

## What Happened to The Building Boom?

—See Page 4—

# Paris Conference On Marshall Plan Promotes War Aims

## Push For Western Bloc Breaks Up Secret Parley

By Joseph Hansen

The break-up of the Paris conference of the Foreign Ministers of Britain, France and the Soviet Union July 3 marked another step in the formation of the Western Bloc and the alignment of camps for World War III.

In the reactionary tradition of imperialist diplomacy, the parley was held behind closed doors. The official hand-outs to the press gave little indication of the real issues at stake and revealed nothing of the off-the-record haggle where these power politicians made their genuine bids and offers.

In addition to this secrecy, the subject under discussion—the Marshall Plan—has likewise been kept wrapped in enigmatic vagueness. The capitalist newspapers assure their readers that the Marshall Plan is a most generous philanthropic offer to spend tens of billions of dollars to revive European economy and save the famine-stricken victims of the war from further horrors.

### CAREFULLY CONCEALED

But the specific details of this plan have been carefully kept out of sight like the explosive part of a booby trap. Thus what Bevin, Bidault and Molotov really discussed cannot easily be determined.

Enough information is available, however, to characterize the Marshall Plan. It is reactionary to the core. Just as the loans to the Greek monarchy and Turkish dictatorship implemented the Truman Doctrine in the militarily strategic area of the Dardanelles, so the Marshall Plan implements that same doctrine in Europe as a whole.

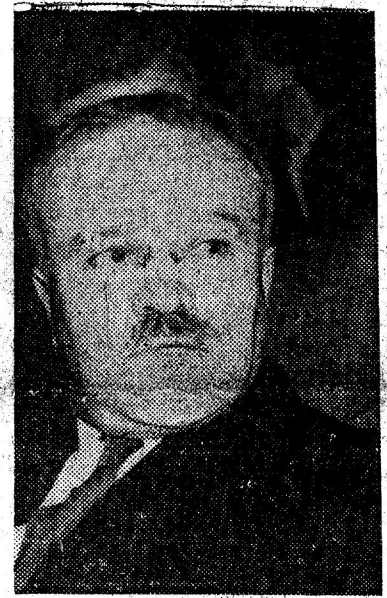
Its first aim is to mobilize American dollars against the trend of the European masses toward socialism. One of the general objectives of the Truman Doctrine was to "contain communism." The Marshall Plan is designed to advance this general

objective in a specific way. This was fully confirmed by an important editorial in the June 22 London Observer, which clearly reflects the British government's views on the Marshall Plan: "People will not resign themselves quietly to starvation. Economic collapse in Europe would, therefore, lead to political upheavals of incalculable magnitude."

### THE BIG AIM

The second big aim of the Marshall Plan is to attempt to stave off the depression in America by pumping dollars into Europe with American goods can continue to be

(Continued on Page 3)



MOLOTOV

# Trotskyists In Bolivia Face Hertzog Terror

The Hertzog government is trying to stamp out Trotskyism in Bolivia, according to news just received by *The Militant*. *Lucha Obrera* (Workers' Struggle), organ of the Partido Obrero Revolucionario (Revolutionary Workers Party), has been suppressed. Police have broken into the homes of leading members of the party. A number of Trotskyists have been thrown in jail.

Nelson Capelino, a leader of the POR at Oruro, was clubbed by the police and his house wrecked.

Miguel Alandia Pantoja, another leading Trotskyist, was singled out for attack. He is famed among the miners for his exposure of the demagoguery of Mendizabal, a government Minister, at the Colquiri Miners' Congress.

The persecution of the Trotskyists is part of a systematic campaign of terror against the Bolivian masses. The Trotskyists only have been marked as the most militant and class-conscious political leaders of the Bolivian working class.

The Trotskyists were not caught unawares. The Hertzog regime, which took office last January, set out on a most ominous course within the first few weeks. On January 28 some 150 miners were massacred at Potosi when a demonstration was staged to protest the arrest of various labor figures.

Three days later the Central Committee of the POR declared that the Potosi officials and the Ministry of the Interior were seeking "to create a favorable atmosphere for initiating systematic repression of the POR."

Since then, the government campaign against the masses has continued. Leaders of the field laborers have been beaten savagely by the police and deported to remote areas.

