Write to us-tell us what's going on in your part of the labor movement-what are the workers thinking about?-tell us what the bosses are up to-and the G-men and the local copsand the Stalinists-send us that story the capitalist press didn't print and that story they buried or distorted-our pages are open to you. Letters must carry name and address, but indicate if you do not want your name printed.

Briggs Worker Tells Story of Shutdowns At Briggs-Plymouth

Editor:

Manufacturing Co. here in Devolving 10.000 Briggs workers and procedure. 10,000 Plymouth workers, is a ty- This particular "misunderstand-

When this trouble happened all ence. the local boss papers immediately put the blame on the union's gr:evance hasn't changed the shoulders. They gave an account whole picture, not by a damn which presented the company's sight! statement without comment-but | The Briggs men are not celeb-

cause the company fired the union bursting the union files. steward in the panel division All the auto workers know that tried to slip over.

men. It claimed that while it of the old pre-union days. were turning out 48 panels an whole union. hour (2 per man) that afterwards

18 men were turning out only 24 nanels per hour (1 1-3 per man). This company excuse is a down-

right lie. When the company fired the six men it expected and demanded that the rest turn out the The grievance which provoked sante amount of production as bethe strike of eighteen workers in fore. The Chief Steward would the panel division of the Briggs not stand for this, and then the company canned him. Then the troit, on November 29 and which whole department walked out. led to a one-day shut down in- Shift No. 2 went through the same

pical example of the crummy way ing" was finally ironed out after the auto bosses are dealing with the company met with the union officials in a three hour confer-

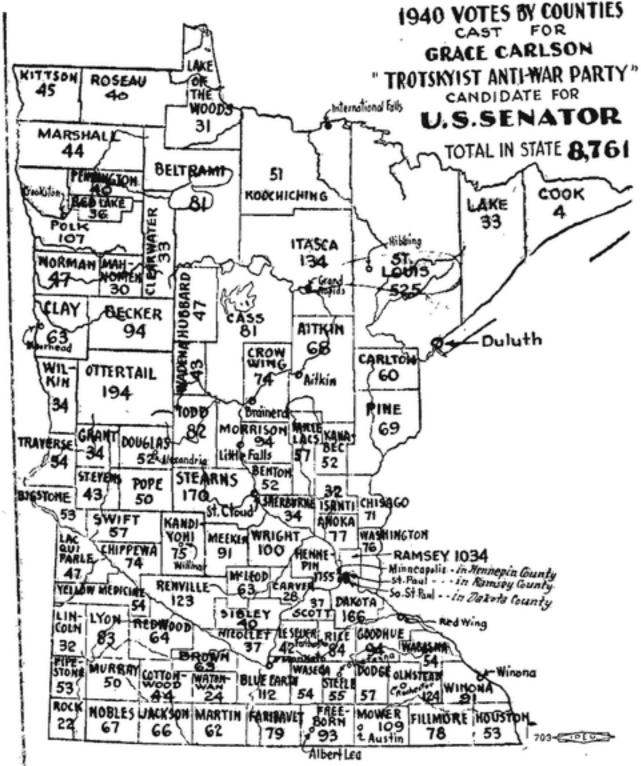
But the settlement of this one

not a line of the union's state- rating over this settlement, because there are scores of other This shut-down happened be- grievances unsettled which are

when he tried to protest the "ra- not only at Briggs, but at all the tional:zation"-firing some work- other auto plants, the bosses are ers and making the rest produce trying to see how much heat they more-which the management can put on us. And I say for one that either the unions will answer The company tried to say that this growing offensive of the auto it had actually cut down the re- magnates in the spirit of 1937, or quired production of the panel be swept back to the conditions

had fired six men, production had | This Briggs episode shows that been reduced even more in propor- the auto workers are full of fight tion to the number of men left, and willing to fight, and it indi-It claimed that where 24 men cates the path forward for the

