

Troops Will Aid Dictators In Greece, U. S. Threatens

— See Page 6 —

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Workers of the World, Unite!

THE MILITANT

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SWP Flays Truman Indonesian Policy

State Dept. Undertakes Defense Of U.S. Aid to Dutch Imperialists

Cannon Hits Evasions By Asst. Secretary Of State, Armour

NEW YORK, Aug. 13—James P. Cannon, National Secretary of the Socialist Workers Party, today released to the press his reply to Norman Armour, Assistant Secretary of State, who in a letter to the SWP had undertaken an official defense of the Truman administration's refusal to recall lend-lease equipment used by the Dutch imperialists in their total war against the Indonesian Republic.

Armour's letter of Aug. 6 was in answer to a protest, addressed to President Truman, that denounced U. S. aid to the Dutch rulers. In his letter, Armour officially acknowledges that the Dutch have actually used lend-lease material against the Indonesians and furthermore that the lend-lease agreement does provide for recapture of such material by the U. S. In view of these admissions, Cannon in his reply (see text below) emphatically repeats the demand that the Truman administration exercise its right of lend-lease re-

Editorial

"STATE DEPT. INDICTS ITSELF" — See Page 4 —

capture and thereby prevent further use of American tanks, artillery and planes to slaughter the fighters for Indonesian independence.

Truman's refusal to do so, Cannon points out, is a confirmation of the fact that the Atlantic Charter under which this lend-lease was extended is "just another scrap of paper no more seriously intended than innumerable other diplomatic pronouncements in wartime."

The conduct of the State Department in view of its "unilateral intervention" in Indonesian affairs, says Cannon, "This includes the huge loan of \$195,000,000 just granted the Netherlands government by the World Bank."

Most flagrant is the contrast between the Truman administration's vigorous actions to allegedly safeguard the "independence" of such autocratic governments as Greece and Turkey and its refusal to lift a finger in safeguarding the independence of the Indonesian Republic. No loans have been offered the Indonesians, and none are envisaged. "Why not," asks Cannon.

The State Department has been most sensitive to charges of imperialism, yet how else are its policies to be construed? "So long as the actions of the State Department continue to run directly counter to its public avowals, it will stand condemned in the judgment of the American people and of world public opinion," Cannon concludes.

TEXT OF PROTEST MADE BY SWP

July 24, 1947

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

According to official Dutch Army communiques as reported on July 22 from Batavia, Java, by the Associated Press, American munitions and planes—P-51 Mustangs and Mitchell reconnaissance planes as well as other fighter and bomber types — together with other U. S. military equipment are being employed to shoot down the Indonesian people who are fighting for their independence.

All this materiel was originally supplied to the Dutch government in the name of defending democracy against fascism. The Socialist Workers Party vigorously protests the use of this same materiel and equipment for the purposes of colonial enslavement.

We request that you, Mr. President, publicly demand of the Dutch authorities that they cease and desist from diverting American munitions, guns and planes to such evil ends against the Indonesian Republic, and further that you demand the immediate return of all this "lend-lease" materiel.

James P. Cannon
National Secretary
Socialist Workers Party

TEXT OF REPLY BY STATE DEPT.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

August 6, 1947

Mr. James P. Cannon, National Secretary,
Socialist Workers Party,
116 University Place,
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mr. Cannon: I have received by reference from the White House your telegram of July 24, 1947, addressed to the President, in which you protest the use of American planes and other American military equipment by the Netherlands forces in Indonesia and request the President to demand the immediate return of this lend-lease materiel.

Your assumption that this materiel was originally supplied to the Dutch to assist in the prosecution of the war is correct. It is equally true that the Lend-Lease Settlement Agreement between the United States and Netherlands Governments reserves the right to each government to recapture any arms, ammunition and implements of war supplied under lend-lease. However, the agreement also contains a provision to the effect that each government has indicated that it does not intend to exercise generally its right of recapture of such articles.

The attitude of the U. S. Government to the situation in Indonesia is and has been to render all proper assistance both to the Republic of Indonesia and the Netherlands Government to reach a settlement of the points at issue between them on the basis of the Linggadjati Agreement which was signed on March 25, 1947. This Government has on several occasions urged both sides to reach a negotiated settlement in a spirit of good faith and compromise, and on July 21, 1947 publicly expressed profound regret that negotiation had been discarded as the means of achieving the voluntary association between the Netherlands and Indonesian peoples contemplated by the Linggadjati Agreement.

As you are undoubtedly aware, the Netherlands-Indonesian matter has been brought to the attention of the Security Council by the Governments of Australia and India, and the Council has called on both parties to cease hostilities and settle their disputes by arbitration or other peaceful means. Also, the United States Government has offered its good offices with a view to assisting the Indonesians and the Netherlands Government to compose their differences. This offer is in line with this Government's firmly announced policy of promoting a peaceful and equitable solution of the problem on the basis of a voluntary agreement between both parties, and with the action of the Security Council.

Sincerely yours,
For the Secretary of State:
(Signed) NORMAN ARMOUR
Assistant Secretary

Detroit SWP Runs Lerner For Mayor

DETROIT, Aug. 13—Howard Lerner, chairman of the Detroit Socialist Workers Party, yesterday filed as mayoralty candidate in the coming municipal election. Lerner was formerly a member of the UAW Ford Local 600 Executive Board, a chief steward in UAW Local 208 and a delegate to the Wayne County CIO Council.

In a statement to the press, the SWP candidate declared that if the labor movement had fulfilled its obligation to run a labor slate, he and his party would not now be in the field. If labor would yet run an active unionist for Mayor, Lerner said he would gladly withdraw his candidacy.

"Above all," he stated, "recent history shows that those who are not from labor's ranks cannot be relied on to fight seriously against squalid housing conditions, rising prices, racial discrimination and anti-labor legislation."

"The need of the hour is independent political action by labor. The greatest stress of our campaign will be on the need for an independent labor party."

HITS THE NEEDY

Lerner struck sharply at taxation which hits the needy but not the greedy. The new three cents per pack cigarette tax and the three cents on the dollar food tax were singled out as the kind of taxes the SWP fights to repeal. "Place the burden where it belongs — on the rich," he said.

Action on the acute housing crisis is also required from the city administration. The shortage of homes, forcing 40% of the veterans to double up, is the direct responsibility of the real estate sharks and banks who rake in high rents and therefore oppose any effective action to improve the situation.

"Detroit must embark on a low-cost, low-rent housing program without delay," Lerner said. "Divert the money poured into war preparations! The city must house the homeless."

Lerner's statement also included a bitter attack on restrictive covenant provisions which serve to divide white and Negro workers and pit them against each other. Wiping out these provisions, he pointed out, is a necessary step in the united fight for decent homes for all.

Besides having a long and honorable record in the labor movement, Howard Lerner is an Army veteran. He served through six major campaigns and holds a silver and two bronze stars.

Truman Doctrine - Dutch Model



Could Rally 37 Million To Its Fold

A labor party, based on a unified trade union movement, could sweep the country. It could mobilize into its ranks a possible 37,000,000 members.

This is the frank admission of Daniel J. Tobin, president of the 900,000-member AFL Teamsters union, made Aug. 12 to the union's San Francisco convention.

His assertion carries all the more weight because Tobin is one of the most conservative union officials, a loyal servant of the Democratic Party and a bitter opponent of any third party movement. He boasted to the convention that he has fought the labor party idea for 41 years.

Tobin's statement is a striking confirmation, from the lips of a capitalist-minded labor leader, of what the Socialist Workers Party and union militants have claimed for many years. A labor party, based on the unions, would rally to its fold the greatest and most powerful political mass movement this country has ever known.

GROWING SENTIMENT

Such an admission from a union leader like Tobin, one of the most powerful figures in the AFL, reflects the enormous growth of rank-and-file labor sentiment for a party of their own to smash the two-party political monopoly of Wall Street and wipe out the Taft-Hartley Slave Labor Law.

If labor could build a party anywhere near the size envisaged by Tobin — and it can — it could roll up a greater national vote than any party has ever done before. It could wreck Wall Street's Democratic Party of big city bosses and Southern Bourbons overnight and overwhelm Wall Street's Republican Party of avowed capitalist reaction.

With such prospects and with the repeatedly demonstrated anti-labor character of both major parties, why is no labor party immediately launched? The responsibility for this indefensible failure lies squarely and entirely on the shoulders of the top trade union leaders, AFL and CIO.

They would rather cling to their utterly bankrupt policy of supporting the Democratic and Republican parties — a policy that has led directly to the era of the Slave Labor Law — than to lead labor to political power in Washington and smash the rule of the billionaires.

Let labor's ranks rise up in their wrath and repudiate such craven and treacherous leaders. The labor party must be built — NOW!

Clark Promises 'Probe' Of Price Conspirators

In a move to head off any new union wage drive inspired by rampaging prices, the Truman administration has made another gesture to convince the workers it is "doing something" to halt the soaring cost of living.

Attorney General Tom Clark announced on Aug. 12 that the Department of Justice will now "investigate" whether any "conspiracies" exist to maintain and raise present high prices in food, clothing and housing.

Truman pretends the cause of booming inflation is something unknown, requiring "study" and "investigation" before effective action can be taken. Then, if any "conspiracies" are detected by the Justice Department, it will get tough; it may even demand jail penalties.

But the conspirators are already known! And if the Justice Department meant business—which it

doesn't—it could double the prison population in 24 hours.

