Our Answer to Bevin's Speech

Twice in recent times, most recently at the Labor Party Conference in Bournemouth, Ernest Bevin, Britain's Foreign Minister and a spokesman for the Labor Party, has delivered himself of remarks that plumb the viciousness of anti-Semitism. Speaking at Bournemouth, Bevin accused United States government leaders of advocating the admission of 100,000 tortured

BEVIN-PRO-IMPERIALIST "LABOR STATESMAN"



European Jews into Palestine because they "did not want too many of them in New York."

Considered in any light Bevin's statement was revolting. But so too was the hypocritical clamor in the American press which, in flaying Bevin, completely and deliberately skirted the real issue.

It. is plainly the elementary duty of all those in whom the ravages of an imperialist world of terror and famine have not yet stilled the ability to be shocked, to rise in protest. For socialists, viewing the disgraceful spectacle of a man who pretends to speak for labor being party to the reactionary foulness of an imperialist government, this obligation is even sterner. But our obligation extends beyond that to a consid-

eration of the role of the British Labor government, and to a consideration of the American government's policy and objec-

THE KEY TO BEVIN'S POLICY

The key to Bevin's statement is not in its anti-Semitism, for Bevin is not an anti-Semite. The key to it lies in the Labor Party leadership's attempt to salvage what remains of British imperialism. Tied to British imperialism, incapable of uprooting it for to do so would mean to loose an uncontrollable torrent of revolutionary action against capitalist rule in England and in the colonies, the Labor Party leaders are driven to extremes of reactionary position. Thus, the Labor Party which as late as 1945 held to a policy that was generally interpreted (and criticized) as pro-Zionist, today displays a callous disregard for the indescribable plight of Europe's Jewish population, subjects Palestine to a terror that exceeds the Black and Tan terror in Ireland, conspires with the most reactionary elements in the Arab nationalist leadership.

Such are the inevitable consequences of a policy that seeks to hold together the collapsing British empire. No more than its Tory predecessor, Churchill, does the Labor government propose to preside over the liquidation of the Empire. Hard pressed by irate colonial masses the world over, impoverished by the encroachments of Russian and U. S. imperialist strength, subjected to the pressure of the working class at home which expects sweeping social changes, British capitalism combines desperate reaction (as in Palestine) with unavoidable and tricky concessions (as in India). And its instrument is the Labor Party govern-

Perhaps a bigger disgrace than Bevin's statement is the fact PAC Policies that it passed without challenge at the Bournemouth conference. The mandate the Labor Party received when the working class of England elected it to power, was NOT a mandate to preside over the oppression of colonial peoples and the persecution of Jews. Therein is indicated the task of revolutionaries in England —to encourage revolutionary opposition to the policies of the Attlee-Bevin government, to expose the damage that Attlee-Bevin are doing the working class, to create a breach between the Labor Party leadership and the Labor Party ranks in exerting pressure for a socialist execution of the working class mandate.

RESPONSIBILITY OF U. S. IMPERIALISM

As revolutionary socialists, and therefore as internationalists, the concerns of the British socialists are very much our own. But as socialists in the United States, the policies of the U.S. government, and the actions of the working class here are our particular interest.

Therefore, while we rise to denounce Bevin, we simultaneously denounce in equally strong language the hypocrisy of "our" statesmen who covered the bitter truth with a flood of moral indignation. The Meads and Wagners, the hundreds of public "figures" who issued statements to the press, inundated columns of newspaper space with their beguiling hypocrisy.

But this is the fact: the United States will not permit free immigration of Jews, or of any people, into the United States.

If Bevin could get away with his statement, it is only because there is this much truth in it: the Meads and Wagners are doing nothing to open the doors of the United States!

Truman has very nobly urged the admission of 100,000 Jews into Palestine. It suits the policy of American imperialism in its pressure on British imperialism to do so. But the quotas for admission to the United States are so abysmally low as to mean nothing at all to the European Jews who wish desperately to leave

The immediate issue in Bevin's statement is the opening of Palestine to free Jewish immigration. However, the working class of the United States cannot seriously champion the right of the Jewish people to enter Palestine, or any other country unless they first champion the right to enter THIS country. It is not a question of how many Jews wish to go to the United States in preference to Palestine or vice versa, nor of how many the United States could accommodate (though it is plain that if Palestine can accommodate 100,000, the U.S. can accommodate many times that number).

What is involved is a democratic right that is integral to working class and socialist policy. What is involved is a bond that the working class of any country shares with the persecuted and

(Continued on page 4) 5 g w . a., -05 Control of London

LABOR ACTION

June 24, 1946 A PAPER IN THE INTERESTS OF LABOR

ONE CENT

Here Is a Program to - -

STOP PRICE RISE!

Reuther Group Triumphs At Mich. CIO Convention

The Michigan State Convention of the CIO which met in Detroit on June 10-12 was dominated by the personality of Walter P. Reuther, president of the United Auto Workers Union. The strength of the convention lay in the strength of the program which is identified with Reuther, and its weakness lay in the weakness of that program. There was no other program. The delegates divided into two camps, those who sup-

MARITIME BULLETIN

We have just received word, as we go to press, that the Seafarers International Union, AFL, has rejected the counter - proposals of the ship owners. The militant SIU-SUP is now standing by for action.

Next week's LABOR AC-TION will carry full details. (See page 2 for story on NMU settlement.)

Akron CIO Revolts on

By GEORGE WHITNEY

AKRON-That the CIO here is learning why the PAC is inadequate was demonstrated forcefully at the CIO Council's regular meeting this week.

In that meeting, a rank and file revolt against the policies of the PAC broke into the open. The PAC of Akron has backed Walter B. Huber for re-election to the House of Representatives and presumably is proud of it. Huber has been their outstanding political candidate. So much so that when the rubber workers held a mass meeting in Akron several months ago to discuss the strike wave and the then pending rubber strike, those who attended were treated to a talk by Huber. At that time he solidarized himself with the CIO of Akron to this extent: he told them, "Don't call me the Honorable Walter B. Huber, just call me plain Walter." This was a magnificent gesture and did not pass by unnoticed by the leadership of the PAC. In fact, those PAC leaders have, on every possible occasion, shouted their praises of Huber.

(Continued on page 4)

ported Reuther's program and those who opposed it. Reuther intervened personally in the convention, addressing the delegates and organizing a caucus of his followers to win control of the State CIO.

The pro-Reuther forces put forward as candidate for president August Scholle and for secretary-treasurer, Barney Hopkins. The anti-Reuther group ran Glen Sigman and W. G. Grant. In a fairly close election the Reuther forces triumphed by about 400 votes-2,200 to 1,800.

As at the last UAW convention, the real convention issues were not clearly presented to the delegates. The written declarations of both sides appeared similar. It was necessary to read between the lines of the written material and above all to attend the caucuses of the two factions which are as much part of the convention as the formal sessions themselves, for it is here that the delegates and the leaders speak freely.

THE ANTI-REUTHER BLOC

The convention line-up was: Reuther against the field. The anti-Reuther bloc was a coalition between the conservative right-wingers who follow Thomas and Philip Murray and the Communist Party led by Nat Ganley and John Anderson of Local 155. They combined to "get Reuther. The Murray-Thomas supporters were motivated by a conservative distaste for Reuther's new radical approach, the Communists by their desire for a pro-Stalin policy.

The aims of the CP stick out in the program of the Sigman-Grant slate. For example: "We repudiate all efforts calculated to weaken or destroy the friendship and close collaboration of Great Britain, the Soviet Union, and the United States within the United Nations" and further "We favor independence for all colonies . . ." These phrases are the key to all Stalinist policy in the present period. On the one hand, the first formula outlaws any criticism of the Russian occupation of Europe as an attempt to "weaken or destroy" the United Nations. But on the other hand, the formula for colonial independence legalizes all attacks on the imperialist rivals of Russia. How sensitive the CP is on this key question was demonstrated at the convention

The pro-Philip Murray character of the anti-Reuther bloc was equally clear. Sigman himself is a paid official on the staff of the Steel Workers Union. It is unlikely that he would move without at least tacit support from Murray. The slogans of this group were: "Support Murray supporters" and "For a unified strategy under the leadership of Philip Mur-

The anti-Reuther bloc, was totally incapable of presenting any ideas or program to the convention. Any constructive ideas were already incorporated in the Reuther program and so they confined themselves to a miserable campaign of sniping. They killed one and one half days of the convention in a fight over technicalities involved in the seating of dele-

They held their caucus meetings under the slogan of "efficiency" and "good government" in the State CIO. Arguing on the lowest level of slander they hinted, without even an attempt at proof, that somewhere and somehow there was misuse of funds

\$250,000,000.

(Continued on page 2)

\$250 Millions!

of 1 cent per can will amount to in one year!

The time has come to talk of milk and butter, of meat and sugar. And also of rent and clothes and household utensils.

The time has come to talk of prices—that is, if you're willing to take the risk of straining your eyes watching them go higher

What are we going to do? That's the question. And that's the question we propose to answer here. But before we discuss that, just a few words and a few figures on the facts as they are now. We know that every reader is aware of them, if he or his wife has to go out shopping, but just to refresh your memory:

PRICES THEN AND NOW: The Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that most of the products which make up the average family's budget cost more than half as much more now than they did before the war. Cotton garments, for example, have gone up 84 per cent.

PRICES AS THEY ARE NOW: Last week we reported in LABOR ACTION how the price of butter went up 11 cents (that's the official figure, which doesn't take into account the reality of

> black market prices) and that cheddar cheese went up six cents and that evaporated milk went up a penny a can and that bread went up a penny a loaf. (In New York, there wasn't enough bread but there was plenty of cake, on which they could make more profit than on bread.) These prices were okayed by the OPA.