The terror waged by the Hertzog regime is an indication of the alarm of the big tin interests over the swift spread of Trotskyism since the rebellion last July that overthrew the Villarejo government. The Trotskyist program has gained great popularity especially among the men who slave in the tin mines. They have included such items as the sliding scale of wages in their union de-

## No Hope Offered Ruined Europe In Kremlin Line

By John G. Wright

The Kremlin sent Molotov with an entourage of 89 specialists to participate in the Paris meeting. The reasons for this step were not disclosed publicly but they are nevertheless apparent.

Stalin is anxious and ready to strike another bargain with Washington. He seeks with might and main to keep the avenue of agreement open. By participating in the Paris meeting, he once again reiterated his willingness to work hand in glove with the American plutocrats, provided they pay a satisfactory price for his services.

Wall Street, for its part no longer places the same premium as in the past on the Kremlin's services. Moscow has to offer only two items of first-rate interest to the power-grunk American overlords: (1) continued aid in putting down the European revolution and (2) opening up the Soviet Union to American capitalism.

The Kremlin bureaucracy is vitally interested in combatting and preventing the socialist revolution, whose mortal enemy they are. Aware of this, Wall Street is able to coolly calculate that if and when the need again arises to curb the European masses, the Kremlin will render its services gratis, just as it did in the days of Hitler's rise to power and all the years following.

Moreover, the Stalinist influence over the European masses is clearly on the wane, as evidenced by the recent strike struggles in France which tended to sweep over the heads of the native Stalinist bureaucrats.

In any case, at the present juncture Wall Street is far more interested in building up counter-revolutionary forces under its own immediate control.

As for opening up the USSR to American imperialism, Wall Street is banking here more and more not on voluntary agreement but on what it can extort through the unrestricted exercise of its overwhelming preponderance, up to and including the resort to military force. This was underscored by Molotov's departure empty-handed from the Paris conference.

Failing a deal, it was obviously the Kremlin's intention to discredit the conference to which its own presence had lent added weight. In this respect too, the Kremlin found itself completely at a disadvantage.

The grounds on which Molotov rejected the Marshall Plan are not a whit less reactionary than the proposals submitted by the "planners" of Wall Street.

American imperialism has don-

(Continued on Page 3)

# MINE VICTORY SPURS FIGHT ON SLAVE LAW

"This Is Protection—See!"



## Mass Resistance Grows Against 15% Rent Gouge

As greedy landlords pressed their organized drive to intimidate tenants into signing "voluntary" leases for 15% rent boosts, mass resistance of tenants, largely spontaneous, began to erect a road block in the path of the rent-gougers.

In major cities from coast to coast tenant groups, many newly formed, urged renters not to submit to the pressure of the real estate interests and to refuse to sign leases for higher hand-outs to the rent-sharks.

In some states, like New York, where state rent control laws go into effect for another three months after the end of federal rent control next March 1, tenants generally are bucking the 15% demands of the landlords.

Landlord pressure is effective in most states where there are no state rent-control laws and where eviction proceedings can be stayed only a maximum of 30 days since elimination of the 6-month federal eviction stay with the new Rent Hike Act.

As many as 5,000 tenants a day were besieging the Chicago office

of Rent Control last week, complaining of landlord threats to initiate eviction proceedings if they did not sign up for the "voluntary" 15% rent-steal. The Chicago Real Estate Board threatened "arbitrary increases" after March 1 if tenants did not accept the 15% boost now.

Detroit tenants, mainly CIO auto workers, face the threat of 4,000 evictions weekly. In New York City, with 2,000,000 of the country's 15,000,000 residential tenants, rent officials predicted "that municipal courts here soon would be flooded with eviction cases." (N. Y. Times, July 2.)

250,000 New York City residents in apartment-hotels and rooming houses were confronted with threat of mass eviction or the immediate payment of rent increases ranging from 15 to 150%, the average demand being 48%.

Faced with a mighty clamor from these tenants as well as hundreds of thousands of others, the New York City Council was forced this week to pass a local ordinance freezing rents for permanent residents in federally-decontrolled hotels and rooming houses. The measure, however, sets up a commission empowered to raise individual rents where "equity" requires it.

THE BIG GOUGE

The big gouge, where the 15% racket fails to work, will be the area rent-control commissions. These are empowered to approve complete rent decontrol, general rent boosts or "hardship" increases in their areas. These commissions are named by the reactionary state governors, generally tied in with realty interests. It is expected that these boards will be packed with friends of the landlords.