That's about all the time it should take to round up most of the government officials and Congressmen, the leaders of the Republican and Democratic parties, the officers and members of the National Association of Manufacturers, the owners and executives of all the big corporations and all the Wall Street financiers. To begin with, a nice little cell could be reserved for the U. S. Steel Trust.

WAR COSTS FIRST

First of all, the inflation is being fueled by the titanic war debt of nearly 260 billion dollars, the still-to-be-paid price of American imperialist participation in World War II and the hundred billion dollars of war loot grabbed by the big corporations. It is being accelerated by the Truman Doctrine and its nearly 40 billion dollar annual federal budget, mostly for preparation of the Third Imperialist World War.

This inflation is being monstrously aggravated by the insatiable profit lust of the capitalists, aided and abetted by their government and all its departments, agencies and branches. Corporation profits are now running at a rate four and a half times greater than in 1939 and 70% higher than in the peak war profits year of 1943.

Remember—in July, 1946, a Democratic Congress passed and Truman signed a price control bill giving a green light to the price-gougers. Truman followed up in September by lifting virtually all remaining price controls, and particularly on meat.

This year a bi-partisan Congress, with a Republican majority, has passed a whole series of special price-boosting measures, signed by Truman, such as the Rent Decontrol Bill, the Sugar Quota Bill, etc. Just two weeks ago, the steel trust boosted steel prices, with U. S. Steel charging \$5 to \$10 a ton more for steel than costs \$18 a ton less to produce than in 1946. General Motors has lifted its prices again—for cars that have the same insides as those of 1941. There is no mention of "investigating" these price thieves.

Clark admits, in his statement, that the "gravest threat" lies in the "increasing concentration of power in the hands of a small number of

giant corporations." But fifty years of talk about "trust-busting" by Democratic and Republican administrations alike has not changed the trend an iota, as Clark himself states.

Despite this latest "investigation," the workers can expect this capitalist government to do nothing but whitewash the profiteers, protect the monopolists and sabotage any effective action against the capitalist marauders.

Attention, Mr. Clark!

If Attorney General Clark means business about his "investigation" of high-price-fixing conspiracies, we can direct him to 46 centers of such criminal conspiracy, exclusive of the main center, Washington, D. C.

These are the capitals of the 46 states whose legislatures have passed laws prohibiting retailers from reducing certain prices! We refer to the so-called "Fair Practices" statutes that forbid, under penalty, the retail sale of certain commodities below prices fixed by manufacturers.

J. P. CANNON'S ANSWER TO ARMOUR

Norman Armour,
Assistant Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.
Dear Sir:

My telegram of July 24, 1947 requested President Truman to demand the immediate return by the Netherlands government of lend-lease equipment which is being employed in a war of conquest against the Indonesian people. Your reply of August 6, 1947 impels me to repeat this justifiable request.

In the name of the State Department you have acknowledged the following basic facts: (1) that Netherlands forces have actually employed, as they still do, lend-lease equipment against the Indonesian Republic; (2) that this equipment was originally supplied to the Dutch, under restrictive provisions, prohibiting its use in violation of the Atlantic Charter; and (3) that the lend-lease agreement provides, as you say, for the recapture of "any arms, ammunition and implements of war supplied under lend-lease."

These cannot be considered as mere "assumptions" on my part.

They are inescapable conclusions from both your own official assertions and the avowed policy of the State Department.

Yet your communication of August 6 cannot be construed otherwise than as a flat refusal by President Truman and the State Department to invoke the recapture provisions under lend-lease.

You base this refusal on the argument that these provisions are rendered inoperative by another clause in the agreement to the effect that the United States is pledged "not to exercise generally its right of recapture of such articles."

I cannot accept this argument. Involved here are not any "general" propositions, but a specific instance of a specific and glaring violation of the terms of lend-lease and the avowed aims of the Atlantic Charter under which it was extended.

If the recapture provisions do not apply in the case of this flagrant violation of the rights of the Indonesian people to independence, of their claims to freedom from colonialism and all other tyrannical



JAMES P. CANNON

rule, freedom from fear, and so on — then just when do these provisions apply?

Surely the State Department is not unaware that there is a growing body of public opinion that

views the Atlantic Charter and its oft-proclaimed lofty goals, as just another scrap of paper, no more seriously intended than innumerable other diplomatic pronouncements in wartime. The State Department's failure in the case of Indonesia to live up to its own solemn commitments further confirms this opinion.

Your assurances that the State Department is not standing aside with folded arms, but intervening actively in the Indonesian situation, are not enough. For this intervention is plainly unilateral — it gives aid and assistance not to the embattled Indonesian people but to the Dutch who seek by bayonet to reestablish their colonial rule there.

Only the other day the World Bank released a loan of \$195,000,000 to the Netherlands government. This action could hardly have been taken without the knowledge and tacit agreement of the State Department. The Indonesian people would surely be justified in viewing this loan as strengthening the hands of those who seek to enslave

them. I know of no plans whatever to extend any loans to the Indonesian Republic. Why not?

In the name of defending the "independence" of such notoriously despotic regimes as those in Greece and Turkey, neither the President nor the State Department hesitated long before asking Congress for hundreds of millions of dollars. By what logic are the Indonesian people, fighting to preserve their independence, excluded from all such aid, while substantial loans are being extended the Dutch?

This striking contrast, too, cannot fail to strengthen the mistrust in many circles, especially in the ranks of labor, of the government's foreign policy.

So long as the actions of the State Department continue to run directly counter to its public avowals, it will stand condemned in the judgment of the American people and of world public opinion.

Yours truly,
James P. Cannon,
National Secretary,
Socialist Workers Party

The Elemental Urge To Socialism

By J. R. Johnson

The Bolshevik Party is scientific socialism, conscious and organized. But like the unconscious, elemental drive of the workers, the structure, function and the discipline of the party are rooted in the nature of capitalist production itself.

Capitalist production as it develops, creates the most ruthless centralization of productive forces in order to discipline and exploit the constantly growing proletariat. But at the same time it socializes labor, brings more and more thousands of workers into one conscious collective cooperative process for the production of commodities. This collective, cooperative social process is proletarian. Bolshevism is its political expression.

In the early days of Bolshevism, one of its enemies hurled against Lenin the accusation that he wanted to build a party which would be nothing else but "an immense factory."

LENIN'S REPLY

Lenin replied that the very word this critic used betrayed the mentality of a petty-bourgeois intellectual "familiar with neither the theory nor the practice of proletarian organization." The factory is a form of capitalist cooperation. But it contains within it socialist cooperation as well. Continued Lenin:

"It is precisely Marxism as the ideology of the proletariat trained by capitalism, that has been teaching unstable intellectuals to distinguish between the factory as an instrument of exploitation (discipline based on the fear of starvation) and as a factor in organization (discipline based on collective work, united under conditions of technically highly developed production). The discipline and organization which it is so difficult for the bourgeois intellectual to acquire are easily acquired by the proletariat precisely because of the factory 'school' he goes through."

This is the theory of the Bolshevik Party. Like every serious aspect of Bolshevism, it is built upon

the positive, anti-individualistic, anti-capitalistic, the proletarian and therefore revolutionary aspects of capitalist production, which capitalism to live, must create, and by creating inexorably creates within itself its own grave-digger.

TWO KINDS

There is a capitalistic centralization of the means of production. It takes organized political form as fascism. There is a proletarian centralization which represents socialized labor. It takes organized political form as Bolshevism.

In that famous chapter, Chapter XXXII of Capital, Volume I, The Historical Tendency of Capitalist Accumulation, Marx writes that: Centralization of the means of production and socialization of labor at last reach a point where they become incompatible with their capitalist integument, i.e., the capitalist society which encloses them. The instinctive, elemental drive, the organic psychology of the workers is implanted there by the socialization of labor. The discipline and the centralization of the Bolshevik Party aim at giving this elemental drive its own politically organized, centralized character, based on cooperative collective work.

A proletarian, especially one trained and disciplined and educated by heavy industry, once he is attracted to Bolshevism, has no difficulty in grasping this, either in practice or in theory. Very different is the revolutionary intellectual.

Watch his conception of a proletarian party and you will see that it is the result of a middle-class reaction against the capitalistic aspect of the factory and a substitution for this of parliamentary-democratic conceptions, perpetual talking, perpetual reconsidering, individualistic anarchy. Lenin knew this type well. Listen to him analyzing one of them:

"He thinks of the Party organization as a monstrous 'factory' and of the subordination of the part to the whole and of the minority to the majority as 'serfdom'... division of labor under the leadership of a center evokes from him tragicomic cries about people being turned into 'wheels and screws' (the most outrageous form of the transformation is considered to be the conversion of an editor into a contributor)..."