PRICES AS THEY NOW THREATEN TO JUMP: The big price jump is yet to come. If the murderous amendments to the OPA which have been passed by Congress are made into law, then-and these are the real figures, astronomical though they may seem-

- Meat will go up 40 to 50 per per cent! That means an additional cost to consumers—and additional profits to the meat packers — of \$2,600,000,000. That's right, you read it correctly: Two billion six hundred million dollars!
- · Milk will go up four cents a quart. The increased cost to the workers who are the bulk of the country will be \$900,000,-
- The increased cost of woolen and rayon products will amount to \$1,000,000,000!
- The increase in cotton goods will amount to \$60,000,000!

IN A WORD: THE COST OF LIVING WILL GO UP 50 PER CENT IF THE PRES-ENT VERSION OF THE OPA BILL IS PASSED!

Think of how prices have already risen. Think now what will happen as prices continue to go up on all items. It means that the workers of this country will be fleeced of

That's what the price rise in butter of 11 cents a pound,

Add up all the pennies that workers will have to pay for

These price increases were OKed and ordered by the

in cheddar cheese of 6 cents a pound, and in evaporated milk

this increase in the price of dairy goods and it comes to

OPA. The OPA which is fighting for its life in Congress now,

is evidently trying to show Big Business that it will continue

to agree to "reasonable" price increases if it is allowed to

Billions Each Year! Why? There are no "reasonable" price increases. Prices

are already way too high, sky-high in fact. The workers are being squeezed on every side. Each dollar is worth less and less each passing week.

The time has come for action. That means:

First and foremost: THE GM STRIKE PROGRAM, which proposed that prices be controlled by the workers who produce the products. Once the chain of price rises has started, it's too late. Get it at the source.

AND WITH THE GM PROGRAM:

Price committees in each city, each neighborhood. This is a job for our unions. They must take the lead in organizing such committees which will (1) find out who's doing the chiseling and uncover the black market rats; and (2) see to it that prices are kept down.

IT ALSO MEANS:

Stop the attempts being made to smash OPA, to weaken OPA even more than it already has been.

That's the way. And there's no time to lose. For every time you blink something has gone up in price!

Congress Readies New Labor Blows

Congressional refusal to go along with the President on his proposed labor-draft legislation and the Presidential veto of the Case bill by no means end the anti-labor attack. There will now be a short intermission for the reshuffling of scenery and then the play will go on. The capitalist class, through its politicians, has not given up its ambition to straight-jacket labor.

The vetoed Case bill had totalitarian aspects. It would put strikers behind prison bars; it would rob unions of their funds and thus lessen their power to function.

The debates in Congress were very revealing, though mostly hidden from the public in the Congressional Record. For instance, the question was raised, if the Truman proposal were passed and the government took over struck plants and drafted strikers, would they be paid soldiers' or workers' wages? Again, discussion developed around the consequences of

How could thousands of workers be forced to work if they refused to? They couldn't. Would they then be mowed down by machine gun fire? Or would they be punished by herding them into concentration camps? Those were the points raised in Congressional debate.

Why the attempt to use these Nazi methods in this "arsenal of democracy?" This is serious business and must be understood.

ON TOP OF A VOLCANO

American capitalism has come out of the war top dog, but its peak is a volcano. The intensified international rivalries after World War II may erupt into open conflict. The suffering, hungry, war-torn masses of Europe and Asia constitute a revolutionary threat. American capitalism can exist only if it can stop up, at least for a while, the crater of war and revolution. In its own interests it is creating a peacetime military esdrafted strikers refusing to obey the tablishment superior to all. In its own

interests it is bolstering tottering governments financially. At the same time it must hurry to capture world markets before war-crippled competitors stage a comeback with this very American money. If the international volcano can thus be stepped up, American capitalists see the possibility for the largest profits in history-if only the American workers would be content to bear the burdens.

But American labor is not willing to be the goat. The workers do not understand why they should not now get at least the same take-home pay that they received during the war. They have seen what American industry can produce for war, and wonder why not for peace. They feel that costs and profits are no longer the bosses' business alone. They have a series of demands to give them security in life, including a guaranteed annual wage, a thirty-hour work week, and so on. Labor has started to fight for these needs and its militancy

is bound to continue. A fighting working class does not

help capitalism solve its crisis, but deepens that crisis. What is the capitalist class to do? It tries to take away from labor its ability to fight. Labor must be suppressed; the unions weakened. For in this era of capitalist decline the ruling class must establish a single command. That is why totalitarianism raises its head in this country too, although still enveloped in the legal processes with which the Congress and Administration concern themselves.

THE TOTALITARIAN THREAT

These developments in democratic America support the prediction of LABOR ACTION and the Workers Party about the world today. We have said that capitalism in this era can brace itself only on repressive measures against the workers. We have said that capitalism is bound to become totalitarian, to trample human rights, to abandon human values-to become a form of barbarism. History poses against this the struggle for Socialism. The choice between

(Continued on page 4)

Now to the main question: what shall we do? What can the workers who are being squeezed on every side do about it?

Well, last Sunday a friend of ours went into a store to buy a half pound of corned beef. The storekeeper wanted 95 cents for a half pound of corned beef! That meant paying extra money to about three or four black market chiselers - the packing companies, the wholesaler and the retailer. He sputtered and fumed and cussed. But by himself HE COULD DO NOTHING EXCEPT WORK HIMSELF INTO A FIT OF ANGER!

That means: the workers can only solve the price problem by acting together and by knowing what they are doing.

(Continued on page 4)

NEWS AND VIEWS FROM THE LABOR FRONT

Reuther Group Triumphs at Michigan CIO Convention - -

(Continued from page 1)

in the state CIO office. That was the whole content of their program. One asked oneself if these misdeeds were true, why did you keep quiet about them for a whole year and speak out only at election time, when you found yourself without a program?

A totally different atmosphere prevailed in the Reuther camp. Here the delegates were bound together primarily by their attachment to the new militant program advanced by Reuther. In his opening address to the delegates, Reuther spoke as follows: We must fight for higher wages and lower prices to be gained by dipping into the profits of big business. If prices continue to rise we will not feel ourselves bound by contracts because Washington has broken its contract with the American people. We can pass all the resolutions we want but that is not enough. We must mobilize the membership behind our resolutions. He called for a national conference of the AFL, CIO, and Railway Brotherhoods to map out a united campaign against the flood of reactionary legislation pending in Con-

At the caucus meeting he went further: Attacking Murray's leadership of the Steel Union by implication he said: "The torch we lit during the GM strike was not picked up by the steel workers." He threatened that if the CP-Thomas bloc continued its "obstructionist" policies he would carry the fight to the rank and file of the union and demand a special convention of the UAW.

This radical program is drawing to dians. He concluded with a vigorous

lead to the very end.

drive across.

1. Hibbing, Minn.

2. Boston, Mass.

5. Chicago, Ill. 6. Seattle, Wash.

7. Buffalo, N. Y.

8. Louisville, Ky.

10. Newark, N. J.

11. National Office

13. Baltimore, Md.

14. Cleveland, Ohio

15. San Pedro, Cal.

16. St. Louis, Mo.

18. Detroit, Mich.

19. Reading, Pa.

20. Philadelphia, Pa.

21. Los Angeles, Cal.

17. Streator, Ill.

12. Akron. Ohio

9. New York, N. Y.

3. Youngstown, Ohio

4. San Francisco, Cal.

Fund Drive Goal

By NATHAN GOULD, National Organizer, Workers Party

start and have responded with good records.

Surpassed by WP

The drive to raise a \$15,000 fund for organization and press expansion has

succeeded 100%-or, more accurately 101%. A total of \$15,232.41 has been

entered by the dead-line date of June 15. That represents 101% of our total

quota. Fully 17 of the 21 competing units have fulfilled their quotas, eleven

of which have oversubscribed their quotas by from 1% to 253%. Hibbing,

Minn., which took the lead in the first weeks of the drive maintained that

Youngstown. Youngstown's quota of \$75.00 was doubled by the comrades in

Youngstown and then oversubscribed. Chicago increased its quota from

\$750.00 to \$1,000 and oversubscribed that, ending in fifth place. Frisco, which

started late and with a very definite handicap moved into the leading group

and ended in fourth place, oversubscribing its \$500.00 quota by almost \$100.00.

Seattle, Buffalo and Louisville have been in there pitching almost from the

Most responsible for the success of the drive are Newark, New York and

the National Office. All three had assumed exceedingly high quotas. To-

gether these three units assumed responsibility for 60% of the total and all

three have oversubscribed their quotas. New York and Newark set the

pace for the drive from the start. Both increased their quotas; both kept ahead

large quota group to fulfill and oversubscribe its quota. None of the six

N. Y. branches took quotas of under \$500.00, and most had quotas closer to

meet its quota of \$1,250.00 has given a splendid example. Detroit has raised a

total of \$1085.50. If the branch had stuck by its original quota of \$1000.00, it

too would be listed today among the branches which have over-subscribed.

