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THE MILITANT

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Published Weekly in the Interests of the Working People THE MILITANT PUBLISHING ASSOCIATION

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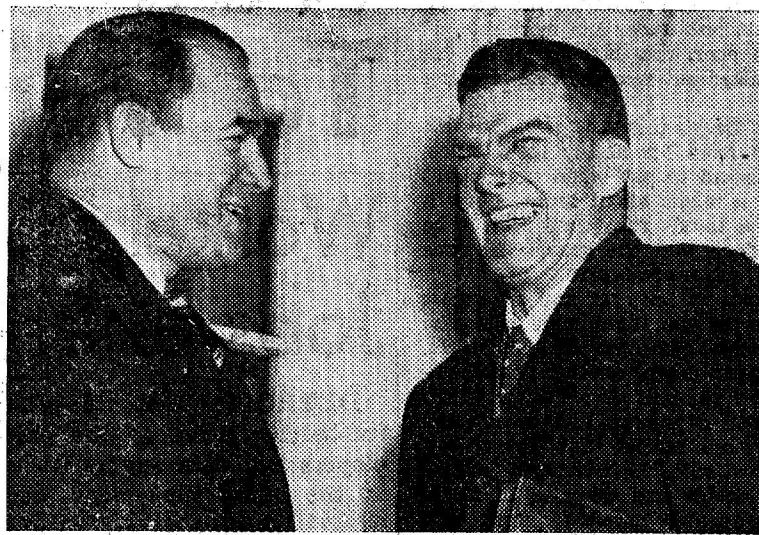
Vol. XII—No. 12

Monday, March 22, 1948

Washington Intervenes in Italy To Swing Election for deGasperi

The strong possibility that the Stalinists and their Socialist Party allies will emerge as the biggest single party group in the coming Italian elections has deeply alarmed Wall Street.

Another Hat in the Ring



Chairman J. Howard McGrath of the Democratic National Committee and Executive Director Gael Sullivan leave the White House after telling newsmen that President Truman will be a candidate for the presidency.

This would signify a serious setback for Wall Street's Marshall Planners, who by means of great pressure and lavish use of money, forced the Stalinists out of the cabinet a year ago and converted the present de Gasperi government into a reliable puppet of Washington.

American imperialism is not letting the democratic process simply unfold in the coming Italian elections. Washington and its allies are utilizing every possible bit of pressure to intimidate and pressure the Italian voters to back capitalism.

The battle is now reaching proportions of a major artillery duel. First, there is the Pope and his vast machine of priests in 37,000 parishes who are out in the front rank pitching for Wall Street.

The Stalinists are of course raising a big howl about democratic rights, but they are responsible for Murray's having far-reaching dictatorial powers under the CIO constitution.

Today the CIO is torn by the fight between two rotten factions — one led by Murray and the so-called responsible labor officials — one led by and guided by the arch-reactionary policies of the State Department.

Such cowardly conduct creates the kind of atmosphere most favorable for attacks against the labor movement as a whole. In Detroit, for example, the auto barons and their stooge police force have seized the opportunity to revive the notorious "red squad."

Nothing can be more fatal than the idea, held by some unionists, that they can use the government-inspired red-baiting campaign as a weapon in the factional struggle against the Stalinist misleaders.

Even before the Marshall Plan has been enacted into law, American imperialism has pushed through its plan for a military entente of Western Europe.

That was the outcome of the recent meeting of the five powers at Brussels who expect to formally underwrite their agreement in the next few days.

This raiding campaign undoubtedly strikes many of the CIO bureaucrats as devilishly clever. But in reality it helps bring chaos into the labor movement, disgusts workers with unionism because of the jurisdictional squabbles, furthers the insidious red-baiting campaign, builds up and legitimizes the Taft-Hartley Slave Law—and seriously undermines the whole union movement.

fact, all of the threats are emanating from the side of the U. S. imperialists and their Italian agents. If the Stalinists register an electoral victory, it will be in complete accordance with the rules of capitalist democracy.

Actually, it is the fatal bankruptcy of Italian capitalism and the arch-reactionary program of American imperialism that permits the Stalinists to still maintain their hold over the Italian working masses, and betray their revolutionary aspirations time and again.