Our Party's Vote In Minnesota



This map of Minnesota shows the distribution of counties of the 8,761 votes cast for our party's candidate for U. S. Senator. Significant index of our party's influence throughout the state is the fact that Comrade Carlson received votes in F. B. every county. The vote was of course largest in

the three metropolitan counties: Hennepin, 1755; Ramsey, 1034; St. Louis, 525. But it is noteworthy that we also received blocks of votes from the radicalized farmers throughout the state. Comrade Carlson's vote was larger than the combined vote for Earl Browder and Norman

The "Socialist" Critics of the CIO

They Provide a Pseudo-Radical Alibi for Hillman and the AFL

out to be merely a cover for a to understand how fascism in pro-Hillman, pro-AFL line. This their Social Democratic policies was the line common to both the assured the victory of fascism in pro-war Social Democratic Federation and the "anti-war" Norman their impatience to get home to Thomas Socialists.

rive at their pro-Hillman orienta. nothing must slow up the U. S. tion by arguments which appear armies which will blast open for diametrically opposed to each them the path home; hence their other. The New Leader complains viciousness against strikers and athat Lewis is hostile to aid to gainst the basic labor movement, Britain, is in league with "com. the CIO. munazis," sabotaging national de- The case of Norman Thomas' the main pillar of the C.P. strucman, but for opposite reasons?

THEY HATE THE CIO

their European homelands. In their old well-paying posts, they These two "socialist" groups ar. out-jingo the Dies Committee;

fense: therefore the New Leader Call is somewhat different. It is is for Hillman. The Call says not (yet) yelling for war. It sup-Lewis is as much a war-monger ported the Vultee strikers. Hence as anybody, his Stalinist friends its "socialist" arguments are likewill shift to the war camp tomor- ly to carry much more weight row, etc.: therefore the Call is for | than those of the New Leader .. It Hillman. How can the New Lead- is necessary, therefore, to take er and the Call both favor Hill- apart the Call's case for Hillman.

"Bitterness Dominates Scene At Atlantic City; Lewis-Communist Little need be said about the Bloc Tries To Bait Hillman." Such New Leader's attitude toward the is the Call headline (Nov. 30 is-

ers. The New Leader is now un- Hillman" constitutes a distortion ion jurisdiction." This is follow- of people who talked about wheth-At the convention-more accu. der the editorial control of a of what happened. And to describe ed by a paragraph to prove that, er or not an opponent was "sinrately, in the corridors one heard group of demoralized and disori- the majority's reasoned argument the Communist Party is opposed cere," that nobody had ever ina type of pseudo-leftist criticism ented refugees, whose lack of un- as "factionalism" and "bitterness" to AFL-CIO unity for unworthy vented a sincereometer. But the of John L. Lewis and his allies derstanding of the American labor -that disqualifies the Call's cor- reasons. Then the Call passes on Call editors have done just that, which, upon examination, turns movement flows from their failure respondent as a reporter. IGNORES REAL ISSUE

The Call works up a case for lining up with Hillman by the devance of industrial unionism is the point at issue: . . . "the Communism against Hillman and his forces who are advocates of peace between the two great bodies of

CIO, for the motivation for its sue). Lewis' dignified challenge to

Wasn't Meant to Kill Trotsky Says Leader of May Attack!

MEXICO CITY-David Alfaro intention of terrorizing him into Siqueiros has finally submitted a inaction, and to injure him only formal statement to Judge Tru- if he tried to prevent the theft jillo at Coyoacan. As was expected, of documents--the injury was not he has added nothing to what was to be serious but only enough to already known but rather has "put him out of action." Apparmerely developed his former lies ently he expects this fantastic

down to two points-the May 24th | bedroom, riddled by bullets from attack was not intended to kill three directions. Siqueiros pre-Trotsky but only to steal some of tends that most of the bullet holes the archives; he knows nothing were made by the guards and that about the murder of Robert Shel. the incendiary bombs were tossed don Harte. Siqueiros originally by Trotsky in order to gain more utionary activities;" now he says "self assault." Library and wanted to take these | Trotsky's life. letters. In either case the story SIQUEIROS HELD is ridiculous since the archives A STALINIST were not even touched during the COMMAND IN SPAIN attack, though right out in full

is to free himself of the charge tack were instructed not to kill his name.

view in the library.

