

WORKERS CAN'T WIN AT POLLS NOV. 5TH

PARTIES DIFFER ONLY ON HOW TO KEEP WORKERS DOWN

The capitalist press in Chicago and throughout the country is loaded down with brick-bats hurled by the Democratic and Republican parties against each other. In the scramble for victory in the Nov. 5th congressional election these two thieves fall out and attack each other as being corrupt. And for once we agree: they are both right.

Here in Chicago we watch Kelly and his gang of political scum openly protect gambling, rackets and vice while in the name of "law and order" the police have waged a continuous campaign against workers walking militant picket lines.

This same Kelly Machine in the last few weeks has been "viewing with alarm" the graft and corruption of the Republican Party control in Kankakee, Peoria, Lake County and down-state Illinois where gambling is wide open and "hoods" practically run the towns. All this the Kelly machine clearly sees with one eye but with their other near-sighted eye the connection between itself and the bookies.

to page 2

ONUS OF THE BONUS "YES" OR "NO" VETS LOSE

One of the empty drums that the two capitalist parties are beating during the current election campaign is the question of an Illinois state bonus to vets of World War II. One close look at both sides of the question shows the issue to be a disgusting phoney.

The proposed bonus for the veterans of Illinois provides for the issuance of \$385,000,000 25-year bonds with which to pay the bonuses to about 900,000 veterans. At an interest rate of 2% Illinois will pay back \$492,800,000 on these bonds at the end of the 25 years. Thus, for every \$100 of bonus that the vets receive the bankers and big financiers who hold the bonds will collect an extra \$28. It has been proposed that the money be raised by a 1% tax on each package of cigarettes, a tax on horse-racing and direct tax on real and personal property. Obviously the average man-on-the-street will pay off these taxes and the veteran himself who smokes a pack of cigarettes a day will discover in 25 years that he has paid back \$100 or more out of the average \$400 bonus. (And if his wife or others in his family smoke, that will be another \$100 apiece.)

In spite of these shortcomings, \$400 right now will look pretty good to the vets. The republicans,

knowing this, are sponsoring the bonus to gain their political favor. The Democrats, though giving official word in favor of the bonus, are opposed to it because of the fact that it will be handed out by a Republican state administration rather than a Democratic one.

Most veterans are workers so the bonus can be immediately seen as a

to page 2

"DEMOCRACY" AT WORK 1/3 Chicago Workers' Votes Don't Count

Workers live in cities. This simple fact is used by the capitalist stooges in government to cut down the effectiveness of the working class vote. The technical term for this is "gerrymander".

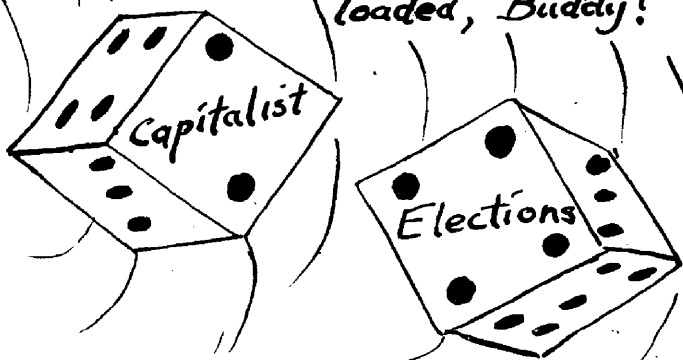
Here's how the gerrymander works for Chicago. In 1901 the legislative districts, still in effect today, were set by a Republican legislature. Cook County (Chicago) although it has approximately 52% of the state's population, has only 19 of the 51 senatorial districts.

The same is true of the congressional districts. Cook County has only 10 (the 10th district also includes Lake County). Down-state's remaining 100 counties with less than 48% of the state's population,

have 15. In addition, one congressman is elected from the state at large. Thus the traditionally conservative farmer vote is used to balance off the workers' vote in the "democratic" congress.