The fact that the Stalinists are expected to make a strong showing in the coming Italian elections shows how bankrupt European capitalism is and how ineffective have been Wall Street's efforts to prop it up.

Washington has gone to great lengths to build a "strong regime" of capitalism in Italy. It has made numerous concessions to this "defeated" country. It has sent ships, loans and gifts to Italy.

But Italy's economic crisis has worsened and the lot of its working people has deteriorated. The expected big support to the parties the Italian masses consider as anti-capitalist is testimony to their determination to destroy the system that has brought them starvation, insecurity and war.

During the war, the meat packers ran their profits up to almost 400 percent above their peacetime rate-off. Since the end of the war, meat has topped the list of food price rises.

The fact that such an alliance would be contrary to the age-old tradition of neutrality of many of the smaller European countries will not shake the determination of the State Department to achieve it.

Pursuing the same technique that it employed in connection with the Marshall Plan, Washington is playing coy on the military bloc. It is pretending to "consider supporting" the Brussels alliance.

Although the Ruhr has been internationalized in principle, it is conceded that Germany and not France will remain, as in the past, the core of European industry.

Following the London agreement, General Clay, Washington's German Administrator, issued an order ending the decartelization and decon-

Events on the International Scene

By Paul G. Stevens

POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS IN FRANCE

We noted in last week's column that negotiations were under way for the creation of a new party in France.

The coming social crisis in France, foreshadowed this week by a new wave of strikes in Northern France, is bound to heighten interest in this new movement.

1. The best known of the five organizations is the Trotskyist Party, Communiste Internationale (PCI), French section of the Fourth International. The party made a name for itself during the war by its heroic fight against the Nazi occupation and for working-class internationalism.

After the "liberation" its vote in the election of 1945 and 1946 attracted international attention. Facing the Communist (Stalinist) Party at the height of its power, the PCI polled 60,000 votes in the contest for the National Assembly.

In April, 1947, members of the PCI were among the leaders of the great strike in the Renault automotive plant, which brought on the government crisis that forced the Stalinists out of the cabinet and precipitated the strike wave of last November-December.

"We declare ourselves prepared," writes LaVerite, weekly paper of the PCI, "to participate in all discussions (with the other organizations involved) aiming at the elaboration of a general platform and a program of action for the coming revolutionary party."

2. The Jeunesse Socialiste, or Socialist Youth, numbering several thousand revolutionary young men and women, broke away from the Socialist Party of Leon Blum shortly after the Renault strike.

3. The Action Socialiste Revolutionnaire (ASR), or Revolutionary Action Group, split away from the Socialist Party of Blum at a national conference last December.

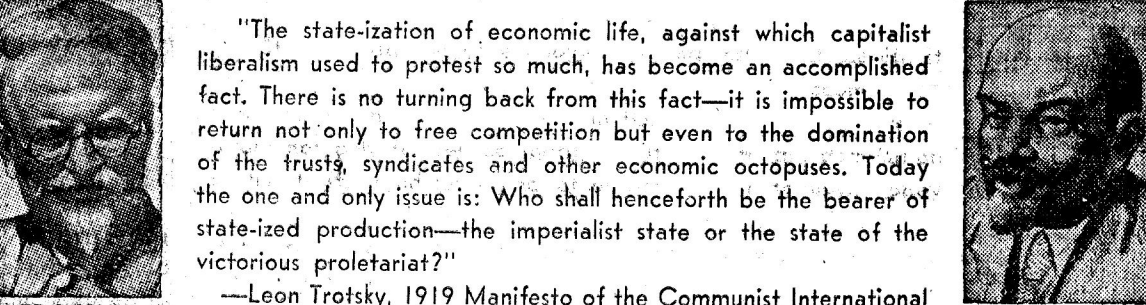
4. The Bataille Socialiste (Socialist Battle) group was expelled from Blum's party last month for continuing its long campaign for a united front with the CP in its weekly paper which gives it its name.

5. Last of the five is the Regroupement Revolutionnaire Democratique, or Revolutionary Democratic Rally, formed last month by a group of socialist deputies, ex-Trotskyists, the existentialist philosopher, Jean Paul Sartre, and intellectuals, most of whom had been connected with the Paris daily France-Tribune.

NEW YORK Dance and Jam Session featuring that all-star band, the famous quartet ALBERT NICHOLAS QUARTET with "CHIPPY" HILL singing the blues!

