

# THE MILITANT

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### SPECIAL SIX-PAGE MAY DAY ISSUE

# AUTO WORKERS HIT TRUMAN RAW DEAL

## Troops for Europe OK'd by Senate; the People Ignored

By John G. Wright

After three months of the "Great Debate," the Senate adopted on April 4 a resolution approving by a vote of 69 to 21 the shipment of four U.S. army divisions to Europe. This resolution follows the main lines of the original administration "compromise" which had been denounced by the Republican opposition, in particular by Sen. Bricker as "a sham, a hoax, a fraud on the American people." It is exactly that.

The American people are being flim-flammed; their expressed wishes brazenly flouted. Truman and his associates are responsible. But the administration is not alone. Equally responsible is the Republican opposition led by Taft, Wherry and their associates. There is not a single voice in either Senate or House that today speaks for the people, expressing their will and interests.

Poll after public poll has shown that the overwhelming majority are opposed to war and to the sending of more troops to Europe. This mass anti-war sentiment is what politicians like Taft are seeking to exploit in jockeying for advantages in the 1952 Presidential elections.

The latest Gallup poll shows that the majority of the American public are convinced "that the Truman administration is not doing as much as it should to head off" war. The fact is, neither are the Republican opponents of the administration.

On Apr. 2 Taft, Wherry and their bloc succeeded in passing their "advisory resolution" by a vote of 49 to 43. This unquestionably was a vote of no confidence in the Truman administration, but they too underwrote the sending of four divisions to Europe. What divides the opposing sides in Congress are simply such tactical differences as how many troops should be sent abroad and who should have the final say: Congress or Truman. Both agree that the people shall have no say at all.

As matters stand, Congress has no say, either. "Further Congressional approval" is written into the Apr. 4 Senate resolution before any more "ground troops" in addition to such four divisions should be sent to Western Europe. But this is part and parcel of the whole fraudulent transaction. It has no legally binding effect on Truman. A previous attempt in the Senate to enact what would amount to a law in this connection was defeated.

Furthermore, an army division is a highly flexible thing and the Pentagon can now ship at their

pleasure double or triple the currently estimated number of 100,000 soldiers without "violating" the "expressed sentiment" of Congress.

In the course of the debate Sen. Taft flatly asserted that he knew that more U.S. troops were being actually ordered to Europe before Congress had even acted.