Any theory of party building or party organization which is not

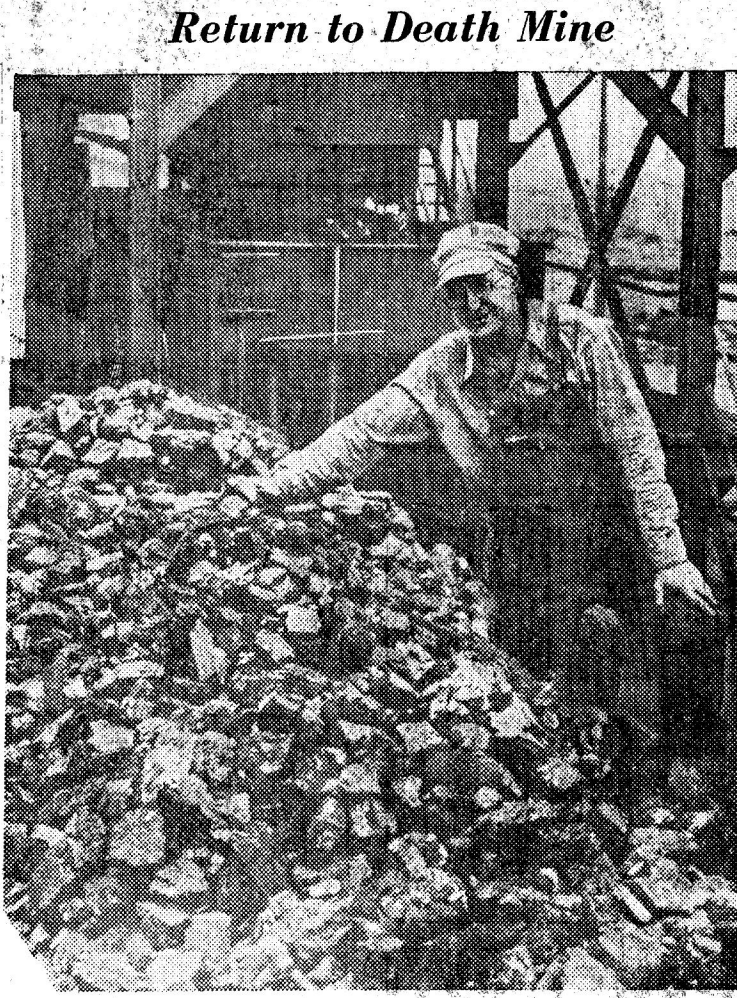
Scientific socialism is the conscious expression of the unconscious historical process; namely, the instinctive and elemental drive of the proletariat to reconstruct society on communist beginnings. These organic tendencies in the psychology of workers spring to life with utmost rapidity today in the epoch of crises and wars.

—Leon Trotsky, 1940

based on the needs and desires and the experiences of workers striving for socialism within the organization of capitalist production is a lot of nonsense and dangerous nonsense. It is only too often the sublimation of editors turned into contributors or contributors wanting to be editors, or editors who are dissatisfied with their contributions and don't know what to do about it.

Bolshevism, on the other hand, conscious of its roots, is constantly on the alert to examine and ponder over the slightest reactions of genuine proletarians to the concept of the party, the theory of the party, the experiences with the party, whether these reactions are favorable or not. These instinctive reactions to the party, sometimes badly expressed and often in bourgeois language, are of fundamental importance and revolutionary significance simply because they represent the unconscious historical process in contact with the conscious.

The fluent editorial gripings of literary revolutionaries represent an entirely different process. They represent always in the last analysis the inability of the conscious historical process to make any sort of contact, either theoretical or practical, with the developing movement of the proletariat.



A miner returns to the recently reopened pit at Centralia, Ill., where 111 died in an explosion due to the owners' greed and negligence. Survivors of the dead miners were mulcted by undertakers who moved in after the tragedy like vultures. (See story in adjoining column.)

Federated Picture

Greed Trails Mine Victims To Graves

One ghoulish aspect of the tragic Centralia, Ill., mine disaster that snuffed out 111 miners' lives, was brought to light in the Aug. 1 United Mine Workers Journal, in an article: "Funeral Costs of Centralia Victims Proves That Burying Dead Is 'Specialized Racket'."

The death of these miners because of the greed of the operators also "opened up a lucrative business for the undertakers." They took the surviving kin of the dead miners for funeral charges averaging \$732.78 per body. Only six of the ten burials cost less than \$500. 24 burials cost the victims' poor families more than \$900. The top fee was \$1,178.50.

The Journal charges that "unconscionable greed literally followed the victims to the grave and mulcted the surviving dependents of sizable sums from the Welfare Fund death gratuity and state compensation they received."

Comparable funeral services by a leading Washington, D. C., undertaking establishment is one half the fees charged the Centralia victims' families, the Journal reveals. It cites the testimony of W. W. Chambers, a millionaire Washington mortician, to demonstrate the profiteering from the grief-stricken, distracted Centralia families.

Chambers recently told a special Congressional sub-committee that the profiteering in burying the dead is "the most highly specialized racket in the world." He was consulted by the Journal and told the miners' paper that the typical Centralia funeral "should not have cost more than \$350 to \$400, or about half the actual average charge."

Labor costs of the funerals were almost zero. Hod Carriers Union members opened and closed the graves without charge.

6 Disappointed GIs Kill Selves

Eight American soldiers, while held in a Japanese Prison camp, formed a pact to commit suicide if they failed to find happiness after World War II. Six have already taken their own lives, Cornelius Vanderbilt, Jr., reported Aug. 14, according to the Associated Press. No. 6 was Vanderbilt's secretary.

TRADE UNION NOTES

By Art Preis

For the first time in seven years, AFL Teamster's Czar - President Daniel J. Tobin has called a convention of his union. It began August 11 in San Francisco. Tobin has a lot of head-aches; the ranks are seething with revolt against his machine-rule and strikebreaking policies. He has answered this revolt with wholesale expulsions, gangster terrorism and replacement of locally-elected officers by dictator-receivers in 40% of the locals.

In a letter to local unions urging them to send delegates to the convention, Tobin reminded them, "Our next convention may not be held in five years."

As a result of the Taft-Hartley Slave Labor Law and their realization of the need for labor unity, CIO and AFL steelworkers unions in the Buffalo, N. Y., area have signed a pact to outlaw jurisdictional disputes and have set up joint machinery to iron out any conflicts. The agreement, between CIO United Steelworkers District 4 and Local 576, AFL International Association of Bridge, Structural and Ornamental Iron Workers, covers 125 plants in Western New York.

The Glenn L. Martin Company has cancelled its contract with the CIO United Automobile Workers at the Baltimore Martin plant, largest single aircraft factory in the world. An NLRB collective bargaining election will be held Aug. 20, between the UAW and the independent International Association of Machinists. The company has fought unionism bitterly. It stated that "neither organization has the right" to represent the workers.

The seven-billion-dollar American Telephone and Telegraph Co. recently withdrew recognition of the American Union of Telephone Workers (long lines) after the AUTW joined the CIO. AT&T, which was forced to sign a contract after a seven-week strike in May, now claims the AUTW doesn't represent a majority and is demanding a new NLRB election under the Taft-Hartley Act. The telephone trust's action comes as a \$4.40 weekly pay increase, retroactive until May 9, is scheduled under the contract to begin Aug. 21.

The Aug. 1 Wage Earner, Detroit organ of the Association of Catholic Trade Unionists, writes with great glee about the Wayne County CIO Council, under Stalinist leadership, preparing to throw CIO support in the next election for anti-labor Mayor Jeffries whom the CIO fought bitterly in the election two years ago. But the ACTU organ isn't condemning Stalinist treachery. It claims "there never was any good reason for the CIO to embark upon its costly crusades against Jeffries in the first place." Jeffries, in his last campaign, had the support of the Ku Klux Klan, Christian Frontiers and G. L. K. Smith's America First.

U. S. Representative Ramey from Toledo, Ohio, has been expelled from the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFL, by the international union, after he voted for the Taft-Hartley Act. He is another "friend of labor" from the Democratic Party who voted for the Slave Labor Law. However, the expulsion was based on a union provision excluding elected public officials from membership.

The Communist Party (Stalinist) has instructed its members in the CIO to cling to Philip Murray's coat-tails no matter how reactionary Murray's policies. Eugene Dennis, CP national secretary, in his report quoted in a recent Daily Worker, stated: "Much more serious discussion must be given to the difficult problem of maintaining and improving cooperative relations with the Murray forces in the CIO." Dennis complains that Murray has "capitalized on a number of key questions to reactionary pressure," has "not broken with the Truman Administration" and has "directly participated" in the anti-red drive. We don't think the Stalinists will discontinue bootlicking Murray even now that he has endorsed the Truman Doctrine of imperialist war preparation against the Soviet Union.

Our Program:

1. 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!
2. 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!
3. Against all anti-labor laws and government strike-breaking!
No restrictions on the right to strike and picket!
No injunctions! No compulsory arbitration!
4. Build an independent labor party!
5. Tax the rich, not the poor!
Repeat the payroll tax! No sales taxes!
No taxes on incomes under \$5,000 a year!
6. An 18 billion dollar appropriation for government low-rent housing!
7. Full equality for Negroes and national minorities!
End Jim Crow! End anti-Semitism!
8. For a veterans' organization sponsored by the trade unions!
9. 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!
10. 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!
11. 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)
 STREET _____
 CITY _____
 POSTAL ZONE _____ STATE _____

Stalinists Capture Posts In NMU Port Elections

By Art Sharon

NEW YORK, Aug. 12.—In a nation-wide by-election to fill 20 vacant union posts, the well-organized Stalinist machine in the CIO National Maritime Union scored another victory. Just previously, they had won the key post of Vice-President, after a bitterly fought campaign against President Joseph Curran.

Of the 20 new officers elected, 17 are counted as supporters of the Stalinist machine. Four of these were elected to Port Agent and Port Committee posts, thus giving them seats on the important National Council. The election of the four merely confirms Stalinist control of

the union's leading body.