But the branch was not content and increased its quota by \$250.00 and has

thus fallen \$150.00 below its self-imposed goal. Unemployment and strikes hit

the branch just after it had increased its quota and the comrades never

recovered fully from their losses. Yet that branch, despite all obstacles has

made a splendid showing. The same holds true by and large for Reading

which branch has fallen \$10.00 short of its quota. But in Reading too the

effort was staunch, and failure to make it 100% in no way reflects upon the

their loyal and energetic support of the campaign. We are certain that the

expansion of our organization and our press will more than compensate for

the sacrifices made by our comrades. We want too, to thank our many

friends, sympathizers and readers of LABOR ACTION for their generous

contributions and support which helped in no small measure to put this

\$25.00

50.00

150.00

500.00

1000.00

200.00

200.00

5000.00

3550.00

500.00

500.00

200.00

400.00

100.00

1250.00

50.00

350.00

600.00

\$15,000.00

25.00

50.00

This Week

\$00.00

00.00

00.00

00.00

00.00

118.15

00.00

125.00

40.25

00.00

54.00

00.00

60.00

00.00

00.00

16.00

\$418.40

Total Cont. Per Cent

202

133

105

104

103

101

100

100

100

100

100

\$89.00

101.00

200.00

595.00

1096.00

327.81

210.00

210.00

5236.95

517.00

3584.65

500.00

50.00

200.00

400.00

100.00

25.00

1085.50

266.50

398.00

\$15,232.41

The National Committee wishes to extend thanks to all its branches for

energy or enthusiasm and support of the branch there.

We are grateful too to the Detroit Branch which, although it failed to

Newark was the second to fulfill its quota and the first of the

Special mention is to be made of Boston which unit came second, and of

Reuther the best elements in the la- attack against the military occupation bor movement who look to him for leadership in a crusade not only to raise wages one or two notches higher but to grapple with the vast social problems confronting the people in all spheres of life. The "Reuther caucus" shows the possibility of becoming not merely another union faction but a serious movement within organized labor of profoundly progressive significance. Reuther is rising as the spokesman for this tendency, as the man who articulates and formulates its demands and policies.

He and his closest aides, however, show themselves unable to give farsighted and consistent leadership. The serious shortcomings of the Reutherite leadership was demonstrated in the field of international politics during the debate on Indian Independence and in the field of national politics in the discussions on political ac-

INDIAN INDEPENDENCE

Following an address by M. Fazel Elahi Qurban, vice-president of the All-India Railwaymen's Federation who appealed to the convention for moral support to the forthcoming railway strike in India and who requested the passing of a resolution favoring immediate independence for India a Stalinist delegate proposed a resolution denouncing the British Labor Party.

Roy Reuther, brother of the UAW president, darted to the microphone and in reply eulogized the British Labor Party for its noble "gesture" in offering independence to the In-

of Eastern Europe and its domination by Russia. The convention was thrown into an uproar as the Reuther supporters rocked the hall with applause and the Stalinists, touched in their most vulnerable spot, booed and

This little incident tells us a lot about the spokesmen for the two opposing factions. The CP attacks the colonial policy of England only in order to make the rotten policies of the Stalin regime seem more palatable. Roy Reuther turned this policy upside down. He denounced Russian imperialism only to cover up for the imperialist policies of the British Labor Party. Don't rattle the skeletons in my closet and I won't rattle yours. Had there been no attack on the British Labor Party, there would have been no counterattack on Stalin's oppressive role in Europe.

POLITICAL ACTION

The convention heard talk from all sides about the crucial need for "vigorous political action." The attacks on the "reactionaries" in Congress were duly applauded. The "reactionaries" were duly booed.

But that has been going on for years. The labor movement has been supporting so-called "friends-of-labor" against the "reactionaries" in one election after another. Each election is supposed to record a new victory for the forces of "progress." Now we see more clearly than before that these gentlemen who so readily accept the support of labor on election

pro-capitalist strikebreakers when a real crisis arises. The old political path has led us up a blind alley. Where is the new road?

No answer either from Reuther, or the convention, or any of the caucuses. Ernest Mazey of Local 212 who called for an end to the policy of supporting Democrats and Republicans and for the immediate formation of a Labor Party was a lone voice; but he alone pointed to the correct policy.

Walter Reuther sawed the same old wood. He excoriated the "reactionary Republicans and the southern Democrats." But what happened to all the great "progressives" whom labor "elected"? What happened to all our election "victories"? Reuther repeated all the old formulas as though nothing had happened in the past

The convention adopted an absurd resolution full of ambiguities. It was a pitiful attempt to compromise all existing points of view. It declared that the "long-run" program of the State CIO was for the "eventual formation" of a new "peoples' party." Meanwhile? We continue to "endorse and support liberal and progressive candidates of the existing parties."

Mat Hammond, chairman of the resolutions committee who is one of the leaders of the new National Educational Committee for the Formation of a New Party, interpreted this resolution as a move in the direction of his new "peoples" party (not a

Unity in Action Key To Maritime Victory

Faced by the united militancy of all the waterfront unions, the Truman administration and the shipowners it represents were forced to back down on their threat to use the Coast Guard and Navy to destroy the maritime unions. At the last minute, the government and shipowner negotiators made major concessions to the unions in order to forestall the strike that would have paralyzed shipping.

The basic gains of the Committee for Maritime Unity, representing six CIO unions and one independent include the following:

1. A 48-hour-work week at sea to replace the present 56, with a fortyhour work week in port. This represents a major gain, as it establishes in principle the end of the 7-day week at sea and is a step toward the four watch system. However, the men will still work the seventh day, but will receive 8 hours overtime for Sun-

2. An increase of \$17.50 over the previous basic wage of \$145.00 per month.

Numerous other issues have been left for future negotiation:

Since the negotiations were concluded at the very last hour before the strike deadline, and the rank and file had not as yet passed on them, the seamen of the NMU demonstrated their militancy by going out on strike as scheduled. Until the contracts had been passed on by meetings up and down the coast, they tied up shipping in all ports.

Still to be negotiated are the contracts of the two AFL seafaring unions, the SIU and its sister union, the SUP. They are demanding the six-hour day and a thirty per cent increase in wages. A strike vote is to be held shortly in the SIU, which is going ahead with its strike preparations while its negotiations with the shipowners are continuing.

showed its solidarity with the maritime workers of the CIO by threatening to regard the use of Navy and Coast Guard personnel to break the strike as a lockout of the entire industry and to join their CIO brothers on the picket line. Thereby they stopped the Truman strikebreaking steamroller dead in its tracks, and. they now count on the CIO rank and file for a similar demonstration of solidarity with them in the event their own negotiations encounter difficulties.

The effective unity in action of the AFL and CIO maritime unions showed clearly the vital necessity of cooperation between the two organizations. Had the AFL union failed in its duty to show their solidarity with any seamen's union, regardless of affiliation, the shipowner-government coalition would have gone ahead with its plan to smash the unions one at a time. Instead, by means of such unity great advances were registered. The courageous action of the AFL seamen is a good omen for future struggles to obtain decent conditions for seamen.

CHICAGO PICNIC

Annual Barbecue

Baseball, Community Singing, Campfire Sunday, June 30, 11 a.m.

MANNHEIM WOODS

(Take Garfield Local to Westchester. Follow sign.) Auspices: Chicago Branch, Workers Party

Emil Mazey endorsed the resolution as a welcome step toward the formation of a Labor Party. Meanwhile he has to swallow the continued endorsement of Democrats and Republicans.

Gus Scholle, on the other hand, understood the resolution to be a restatement of his own printed platform which reads: "Against a third party now or in the immediate future, but continue also to lay the in a possible third party if and when tion of the CIO.

vent a more weasel worded statement than that?)

In summary: All agreed to vote for the resolution on political action. Few agreed on what it meant. But it hardly matters for all differences are laid aside in a common pledge to continue the suicidal policy of supporting candidates from the old capitalist parties. That was the great degroundwork for labor-liberal unity fect of the Michigan State Conven-

Eccentric:

A Boss's Dictionary



What Is Miners Next Step?

The striking hard coal miners returned to work last week after the owners of the mines signed a new union agreement with the United Mine Workers. A week earlier the soft coal miners had returned to work when their union agreement was signed by the Secretary of the Interior and Coal Administrator J. A. Krug, who is operating the government "seized" soft coal mines. The owners of these soft coal mines are expected to sign a similar agreement before the government "returns" the mines to them, or else the soft coal miners will once again go on strike.

The basic demands of the soft and hard coal miners were won and are incorporated in the new union agreements... The health and retirement fund, which was the main demand of the miners, was won. There will be a five-cent levy on each ton of coal mined to build up such a fund.

WHY THE MINERS WON

In the soft coal agreement, this fund will be administered by a board including a representative of the union and the owners, and a third impartial person chosen by the first two. On this point the union won a greater concession in the hard coal agreement. Under the hard coal agreement, the fund will be administered by three trustees, two of which will be from the union. Both agreements provide for an 18½ cents an hour wage increase; an annual vacation pay of \$100; compulsory acceptance (not optional as in the past) by the owners of workmen's compensation and occupational disability laws; acceptance by the owners of unionappointed mine safety committees, and also federal mine safety standards and inspection. There were a number of other demands won in each of the agreements.

Santa Cruz AFL For a Labor Party

SANTA CRUZ, Cal.—The AFL Central Labor Council of this city has passed a resolution in favor of the formation of an independent labor party which it plans to present to the coming California AFL convention. The resolution says that a labor party is needed because "most of the 'friends of labor' end up going downthe-line in supporting anti-labor measures" which indicates "the need for an organization responsible to labor to advance labor's needs which are the needs of the majority of the people."

It further calls upon the state AFL to propose that the coming national convention of the AFL amend its constitution to allow for the formation of a nation-wide independent labor

This victory by the United Mine Workers, and the above list of demands represents a victory, was won by the determined militancy of the mine workers. Everybody, from Truman down to his littlest flunkey, tried to browbeat the miners into going back to work with a promise of looking into the "problem." Every capitalist newspaper, cartoonist, columnist, radio commentator and politician tried to work up a wave of hysteria and a lynch spirit against the miners. But as the days dragged on it was obvious that the miners were not being influenced or frightened by this pressure and nonsense, and that no coal was going to be mined until the demands were granted.

