

THE MILITANT

PUBLISHED IN THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKING PEOPLE

CIO Steel Workers Vote For Action!

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VOL. IX—No. 49

NEW YORK, N. Y., SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1945

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PRICE: FIVE CENTS

Rally Protests Allied Butchery In The Colonies

By Charles Carsten

NEW YORK, Nov. 30—Despite bitter weather more than 350 people tonight participated in a rally sponsored by the New York Local of the Socialist Workers Party to protest the Allied massacre of the colonial peoples of Indonesia, Indo-China and the imperialist intervention in China. The meeting was held in the Hotel Diplomat.

The assembled workers responded enthusiastically to the call of the speakers for protest action against the murderous imperialist aggression against the colonial people. The meeting was addressed by Charles Jackson, well-known writer of "The Negro Struggle" column in The Militant; Farrell Dobbs, editor of The Militant; and George Novack, National Secretary of the Civil Rights Defense Committee. James P. Cannon, National Secretary of the Socialist Workers Party, was chairman.

The speakers emphasized that the struggle for freedom of the colonial peoples is being conducted against the same Wall Street monopolists and imperialists who in this country are trying to smash the unions, drive down wages and divide the workers with vicious race hatred. General Motors was cited as a typical exploiter of both the colonial peoples and American labor.

"Freedom for the colonial millions would not only right a terrible wrong," stated Comrade Jackson, one of the principal speakers at the mass meeting, "but it would also be a seven-league step toward our own liberation from economic insecurity and racial discrimination."

"HOLLOW WORDS"

Comrade Jackson pointed out that the Negroes in this country and the colonial peoples face a common enemy. "During the war," he declared, "the peoples of the Far East, as well as the Negroes here, were told they would gain their freedom in the brave, new world that would come from an Allied victory—that world so beautifully painted in the brilliant hues of the Four Freedoms and wrapped with that glittering tinsel of the Atlantic Charter.

"Each of these subject peoples found, however, when they

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Lumber Strike Nears Victory In 9th Week

SPECIAL TO THE MILITANT
SEATTLE, Wash., Nov. 29—The nine-week-old strike of lumber workers in the Northwest is on the way to victory. Twenty-five operations in Tacoma, several in Portland, and several in Seattle have signed contracts with the striking AFL Lumber and Sawmill Workers Union, granting 15 cents an hour wage increase to all categories of workers and establishing an hourly minimum of \$1.05.

Some 60,000 members of the LSW began their strike September 24, demanding an hourly increase of 20 cents and a minimum of \$1.10.

The recent settlement involves approximately one-third of the AFL lumber workers in the Washington and Columbia River areas. The compromise contracts will probably be the basis for settlement in the rest of the industry.

Among the firms that have settled are not only small operators, a few of whom settled for the union's full demands in the early weeks of the strike, but also large mills. Several members of the Lumbermen's Industrial Relations Committee—powerful association of employers which, at the beginning of the strike, refused even to discuss wage increases with the LSW—have signed contracts.

STALINIST LIE

The spread of successful settlement of the lumber strike gives the lie to the Stalinists who, in their paper The New World, made dire predictions about the outcome of the LSW's action. According to their theory the employers were preparing a lockout of the industry, and, by innuendo, the LSW's strike was condemned as playing into the hands of the employers.

The Stalinists instead, praised the action of the leadership of the CIO International Woodworkers of America which was demanding an hourly increase of 25 cents, but refused to call its members out on strike.

The IWA-CIO itself was able to settle peacefully with the employers in the fir areas for an increase of 12½ cents an hour thanks to the strike of the LSW. IWA acceptance of the 12½ cent settlement, however, was correctly condemned by the LSW-AFL as undermining the wage demands put up by the AFL workers.

Indo-Chinese Seek Solidarity Of All Colonies

The independence movements of Indo-China, Indonesia and Burma have established mutual relations. Aung San, one of the Burmese Nationalist leaders of the subject people of Asia to plan a united campaign to achieve freedom within the shortest possible time," according to an October 31 Reuters dispatch.

In reply, Ho Chi Minh, President of the Viet Nam Government of Indo-China, sent a radio message to Aung San on November 5: "Annamites are watching with bated breath the Burmese struggle for independence."

This radiogram was intercepted by the French imperialists. They quoted it as proof of the "existence of some sort of liaison between Annamites and Burmese, which has been suspected since a few weeks already by high ranking British Burma officials," reported the Christian Science Monitor. These officials "said a few days ago at Rangoon that they were convinced that secret conferences had taken place between Annamite and Burmese leaders somewhere in the vicinity of Rangoon."