The AFL and CIO are urging their affiliates to demand a majority of labor and tenant representatives on these boards.

DEMANDING PROTECTION

In most areas, tenant groups and labor organizations are demanding state and local laws to protect tenants. These include rent-freeze laws without loopholes, moratoriums on evictions and heavy penalties on landlords who try to coerce tenants into paying higher rents in violation of existing laws.

The New York CIO and American Labor Party are demanding a local rent-freeze ordinance. The Philadelphia CIO has demanded that the city administration declare a six-month moratorium on all evictions.

One of the major developments in the fight against rent-gouging and mass evictions is the decision of the recent convention of the Na-

## Unions Bar No-Strike Pacts, NLRB Procedure

By Art Preis

America's soft coal miners have again set an example of militant struggle for all labor and have chalked up their greatest wage victory in the face of the new Taft-Hartley Slave Labor Law.

Refusing to be intimidated by this infamous law, the miners showed their readiness to close down the pits by their preliminary 10-day strike prior to July 1. A full-scale walk-out was averted on July 8 only when the leading coal magnates capitulated to the full wage demands of the AFL United Mine Workers.

This victory will hearten and encourage organized labor generally and will inspire the workers everywhere to stiffer resistance to the anti-union law.

Of special significance is the contract clause wrested from the operators to protect the UMW from employers' damage suits for alleged violation of contracts, particularly in case of strikes. This clause, designed to sidestep certain restrictions of the Taft-Hartley Act, provides that the contract is operative only "during such time as such persons (employees) are able and willing to work."

SET A PATTERN

The miners' contract is the first implementation of the latest moves of the AFL and CIO to by-pass some of the worst features of the Slave Labor Law. This "willing and able" clause will undoubtedly set a pattern for contract demands by other unions.

Both the AFL and CIO last week announced their opposition to the future inclusion of "no - strike" clauses in union contracts and are advising against use of the new NLRB machinery in negotiations or disputes.

This is a sharp reversal of policy forced on the union leaders by the threat of the Slave Labor Law. Previously the union leaders had encouraged no-strike clauses and had urged the workers to place heavy dependence upon such capitalist government agencies as the NLRB.

The legal department of the AFL in its official Bulletin No. 1 on the Taft-Hartley Act last week advised all international and local

### What Miners Won By Their Militancy

Remember how the miners were denounced during the war for their great strikes to defend their conditions? Remember the scurrilous propaganda campaigns of the boss press and radio?

The following table shows what the determination and militancy of the miners have won in wages since 1933:

Year	Average Weekly Wage
1933	\$14.17
1934	22.48
1935	23.86
1936	30.65
1937	41.87
1938	52.25
1939	59.83
1940	65.25

affiliates not to sign "no-strike" pacts as a means of avoiding breach-of-contract suits.

Similarly, the Executive Board of the CIO United Steelworkers, headed by Philip Murray, has barred all future no-strike contracts because the union "will not commit itself to no-strike obligations enforceable by harassing law suits."

The Steelworkers board also announced that it "has determined not to use the facilities of the new labor board." The USWA body stated it would be "deluding" its own members "if it holds any hope that use of the facilities of the new labor board would provide any protection for workers seeking to organize unions and exercise their rights to engage in collective bargaining."

The CIO United Electrical Workers urged a boycott of the NLRB because "nothing but injury can result to the interests of the membership of any union that takes a seat in this crooked game, where the rules are rigged and the dice are loaded against them."

All other CIO unions are expected

(Continued on Page 2)

## Clean The Rascals Out

An Editorial

"We are going to organize politically to defeat every member of Congress who voted for this law (Taft-Hartley Act)," said AFL President William Green. The CIO will "work unceasingly in the political field," said CIO President Philip Murray, "to ensure the political repudiation of those reactionaries who are responsible for the Taft-Hartley Bill."

Every American worker and unionist will say "Amen!" to these sentiments.

But how is this crucial task to be done? The union leaders answer with the same fallacious and treacherous program they have traditionally espoused: Put some more Democrats and Republicans in office to replace the discredited representatives of the two Wall Street parties.

We have seen this policy in practice over the decades. We have observed its results from one election to the next.

After the Republican debacle in the early thirties, the union leaders turned to the Democrats and their promises of a "New Deal." This "New Deal" wound up in a few years with imperialist war, the wartime crippling of labor's rights, high prices, staggering taxes, government strike-breaking and the threat of a new depression and war.