Truman eventually realized this and gave in on most of the miners' demands. Lewis, too, knew that the miners were solid on these demands. He knew that every miner and every miner's family felt more strongly about the health and welfare fund and the safety rules than any other wage or contract issue that has been negotiated in years. Nobody could have forced the miners back to work unless this demand was won.

WHAT'S AHEAD?

The new union agreements represent, as mentioned above, a real victory for the miners and their union. The demands of the miners were just and correct-but they were incom-

Now that the miners have won their demands, the owners will not take these increases from their swollen

profits. Nor will they pay the fivecent royalty from the profits they make on each ton of coal. They will, instead, with the full sanction and approval of the government-raise the price of coal.

In this the miners' demands were incomplete.

A few months ago the General Motors workers went on strike for a wage increase, but demanded that wages be increased without a price increase and that the corporation's books be opened. If the corporation's books had been pried open the union would have been in a position to see the exact profits of the company, the hidden reserves and the amounts paid into the coal associations to fight the union. The GM program was a beginning, but it must be incorporated into the demands of every union in every industry.

In the coal industry in particular the demand for opening the books should be raised. The coal owners CLAIM that they cannot spend one more penny for the mines or the mining community. Human beings are crushed to death, no hospitals provided, no running water or toilets in the homes, undernourished children, battered and pitiful school houses and chronic unemployment are the rule. Let's open the books and see!

LABOR ACTION and the Workers Party say that the mine owners have confessed their social bankruptcy. Labor must take over and plan and control production. Nowhere is this need for nationalization of industry as urgent as in the mines.

-With the **Workers Party**

For information, write to Bill Ford, Box 221, Akron, Ohio.

HEADQUARTERS at 639 Main St.

CHICAGO

LABOR ACTION, 1703 West Madison St., Room 3, Chicago 12.

Telephone: CHesapeake 5798. Office hours: 3-5:30 p.m. daily, except Sundays. Tuesday and Wednes-

DETROIT HEADQUARTERS: 3773 Gratiot (at

Mt. Elliott).

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Office, 127 South Broadway, Room Office open daily 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. except Fridays and Sundays. Open evenings: Wednesdays 6:00-8:30.

NEWARK

LABOR ACTION HEADQUARTERS in Newark at 248 Market St.

Friday, June 28, at 8:30 P. M.—Leo Steinmetz on "Operation Crossroads" at Labor Action Hall, Admission 10c. Discussion, refreshments. Auspices:

Newark Branch, Workers Party.

days-open until 10 p.m.

CITY OFFICE-114 West 14th St., -open all day until 7 p.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thurs-

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HEADQUARTERS, 1105 Walnut St.

For information of other Workers Party branches and LABOR ACTION offices, write to the National Office, 114 West 14th St., New York 11, N. Y.

SOCIALIST YOUTH LEAGUE

The Socialist Youth League, youth section of the Workers Party, has youth units in the following cities: Manhattan, N. Y .: Brooklyn, N. Y .: Philadelphia, Pa.; Baltimore, Md.; Boston, Mass.; Detroit, Mich.; Chicago, Ill.; Cleveland, Ohio; Madison, Wis.; and Seattle, Wash.

If you live in any of these cities and desire to attend the youth meetings, write to the Socialist Youth League. 114 West 14th Street, New York 11,

Readers of Labor Action Take the Floor

See in Russia?

Dear Editor:

R. J. Thomas, vice-president of the UAW and cohort of the Addes-Stalinist clique on the UAW's International Executive Board, is leaving this week for Moscow. Thomas is going to Russia as one of the members of a three-man committee to attend the Executive Bureau meeting of the WFTU (World Federation of Trade Unionists).

While in Moscow Themas will undoubtedly have an opportunity to attend one of the caviar and champagne banquets for which the Soviet bureaucrats have attained world-wide fame. We wonder, however, whether he will make any effort to escape the watchful eyes of the Russian secret police and observe the starvation standard of living of the ordinary Russian worker.

We wonder what Thomas will have to say about the right to strike, which is denied to the Russian workers, or the terrible speed-up which Russian workers are forced to accept, or the piecework incentive system which is breaking the backs of the Russian workers, or the terrible spynsystem which the bureaucrats use to terrorich neven but a smith but

the twelve and fourteen-hour day and all the other "benefits" of which the Stalinists and their stooges have sung praises.

Will Thomas come back here and tell the truth about Russia, which is no longer a workers' country, or will he, like so many other stooges, come back full of lies about conditions in

Russia is a bureaucrats' paradise, the kind that would appeal to the heart of any old dyed-in-the-wool bureaucrat like Thomas. And especially, since Thomas' newly-found buddies of the Addes-Stalinist clique in the UAW will be sure to coach him on what to say, we are kind of doubtful about any real honest-to-goodness picture of the situation of the exploited Russian workers.

R. STILER.

For a Free and **United Germany**

Dear Editor:

Some fine articles have appeared in LABOR ACTION, and especially the New International, exposing the treacherous rule over Germany by the imperialist Big Four. Yet never

est to the state of the state o

What Will R. J. Thomas ize the workers into submission, or have you advocated openly and concretely, in either of your periodicals, for a free and united Germany. Why? Surely not to behave (in Lenin's words) "like Chauvinists, like lackeys of the blood-and-mud-stained imperialist monarchies and the imperialist bourgeoisie!"

Fraternally, ALLEN BAKER.

Editor's Note: LABOR ACTION is in favor of a free and united Germany. The immediate and concrete form which that takes at present is the slogan to remove the occupying armies of ALL imperialist powers from Germany. Various of our World Politics columns have carried material on this matter. For instance, in our last issue, World Politics ended with these words: "... the first duty of the revolutionary movement in Europe must be to take the lead in the struggle to drive out ALL armies of occupation from their borders so that the workers of Europe can begin once again painfully and slowly to reassert their needs."

READ AND SUBSCRIBE TO THE NEW INTERNATIONAL

Stalinists Persecute **Bulgarian Trotskyists** The following letter was received

by a Belgian Trotskyist and was originally published in La Vérité, French Trotskyist paper:

Dear Comrade:

I received your letter. I must tell you that for me, as for the whole party group at Plovdir, the letter was a great and joyous event.

Our party began its activity in 1925 as a fraction of the Bulgarian Communist Party, section of the Third International.

Stalinism here is in full retreat. Its collaboration with the bourgeoisie has weakened it. Our party is strengthened every day organizationally and politically although having to work illegally.

The government of class collaboration has broadcast to the Bulgarian population that today in Bulgaria there was full liberty, etc., etc.... Well, comrade, here is the truth: our party which fought against fascism not only in the years 1941 to 1945, but always, our party remains suppressed by the present Bulgarian government in which sit Stalinist ministers.

Our organ, the Communist Appeal, is read with very great interest by the Bulgarian workers.

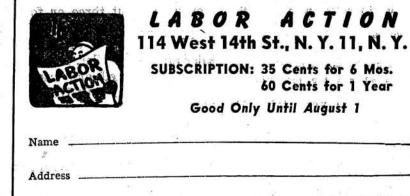
The members of our party are persecuted, because they are Trotskyists, for their political ideas. Five days ago, one of our young comrades was sent out of the factory because he was a Trotskyist. In our country persecution for political opinions are multiplying. The fascist terror has been brought back by the Stalinists under cover of the "defense of the power of the people." A gag has been put on the press.

Papers are free in so far as they praise the government; as soon as they begin to criticize, the Minister of Information (former fascist, "Comrade" Cenkov, Minister of the People and of Democracy) can forbid their

> Plovdis, Bulgaria, April 25. (Reprinted from La Vérité.)

CORRECTION

In our report of the Fourth National Convention of the Workers Party, we mistakenly wrote that J. R. Johnson reported for the Minority position on the Negro resolution. Comrade Freddie Forest was the reporter.





A PAPER IN THE INTERESTS OF LABOR

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EMANUEL GARRETT, Acting Editor ALBERT GATES, Editor MARY BELL, Ass't Editor

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WORKERS PARTY PROGRAM FOR ORGANIZED LABOR IN THE RECONVERSION AND POST-WAR PERIOD

FOR THE UNEMPLOYED AND VETERANS 1. Full Unemployment Insurance

Full unemployment insurance beginning with \$30 a week for single men and women and graduated upward for dependencies to all workers for whom government and industry do not

2. Less Hours-More Pay

Absorption of all workers thrown into unemployment during reconversion by reduction of the work-week with no reduction in weekly

3. Jobs and Full Opportunities for Veterans Two years' base pay grant to all demobilized veterans, with the option of trade school and higher educational facilities at government expense, guarantee of adequate family maintenance and guarantee of decent jobs.

FOR THE POST-WAR WORLD

4. Jobs For All at a Guaranteed Annual Living

A job for every worker with a guaranteed minimum annual wage of \$2,500 per year. A rising standard of living, by means of government planning to insure the highest national production and income.

5. A Planned Rise in National Income

A guaranteed \$5,000 annual income to all workers' families by means of a planned rise in the national income and a thirty-hour maximum

6. For a Democratic Peace

Against peacetime military conscription of American youth! For a truly democratic peace, which means no land-grabbing under any pretext; no reparations; no slave labor. Complete independence for all colonies and subject peoples and the right of all people to decide democratically their own future.

7. Full Social, Political and Economic Equality for Negroes

Complete democratic rights. The right to vote, to run for and hold any elective or appointive office, North or South. The right to equality in employment; to hold any job, skilled or unskilled. The right to be free from insult, segregation and Jim Crowism; anywhere and in any place. North or South.

THESE AIMS TO BE ACHIEVED THROUGH 8. Slum Clearance

A \$250 billion five-year program to provide decent housing for all, extensive public works, rural electrification and modernization.

