

What Is The SWP?

By James P. Cannon

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Workers Of The World, Unite!

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WALLACE FIRED IN DRIVE TO WAR

Attempt To Bar Minority Parties From N. Y. Ballot

By George Clarke

NEW YORK, Sept. 21—The most threatening attack against democratic rights in this state came yesterday when Wall Street's Democratic Party instituted court proceedings to bar the Socialist Workers Party, the Communist Party, the Socialist Labor Party and the Socialist Party from the ballot in the November 5 elections. If this action is successful, it will set a precedent for eliminating all competition to the Democratic and Republican Parties in New York State.

The court action was the final step in a conspiracy begun 10 days ago by the Tammany Hall-Flynn gang. At that time Louis Cohen, Executive Secretary to Mayor O'Dwyer, announced that he would attempt to throw the minority parties off the ballot. Since then he and his staff have been going through thousands of independent petitions to find legal pretext.

N. Y. SWP Urges United Fight To Keep Minorities On Ballot

NEW YORK, Sept. 21.—The State Committee of the Socialist Workers Party today issued an appeal to the Communist, Socialist and Socialist Labor Parties to join in common defense against the attempt being made by the Democratic Party to remove all four minority parties from the New York State ballot.

At the same time, the State Committee of the SWP urged the American Labor and Liberal Parties, which are supporting Democratic Party candidates, to publicly protest the attempt to bar minority parties.

In its appeal to the other threatened minority parties for joint defensive action, the SWP stated: "At stake are the fundamental democratic rights of the people of this state. Unless opposition parties—irrespective of size—are permitted to enter the contest for office, these democratic rights will be transformed into a mockery comparable to that which exists in Bilbo's South."

"We assume that despite disagreements between the programs of the parties challenged, there cannot be any disagreement on an issue so vital as the preservation of elementary democratic rights. We likewise assume that your party will be prepared to engage in a joint fight, together with us and the other parties involved, to organize a vigorous public protest against the attempt to throw us off the ballot."

The SWP appeal to the American Labor and Liberal Parties declared: "Although your party is committed to supporting the candidates of the Democratic Party in this election, you cannot fail to take cognizance of this conspiracy against democratic rights."

"If for narrow partisan reasons you fail to speak out now in protest, you will help prepare the way for reactionary and fascist measures which can overwhelm your party along with ours and destroy all of the democratic rights of the people."



Maritime Strike Wins Equal Pay At Highest Level For All Seamen

By F. J. Lang

(Special to The Militant)

NEW YORK, Sept. 21.—The 17-day nation-wide maritime strike officially ended today. The Independent Marine Firemen's Union on the West Coast and the CIO maritime unions here called off their picket lines after the hard-pressed U.S. Maritime Commission was forced to concede that equal wages shall be paid to all American seamen on the basis of gains won earlier in the strike by AFL maritime unions.

The unprecedented solidarity of all seamen—AFL, CIO and independent—won equal wages on the highest level yet established in the maritime industry. It also forced the Truman administration to reverse a decision of its Wage Stabilization Board that tried to cut \$10 per month from wage increases negotiated by the AFL unions.

New basic wage rates are \$172.50 for able seamen, and \$177.50 for firemen-watertenders. In addition, these men, who stand watch and work a 56-hour week at sea, collect eight hours overtime pay for Sunday watches, in line with the 48-hour work week won last June 15 by the CIO unions.

A standard scale of wages was the inevitable outcome of this strike that started Sept. 5. First, the AFL Seafarers International Union and Sailors Union of the Pacific tied up every port in the country to force a reversal of the Wage Stabilization Board ruling against the new wage scale.

This first phase of the strike was quickly successful because of the complete support by the CIO maritime unions and the independent Marine Firemen. Truman's Wage Stabilization Board was "over-ruled" by Truman's Economic Stabilizer John R. Steelman, and the AFL phase of

Meat Profiteers Tighten Squeeze On The People

Families who have been almost without meat since Sept. 10, were told last week that the worst is yet to come. Butcher shops are bare throughout the country; even cold-cuts are a rarity. But on Sept. 19, Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson announced that the situation "would be much worse by the second quarter of 1947."

and the CIO unions. The AFL request was agreed to by the striking CIO unions. In this manner the second phase of the strike was weakened, and the arrogant West Coast operators, seeing the possibility of a jurisdictional rift, held out for an extra week before bowing to the unions and submitting to the principle of equal pay.

The manner in which the CIO and AFL unions cooperated during this strike, despite previous bitter jurisdictional feuding, represents a long step toward future joint action in further struggles. The winning of wage parity has eliminated one basis for some of the past jurisdictional strife.

JAPANESE LABOR VICTORIOUS IN GREAT STRIKE STRUGGLE

The victory of the striking Japanese seamen over the puppet government last week was a triumph for the entire Japanese labor movement. The 10-day-old strike, involving more than 100,000 workers, was settled on Sept. 20, only after the seamen won all of their major demands.

PITTSBURGH UNION LEADER JAILED

PITTSBURGH, Sept. 24—George L. Mueller, President of the Association of Duquesne Light Employees, was today sentenced to one year in jail by three judges. This action climaxed an all-day hearing on a temporary injunction attempting to prohibit a strike involving 3,500 power workers.

