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# MASS UPRISING HALTS BOGOTA PARLEY

## Mine Strikers Win \$100 Pension Demand

## **Await Outcome** Of Trial Before **Return to Work**

By Art Preis

APRIL 8 — The country's 400.000 soft coal miners have scored another victory for themselves and all labor by winning their strike demand for a \$100 monthly old-age retirement pension payable from the operatorfinanced health and welfare fund.

But more than two-thirds of the strikers were still "sitting it out" this morning in defiance of a federal strikebreaking injunction. They intend to "wait and union are again subjected to harsh reprisals in the government's trial for "contempt" which opened

The Truman Administration is vindictively pressing for convicpossible extortionate fines and imprisonment. Again the administration has secured the services of Federal Judge T. Allan Goldsborough, who acted as judge, prosecutor and jury 17 months ago in fining the UMW \$3,510,-000 for a similar charge of "contempt" of an anti-strike injunc-

Judge Goldsborough has revealed himself as no less biased and prejudiced now than in November 1946, when he raved that the mine strike was "an evil, demoniac, monstrous thing."

Yesterday, he overruled almost every one of the UMW attorney's objections to irrelevant proceedings and testimony.

the miners will stay out of the pits to a man, particularly if Lewis personally is given a harsh

"PENSIONS GRANTED"

Lewis on Monday, prior to the opening of Goldsborough's hearings, wired the UMW locals: "pensions granted, agreement is now honored" and advised that "your voluntary cessation of work should now be terminated."

The break in the deadlock over the pension issue came when Speaker of the House Joseph W. Martin Jr., a Republican, intervened to effect a quick settlement outside the machinery of the Taft-Hartley Act. which the Republicans put over last June with the miners as their immediate target.

It is reported that big steel and coal interests, linked with the Republican party, sought Martin's intervention when it became clear that the miners would not knuckle under to government intimidation. By agreement with Lewis, Senator Styles Bridges of New Hampshire was named to welfare fund's Board of Trustees, which includes Lewis for the fill the third-man vacancy on the miners and Ezra Van Horn for the operators.

Within 48 hours, Lewis and Bridges agreed to a pension for all miners 62 years or over who have worked 20 years in the mines and retired after May 28, 1946, including members in Southern mines, whose owners have not signed the contract.

The operators threaten to challenge the decision as violating

> CAN THE WORKERS TAKE POWER? (See article on page 2 by George Breitman)

the Taft-Hartley Law. They are insisting among other things that for contempt of court in refusing \$100 a month is too much for old to allow police and office workers men who have toiled away a third through the picket line after a or more of their lives in the bow-temporary restraining order had Pickets have been successful to a head wage negotiations be-headquarters in South St. Paul. els of the earth. Lewis branded been served on the union. Two this greedy attitude of the oper-other UPW members, Glen truck drivers in turning away the St. Paul Union Stockyards soup kitchens for picket lines at ators when he pointed out that Chinander, also a field represen-Benjamin Fairless, head of U.S. tative, and Harry Urban, picket the strike by the National Farm- union is demanding an increase Steel which is the largest mine exptain at the Swift plant, have ers Union, has aided greatly in of 29 cents an hour. They have operator, "when he retires. . . will been ordered to appear in court keeping farmers away from the been offered only 21/2 cents. receive an annual pension of to show cause why they should stockyards. \$26,687 a year."

### CONGRESSMAN CALLS WAR SCARE "A CRIME AGAINST AMERICA"

After attending a secret meeting with other Congressmen and "highest level" military and administration figures, Rep. Howard H. Buffett (R. Neb.) denounced the current war scare as a "crime against America and all humanity."

Buffett indicated that forces in this country were trying to provoke war with Russia, one of the purposes being to militarize the nation.

Buffett suggested that the public "compare the present war hysteria with the idea that the Nipponese militarists drilled into the Japanese people." This he explained by pointing out that the Japanese militarists worked on the theory that. "to make militarism supreme there must always be an immediate enemy. The people must be led to believe that this enemy may strike today."

Rep. Buffett is a conservative Republican from Nebraska. He must have been pretty shocked by what he heard at the secret conference.

## tion. They intend to "wait and see" if John L. Lewis and the union are again subjected to harsh Savage Anti-Red Law

The House Un - American | gress proceedings have no rights agreed on an omnibus witchhunting bill to be introduced hortly in Congress.

The aim of this vicious legislaion, as announced in the press, is to • jail Communists." To accomplish this end - expressly prohibited by the Constitution he bill will have a lengthy oreamble defining the Communist (Stalinist) Party as an illegal onspiracy.

While the exact details and wording of the bill have not been fully worked out by the Un-American Committee, it is understood that it will provide for ten year prison sentences. At the same time the penalty for con-How far Judge Goldsborough lempt of Congress will be in-How far Judge Goldsborough will dare to go in "throwing the year's imprisonment and \$1,000



Paul G. Hoffman, president of the Studebaker Corp., slated as director of the Marshall Plan Program. Federated Pictures

tion of Lewis and the union, with Committee has unanimously of cross examination or jury trial.

DRASTIC PROVISIONS

The present Smith "Gag" Act which makes it a crime to seek the "overthrow of the government by means of force and violence" will be amended to make it criminal to seek the "overthrow of the government by any means." As can be seen, the sweeping provision of the new legislation can be used against anyone advocating basic social changes or reforms.

.In its definition of "illegal conspiracy" the committee includes political. Considering how the coal and do the necessary hard work. stoppage was recently attacked as injuring U.S. foreign policy and how readily strikes are attacked as "political," it is obvious that this clause can be used against militant unionists as well as political dissenters.

Among the many other provisions of the proposed anti-red legislation is an annual registration of all aliens, forbidding of passports and denial of government jobs to all "reds."

While Congress continued pumping the bellows of anti-red hysteria, mob violence again broke out. this time in Rochester. N. Y. A vigilante mob, led by the Catholic War Veterans and VFW, broke up a Communist Party meeting, beat up the speakers and made a bonfire of the Stalinist books and pamphlets. As in the recent vigilant attack in Columbus, Ohio, the policethe guardians of "law and order"

## **Penna. SWP Files Nominating Papers**

The Socialist Workers Party toand for Dr. Grace Carlson of party names in state elections, Workers Party.

DETROIT, April 12 — In the past week 2,000 more sig-Vayne County.

the capitalist press.

An interesting incident occurred when a Socialist Party memdisruption of "trade, commerce or | ber approached one of our people government in the United States at work on a street corner, and with intent to further the ob- expressed amazement at the enjectives of the world Communist ergy, enthusiasm and numbers of movement." When asked by re- SWP petition-gatherers. He stated porters if this "disrupting trade" it was his opinion that the SP book" at the Miners' Union is still undecided. The one thing that may restrain him is fear that man Nixon of the Un-American enough signatures to appear on Committee replied that it could in the ballot, because its members program.

All Force Big Brass for all the public funds they could grab. its mobilization plans in motion. The War Assets Administration trikes that were "primarily" were just not willing to get out

over the legal requirements.

### 'Friends of Joe Hill' **Defend His Memory**

New Republic, will give space in restal demanded. his magazine to the "Friends of swer" to an article by Wallace be subject to the draft unless adelphia Convention Hall on July ing and Mississippi. National Joe Hill" for "an adequate an- less than a year's service would ticle defamed the memory of the or some reserve unit. famous labor organizer and song--stood benevolently by and made writer, who was framed on a murder charge in Utah.

Irene P. LeCompte, state campaign manager, announced that 11,334 registered voters in the state signed the nomination papers for Dobbs and Carlson. Signatures were obtained in the following counties: Philadelphia, Delaware, Allegheny, Lehigh, Bucks, Montgomery, Mercer, Law ence, Berks, Fayette and Erie.

natures were obtained on the Socialist Workers Party petitions, making a total of 8,300. Petitions have been sent in from Ingram, Monroe, Oakland, and other outying counties, as well as from

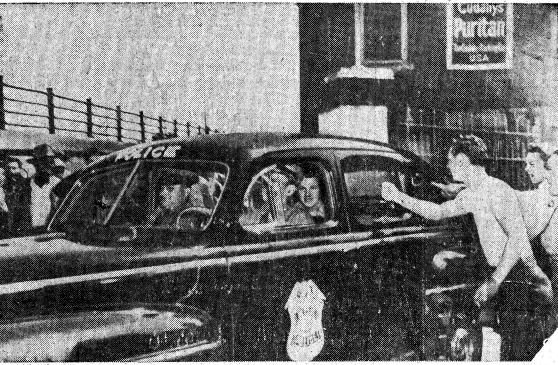
It is inspiring to find many workers sympathetic to the ideas of Socialism in spite of the terrific barrage of red-baiting from

PHILA'DELPHIA, April 6day filed nomination papers for Farrell Dobbs of New York, for President of the United States, Minneapolis, for Vice President. Due to the state election laws, which prohibit the use of similar the Socialist Workers Party will file in Pennsylvania under the ballot designation of Militant

The Detroit branch is running By that time it is believed that the total number of signatures throughout the state will be 50%

real political campaign, which enact even more drastic legislawill begin when the name of the tion than the White House, State Socialist Workers Party appears Department and National Militfor the first time on the Michigan ary Establishment proposed orig-

## Scab Salute



Kansas City cops drive a scab through the picketline of the CIO Packinghouse workers as strikers jeer and shake their fists.

## War Program Put No. 1 On Agenda of Congress

War preparations have been placed No. I on the Congress would regiment labor, subject it agenda, it was announced April 12 by leaders of the Congression-wages and jobs and outlaw Jose Montalvo, minister of the al bi-partisan coalition.

program.

As Washington extends and intensifies its "cold war" on the mobilization. Pressured by the Big Brass

and Wall Street blue-printers, This is the forerunner of the Congress has been steamed up to inally.