### Bulletin

#### 18,569 VOTES

cast for

Myra Tanner Weiss

Socialist Workers Party

endorsed candidate

in

Los Angeles Election

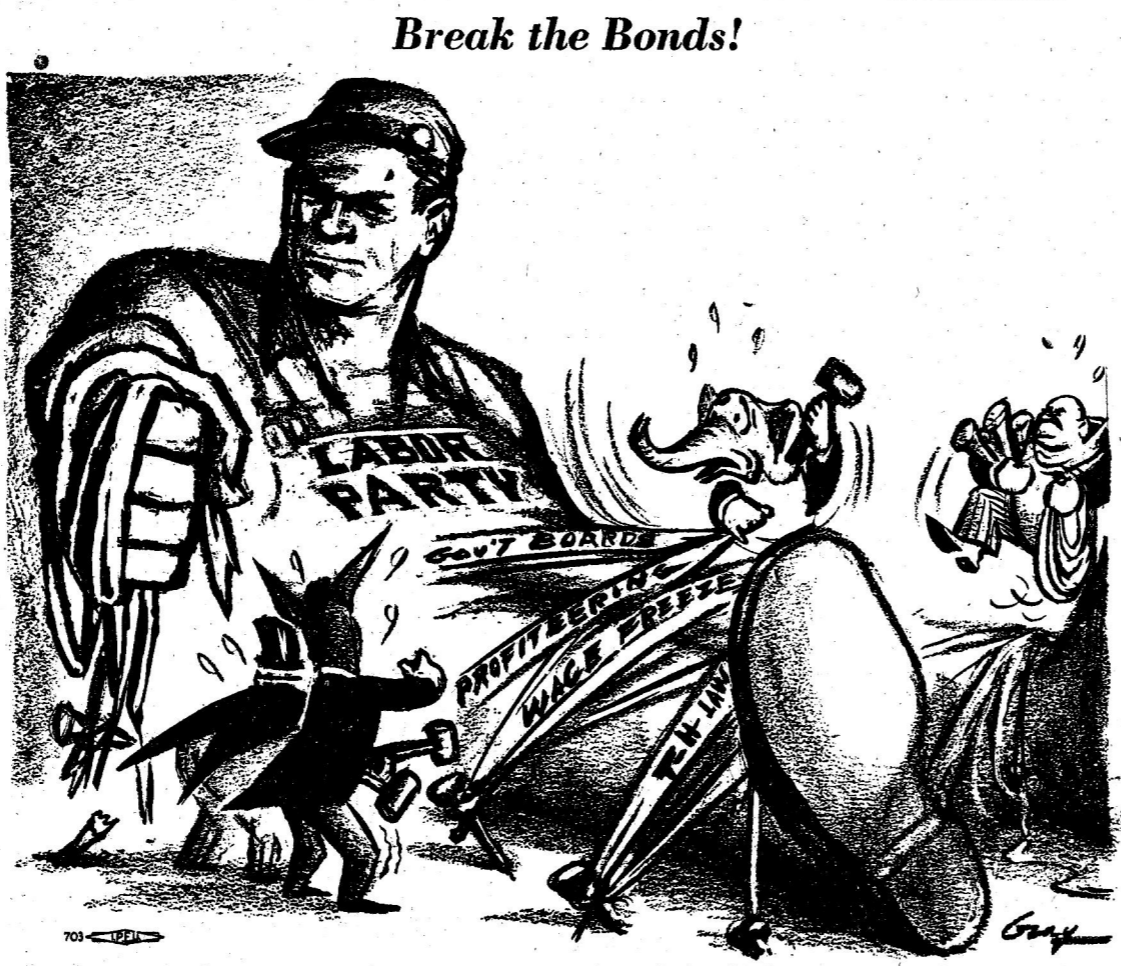
See story on page 4

Taft and other Senators have repeatedly charged that Truman has been usurping dictatorial powers. "I have never witnessed such a concerted effort to place such power in the hands of the President as is now being attempted," stated Sen. McClellan. This, too, is absolutely so. In face of such a grave threat honest opponents of military dictatorship would demand the immediate intervention of the people. But not the Tafts and the McClellans!

The character of these people is disclosed by the fact that they just barely failed to pass a resolution, sponsored by the notorious McCarthy, ordering the inclusion of Franco Spain in the arms plans for Europe. But they did succeed in including a provision to this effect in the Apr. 4 resolution!

The attempts to stamper the American people were underscored last week by the deliberately timed "warning" of Speaker Rayburn of the House that the U.S. is already faced with "maybe the beginning of World War III."

Neither the administration nor the Republican opposition will protect the people's interests. A crouched people must assert itself and demand that it settle through a national referendum the whole issue of peace and war, including the sending of troops abroad.



Break the Bonds!

## Trenton Six "Confessed" -- In Pain, Sick, Dazed

By George Lavan

TRENTON, April 4—Argument on the admissibility of the forced confessions of the framed-up Trenton Six still continues. The jury is out of the box until the judge makes his ruling.

The prosecution has first say in the argument and is still presenting its witnesses in an attempt to show that despite the four-day-and-five-night incommunicado arrest and grilling of the six Negro men, they "confessed" voluntarily. When the prosecution has finished, the defense will begin putting its witnesses on the stand. Each side may cross-examine the witnesses of the other.

Most of the prosecution witnesses to date have been police and detectives who were involved in the arrest and extortion of the "confessions." In cross-examination defense lawyers have brought out many contradictions in the testimony of these witnesses with the testimony given at the first

trial. A main endeavor of the defense is to force the prosecution to put Lieut. William Smalley, a key figure in the police investigation of the crime, on the stand. The prosecution has refused so far to produce Smalley, claiming a sore knee confines him to bed.

Today the prosecution put Peyton Manning, a Negro politician, on the stand. This witness' credibility had previously been assured by NAACP attorney R. P. Alexander who asked a police witness if it was not true that Manning was "an informer of the police."