Ouster Symbolizes Wall Street Intention To Hasten Atomic Bomb Attack On USSR

By George Breitman

The dismissal of Henry A. Wallace from the Truman Cabinet is of great political significance for every worker in this country. This act means: 1. That Wall Street and the government openly proclaim their undivided support of a tough policy toward the USSR that is, a program of war in the not-distant future. 2. That the Truman administration is preparing for tougher measures against the labor movement at home.

Bring Back Home All U. S. Troops, Says Flint CIO

(Special to The Militant)

FLINT, Mich., Sept. 20 — Immediate withdrawal of all occupation troops was demanded by the Greater Flint Industrial Union Council, CIO, at its last meeting.

The Council lashed American imperialism for preparing a Third World War. It denounced profiteers who "reaped huge profits while American workers and worker-soldiers made untold sacrifices."

The resolution charged that "an unholy alliance of financial interests and politicians are using atomic energy to prepare for World War III." America "is spending 18 billion dollars for war while refusing to spend two billions for homes for veterans."

Furthermore, "although American workers have no interest in fighting a new war to obtain oil in Iran, China and Europe for the oil interests," the Council pointed out, "the American government is establishing war bases in all parts of the world."

In view of this, the Council urged on record "in favor of the Big 4 powers withdrawing all troops from occupied countries," and "requested the President and the Congress to immediately withdraw our occupation troops."

Rubbers Workers Face Key Issues At Convention

By Anne Chester

(Special to The Militant)

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 19.—The first three days of the CIO United Rubber Workers Eleventh Annual Convention, which began here on Sept. 16, saw no debate as yet on the key policy questions before the more than 300 delegates—wage demands and political action.

The decisive tests of the contending groups in the convention are yet to come. One group is headed by the Stalinists and conservative top leadership. The other is led by the militants of the large Akron locals.

In resolutions submitted for consideration of the convention, several Akron locals have proposed the inclusion in all URWA contracts of an automatically rising wage scale to meet rising living costs. Akron progressives are also taking the lead in advocating the formation of an Independent Labor Party.

Following a debate led by delegates of Akron Firestone Local 7, the convention rejected on a roll-call vote the proposal for a \$2 a month dues. The convention voted for dues of \$1.50 to be divided 80 cents to the locals and 70 cents to the International.

The election of international officers took place without much fanfare. The old leadership was re-elected. President L. S. Buckmaster was re-elected without opposition. An expected sharp contest between incumbent Vice-President H. L. Lloyd, who is associated with the Stalinists, and George Bass, president of militant Akron Goodrich Local 5, did not materialize. Bass made no aggressive campaign for office. The vote stood 741 for Lloyd; 365 for Bass; and 175 for Field Representative Wisdom of Local 58.

An atmosphere of watchful waiting pervaded the first days' sessions in expectations of the coming battle over wage and political policies.

Full report next week.

An Itching Atomic Trigger-Finger

How eager the Brass Hats are to get going on the war projected by Wall Street against the Soviet Union is indicated by a statement of Admiral William H. Standley, U. S. wartime ambassador to the Soviet Union.

In a speech Sept. 24 before the Military Order of the World Wars in Southern California, he declared:

"Secretary Wallace has not only been guilty of disloyalty to the President and the nation, but he has given aid and comfort to a virtual enemy, an offense for which, in time of war, he could be shot."

New Deal mantle, was counted on to swing labor votes to the Democratic Party.

Nevertheless, when Truman was placed in a position where he had to back up Wall Street's get-tough tactic, he acted decisively, even if it meant yielding up an important section of the labor vote. The Truman administration places the interests of American capitalism as a whole above even the immediate needs of the Democratic Party. Better to take the risk of losing an election, Truman figured, than to jeopardize the war program.

The break with Wallace has its own logic on the home front. A government which is planning war has to prepare to crack down on the masses if it is to regiment them for the war machine. The administration has been moving cautiously to the right—but in stages, because of election needs. Having been driven to a break with Wallace and his faction in the ruling class sooner than anticipated, the Truman Administration's course from now on will tend steadily and faster to the right.

The Wallace dismissal is thus a warning to the labor movement that Wall Street's war program is not a long-term program, but one that can change the country into war in short order. In the light of this grim reality, it is imperative for the organized labor movement to immediately launch the struggle against imperialist war and against the anti-labor measures that come with a war program.

See other articles on page 8.

Truck Strikers In New York Split Owners' Front In Two

NEW YORK, Sept. 23.—The striking truckdrivers here split apart the truckowner's front on September 18, and won signed contracts granting substantial gains to almost half the 15,000 who walked out on September 1. They set the pattern for the rest of the truckdrivers still on strike.

The strike, called by Locals 807, 282 and 816, AFL Teamsters, was partially settled only after 4,715 truckdrivers won contracts from 456 trucking companies. The new contracts give them \$7.40 more pay for a 40-hour week than they had previously received for a 44-hour week, as well as other benefits. The hourly increase is 31 cents. By September 21, some 1,061 truckowners had signed up.

The rank and file truckdrivers had rejected Democratic Mayor O'Dwyer's compromise proposal of an 18½-cent an hour raise. His phony proposal would have robbed the workers of \$260 a year in wages, which they have now won through their own militant struggle.

The new contracts provide average increases of \$2.50 a day. The last wage increase the truckdrivers received, in 1944, amounted to only \$2.50 a week.

Just before the settlement, the strike spread to 3,000 truckdrivers of Local 804, United Parcels Service, who sought full pay up to three days for work lost