This second Stalinist victory comes on the eve of the NMU National Convention, which convenes September 22 in New York City. The Stalinists are waging an all-out smear drive against Curran in their campaign to elect delegates to this convention. Their objective is to control the convention and have it repudiate Curran and the opposition generally. The Stalinist machine would then be in a position to suppress the opposition spokesmen and once again throttle democracy inside the NMU.

Curran and his leading supporters up to now have been extremely reluctant to marshal the rank and file opposition forces. Except for Cur-

ran's weekly column in The Pilot and an occasional leaflet during the election campaigns nothing has been done to counteract the extensive Stalinist slander campaign.

This has led to considerable confusion and disorientation in the ranks of the union. The failure of the opposition to present a clear program has permitted the struggle to become clouded over with false issues. Naturally, the Stalinist machine welcomes that.

In a recent issue of the Stalinist magazine, Political Affairs, Al Lannon, maritime director of the Communist Party, boasts that they have regained the upper hand in the NMU internal struggle. This is true. But it is only by default.

What Hughes Scandal Revealed

By Art Preis

The capitalist press is trying to hocus-pocus the American people about the Senate investigation into the Hughes-Kaiser wartime plane contracts.

According to them, it was just a hot-weather carnival of mud-slinging between the Democrats and Republicans that revealed nothing more damaging than an undignified display of Senatorial ineptitude.

Indeed, the press paints up the accused, two of the richest capitalists, as high-minded, patriotic, hard-working industrial geniuses, who rose in heroic wrath and put the Senatorial inquisitors in their place!

The Democratic press dismisses the sordid spectacle as a mere "smear" to drag the name of Roosevelt in the dirt.

NOT "EDIFYING"

The N. Y. Times, Aug. 9, concedes only that when Elliott Roosevelt "accepted lavish hospitality, however innocently" from a war contractor; that when such hospitality becomes "something of an accepted system;" and that when the Senator heading the investigating committee "has had even one free ride from persons interested in government contracts" — the net result is merely "unseemly" and "not edifying."

But, the Times hastens to assure its readers, there was "no evidence whatever of corruption."

Nothing could be farther from

the truth — as a survey of all the disclosures bears out. It is true that the investigation was started by the Republican-dominated committee as a smear. It is equally true that there was plenty of fact behind the smear. It is also true that the accusers came with unclean hands.

But it is precisely when thieves fall out, when contending capitalist cliques and their political agents start knifing each other, that some of the details of capitalist crimes leak out. This case is no exception.

Let us examine the chief performers in this "three-ring circus" and the admitted facts:

HOWARD HUGHES: Hughes inherited a million-dollar factory, the Hughes Tool Company in Texas, which he has parlayed up to a \$150,000,000 fortune. He received a total of \$200,000,000 in government war contracts and doubled his tremendous pre-war profits.

Together with Henry Kaiser, he wangled \$41,000,000 in war plane contracts through the direct intervention of Franklin D. Roosevelt and on the recommendation of Roosevelt's son over the objection of War Department experts.

The contracts called, among other things, for three super-cargo planes to meet a "desperate" war situation. Four years later, and two years after the war, the contract is discovered to have been changed for one experimental super-cargo plane — yet to be delivered.

Hughes and his "public relations" man Meyer admitted spending \$164,000, at least, for luxurious enter-

tainment and "gifts" to government officials, military advisers, etc. This, as Meyer testified, was strictly "in the line of business," to make "useful contacts." The monies thus spent, moreover, were largely tax-deductible. The public treasury paid for the imported liquor, female "entertainers," costly banquets, nylon stockings, etc.

SENATOR BREWSTER: As head of the Senate War Investigating Committee, this Maine Republican hasn't shown the slightest interest generally in uncovering war frauds of America's giant monopolies. But he saw the chance to make some Republican political capital by going after some Democrats.

Brewster's misfortune was that Senators don't dare bullyrag immensely wealthy plutocrats as they do ordinary folks at Senate hearings. Moreover, the capitalist press doesn't like capitalists shown up in a bad light. Added to that, like most Democratic and Republican politicians, Brewster doesn't have such clean hands himself.

In fact, Hughes was able to charge that Brewster was working for a rival air-line concern, Pan-American Airways, and fostering a bill to give that concern a complete monopoly in trans-Atlantic traffic.

JUST FOR "FRIENDSHIP"

Brewster admitted that he had been "a few times" the "guest" of the head of Pan-American in Florida and elsewhere, that he received free luxury plane trips from Hughes and his competitors. But this was all in the line of "sociability" and "personal friendship!"

ELLIOTT ROOSEVELT: The son of the late President put on quite a show as the noble defender of his father from evil traders.

He did admit receiving lavish entertainment, a round of expensive night-club flings and a free wedding trip on the Hughes' expense account. The list of these merry-makings — heightened at over \$5,000 — occurred in August 1943 when young Roosevelt was recommending a juicy \$41,000,000 contract for Hughes.

Elliott Roosevelt's main defense was that this was nothing but coincidence; his wife happened to move in Hughes' "social circles." Besides he "picked up his fair share" of the bills. Anyway it was all a Republican smear.

One further fact, of general nature, was brought out in the testimony. Hughes indignantly replied to charges about his lavish tax-deductible "entertainment" of "useful contacts" in the government, that "all the other corporations did more

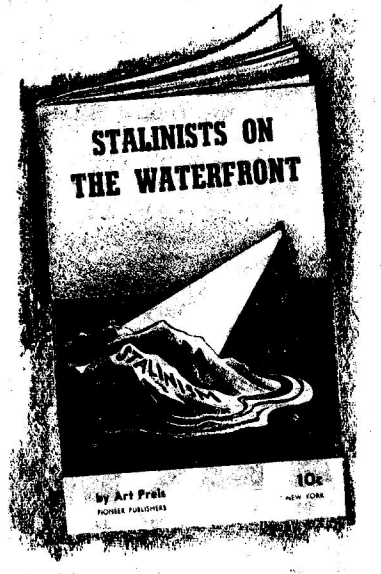
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Workers' Forum

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.

How Much Longer Will We Take It?

What with so many things on my mind, I just did not realize that my sub had run out. This sure is a wonderful town we are living in, my husband and myself. We received an eviction notice and we have to vacate our apartment by Sept. 4. I guess we'll be sitting out on the street somewhere, furniture and all. We have been living at this present address for almost three years. My greedy landlord is using the excuse that he wants to move his son in here with his dry-cleaning business. The very alderman that served us with our notice is also running for City Council in this town. The other Allentown aldermen refuse to serve them. I was told that this same alderman, named Shockey, was forbidden to practice in Pottstown or Pottsville, Pa., because of his dirty work, but in this town if you're in with the racketeering real estate interests and landlords, you can get away with anything. Enclosed you will find a dollar to renew my sub for another year. I will let you know my new address, if I have any. I wonder how much longer the workers of this country and other countries are going to take the housing shortage and the rising cost of living without doing something about it. If every worker was as fired it as I am, something would have been done long ago. Mrs. P. Schlicher Allentown, Pa.

The State Department And Standard Oil

An editorial in *The Militant*, Aug. 4, tells how the State Department sent a note to the Republic of Indonesia before the Dutch started their latest hostilities expressing "grave concern" over possible destruction of American property there, particularly the oil fields where Standard Oil files its house flag. This is not the first time the State Department has indicated its paternal interest in Standard Oil's Indonesian holdings. Almost 7 years ago, on Nov. 13, 1940, Associated Press reported: "Japan's oil supplies from the Netherlands Indies will rise from 494,000 tons a year to 1,800,000 tons under an agreement announced today. United States and British companies will act as importing agents for the Japanese." Tokyo was at that time stockpiling war materials in preparation for entry into World War II. This now forgotten deal with the Netherlands was worked out between Standard Oil and the Japanese. However, the Standard Oil Company and the Rising Sun Petroleum Company, Japan subsidiary of British Shell, will serve as importers to Japan. Since World War II had already started and Roosevelt was preparing to take America into the conflict, you might think the State Department would stop this deal. But, if you care to check back in the *N. Y. Times* files to Nov. 16, 1940, you will find evidence that the State Department took just the opposite course. Sumner Welles, acting Secretary of State, on that day, declared that this deal had "no direct relation to any policy that the United States Government has carried out." The final paragraph of the *Times* dispatch shows what close ties existed between the State Department and the oil monopolists: "Mr. Welles, in response to a further question implied that before the agreement was initiated the companies had consulted with the State Department." So you see that the State Department's "grave concern" over Standard Oil's interest in Indonesia is not something new, but simply a continuation of an imperialist government's natural interest in the welfare of one of America's biggest monopolies. R. H. New York

Wants Reviews Of More Movies

I am only 17 years old, which is probably a lot younger than most of your readers, but I want you to know how much I enjoy *The Militant* and how much I learn from it. I still have one more year of high school to go, but I don't learn one-tenth there of what I have learned in the last eight months by reading this paper. There is one thing I would like to ask. Why don't you print more movie reviews—not only of the exceptional movies, but of all the popular ones which do so much to spread capitalist propaganda and to get the minds of the people off their real problems? L. G. H. Washington, D. C.