Only a year ago the union leaders were calling the Democratic-controlled 79th Congress the "most reactionary in decades." Murray complained that Congress, under Democratic domination, had not passed "a single piece of progressive legislation in nine years."

Yet he and the other union tops called for the election of "friends of labor" who in seven months were voting for the Slave Labor Law.

What will the workers gain if they kick out last year's capitalistic "friends of labor" and vote for a new gang of Democrats and Republicans? We don't need to guess. Look at the record of Congress over the years. Look at the Taft-Hartley Act passed by a majority of BOTH capitalist parties.

There's only one way to clean the Wall Street rascals out of government and that's by replacing them with men and women labor can really trust—tried and tested union people. But for that we need a labor party, based on the unions and fighting for a workingman's program all the way through.

When Murray now says "I am not thinking in terms of a third party," and Green repeats the empty formula "Reward your friends and punish your enemies," they are only advocating a continuation of Wall Street's political monopoly exercised through its two-party system.

This system must be smashed. The way to begin is by convening a National United Labor Conference to launch the labor party before 1948. Start right in on your own home town by building local labor parties and running a local labor slate in the next election.

Break down the top union leaders' inertia and resistance. Proclaim from every union floor and meeting the slogans of the hour: A Labor Slate in '48! Put Labor in the White House! No one in Congress not controlled by Labor!

# CP Invents 'Plot' To Swing NMU Votes

Hardly a week goes by that the Stalinist Daily Worker doesn't explode some gigantic "conspiracy" against the Communist Party by "right and left opportunists, Trotskyists, Socialists, Social Democrats, etc."

In three consecutive issues, July 7, 8 and 9, the Daily Worker uncovers a diabolical plot by expelled members of the CP in the CIO National Maritime Union to rid the union of Stalinist control.

Employing the classic tabloid technique, the very first sentence of the most recent chiller-diller is calculated to send shivers tingling up and down the spine of every glibbly Stalinist. "The Daily Worker today reveals the story of a conspiracy," screams labor editor George Morris, "by a group of turncoats expelled from the Communist Party to turn the CIO National Maritime Union (NMU) into a base for attacks upon the Party."

A special free distribution of the issues containing the series was made to NMU members. Stalinist hawkers shouted the scare headlines. But a careful reading of the series failed to disclose what all the shouting was about.

### DOCUMENTS ON SALE

The "secret documents" quoted by Morris have been circulated openly and publicly to all who were interested. In fact, one of the "documents" was on sale at the NMU bookstand. They had been in existence for many months. There was nothing "secret" or "conspiratorial" about them. Why then this fiction of "plots" and "conspiracies?"

It happens that there is in progress at the moment in the NMU a special election for vice-president to fill the vacancy created by the

removal of Joseph Stack. Stack, chief Stalinist spokesman in the union, was ousted by the membership on charges brought by President Joseph Curran of being a liar and slanderer. The stake in this election is control of the National Office of the NMU.

The Curran group is running Charles Keith to fill the vacancy. There are six national officers who function between meetings of the National Council as the executive body of the union. The present division is three for the Curran group and two for the Stalinists. The election of Keith would give the Curran group a four to two majority. His defeat would deadlock the National Office at three and three with the final decision left to the National Council which the Stalinists control.

### TYPICAL BUILDUP

With control of the union at stake, the election campaign is bitterly contested. The Stalinist candidate, Chester Young, is a questionable character with an obscure record in the union. He first came into prominence as chairman of the trial committee which tried to whitewash Stack but was over-ruled by the membership. He is now being re-

warded for services rendered and is being given the typical buildup by the Stalinist machine.

Not having anything very favorable to say about their own candidate, the Stalinists have launched a vicious smear campaign in an effort to discredit Keith. Until his expulsion for "left opportunism," Keith was a recognized leader of the CP. Along with William Dunne, Sam Darcy, Verne Smith and a score of others, Keith was expelled for opposing the more flagrant sell-out policies of the American Communist Party. While they broke with the American CP, they remain loyal to the Stalinist gang in the Kremlin and in other countries.

To prove their "loyalty" they have gone out of their way to attack the Trotskyists, exaggerating and embellishing the anti-Trotskyist slander of the official Stalinist frame-up machine. This hasn't brought them the immunity they hoped to achieve. On the contrary, they have been made the object of the frame-up method perfected by the Stalinist hatchmen.

