to give government-owned ships to the ship-owners, but that isn't enough for Mr. Ferguson.

# Unemployment Is All in the Head, Says Capitalist

By Jack O'Connell

MILWAUKEE, Sept. 11 — Mounting unemployment and the whole condition of unemployment under capitalism is largely an invention of the mind, an illusion, or merely "dislocation" of the labor force, if we are to believe some capitalist economists, hysterical over any "unsound measures," any soup and crumbs, that the government might throw to the jobless.

### FOR WAR ONLY!

Listen to Dr. Nathaniel Whitney, economist of the Procter & Gamble Co., substituting in the Hearst papers, September 11, for their regular line-man against labor, M. S. Rukesyser. Whitney thinks the unemployed are an "emergency reserve of labor" just for the national war effort! They're supposed to hang around waiting to do their bit when the next war breaks.

"Since a large proportion of the armed forces were in the labor force before induction the question arises how we could draw, say, 9 to 10 million persons out of the labor force for military purposes and still have available enough workers to operate industry at a peak of activity."

"The answer is that as the men and women were drawn off for military service their places in the labor force were taken by what we might call an emergency reserve of labor."

### WHO WERE "RESERVES"?

Where did the labor forces come from during the war? Could they have come from the minimum estimate of 10,000,000 unemployed in 1939? Banish the thought! From the "emergency reserve," which, according to this magician, consists of married women, housekeepers, school children, old men (those scrapped at forty?), the handicapped, and those holding down two jobs. Verily there must have been a labor shortage during the depression!

Now what to do about this demobilized emergency labor force? Why "those persons now employed would return to their former status at the same place." Simple enough; go back where you came from.

This P&G soap "economist" is on a plane with Westbrook Pegler who takes it for granted that the unemployed workers will live on the "superprofits" in wages that they presumably earned during the war.

# Race Discrimination Scored By St. Paul Trade Unions

By Dorothy Schultz

ST. PAUL, Minn. Sept. 14 — Protests were lodged last week by labor and Negro organizations against the racial discrimination shown by the Minneapolis police and the Twin City radio and press in the handling of the Marvin Lewis shooting fray.

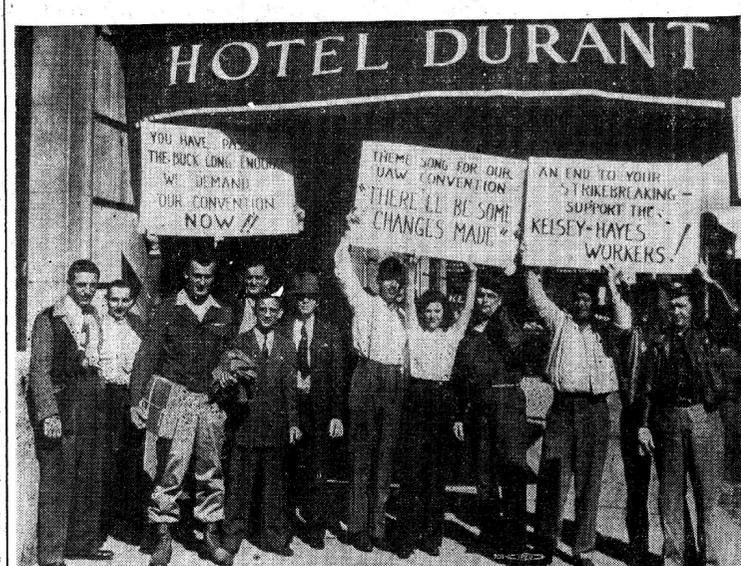
The Minneapolis CIO Council, Local 665 Hotel and Restaurant Employees Union AFL, and the Executive Board of the St. Paul Branch of the NAACP have already pointed out that the incident itself—the shooting of a Negro man by a white woman he had picked up on a drinking party—was treated as if the murder were completely secondary to the fact of association between white and colored people.

On August 29th shortly after the murder, the police went to the Dreamland Cafe, an established restaurant and bar in the colored neighborhood, four miles from the scene of the shooting, where Lewis had earlier met the woman. Without a search warrant they locked the doors, lined up the people in the cafe, searched them and demanded identification.

American Shipping, visited the White House last week and told Truman that "in the last analysis, our ability to maintain a merchant marine adequate for national defense and the development of our international commerce, will depend upon profitable cargoes." Both Roth and Truman know that "profitable cargoes" are determined "in the last analysis" by the amount of government subsidies poured into the industry.

The Maritime Commission has offered its 93 per cent of the voting stock in American President Lines for sale. APL now has cash assets amounting to \$14,000,000, all of which came originally from the public treasury. American-Hawaiian Steamship Co. offered \$8,051,410 for the government's controlling interest in APL, and this sum is part of A-H's cut of the government's \$25 billion wartime shipping expenditures.