Activities of 'Militant' Readers and the Socialist Workers Party

- AKRON—4 So. Howard St., 2nd fl. Mon. through Fri., 7 to 9 p. m.; Branch meeting Sun. 8 p. m.; Socialist Youth Club meeting Sat. 8 p. m.
- BOSTON—20 Stuart St., Sat., 1-5 p. m., Tues., 7:30-9:30 p. m.
- BUFFALO—Militant Forum, 629 Main St., 2nd fl. Phone Madison 3960. Every afternoon except Sun.
- CHICAGO—777 W. Adams (corner Halsted), Phone DEARBORN 4767. Daily except Sun., 11 a.m.-5 p. m. Library, bookstore.
- CLEVELAND—Militant Forum, Sun., 8:30 p. m., Peck's Hall, 1446 E. 82nd St. (off Wade Park Ave.).
- DETROIT—6108 Linwood Ave. Phone TY 7-6267. Mon. through Sat., 12-5 p. m. FLINT—215 E. Ninth St., Daily 7-9 p. m. Open house, Sat. eve. Forum, Sun. eve.
- LOS ANGELES—Militant Publ. Assn., 316 1/2 W. Pico Blvd. Phone Richmond 4644. Daily, 12-5 p. m.
- SAN PEDRO—Militant, 1008 S. Pacific Room 214.
- WATTS—Militant, 1720 E. 97th St. LYNN (Mass.)—44 Central Sq., Tues., 7:30 Sat. 1-5 p. m. Discussion, Thurs., 8-10 p. m.
- MILWAUKEE—Militant Bookshop, 608 S. 5th St. Mon. through Fri., 7:30-9:30 p. m. Phone BRADWAY 9645.
- MINNEAPOLIS—10 So. 4th St. Phone Main 7781. Daily except Sun., 10 a. m.-6 p. m. Library, bookstore.
- NEW BRITAIN (Conn.)—Militant Discussion Group every Fri., 7:30 p. m. Militant Labor Club, 165 Main St. (next to Strand Theatre).
- NEW HAVEN—Labor School, 855 Grand Ave., 3rd fl., Tues. 8-10:30 p. m.
- NEWARK—423 Springfield Ave. Phone BIGELOW 3-2574. Reading room, week nights, 7-10 p. m.
- NEW YORK CITY (Hq.)—116 University Pl. Phone GR 8-9149. EAST SIDE—251 E. Houston St. 1st fl. HARLEM—103 W. 110 St., Rm. 28. Phone MO 2-1866. Open discussion, Thurs., 8 p. m. BRONX—1034 Prospect Ave., 1st fl. Phone LU 9-0101. BROOKLYN—635 Fulton St. Phone ST 2-4232. CHELSEA—180 W. 23rd St. Phone CH 2-9434. OAKLAND (Cal.)—Write P. O. Box 1351, Oakland 4. PHILADELPHIA—1305-05 W. Girard Ave., 2nd fl. Phone STEVENSON 4-5888. Open daily. Forum, Fri., 8 p. m. PITTSBURGH—1418 Fifth Ave., 2nd fl. Open meetings, 1st & 2nd Sun., 8:00 p. m. Marxist Study Class, Thurs., 7:30 p. m. SAN DIEGO (Cal.)—For information write P. O. Box 857. SAN FRANCISCO—1739 Fillmore Ave., 4th fl. Phone FI 6-0410. Daily except Sun., 12-4:30 p. m. SEATTLE—Maynard Bldg., 1st Ave. South & Washington. Phone 2-2722. Mon. through Sat., 12-5 p. m. Branch meeting, Fri., 8 p. m. Library, bookstore. ST. LOUIS—1023 N. Grand Blvd., Rm. 312. Forum, Thurs., 7:30-10 p. m. ST. PAUL—540 Cedar St. Phone GARFIELD 1137. Open daily. Bookstore, Forum, 3rd Sun. of each month, 3:30 p. m. TACOMA (Wash.)—Write P. O. Box 1078. Meeting, Wed. 8 p. m., Odd Fellow Hall, 6th & Fawcett. TOLEDO—113 St. Clair St., 2nd fl. Open daily. YOUNG PLOW—115 E. Federal St. Rm. 302. Phone 3-1855. Mon. through Sat., 11 a. m.-4:30 p. m.