9. Nationalization of Big Business Nationalization of the banks, big industrial mo-

nopolies and transportation systems, and no handing over of government-built and owned plants and facilities to private ownership. 10. Taxing the Profiteers

A 100 per cent tax on all war profis above a five per cent maximum on invested capital; a \$25,000 ceiling on total individual income, and a graduated capital levy on all accumulated wealth over \$50,000 to cover war costs and provide post-war security for labor.

THIS PROGRAM TO BE CARRIED OUT BY 11. Workers' Control of Production Control of production by democratically-elected workers' committees.

12. An Independent Labor Party and a Workers' Government-For a Socialist America with Plenty for All!

Make the machines that now produce only for war and capitalism produce for the needs of all

WORLD_POLITICS

Reappearance of Le Grand Charlie

By IRVING HOWE

French reaction, heartened by its defeat of the constitution which the Stalinists and Socialists had proposed and by its ascent in the recent election to the position of France's largest party, has indicated that it may now be preparing to play its trump card-General Charles de Gaulle. Le Grand Charlie has come out of his sulking "retirement" in order to make a speech on June 17 in which he played on the familiar notes: France needs a "strong" government, a "strong" executive who shall be "above parties"-and ... well, a "strong" government and a "strong" executive, etc.

You see, de Gaulle, being a military man-a profession in which political intelligence is usually considered a scandal-has only a few ideas, which he repeats with an air of ever-increasing wisdom. He never does say for whom the government should be strong, but when one recalls the imperialist bravado which his régime displayed, as well as its attempt to act the big power despite the lack of a basis for doing so, then it isn't difficult to understand that de Gaulle's ideas are simply this: A "strong" government in behalf of French capitalism which will attempt to recoup France's former position in the imperialist world, salvage what is possible of its empire, and put an end to "disorder," that is, working class militancy, at home. De Gaulle, though his advisors are shrewd enough to realize that such an attempt would be ludicrous and suicidal at the moment, fancies himself in the role of a modern Bonaparte saving his nation from decay-just as he once fancied himself in the role of Joan of Arc.

WHY HIS RESURRECTION?

More important, however, is the question: Why has de Gaulle suddenly come out into the open again? The move is shrewdly calculated. France has recently experienced a SLIGHT political turn to the right, or, more accurately, sections of the middle class which had previously been politically indifferent or apathetic have been roused in support of the right wing parties. And, in turn, there has been a decrease in the intensity of working class support for the two major left parties, the Socialists and Stalinists. Thus in the recent constitutional referendum, the working class sections of Paris while continuing to vote as "their" parties directed them, registered a total vote less than the combined SP-CP total in the October, 1945, elections.

In a word, the working class in the recent election continued to support the Socialists and Stalinists. The Socialist vote dropped slightly from its October, 1945, percentage, from 23.5 to 21 per cent. The Stalinists remained at 26 per cent. Since there was a greater total vote-also indicative of increased political participation by the middle class-this means that the total SP vote remained the same, despite its percentage decline, and the CP vote increased by 300,000. The SP-CP total vote was 47 per cent.

But it was the Catholic MRP vote which registered a considerable increase, from its 23 per cent in the October, 1945, election to 28 per cents in this election. Its total increase was 1,000,000 votes. Part of this increase was probably brought about by the last-minute appeal which the Pope made in behalf of the Catholic parties in Italy and France-an appeal which, while it did not

No revolution has broken out in Puerto Rico as in

The Caribbean island won from Spain in the War

of 1898, has been milked dry by four big U. S. sugar

companies. As the possibilities for expansion of the sugar

industry have become more limited, the amount of re-

investment has diminished and for many years now

the profits sweated out of the home population have

been invested in other parts of the world where the rate

of profit is higher. Thus the three largest absentee com-

panies in Puerto Rico left only one-fourth of their

profits of \$81,000,000 in the 1920-1935 period. This im-

perialist greed has resulted in the following state of

affairs, as stated in the preamble to the Land Law of

the vast area of its dominions, to the operation of

commercial and industrial establishments, and of grocery

and general stores; has limited the circulation of money,

has caused the annihilation of communal life in many

of the urban centers; has made it impossible for thou-

sands of human beings to be the owners of even the

lot where their homes are situated, all to the consequent

unbalancing of the economic structure of the Island and

"The sugar latifundia has spread its tentacles within

other long exploited colonies under imperialist domina-

tion but conditions there for the native population are

as miserable as could possibly exist!

Sugar Imperialism Drags

Puerto Rico to Poverty

move the French workers from their traditional "left" allegiances, undoubtedly succeeded in rallying middle class and rural votes for the MRP.

RIGHT WING PARTIES FORMED BLOC

Another reason for the better showing of the MRP is the fact that the right-wing parties combined into blocs in support of both the MRP and the even more reactionary Popular Republican Party. In a large number of constituencies, the other right-wing groups withdrew their candidates in behalf of the MRP.

But while the above factors are of some importance, they are not basic. The basic factor is this: the French middle class is gradually abandoning whatever partial allegiance it gave to the "left" parties. Shortly after the triumph of the Resistance, considerable portions of the middle class and the peasantry gave their support, for the first time, to the "parties of the left." This support was based on a feeling of social desperation, an urge for sharp and thorough change. As in all critical turning points in history, the middle class became atomized and was split up into a number of tendencies.

In this condition, when it breaks out of its social inertia and routine, the middle class is ready to follow bold leadership which makes a decisive break with the past. But this the SP and the CP did not and could not do. On the contrary, they continued to maintain a coalition with the MRP, they participated in a government which brutally suppressed the Indo-Chinese nationalist revolution, they served in practice to maintain and reorganize the capitalist status quo. And thereby they failed to provide the middle classes with the bold leadership for which they were confusedly searching. The result, as shown in the recent referendum and election, is that the middle classes have relapsed into the camp of the capitalist parties; that, in fact, they have apparently been rallied to support those parties with some enthusiasm.

So that France remains at a virtual standstill, split in half between the MRP and the other capitalist parties as against the Socialists and Stalinists. This situation, which makes for governmental disorganization and impotence, bears within itself the danger that there will arise a desire among many Frenchmen to find a "strong man above classes" who will end the stalemate and rule in the name of the nation. And for that role de Gaulle has nominated himself this week.

It would be false to believe, however, that there is any serious likelihood of the immediate establishment of such a Bonapartist régime based on extralegal power. De Gaulle might be called back to power; his government might have SOME of the features of a Bonapartist régime; but it would still not be able to go beyond parliamentary means. For so long as the French working class has any powers of resistance left in it, so long as it contains any capacity for struggle, it will not permit a dictatorship of Le Grand Charlie to be established. And we believe that the French workers do maintain such capacity for struggle.

France, therefore, faces for the next period a continued period of uneasy balance between the leading parties, of flimsy coalition governments, and also of increasing social crisis. The opportunities for a revolutionary party remain. In light of that, the vote received by the French Trotskyists-45,000 votes in about onefifth of the election districts-indicates that there are possibilities for the growth of such a revolutionary party. In its rapid development lies the hope for France and ultimately of Europe.

to the grave endangering of the peace, the tranquility,

the dignity, and the economic and social freedom of the

of the miseries but none of the benefits which the bour-

geois and industrial revolutions have brought in their

wake to the advanced industrial countries. An excessively

high death-rate and a permanent army of unemployed

have been the rewards for the Puerto Ricans for gen-

erations of hard toil and deprivations of every con-

ceivable type. Are these conditions inevitable? Yes, so

long as imperialism, the necessary result of capitalist

relations, is a force in this world. Cheap labor, against

which American workmen have battled for decades.

is the chief characteristic of this Island's economy. The

The Island has 3,435 square miles on which 2,000,000

have to live. If the United States had the same pop-

ulation density it would contain about one and a half

billion persons, or more than half of the total popula-

tion of the world. Most of the land is less than fair for

farming. Industries supplied employment for only 102,286

persons in 1939, but the majority of them were in

The WPA relief standard for Puerto Rico in the same

year was \$642; the Insular Minimum Wage Board stan-

dard was \$1,237. Small wonder that there is an annual

per capita milk consumption of only 31 quarts. A diet

of rice and beans, rags for clothing, a "HOOVERVILLE"

shack for a house and a short life span are the lot of

the vast majority of Puerto Ricans. For eight major dis-

eases the death rate per 100,000 population of Puerto

the U.S. It is on the backs of these and similarly ex-

ploited peoples that the relatively high standard of

Today the Puerto Ricans are demanding with ever

louder voice the right to self-determination. So far they

have been treated as an "unincorporated territory,"

which in effect means they are under the political, eco-

nomic, and social domination of the U.S. All civil liberties in Puerto Rico are directly dependent on Congressional action, and not on the Bill of Rights of the

Constitution. So elementary a right as speaking their own

language in school is denied them. The working class of the U.S. must give every support to the demands

Whatever their choice, statehood in the Union, com-

plete independence, or dominion status, we must force

the U. S. government to accede to their will and re-

munerate the peoples of Puerto Rico for what has been

stolen from them. The economy of the Island has been so disoriented by the large American sugar companies

that only by integration into the American economy

on an equal status will it be possible to reorganize the

economy and raise the standard of living to at least that

of our own. We must give our utmost support to their

of the Puerto Rican masses for self-determination.

SELF-DETERMINATION FOR PUERTO RICO

Family income averaged \$341 per year in 1942-43.

Capitalist relations have brought to Puerto Rico all

people of Puerto Rico."

statistics are indisputable.

THE STANDARD OF LIVING

seasonal or sporadic occupations.

living in America is maintained.