The British officials in Burma added, said the same dispatch, "they vaguely suspected that some Indonesian nationalist leaders also had consultations with the Burmese and that all of them were maintaining some

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Auto Ranks Spike Move By GM To Split Strike

Howling At The Gates



American Imperialism Supports Dictator Chiang In Chinese War

Despite official denials and tight censorship, news dispatches from China every day bring added evidence of Washington's active intervention in China's civil war.

A report came from the Stalinist-controlled Yenan radio that "several hundred American officers are attached to each Kuomintang (Nationalist) Army, participating in planning and executing" Chiang Kai-shek's offensive against Chinese Stalinist forces in North China. This report forced Gen. Wedemeyer to assert that U. S. officers were "no longer" working with Kuomintang forces. It appears that their participation with Chiang Kai-shek's troops ended, if at all, when the news became public.

According to General Wedemeyer, American arms and ammunition will be delivered to the Chungking Government under Lend-Lease extensions until March 2. This material is being used to arm 19 more of the 39 American-trained divisions. Twenty of these divisions are already in the field fighting with American-made arms.

GM Seeks To Incite Vets Against Strikers In Flint

By Jerry Kirk

(Special To The Militant)

FLINT, Mich., Nov. 28—As the nation-wide General Motors strike enters its second week, the walkout in this key GM center continues to gather momentum with the shutting down of the office buildings at Chevrolet and AC Spark Plug. At the same time, the first strikebreaking moves of the corporation begin to emerge.

A crude attempt, having a strictly company smell, to incite veterans against the strike was initiated today through a Capt. Jack Packard, an air force pilot without overseas service and on terminal leave, was employed for two weeks at AC. The local papers today came out with big blurbs about his planning to canvass the reported 3,300 veterans on the GM payroll for an anti-strike movement. Packard, who is not a union member, is quoted as saying, "Management gave me a square deal, but I am not allowed to work because of this strike."

The hundreds of veterans taking an active part in the strike here are testimony to the kind of "square deal" General Motors

All the combat planes in the India-Burma theater are being flown to China. The transfer of 700 fighter planes was carried out in such haste that fliers were forced to complete the mission under hazardous weather conditions. At least 11 of the aircraft

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crashed. The number of men killed has not been revealed.

Chungking sources disclose that troops and material are now being landed at the newly captured port of Hulatao by the U. S. Seventh Fleet. United States Marines are holding vital Chinese East Coast areas.

All of these measures have substantially influenced the

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UAW Veterans Organize Aid For GM Strike

By Evelyn Atwood

(Special To The Militant)

DETROIT, Mich., Nov. 30—General Motors interests have initiated a strikebreaking venture by attempting to whip up a vicious anti-labor campaign among the veterans.

There are 14,000 union veterans in the Michigan area alone who are affected by the General Motors strike. Both here and in Flint vigilante groups are spearheading these anti-labor campaigns.

The CIO auto workers are already in action to counter this menace to the GM strike. They realize that the strike is becoming a test case to determine whether the big corporations will succeed in their efforts to divide misguided veterans from the rest of the workers, and turn them into a strikebreaking agency.

In Detroit, a UAW-CIO GM Veterans' Committee has been formed with John W. Anderson of Fleetwood Local 15, UAW-CIO, elected as chairman. Anderson told me today in an interview that the City-Wide GM Strike Committee, of which he is secretary, is determined to counteract any move on the part of the General Motors Corporation to utilize the veterans to break the strike.

For this reason, he said, at a meeting on November 27 the City-Wide GM Strike Committee—

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Block Scheme To Produce GM Parts For Other Firms

SPECIAL TO THE MILITANT

DETROIT, Dec. 3.—A scheme designed to whittle away the General Motors strike by reopening GM plants which are working on parts for other manufacturers has just been spiked here by an alert rank and file.

In an interview with the press on Thursday, November 29, CIO United Automobile Workers President R. J. Thomas stated that the union officials had discussed the possibilities of working on GM products that go to other auto manufacturers. "I predict here and now," said Thomas, "that General Motors will say no."

GM quickly seized on this stupid statement. On Friday night, C. E. Wilson, GM president, addressed a letter to Thomas proposing that GM be permitted to open its plants that manufacture parts for Ford, Chrysler and other auto companies.

Next day Thomas replied by complimenting Wilson on GM's "generous" proposal which "comes to me as a welcome surprise." Thomas then stated: "I shall, of course, accept the offer."