The Rights of Small Nations

The other day when I was reading one of the later adventures of Tom Sawyer, Huck Finn and their Negro friend Jim (Tom Sawyer Abroad), I came across a section which seems to me pertinent now that everybody is again hailing the United Nations for its role in Indonesia. Tom is talking about a fancied insult in Egypt to the American flag and sounding off about how those guilty of such an act would have to apologize and pay an indemnity on top of it too. Neither Huck nor Jim understand what an indemnity is, so Tom has to explain. Then Huck, who is telling the story, continues: "It was a new business to me, and I asked Tom if countries always apologize when they had done wrong, and he says: "Yes; the little ones does." P. L. Chicago, Ill.

High Prices Shrink Value of War Bonds

I see from the ads that they are still selling those war bonds, under the name of U. S. Savings Bonds now, and touting them as a big bargain. You get \$4 back for every \$3 you invest, where can you get higher interest, and so on. Technically speaking, I don't suppose you can sue the Treasury Department for misleading and unethical advertising. But in fact that is what their ads are. I had to sell most of the bonds I was pressured into buying before and after going into the Navy. Naturally, I didn't get the benefit of the interest as I would if I had held them for ten years. But what burned me up was that as a result of inflation the money I got for

Purpose of Marshall Plan Explained in Fourth International

The Marshall Plan represents the most finished and thought-out scheme of American imperialism to bend ruined and prostrate Europe to its needs, to exert further economic and political pressure to hem in Russia, and to realize hegemony of the continent," begins an editorial in the July-August *Fourth International*, just off the press. The article points out that the Marshall Plan represents the break between Washington and Moscow, and the scrapping of the Potsdam Agreement. Everything went wrong with the imperialist scheme behind the Potsdam Agreement which attempted to carve up the European continent between the three major powers—the U. S., England and the Soviet Union, with a bone tossed in for France. The attempts to rehabilitate the collapsing economies of England and France failed. Germany, "torn from all sides by four ravenous wolves," was in danger of expiring and dragging the rest of Europe into the abyss. Threatened with the loss of its objective—world empire—the U. S. imperialists "sat down to appraise the situation . . . The result is—the Marshall Plan." Single copies 25 cents, yearly subscription \$1 can be obtained from Business Manager, 116 University Place, New York 3, N. Y.

Come and meet other 'Militant' Readers at these Local Activities of THE SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY

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- BUFFALO—Militant Forum, 629 Main St., 2nd floor. Phone MADison 3960. Open every afternoon except Sunday.
- CHICAGO—777 W. Adams (corner Halsted). Open 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, except Sunday. Phone Dearborn 4767. Library, bookstore.
- CLEVELAND—Militant Forum every Sunday, 8:30 p.m. at Peck's Hall, 1446 E. 82nd St. (off Wade Park Ave.).
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- FLINT—215 E. Ninth St., Flint 3, Mich. Open Monday through Friday, 5 to 9 p.m.
- LOS ANGELES—Militant publishing Assn., 316 1/2 W. Pico Blvd. Open daily, 12 noon to 5 p.m. Phone Richmond 4644.
- SAN PEDRO—Militant publishing Assn.—1008 S. Pacific, Room 214.
- LYNN, Mass.—44 Central Square, Room 11. Discussion every Tuesday 7:30 p.m.; open Saturdays 1-5 p.m.
- MILWAUKEE—Militant Bookshop, 608 S. 5 St., open 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.
- MINNEAPOLIS—10 South 4th St., open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily except Sunday. Phone Main 7781 Library, bookstore. Sunday Forums, 3:30 p.m.
- NEW HAVEN—Labor School, 855 Grand Ave., 3rd floor. Open 1st and 3rd Monday, 7:30-9:30 p.m. Sunday forums, 2nd and 4th of month, 8:30 p.m.
- NEWARK—423 Springfield Ave. Phone Bigelow 3-2574. Library and reading room open week nights, 7-10 p.m. Friday night forum, 8:30.
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Mine Operators Incite Race Hate In Move to Put Over Speed-Up

Coal production in the Monongahela Valley returned to normal following the miners' holiday which had begun with wildcat walkouts protesting the Taft-Hartley Slave Labor Law. Within two weeks two events, not of importance in themselves, but of great significance as indications of what is to follow, occurred in the Scotts Run area of Northern West Virginia. The first took place in a notoriously Jim Crow mine. The foreman had been calling for more production, speeding up the workers. At last he threatened a crew of miners, "If you don't start getting out more coal, I'll bring in a gang of niggers." A rank and file miner thought a while and then replied: "Go ahead and bring them in. They're some of the best union men we've got." In the second incident at another mine, a white miner quit in disgust; he claimed that his work had been speeded up so much that he couldn't take it any longer. It was generally feared that the bosses were making it tougher on the whites than on the Negroes. Good union men, both white and colored, are watching this strategy fearfully, remembering the days when the operators used first one group and then the other to scab against each other. These events were unrelated but strikingly similar. It was no mere coincidence that they were so similar and took place so soon after the passage of the Taft-Hartley Act. Behind them is the whole story of the class struggle of 1947; a struggle which at this period in the decay of capitalism is being fought most bitterly at the point of production itself.

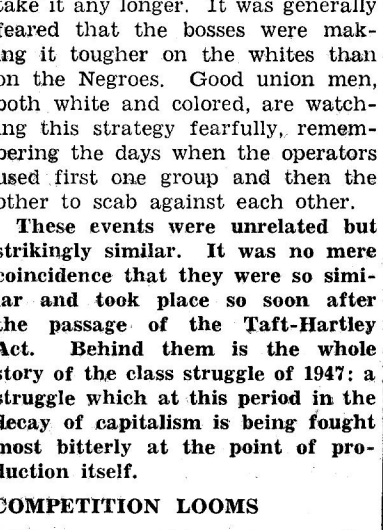
TO AID SPEED-UP

To aid the speed-up new machines are being introduced. Whole sections of mines and whole mines are getting new equipment. Shuttlesbuggeys are being introduced at several mines as it is believed that they can speed up the work of the men and dispense with the labor of the track men. Naturally, the larger the mine, the more money can be spent for the mechanized speed-up. That is why the larger companies, and especially the captive pits, signed the new contract with so little reluctance, showed in fact a readiness which surprised the miners and embarrassed some of their fellow operators. They realized that the five-day week with their super speed-up put them in a position to drive their small competitors out of business. Just now all of the operators are using every old trick they know to speed up the crews. Everything from prizes of a package of cigarettes to each man of the high production crew, from the instigation of competition (unremunerated this time) between crews or between shifts, to the greatest weapon that the bosses have learned to rely on—race-hatred. Many of the miners realize that this is all part of the boss offensive against labor. Many see the relationship between the Taft-Hartley

Slave Labor Act, the speed-up, the coming depression, the government's drive to break the United Mine Workers, and race-hatred fostered by the bosses.

They know that it is all part of a bitter battle that has been going on between the capitalist class and its government on the one hand and the coal miners on the other for five years now. They have been tense for month after month, uneasy, waiting for the showdown. All these things point to the need for the miners to stick together and defend their union. Jim Crow at the mines must be destroyed or the operators will use it time and again to speed up the work by intimidation and break the UMW with non-union men, just as they did in 1922 in Scotts Run. The speed-up must be stopped. It can only make more profit for the bosses at the expense of the miners. To the latter it will mean that the old timers will lose their jobs, the work will be even harder, the labor force will be cut down, and there will be less pay. The men know how to fight this speed-up. Before the contract expired in June, the foremen were trying to speed the men up, but with little success. As one veteran miner expressed it, "Every time he comes around trying to jog us up, we just slowed down all the more. There are more ways to kill a dog than by choking him to death on fat meat."

Scene at West Coast Camp



COMPETITION LOOMS

Fierce competition among the coal operators is in the offing. Last year 613,000,000 tons of coal were dug in the United States, the second highest tonnage in history, and this in spite of two major strikes in the industry. Ninety per cent of the exported coal went to Europe, and coal operators realize that with the rehabilitation of European mines, a great part of this market will be eliminated. This fact, plus the approaching American depression which will curtail the domestic demand for coal drastically, recall to the operator the 20's and 30's when coal was known as the "sick industry." As always, the operators pass their troubles on to the men. More production, more tonnage per man is what the bosses want. Already more and more miners return to the five-day week which, as every miner knows, does not mean that production is cut by one-sixth. But the main weapon of the operators is the speed-up. Older men hired during the war are being weeded out. Many are eliminated by the company doctor (of the company, for the company—but paid by the men) who suddenly discovers that they have high blood pressure or a lung condition which he had overlooked somehow when he examined them for employment during the war. That cynical threat, "the war is over now," has rung

West Coast Camp-School Opens 3d Season Sept. 6

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 8 — West Coast comrades and friends of the Socialist Workers Party greeted with anticipation the news that for the third successive year the Los Angeles section is running the West Coast Vacation School for Workers. The camp this year will run for nine full days, opening Saturday morning, Sept. 6, and ending Sunday evening, Sept. 14. The Vacation School will be situated at the Workmen's Circle Camp in Carbon Canyon, San Bernardino County, California, 32 miles from Los Angeles. With such beautiful surroundings, well equipped site and modern facilities, the Camp Committee is able to promise a vacation that will be long remembered. Classes, with attendance on a voluntary basis, will be held in two class periods each morning. One will be on Marxism in the United States, an elucidation of the basic theories of Marxism as tested and verified in the most highly developed capitalist country in the world, and an answer to all opponents of Marxist theory. This class will be given by C. Curtis. The second class period will offer a choice of three classes. 1. Introduction to the Program of the Socialist Workers Party. 2. Historical Los Angeles, Calif. Materialism. 3. A Discussion of Marx's Capital. Forums on such popular subjects as: Medicine and Socialism, The Crisis in the Sciences, Grievance Procedure in the Plants, The Role of Hollywood in Capitalist Culture, The Negotiation of Contracts, The Current Literature on the Negro Question, and other subjects will be led by qualified speakers from each field of work. A many-sided program of recreational activities, including outdoor sports such as swimming, baseball, basketball, tennis, volleyball, ping-pong, chess and checkers, and social affairs, dancing, campfires, song-fests and movies will round out the camp program. Reservations for the full nine days or for part time registrants are now being accepted. Those who plan to attend the camp are asked to register early. Anyone wanting further information is asked to communicate with the West Coast Vacation School at 316 1/2 W. Pico Blvd., Los Angeles, Calif.