# Protesting UAW Board's Strikebreaking



Members of the delegation of 150 Detroit and Flint CIO United Automobile Workers militants who picketed the meeting of the UAW International Executive Board at the Hotel Durant, Flint, Mich., on September 15. The delegation protested the board's attempt to break the strike of 4,500 Kelsey-Hayes workers in Detroit and its postponement of the UAW convention to Apr. 1946.

# Union Militants Picket UAW Officials Meeting

(Special to THE MILITANT)

FLINT, Mich., Sept. 15—About 150 CIO United Automobile Workers members from Detroit and Flint today picketed the meeting of the UAW International Executive Board at the Hotel Durant here.

The picket line around the hotel was in protest against the international officials' unconstitutional postponement of the UAW convention until next April and the IEB's refusal to defend the striking Kelsey-Hayes workers in Detroit.

This action of the UAW militants was initiated by the executive board of Briggs Local 212, Detroit, on the motion of the local's president, John Murphy. In 24 hours, locals on Detroit's East Side and in Flint were contacted. Today's picketers represented Detroit Motor Products Local 203, Briggs 212, Kelsey-Hayes Unit of Detroit Local 174,

Flint Chevrolet Local 659 and Flint AC Sparkplug Local 651.

The demonstrators carried banners demanding:

"An End To Your Strikebreaking—Support The Kelsey-Hayes Workers!"

"Theme Song For Our UAW Convention — There'll Be Some Changes Made!"

"You Have Passed The Buck Long Enough—We Demand Our Convention Now!!"

Angered at the leadership's strikebreaking and bureaucratic policies, the picketers directed their ire particularly at the top officers, President R. J. Thomas, Vice Presidents Richard Frankenstein and Walter Reuther, and Secretary-Treasurer George Adde.

They circled the hotel singing "Thomas is a traitor, he shall be removed," alternating with the names of Adde, Frankenstein and Reuther.

### BUREAUCRATS' REPLY

The board members stood on the front steps of the hotel glaring at the picketers. One declared that "I knew we shouldn't have met in Michigan. We won't make the same mistake twice." Another porkchopper replied, "We should have postponed the convention to July!"

Frank Donley, president of Motor Products Local 203, led a delegation before the board. His local has had some serious grievances. It is reported that when Donley tried to consult with the board by phone, he was in-

# Flint Union Head Sees Need For Labor Party

(Continued from page 1)

thousand will not be hired back. They come in here all day asking me what to do, how to draw compensation. A few even want to know how to get on the welfare. Things will really get hot when the company calls the men and women back and tries to put them on lower rated jobs."

### OPEN IDLE PLANTS

He spoke in a very serious and firm tone. "The layoffs have hit the UAW all over the country. At the coming convention we will have to stop talking for the thirty-hour week and go out and get it with no reduction in take-home pay. We have to stop talking about a thirty per cent wage increase and use some action to get it. GM can afford to pay it. They made 435 million dollars last year."

Then he added: "If the companies can't or won't open the idle plants, then the unions certainly can. The government footed the bill in wartime, so it can do the same thing in peacetime."

Continuing on the theme of the fight for full employment, Meyers stated with evident pride: "I was a delegate at the last convention. Our delegation put up a fight to revoke the no-strike pledge. Now we have to organize the fight for jobs for all. In order to put this program across we have to fight on two fields, economic and political."

### NEED OWN LABOR PARTY

He explained: "We have our unions to fight the economic side, but to put across our jobs-for-all program we need legislatures favorable to labor and legislation favorable to labor. We can only



Build the Labor Party

formed that the board "couldn't be disturbed because they were engaged in a poker game."

One spokesman of the rank and file delegation bitterly stated: "The board members are big shots now and don't care about us little fellows any longer."

All Flint unionists are particularly outraged by the fact that the board is meeting in the Hotel Durant, where a CIO organizer during an organizational drive three years ago was murdered.

Only a hundred yards from this hotel stands the local CIO headquarters. This building has twelve floors and ample space for the small 22-man IEB to hold a meeting. You can draw your own conclusions about the refusal of the IEB to meet in the official CIO headquarters. Everyone here has



# SHOP TALKS ON SOCIALISM

By V. Grey

I hear that one of the greatest achievements of U. S. capitalism during World War II was that they increased average workers' productivity thirty per cent. Better machines and streamlined assembly belts have made it possible to produce thirty per cent more goods in any given hour.

They toolled up the factories, improved the production lines, and made it possible for a worker to produce four things where he only produced three before. But it cost thirty to forty million dead and quite a few millions of legs and arms left strewn on the battlefields.

And don't get the idea that four people are going to have automobiles where only three had them before, or four housewives will have vacuum cleaners, or four homes have running water, where only three had them before. Capitalism isn't that kind of a system! Here's the way it works: Three people have jobs where four people had them before. In other words, to produce the same things they produced in 1939, only three-fourths as many workers are needed.