Immediately the word spread like wild-fire among the auto ranks that the GM strike was being endangered. Experienced militants went into action. That night the Strike Strategy Committee of AC Spark Plug Local 651, in Flint, at one of the main GM plants involved in the manufacture of parts, unanimously voted to oppose Thomas's proposal.

The Greater Flint Industrial

Union Council was likewise unanimous in its opposition. Robert Carter, chairman of the AC Strike Committee, stated: "It could only lead to possible riot and bloodshed."

MANEUVER STYMIED

Soon afterward, the local at GM's Saginaw Malleable Division, Saginaw, Mich., second major plant involved in the manu-

Special Detroit Dispatch

On GM Strike

By Kay O'Brien

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facture of parts for non-GM producers, took the same stand as the Flint AC local. "There is an atmosphere of extreme distaste among the officials of the local and members of the strike committee toward Thomas's reply to the GM proposal," the Saginaw UAW regional director announced.

Thus, for the time being, the stupid maneuver of Thomas and other top UAW officials, a maneuver that could only weaken the strike, seems to be pretty effectively stymied.

The GM Strategy-- How To Defeat It

By The Editors

The General Motors strike is going into its tenth day at this writing. It is becoming clearer to everyone that this strike is the spearhead of a monumental struggle now going on between labor and capital; a struggle that will continue to rage in America in the whole period ahead.

General Motors Corporation is part and parcel of that tiny inner clique of top bankers, industrialists and coupon clippers who own and control the wealth of America and run its affairs. This clique of billionaires is today absolutely drunk with power. These Wall Street pirates have plans of exploiting the peoples of half the globe and wringing riches out of slave labor. They are sending their agents into Arabia, Persia and throughout the Near East to preempt for themselves the unlimited oil resources of that section of the world. They plan to convert the Chinese masses into work slaves of the Wall Street money changers. No spot on this whole earth is escaping their attention.

This gang of Wall Street profiteers is now putting into effect plans of world imperialism that make the British imperialists look by comparison like a bunch of small time racketeers.

Their Brutal Aims At Home

This ruling class of America has more power and disposes of more wealth than any previous ruling class in history. And possessing all this power and wealth, consumed by limitless greed and fired by visions of world empire, this ruling class is now, with redoubled fury, turning its attention to home.

The American imperialists have resolved to lay the proper foundation for their world ambitions by "cleaning house" right here at home. They want to make clear to everybody that they are the bosses, they are the masters, and it does not pay to challenge their authority.

The American plutocracy has come out of this war with the feeling that the very existence of this solidly organized, self-confident and militant labor movement is an intolerable challenge to Wall Street's plans of world imperialism and aggrandizement. The plutocracy does not want to tolerate in its home industries a powerful workers' organization with aggressive stewards' bodies and committees, suspiciously eyeing the plans of Big Business and attempting to control its movements. The American plutocracy feels that its whole world position remains insecure and may at any moment be seriously endangered by this labor movement which can challenge its rule and at a moment's notice halt the wheels in its far-flung economic domain.

That is why one detects in the utterances and proposals of American Big Business leaders the note of brutality and the reactionary content of the fascist mentality and outlook. The plans, schemes, plots, hopes and backroom conspiracies of the "big boys" unquestionably add up to a desire to completely smash the union movement and return to the "good old days" of the open shop; the "good old days" when the working man and woman were treated like dirt.

But there is a big gap between what these moneyed auto-

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RESOLUTION DENOUNCING SLAUGHTER IN COLONIES

The following resolution was unanimously adopted at the mass protest meeting held in New York on November 30 to demand withdrawal of American troops from foreign soil.

To President Harry S. Truman
White House, Washington, D. C.

We, 350 workers of New York, assembled in mass meeting at Hotel Diplomat on the call of the Socialist Workers Party, voice indignant protest against the imperialist massacre of the peoples of the Far East who are fighting for their liberties and independence;

We condemn the use of American tanks, planes, ships and troops in these criminal actions and the intervention of the United States in the internal affairs of China, Indo-China, Indonesia and Korea;

We wholeheartedly support the struggles of these Oriental peoples against the Allied enslavers. Their cause is our cause. Their fight for freedom is bound up with the fight of the American workers for their rights against the common enemy; the monopoly capitalists of Wall Street.

We call upon you to withdraw all American troops from foreign soil! Hands off Indo-China, Indonesia, China and Korea! Stop the undeclared war against the colonial peoples!