THE MILITANT ARMY

Tri-City Penn. Picnic Yields Aid to Militant

Youngstown, Pittsburgh and New Castle readers of *The Militant* held a joint picnic near New Castle late in July, realizing proceeds of \$27.06 which were sent to *The Militant* to help keep the paper in publication. "The picnic was enjoyed by all the comrades who were able to attend," wrote M. Jones, Youngstown literature agent. "In fact, some comrades think we should have district picnics more often. "The New Castle comrades contributed all the refreshments, the Youngstown and Pittsburgh comrades also donated a bottle of French perfume and a silk babushka as prizes." Youngstown also sent an additional dollar donated by a reader, along with a batch of new and renewed subs. While summer vacations slow down the organized sub-getting work of branches, individual readers throughout America and abroad continue their enthusiastic local plugging of "the only newspaper in this country that tells the truth about labor's struggles for a better world." Members of the Socialist Workers Party use their vacation outings to make new friends and interest them in our paper. Readers not only renew their own subscriptions but send in new subs for their friends and fellow workers. The last week's mail includes subs from Washington, Oregon, California, North Dakota, Illinois, Massachusetts and India, besides most of the large cities where the SWP has branches. Militant Booster J. D. of Kewanee, Ill., sent in three new subs. The Kewanee list grows very encouragingly week after week, proving what

One Week Remains for Fun at Mid-West Camp

LITTLE PLEASANT LAKE, Aug. 10 — Enthusiastic Genora Dollinger of Flint sends in the following highlights of life at Mid-West School and Camp where she has been lolling the past few weeks. "How would you like to listen to a lecture on American history while lying in the cool shade of a leafy tree with a breeze from the lake caressing your brow? That's the kind of classrooms we enjoy at Mid-West. Of course, this kind of environment is tough on our teachers because there's always the temptation of being lulled to sleep. This has been known to happen in some cases. "Have you ever yearned to sit around a big camp fire on a starlit night and blend your voice with those of your fellow campers, singing working class songs and favorite oldtime tunes in close communion with other comrades? The melody rises, floats across the lake, and, as we sing *Solidarity Forever* with full hearts and voices, the sentiment seems to be as though it could reach across the continent and around the entire world. "How would you like to hear participants in important union struggles tell about their experiences and compare notes with them about what's happening in their localities? Last week, in place of the regular course in the history of the American labor movement, we were treated to bits of living labor history from activists in the auto, steel, maritime, painters and electrical workers unions. "These are some of the things in store for you at Mid-West. Do you recall LaFargue's little treatise on *The Right to be Lazy*? Well, we're trying hard to translate this document into practice out here. The camera fans are accumulating documentary evidence of this. They have shots of us in the most benign poses of relaxation. "The camp not only draws people from many parts of this country but has even acquired an international aspect. We have entertained visitors this summer from Canada, Australia and Switzerland; exchanged ideas with them; and gained a great deal from our mutual discussions. "The Detroit and Flint branches of the Socialist Workers Party have held picnics here on several Sundays. Until today they have vainly though valiantly tried to wrest the softball championship from the Mid-West marvels. But the jeering and cheering I just heard signified that Detroit had finally succumbed in shattering Mid-West. Flint plans its revenge too. "The one other important item of sports news is that Karl Kuehn of Philadelphia caught a 14-inch bass last week (actual measurement in the presence of unbrilliant witnesses). "Tall the boys from Newark that if you have the know-how, they can be hooked." According to Manager Oscar Coover, accommodations at Mid-West Camp are available for the last week in August and for Labor Day weekend. A special sports and educational program has been scheduled as a windup for the camp season over Labor Day. For reservations, use the coupon below on this page.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

AKRON—Socialist Youth Club meets Fridays, 7 p.m. Followed by refreshments, dancing, 8 South Howard St., 2nd floor. CHICAGO—777 W. Adams, 2nd floor. NEW YORK—116 University Pl., Tele. GR. 5-8149 for information. Class in Marxism, Wednesdays, 8 p. m. Fridays Open Forums, 8 p. m. Sundays Hikes, Beach Parties. For information about Queens Youth Group, write M. Kevin, 116 University Pl., N. Y. 3. PHILADELPHIA—For information call ST. 4-5820, from noon to 6 p.m.

WEST COAST VACATION SCHOOL Workmen's Circle Camp Carbon Canyon, San Bernardino County

September 6 through 14 Adults: \$25 for 9 days, \$4 a day Children: \$15 for 9 days, \$2 a day Includes board, lodging, classes, swimming pool and all camp equipment

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Name of Applicant (Please sign)

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RAHWAY PARK, N. J.
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11 a. m. - 8 p. m.
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Bigelow 3-2574
from 8 to 10 p. m.

Mail This Blank For Your Reservation at
Mid-West Vacation Camp And School
Season June 29 to Sept. 2 Adults \$25 week, Children \$15

OSCAR COOVER, Manager
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List all who will attend:

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The Day the Spell Was Broken

By Theodore Kovalsky

When you were a kid probably somebody read to you about giants and witches, about spells that were cast over people. Well, one time I saw a spell that was broken. A thing happened, and everything was suddenly changed all around, everything was different. Here's how it was:

It was a machine shop, not a very big place as shops go, one that hired about a hundred men including clerks and bosses. It was an old shop. In the morning Harry, the foreman, would pull a switch turning on the shop's power, and all the pulley belts would start flapping. It was a noise that I'll always remember. All day long we'd hear the belts. There was a main drive shaft coming from a huge motor up near the ceiling at the rear of the shop. From that line belts looped down to the machines along the middle of the shop; and from it other belts reached out to turn other lines of pulleys that ran parallel to it, and from these lines the belts looped down to the machines under them.

And all day long all these belts flapped as the pulley wheels whirled. At quitting time Harry pulled the switch again, and the motor moaned slowly down. The belts flapped more slowly, more weakly, and finally were still, drooping down to the quiet machines as though they, like us, were exhausted after the day's labor.

They say the speedup is a comparatively new thing in industry . . . and that is true in the scientific sense. Newer and newer ways are ever being developed to make the workers produce more and more in less and less time. Ways are being found to lay off more and more workers to produce the same amount of work.

But in those old days we had our own speedup. It didn't work as well as the one at Ford or G.M. today, but it worked. It was simple. There were no elaborate time and motion studies. There were no charts and tables. There were just Harry, Louie, the straw-boss, and Mr. Wicker, the superintendent, whom we saw only at certain terrible intervals dur-

ing the day. That's all they had, just three men for their speedup; but those three men held in their hands not whips, not guns, but something far more deadly: the power to say, "You're fired!" And when they said, "Hurry up," or "You gotta do more work than this," we hurried up and did more work.

So that's the way it was every day. The pulley belts flapped and flapped with a strange dull slapping sound that is like nothing else than pulley belts. And all day long we worked steadily, worked fast, and felt Harry and Louie, and sometimes felt the terrible presence of Mr. Wicker at our backs. All day it was that way, and every day.

But one day there was a thunder storm so loud and furious that we could hear the thunderclaps even over the roar of the machines and the flapping of the belts. And suddenly, early in the afternoon, the motor at the rear of the shop moaned down to a stop. The belts flapped more slowly, more faintly, and then were still.

There we were in the shop in the middle of the day, but a magical thing had happened. Something had broken the spell and set us free. For a moment there was a heavy, dead, all-pervading silence. We stood at our machines and looked up at the quiet belts. We stared with our eyes a little out of focus, for we had been looking steadily at the work held in our machines.

Then we realized what had happened. We had been set free. We began to talk, to laugh, to shout jokes from one end of the shop to the other. Even the bench hands who needed no pulley belts for their work stopped with the rest of us and wouldn't go back to work even when Harry came and blustered at them.

For ten minutes it lasted. For ten free minutes we substituted our own happy noise for the dead sound of the belts.

But then, like a siren with a hoarse bass voice, the sound of the motor went spiraling up again and the belts began to flap as they always did. We stopped talking and laughing. We stopped smiling and went back to work without even a word from Harry or Louie.

That was the first time such a thing had happened, and I don't think it ever happened again.

The Negro Struggle

Admiration for the Indonesians

By Albert Parker

Look far and wide, North and South, in the colleges and in the cotton fields, and you will still find it difficult to discover a Negro in the United States who is not passionately sympathetic to the struggle of the Indonesian people for independence.

The reason is simple. Oppressed and exploited themselves, the Negro people understand how the Indonesians feel about imperialist oppression and exploitation. Segregated, discriminated against, denied the full benefits of citizenship themselves, the Negroes in this country feel in their very bones the justice of the Indonesian cause.