Manning's first act on the stand was to attempt to explain how he "got into the case in the first place." According to him he received a phone call at his filling station late one night from Dr. Sullivan, a Negro physician. Together, and not knowing what was pending, they went to the police station where the Negro prisoners were about to make

their "confessions." Waiting was a large group of police officials and the prosecuting attorney. Then with Manning as an observer the "confessions" began. Although he had known two of the prisoners for about eight years, he made no attempt to talk to them alone, was not spoken to by any of the prisoners. Defense counsel tried to ask Manning whether the thought occurred to him "what am I doing here?" But the line of questioning was ruled out. In argument, however, the defense asserted that after the terrorization of the prisoners in the long nights of grilling the police brought in the Negro doctor, who was given a city job a week later, and Manning "merely to observe certain constitutional amenities at the signing ceremony."

In cross examination the defense drew damaging admissions from Manning: When Horace Wilson was brought in to sign he refused stating: "I didn't have anything to do with it and I wasn't there. You can go to Robbinville and find a man there who can tell you where I was at the time."

Manning also told how Thorpe, whose arm had been amputated eight days before the crime with which he and the others are falsely charged, and in pain, had tears in his eyes and was frightened. Furthermore, Manning admitted, Thorpe didn't answer questions coherently but rumbled. Thorpe declared he wouldn't sign, but after 20 or 25 minutes did sign, saying: "I know I'm going to get life if I sign."

Manning also admitted that McKinley Forest "seemed to be in a daze and was highly nervous." Forest had difficulty in signing his initials to the "confession." It was brought out that Collis English, a veteran, who suffers from malaria and a rheumatic heart, was sick and in need of medical attention. Others were "disheveled and incoherent."

Although Manning denies remembering Dr. Sullivan asking if a prisoner had been smoking marijuana, he admits hearing some question or statement with the word "drugs" or "drugged" in it. This supports the defense contention that sodium amytal was used in getting the prisoners prepared to "confess."

## Hansen Exposes Big Business Drive to War

SAN FRANCISCO, April 1—Attentive audiences in San Francisco and Oakland heard Joseph Hansen speak on the topic "America and the World Crisis—The Socialist Answer to Capitalist Militarism" at a meeting sponsored by the Socialist Workers Party.

"The police action in Korea which began as 'Operation Democracy' now ends up as 'Operation Killer'" declared Hansen. "As a result of this attempt to export democracy Korea is now two-thirds destroyed—the worst devastation of any war in modern history."

### WORLD DOMINATION

Hansen proved conclusively that the drive of U.S. financial and industrial interests and their Washington tools is to dominate every corner of the globe. "Truman is now in the process of spending 98½ billion dollars for wars past, present and future. These costs will have to be paid by the American workers."

In contrast to these prospects, Hansen quoted from the current book "Land of Plenty" written by the architect Walter Teague, as proof of what progress could be made "if the economy were turned loose. But this could only happen when the workers take over the industries and operate them in their own interests."

Below is the schedule of Hansen's Coast to Coast tour:

Saturday	Apr. 7	Los Angeles
Sunday	8	"
Monday	9	"
Tuesday	10	"
Wednesday	11	"
Friday	13	Salt Lake City
Saturday	14	"
Sunday	15	"
Monday	16	"
Tuesday	17	"
Friday	20	St. Louis
Sunday	22	Detroit
Monday	23	"
Tuesday	24	Flint
Wednesday	25	Detroit
Thursday	26	Youngstown
Friday	27	"
Saturday	28	Pittsburgh
Sunday	29	"
Tuesday	May 1	New York
Friday	4	Newark
Sunday	6	Baltimore
Saturday	12	Phila.

## Minority Pushes For Labor Party

By Art Preis

CLEVELAND, April 2—For the first time since the founding of the CIO United Automobile Workers, a national convention of America's largest union has heard a

direct attack by its top leaders on the Democratic administration in Washington. Yesterday's opening session here of the UAW's 13th Convention, attended by some 2,500 delegates, was featured by sharp open criticism of Truman personally and his administration.