Here's another way of looking at it too: Just suppose they were really to give us those 60 million jobs. And just suppose everything went along beautifully with the American capitalists selling the products of our work all over the globe and getting the full price from a poverty-stricken world market (which they can't). Just suppose everything went along nice and easy.

Well, there would be 30 per cent more goods produced. The crash would come 30 per cent, or nearly two years, quicker! The warehouses would be full to overflowing 30 per cent quicker. They'd start plowing under the cotton and dumping food in the ocean 30 per cent quicker. And since you'd have worked yourself out of a job 30 per cent quicker, you couldn't buy the stuff, even at giveaway prices.

But that's progress. Why, pretty soon the Fords will be scooting down the final assembly line in 30 seconds flat. Radio controlled Robots will do all the work in the time it takes you to say "60 million jobs." It's hard to say who'll drive the cars after they're made. Maybe the robots will. But we working people won't have time for that anyhow. We'll be too busy looking around in the ash cans for food.

And yet — if things could be produced that fast and that easily, it would be kind of nice, wouldn't it? Instead of mortgaging your soul to the EZ Credit Skin-You-Alive Finance Company, you could get a car easy as falling off a log. You could get it awfully easy all right, if the workers owned and ran the factories, instead of the bosses.

There would be more vacuum cleaners, fridges, superduper sewing machines than you could shake a stick at. You would only have to reach your hand out to take one. It can be done. All we have to do is take over the factories. And it does seem to be a sensible idea, doesn't it? Then if we produce 30 per cent more things, we would HAVE 30 per cent more things. We would all be at least 30 per cent richer right away.

# NURSERY CLOSURES HIT MINNEAPOLIS MOTHERS

By Mary Kane

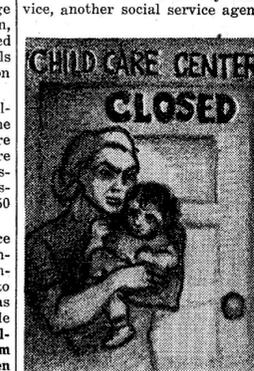
MINNEAPOLIS, September 2 — Over 500 working mothers in Minneapolis will be forced to either leave their jobs or arrange make-shift care for their children, when 12 government-sponsored War Emergency Nursery Schools and 10 child-care centers close on September 28.

These day-care centers for children, which operated during the war period when women were needed in industry, provided care for 800 children. With their closing only eight neighborhood houses remain with facilities for 250 children.

Providing financial assistance for this undertaking is the Minneapolis Council of Social Agencies, which will give priority to the wives of servicemen overseas and to women who are the sole support of their children. Although the projected program fails to offer any help to women who must work to supplement the family income and maintain a decent standard of living, the Council is already patting itself on the back for having solved a difficult situation.

Substitution of only eight nursery schools for the 20 previously functioning in Minneapolis means that mothers will have to travel much longer distances to place their children before going to work for the day. In St. Paul, too, the mothers' problem remains

unsolved. Here appointments are being made for working mothers to consult with the Family Service, another social service agency.



cy, to arrange day care with private families.

Disregarding the fact that in many families it is absolutely essential for mothers to work, the St. Paul Pioneer Press recently reported that women workers "will be glad to swap their factory overalls for kitchen aprons." Although this was supposedly a city-wide survey, only four women were quoted to prove this statement.

# 'Wall Street Journal' Gloats Over Decline In Railway Jobs

By Henry Adams

When the Wall Street Journal, a magazine of Big Business, starts praising railroad labor, that is news of the man-bites-dog variety. This is evidently what A. F. Whitney, president of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, thought, because he reprinted the editorial of the Wall Street Journal in a recent issue of Railway Trainman as a tribute to railway labor.

However, when Wall Street starts praising workers, it is well to look closely to find the catch. In this editorial it is not hard to find that today 12 1/2 per cent fewer men handle twice the freight and two-and-half times the passenger mileage they did 20 years ago.

This doubled load is carried with 30 per cent fewer passenger cars, the same freight car capacity and only 10 per cent in-

crease in locomotive tractive power. Basically, this means 200,000 fewer men are handling twice the amount the railroads carried 20 years ago. Business for the railroads has doubled, profits have risen—and the number of men doing all this work has dropped. No wonder Wall Street is happy! However, railroad workers cannot take the railroad companies' gains as their own. Every railroad worker remembers the last depression when 15 to 20 years of working rights did not keep him working more than a couple days a week. He knows from bitter experience that the drop in the number of men working and the increase in freight and passengers handled only means one thing—less jobs, less hours, less pay in the days ahead.

And the Railway Trainmen's officials print this Wall Street editorial, which gloats over the declining number of jobs and the increasing load of work, as if it were good news for the workers!