By WALTER ROURKE | Trotsky, to shoot only with the tale to be believed in the face

that he discovered that Trotsky Of course Siqueiros insists that was selling his correspondence he has no connection with the with Lenin to Harvard University second and successful assault on

Stalinist command in Spain- challenge to debate the issues that Obviously Siqueiros' intention states that one of his Communist divide us. It has been four years is to free himself of the charge friends led the May 24 assault men of the Third and Fourth Inthat the participants in the at- but that he would never disclose ternationals has been held in Min-

organized labor. But the truth of

C.P. ASKED TO

ist Workers Party in the Twin scales in Hillman's favor, with the movement today. Cities sponsors. While suggesting a debate on the attitude of the parties towards the war, the His testimony always boils of the mute evidence of Trotsky's SWP made it clear that "any suggestions you may have for a debate subject will be gladly re-

ceived." So far this challenge has gone unanswered. Rank-and-file members of the Communist Party said that he wanted the archives publicity; this is all that remains didn't know we had asked their to prove Trotsky's "counter-revol- of the original Stalinist theory of party to debate, until we called it to their attention and showed

them copies of our letter. For the information of the forum audience the letter challenging the CP to debate was read at the Sunday Forum on Decem-

Communist Party members and sympathizers are being urged to The Colonel-Siqueiros held a ask that their leaders accept our neapolis.

By FELIX MORROW | line is very clear; one has but to | Hillman on the key question of lure, is now engaged in efforts to aid of a delicate recording in (This is the third of a series read its strikebreaking stories a- continuing the fight for industrial raid the warehouse fields in com- strument invented by the Call ediof articles on the Atlantic City gainst the Vultee aircraft work- unionism-to call this "baiting plete disregard of industrial un- tors, Lenin once said, making fun to other business, as if it has it appears: proved that there is no difference "The outstanding weakness of

between Hillman and the Lewis the convention and of the CIO

group on industrial unionism: question.

denounce both Lewis and Hillman

THE CALL'S NEW INVENTION

generally has been the lack of an Note that the Call blandly iden- effective policy on honest belief. ice of denying that the mainten- tifles the Lewis forces with the Both in the Hillman camp and in Stalinists. A false, and pretty the Lewis camp, there is much stupid, assumption. Will unity be hypocrisy. Hillman's forces are ist Party and Lewis are allegedly a blow to industrial unionism? more honest . . . Lewis and his the defenders of industrial union- The Call avoids this, the real boys are so marked with Com- LITTLE RACKETEERING munist alliances, Willkie deals, Its case comes down to saying: burocratic trade union practices if Hillman is no friend of indus- and unprincipled vindictiveness trial unionism, neither are Lewis that they constitute an even more the matter is that Harry Bridges, and the Stalinists. In that case, repulsive force to increasing seclogic would demand that the Call tions of the Clo." (My italics). And with this type of argument and call upon the CIO workers these "socialists" justify support- is almost entirely confined to But these Norman Thomas Social- allies who, whatever else they are, tries. ists know only one method in are on the progressive side in the trade union "politics": pick which key issue which at the present Stark in an article in the New one of the big shots you'll back, time forms the dividing line York Times, Dec. 1: "Investigamovement.

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn .- The Having thus dismissed the real travel far. But its "socialist" case racketeering is prevalent in small Communist Party here has re- issue - industrial unionism - for Hillman and the AFL may industries where cut-throat comjected a challenge by the Social- the Call goes on to find "socialist" be picked up by the pro-Hillman ist Workers Party to debate the reasons for supporting Hillman. cliques in the newer industrial subject of the attitude American "The contention of Hillman's en- unions. In the United Auto Workworkers should take in this mili- emiss is that he is a war monger ers, for example, where the mili- Latest "Fourth and is interested in 'national de- tant membership wouldn't listen The challenge was issued Nov- fense' to the exclusion of labor's for a moment to Hillman's own ember 10 in the form of a letter interests." Aha, says the Call, line, but might be confused by a to the state secretary of the Lewis and the Stalinists are no "socialist" stooge for Hillman. Communist Party. The letter re. better. Does the Call, therefore, Such "radical" arguments for corded that suggestions for such propose to support neither Lewis Hillman's policy must be exposed a debate have been made from nor Hillman, which would be the for what they are: a "left" winvarious persons attending the logic of that argument? No. In- dow-dressing for the most reac-Sunday Forum which the Social. stead the Call proceeds to tip the tionary tendency in the labor