The recent "expose" in the Daily Worker is only a forerunner of what the Stalinists have in store for the "loyal" opposition in the NMU. They will learn through bitter experience that those who keep one foot in the Stalinist camp cannot carry on an effective struggle to rid the labor movement of this cancerous growth.

### Coal Co. Penalized \$1000 for 111 Dead

Because of the failure of profit-greedy coal operators to take care of the most elementary safety precautions, 111 miners died last March in the Illinois Centralia coal mine explosion.

The evidence of the coal company's "willful negligence" was so overwhelming that rather than have this evidence aired in the court-room, the company pleaded nolo contendere (no contest).

In addition to this device the coal operators threw themselves upon "the mercy of the court." The court was obviously inclined in this case to season its justice with mercy. It sentenced these murderers for profit to pay a fine of \$1,000, or some 9 odd dollars per each dead miner. What could be more "merciful?" But is this justice? Of course, it is. It is class justice, the only kind of justice the judges know and dispense under the rule of Wall Street.

### Mine Agreement



President John L. Lewis of the AFL United Mine Workers, Vice-President John O'Leary and U.S. Labor Conciliator James Dewey leave union headquarters after agreement had been reached with northern coal operators and representatives of the steel companies "captive mines." The pact was immediately ratified by the union policy committee.



Impersonating Barbara Hutton, Woolworth waitress, and a couple of her cohorts, members of Local 65, CIO Wholesale & Warehouse Workers, "picked" their union's picketline with signs reading: "My Counts Only Get \$100,000 A Year, I Can't Afford A Raise For These Workers." The demonstration took place after the company had refused to offer any wage boosts and demanded abolition of the closed shop. Right after the protest, Woolworth offered a \$2 weekly wage increase.

# Miners Victory Spurs Fight Against Slave Law

(Continued from Page 1) to take a similar stand.

### STEP FORWARD

The new policy with respect to no-strike pacts and dependence on government labor boards is a welcome step forward, although it was forced on the top union leaders solely by fear of the effects of the new law rather than by their understanding of the harm of such policies in themselves. No-strike pacts have usually been incorporated into contracts by conservative union leaders in collusion with employers to "discipline" militant workers and local unions that went on so-called "wild-cat" strikes.

Each new move to side-step or deftly various sections of the Taft-Hartley Act is useful and necessary. No stone must be left unturned in combatting the application of any and every feature of the Act.

But there must be no illusion in the workers' minds about the effectiveness of the steps so far taken by the union leaders. Neither the "willing and able" clause of the miners' contract, nor the rejection of no-strike pacts and the boycott of the NLRB, will serve to nullify the main provisions of the Slave Labor Law.

Under this law, the government has all the legal powers necessary to intervene against any strike under the pretext of "national interest" and to smash the strike with injunctions and criminal penalties.

Under this law, the employers are free to attack and undermine unions through open-shop methods, with the backing of the government. Right now, the political sponsors of the bill and the employers are putting on a propaganda campaign in an effort to lull labor into a false sense of security regarding the new law. They are pointing to the miners' contract and the fact that no penalties have been imposed against the mine strikers as proof that "this is no slave labor law."

Some union leaders are contributing to this deception by encouraging the belief that the latest moves to side-step some features of the law and plans for court contests will suffice to protect the workers. This is nourishing a very dangerous illusion. This law is loaded with dynamite that the employers and their government are prepared to explode in labor's face when they think it most opportune and effective.

### Wallace Program Analyzed at Detroit Meeting

DETROIT, July 5—The Detroit Local of the Socialist Workers Party held a public meeting on the role of Henry Wallace last Sunday at the Party Headquarters, 6108 Linwood. The speaker was Mike Bartell, organizer and Mayor-alty candidate of the Chicago Local. Seventy-five workers attended the meeting, despite the handicap of a drenching downpour in the middle of the afternoon. Bartell made a careful analysis of Wallace and his middle-class platform, demonstrating that his program did not deserve the confidence of organized labor because Wallace banked on "enlightened businessmen" and the continuation of capitalism. He stirred the audience with a vivid picture of what a tremendous response a movement for a fighting Labor Party would call forth in the United States, particularly since the passage of the Taft-Hartley Slave Labor Law. Chairman Esther Turner made an appeal for financial aid to support party activities, and the audience responded generously. A spirited discussion period followed. The dominant keynote here was confidence in the forward march of American labor, particularly as expressed by a pioneer Ford unionist. The meeting concluded with refreshments and an opportunity to get better acquainted.