Hearings are to begin this week on a House bill to draft into the armed forces 1,644,000 of age. This is 210,000 more Michael Straight, owner of the than Secretary of Defense For-

World War II veterans with

group combat air force instead cf the 55-group one proposed by

Stegner published Jan. 5. The ar- they joined the National Guard 24 and 25. The bill would establish a 70-

Speaker of the House, Re- Records by 18 billion dollars. publican Joseph W. Martin Jr., In proposing the smaller force as agency of the military departsaid all other matters, such as a starter, the Administration was ments, has completed blue-prints federal workers pay raise, min- trying to avoid an all-out scram- for military and industrial coimum wage and civil rights bills, ble between the Army, Navy and ordination. The National Security are to be shunted aside indefinite- Air Force Big Brass for all the Resources Board has already set

REGIMENT LABOR

regimentation and industrial ed to follow the proposals of military officers are undergoing Bernard Baruch and C. E. Wil- intensive training in an Economic son, General Electric president. Mobilization Course of the Indus-Their plan-the foundations of tvial College of the Armed Forcwhich have already been laid— es.

strikes. The Munitions Board, joint

The War Assets Administration

## WALLACITES TO HOLD **CONVENTION JULY 24**

The National Wallace for President Committee closed a twoyouth between 19 and 25 years day conference in Chicago on April 12 after issuing a call for

a national founding and nominating convention of the Wal-

conference, will be limited to 16 states. state parties supporting the that it had to be careful "not to to attend only as observers.

This undemocratic procedure, own tickets. sharply curtailing the possibility is reinforced by another, appor- conference floor.

ceed twice the number of its elect- anything to do with them. crs. The representation of each Thus the Stalinist Worker of lected without incident.

tended by about 400 delegates this invitation that the IPP "was for the first time. They remained

cerats and Republicans.

only states without delegations were Delaware, Arkansas, North lace movement to be held at Phil- Dakota, South Carolina, Wyomcampaign manager C.B. Baldwin mass violence, rushed into a bloc reported that the Wallace move-Representation at the Philadel- ment is active in 45 states. New ative Party and formed a coalition phia convention, according to the parties have been established in government of six Conservatives

candidacy of Wallace and Taylor shut out any of those voters" who lican candidates and run their progress throughout Colombia.

Each state party or state com- Democrats in a number of states, mittee may send up to four dele- by failing to run candidates a- South American countries that gates for each presidential elect- gainst them. In other instances, has been relatively free from or, and one alternate for each as in California, they did not en- popular uprisings. This is one elector, with the total vote of dorse Democrats only because reason why Bogota was selected each state delegation not to ex- the Democrats refused to have as the meeting place. For years

state organization, therefore, will April 11 reports apologetically be based not on the actual num- that the IPP invited Representaber of members adhering to the tives Helen Cahagan Douglas and landowners and the Catholic movement but on the population | Chet Holifield of Los Angeles to | hierarchy, remained unchallenged of the state — the same reaction- run on its congressional primary in the saddle. But in 1930 the ary practice followed by the Dem- ticket, as well as that of the Liberal Party, on an anti-clerical crats and Republicans.

Democratic Party. It was only platform and employing anti-imwhen they flatly turned down perialist demagogy, won control and observers from 42 states. The forced to file its own candidates."

## Marshall Calls **Popular Revolt** "Kremlin Plot"

By Arthur Burch

The Pan-American conference at Bogota came to an unceremonious halt on April 9, when Secretary of State Marshall together with the other assembled dignitaries from 21 American countries, an for their lives from insurgent Colombian masses. The political ssassination of Jorge Gaitan, Liberal Party leader, supplied the spark that set off the spontaneous uprising of the workers and peasants of Colombia. With a sure instinct the Bogota populace marched toward the Capitolio where the conference was in session, wrecked the structure, destroyed the records and equipment and stopped for the time being the olottings and schemings of the merican statesmen whom they have learned to distrust and hate. Shouting "death to Laureano Gomez," Conservative Party leader who, on Marshall's nomination, became the chairman of the inter-American conference, the demonstrators attempted to set-

### the people. POLICE AND ARMY

The insurgent masses gave vent to their anger against their native oppressors by hanging in the Plaza Bolivar facing the Capitolio Leon Valencia, Conservative Interior. Two hostile policemen were also hanged. From the news accounts it is clear, however, that a single section of the police force and army sided with the people. Thus far over 300 rebellious policemen and soldiers have been reported killed.

tle accounts with this pal of Span-

ish dictator Franco. But Gomez

succeeded in fleeing the wrath of

has been ordered to hold up fur- gation were able to leave the Congress is awaiting a bill ther sales of war plants. Machine conference building unmolested international arena, it is lining from the White House on indus- tools have been ordered out of by merely holding out the Mexgo over the top next weekend. up the home front for military trial mobilization. This is expect storage. Business executives and ican flag in front of them as they walked. This was not true either of the American delegation or the American correspondents. The former barricaded themselves in the American embassy buildings which were several times set on fire. After beng without food or sleep for 24 hours they were finally evacuated with the help of armored cars. Many American correspondents had to hide in the Astor Hotel. They did not dare venture out with the American flag which has become to the South American masses the symbol of imperialism and oppression.

The uprising assumed such serious proportions that Liberal Party leaders, panicked by the with their rivals of the Conservand seven Liberals.

## GENERAL STRIKE

This hastily reconstituted gov-(like the American Labor Party were partially sympathetic but ernment then appealed to the in New York and the Independ- did not accept the full program masses to stop the revolt. At the ent Progressive Party in Califor- of the new party. This was a ref- same time martial law was proerence to the dispute that has claimed and a tight censorship nia) and to state Wallace for been going on inside the Wallace clamped on the press. After a day President committees. All other movement over the autonomous of assurances that tranquillity organizations - such as interna- rights of local and state groups had been restored, news leaked tional unions — will be permitted to reject Democratic and Republicut that a general strike was in

Meanwhile Marshall and his This dispute, according to earl- claborate Pan-American Conferof the labor movement taking its reports, was scheduled to be ence were left dangling in midcontrol of the movement away settled at the Chicago conference, air. Finally in order to save face, from the handpicked leadership, but it was not aired openly on the Marshall got the frightened delegates to agree to go through the Meanwhile, the local Wallace motions of continuing the confer-

Colombia is one of the few Colombia officials have been e-

Prior to 1930 the Conservative Party, representing the wealthy

(Continued on page 4)

## SOUTH ST. PAUL, April 13

By Barbara Bruce

Another member of CIO was arrested last Friday for Louis Kropelnicki, is a member makes a total of three UPW we weeks. The other two are

president of Local 167. Siegel and Nolan were arrested process. not be arrested on the same A resolution adopted by the to bring to light the low living all sections of the CIO.

for April 19.

United Packinghouse Workers district court, token pickets lines attempting to discourage a scab for work each day along with assistance to the packinghouse pleted. from going through the picket office workers and foremen, but line at the Swift plant. The picket, meat production remains at a achieve adequate living stan- fivities was the delivery of more standstill. A strike-bound switch of the Swift Local 167. This engine and several cars of meat were moved from railroad yards members arrested here in the last | between Swift and Armour plants this week by supervisors on the Milton Siegel, UPW field repre- Chicago Great Western line, alsentative, and William Nolan, though one of the supervisors suf-

are entering the stockyards daily ers went on strike March 16. loop and down the river road to for transfer to other points. This strike authorization brings Swift, Armour and Cudahy strike through talks with farmers and tween the stockyard workers and The food is being used to supply most of the traffic. Support of company. The stockhandlers' the struck plants. The CIO Free-

board of directors "urges all packinghouse workers, a house While hearings on the restrain- farmers to support the strike of to-house survey is being made this ing order to prohibit mass picket- the packinghouse workers by week in the South St. Paul area. ing continue in Dakota county keeping livestock off the market Data on housing facilities, size of ... as long as the strike lasts," families, income, and expenditures are keeping the packing plants and "recommends that all farm- for food and clothing will be made

> workers in their attempt to dards. STOCKHANDLERS' DEMANDS and other food to UPW strike tioning the amount of votes to be kitchens by the CIO Freedom cast at the founding convention. leaders have in effect endorsed ence at Bogota. Union, a UPW affiliate, authorized their executive board last Fri- loaded with food and placarded

day to call a strike "at its discre- with fighting slogans, assembled fered a broken nose in the tion." Stock handlers have re- at the State Capitol in South St. fused to cross picket lines to go Paul. From there, the caravan A few truckloads of livestock to work since packinghouse work-

charge. A jury trial is scheduled | NFU at a recent meeting of the | standard of the vast majority of closed. A few scabs are reporting ers and farm leaders lend active public when the survey is com-

Highlighting the week's ac-

than five tons of canned goods Members of Stockhandlers Caravan last Saturday. More than 70 trucks and automobiles. proceeded through the St. Paul dom Caravan was sponsored by the Greater St. Paul CIO Coun-As part of the union's campaign cil, and food was contributed by

## Wallace, Trotsky and the Third World War Drive

By E. R. Frank

Henry Wallace has brought the name of Trotsky into his presidential campaign. On a number of occasions he referred to Trotsky and his program of the world revolution in contrast to Stalin and his program of national socialism. He did so in his recent speech at Duluth, Minnesota. He repeated the argumentation in a statement printed in the March 20 Colliers magazine. Obviously Wallace attaches extraordinary importance to this question, which constitutes in reality the cornerstone of his so-called "Peace Program." Here is Wallace's argument as printed in Colliers:

"There are those who insist that Communism and capitalism cannot exist in the same world. This is the view of the extreme rightists in this country who fear the mere idea of Socialism and thus reveal distrust of the democratic free flow of ideas. It is also the view of some Marxists who have insisted that it is impossible to build a Socialist country that can stand by itself. This was the power for the exploited and downtrodden of the capitalist world. fight between Stalin, who thought he could conduct a successful experiment with Socialism in Russia, and the exiled Trotsky, who transformed from Marxist parties into conscienceless agencies of fluence" allotted to the Russians by the Anglo-American diplomats insisted that world revolution was necessary. I don't like to see American reactionaries lend support to the Trotsky position of world revolution by constant threats against the Russians.'

As we see, Wallace lines up solidly with Stalin on the theoretical front. Both believe in the theory of "Socialism in one country" and that capitalism and the Soviet Union can live peacefully side by side for an indefinite period of time.

On the factual side, it is indeed true that not only Trotsky but Lenin and the whole Bolshevik leadership took for granted that the Soviet Union could not indefinitely survive surrounded by capitalism. In other words, the alternatives were: Either the working class revolution would be extended to other parts of the world-and in time triumph on a world scale, or the Soviet Union would sooner or later succumb to capitalist restoration, either by conquest from without, or counter-revolution from within, or a combination of both.