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AFL Gave Undue Prominence To The Racketeering Issue

But Neither Dubinsky Nor the AFL Chieftains Took a Correct Working Class Attitude Toward It

By ART PREIS

The problem of racketeering occupied an altogether dispropor- questions of dues collections, irontionate place at the AFL convention at New Orleans. It is a very ing out interminable jurisdictionminor problem in the trade union movement as a whole. Had the al disputes, and curbing the des-AFL chieftains been grappling with the basic problems facing the workers, the racketeering question would have automatically been enforces the principle of dictatorrelegated to the subordinate place it should have taken. But since ial control from the top. So long the convention was given no real problems to deal with-the main as these unions pay their dues, time was consumed with canned speeches from government officials Green and Co. do not care whether and other people who had no business being on the platform-it is the members attend meetings, or

taurants."

BOSSES RESPONSIBLE

and outright criminals."

What is more significant than

ly invited and sanctioned by the

these industries, by their own mo-

tion, form so-called trade associa-

The crooked union leaders lend

try and supply the 'police' from

keep them out of trade associa-

tions. In either case the object

of the trade association is mono-

as the bosses try to claim.

WHY IT ISN'T ENDED

the evil?

From this it is apparent that

no wonder that both at the contion of rackeetering loomed out of ing and dying, laundry and res to oppose the policies of all proportion to its importance.

Dubinsky, too yellow to fight on real issues-he didn't open his mouth even to second Philip Randolph's eloquent plea against Jim Crow-picked this "popular" issue

DUBINSKY'S PROPOSAL

Dubinsky's proposal to empower the AFL Executive Council to suspend any union official "convicted of an act of moral turpitude" would have placed in the hands of the reactionary Council the exact powers which Dubinsky had opposed when they appeared in the form of the right to suspend international unions for "dual" unionism. Militant union leaders, convicted or framed-up in strike activities, could be tossed out of criminals among their number.

By its terms only "convicted" persons could be suspended. The to join trade associations or to well-known tie-up between the police, courts and racketeers precludes many such convictions. Except, of course, in the case of poly and higher prices." honest union strikers.

the AFL by a simple vote of the

Council.

Further, this proposal placed the responsibility for dealing with of the influence of the bosses with- of connivance with the bosses racketeers on the shoulders of a in any union, and not a pheno- which is alien to a mass-producfew leaders, instead of on the menon native to unionism itself, tion industry and an industrial rank-and-file of the unions.

The convention leaders turned this proposal down. Green and Co. didn't want to be placed in a position where at any time in the future they might be compelled to act against a "pal." The AFL local unions and leaders are looms as the key factor and where defeat of Dubinsky's proposal also free of any such taint, why is it an industrial union is bargaining . reflected the concern of the vari- seemingly so difficult to eradicate on behalf of all the workers in ous international officers for their jealously-guarded control over their individual unions.

As a counter proposal to Dubinsky's, the Executive Council merely put through a resolution piously "condemning" labor racketeering in general and suggesting that the various internationals "take steps" on their own initiative.

The convention failed to expose the real character and causes of racketeering, and to open the way for strengthening the democratic processes within the local unions which would enable the member ship to make short shift of dishonest elements.

EXISTS What is the extent of the "racketeering" within the AFL? Con

trary to the impression deliber ately fostered by the boss press there is relatively very little. Such racketeering as does exist

to mobilize under a third banner ing the opponents of industrial small unions, and these mainly

This fact is made clear by Louis throughout the entire trade union tions by prosecuting officials in New York, Chicago and other The voice of the Call doesn't large cities have disclosed that

International"

The December issue of the Fourth International, which will be off the press this week, features as its main article, a manifesto of the Fourth International. "France Under Hitler and Petain." It analyzes what has been happening in France since the collapse, and proposes a concrete program for the struggle for freedom.