Pass This Copy Of THE MILITANT To Your Neighbor

# SOCIAL DEMOCRATS WHITEWASH TRUMAN, OPPOSE NEW PARTY

The growing Labor Party sentiment, which is one of the by-products of the Taft-Hartley Act, has frightened not only the capitalist party politicians but also that section of the labor bureaucracy which is trying to keep the workers tied to the Democratic Party.

Among the most vociferous opponents of a new party based on the labor movement are the Social Democrats, whose paper, The New Leader, generally reflects the thinking of such top labor lieutenants of capitalism as Reuther and Dubinsky.

The leading editorial in the June 28 issue of the New Leader (five days after the passage of the Taft-Hartley Act) is devoted to an attack not on the Slave Labor Act, such as some naive workers might expect from a self-styled labor paper, but on "the present frantic agitation for a new party."

At a moment when every serious union member is deeply concerned about the sinister threat which the new bi-partisan anti-labor law presents to the workers, the editors of The New Leader found it timely to declare: "This whole movement (for a new party) is a sinister threat to the progressive forces of this country."

Communists. . . (The Stalinists, of course, are the real villains of this strictly fictional drama.)

What would happen if a new party is in the field in 1948? It "would introduce confusion and re-orientation within the progressive political ranks," wails the editorial. "Republican victory would be the inevitable result. The men who fashioned the Taft-Hartley bill would be in charge for four years. It would be a defeat for labor. This, of course, is just what the Communists want. . . The responsible leaders of the AFL and CIO can prevent it now if they assert themselves with sufficient energy."

DOESN'T COUNT In short, Saint Harry and his ward-healers must be re-elected in 1948 at all costs! When a majority of Republicans vote for the Taft-Hartley Act, that's bad; but when a majority of Democrats does the same thing, that doesn't count, because they are only trying to push things forward. Bear in mind that while the Republicans want to push the workers backward, Truman wants to push them forward — forward into the Army as he demanded during last year's rail strike — or

forward into bankruptcy through court injunctions and fines, as he showed during last year's mine strike.

And if any workers get the notion they should form their own party to fight the twin political servants of Wall Street, why they are nothing but dirty communist go-and-so's on whom Green and Murray should crack down "with sufficient energy."

The above political scabbard sounds particularly crude and nauseating, coming so soon after the Democrats helped the Republicans to enact the Slave Labor Law. Yet precisely this line is what the labor misleaders are preparing to try to sell the workers just a year from now.

Meanwhile the Stalinists, whom the Social Democrats are trying to discredit in this way, are being built up in the eyes of militant workers as favoring a new party when actually they have been sabotaging the labor party movement all along.

### SPREAD ILLUSION

Occasionally, it is true, the Stalinists pay lip-service to the need for a new party. But in practice they are steadfastly opposed to breaking with the capitalist parties. They not only voted for Truman in 1944 (like the Social Democrats) but also supported most of the Democratic candidates just last year, including many who voted for the Taft-Hartley Act (again like the Social Democrats). And even today they keep spreading the illusion that the Democratic Party can be reformed.

This was shown most recently when the New York Post, which is strongly influenced by the Social Democrats, followed it in denouncing any third party movement as a communist plot to create chaos by enabling the Republicans to win the 1948 elections.

The Post was "answered" by the Stalinist hack, Max Gordon, in the July 7 Daily Worker. It wasn't an easy assignment because the Stalinists for several years have been teaching their members and supporters that they had to vote for the Democrats or else the Republicans would win. But Gordon does the best he can under the circumstances:

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# TRADE UNION NOTES

By Art Preis

Almost every union publication in the country, local and national, has openly defied the provisions of the Taft-Hartley Slave Labor Act that prohibit political free speech to union-financed papers. Numerous union organs have published the voting records of all Congressmen on the Slave Labor Bill and called for defeat of those who supported it. Most of the labor press, however, put the heat on the Republicans, but failed to report the biggest political fact of all: That nearly 60% of the Democrats in Congress also voted against Truman's veto.