As a matter of fact up until 1924 when he promulgated his theory that it was possible to construct "Socialism in one country," Stalin himself adhered to this Leninist conception of the incompatibility of the two social systems. Only in 1924, when the new bureaucracy began to consolidate its position under Stalin, did he abruptly break with the Bolshevik viewpoint and declare that Socialism could be built within the confines of Russia and that the two systems could indefinitely live one alongside the other.

Now Marxist theory is not something spun out of thin air based upon abstruse quotations or scriptures. Marxist theory is generalization based upon experience. Let us apply the experiences of the past 30 years to the problem at hand and see whether they lend support to the ideas of Lenin and Trotsky-or of Stalin and Wallace.

### Capitalists Showed Their Opposition

By George Breitman

class and its struggle for social-

In 1918 the imperialists of the Allied camp, England, France, Japan, the U.S. as soon as their hands were freed by the German surrender, launched a series of armed invasions against the young Soviet Republic. The U.S. and Japan occupied the eastern portion of Siberia. The French fleet entered the Black Sea. The British took over the Baku region. Later the imperialists subsidized with money. arms, staff officers, every counter-revolutionary, whiteguardist gang that was willing to wage warfare on the Soviets. In other words the capitalists demonstrated that, so far as they were concerned, the Soviet Republic represented a deadly menace to their existence and that the two social systems were not compatible.

and saved the young Soviet republic from extinction at its very birth.

But isn't it possible that the imperialist leaders of 1918-Churchill, Lloyd George, Clemenceau, Woodrow Wilson-isn't it possible that they were mistaken in their ideas? Isn't it possible that new light has been thrown on this subject? Doesn't the con- that England, France and the U.S. took the bit in their teeth to tinued existence of the Soviet Union for 30 years encircled by a declare war because Germany was expanding and destroying the capitalist world prove that Lenin and Trotsky were wrong—and old relationship of forces. The Allied powers feared—and with good that Stalin and Wallace are right?

Let us see. Undoubtedly the undreamed of degeneration of the Soviet Union coupled with its counter-revolutionary policy throughout the world served for a period to attenuate the conflict between still had the strength. these two social systems.

First, the conversion of the Soviet Union into a police state with a political regime similar to Hitler's has lessened its attractive Secondly, the Communist parties have degenerated and become the Kremlin ruling oligarchy. These parties have long since abandoned the struggle for a socialist revolution and only want to gain influence over the workers movements so they can pressure the Stalin Seeks A Deal capitalist rulers to adopt a conciliatory policy toward the Kremlin.

These two factors have been responsible in lessening for a time the tension between the two social systems. In other words, Russia's degeneration plus the systematic sellout of one revolutionary struggle after another made the "Russian Question" less acute for the capitalist world.

### Temporary Truce at Best

But even in the halcyon days of the Thirties, the relationship etween these antipathetic social systems never added up to more than a temporary truce; not a peace. This was made clear again and again-by England's and America's refusal to grant long-term Why then the war scare, and more important, the unmistakable war credits to Russia, by their covert support of Hitler, by the anti-Russian campaigns launched time and again in the leading imperialist countries, by the continued animosity and fear even after the granting of recognition to Russia.

Then with the world economic crisis and the disruption of the existing capitalist equilibrium by the expansionist policies of Germany, Italy, Japan-the "have-not" imperialist states-began a new period of heightened tensions and repeated incitations for war against the Soviet Union, culminating in the Nazi invasion of 1941. Today, scarcely more than two years after the conclusion of the they see? The disintegration of capitalism on a world scale in a most devastating of all wars, American imperialism, armed to the teeth, is preparing for a new, and this time they hope the decisive assault upon the Russian state.

In other words, the capitalist statesmen of today, far from thinking that Lloyd George, Clemenceau, Woodrow Wilson and Churchill were wrong in 1918, believe that they were not only right, but the time has come for their vindication.

Why? Can it be that the rulers who determine the destinies of planet are bent upon plunging into the terrifying unknown of a new world war simply because of a mistaken notion? Can it be that in such a big question they don't understand their own interests, and that Wallace is unable to straighten them out?

Hardly. World history knows of no accidental wars, much less where wars of a major character are involved. Diplomacy, history teaches, may hasten or postpone an armed conflict between rival powers or systems, but it is powerless to avert it. Events greater That they failed in their attempts was not due to their lack of than men intervene in these cases to shape the destinies of nations

trying. It was the magnificent solidarity of the working masses of and peoples. And the "irrepressible conflict" between U. S. im- with the fear that time is working against them and that the longer Western Europe which finally put a stop to the intervention attempts perialism and Russia is the least accidental of any in history.

Why is this conflict irrepressible and inevitable? What is it that is goading the American plutocracy to make this fateful decision for war?

If we examine the causes of the Second World War, we find reason-that Germany, unless stopped, would grow strong enough to menace their imperialist interests and empires, and would then attempt to conquer them if they did not move quickly while they

But, in contrast to Hitler's Germany of 1938, Russia is not expanding now, the tons of war propaganda notwithstanding. The anti-Soviet barrage has obscured the fact that the important Russian expansion all took place in 1944 and 1945. What the Kremlin has done since then in the main is to consolidate the "sphere of in-

Moreover, as all informed students are aware, the talk about the United States being "menaced" and in danger of attack is just bait for suckers. Not only is Russia woefully, pathetically unprepared stand petrified at the prospect; but its whole diplomacy is designed for the one and sole purpose of avoiding war; of pressuring, cajoling, threatening and coaxing U.S. imperialism into making a

American imperialism's beating of the war drums thus cannot be explained either by "Russian expansionism," or commercial rivalry, "Russian aggression," or the danger that Stalin may start war.

All their statements and actions show that even the cocky gnoramuses of the Wall Street counting houses are not lightninded about this question of war. Even they know that it is a plunge into the vast unknown and that the results are incalculable and unforeseeable. Why can't they turn back, then, from this yawning abyss and adopt the more reasonable and less dangerous solution proposed by Wallace? Because they don't believe in it. Because they process of disintegration must be halted, or capitalism will perish. The Washington-Wall Street banker-statesmen now are gripped

### Bus Drivers Walk



Bus drivers of New York's Local 100, CIO Transport Workers Union are walking outside the garages. To defend their present contract rights, 300 TWU men went out on strike April 6. tives ahead.)

they wait the weaker capitalism will become and the less able to impose its will by force of arms.

And here is the way the Soviet Union figures in their scheme of things. The Soviet Union, despite its backsliding under Stalin, remains a system of nationalized property and planned economy. As such, despite Stalin, it exercises a disintegrating influence upon capitalism, which in the present juncture of world affairs, they view as nothing less than disastrous and intolerable.

### Capitalist World Market Shrinking

First, the Russian revolution withdrew a territory comprising sixth of the earth's surface out of the orbit of world capitalism. While this factor has been a constant ever since the 1917 revolution n its debilitating effect on world capitalism, it has now become rebly demoralizing, as capitalism is suffering horribly from pernicious anemia. And the thought has become a veritable obsession that a transfusion of 16 and 2/3% of fresh blood might take the capitalist atient out of the danger zones and ensure his pulling through."

Moreover, with the war's end, the Soviet Union was able to seize control of half of Europe and sizable chunks of Asia. They wiped out the political and military power of the capitalist classes throughout these regions. While these countries, from a sociological viewpoint, remain within the framework of capitalism, they are under Stalinist rule, they have been forcibly pulled out of the to make war upon the American colossus; not only do its rulers capitalist world market and their economies subordinated to and aligned with that of the Soviet Union.

Then, we must not forget that the lustre of the great revolution of Lenin and Trotsky has not completely dimmed. A strange phenomenon, but true. Twenty-five years of Stalinism, twenty-five years of unheard of betravals, counter-revolutionary deeds, crimes. murders, frameups, prison camps, forced labor-twenty-five years of all this, and still the Russian revolution, even in its desecrated state, continues to exercise an astonishing influence upon the masses of the world and inspires them to revolutionary struggles.

In the present weakened state of world capitalism, this factor is profoundly disturbing to Wall Street's rulers. They look at Italy, Greece, China-rent by civil wars. These conflicts are ripping the fabric of these countries and keep the whole world in turmoil, uncertainty, chaos and decomposition. All the arms, technical assistance and money that the U.S. has poured and is pouring into these countries seem to be accomplishing, at best, little more than don't think it squares with reality. And what is the reality that preserving the status-quo. The Wall Street masters fear that this constant drain upon their resources and strength is too heavy, manner and at a pace hitherto never thought possible, and that this that if permitted to continue, it will in time render them too weak to put down the forces of revolt arising throughout the world, and that capitalism will succumb in the end. That is why they have decided to push for a decision while life and strength remain.

One might argue that even without the Soviet Union these social struggles would be going on; that as a matter of fact, Stalinist influence guarantees that these revolutionary movements fall short of their goals of overthrowing capitalism and introducing Soviet regimes. The leading capitalist circles understand this too.

But they have come to the conclusion that this is not enough, that they can no longer tolerate the existence of the Soviet Union, even under counter-revolutionary Stalinist rule. Because, despite all of Stalin's sellouts of the working classes and his services to the imperialists, the latter find they cannot in the given conditions stabilize the world and achieve some kind of even transitory peace.

As the chieftain of a highly unstable Soviet bureaucracy, lacking any firm class base, lacking historic outlook and perspective. holding on for dear life to its influence over the mass movement in order to maneuver between the workers and the capitalists-Stalin has proven to be for the imperialists, a grasping, treacherous and totally unreliable ally.

The most generous minded of the capitalist strategists are willing to concede that, in the light of experience, the Sovietimperialist alliance, despite possible good intentions on both sides, must be dissolved on grounds of social incompatibility. These are the weighty considerations that have brought the Wall Street strategists to their fateful decision to cross the Rubicon of war

The forces and pressures impelling Washington along the road of war are thus too powerful and compelling to be deflected or denied-unless the working masses take matters into their own hands as the Russian workers and peasants did in Czarist Russia

In the unfolding chain of events leading to war, it is even possible that a new agreement may be consummated between the leading statesmen on both sides. But if this occurs, it will simply represent a "breather" of the "Munich" variety to enable both sides the better to prepare for Armageddon.