TROTSKY

The CIO Faction Fight

It is obvious that Philip Murray and his associates in the leadership of the CIO have decided to press their campaign to smash the influence of the Stalinists, even at the peril of a split in the CIO itself.

The latest and most provocative incident in this campaign is the letter sent to all state and city CIO councils on March 8 by Murray's lieutenant, John Brophy. It laid down the line that the CIO's official policy "is one of express opposition to any third party in 1948 and one of positive support for the Marshall Plan"

But Brophy's letter did more than set down the line — it also attempted to dictate to elected CIO bodies what they shall do and what they shall not do: "Rejecting, tabling, or ignoring communications and statements from or by CIO officers, CIO-PAC, or the CIO Executive Board on these matters, or the adoption of compromise or conflicting positions constitutes a rejection of the CIO communications and statements and is action in conflict with CIO policy."

In other words, no matter what the elected members of CIO think and no matter what the workers who elected them think, they are ordered to OK the policies set forth by a small body of men in the national CIO office. If they don't, they are faced with the threat of receivership depriving them of the right to conduct their own affairs.

Witch Hunt in Detroit and Akron

The witch hunt, which has been systematically organized by the Wall Street warmongers and their government in Washington, scored two sinister successes in Detroit and Akron last week.

In the auto center three workers in the Briggs plant were driven out of the plant and their jobs by a self-constituted goon squad, which accused them of being "communists." In the rubber city, Langston Hughes, the well-known Negro poet, was denied a hall for a lecture and a reading of his poetry, on the grounds that he was a "red."

In both cases the local labor movement failed to take a stand against the anti-red hysteria and to alert the ranks against the terrible threat implied in it to the very existence of the unions themselves.

The officers of the Briggs local refused to take steps against the vigilante outsiders, and thereby in effect sanctioned their undemocratic, anti-union action. And while in Akron, George Bass, president of Goodrich Local 5 of the United Rubber Workers, offered the union hall for the Hughes lecture, he was over-ruled by the local's executive board.

"Taft-Hartley Unionism"

As we have frequently reported in our columns, the Murray leadership in the CIO is now aggressively pushing to isolate the Stalinists and drive them out of positions of leadership.

In addition to the broad fight led by Murray, on the basis of the big national "principles"—against a third party, for the Marshall Plan—the Social Democratic grouping in the Murray faction has undertaken a murderous flank attack organizationally against the Stalinist unions.

Thus the recent shipbuilders convention accepted into membership a group of several thousand workers who had seceded from the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers. Now, under Reuther's inspiration, the auto union has organized a big raiding campaign against the main Stalinist-led CIO unions: the Electrical, Farm Equipment, Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers. For instance in Cleve-

procedure as highhanded as the one being put into effect in the CIO today.

The result is that splits have already taken place in the Los Angeles and Newark Councils, and a similar situation faces the councils in New York City and elsewhere. On a national scale the CIO-PAC has in effect been split by the resignation of the officials of the United Electrical Workers.

The Stalinists are of course raising a big howl about democratic rights, but they are responsible for Murray's having far-reaching dictatorial powers under the CIO constitution. The Stalinists all supported at the 1946 CIO convention the motion to amend the rules concerning the local councils and giving Murray greatly increased powers to interfere with their activities.

Today the CIO is torn by the fight between two rotten factions — one led by Murray and the so-called responsible labor officials — one led by and guided by the arch-reactionary policies of the State Department, the other led by the Stalinists and guided by the arch-reactionary policies of the Kremlin. Neither has a program to meet the burning needs of the day. Neither has taken a step to let the members of the CIO decide the disputed questions.

Of course, all true militants will oppose the bureaucratic pretensions and encroachments of Murray and his stooges. But what is needed above all in the CIO today is a real left wing to consolidate the rank and file around a militant program that will lead them out of the swamp of confusion and subservience to capitalism. Such a left wing will only emerge and grow strong in struggle against the program and methods of both the Murray and the Stalinist bureaucracies.

Such cowardly conduct creates the kind of atmosphere most favorable for attacks against the labor movement as a whole. In Detroit, for example, the auto barons and their stooge police force have seized the opportunity to revive the notorious "red squad." Under the pretext of fighting the "reds" this labor-spy outfit will now resume its union-busting activities. The corporations and their agents apparently feel that the witch hunt hysteria has already reached the pitch where they can get away with almost anything, if only they label it "anti-communist."