The most frequently used phrase in union papers characterizing the Taft-Hartley Act is "the first big step down the road to Fascism."

It is strange to read in the July 1 United Mine Workers Journal a bitter attack on the Republicans in Congress and "20 renegade Democrats" in the Senate. It is doubly strange to read praise of Truman—the man who led the government anti-labor drive in 1946 and initiated the strike-breaking injunction against the miners last November. John L. Lewis correctly scored the anti-labor role of the Democrats seven years ago, but his advice then was for the workers to support the openly reactionary Republicans Party. Now the actions of the Republican-controlled Congress have made support of the Republicans a risky business for union leaders. So Lewis is butting up the Democratic administration once more. For all his aggressiveness on the economic field, Lewis is just as bankrupt as the other union leaders on the political field.

Since passage of the Taft-Hartley Act there's a growing amount of favorable comment in local union papers about the need for a labor party. For instance, the Voice of Local 212, organ of the CIO United Auto Workers Brigs local in Detroit, states editorially:

"A 'National Confederation of Labor' convened in Washington within the next few weeks of representatives from every labor organization in existence, solely for the purpose of discussing joint action to defeat the attempts of the N.A.M. could conceivably result in political action on the scale that all unionists have dreamed of. It might be the way toward a THIRD PARTY with labor as the base and extend open arms to the farmers and the small business men to join with the workers of the country to take the National Association of Manufacturers out of Washington, D. C.!"

The Seafarers Log, organ of the AFL Seafarers International Union, says editorially in its June 27 issue: "Not only have strikes followed the passage of the bill, with a threat of more to come, but labor is looking piercingly at both political parties, and responsible labor leaders are talking seriously of a 'New Party,' controlled by labor and supporting only tried and true friends of the labor movement. . . . The men who produce the wealth of this country have too long been forced to exist on crumbs. Politicians have conspired to steal away the freedom of the working man, but there is a wind rising—a wind that threatens to blow the traitors out of office and out of public life."

The sentiments of the workers in the great Northwest about the Slave Labor Law were expressed by John M. Christenson, president of the Northwest Council of AFL Lumber and Sawmill Workers, a union with a very militant record. Christenson said: "The new law is unjust and contrary to the American tradition of democracy. We do not intend to let this law deprive us of strong organization or take away any of the conditions we have won. In my opinion, we should ignore the undemocratic restrictions and proceed as usual. We must maintain our union and our standards at all costs."

CIO National Maritime Union President Joseph Curran has appealed to all waterfront unions to attend a special joint maritime conference in New York on July 14, with but one point on the agenda: "Program to Defeat the Taft-Hartley Act."

### Our Program:

- Defend labor's standard of living!  
A sliding scale of wages — an escalator wage clause in all union contracts to provide automatic wage increases to meet the rising cost of living!  
Organize mass consumers committees for independent action against profiteering and price-gouging!  
Expropriate the food trusts! Operate them under workers control!
- Full employment and job security for all workers and veterans!  
For the 6-hour day, 30-hour week! A sliding scale of hours—reduce the hours of work with no reduction in pay to prevent layoffs and unemployment!  
Government operation of all idle plants under workers' control!  
Unemployment insurance equal to trade union wages for workers and veterans during the entire period of unemployment!
- Against all anti-labor laws and government strike-breaking!  
No restrictions on the right to strike and picket!  
No injunctions! No compulsory arbitration!
- Build an independent labor party!
- Tax the rich, not the poor!  
Repeat the payroll tax! No sales taxes!  
No taxes on incomes under \$5,000 a year!
- An 18 billion dollar appropriation for government low-rent housing!
- Full equality for Negroes and national minorities!  
End Jim Crow! End anti-Semitism!
- For a veterans' organization sponsored by the trade unions!
- A working class answer to capitalist militarism and war.  
Take the war-making powers away from Congress! Let the people vote on the question of war or peace!  
Against capitalist conscription!  
Abolish the officer caste system!  
Full democratic rights in the armed forces!  
Trade Union wages for the armed forces!  
Military training of workers, financed by the government, but under control of the trade unions!
- Solidarity with the revolutionary struggles of the workers in all lands!  
For the complete independence of the colonial peoples!  
Withdraw all American troops from foreign soil!
- For a Workers' and Farmers' Government!

*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)  
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 CITY \_\_\_\_\_  
 POSTAL ZONE \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_