Other articles featured are: "Inter-Imperialist Struggle for Latin America," by the Argentine revolutionist, Quebracho; "The AFL and CIO Conventions," by Farrell Dobbs; "Stalin's Regime as Mirrored in the New Legislation," by John G. Wright; "Milwaukee's Brand of Socialism," by James Boulton; "Discipline in the American Army," by Michael Cort.

Of special interest is the article by Leon Trotsky, "The Class, the Party, and the Leadership," which was found in his archives in unfinished form. It was the Texas article he promised to write dur-Spring but which the GPU assassin prevented him from finishing, TOTALS

Concerned primarily with the ires of the members for militant whether local meetings are ever vention and in the press the ques- petion prevails, such as in clean- held. Il members who dare their efficials are arbitrarily expelled without proper trial, that's no skin off Bill Green's nose,

the limited extent of union racket- CIO HASN'T ANY eering. is the fact that it is direct- RACKETEERING

The proof that it is the lack of bosses in these industries. As democratic practices within the -i. e., popular with the capitalist Stark points out, "Almost invar- AFL which enables the few rackiably the union racketeers have eteers to flourish within it, and been found linked with dishonest that racketeering flourishes only business men, crooked politicians in small crafts, is demonstrated by the complete freedom of the He adds: "Small employers in CIO from racketeers. It might seem that the new unions of the tion or through outside instiga- CIO, formed quickly of inexperienced workers and prey to many tions to limit or increase prices. unknown and untested elements, would be duck-soup for the penethemselves to the associations at tration of boss racketeers. But it a price. They 'police' the indus- isn't.

No handful of rats or gangsters who valued their necks would "Racketeering union leaders co- dare try to intimidate a meeting operate with dishonest business of industrial workers who had men to force other business men stood up to clubs, revolvers, rifles, machine guns, sawed-off shot-guns and tear gas in the hands of police and National Guardsmen!

It is hard to conceive of the appearance of a racketeering situation in an industrial union. To racketeering is a direct measure appear it would require a type union. It pays a boss to connive with a small craft union, even to the extent of paying relatively The question is: If the extent good wages. He could never feel of such racketeering is really so that way about a mass-production limited, if the vast bulk of the industry, where the wage bill the plant.

The answer is simple. A policy | The CIO is thus well-nigh guarwhich would clean out the racket- anteed in advance against racket. eers in double-quick time is pos- eering. The less favorable situasible: But it poses a threat to the tion of the smaller craft unions reactionary craft leaders, and it in the AFL could, however, be is the one policy of which the overcome if the rank and file in bosses-those who cry loudest any union were aided by the naagainst the evil-are in deadly tional AFL leadership to establish genuine democracy and use it That simple policy is to restore against any racketeer.

democratic rank-and-file control But real union democracy-that within the unions of the AFL! | means militancy and strikes, and The prevalent leadership domi- you can't get the Greens and Wolls' nates the ranks with an iron fist. to go for that!

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TROTSKY MEMORIAL FUND

The following additional contributions to the Trotsky Memorial in defense of industrial unionism, unionism against Lewis and his in a few secondary service indus. Fund have come in during the last week: Buffalo \$ 3.00

New Haven Lynn 2.00Boston 28.50New York 100.00 Los Angeles 7.5013.00 San Francisco 20.00 Chicago Minneapolis & St. Paul

TOTAL		\$389.75	
Branch	Quota	Amount paid	%
Milwaukee	\$ 5.00	\$ 5.10	102
Boston	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.75	101
Baltîmore	10.00	10.00	100
Rockville	7.00	7.00	100
Toledo	50.00	50.00	100
Detroit	200.00	200.00	100
Lynn	100.00	85.00	85
Chicago & Indiana Harbor 200.00		135.07	68
San Francisco	100.00	55.00	55
Newark	150.00	70.50	47
Flint	150.00	69.00	46
Minneapolis & St. 1	Paul 1000.00	430.00	43
Allentown	15.00	6.00	40
Los Angeles	150.00	56.65	38
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Portland	, 10.00	0.00	00
Quakertown	7.00	0.00	00
Reading	5.00	0.00	00
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