If this is not a radiant perspective, it has at least this virtue: t is undeniably correct. We are truly living in an age of blood ar ron. Great things will be decided, one way or the other, in the lifetime of all of us. And the first rule for those who would engage in combat with the still mighty hosts of reaction-and emerge victorious-is to look reality straight in the face. And that reality reads: War—if revolution does not intervene to stop it.

(A subsequent article will deal with the lessons of the post-Second World War mass struggles and with revolutionary perspec-

ed many relative advantages in detours and lulls — any more gory. When Vannier sneers that tween conflicting and often antaits struggle to overthrow feudal- than the capitalist struggle for the "political capacity of the gonistic layers within the workism and establish its own system. power did. The working class is working classes has revealed it- ing class itself. Even so, it took the capitalists not invested with some "ideal" self as a never-ending capacity. It is a great mistake in this several centuries before they political wisdom, enabling it to for being 'betrayed'," then we are connection to think of the workwon power. Understanding that skip over all preparatory and in- forced to recall that the capital- ing class as a single political enenables us to see how the rene-termediate stages — any more ist class too displayed "political tity. Actually it is composed of gades from Marxism (like Jean than the capitalists were. Like all incapacity" for a long time and different strata — official labor Vannier in the March Partisan previous classes contending for that it too was often betrayed by leaders, privileged skilled work-Review) are deliberately stack- power, the workers are bound to its leaders. But that didn't stop it ers, unskilled laborers, the most ing the cards against the working grope for solutions from their from learning lessons, choosing class when they conclude that it own experience, to make mistakes new leaders and making a revo- are often not even unionized, etc. lacks the "political capacity" to and to learn from them, to test lution later on. Why should the A struggle goes on among these take power because it did not do their leaders in action before capitalist class be judged by one different strata - some of whom so in the first 100 years after the discarding them and selecting historical standard and the work- are reactionary, some passive, Communist Manifesto. new ones. One of the easiest ways to distort history and muddle up its A BOLSHEVIK PARTY

lessons is by isolating events and idealistically abstract form, show- 50 years ago.

100 years, we are justified in no basis in historical analysis; it

are a few that are pertinent:

Can the Workers Take Power?

In contrast to the working er does not proceed in a straight ism, the capitalist class possess-

trends, that is, approaching them should bear in mind that while tries to strengthen it by repeat. The leadership of the class is without reference to comparable Marx and Engels outlined the ing one of the standard slanders the product of the ascendancy of masses to tear themselves free phenomena that provide us with broad socialist goal in the middle of the renegades. Stalinism, he one or more strata over the others from the bloody capitalist chaos, ing an analagous stage of develop- revolutionary party was not leadership. ment. Instead, he discusses the grasped, therefore, even by the workers' political capacity in an vanguard forces, until less than

to some perfect "norm" of politicentury are the lessons of a new be held "responsible" for the Sta- Once established, the leaderhe calls "a rational and method- into the political arena. They ical scrutiny of the lessons of the prove the difficulties in the way of making a working class revo-But by using an all-sided ap- lution, not the impossibility of it. drawing diametrically opposite is pure prejudice, arbitrarily im-

ing that it does not measure up In short, the lessons of the last this one. The working class can later stage.

bankrupt leaders? We must know the answer to that question before we can decide if the workers' continued adherence to these leaders is proof of their incapacity to take power.

## LEADERS AND CLASSES

Marxists dissent violently.

conclusions from Vannier's. Here posed on the facts in order to way they pick out a pair of shoes "justify" his own flight from the in a well-stocked shoe store. The The workers' struggle for pow- camp of working class revolution. actual process is far more com-Political capacity, like "matur- plex, the leadership being a pro-

> some revolutionary, with the redisqualify the working class from working class changing under

ical capacity. (And this is what class making its first entrance limits and Social Democrats in ship may succeed in holding its crating opportunities for the revthe sense that it hasn't yet awak- position for a much longer time olutionary forces to challenge the ened to the enormity of their than the relationship of forces reactionary leaders who reflect crimes, repudiated them and de- which produced it, not only be- capitalist pressure. stroyed their influence. But if cause of the inertia of the class

the workers as the capitalists.

The working class is slow to

But this slowness, this caution, move what Trotsky called "the

## the basis for making valid com- of the 19th century, it wasn't undeclares, "is as much an effect at the time of its selection. The and the conservative, patriotic, the basis for making valid comparisons. That is what Vannier does. He "neglects" to discuss the political capacity of the workers during the first century of their existence in relation to the political capacity of the nature existence in relation to the point of the nature of the capitalists dur- standing of the nature of the continues to "tolerate" their ing defeat because the struggle identify the leadership with the continues after the leadership is class. But this contradiction re-Like every other big lie, there selected, paving the way for a mains, and continues, along with is a tiny grain of truth hidden in reversal of the situation at a the internal contradictions of capitalism, to affect the struggle for leadership within the class, gen-

Up to now, we have examined the arguments about the workers' capacity to take power without reference to the most instructive experience of all, the Russian revolution of 1917, which will be

## Important Lecture

IMPERIALISM IN THE NEAR EAST Speaker: Charles Carsten Wednesday Evening April 21 - 8 P. M.

(corner 13th St.) NEW YORK CITY

I hate cowards as leaders of a

youth draft bill before Congress because the financial - political wolves ruling over us provide augress to declare national emerservice, including the shooting the command of Wall Street or the White House.

students undergoing this military to draft into army service for any form of military service, and this youth corps shall not be people's revolution. I would have deemed a part of the army for

hit the forefront demanding he was enough of a revolutionist universal military training of our that he would have taken my The fact that conservatives youth to qualify them as the position. You do it! Get all left

by militarism and war, the workers need military training to protect their interests. But we have no confidence whatsoever in the capitalist rulers and Big Brass who direct our military establishment. That is why The Militant opposes all proposals of capitalist conscription, such as the proposal for Universal Military Training or the Truman Draft. The Milithority to the President and Con- tant-and in this it is following the ideas of Leon Trotskygency requiring conscription of Tavors a military training proour youth trainees into army gram under the control of the unions; in other words, under the down of we common people at control of the existing mass labor organizations.

free military training bill, offer- and refreshments will be enjoyed cut me and the following one ing free military training to all by all those attending the Satur- without my son. our high school youth in govern- day night Barn Dance to be held ment camps during school vac- by the Brooklyn Branch, 635 ations as a part of the nation's Fulton St., on April 24. All Milicompulsory training, providing tant readers are cordially invited (Reprinted from the Cleveland in the bill that under no circum- - the fun begins at 9 p.m.

With a hope of peace and a cynical outlook of reality of war, I thought over Joseph Martin's speaker of the House of Representatives) speech. The gist of Martin's speech, I

believe, was to write to our relatives in Europe about the wonderful privileges in this country. It so happens that my mother is in Finland, a real hotbed at this time, and I am a veteran of six years in the last war, three years being spent overseas. The privileges I could write about to my mother would be about the home

I have two children who are boarded out because no one will rent us an apartment with them. The price we pay for having the two children boarded out doesn't leave enough for my wife and I. So thanks to a good-hearted employer, we can sleep on benches in his place of business, instead of in the park.

Federal housing can't take care of us because of laws. The Veterans' Administration has nothing for us and the American Red Cross doesn't have any facilities to help out in housing.

Martin asked to send photographs of proof. I will take a photograph of my wife and I Demand the immediate passage Brooklyn Barn Dance sleeping on benches and send it to my mother.

The next war can be won with-

Carl Leppanen Cleveland, Ohio

Press, April 5.)

## THE MILITARY

### March Militant **Subs Total 328** 48 Militant readers co-operated

by renewing their own subscriptions directly during March, thus saving 48 or more personal visits. A total of 179 renewals were obtained in March out of a total of 328 subs.

Oakland, Calif .- "We have been having good sales of The Militant at UAW meetings and at the AFL Labor Temple here. Also at a recent meeting when the Negro historian, DuBois, spoke, we sold 55 pamphlets all we had with usincluding The Struggle for Negro Equality, Negroes in the Post-War World and Build a Labor Party Now." - Beverley Wise.

March Subscriptions

New York Los Angeles

Cincinnati Cleveland Chicago Reading Lynn

San Francisco Philadelphia Toledo Boston St. Paul

Seattle San Diego

29

11

Youngstown

Morgantown, W. Va.

Allentown Detroit Milwaukee Connecticut Pittsburgh Buffalo Portland

line, ever onward and upward, ity," is a relative factor; it is duct both of the struggle between

without defeats and retreats and least of all a fixed and final cate- the classes and of the clash, be-

ing class by another? To illustrate this point, we taking power is so weak that he different conditions.

proach to the history of the last Vannier's contrary conclusion has that is the criterion to be used, but also because of the power of head the workers' movement far people's militia to defend and groups to demand it. You will then it could be just as easily compulsion wielded by the leader- more often than the revolution- protect the people against tyran- hasten Socialism in America if claimed that the working class is ship. It is highly misleading, ists testifies not to the historical ny-yes, against possible fascism you heed me. also "responsible" for capitalism therefore, to conclude that a law that even a progressive class here. and fascism and imperialist war leadership elected but a few is able to challenge the enormous in the sense that it hasn't yet used its invincible potential power to finish off these evils too. Vannier does not carry his ridiculous argument to this extreme but that's his inconsistency, not

between the workers and their

Vannier plainly holds the con- ate leadership until the contradic- taken up in our next article. cept that the leadership "reflects" tion between this leadership and or "represents" the class, directly the interests of the class is reand simply. If this is not so, he vealed by the shock of great asks by implication, then why do events. And even then it tends the workers "tolerate" such lead- to caution in elevating a new ers? Green and Murray would leadership until convinced that it no doubt agree with Vannier that is genuinely superior to the old. they represent or reflect the American workers, and Vannier may THE CONTRADICTION accept Togliatti's claim to represent the Italian workers. But the does not at all eliminate or re-

The truth is, as Trotsky more profound contradiction between than once pointed out, the work- the organic, deep-going, insurers don't select their leaders the mountable urge of the toiling

'Vannier's attempt to forever lationship of forces within the

erican trade union leadership, for make the revolution and take crisis. example, "reflects" not so much power.

change its leaders — a source of its strength in some ways, a source of its weakness in others. It tends to "tolerate" a degener-

BLOOD AND OIL:

**Marxist Labor School** 116 UNIVERSITY PLACE

## WORKERS FORUM Military Training

**Under Union Control** 

An honest revolutionist would

A trained well-salaried small months ago necessarily reflects pressures and violence of the rul- army will always be capitalism's accurately the mood of the class ing class only on special occa- agency to suppress the people Ed. Note: The Militant knows sions, and that such extraordin- and workers. Only a free youth full well that in a world dominated Moreover, the leadership, once ary exertions of strength can be militia not subject to draft for it is established, tends to rise a- maintained only for short periods. military service can be relied bove the class and thus becomes The importance of the revolu- upon to fight for the people subject to the pressure and in- tionary party is that it alone can against the capitalist wolves, the What is the real relationship fluence of enemy classes. Trotsky lead the class in taking advantage police and the regular army pointed out correctly that the Am- of these exceptional situations to itself, in case of a people's

I am opposed to the present

instead of a non-conscription, non - draft, non - military service | Square dancing, entertainment

## stances of emergency shall the Veteran's Privileges and athletic training be subjected In Good Old U.S.A.

any purpose. If Trotsky lived in your midst,

> S. S. Shapira Los Angeles

Subscriptions: \$1 per year; 50c for 6 months. Foreign: \$2 per pear; \$1 for 6 months. "Entered as second class matter Mar. 7, 1944 at the Post Office at New York, N. Y., under the act of Mar.