But the joke of capitalist "democracy" is carried farther in the city's division into wards. According to the constitution, a new apportionment of representatives is to be made every ten years - after the census. However, the constitution provides no punishment for legislators and aldermen who fail to obey this law. These politicians dig themselves in to a district and never change the representation set-up 'till it suits their political purpose.

They're always
loaded, Buddy!



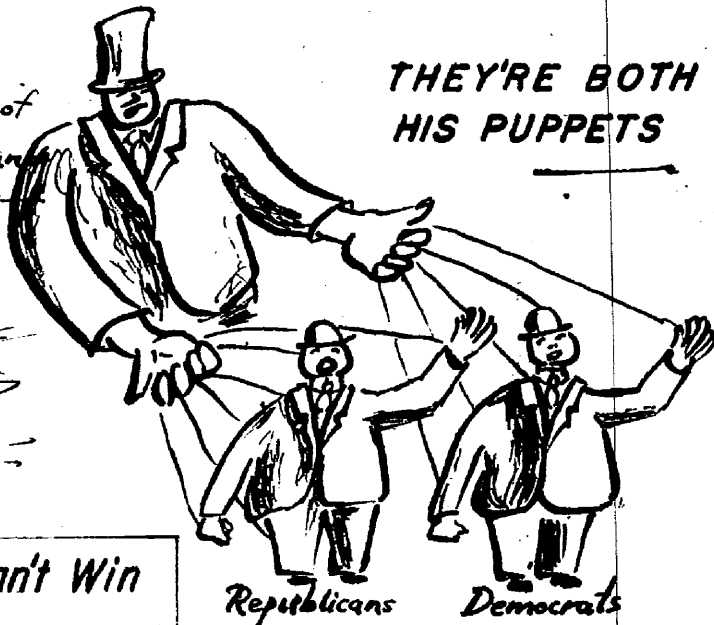
Labor Views

Vol 1, No. 24

NOV. 4, 1946

Barons of
Finance and
Industry

THEY'RE BOTH
HIS PUPPETS



**Workers Can't Win
Capitalist Election**
(from page one)

within walking distance from the city hall is over-looked.

It ill behooves these capitalist politicians who collect regular tribute from the vice and gambling kings - the Ragens and their ilk - and who stuff themselves with graft from most of the city's departments to point to "vice" outside of Chicago! But their purpose is a desperate one: to shout, "See, the Republicans are just as bad!" Their idea being that since all capitalist politicians are corrupt anyway, the workers might as well vote for those already in power.

Workers should not have difficulty in seeing that these "campaign issues" raised by both capitalist parties are a smoke-screen used to hide the real local and national issues before us. No, not even the shiny new voting machine gadgets (designed to prevent both parties from stealing an election by the old, cruder methods) should prevent the workers from facing these issues.

First and above all the railroad workers and miners should remember the Truman administration and its stooge Kelly as strikebreakers for the railroad and mine barons. And if illusions exist that the Republican Party will deal more kindly with labor remember the howl put up by Republican congressmen that the

strikebreaking of the Truman government was too lenient. Some actually called for the electric chair for strike leaders. During smaller strikes here Kelly and Capt. Barnes of the "Red" (Labor) squad have played a similar shameful role.

The capitalist Republican and Democratic parties in this election as in the past are still peddling the bunk that the problems of the working masses can be solved by "good" candidates. This is the same sour dish served up by the PAC: "Vote for good candidates". With the Republicans offering a big slate of anti-labor candidates and with the Democrats having recently shown their skill at strike-breaking this PAC "line" is particularly ridiculous. And these very labor

fakers who support capitalist stooges for office in Chicago offer themselves as "labor's candidates" wherever they can get a minor candidacy on the ticket!

Thus, the issues go deeper than the slogans of this fake political campaign. The two parties are the servants of the capitalist system which offers workers concessions with one hand while preparing to take them back with the other.