Nothing can be more fatal than the idea, held by some unionists, that they can use the government-inspired red-baiting campaign as a weapon in the factional struggle against the Stalinist misleaders. The Stalinists are only the incidental and most convenient targets of this campaign. In reality, the whole labor movement is undermined by the attacks on the democratic rights of any of its members.

Unless the labor movement takes a firm stand against the spread of the witch hunt, it is contributing to the unfolding attack against itself.

The 5-Power Military Pact —A Preparation for War

By Arthur Burch

Even before the Marshall Plan has been enacted into law, American imperialism has pushed through its plan for a military entente of Western Europe.

With its blessing and at its insistence, England, France, Belgium, Holland and Luxembourg formed a West-European alliance directed against the Soviet Union.

That was the outcome of the recent meeting of the five powers at Brussels who expect to formally underwrite their agreement in the next few days. A common war strategy including the standardization of training and equipment has been formulated. The door is also left open for inclusion of Germany and other powers in Europe for the constitution of an all-embracing military bloc under Washington's domination.

CRACKED THE WHIP

This union was broached for the first time on Jan. 22 by British Foreign Minister Ernest Bevin. Normally it takes many months and even years for five sovereign nations to come to final terms on an alliance of such vast scope, where the elements of conflict are so numerous and far-reaching.

But these are not normal times, and the European powers have grown increasingly dependent on the American colossus. The ease with which Russia gained complete control over the destinies of Czechoslovakia has alarmed Washington and its European satellites, and now

the uneasy situation in both Italy and France has led the U. S. government to crack the whip over the 16 "Marshall-Plan" nations forcing them to subordinate their differences and join in a Western military bloc.

Simultaneously with the Brussels conference, another meeting of the same five powers was taking place in London for the purpose of integrating Western Germany into the war alliance. This was a far more complicated problem since the objections of France to a rehabilitated Germany had to be surmounted.

NO CHOICE Although the Ruhr has been internationalized in principle, it is conceded that Germany and not France will remain, as in the past, the core of European industry.

Following the London agreement, General Clay, Washington's German Administrator, issued an order ending the decartelization and decon-

solidation of German industry. Thus the big German monopolies will be preserved intact to be taken over by Wall Street, and readied for the war preparations that are now assuming a feverish character.

Moses Levy, M. D.

By Theodore Kovalsky

There had never been such a funeral before in the steel town, and there never has been since.

His name was Moses Levy, and his face was as Jewish as his name.

Who was Moses Levy? I don't know. I've never met anybody that did know.

At first nobody went to him. Jews weren't very common in our part of town.

The Negro Struggle

A Very Important Book

By Albert Parker

A very important book was published a few weeks ago—Caste, Class and Race by Oliver Cromwell Cox.

The price of the book is high (\$7.50) and that, unfortunately, will limit its circulation.

What is the origin of race prejudice? Dr. Cox's hypothesis is that racial exploitation and race prejudice developed among Europeans.

First he goes back to the history of the early empires, touching on the Greek and Roman especially.

In the 15th century the Portuguese, seeking a route to the trade in the Near East, began to invade Africa.

Education vs. Armaments

By Grace Carlson

Readin', Ritin' and 'Rithmetic are the much-talked-about and much-sung-about three R's.

In their recent study, "Unfinished Business in American Education," Professors John Norton and Eugene Lawler point out that:

- 1. Three million adults living in the United States have never attended any kind of school.
2. Ten million adult Americans have had so little real schooling that they are actually illiterate.

These tragic conditions exist because the capitalist

hard not to come into the world. It was four o'clock in the morning when a terrified Mike O'Leary rushed from his screaming, moaning wife and pounded a few minutes later on Dr. Levy's door.

The doctor looked at the broken-down furniture, at the frightened, shabby kids in the corner of the shack near the steel plant.

From that time Dr. Levy's practice grew. No one was ever turned away from his untidy little office.

But there were ghosts in his eyes and a sadness that never faded even in the night time when he prowled the streets drunk.

Then one day came when someone knocked on his door, and for the first time there was no answer.

Nobody came to claim the body, so in a way we all claimed it.