By JAMES M. FENWICK

The photograph set into this column was not taken backstage at a performance of "The Student Prince," nor is it from an Erich von Stroheim film. These well-fed army officers, resplendent beneath the Order of Suvorov, the Polish Virtuti Cross, the Order of Bogdan Khmelnitsky, the Czech Order of the White Lion, the U. S. Legion of Merit, etc., are real men from a real world -however it may seem at times to bear the character of dream fantasy.

These men are Marshals Rybalko and Konev of Russia, as seen at a recent reception in Prague. In them is symbolized the whole degeneration of Russia from a country which in 1918 blazed forth as the hope of humanity to a country which in World War II evoked almost nothing but fear and despair from the oppressed masses of Europe.

They are the Russian counterparts of the late "Georgie" Patton of the varnished helmet liner and unvarnished military arrogance, or of the very swish de Lattre, the French general with a pleasant fancy for inspecting his officers' underwear and for constructing, with the aid of lend-lease equipment and the labor of French enlisted men, huge gardens à la française to while away the time while occupying Germany.

TOTALITARIAN GENERALS

But they are much more powerful figures than Patton or de Lattre, who were, when all is said and done, only the rather badly paid mercenaries of United States and French capitalism. Konev and Rybalko are not unimportant parts of the Rus-



sian bureaucracy which maintains a vise-like grip over Russia at the expense of the interests of the Russian workers and of the working class of the world as well.

It is these men who helped formulate and carry out the concept that it was not German capitalism which was responsible for the war but that the whole German nation was guilty. As a result, since the German soldier saw no way out for himself, he fought to the bitter end, causing needless destruction and death.

It is these men who aided in creating such a repulsive régime within Russia that the very name of socialism or communism became defiled. Veterans who were in the ETO will recall the slogans painted upon walls and buildings by Germans in the final days of the catastrophe: "Fight-or Siberia!" "Fight-or Bolshevik Chaos!" The power of this fear was undeniable. What veteran who was in Germany cannot recall the fright of the Germans when a United States unit prepared to move and the rumor spread that a Russian unit was to

It is these generals who aided in instilling in the Russian troops that fierce nations led to unprecedented orgies of looting, raping and brutality when the Russian armies entered Ger-

It is these gilded representatives of the bureaucracy who helped organize the removal of German factories, food supplies, cattle and railroad equipment to Russia, reducing a once great country to a new barbarism. It is they who have brought into Germany the rule of the NKVD, reopened the Nazi concentration camps for working class opponents of Stalinism, and stifled the development of all independent working class activity.

THE FRUIT OF STALINISM

The result is that after the unparalleled destruction, bloodshed and sacrifice of World War II, Europe is riven by nationalist hatreds as it never has been before in modern times, socialist consciousness has all but been destroyed, and World War III is being slowly prepared before the eyes of the whole world.

For this condition these ruthless defenders of the privileges of the bureaucracy, these heroes of the diplomatic vodka bouts and the hors d'oeuvre tables, these warrior princes weighted down by jewelled decorations commemorating the reactionary past of Russia, these perpetuators of all that is rotten in the military tradition, these oppressors of whole nations and exterminators of socialism must bear their full share for the catastrophe of the war that has ended and the cataclysm which is being prepared in the chancellories of the world.

Between the Red Army of Lenin and Trotsky's time and the Russian army of today lies a gulf as wide as the distance between socialism, the salvation of mankind, and bureaucratic collectivism whose best representatives are pictured at the head

Every veteran will recognize the type.

Attention, Philadelphia Readers!

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Editorials The Baruch Atom Bomb Report

A great fanfare has been raised about the report of the Baruch Commission on the atom bomb. The report advocated the creation of an "international authority" which would have complete control of all atomic production and all manufacturing processes involved in its development. This international authority would have complete power to enter any country to see if any secret atomic production was being carried on and would have the right to punish any nation which carried on such secret atomic production. No country would have the right of veto over the international au-

This plan has entranced a number of starryeyed, soft-minded liberals who go into an ecstatic trance every time someone mentions world government or international authority. But in actuality the plan proposed by Baruch is merely a clever propaganda stunt in behalf of American imperialism, and for these reasons: If such an international authority were created.

of whom would it be composed? Who would control it? Some power from on high? The Swiss navy? The Paraguayan army? No, of course not. In such an international authority, power relations among the big imperialist countries-and all the struggles between them-would continue to

But the joker is that there'd be no more veto, as exists today in the UNO. That would in effect mean that the Anglo-American bloc would be dominant. (Little wonder that the New York and London Daily Workers have been screaming bloody murder; such a plan would put Boss Stalin on the spot and at the mercy of American and British imperialism.) Nobody in his right mind can expect Stalin to

accept this plan. In fact, Baruch himself indicated that he didn't expect Russia to accept the plan.

And that, of course, was why it was proposed in the first place. It all seems so reasonable: the Anglo-American bloc, which controls the atom bomb, is willing to "relinquish" its atom bomb monopoly to an international authority which IT would control completely-and in return Russia is to relinquish its veto and become subject to the rulings of the majority of the United Nations, that is, the Anglo-American bloc. Then if Russia rejects the plan, as is inevitable, it provides propaganda grist for the Anglo-American mill. All very clever, isn't it?

176 PP.

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ATTRACTIVELY BOUND

But the fact remains that the atom bomb is still a threat to the very continuation of humanity. Its control by an international authority would in no way end the threat of war, for then the question would be: who'd control the international authority? (And, in any case, the plan makes no proposal on how to abolish war by the usual "old-fashioned" means which, as veterans can testify, succeeded in killing off plenty of peo-

So let's not be fooled by all the glib talk about Baruch's report. It's just another maneuver in the imperialist jockeying between Russia and the capitalist countries of the West. We for our part do not give any support to either side-for we reject all kinds of imperialism-and are therefore ready to expose all such propaganda trial balloons.

The Army Demonstrates Its New "Democracy"

The Doolittle Board recommends wide changes in the direction of democratizing the Army. Secretary of War Patterson decides to cast aside the caste system. The headlines of all the newspapers inform us that the old Army is on the way out; reform and democracy are on the way in. This soldiers for the duration and didn't like it.

Now comes a press release from Manila show-

\$1.00

sounds very good to those civilians who became

ing just how the Army intends to put in practice the concept of liberalizing the administration of justice. Just read this: "An Army court-martial today convicted T/5 Clair Miller on charges of having published false information detrimental to the service in connection with 'gripe' letters written to the Daily Pacifican, Army newspaper.... Miller wrote a letter protesting against too frequent guard duty, signing it with his own name and adding 'and eight others.' He did not sign the names of the eight but said that at a gripe session all had agreed with him. The case hinged on whether he had authority to speak for his comrades. ... The recently ousted Pacifican staff had cited the Miller case as part of the attempt of higher authorities to gag the paper. The staff resigned and then was transferred to a combat outfit."

By HERB MASON

ALBERT GOLDMAN Attorney for Leon Trotsky, Former Member

OSCAR SHOENFELD Defendant in Minneapolis Case, Former Alternate

> MAX SHACHTMAN National Chairman, Workers Party

SUNDAY, JUNE 23, 8 P. M. CARAVAN HALL, 110 E. 59th ST.

NEW YORK READERS:

of SWP National Committee

to SWP National Committee

Why the SWP Minority

Rico ranges from 9% to 300% higher than deaths from the same causes in the United States. Such are the gory details of imperialist exploitation by the ruling class of

Will Speak on:

Joined the Workers Party

Auspices: New York Local, Workers Party

Southern Bosses Try to Stop "Operation Dixie"

Ku Klux Klan Prepares Anti-Labor Violence

The Ku Klux Klan rides again. With fire and blood, this scum of the earth once more attempts to terrorize Jews, Negroes-and labor organizers. Here is a brief sketch of its most recent activities.

On May 9 a thousand hooded and robed artists of the fagot, whip and gun, burned fiery crosses near Atlanta, Ga., in a ceremony to initiate several hundred new members-at \$10

Another Lesson

Willie Dudley, a Negro worker, was kidnapped and beaten by four masked Klansmen on June 9 because he refused to resign from the United Cement, Lime & Gypsum Workers Union, AFL. Dudley was abducted from the clay pit of the P. W. Martin Clay Co. of Gordon, Ga., where he was at work and where the AFL had started an intensive organization drive on May 24. Dudley was told by the Klansmen that he was being beaten because he would not get out of the union, that they intended to keep the Negroes from joining the union, that they would return and kill him if he identified them to anyone and that they were going after the union representative next. The AFL is protesting the matter to Governor Arnall, and the sheriffs of the counties involved promised to investigate the beating. However, the lesson to be learned is the need for workers' defense guards to prevent such intimidation and terror.

per sucker initiation fee. There were also about one thousand spectators. A new feature is the acceptance of women into the Klan. The Grand Dragon of Atlanta boasted 20,000 new members in Georgia, among them Atlanta firemen and policemen.

In Chattanooga, Tenn., a cross was burned in front of a Jewish drug store, and all Jews were warned to pack up and get out. In Los Angeles on May 21 a fiery cross blazed before the Jewish fraternity house of University of Southern California students. The letters KKK had also been smeared on the walls of the house.

Last August a Negro taxi driver was killed in Atlanta, and agents working within the Kavalier Klub, the KKK strong arm squad, have reported to the Georgia Attorney General that these vicious hoodlums boasted about the murder. On February 13 a Negro veteran, 21 years old, was whipped while covered by a gun, receiving fifty-two lashes. This terroristic crime is laid at the door of the KKK by the Georgia Attorney General's office.