THE MILITANT PUBLISHING ASSOCIATION 116 University Pl., N. Y. 3, N. Y. (Phone: AL 4-9330) FARRELL DOBBS, Editor

"It would be a great mistake to think the socialist revolu-

tion in Europe or America will be accomplished after the pat-

tern of backward Russia. The fundamental tendencies will, of

-Leon Trotsky, Interview with St. Louis Post-Dispatch, 1940

Signed articles by contriburesent The Militant's policies

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These are expressed in its

Vol. XII — No. 16

Monday, April 19, 1948



course, be similar. But the forms, methods, the 'temperature' of the struggle, all this has, in each case, a national character. By anticipation it is possible to establish the following law: The more countries in which the capitalist system is broken, the weaker will be the resistance offered by the ruling classes in other countries. . . the sooner the society will be reborn on the basis of a new, more full, more perfect and humane democracy. In any case, no revolution can infringe on the Bill of Rights as much as imperialist war and the fascism which it



LENIN

## Hands Off Italy!

So long as the capitalists can retain unchallenged power through the parliamentary system — general suffrage and elections. representative legislatures, legal opposition parties—they prefer this democratic method of concealed rule.

But wherever the masses reach out to seriously challenge capitalist control, the owning classes discard the democratic pretense. The rule of naked force appears.

Events in Italy illustrate this on a grand scale. Behind the still-continuing smoke screen of a parliamentary election, near civil war conditions exist. The two decisive classes — the capitalists and workers — are mobilizing for a show-down struggle in which the elections themselves will be but a passing phase, a mere preliminary and apparently inconclusive test of strength. The great issue —what class shall rule Italy—will finally be decided in the streets.

The Italian capitalists and their allies, the Catholic clergy, the former Fascists, the big landowners, the ex-nobility, have unleashed a scarcely-concealed campaign of terrorism and violence against the masses.

The Catholic hierarchy threatens them with ex-communication if they vote against the capitalist parties. The De Gasperi regime parades tens of thousands of troops bristling with American-made arms. Fascist gangs swarm the streets, attacking workers' meetings with knives, clubs, guns and grenades. Labor leaders are kidnapped and assassinated.

This formidable array of capitalist force is based on far more than the internal resources of Italian capitalism which is utterly decayed, bankrupt and discredited. The funds, the arms, the material means of power come from a foreign source — the United States.

By every means at its command Washington is intervening in the Italian elections. It threatens the Italian people with starvation if they don't vote right. It pours gold into the treasuries of the capitalist parties. It ships arms for the police, troops and fascist gangs of Italian reaction. American warships cast their sinister shadows over Italian ports. Battle-equipped American troops go through

martial maneuvers on Italy's border in Trieste.

. Wall Street's intervention has a two-fold purpose. It plans to convert Italy into another U. S.-controlled base for war against the Soviet Union and, at the same time, to crush the Italian working class.

For the Italian masses, against seemingly insuperable odds and despite repeated setbacks, have risen in one great struggle after another in a desperate striving for working class power and socialism.

Their struggle has been repeatedly betrayed by the parties and leaders they still misguidedly follow, the Stalinists and Social-Democrats. These parties continue to bluster and threaten—to be taken back into the capitalist coalition government.

But the workers mean business. They want to sweep out, once and for all, the whole stinking capitalist mess. They are pressing harder and harder for the revolutionary solu-

It is a propaganda trick of the American imperialists and Italian reactionaries to represent the working class struggle in Italy as merely a "conspiracy" of the Stalinists. The counter-revolutionary gang of American imperialists are interested, in actuality, not only in defeating the Kremlin agents, but in crushing the incipient Italian revolution.

In Italy we are witnessing — Stalinist duplicity and betrayals notwithstanding—the developing crisis of an irreconcilable class conflict between the predatory minority and the exploited majority. Wall Street imperialism is intervening there, as everywhere else in the world, on the side of the rich against the poor, of the parasites against the toilers, of capitalist reaction against the socialist

Our duty—the duty of every American worker, of every honest believer in the democratic rights of labor, of every opponent of imperialism and reaction—is to come to the defense of the Italian masses. Our voices must be raised, our protest must resound in Washington: Halt U. S. Intervention in Italy! Let the Italian People Determine Their Own Fate!

A U. S. tribunal in Nuremberg on April 5 gave a clean bill of health to 12 directors of the Krupp munitions trust, leading Nazi arms manufacturers. The defendants, including Alfred Krupp, head of the armaments dynasty, were "acquitted" of conspiring with Hitler to "wage aggressive war."

The Krupps, along with other big capitalists, financed Hitler's rise to power. They were the real ruling class of Germany. It was in their interests that the Nazi regime wiped out the small business men and crushed the German labor movement.

Their "acquittal" is part of U. S. imperialism's scheme to rehabilitate German capitalism in preparation for war on Russia and to whitewash capitalism in general of the stigma of its vilest offspring, fascism.

## The CIO Wage Fight

Six months ago both the CIO and AFL leaders announced that their members needed higher wages to meet inflated prices. For half a year they have been shadow-boxing with this issue. Meanwhile prices have hit new peaks and are now expected to go higher because of the renewed war preparations.

The CIO leaders officially opened their campaign for "substantial" wage increases in early January. Nothing they have done so far lends the slightest hope that the CIO workers will get more than a few crumbs.

CIO President Philip Murray, who also heads the steel union, opened wage negotiations two weeks ago. His union is supposed to be the leader in the wage fight. Its officials have not even announced specific demands. Moreover, the "leader" of the wage fight started off, by demonstratively announcing that under no conditions would his union

Since the United Auto Workers adopted its program for a 30-cent an hour increase on Jan. 16, Walter Reuther's chief public activities have been barn-storming for the Marshall Plan. The wage negotiations at GM and Chrysler are bogged down and the union negotiators act as if they had all the time in the world.

The Stalinists, who have been using a lot of leftist phrases is recent months, have nothing better to show in the unions they control. The Stalinist leaders of the CIO Electrical Union have just taken a flat "No" to their wage demands in GE and Westinghouse without even the gesture of a struggle. They are confining themselves to talking a great fight. They have made no recommendations for action and apparently, like Reuther, are marking time to see what Murray does. Who Murray is waiting for

Only one CIO international union, the Packinghouse Workers, is putting up a real battle on the picket lines. But it is having rough going what with federal government intervention, a flock of local injunctions and the use of strike-breakers by the meat trust. The top CIO leadership is permitting the packinghouse workers to stand isolated in this desperate struggle. It is permitting the profit-bloated corporations to pick off the unions "one at a time."

It's become pretty clear that the whole wage campaign of the CIO will become a shambles if the rank and file doesn't intervene forcefully and quickly against the do-nothing-buttalk policies of their national leaders. These leaders are wonderful at putting out statistics showing how big profits are and how much prices are going up and how take-home pay has shrunken. But statistics just bounce off the hard-shelled corporation owners.

The need of the hour is a unified wage strategy, and unified and militant action. The corporations look tough right now because they are united while the unions are divided. Let the CIO mobilize its forces for a consolidated fight and the corporations won't be talking out of the sides of their mouths very

## Sharply Divides Negro Leaders

By G. F. Eckstein

The Randolph-Reynolds deiance of Jim Crow in the Army

producing wide repercussions. Since his testimony to the Senate Armed Services Committee, where he stated he would urge civiladisobedience in the draft, the Committee Against Jim Crow in Military Service and Training, of which Randolph and Reynolds are officers, has an-nounced that "Don't Join a Jim Crow Army" buttons will be distributed throughout the country.

The declarations of the Committee have already driven a wedge among the Negro leaders. Most of the Negro newspapers refuse to support Randolph. The same position has been taken by many of the big names among the Negro leaders, Walter White, Dr. Channing Tobias, (who served on the President's Civil Rights Committee) and Lester Granger of the Urban League. But the Randolph Committee is prepared

One of its members, in an interview with the Negro press, said that the Committee did not expect 100% support from either organizations.

The civil disobedience proposals of the Randolph Committee are already making things hot for many of the Negro politicians. This is shown in connection with Eisenhower's testimony on segre gation in the Army before the Senate Armed Services Committee. Eisenhower came out flatly for segregation "at the platoor level," giving as one of his reasons the educational inferiortiy of Negroes.

The General's testimony exploded in the Negro community and in the face of many Negro politicians, above all, in the face of Walter White, national secretary of the NAACP. White is one of the most notorious of the Negro leaders who act as intermediary between the Negro masses and the New Deal wing of the Democratic Party.

## PRAISED EISENHOWER

For years his function has been, behind a smoke-screen of Supreme Court cases and "stern" criticism, to line up the Negro vote for the Democratic Party and generally keep Negro wrath within safe bounds. The liberals, today, recognizing that the worksegregation issue. White reported without a contract. that on the basis of personal conversations he could testify that he General would fight bravely gainst Jim Crow.

appeared Eisenhower gave his orutal testimony. It was too late, seems, to stop the column. White was caught red-handed. He hastily made a statement de-April 17, has driven off potential Negro supporters.