If you probe deeper, however, I think you will find something more than sympathy and admiration for the Indonesian struggle among American Negroes. I think you will also find some envy, certainly among Negro militants.

Yes, envy, because the Indonesians, despite the great obstacles they must overcome, are at least in a position where they can fight effectively and to the finish against their enemies. Because the Indonesians found the opportunity, during the twists and turns of the war, to come to grips with their foes, out in the open, in a dramatic and inspiring struggle which can be prolonged but not defeated.

In many ways the Negro struggle for equality is more difficult and disheartening than the struggle in Indonesia. The Negroes here are a minority, while

the Indonesians are the overwhelming majority in their country and the American capitalist class is far more powerful and resourceful than the Dutch. Here not only the Negroes must be aroused and organized — that isn't so hard — but also their allies among the white workers, many of whom are still drugged and duped by Jim Crow propaganda.

But let's not exaggerate the picture, or we will end up by discouraging ourselves at a time when we have every right to be confident and optimistic. Millions of Negroes who today seem apathetic or resigned to their fate are just waiting for the time when they too can come to grips with the enemy. When that day comes, they will show the same spirit of heroism and self-sacrifice and audacity as their Indonesian brothers and sisters. And once the white workers are awakened politically, no power on earth, not even Wall Street, will be able to stop them.

Meanwhile, the task is to prepare for that day. This preparatory work is less inspiring than the final struggle will be. It takes the farsighted ones, the men and women who can see the distant goal even in the sometimes routine day-to-day work of organizing and selling pamphlets and holding meetings, the people who are patient and stubborn and have confidence in the future they are preparing for.

We have the right to envy the Indonesian heroes battling for a better world half-way round the globe. And we have the duty to follow their example and prepare for the coming struggle here.

Health for All

By Grace Carlson

Most promising of all of the recent developments in public health have been the labor-sponsored health programs. In the past few years, scores of trade unions have won the fight to have the employers finance health programs for union members.

By means of health and security clauses in their contracts, the United Mine Workers, the St. Louis CIO Wholesale and Retail Clerks Union, the New York City AFL Painters Union, the Philadelphia International Ladies Garment Workers Union and others have established flourishing health programs for their members.

But the staggering problem of supplying medical care to all American workers who need it can be met only through federal funds and federal legislation. That is why the official AFL and CIO movements have endorsed the National Health Insurance and Public Health Act of 1947, successor to the Wagner-Murray-Dingell Bill of 1945-46. But even this mild form of socialized medicine has met with violent denunciation by the vested interests of private medicine — the spokesmen of the bureaucratic American Medical Association.

Instead, the AMA is supporting an opposition measure — the Taft Health Bill. Introduced by the reactionary Taft of Ohio (of Slave Labor Law ill-fame) and the equally reactionary Ball of Minnesota, the Taft Bill would "provide hospital services, surgical services and medical services for all those families and individuals in the State having insufficient income to pay the whole cost of such." Trade union spokesmen, representatives of cooperative health groups, and members of independent physicians' organizations have attacked the Taft Health Bill both because it is based on a charity concept and because it provides for doctor-control of public funds.

On the other hand, the National Health Insurance

Bill proposes to broaden the Social Security Act to include compulsory health insurance. Those eligible for care would include all employed or self-employed persons, recipients of old-age or survivor benefits, and those on relief — if the premiums are paid by the relief agency. Provision is to be made to have 3% of earnings to be paid into a national insurance fund. Additional funds are authorized to be appropriated from general taxation for hospital construction, etc.

The services, as outlined in the National Health Insurance Bill, include diagnostic and therapeutic care by a physician of the patient's choice (provided the physician is qualified under state standards). General practitioners are to be paid according to methods chosen by a majority of physicians in the area. Specialists will be paid by a method agreed upon by them and the insurance officers. Hospitals will be paid full cost of service.

Despite its many, many inadequacies, the National Health Insurance Act is being supported by trade unions because it represents a forward step on the road toward better health for the workers. But organized labor should take the next step and demand that these tremendous health insurance funds be placed under the control of the trade unions. Many trade unions have already demonstrated their ability to win the support of forward-looking medical men and to operate impressive health centers. Other unions could — and would — do as well if they had the necessary financial resources.

In a socialist society doctors will be freed from the fetters of private profit. They will be able to apply the benefits of modern science to all who need medical care — and in the measure in which each one needs it. But in the capitalist society, health will not be merely a negative thing, i.e., the absence of pain or disability. In the Anglo-Saxon origin "health" means something positive. It is wholeness. It means a long, rich and productive life. Socialist medical science will find the way to bring health to all!

Notes from the News

LONG LIFE AND SOUR: Pearl L. Bergoff, who made a big business of strikebreaking for Big Business for 35 years, kicked the bucket at the age of 88 last week.

JIM CROW AT FBI: Negro applicants for clerical jobs are getting the brush-off from the FBI, the NAACP declared in a protest against that department's "illy-white hiring policy."

WITHOUT BLUSHING: The day after Hitler attacked the Soviet Union, Senator Harry S. Truman said: "If Germany is winning we ought to help Russia, and if we see Russia is winning we ought to help Germany." (N. Y. Times, June 23, 1941, reprinted in W. L. White's new book, *Report on the Russians*.) Three years later the Communist Party helped to elect him Vice-President.

THOUGHT CONTROL: The so-called "loyalty" check of all federal employes is expected to swing into operation full blast this week. Truman asked for \$25 million to carry through the purge, and Congress gave him \$11 million to start with.

THE DEBS STORY: A biographical novel about Eugene V. Debs, *Adversary in the House* by Irving Stone, will be issued by Doubleday next month.

THE MILITANT

TROOPS WILL AID DICTATORS IN GREECE, U. S. THREATENS

By John G. Wright

Simultaneously with the arrival of the American "aid" mission in Athens, the Truman administration propelled this country closer to the "shooting phase" of the next world war by voicing openly the threat to send U. S. troops into Greece.

This threat was contained in a speech made on Aug. 12 by Herschel V. Johnson, deputy U. S. representative on the Security Council. Johnson's "very strong speech" was interpreted by the N. Y. Times as the beginning of a "series of drastic steps" which might "culminate in the use of armed forces by the United States and other countries."

Preliminary steps are already on the way. A dispatch from Washington, Aug. 14, reports "discussions between the State and War Departments" with a view to expediting the departure of "U. S. troops (which) may ultimately have to be dispatched to Greece." This means that the stage for action has already been set, pending the final orders.

WAR SPECULATION

There is speculation in the metropolitan press that American soldiers may be fighting in Greece by the end of this year.

A Reuters dispatch from London discloses that Washington is moving in prior agreement with the Attlee government.

It is an open secret that discussions of American armed intervention in the Balkans have been going on for weeks, with the Greek monarchy pressing for such "aid." On Aug. 5 Athens sent out an "urgent plea" for a "symbolic force" of American troops and planes.

No official request has been forthcoming because, as the N. Y. Times explained on Aug. 7, "Greece cannot formally and officially ask for American troops until all efforts to obtain security through the United Nations have failed."

This flimsy obstacle has now been removed by Washington's expressed determination to by-pass the UN. It is already accepted as an accomplished fact in Athens, from which Aug. 13 dispatches carry the news that Johnson's speech "was hailed almost universally as an American

Plan Protest at Dutch Consulate in Philadelphia

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 11

— The Philadelphia Branch of the Socialist Workers Party has proposed that a United labor demonstration be held in front of the Dutch Consulate in Philadelphia to voice opposition to the Dutch imperialist policy in Indonesia and the use of American-made arms to enforce Dutch rule, and to support the struggle for independence by the Indonesian people.

Invitations to participate in the preparation of the demonstration were sent to the CIO Council, American Veterans Committee, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Communist Party, American Youth for Democracy, Socialist Party, Young Peoples Socialist League and Workers Party.

ONLY THE BEGINNING

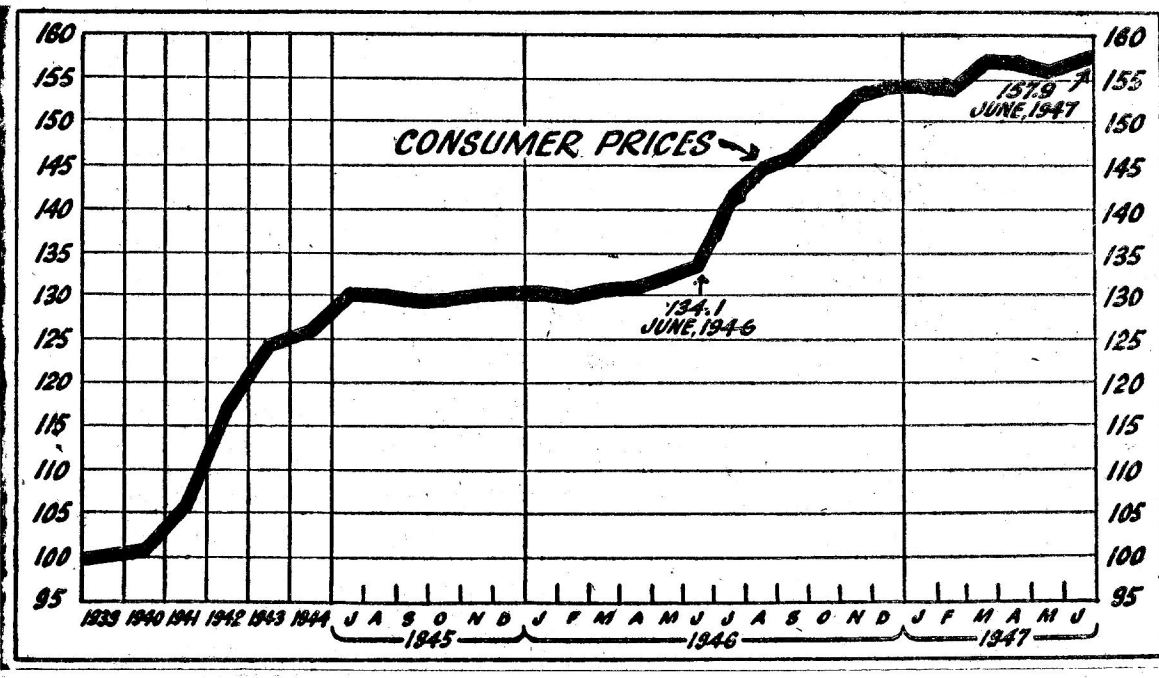
Greece is only the beginning. Once American troops are installed there, equally "urgent reasons" for sending other detachments to countries in Europe will inescapably follow.