### TRUMAN NAMED

UAW Secretary - Treasurer Mazy, assailing Truman by name, declared that "the President in this administration has given the people of this nation a raw deal" and that "President Truman cannot escape his full share of responsibility for the confusion and for the mess that the mobilization program finds itself in at the present time." He accused Truman of responsibility for putting Big Business executives in complete control of war mobilization and the government's war agencies.

UAW President Walter Reuther, in his keynote address at the start of the convention yesterday morning, went as far as he has yet dared to go in public pointing the finger of blame at the White House for the Big-Business domination and policies that led to the recent withdrawal of the American labor leaders from the Wage Stabilization Board and all other government war agencies.

Reuther still did not mention Truman's name, but he was unmistakably, if deviously, referring to Truman when he said that "Mr. Wilson (war mobilization czar Charles W. Wilson) is responsible for a lot of things in Washington, and people in administrative positions who were elected to office may be able to delegate authority, but they cannot abdicate responsibility."

Delegates from the floor quickly picked up Mazy's attack on Truman, which received an ovation, and pressed to have it attached to a resolution in support of the program of the United Labor Policy Committee on which the UAW secretary-treasurer was speaking. Reuther agreed.

### RESOLUTION

"RESOLVED that this Convention calls upon the United Labor Policy Committee to convoke a representative Congress of Labor to take steps for the speedy formation of an Independent Labor Party in preparation for the 1952 elections."

The members of the resolutions committee sponsoring the above position are:

- Bert Foster, Cleveland Fisher Body Local 45 (recently elected president of this local on a Reuther slate);
- James Schuetz, Buffalo Bell Aircraft Local 501;
- Robert J. Winters, Bristol GM New Departure Local 626.

### MAJORITY POSITION

The majority resolution on political action calls for the "holding of a representative conference of labor for the purpose of exploring . . . the best means of advancing the general welfare of the common people."

This majority position coincides with the official line of the ULPC to leave the door open for a deal with the Democratic Party by its "wait and see" attitude.

The two positions will be debated on the convention floor when the Resolutions Committee reports out tomorrow. Full details on this important debate will be carried in our next issue.

## UAW DELEGATES IN FOREIGN POLICY DEBATE FLAY TRUMAN'S KOREA WAR

CLEVELAND, Apr. 2—A dramatic debate on the Korea war unexpectedly climaxed this morning's session of the CIO United Automobile Workers convention at the huge Public Hall here. A half-dozen delegates took the floor to sharply criticize a resolution, presented by Reuther's resolutions committee, that gave full and uncritical support to U.S. imperialism's intervention in Korea.

### WITHDRAW THE TROOPS

The debate was touched off by John Anderson, of Detroit Fleetwood Local 15, World War II veteran and anti-Stalinist union militant, who charged that the resolution did not express the true sentiments of the overwhelming majority of the American people. "They have been for the withdrawal of our troops in Korea," he declared. "I am for the withdrawal of our troops from Korea."

Anderson's sharp, straightforward-shoulder statement, in a voice that rang vigorous and clear throughout the auditorium packed with 3,500 delegates and visitors, electrified the assembly, which listened in absorbed silence punctuated at several points by applause.

UAW President Walter Reuther, who appeared visibly disturbed during Anderson's powerful indictment of U.S. policy in Korea, broke into the middle of the debate following Anderson's talk and hastily announced, in response to the Local 15 president's

charges, that "we are also opposed to the corrupt reactionary regime of Syngman Rhee," Washington's puppet dictator in South Korea. Reuther said that the resolutions committee was agreeable to "clarifying" the original resolution by adding a line expressing opposition to Rhee.

Supporters of the resolution did not attempt to answer Anderson's charges, nor the blistering indictment of the mistreatment of American Negro troops on the Korean front made by Ernest Dillard, also of Local 15 and one of the most prominent Negro unionists in Detroit. Several of the pro-Korea war speakers admitted that the opponents of the resolution were "honest trade-unionists" and not Stalinists. Their remarks were confined to the theme of "Communist aggression" and the treachery of the Stalinists.