White and his type have gotten away with this sort of thing for Police Brutality

Randolph's Anti-Draft Proposal



Stretched on the ground unconscious, this picket was one of many injured when New York police attacked the AFL Financial Employes picket brigade in Wall Street. Federated Pictures

ficult by the action of the Ran- as a price for keeping the Nethe Negro press or "top-flight dolph Committee Against Segre- groes quiet and those who de-Negro leaders" It was looking in gation. Randolph, Reynolds and mand action. If Randolph and stead to smaller groups and the George S. Schuyler, the well- Reynolds stand firm, then the 'so-called average man in the known Negro columnist of the position of White, Lester Grangstreet." In plain words, Randolph Pittsburgh Courier, acting on be- er, Channing Tobias and the was looking to the masses of the half of the Committee, addressed others will become increasingly Negroes and not to the big-name a letter to Army Secretary Roy- difficult. leaders who control the Negro all, Justice Owen J. Roberts, 'Negro citizens," the letter read, gently with this greatest national

nsult to their personalities."

In 1941 when the mass move-Committee, and to Eisenhower Negro stooges, White and Ranhimself. They declared that Eisen- dolph joined together and behower's testimony had recruited headed the March on Washington untold thousands" into the ranks Movement at the behest of Rooseof Negroes prepared to boycott velt. Today the Negro's fight for any Jim Crow draft. The letter equality has risen to a higher stated that the Committee is de- level. The Randolph declaration manding that America's Town is a symptom of this increasingly Meeting of the Air debate milit- militant temper of the Negro ary segregation in the army. masses. Regardless of the subsequent actions of Randolph or any are no longer disposed to deal other individual, these masses are now determined more than ever Thus the line is being drawn before, to embark on a policy of etween the Negro stooges who struggle and to find a leadership are always looking for crumbs that will lead them in struggle.

## Cable Strike Lost Due To Taft Act, Stalinists

Stalinist misleadership have York City CIO Council, Stalinistcombined to defeat the three- several hundred thousand memmonth wage strike of the CIO bers, failed to rally enough sup-American Communications Asso- port for the strikers where it ciation against the international counted most, on the picket lines. cable companies.

After fighting grimly for 13 forcements. weeks, the 2,200 employes of ers will not vote for Truman are three International Telephone & whooping it up for Eisenhower. Telegraph subsidiaries - Com-White fell in line and wrote a mercial Cable, Mackay Radio and syndicated column for the Negro All American Cables & Radiopress praising Eisenhower's att- were forced to end their strike itude towards Negroes and on the not only without any gains, but

The 350 workers of Western Union's cable department managed to get renewal of their contract, but with the single slim Two days before the column gain of a change in the method of figuring pensions.

WILL FIRE 25%

Since the end of the strike two nouncing Eisenhower and claim- have announced they intend to obligation to bargain with the ing that he had been naive in fire up to 25% of the workers on trusting the General's words. the pretext they are "overstaffed." Eisenhower's testimony, accord- They have also set up "preferening to the Amsterdam News of tial seniority for layoff purposes" - that is, favoring those who scabbed during the strike.

The chief weakness of the strike was the inability of the Stalinist Walter Whites is made more dif- forces to keep the cable companies Act.

The Taft-Hartley Act and from operating. The Greater New led and claiming to represent They mustered only token rein-Philip Murray's machine, which

is in an all-out war against the Stalinists in the CIO, stood aside and did nothing as the ACA strike was being cut to pieces.

During the strike, the coman election to determine whether the union represented the majority of workers. The petition was dismissed on the grounds that the ACA officers have not signed 'yellow dog" affidavits under the Taft-Hartley Act and are not recognized by the government. The companies promptly accepted weeks ago, the IT&T subsidiaries this as freeing them from any union.

This is the most serious defeat of a CIO union in many years. It is a grave warning to all labor of the consequences of Stalinis misleadership, and even more importantly, the failure of the top CIO leaders to wage a militant years. Now the position of the leadership to mobilize sufficient struggle against the Taft-Hartley

## Events on the International Scene

By Paul G. Stevens

### THE FRENCH LABOR MOVEMENT

the new organization which is dominated CGT (General Federation of Labor) and in the reformist "Force Ouvriere" (Workers' Strength) Federation for the uni-

Last month appeared the first adoption of a program of genuine ssue of Unite Syndicale (Trade class struggle. Active groups of Union Unity), central organ of militants are working for this program in a number of unions.

The PCI, French Section of the working in both the Stalinist- Fourth International, sent an appeal to various working class parties and other organizations for a united front struggle on minimum economic and political fication of the union movement demands relating to wages and in France. The issue contains the de Gaulle danger. The Socialhe Manifesto of the Conference ist Youth and the Revolutionary for Trade Union Unity, which de- Socialist Action group have exclares that the essential cause pressed themselves in favor. In for the split was the policy of several factories of the Paris reclass collaboration pursued in the gion, Communists (Stalinists) post-war governments by both the Party cells are also discussing Stalinists and reformists. The re- these proposals, and Trotskyist building of trade union unity, it spokesmen have been invited to concludes, is tied up with the present the case of the PCI.

### JAPANESE STRIKES AND MacARTHUR "DEMOCRACY"

well known, was modeled on the vene again. On March 28 his ordone in force in the U.S. But that er of January 1, 1947 was declarchairman of the National Security ment similarly threatened the is not the only benefit of Amer- ed by his Labor Division Chief to ican democracy to be bestowed apply as a ban against 24-hour upon the "poor benighted heath- partial strikes as well. This deen" under the pro-consulship of spite the fact that, according to General MacArthur. A year ago law, Government employes are last January, when a General entitled to 24-hour sick leaves or Strike threatened to sweep the "vacations", which the unions islands, the Star-Spangled Mika- duly utilized. Heartened by this do issued an order which banned new move from the Military Oca general labor walkout as a cupation, the government of Pre-"deadly social weapon." The mier Hitoshi Ashida has announcstrike "plague" subsided consid- ed that it was "considering legerably thereafter. But recently it islation similar to the United has broken out again and the States Taft-Hartley Act to con-General's staff has got busy once trol insurgent trade unions and to more with the application of our win the confidence of the Allied

democratic processes. According to press reports, some 400,000 Government emploves - communications workers, school teachers, municipal servants and even tax collectors staged 24-hour "vacation strikes" toward the end of March. They paralyzed the public services over large sections of Japan, and the tax collectors' strike hit the government particularly. The main demand was for an increase above the present monthly average wage of 2,900 yen, which just doesn't meet inflated prices the story of wage actions everywhere nowadays.

But that is not all. In spite of all the encouragement given by the American pro-consul to the native Zaibatsu or capitalists. hundreds of plants continued under "workers control of production, in which a union seizes a that it will offer Japan as a panies petitioned the NLRB for plant and operates it," as the April 11, N. Y. Times, informs us.

> "The unions," its Tokyo correspondent says, "seized 144 factories. This was held illegal, but many remained under workers' lest they be charged with being Act and the not-so-"cold-war" reactionary. Among the concerns under workers' control are Asahi and Manichi, the country's largest pany and Japan Typewriter Com-

anese capitalist circles and Mac- workers' control of production.

Japan's new constitution, as is Arthur's H. Q. has had to interpowers, which are expected to provide credits for Japanese industrial rehabilitation." Furthermore, "Commerce Minister Kozaburo Mizutani said . . . the government would refuse to allocate rationed materials to any plant where (workers') production control was in force" as a "death blow" to this method of factory seizures in Japan (Times, April

> What is behind the Japanese Covernment's moves as well as those of Mac's H.Q.? This is made clear in the same dispatch by an awkward public denial by Premier Ashida of "rumors that the U.S. was willing to grant wide concessions to the former enemy nation to enlist Japan in a war against the Soviet Union."

> "The Japanese Government," Ashida is quoted, "has never told the American Representatives 'Bulwark against communism.' Nor is the Government contemplating converting Japan into a munitions factory of the Far East."

Can anything make plainer the management because the owners connection between such "domesthesitated to assert their rights ic matters" as the Taft-Hartley preparations?

And, incidentally, should not American workers be interested newspapers, Yamato Steel Com- in stopping the "export" of the Taft-Hartley Act as well as in obtaining its repeal at home? An The new wave of strikes has even better idea might be to look thus caused great panic in Jap- into the "import" possibilities of

Activities of 'Militant' Readers and the

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pen meetings, 1st & 3rd Sun., 8;30 m. Marxist Study Class, Thur., 7-9 SAN DIEGO (Cal.) - For information

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THE TREASURE OF SIERRA MADRE

This excellent movie comes as

a pleasant shock after the interning to end. But it is more than of a wandering prospector. an adventure film. It is a realistic picture of the degenerating effect change wrought in the characters hat gold has on men.

'on the beach" in Tampico, leath and then skips without paying them.

Tired of bumming around Tampico, Dobbs and a fellow constroke of fortune to go on a job. The film is an honest screen the movie.

prospecting trip with an old play of B. Traven's book from prospector they have met in the which it was made. Walter flophouse. This old man is not only a

minable series of boy-meets-girl, with a mature philosophy of life. Hollywood sausage machine remotest mountain districts. The venture film it will keep you on of bandits and, after they have the edge of your seat from begin- made a strike, the inquisitiveness

But the core of the story is the of the partners after they have The story starts off with Dobbs found gold and thereby become men of property. Originally three Mexico. Flat broke, he washes in down - and - outers, they had no the public fountain, bums Amer- fears of being robbed and muricans for handouts. Finally he dered. Nor did they fear one anlands a job as a construction other. But as the gold dust explanation that the value of worker for an oil field rigger. mounts, so does the mutual dis- gold stems from the labor neces-This rigger works his crew to trust until it drives Dobbs to sary to its production. murder and insanity. The gold,

tors, becomes their master. Credit must be given to John pocket edition. Its interest is in struction worker seize upon a Huston for a superb directing no way diminished by first seeing

Huston, as the old prospector, gives the greatest performance spry old gold hunter but a man of his career and dominates the film. The old prospector shows musicals and whodunits that the He maps out a trip to the that man can face the temptations of greed, rise above them grinds out. Simply as an ad- three partners face the dangers and maintain his integrity. This is the counter balance to the degeneration of Dobbs, played by Humphrey Bogart. All the other actors give an A-1 performance. The movie was made in Mexico

> Class - conscious workers who see this film will be surprised to hear, if they listen closely at the beginning, a very brief Marxist

and the scenery is not only

magnificent but authentic.