THE MILITANT

New York Printing Bosses Seek To Wipe Out Union Conditions

By Fred Newman

NEW YORK—At a special meeting attended by over 5,000 printers at Manhattan Center on March 13, the membership of Local 6 of the International Typographical Union, passed by an overwhelming vote of 4,001 to 49, the motion to request the Executive Council to recognize as a lockout the provocative move of the New York printing bosses in posting new conditions of employment in New York's book and job shops.

The new conditions of employment arbitrarily increase the work week from 36 1/2 to 40 hours at the same hourly pay scale; the boss is permitted to hire as many apprentices as he wishes, regardless of proportion to journeymen; the men must perform any work brought into the plant, even "struck work"; the men cannot refuse to work overtime; all hiring and firing is to be done directly through the office instead of by the foreman, who is a member of the union.

This union-busting move on the part of the employers is part and parcel of the national campaign to break the ITU by means of the Taft-Hartley Law. As in Chicago, Philadelphia and other large centers, the N. Y. employers have refused for four and a half months to discuss any economic issues until the union promises to sign a one-year contract.

Workers Driven from Jobs at Briggs Plant

DETROIT, Mar. 16—The red-baiting drive of the employers and their agents within the labor movement has reached the hysteria stage in Detroit.

Hard on the heels of a featured series appearing on the front pages of the Detroit News, headed "Communist Plot Exposed," Harry Toy, newly appointed Police Commissioner, announced the revival of the notorious "red squad" in the police department.

The News series, authorized by James Sweinhart, is a rehash of all the old garbage thrown at the socialist movement. Lies, slanders, and distortions feature every line.

The revival of Toy's "red squad" or "subversive activities squad" brings new dangers to the Detroit labor movement. This squad will try to smear and intimidate any labor leader or active unionist who takes a militant stand in defense of labor's rights.

This stepped-up red hysteria immediately found an echo in the plants. Backward workers, under the influence of the red-baiting campaign, removed three workers from their jobs at the Briggs Vernor plant.

That afternoon, in a special departmental meeting, Ken Morris, president of the Briggs Local of the auto union, instructed the men to return to work and requested the department to refrain from further actions against the three men.

Morris had just been elected to the local presidency against Tony Czerwinski, in a campaign which was a mixture of red-baiting and slanderous attacks upon the expenditure of local union funds.

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Relief for the Greedy



Testifying before the Senate finance committee, President Emil Schram of the New York Stock Exchange endorsed the Knutson tax bill that would help the rich very much and the low-wage earner very little.

Mine Workers Strike Against Fund Sabotage

(Continued from Page 1)

collected in the welfare fund is still "in the bank."

He said that the miners have waited patiently more than eight months to get the benefits of the fund, but that Ezra Van Horn, the trustee for the operators, had placed continuous obstacles in the way.

Lewis, in his letter, said the bituminous coal operators "have dishonored the 1947 wage agreement and defaulted under its provisions."

Youngstown To Show Robeson Movie

NATIVE LAND, a full length film on civil liberties in the U. S., featuring Paul Robeson, will be shown under the auspices of the Youngstown Militant Labor Forum, on Saturday night, April 3, at 8 p.m.

Harlem NAACP Fights N. Y. Police Brutality

NEW YORK, Mar. 11—"A campaign of vigorous action will be launched by the New York Branch of the NAACP to put an end to the reign of police brutality against the colored people of Harlem," according to the announcement made today by Herbert Hill, chairman of the newly created Committee for Action Against Police Brutality of the New York NAACP.

The committee was organized at the February meeting of the NAACP which was one of the largest and liveliest in the recent history of the New York Branch.

tract is no contract to the miners. And they are now acting according to their time-honored tradition of "no contract, no work."

Van Horn, the operators' representative, has called the mine walk-out a "plot" against the Taft-Hartley Act.

TRUMAN PREPARING

Truman, who spearheaded the strike-breaking assault on the mine strikes of 1946 and initiated the infamous injunction, is reported preparing to intervene with authority provided by the Taft-Hartley Act.

The UMW health and welfare fund is of paramount importance to the miners because of the hazardous and insecure nature of their work.

Their fund is an attempt to provide a minimum of protection and security which reflects to the highest degree the anarchy and greed of the capitalist system.