In this election as in others, Labor Views reminds workers that capitalism is like a banana that's been left out in the sun too long. It's rotting! Its pulp is oozing with the grubs of the rising cost of living, increasing racial tension, oppressive army, navy and police forces and a lack of housing. It is our belief that even the temporary gains that labor makes will be lost unless the workers take over the factories, mines and mills and run them not for the profit of a privileged few but for the use of all humanity.

But to do this job, workers will have to build a new party - a party based on direct class action, beginning in the shops by organizing the independent defense of the workers against the onslaught of the ruling class and its government, its police forces, its laws and courts. This Revolutionary Marxist Party will recognize that the working class fights to defend its living standards today while tomorrow it faces the task of wiping out this rotting system of capitalist slavery.

BOGUS BONUS (from page one)

bribe dished out to one special group of workers. Of course, the entire working class of Illinois is to pay for this bribe. The two groups of professional politicians are merely fighting over which shall gain the political advantage in dispensing this bribe.

A group of liberals allied with some conservative elements and the Democrats unofficially, have organized into the Illinois Veterans and Civilians Committee for Re-Appraisal of the Bonus Question - opposed to the bonus. The liberals correctly point out that the veterans are merely a part of this citizenry of Illinois and that their problem can be solved only along with the problems of all other working people in the state.

The liberals opposed to the bonus of course never get to first base on this problem. They see the need to improve "housing...public welfare services...educational facilities...hospital services...benefits for disabled veterans, widows and children...", but their remedy is simply "Vote No on the bonus"!

But the veterans' problems are the same problems that face every other worker in the shop. Voting "Yes" for the bonus on Nov. 5th will "give" the vets about \$400 apiece which they and all other workers will have to pay back. Voting "No" does not change the problems of wages that stand still while prices rocket ahead, new and "better" speed-up plans, poor housing, a downward slide of the standard of living. These, the basic problems facing veterans and all other workers alike, will not be solved by voting for or against the bonus, but by militant organized worker action which must begin today in the shop. As this struggle in the shop develops, veterans will move with all other workers toward the only final solution of their common problems - the complete overthrow of the wage-slave system. Only then, when we no longer pay billions in tribute to the barons of finance and industry and to their political stooges, will the veterans know an end to the problems they face today.

Labor Views

is published by the
REVOLUTIONARY WORKERS LEAGUE

YOU ARE INVITED...
to write, come or call
LABOR VIEWS OFFICE
333 W. North Avenue
Michigan 5484

CLASSES...
now meet on Wednesday evenings at 8:00 PM.

A SONG WITHOUT A MILITANT NOTE

Two Camps of CIO Bigwigs Battle 6 Yrs.

The disunity and confusion in the Chicago CIO is likely to completely discourage and disillusion the rank-and-file CIO workers unless they understand its nature and its cause. Knowing this they have some chance to answer the question, "Where do we go from here?"

Here in Chicago the CIO now has what amounts to two functioning top commands, two top councils of bureaucrats which are continuously battling for supremacy in this area. Here is a general account of how this situation has developed in the last six years.

In 1940 there was a move to set up a CIO city council. The Communist Party (Stalinist) was behind the move (Travis, DeMaio of UE, March of Packinghouse, Oakes of FE). Sam Levin and John Doherty of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers and Steelworkers respectively vetoed the idea. However, the CP crowd set up their own council, whereupon Levin and company were forced to set up a council of their own.

Following the involvement of the USSR in the war and with the change of the Communist Party line from "the Yanks are not coming" to "the Yanks are coming", the CP liquidated its council into the established one. Fullerton Fulton was chairman of this council and Herb March, vice president. When Fulton was reassigned to St. Paul, March automatically became president. Mike Mann of Retail Wholesale and Department Store employees was made secretary.

The CP membership in the council kept growing. For two elections they went along on a "unity" slate whereby they had about 40% of the vote on the executive board - Yanoff, Spiegel, and a number of others. Finally in 1944 just before the last meeting when new locals could be admitted into the council eligible to vote, the "right" wing held a caucus on the question of controlling the CP.