B. Traven's book, The Treasure instead of serving the prospec- of Sierra Madre, has just appeared in a twenty five cent -George Lavan CIO Proves Case for Pay Rise

Out of "Extortionate" Profits

THE MILITANT

An important commodity on the international market has suffered a recent slump-forgeries. Time was when the intelligence services of the big powers could pick up first-class, detectionproof political forgeries for a song. Then shady operators, eager for quick killings in this profitable trade, began to flood the market with cheap, shoddy products. Not only has the saturation of the market tended to depress prices, but the crude quality of the goods has undermined public

A case in point is "Protocol M." That is the document, you may recall, which the British several months ago alleged was a copy of the Cominform's blueprint for launching large-scale sabotage, strikes and revolts in the Ruhr. The British intelligence service, by sheer coincidence, released this document to the public press at precisely the moment when the Ruhr workers were striking because of starvation rations.

Now it is revealed that the British intelligence service-generally reputed to be shrewd and sharp traders-were "hoodwinked" when they laid out good British sterling for "Protocol M." They have "discovered that it actually had been prepared by an anti-Communist German," reports C. L. Sulzberger in the April 11 N. Y. Times. "Moreover, a few days ago," reports Sulzberger, "the French Ministry of the Interior was duped by a document purporting to give inside information on the future activities of the French Communist Party." As a consequence, observes Sulzberger, "it is likely this bonanza for fake documents will end."

The Negro Struggle ——

Fortunately this does not affect reliable brokers for the Allied imperialists like the Social Democratic labor leaders, ex-Gestapo agents, etc. Washington already has an international WPA project ready to take care of these worthy persons. It is called "Project X" and is in the nature of a supplement to the European "Recovery" Program. In fact, it's Wall Street's "Protocol — and no forgery either.

VOL. XII

**Mass Uprising** 

Halts Wall Street's

**BogotaConference** 

(Continued from page 1)

in office until 1946 when a left-

wing split in the Liberal Party

led by Gaitan, enabled the Con-

servatives to slip back into pow-

er. Right wing Liberals collabor-

ated with the Conservative pres-

ident and participated in his

When Washington started line-

ing up the South American re-

publics behind its "stop-Russia"

program, it served notice on Latin American rulers that anti-

imperialist demagogy would no

longer be tolerated. This was in-

terpreted by Perez, President of Colombia, as an ideal opportunity

He inaugurated a wave of as-

sassinations against the Liberals.

induced the Liberals to reunite

under the leadership of Gaitan,

whom they designated as their

1950 presidential candidate. On

March 22 all the Liberal minist-

The murder of Gaitan, the out-

standing popular leader, there-

fore came as a last straw for the

masses smarting under the reac-

tionary rule of Perez and driven

to desperation by the frenzied in-

flation, the blame for which they

placed not unjustifiably on the

Perez regime and the Wall Stree

very extent and intensity wa

nowledged this and relegated to

the background the role of the

Communist Party which has only

about 8.000 members in Colombia.

Since then deliberate attempts

to malign the Bogota uprising as

as we go to press there has been

sordid plans of Wall Street.

The Bogota uprising has expos-

of American imperialism. The in-

all these dignitaries, including the

Big Brass, to scurry for cover

and to start yelping in panic. It

is symbolic of the days to come

when the masses of Latin Amer-

ica, desperate from the rule of

reaction at home and the oppres-

sive policies of American imper-

ialism, will rise to liberate them-

selves and to establish the So-

cialist United States of South

"IS WALLACE A WORKERS'

CANDIDATE - CAN HE PRE-

VENT WORLD WAR III" will

be the topic of the Militant Open

Forum to be held on Thursday

evening, April 29, at 8 p.m. by

the St. Louis Branch of the

Socialist Workers Party. Militant

readers in St. Louis are urged to

attend and participate in the dis-

cussion. The forum will be held

in Room 312, Olivia Bldg., 1023

Hear George Clarke

(organizer of New York Local

Socialist Workers Party)

speaking on:

The Political Crisis

In the United States

Flint

Tuesday, April 20

Detroit

Thursday, April 22

Youngstown

Friday, April 23

Buffalo

Saturday, April 24

and North America.

N. Grand Blvd.

St. Louis Offers

Forum on Wallace

ers resigned from the cabinet.

to get rid of all opposition.

cabinet.

"Project X," we are informed by a March 25 United Press dispatch from Washington "is a mysterious, multi-million dollar" program "to finance anti-Communist underground. forces behind the iron curtain" and similar groups in the Western Bloc countries. A bill before Congress would provide 30 million dollars as a starter to finance anything from newspapers to arms for pro-capitalist and anti-Soviet agents.

"Project X"-even without benefit of official Congressional sanction-has already been spreading its benificence. In Italy, Sulzberger reports, in the current election campaign "the United States and the Catholic Church have been helping out with funds." He says "it is also known that United States agents are trying to break the hammerlock of Communist control over French

With Washington tossing big money around in Europe, ready to buy up anything from "good" forged documents to political parties, it is rumored that certain American labor leaders are thinking of emigrating back to the Old Country. Why should foreigners lap up the gravy, while 100% American union leaders do the State Department's dirty chores for nothing?

## Randolph and the Press

– By Albert Parker

I have before me the editorials of about 20 Negro newspapers on A. Philip Randolph's proposal to launch a "civil disobedience" campaign if Jim Crow is not abolished in the armed forces, and the great majority of them make pretty sickening reading. Instead of pointing out the weak aspects of Randolph's position, they attack it for the most part because it is "extreme," they wave the flag, beat their breasts patriotically, and assure the Jim Crow ruling class that they can be depended on not to do anything "extreme" them-

The Pittsburgh Courier's editorial was typical in this respect: "We counsel at all times complete co-operation with the adopted policies of the government. . . We should battle the issue to the point of decision, and then, if defeated, gracefully accept the decision and cooperate in its implementation." Translated into plain English, that means: "We are against Jim Crow and will keep on writing articles to that effect. But if you insist on maintaining Jim Crow, we will be good sports and will even 'gracefully' help you in your dirty work of Jim Crowing us."

The man who wrote that editorial wipes his feet on the real tradition of Negro struggle against oppression in this country; he dishonors the memory of the heroic Negro and white abolitionists who won immortal glory by defying the government's fugitive slave law almost 100 years ago (instead of gracefully cooperating with it). That editorial would have made Uncle Tom blush in shame. And it undoubtedly brought hearty chuckles from Rankin, Eastland and the other Southern demagogues who know that the Jim Crow structure won't even be dented as long as the Negro people listen to such servile advice. These people denounce Randolph for being

"extreme," but how else can you end a brutal

system like Jim Crow except by being extreme? When was tyranny ever ended by promising to be "loval" to it?

When it comes to cooperating or not cooperating with the Jim Crow forces, the Negro people will instinctively side with Randolph, and they wll be a thousand times right. But unfortunately the problem is not settled by merely deciding not to cooperate. You are still faced with the questions of what to do, and how to do it, and when.

The first and most obvious weakness in Randolph's position is that it places its main emphasis on action by the Negroes after the UMT or draft bills become law. From the viewpoint of tactics, that would be an error. The time to begin fighting most energetically on this question is right now, not after Congress acts. The labor movement's experience with the Taft-Hartley Act proves that it is much harder to repeal reactionary legislation than it is to prevent its passage.

The second serious shortcoming in Randolph's proposal is the kind of struggle it advocates. A mere refusal to register and serve in the armed forces will get the Negroes nowhere but in jailwhich will remove the most active and courageous elements from the struggle where they are needed, and will leave untouched the power of the ruling class to maintain Jim Crow in full force. What is really needed is a program of positive struggle-mass meetings, demonstrations, a march on Washington, protest work stoppages, collaboration with the labor movement to end Jim Crow through independent political action.

Randolph's proposal may lead to seriously embarrassing the ruling class. But a mass movement of relentless struggle, determined to return blow for blow instead of turning the other cheek, could and would lead to the complete destruction

## Slow Death in the Mines

- By Grace Carlson

Any lingering doubts as to the extreme danger in which the country's coal miners live and work were dispelled by the Centralia mine disaster



which took 111 lives last year. But the Centralia tragedy did not tell the whole story. Mine accidents kill over 100 men and injure another 4,000 men every month of every year!

Outside of mining circles very little is known about the slow death of silicosis, a lung disease which afflicts well over half of the miners who have worked in the mines 25 to 30 years. As defined by a special

committee of the American Public Health Association, silicosis is "a disease due to breathing air containing silica (Si 02), characterized anatomically by generalized fibrotic changes and clinically by shortness of breath, decreased chest expansion, lessened capacity for work, increased susceptibility to tuberculosis and by characteristic X-ray

Silicosis and anthraco - silicosis (a modified form of silicosis due to silica mixed with large amounts of carbon dust) are the chief occupational diseases of coal miners. These diseases may occur during the mining and processing of either anthracite or bituminous coal. Underground

workers are the chief victims of anthraco-silicosis because there is generally very poor ventilation in the mines and the workers are constantly assailed by heavy clouds of dust bearing silica

Death certificates of miners very often give as the cause of death the broad classification, a damaging blow to the prestige "pulmonary disease." This suits the purposes of the mine owners, who instruct the company tervention of the masses in a doctors to play-down the silicosis rate so that they will not be required to pay for dust removal in their mines.

But honest medical men tell a different story about the rate of silicosis in mining areas. Here is a portion of a report by Drs. S. Cummins and

A. Sladden of South Wales: "From a not inconsiderable experience of postmortem examinations on coal miners, we draw the conclusion that out of the general classification, 'pulmonary diseases' given as the cause of death in coal miners, a very important proportion consists essentially of anthraco-silicosis, complicated often with bronchitis, not seldom with tuberculosis, and frequently terminating in

pneumonia." Small wonder that the coal miners, who have seen the truth of these scientific observations in the fatal sickness of a relative or a union brother want a Health and Welfare Fund-and that they want their union to control it.

## **Notes from the News**

INGRAM CASE—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People sent communications to all its branches calling for con-



tinuation of the fight to free Mrs. Ingram and her two children. "Despite the fact that the Ingrams are out of the shadow of the electric chair, our fight for them as just begun," the statement read. "Her appeal is now being prepared by our attorneys to set aside the verdict and

grant a new trial.

