

"AMERICAN FREEDOM AND CATHOLIC POWER" REVIEWED

By Art Preis --- See Page 2 ---

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Stalinist "Auto" Sheet Slanders SWP Unionists



WHO ARE THE TROTSKYITES? WHAT IS TROTSKYISM? Many auto workers, having come into the industry in the past few years, may not be familiar with the past activities of the Trotskyites...

Reproduced above are the masthead of the Stalinist SPOTLIGHT and its article attacking the Socialist Workers Party unionists.

Rakes Up Old Lies About Smith Act's First Victims

The Communist Party on the West Coast has stepped up its red-baiting campaign against the Socialist Workers Party.

Page three of the Spotlight contains the first of a promised series of articles designed to "expose" the Trotskyists as "enemies of the working class."

They are worried because auto union militants, dissatisfied with Reuther's policies and looking for an effective program of action against the corporations, are attracted by the opposition group in which the Trotskyists participate.

CP LEADERS ALARMED

The Stalinist leaders are even more alarmed by the friendliness displayed by growing numbers of their own followers who judge the Trotskyists, not by poison-pen writings in the Stalinist press, but by direct observation of the SWP auto workers on the job and in the locals.

The Spotlight's "exposure" is restricted to two quotations, one from the AFL Teamsters Journal and the other from a Minnesota State CIO resolution, both published in 1944 and referring to the Minneapolis Labor Case.

Next Week:

The A-Bomb and Your Future John G. Wright and Joseph Hansen review two outstanding books on the atom bomb, No Place to Hide, and Fear, War and the Bomb.

Where We Stand on the Draft Two letters from conscientious objectors criticizing the SWP position and a reply by Farrell Dobbs.

Send to The Militant for extra copies. Only 3c. each in bundles of 3 or more.

Kutcher to Tour 3 Western States To Rally Support for His Defense

James Kutcher, legless veteran fired from the Veterans Administration because of membership in the Socialist Workers Party, has recovered rapidly enough from his recent surgical operation to make a West Coast speaking tour for his defense during June and July.

The main aim of his tour is to help raise the money needed to carry his case through the Federal courts. It is scheduled to begin in Minnesota on June 6.

Local sections of the Kutcher Civil Rights Committee are already busy arranging radio and press interviews, public meetings and appearances before trade union, religious and university groups, etc., in the cities he plans to visit.

CP DEFENDANTS HAUNTED BY MINNEAPOLIS CASE

By Farrell Dobbs

FEDERAL COURTROOM, NEW YORK, May 25 — "The Dunne case is not parallel with the present case," lied the Stalinist lawyers, while arguing for a judgment of acquittal after the parade of FBI stoopigoes finally came to an end last Thursday.

They referred to the conviction in 1941 of 18 Trotskyists under the same thought-control Smith Act that is now being used against 11 Stalinists on trial here at Foley Square.

The Dunne case is not parallel with their own case, ran the Stalinist falsification, because the Trotskyists did more than advocate ideas; the Trotskyists were charged with conspiracy to organize armed bands and secure firearms and explosives to overthrow the government by force and violence; they opposed the war and were accused of stirring up unrest in the armed forces.

Since the Stalinists, on the other hand, supported the capitalist government in the last war, they could not possibly have advocated the violent overthrow of the government, they whimpered.

PARROT BIDDLE

Parroted here are the police-mind arguments of Francis Biddle, predecessor to Attorney-General Tom Clark, who declared in 1941 that "arming workers... is clearly sufficient to remove the case from one involving expression of opinion."

In addition to the Smith Act, Biddle invoked against the Trotskyists an old Civil War statute, enacted in 1861 and aimed at the slave owners who were then in armed rebellion against the Lincoln government. The so-called

brought in to beat the membership into submission. But the Teamsters stopped them in their tracks. Trotskyism was wrong in Russia. They are wrong in the United States. (Int. Teamster, Aug '44)

CIO Leaders Deal Blow To Membership's Rights

Boss Press Aids Right-wing Victory In Buffalo Union

BUFFALO, May 23 — Progressive forces led by the Solidarity Caucus of Westinghouse Local 1581, CIO United Electrical Workers, were defeated by the right wing by a 2 to 1 margin in an election contest which aroused widespread interest in the Buffalo labor movement.

The UE Solidarity Caucus, organized late last year by a broad grouping of militants opposed to the Stalinists as well as to the right wing, is headed by George Gould, former local president, Jim Larby, and Anthony Marino.

The right wing, led by incumbent President Ted Wierzbick and "Brownie" Golubski, ran on the so-called Rank and File slate and had the tacit support of the company as well as the capitalist press.

The UE Solidarity Caucus, probably the only substantial grouping in UE organized on the basis of militant opposition to the Stalinist machine as well as the Carey bloc forces, has earned the combined wrath of the company and all the reactionary forces in the local labor movement.

POISON PEN ATTACK

Last January, the anti-labor Buffalo Evening News got its poison pen artist, Fred Turner, to go to work on the Solidarity Caucus. Turner did his worst to discredit the caucus with a series of Trotskyist-baiting articles calculated to smear the leadership of the caucus and link every one of its leading militants either to alleged membership in the Socialist Workers Party or "attending Trotskyist meetings held at 629 Main St."

But the caucus remained solid. (Continued on Page 4)

Ford Shutdown



Members of the CIO United Auto Workers leave the Edgewater, New Jersey, plant of the Ford empire, shut down as a result of the militant strike at River Rouge. (Federated Pictures).

LIBYAN UPRISINGS FORCE U. N. DELAY ON COLONIES

By Ruth Johnson

LAKE SUCCESS — The Bevin-Sforza-Wall Street plot to partition Libya and re-impose Italy's rule over most of its former African colonies, was defeated in the final sessions of the United Nations.