Under the strategy of Walter Harris, new regional director and forceful red-baiter, the chair was to permit acceptance of the executive board report admitting mostly right wing locals and then torpedo the meeting before the CP-controlled votes, which were in dispute, could

come up. The chair went through the motions as planned and the meeting broke up in turmoil a half hour after it began. The Stalinists appealed to Murray but he upheld Mike Mann and his group some months later, and - through Allen Haywood, organizational director of CIO, put in some heavy words of praise for Mike Mann.

Here it can be seen that what has been happening in Chicago is really part of a nation-wide split in the CIO along the same lines. Thus, in preparation for the Chicago Council election in 1945, the Stalinists made a bloc with Mattson, regional director of the UAW. This fitted in with the national bloc of Thomas-Addes with the Stalinists in the auto union, against Reuther. The bloc ran some fellow from the UAW Studebaker Local who had been a pretty good red-baiter previously. Mann, in an actual counting of votes had a majority of between 10,000 to 20,000 votes out of 145,000. (Buick Local 6 at its caucus voted 4 to 3 for Mann, and cast 8,000 votes as a unit for him.)

However, the election meeting dragged on till 3 AM. By that time the crucial steelworkers votes began to drift home. Most of those were for Mann. Towers, the right wing president, adjourned the meeting. Mann won of course, but the CP refused to recognize the victory.

They didn't organize a dual council but they functioned informally through their top bloc. Furthermore, although Levin is the president of the Illinois Industrial Union Council, the CP has an over-

whelming majority of the board and officers and the affairs are really run by vice-president Bob Travis, CP member. Thus, the CP-UAW bloc has been quite vocal in the press and in their own action.

At the next election Mann executed a coup d'etat. He changed the constitution so that offices were good for 2 years instead of one; he refused to readmit most of the key CP locals on the ground that they were delinquent in dues, and so he has captured mechanical control of the council set-up.

That explains, partially, the collaboration between Mattson, regional head of the UAW, and the Farm Equipment Workers Union which is completely under Stalinist control. While he himself is not in the Party he is still working close with it. The split between Reuther and Thomas in Detroit is so wide that there is considerable talk of an open split. (John L. Lewis - AFL head of coal miners - has always maintained a strong base in Flint and it is not inconceivable that many of the large old locals will eventually join the AFL.) At any rate, it is possible that the FE which has refused to join UAW up to now may do so if joining will give the Stalinists a majority in the UAW.

The gyrations and maneuvers for power by these blow-hard bureaucrats are endless. And, meanwhile, to these fakers the fight against the big business boss is only used to further this struggle for power. So long as the rank-and-file CIO workers are saddled with this kind of leadership it will be impossible for them to make any real gains against the ruthless industrialists and their government.

Beginning with rank-and-file control of local unions, a thorough house-cleaning is the next order of the day.

CIO Bureaucrats



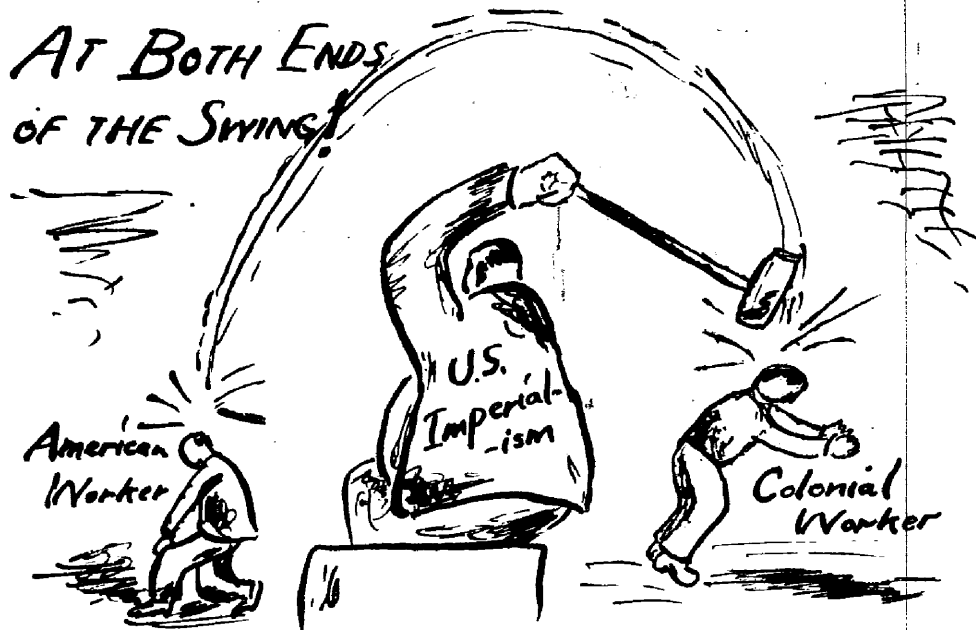
THEY'LL NEVER
GIVE THE CALL!
but he will!