Nor will the arena of this series of "unofficial" wars be limited to the continent of Europe. It will extend to China, where the blood-soaked dictatorial regime of Chiang Kai-shek likewise cannot long survive unless propped up by American bayonets.

The American workers must not allow themselves to be hoodwinked by the lie that American intervention is designed exclusively to preserve Greek independence. It is an imperialist policy that tramples on the right of the Greek people to self-determination; simultaneously it carries with it the threat of atomic destruction of the whole world.

For this reason labor must raise its mighty voice to demand: "Stop the warmakers! Hands off Greece."

How Prices Have Kept On Soaring



This chart from the August issue of AFL Monthly Survey shows statistically what every housewife already knows too well—that prices are far above what they were in 1939. Federated Picture

Labor and Negro Groups in Chicago Rally to Defense of James Hickman

CHICAGO, Aug. 13—The trial of James Hickman has been set for Sept. 29, after his indictment by the Grand Jury on charges of murdering his former landlord, David Coleman, and of assaulting Percy Brown, Coleman's half-brother, with intent to kill. Simultaneously the fight to save Hickman's life moved into high gear as labor, Negro and community leaders and organizations rallied to his defense.

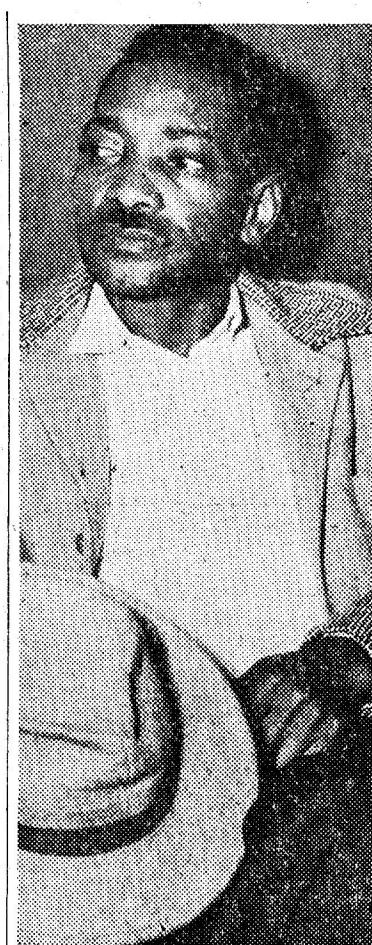
A West Side Hickman Defense Committee has been functioning since July. Now the defense movement is broadening out. Five prominent individuals this week sent out a call for a meeting tomorrow to sponsor the establishment of a city-wide defense committee. Their letter presents the following summary of the Hickman case:

ORDERED OUT OF ATTIC

"James Hickman, his wife and their children were tenants in a building managed by David Coleman on the West Side of Chicago. They lived in a tiny attic room without gas, electricity, running water or fire escapes. They had been living there temporarily after having paid for a flat in a lower floor in the same building.

"The landlord, Coleman, instead of living up to his promise, ordered this family out of the building in order to be able to cut up the building into smaller flats and thereby realize an even greater profit on rent collections.

"Faced by the acute housing



JAMES HICKMAN

Chicago NAACP Plans Mass Action On Housing Crisis

CHICAGO, Aug. 13 — The new Labor Committee of the Chicago NAACP is working on plans for a mass demonstration next month under the joint auspices of the NAACP, the Chicago CIO Council and various AFL locals. The main theme of the demonstration will be a demand for the reconvening of Congress to adopt a genuine public housing program to meet the deepening housing crisis.

The demonstration will also demand the repeal of the Taft-Hartley Slave Labor Law and the adoption of effective federal anti-lynch legislation.

Otis Collins, member of the CIO Council's Housing Committee, has been chosen NAACP Labor Committee chairman, with George Bynum of AFL Barbers Union Local 939 as co-chairman. Other officers are: Secretary and publicity director—Robert L. Birchman, also publicity director for the Committee for Racial Equality (CORE); corresponding secretary—Ward Rogers of the Machinists Union; chairman of a sub-committee on education—Russell Snodgrass, member of the CIO Anti-Discrimination Committee.

The NAACP Labor Committee plans to secure representation from all locals of the CIO, AFL, Railroad Brotherhoods and community organizations. These delegates will meet a month, beginning Sept. 8. The Labor Committee aims to create an effective alliance between the NAACP and other Negro organizations and the labor movement for joint action on common problems.

The call was signed by Rev. Joseph Evans; Willoughby Abner, first vice-president of the CIO Council; Charles Chakulous, president of UAW-CIO Local 477; Bernis Johnson, chairman of West Side NAACP Youth Council; Dr. James Luther Adams.

Three attorneys have been retained for Hickman: M. J. Myer,

attorney for several tenant union groups and NAACP branch executive board member; Leon Despres, civil rights lawyer and member of the American Civil Liberties Union executive board; and William Temple, prominent Negro criminal lawyer and member of the NAACP executive board.

As you can see from the above, justice will not be carried out if Mr. Hickman is tried in the fashion of a criminal. The real criminals in this case are the real estate interests who promote restrictive covenants which drive Negroes into fire traps where they are at the mercy of ruthless landlords.

"The greatest criminal of all is the housing shortage which permits unscrupulous landlords to mercilessly exploit helpless tenants. The case of James Hickman is the case of all those who are interested in justice for people of the lower income brackets."

The hearing at the License Commissioner's office began with the presentation of charges by two of the members of the Coordinating Committee in charge of the picket line, Miriam Eversley and George Howard, who had also instituted legal action against the proprietor of the bathhouse.

Answering these charges, the sole defense of the proprietor was that his bathhouse is an incorporated membership club and therefore had the right to deny admittance to all except members and guests of members.

This pretext was quickly punctured by Herbert Hill, organization Director of the Coordinating Committee and member of the Harlem Branch of the NAACP. Hill pointed out that he personally had been sold a ticket and admitted without being a member or a guest of a member. He showed that in the many

Rockaway Pickets Score Victory Against Jim Crow at Bath-house

NEW YORK, Aug. 9—After two weeks of intensive mass picketing to break down discrimination at the Park Inn Bathhouse at Rockaway Park, L. I., a decisive victory against Jim Crow has been won.

Confronted by the protests of angry participants at a hearing on the case, Benjamin Fielding, Commissioner of Licenses, ordered the proprietor to immediately quit his discriminatory practices and admit to the bathhouse all persons regardless of color. Failure to comply with this order, he declared, would result in the immediate revocation of the bathhouse license.

Today, for the first time in many years, Negroes were readily admitted into the bathhouse. All of the trick alibis concerning "membership" or status as "guests" which had previously been used to keep Negroes out, were forgotten. The management literally groveled before Negro customers, laying out the welcome mat for them. A sign that only "members and guests of members" were permitted was hastily removed. The victory was all the more significant in that this is the first time in New York's history that a license commissioner has been forced to admit he had the legal authority to revoke a license because of racial discrimination. This admission sets a valuable precedent for future battles against Jim Crow.

PICKET LINE SUPPORTED

The picket line before the bathhouse which climaxed in victory at the Commissioner's office was officially supported by the New York State Conference of the NAACP with representatives from the Harlem, Brooklyn, Great Neck, Jamaica and Rockaway branches of the NAACP; the American Jewish Congress; the Siloam Presbyterian Church of Brooklyn; a shop unit of UAW-CIO, Local 365; the Harlem Social Group of the AFL Painters Union and the Committee of Racial Equality. On the second weekend

of picketing it was joined by the Catholic Worker group and the Harlem Friendship House.

The picket line, militant throughout, had seriously cut into the business of the bathhouse, turning away many persons who refused to enter the Jim Crow establishment. Seeing the determination of the pickets, city police retreated from their original intention of trying to break up the line.

Prior to the hearing at the License Commissioner's office the committee in charge had decided to supplement its picketing with a monster rally before the bathhouse and to institute immediate legal proceedings. In the event of failure by the Commissioner to act, the committee had decided to place a mass picket line around his office.

It is generally believed that Fielding yielded to the pressure of the picket line to refurbish his reputation as a "liberal" after the storm he had aroused by committing himself to the 10 cents fare. His removal from the County Committee of the American Labor Party because of his stand on the fare question gave him notoriety which he was undoubtedly anxious to eradicate.