Delegates of the National Council for the Liberation of Libya, elated by this "great moral victory," are making plans to renew the battle when the UN meets again Sept. 20.

The UN vote, of course, only means a postponement of the issue. The Libyans' demand for unification and immediate independence of their country, was supported in the UN only by the Arab bloc.

IMPERIALISTS EXPOSED

But no one could have listened, as I did, to these stormy sessions without recognizing the decision as a set-back for the imperialists. Even though the set-back is momentary, it will inspire the colonial peoples with new confidence in their strength and

Decisions of National Board Strike at Union Democracy

The top CIO leadership last week struck further blows at trade union democracy and the rights of the CIO membership. At the three-day session of the CIO's National Executive Board in Washington, Philip Murray's machine demanded the resignation from the Board of all members who do not actively support the Marshall Plan and the political line laid down by Murray.

The Board majority further demanded that affiliated unions remove from the Board their members who fail to carry out the political edicts of Murray and to nominate replacements who will docilely comply with his

Arbitration Offer Of Reuther Angers Ford Militants

DETROIT, May 25—Ford workers, now in the third week of their strike against the CIO United Auto Workers President Walter Reuther's proposal to submit the principal issue in dispute to arbitration. This proposal would put the workers back in the identical position they were in before hitting the bricks to force a shutdown of the inhuman pace of production.

DECIDED ON TOP

Reuther has gone to great lengths in statements to the press to make it appear that the issue he proposes to submit to arbitration is different from the company proposal whose rejection by the workers precipitated the walkout.

JOKER IN PROPOSAL

It is obvious that even should the arbitrator side with the union on this point, the main evil would still remain, for the company would merely have to readjust its "work standards" to remain within Reuther's "100

In effect, these decisions destroy the democratic rights of CIO members and officers and lay the basis for wholesale intervention against unions that insist upon electing representatives not to the liking of Murray, whose own policies, particularly on foreign affairs, are laid down by the U. S. State Department.

These latest moves of Murray and his lieutenants to establish a tight, centralized, bureaucratic control from the top, completely violate the traditional democratic policies on which the CIO was founded and rose to its greatest heights.

Neither support of the Marshall Plan and the cold war of American imperialism, nor any other part of Murray's pro-capitalist political program, was submitted to the CIO members for discussion and decision.

STALINIST ROLE

The Stalinists, who are the immediate target of Murray, can put up no principled fight against him. They themselves supported the bureaucracy's moves at the 1946 convention, when it tightened its control over local CIO Councils.

The threatened purge of the national board will be accompanied by intensified raids and pressure moves against Stalinist-led unions.

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WORKERS NEEDS IGNORED

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The Kremlin's Strikebreaking in Berlin

For the third time in the last two months the railway workers of West Berlin, affiliated to the Independent Trade Union Federation (UGO) scheduled a strike. But unlike the previous times when the Stalinist railway administration arranged a shabby compromise, the workers struck at midnight May 20.

On the fifth day the Stalinists retreated, realizing that their strike attempts to break the strike served only to arouse fiercer resistance. It is reported that the Stalinists have offered to grant the central demand of the strikers that they be paid in Allied-sponsored currency instead of the Moscow-backed Eastern marks provided the

Western powers share in financing the wage increase.

The Berlin railway workers had refused to be victimized any longer by the currency battle between Moscow and Washington. Wages were paid in Eastern currency whose value fluctuates sharply, averaging from three to four Eastern marks for each Western mark.

WIDE POPULAR SUPPORT

From all indications, the strikers received from the outset wide popular support. The workers themselves stood solid, with some 15,000 out of Berlin's total railway force of 30,000 manning the picket lines.

Allied Western officials — with U. S. big brass in the van —

went to the limit in attempting to exploit the strike for their own propaganda purposes. Gen. Hoyer, U. S. commandant of Berlin, demonstratively affirmed a "hands-off" policy, as did Gen. Hays, deputy U.S. military governor.

The Stalinist authorities, for their part, did everything they could to break the strike. Their railway administration cancelled all holidays and days off — in order to facilitate scab-herding. Their railway police immediately announced that armed squads would occupy — as they did — all stations in West Berlin.

They seized the first pretext to order the police to fire at point-blank range. They wasted no time in running trains of armed reinforcements plus scabs into the area.

DEFAME STRIKERS

In their propaganda they, of course, tried to place the blame

on the strikers, defaming them as puppets of American imperialism, as a handful of "malcontents," "hoodlums," and the like. After engaging openly in gun play themselves, they resorted to a devious plea for the deployment of American, British and French troops against the strikers. This "suggestion" was made by Gen. Kvashnin, Soviet transport chief in Berlin, at a four-power meeting of transport officials on the day following the first clashes.

THREATEN WORKERS

They coupled all this with an official threat to fire all strikers from their jobs. In brief, they exposed themselves for the sinister enemies that the Stalinists are inside the labor movement not alone in Berlin but everywhere else.

Roman Chwalek, chief of the rival Stalinist-run rail union, (affiliated to the "Free German

Trade Union Federation") and other labor officials of the same stripe, took to the radio and the press, appealing to workers to ignore the strike call, not to "obstruct" the Paris conference of foreign ministers (which opened on May 23), and so forth.

The lies they peddled were faithfully reprinted here in the Daily Worker. The Stalinist liars in this country invariably referred to the Berlin strikers as "mobsters" or mere criminals, while calling the scabs and the brutal cops "loyal workers." In a word, they borrowed here, too, from the arsenal of all strikebreakers.

SEE EDITORIAL Who are the Criminals in Berlin? — See Page 3 —