Anderson said, "If during the past 18 years of my activity in the labor movement I had not been in opposition to the Communist Party and its policies within our union, I would feel somewhat embarrassed to make a speech criticizing this resolution. However, I am not trying to defend the role of the Communists are playing in the Korea war or in the Far East generally. But I think a resolution on Korea should express the sentiments of the American people better than this resolution does."

He pointed out that "numerous polls" taken throughout the country have shown "the people have

criticized and have been in overwhelming opposition to our intervention and to the war in Korea" and that "they have been for the withdrawal of the troops in Korea."

He recalled that a National CIO representative in Korea just before the outbreak of the war "gave a lot of factual information as to what the Syngman Rhee regime represented in Korea, and that was no different than Chiang Kai-shek and Bao Dai and other puppets of the wealthy class in the Far East."

Anderson related his observations of imperialism while he was overseas in the U.S. Army during the last war. "I spent two years and observed first hand the conditions of Asian workers under the French rule in a French colony. Of course, the American Army was there, and although this war was supposed to have been fought for the four freedoms, I saw these Asian workers treated as abject slaves."

"The French overlords had those workers for ten years in the mines, and I can't conceive the workers in a Soviet slave labor camp being treated any worse than these workers that I saw under French and American rule. The Americans gave the French the arms and the ammunition to keep these workers in subjection."

### A CIVIL WAR

The Korean war, he said, "is not just inspired by Soviet agents (Continued on Page 2)

## Life of a Railway Engineer

By One Who Has Lived It

The first time I remember wanting to be a locomotive engineer was one day when my brother and myself were in town visiting our cousins. We were on an errand for my aunt to the grocery store, and to get to the store we had to cross the railroad tracks. At the depot stood a freight train with the biggest engine I had ever seen. The engineer was oiling it so we walked over in order to get a better view of this wonderful machine. After a few minutes the engineer began talking to us. The one thing which I remember he asked us even after 45 years was what we were going to be when we grew up. I told him, an engineer.

After about five more years of living on a farm, and always dreaming of a job as a railroad man, I was in town one day when the local freight arrived. I hurried to the depot to watch the crew doing their switching. The fireman must have seen by the expression on my face that I was

very interested in the engine, because he began talking to me. That led up to my asking if he would let me come up into the cab. He told me to come on up. That really was a thrill; I still remember the number of that engine. For several years after that I'd go to town every chance I got just to get a chance to ride on an engine. I got to know many of the men who worked on that division.

At seventeen, after the fall work had been finished on the farm, I bought a ticket to the city to see about getting a job firing. I was told I was too young, but to come back when I became an age.

### ON THE JOB

I made that same trip every fall, trying every railroad that entered the city, always with about the same answer. The fall before my 21st birthday was the exception. When I entered the office of the Superintendent, the chief clerk there remembered me

from my previous visits. He greeted me by my first name, and asked if I still wanted to go firing. I told him that was what I came for. He took me into another room and gave me different colored yarns, and told me to name the color. I must have passed the test because he gave me an application form to fill out. From there, he sent me to the company doctor for my physical examination. I got through that and reported back to the Superintendent Clerk, and was given a letter addressed to engineers. The letter gave my name and stated I was permitted to ride locomotives for the purpose of learning to become a fireman.

That afternoon, a cold snowy day in December, I embarked on my railroad career. Had I known then what I've learned since, the railroad industry would have had one less engineer.

The train was finally gotten ready, and we started for the other end of the division 100

miles away. The fireman told me to sit on the seat box and watch him for a few miles to get an idea of how to keep this big Mikado engine hot. Locomotives sure had grown in size since that day years ago when my brother, cousin and myself went to the grocery for my aunt.

After a thrilling ride of twenty miles, the fireman called me down on the deck and explained a couple of things to me about how to read a fire. By this time, it was dark and after that first look into the roaring inferno of that big firebox, the only thing I could see was a very bright spot that was so hot it singed my eyebrows off, set fire to my gloves and overalls.

### FIRE BLIND

I started shoveling coal, or rather, tried to. I was completely fire blind by this time so I could not see the steam gauge to know whether or not I was keeping the engine hot. After about five

(Continued on page 2)