On May 11 wires were cut to prevent William Green, AFL president, from broadcasting a speech from the Southern Labor Conference of the AFL, and Drew Pearson reported in his column that Klansmen in Asheville, N. C., were taking the glory of this deed upon themselves. In Crestview, Fla., as reported by columnist Victor Riesel, a mob threw a whitehaired 70-year-old woman labor organizer bodily out of a public meeting, while the police stood idly by. At Defuniak Springs, Fla., a mob burned picket signs in the streets and the rioters were identified as "night riders." In Andalusia, Ala., labor leaders found in their mail KKK threats to "blow the union hall to hell."

WHY THE REVIVAL?

The above enumeration is by no means a full bill of particulars-merely an indication of the kind of terroristic activities the revived KKK is engaging in. Why the revival of the

Klan? Why the renewed use of ter- standard of living cut into the profits

ror by violence, by fire and blood? To the putrefied in mind and soul, the anti-Semitic atrocities of the Nazis-continued in more genteel form by the victorious powers—have only intensified their own anti-Semitism. To the Southern white aristocracy, based on the enslavement of the Negro, the "new Negro," who is insisting on some of the democracy he was supposed to have fought for, is a threat that must be put down. Here are two causes for the revival of the KKK. But the chief cause is the CIO's "Operation Dixie."

In "Operation Dixie" the Southern capitalists and landowners see their doom. The success of the CIO's plan to organize millions of white and black workers in textile, lumber, steel, chemicals, agriculture, etc., throughout the South, will definitely deliver irreparable blows to the Jim Crow system below the Mason-Dixon line. The organization drive, which the AFL also announced, aims to equalize the wages of the Southern worker with those of the Northern

of the capitalists and landlords, it will undermine the political backwardness that has kept such human garbage as Rankin and Bilbo in Congress as "representatives of the people." Among other things to go will be the poll tax and the lily white primaries.

This accounts for Rankin's crazed reaction to "Operation Dixie." "It's a Communist plot," he said. "That's what I know about it. They'll be down there buying elections. They'll be trying to give the n_r a vote. No n_r will ever run against me. Of course we slipped up once. We let them beat Martin Dies and Joe Starnes. We're all asleep at the switch. They're takin' over the country; we got to stop them if we want this country." The fiery fagots, whips and guns of the KKK won't stop the drive to organize white and black workers, to raise their economic, social and political life, Mr. Ranting Rankin!

BILBO AND THE KLAN

Bilbo, "the man," also incites the worker. Not only will this rise in the Klan elements. He is campaigning for

Akron CIO Revolt -

(Continued from page 1)

What did good old Walter do then to cause the rank and file to rise up against him and his backers in the PAC? Not much. He just voted for Truman's union - busting Emergency Labor Bill. Mind you, that wasn't Bilbo of Mississippi voting. That was "labor's candidate." That was the fink the PAC in Akron wants the CIO to

The Council meeting started off with a plea by one delegate to rescind the action taken previously to support Huber. This action had been taken upon the recommendation and the insistence of the PAC.

Huber had hurriedly written to the

Farrell Protests Ban on Novel by

Canadian Government

The unexplained ban of James T. Farrell's latest novel, Bernard Clare, by the Canadian government has brought from its author a letter of protest sent to MacKenzie King, Prime Minister of Canada. The Canadian government cited as justification for its ban an obscure section of its tariff regulations. Farrell's letter, which raises the entire question of the right of authors to create freely without fear of censorship by narrowminded government officials, says in

For some years now, the prejudiced forces of censorship have been straining at the leash in the United States in order to begin a new witch hunt against serious and honest writing. These forces need only governmental precedents in order to come out into the open, and to begin a reactionary campaign of legal book lynchings in this country. If your government does not rescind this unwarranted ban on my book, it can well provide the necessary example. And if this happens, it will be clear where the public responsibility for such a campaign can be laid . . . I therefore regard it as my duty to protest this banning, to call it to the attention of the writers and the readers of both the United States and the Dominion of Canada, and to call upon them to give me public support in my

effort to have this ban rescinded."

Akron CIO Council, in reply to a request that he appear there to explain himself, saying that he would be present at their meeting of June 24th. He further stated, according to Paul Fessenden, local head of the PAC, that he wished to remain in Washington "until the present battle on strike legislation has ended." What part he wants to play in that battle should be obvious from his vote on Truman's

RANK AND FILE REVOLT

Fessenden made a motion in the Council to "accept and file" Huber's communication. At that point the fight broke. Severe criticism of Fessenden's motion came from the floor. Fessenden defended himself with the explanation that to go off half cocked now would "wreck all the plans of the PAC." As if the plans of the PAC to support Democratic and Republican representatives of big business were more important than the welfare of the labor movement!

The bulk of the delegates in the meeting were surprised and disappointed when I. H. Watson, president of Local 7, URW (Firestone) supported the PAC and Huber on the floor. Watson, along with Bass of Local 5, has previously had a reputation for being one of the real militants in the leadership of the URW. This was proof for many of the advanced elements in the Council that being a good militant unionist is not enough. You have to have some nolitical understanding from labor's point of view.

The entire incident, in turn, was proof once again to those who represent the advance section of the Akron CIO that the policies of the PAC can solve none of labor's problems. The PAC supports those Republicans and Democrats whom it hopes and prays

will support labor at least a little bit. Such a pursuit on the part of the PAC can bring labor no benefit. The proof of this lies in the fact that on a national scale the representatives and senators placed in office with the backing of the PAC have almost to a man voted against labor and contrary to its interests.

Only a genuine INDEPENDENT Labor Party can represent labor's interests against the representatives of big business. Once such a party is formed, even on a small local scale, it will spread all over the country

re-election on a "platform" of keeping the "Northern Communists" out of the South, and "the man" presents himself as a courageous crusader against this new bunch of carpetbaggers from the North-the CIO organizers! Columnist Marquis W.Childs comments in the New York Post: "Indications are that Bilbo will be able to make potent use of this appeal in his current campaign. He is aiming, of course, at the Ku Klux Klan elements.

The CIO News reports that the Southern textile interests are taxing themselves ten cents per spindle to raise a war chest for "public relations"-from time immemorial this phrase has been used to cover up the less pretty word "thugs." The CIO News comments that a large part of this fund "is expected to find its way into the Klan's coffers."

The usual whipping up of mob hysteria has started. Not only do the Kleagles of the Klan pretend a holy alliance between the church. God and the Klan, all of course endangered by the drive to organize the Southern workers. So-called respectable sheets. calling themselves "Militant Truth"as does a Chattanooga anti-union rag —or similar crusading titles, also seek to arouse their readers to defend "God and the Constitution" against the CIO.

OPPOSITION TO KLAN

Opposition to the KKK is today more widespread and active than in the past. The churches in their organized councils and from the pulpit condemn the Klan. Southern liberals, including some newspaper editors, are outspoken against rule by terror. In the Georgia Legislative Council the assertion was made that the Klan is trying to discourage labor organization by terrorism. Governor Ellis Arnall has directed the Attorney General of Georgia to institute action to revoke the charter of the Klan on the ground that it is not a non-profit, fraternal organization. The Collector of Internal Revenue has filed a lien against the KKK for \$685,305 for income taxes due from 1921 through 1946.

But can the CIO and AFL, can the Jews and the Negroes rely on this kind of opposition to the KKK? Public opinion alone will not stop the violence of the hooded gangs. Neither will it do the victims of this violence afterward it was too late!

much good to know, before they lose consciousness, that the slow processes of the law are grinding out remote justice to the Klan. The chosen victims of the Klan must be prepared. to defend themselves now!

This becomes especially clear on reading what one of J. Edgar Hoover's top administrative assistants at FBI headquarters said to Victor Riesel. columnist of the New York Post: "But we're handicapped. We're keeping the KKK under close scrutiny. But you can't arrest a man for going out and putting on a night shirt or for burning a cross. There's no violation of federal laws there. However, if we catch them sending threatening notes through the mail we can pick them up under the Extortion Act. Or if the Klansmen deprive a man of his individual liberties we can grab them under the civil rights statute. But the country must understand that we have to wait until there are grounds which justify prosecution."

If that dead Negro taxi driver could talk, he'd say that is too long to wait! So would the whipped Negro veteran, cut by fifty-two lashes. So would the organizer thrown bodily out of a meeting hall. If the Klan runs true to form, there will be tarring and feathering, taking labor organizers for rides, all kinds of humiliations and tortures-and lynching. These are the atrocities that will have to be prevented - BEFORE THEY, HAPPEN.

This task can be accomplished by meeting Klan violence with organized mass defense. Every factory, mill and farm being organized by the CIO will need its defense guards to protect active union members, union organizers, union headquarters and meetings. Every Jewish organization will need its defense guards for protecting Jewish neighborhoods. Every Negro and bi-racial group, of which there are quite a few in the South, has the same task. The cooperating defense guards of the factories and of the oppressed minorities can most effectively map and carry out a plan to drive the Klan out of existence.

It is well to remember that Hitler confessed, after he came to power, that if the labor unions and other workers' organizations had fought his Storm Troop hoodlums at their birth. they would have had to fold up-

Planning Your Future!



Tin-Horn Generals Win New Draft Bill

By GRANT WALLINDE

Senate-House conferees this week recommended an extension of Selective Service to March 31, 1947 although the question of whether to draft 18 or 19 year olds is still undecided. Previously, the Senate voted fifty-three to twenty-six for the restoration of the teen-age draft.

The bandwagon for peacetime conscription had begun to roll even before V-J Day. The first bill for the extension of military training was introduced by Andrew J. May of the House Military Affairs Committee. It was submitted to the House of Representatives on January 3, 1945 and provided for one year military training for boys over eighteen. About a week later Senator Bilbo called for more military training in the schools.