One of the main purposes of the Taft-Hartley Act is to deny the miners even this miserable measure of aid and security.

The committee announced that NAACP office at 2272 7th Avenue will be open Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings to hear information and complaints concerning police brutality.

CLOSED SHOP VITAL

The union policy is either to sign a contract containing a clause permitting either side to terminate the contract in 60 days if the other side is not living up to the agreement, or to post its own conditions of employment under which its members will work.

The March 13 meeting was addressed by International President Randolph and Vice President Brown. Randolph pointed to the success of ITU policy in obtaining 651 new seals since Taft-Hartley Day.

Hitherto conservative printers shouted indignantly, "They're liars!" when Randolph cited instances of distortions printed by the daily press controlled by the publishers.

The ITU union rules require sanction of a lockout by the International Executive Council, and then only after it has attempted to negotiate a settlement.

BOSSSES PREPARING

At the same time, New York's major newspaper publishers are preparing to lock out their union printers when present contracts expire March 31.

Philadelphia Forum For Militant Readers

THE COMING THIRD AMERICAN REVOLUTION will be the topic of the open forum to be held by the Philadelphia Branch of the Socialist Workers Party, on Friday, March 26, at 8 p.m.

Fronting for the publishers is the anti-labor National Labor Relations Board which is fighting in the courts to secure a national injunction against the typographical union.

This program can save the nickel fare. The labor movement has the strength to organize the forces to defeat the banker-real estate crowd.

MAYOR O'DWYER'S CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE NICKEL FARE

By George Clarke

After a year of political juggling, the 5-cent fare football has landed back where it started—in the arms of Mayor O'Dwyer.

There is an important difference, however, between the situation today and the one that existed in Feb. 1947.

Although the Republican majority in Albany killed the referendum law, it must now be clear that O'Dwyer and the Democratic Party have a lion's share in depriving the people of this democratic right.

It was O'Dwyer who first demanded last November that the referendum be abolished and the fare be raised.

We predicted then that, in the absence of a mass protest movement which would threaten to boot O'Dwyer out of office, the Democrats would discard most of the "package" when faced with a showdown with the Republican majority in Albany.

Only one factor explains the failure of the Democrats to make this compromise: the Isaacson victory in the Bronx.

power granted him and his Board of Transportation.

The Daily Worker hailed O'Dwyer's new promise as a "partial victory" for the fight to keep the nickel fare.

O'Dwyer succeeded in dragging the Social Democratic and Stalinist trade union leaders together with the ALP and Liberal Party leaders behind him in each maneuver.

In this way, the nickel fare issue

was kept off the ballot last November to permit the referendum abolishing Proportional Representation to pass and thus eliminate the threat of reprisal at the polls.

One of the most shameful leaflets in the history of the trade union movement, separating the interests of the transport workers from the rest of the working class, was issued by the TWU officials calling upon their membership to "Get Into the Fight" for the higher fare.

The Stalinist leaders of the CIO Council refused to change their position on the nickel fare as Quill

had done. But the opposition to O'Dwyer—the part of Stalinist, CIO, ALP and CP leaders—was of the paper variety.

It is now almost inevitable that O'Dwyer will refuse wage increases to the transport workers and lay off personnel in other departments on the grounds that the city is broke.

will probably use his new powers to raise the fare.

This program can save the nickel fare. The labor movement has the strength to organize the forces to defeat the banker-real estate crowd.

The 5-cent fare can be saved, but it must be saved now! If the labor movement rests on its haunches until the November elections, it might as well be kissed goodbye.

In addition, the Stalinist and Social Democratic stand on city financing was indistinguishable from O'Dwyer's. It still is.

1. A petition campaign must be launched by the labor movement to place on the ballot next November a referendum to restore the right of the people of New York to vote on the fare.

2. A mass movement must be set on foot to compel the legislature to grant New York the right to tax Wall Street securities, as a means of financing the city's transportation system and other services with-

out placing an additional tax on the poor.

The transportation workers must be freed of the dictatorship of the banker-real estate dominated Board of Transportation.

3. The city must expropriate the subway. It must stop paying the robber baron's ransom of over 57 million dollars annually to the bankers in interest charges to sustain the crooked deal whereby the city bought back from private interests railroads built and operated primarily with tax-payers' money.

conditions.