WITCH HUNT IN EVANSVILLE-Lincoln B. Hale, president of Evansville College at Evansville, Indiana, scene of vigilante action against a Wallace meeting, announced that Dr. George Parker has been asked to resign. Parker is a leader of the local Wallace-for-President movement.

UNCLE SHYLOCK-The U.S. has asked Britain to transfer to Hoffman, the ERP administrator, absolute control of dollar expenditures by the sterling bloc. This would give Washington control

over more than a third of Britain's total imports and enable it to draw British dominions into its economic orbit. News of this development has been withheld from the British press for fear of arousing a reaction against the ERP.

VIGILANTISM IN CANADA—Spurred by infllammatory articles in the Windsor Star, a mob of 500, armed with rubber hose and baseball bats, smashed up the headquarters of the local Communist Party. Windsor police stated that they planned no inquiry into the armed attack.

DEMOCRACY AT WORK-From a clipping of the San Francisco Chronicle, April 5: "Postwar note: During the fighting on Okinawa, the life of a San Franciscan named Dick Roberts was saved by a fellow GI who tossed a grenade that wiped out a Japanese machine gun just in time. . 'If you're ever in San Francisco,' Roberts said later to his savior, 'look me up. Maybe I can buy you a drink, at least.' . . . Saturday, they finally had their reunion after three years. Happily, they walked into a certain Market St. bar-but they didn't get their drink... Service was refused the Negro who had saved Dick Roberts' life."

No Contract, No Work



letter advising the miners to "work if you want." With his fishing line dangling in this Pittsburgh pond, he has obviously made up his mind. The nation's 400,000 soft coal workers made a similar



Mike Jeffer of the United Mine Workers reads John L. Lewis'

The standard of living of American workers has taken a

wage increase right now. American corporations can pay these ment, 17.7%; Autos and Equipncreases without reducing profits | ment, 20%. elow their wartime peak or

raising prices. These are the chief conclusions by the CIO Economic Outlook for February and March.

In "CIO's 1948 Wage Case," he CIO researchers prove that hard-earned savings, go into debt, and reduce purchases of basic eached extortionate levels."

Basing their findings on National City Bank data, the CIO have gone up 89.9%, while farm economists show that in 1947 the income rose 35.6% and wages and verage net profit for all manu- salaries only 27.9%, according to acturing corporations equalled | Commerce Dept. figures cited by 6.4% of their net worth or total the Economic Outlook. The same capital investment. Their total source shows that the corporarofits after taxes were over 17 tions made \$1 in profits for every illion dollars as compared to the \$7 paid out in wages and salaries war peak of 10.4 billion dollars in 1945. By 1947, they were makn 1943, or the 1939 take of 5 ing \$1 for every \$4 in wages and oillion dollars.

For all manufacturing injustries, the percentage of return on net worth was DOUBLED in 1947 over the lush year of 1945. The Food Products industry made 19.8% profit in 1947; Chemicals. Federated Pictures Drugs ,etc. made 17%; Iron and

on Western Europe and on the

Western Hemisphere as a whole.

economies of both countries are

export more than they import.

to the U.S. News:

a long time to come.

inside the U.S. itself.

nounced.

still lower.

While the Marshall Plan is in-

tion which is tearing European

capitalism apart, there is, in ad-

dition, the over-riding factor

materials have resumed their up-

ward climb. As American war

The prospect for France does

terrific beating in the past year and they must have a substantial

Steel, 11%; Electrical equip-

These CIO figures, published in February, now appear conservative. A subsequent report of the National City Bank on April 2 of two factual studies published reveals that average manufacturing net profits in 1947 were 17% of net worth, compared to 12.1% in 1946. Their total profits leaped

54% in just one year. If these profits were reduced by "families have had to spend their wage increases to the highest pre-war level—8.4 billion dollars in the "golden year" of 1929-all wages could be increased 20% necessities" while, as the result without a penny being added to of soaring prices, "profits have prices. If profits were reduced o the 1939 level, wages could be hoosted 35 to 40%.

Since 1945, corporate profits

### FANTASTIC INCREASE

These same corporations now hold 92 billion dollars in undistributed profits-double what they held in 1939. In the same time their assets rose from 55 billion to 108 billion dollars. Their holdings of government securities alone rose 650%, to 13 billion

The rise in profits corresponded to the rate of price rises; 42% in 18 months for food; 22% for clothing.

From January 1945 to January 1948, average weekly money wages rose a little over 10%. from \$45 to \$50. But real wagesthe actual worth of wages in terms of prices-declined 15%. A \$52.51 money wage is actually able to buy only \$38.29 worth of . goods in terms of 1945 pricesand much less in terms of 1939

In consequence of this, the workers have been forced to cash in their war bonds and spend So far as Britain is concerned, in paroxysms because, among June 1947, over half of all Series E lower denomination bonds were redeemed. Consumer credit buydollars.

balance, just like Britain's, is one Study," the March Economic Outof the major factors feeding her look shows how far below the inflation. "If prices can be held minimum decency level average in check, France has a good incomes of American workers chance of balancing her trade by have fallen. The Bureau of Labor 1952," say the U.S. News editors. Statistics study, made in June "end to austerity," the British A prospect of what may happen 1947, showed that the average four years from now, still leaves family of husband, wife and two ism is expressed most strikingly a still further degradation of unsolved the urgent problem of small children needed an average covering deficits during the cur- of \$3,250 a year to maintain ient year, let alone next year or minimum decency standards, withthe year following. Meanwhile out allowances for savings, serideficit budgets and therefore in- ous illnes, or higher education. flation will continue to rage in

WORKERS' NEEDS

Bleakest of all are the prospects By January 1948, the CIO for Italy. Again we give the floor shows, the amount needed rose to \$3,450 due to price rises in "Even with steady recovery six months. For each additional during the next four years, Italy's child, \$500 a year more is needed. dollar deficit in 1952 will be run- Thus a family with three kids ring at a rate of \$545,000,000 a needs \$3,900. year, almost four fifths of what

To meet this minimum budget, it is now. . . U.S. aid can keep a worker must earn \$1.75 for 50 Italy going for the time being, weeks of 40 hours work weekly. but there seems to be no easy Since 14 million workers suffered way to get Italy off the American unemployment at some time durdole without risking collapse." ing the past year, and millions For Western Germany - the more worked less than 40 hours key to Europe's economic revival a week, they would have had to - there is projected a currency earn even higher rates to meet reform with a promise of higher the budget.

rations to workers in key indus- But only a very thin layer of tries. However important the the most specialized and skilled slightest improvement may be to workers earn anywhere near the agonized German masses, \$1.75 an hour. Average manufac-Wall Street's program for Ger- turing wages in January were many hardly spells recovery for only \$1.18 an hour.

Just by cutting 1947 profits from 17 billion dollars to the war frectual in alleviating the infla- peak of 10 billion dollars, 14 million workers families each could get \$500 more per year.

that inflation is being stepped up let alone lowering, their respective domestic price structures, will Even before a sizable section fall away altogether. National of American industry has switch- bankruptcy and runaway inflaed to war production, world prices tion will be brought that much of basic commodities and raw closer.

As a long range perspective, Wall Street's war program thus economy gathers momentum, this carries with it the tendency to trend will become even more pro- multiply by leaps and bounds all of the existing grave dislocations American dollars will buy pro- in the world market, and add new gressively less goods not only at ones. This will, at a later stage, home but also on the world rebound with shattering force on

market. The purchasing power of American economy itself. all other currencies will be driven The short range perspective for the masses in Western Europe, Every new upward twist of the as well as those throughout the inflationary spiral in the U.S. world, is not an amelioration but will be multiplied many times in a general worsening of their livits effects upon the highly inflat- ing conditions as the result of ed European monetary systems. this accelerated world inflationary Their slim hopes of maintaining, process.

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by P. L. Real Situation in Czechoslovakia

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## Perez regime and the Wall Street exploiters. The Bogota uprising by its Capitalism in Europe obviously both spontaneous and popular. Even the original censored American dispatches ack-

By John G. Wright

What effect will Wall Street's war program have upon the a Kremlin-inspired plot have been economies of the rest of the capimade. Marshall has designated it talist world and especially the as "communist inspired." The countries of Western Europe? reconstituted Colombian govern- American economy, with all its ment is apparently under Wash- vast resources and power, is still ington's pressure to break diplo- only a part of something bigger. matic relations with Moscow, but And as part of the world capitalist system, it not only influences

turn, influenced by them. Meanwhile the entire American The billions earmarked under Meanwhile the entire American The billions earmarked under the European "aid" program are shall Plan will not be enough to is hoped, will keep the inflation the all-time peak of 13 billion They want to fool the Amer- rope a recovery and a measure reserves of gold and dollars will But France's unfavorable trade the Colombian people or those in thus far proved beyond reach. In til the end of this year. An end Latin America who have long ago one European country after ano- to British austerity is not in learned that the label of Com- ther, the living levels remain not sight." munism is invariably invoked a- only below pre-war standards but gainst all who challenge reaction below those prevailing in war- statement. Far from an early at home or speak up against the time.

chronic deficit government budg- edge of bankruptcy. ets, which still further feed the small country sufficed to force inflation.

recovery is a halt to inflation, a its last remaining reserves. Let restoration of stable currency, la us recall that Great Britain, debreturn to balanced budgets. This, ilitated as she is, represents a n turn, requires at least a par- sector of capitalism second in imtial restoration of prewar living portance only to the U.S. Convulstandards. However, the most sions in British economy cannot optimistic promoters of the Mar- pass without repercussions both shall Plan acknowledge that this is excluded. Let us cite, for example, the opinion of the weekly U. S. News and World Report, not differ from Britain's. The April 16.

no official confirmation of this developments abroad but is, in the editors of this weekly conclude other things, they are unable to as follows:

"Initial benefits from the Mar- The projected "aid" to France, it supposed to assure Western Eu-cover all British needs. Dwindling at current levels. If anything this is an under-

This crisis of European capital- masses are now confronted with ed the internal weakness and dealt in the raging inflation, the distinction conditions, because rupted monetary systems and the country is teetering on the

The British fiscal system, already inflated to the breaking The precondition for European point, faces the threat of losing

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