PRO-DRAFT PRESSURE

By November the antagonisms which these moves aroused among the people and especially the youth, led to a retreat in the form of the Wadsworth Bill. This watered down version allowed boys over eighteen to delay their training for several years if they desired.

However, various pro-militaristic pressure groups had consolidated their forces by January and were with great effectiveness hammering for draft extension. On January 26. the American Legion organized a special National Security Commission to pressure for the passage of a permanent conscription bill.

By March 17, the House of Representatives felt free to pass a resolution endorsed by a bi-partisan House group for a joint House committee

to study and insure an effective occupation force. Andrew J. May, chairman of the House Military Affairs Committee said that he regarded the fact that the bi-partisan resolution had been drafted as a sign assuring the passage of the Selective Service Bill. Since then numerous bills have appeared in the House, favoring conscription. The agreement of the Senate-House conferees on a nine month draft is the conclusion of Congressional action on peace-time conscrip-

VICTORY FOR MILITARISTS

The tin horn generals have won a victory. American youth will be taught to take orders and not to ask questions. They will be conscripted to suppress movements for national freedom which arise in Europe and Asia. Famine ridden peoples who dare to fight for living standards of human decency will be met with Yankee bayonets. Drafted youths, serving against their will, will be the pawns of American capitalism in maintaining its rule over foreign territory.

Upon the shoulders of those who are not drafted will fall the burden of supporting the army by means of higher taxes and the increased bureaucratization which inevitably accompanies militarization. Militarism is becoming a permanent feature of American life. It will be strengthened by a peace-draft. By the same token, it will be weakened by defeat of the peace-draft. The fight against the draft will have to be taken up again; this time with pressures as well organized as those which put the present draft extension through.

Bevin's Speech - -

(Continued from page 1)

exploited of the world. What is also involved is the very practical, terribly practical, misery of the European Jews, facing ruthless extinction after the Nazi mass murders. There is no real solution other than the vanquishing of anti-Semitism everywhere that will come with socialist consciousness. But the situation presses for immediate alleviation. The victims of pogroms and starvation ask that something be done now. They wish to leave

To fight for an open door policy in Palestine is not enough. By itself that serves no purpose other than to play the game of American imperialism against British imperialism. We are opposed to the intrigues and hypocrisies of both imperialisms. If we call upon the British working class to demand of the British government that it quit Palestine and that the doors of Palestine be opened to free immigration, it is, first, our duty to demand that the doors of the United States be opened.

Open the doors of the United States! That is our answer to Bevin!

NATIONAL COMMITTEE WORKERS PARTY

Hudson Tube Strikers Enter Third Solid Week

ees of the Hudson & Manhattan Railroad enters its third week with the striking members of the Trainmen's and Engineers' Brotherhoods 100 per cent solid. Refusing to be a party to the farce of another fact finding session after the months of fact finding and mediation that preceded the recent national railroad strike, the Hudson Tubes strikers boycotted the government hearings, announcing that they will remain on strike until the road agrees to carry out the national rail agreement by coming through with an 18 and 1/2 cent an hour raise.

In an interview with LABOR AC-TION'S reporter, Brother Charles V. Doll, Newark strike committee chairman of the two striking brotherhoods expressed his confidence in the morale and determination of the strikers. In addition to support from the national leadership of the Brotherhoods, promises of financial assistance have come from all other rail lodges in the Metropolitan area. In the light of the experiences of labor in the recent rail crisis, Brother Doll came out strongly for labor unity, saying: "Labor must be united like any other army in order to achieve its objectives in the economic and political fields."

A heartening though ironic feature of the strike is the cooperation between the striking brotherhoods and the union of the red caps, the United Transport Service Employees of America, CIO. The red caps' union has turned over its Newark office to the strikers for their use throughout the struggle. Undoubtedly the breaking of the national rail strike by Truman and the present struggle of the

NEWARK-The strike of 700 employ- Tubes workers has forged a feeling of solidarity among railroad workers and a consciousness of the need for more progressive and militant policies to reverse the trend of do-nothingism that plagued the rail brotherhoods for many years. The cooperation and assistance offered by the predominantly Negro red caps' organization to the traditionally Jim Crow brotherhoods will undoubtedly help further to break down the barriers in the way of united action by all railroad work-

Congress - -

(Continued from page 1)

Socialism and capitalist barbarism is placed before the American masses by the serious trend towards totalitarianism evidenced in the attempts to regiment and suppress labor.

In milder form we have here a trend historically similar to the developments in pre-war Germany culminating in the triumph of the Nazis. There the ruling class, in a state of deep crisis, planned to re-establish itself by means of successful war. But it could not prepare war against British and American imperialism without first taking away the power of the workers to fight it. Therefore, the Nazis liquidated the powerful workers' organizations so successfully that they won the admiration of many "democrats"-and this admiration still glows in their hearts.

This is the light in which the people of this country must understand the repressive anti-labor measures. The historic choice between capitalism declining into barbarism and Socialism leading to a new birth of human freedom and well-being, has to be made.

The subscription price of LABOR ACTION goes up with the appearance of the eight-pager on August 5. Get your sub now at the old price. See blank on page 2,

How Labor Can Act Now to Stop Price Jumps -

Point 1 on the Price Agenda:

We have to work out a bold and realistic plan on how to meet the problem. The workers of this country know how they have been subject to a vicious circle. Sacrificing weeks on the picket line bring wage increases. And then those wage increases are cancelled out in Washington, where flabby OPA administrators permit price jumps. Or these wage increases are cancelled out by the black market leeches.

Now how are these price increases caused? First because the OPA is flabby and flimsy and succumbs to the pressure of the profiteers. But most important: profiteering and the black market are caused by the big manufacturers themselves.

Take for instance the meat industry. The big meat packers control practically the entire industry. They have a stranglehold on distribution. Now we ask you-how COULD there be black marketing in the industry if the big meat companies weren't somehow involved?

Sure, when you go to the store to buy something, you get mad at the little storekeeper. And sometimes he's doing a little chiseling, too; but that's only a drop in the bucket. It's the big companies that are involved; it's the big companies that have to

You know who had the right answer to that one? The GM section of the United Automobile Workers Union. They said, during their recent strike, we want a wage rise, but we are AGAINST raising the price of automobiles because we know that the wage rise can be taken out of the bosses' profits. If there were a jump in prices as a result of our wage increase and if the same thing took place in other industries, then the wage increases wouldn't be worth a damn.

They had the right idea in their GM STRIKE PROGRAM. It was this: the workers in each industry must, through their own unions and stewards' committees and special price committees, control the prices of THEIR OWN industry. (Sure the 'bosses will howl; let 'em howl!) If each union held the price line in its own industry, then we could hold the price line

Another thing: Who knows better than the workers in any given industry what kind of chiseling is going on? One of the most important things today is to collect information on black markets, on chiseling, on profiteering. That's why we need-

PRICE CONTROL COMMITTEES IN EACH INDUSTRY, WHICH WILL FUNCTION AS PART OF THE UNIONS AND WILL BE ON THE LOOKOUT IN THEIR OWN INDUSTRY TO KEEP PRICES DOWN!

Point 2 on the Price Agenda:

The wives of the men in the shops have got to move into action. They know better than anyone else what the price situation is. Let the women, the housekeepers, get together on a street or house basis and organize. What can they do? They can keep an eagle eye on the local profiteers. They can organize neighborhood demonstrations against high prices. They can work in coordination with the union committees we've suggested in Point 1. They can, where necessary, organize boycotts of profiteering stores.

Point 3 on the Price Agenda:

The United Automobile Workers Union has suggested the calling of a national conference of all trade unions to consider various labor problems: the anti-labor offensive in Congress, etc. One of the main problems to be discussed at such a conference should be prices. Such a conference could organize nationwide demonstrations to bring dramatically to the attention of the country its determination to keep prices down.

For instance, at a recent meeting of the UAW, its new president, Walter Reuther, spoke about how price increases had just about cancelled out the recent wage gains. He threw out the idea of "buyers' strikes" which could be organized by the labor movement: in a given city all the unions would organize a one or two-day boycott against some item which had been outrageously increased in price. (At the recent convention of the

American Veterans Committee a similar idea was put forward.) Now if Reuther is suggesting this idea of a "buyers' strike" as a means of getting out from under the GM Strike Programand we suspect he is-then it's not good. Because the GM Strike Program had the main idea: workers' control of prices in their own industries. But as a secondary, subsidiary idea, Reuther may have something there. It wouldn't lower prices, but it would be a dramatic means of protest.

Point 4 on the Price Agenda:

Without in any way exaggerating the role of OPA-which has been a pretty weak-kneed outfit-it is necessary to fight against those amendments passed by Congress which would weaken it even more by allowing for a rise of 50 per cent in the cost of living. The workers can't afford to rely on OPA alone; they've got to do the job themselves, because nobody else will do it for them. But we should fight to oppose those reactionary amendments in Congress which squeeze what little life the OPA

Which brings us to an interesting little matter. What has happened to all the heroes whom the CIO-PAC helped elect to Congress-the Democratic and Republican politicians who rode to power with the PAC push? Where are their votes? How come that they voted against price control, for the Case strike-breaking bill, for Truman's labor draft proposal?

Isn't that the payoff on the idea that labor should continue supporting capitalist politicians, no matter how "good" they are? Isn't that the final clinching argument in behalf of the idea that the workers need a party of their own, an independent LABOR

Those are our ideas on the price situation. We think that these ideas are realistic and bold enough to do the trick. We think it is the duty of every militant worker to think about them, to propose action by his union along these lines. And the time to act is NOW!

HARLEM READERS:

At our last party, YOU had a lot of fun, and WE paid our

Let's do it again on June 29!

> Watch for time and place. HARLEM BRANCH WORKERS PARTY