Rank-and-
File CIO
Worker



Call to
Militant Action

THE WORKER'S ANGLE



U.S. Imperialism Hits Far East —

On October 22nd the US army quelled an attack of Korean workers against their police. This outbreak was part of a wide-spread movement to oust the American imperialists. Tanks were rushed to the important sections but did not open fire. One Korean was wounded and 18 arrested. Maj. Gen. Lerch, US military governor of Southern Korea, said that the reviewing and stationing of tanks "was a show of strength, preparedness, and readiness" to put down disturbances. He made clear "If the Korean police are unable to handle the situation, the American army can."

IN CHINA THE PROGRAM OF AMERICAN IMPERIALISM IS OPERATING ON A MUCH GRANDER SCALE. SPEAKING AT THE 60TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE NATIONAL FRATERNAL CONGRESS OF AMERICA IN THE MORRISON HOTEL ON OCTOBER 23RD, FORMER BRIGADIER GENERAL OLMSTED DECLARED THAT AMERICAN TROOPS SHOULD REMAIN IN CHINA TO "HELP PROMOTE THE AMERICAN WAY OF LIFE THERE". HE ALSO DECLARED THAT CHINA IS THE ONLY GREAT MARKET AVAILABLE FOR THE EXPANSION OF AMERICAN BUSINESS.

THE RULING CLASS HERE HAS OBVIOUSLY ARRIVED AT THE SAME CONCLUSION. FINANCIAL AID GIVEN OR FARMERKED FOR THE KUOMINTANG GOVERNMENT OF BANKERS AND FEUDAL LORDS SINCE V-J DAY AMOUNTS TO \$3,000,000,000. 271 NAVY COMBAT VESSELS ARE BEING TURNED OVER TO CHIANG KAI-SHEK WITH AMERICAN

PERSONNEL TO TRAIN CHINESE CREWS. DURING THE LAST YEAR THE US HAS TRAINED AND ARMED 40 KUOMINTANG DIVISIONS COMPARED TO 20 DURING THE WAR. 1,000 PLANES HAVE ALSO BEEN PLACED IN THE SERVICE OF THE KUOMINTANG. IT APPEARS RATHER EVIDENT THAT THE US IS ALL OUT TO PROTECT THIS MARKET IN CHINA'S CIVIL WAR.

"PLEASE, MR. GOV'NOR," ASK UNION "LEADERS"

The 190 day Allis-Chalmers strike in West Allis, Wisconsin has been hitting the capitalist press headlines in such fashion as "CIO Mob Overwhelms Police." But the significance of the Allis Chalmers strike is even wider than the fact that hundreds of strikers have massed at the plant gates to stop a back-to-work movement.

The company and the union have already reached a wage agreement of $13\frac{1}{2}$ cents raise. The union leaders are continuing the strike because the company flatly refuses to agree to a union shop.

190 day strike - $13\frac{1}{2}$ cents!

In the face of the zooming prices why must a big local of thousands of members belonging to the giant UAW-CIO settle for such peanuts! Is it any wonder that one section of the men in the West Allis local have lost their enthusiasm to strike? Why stay out for union shop when the union can do no better than that? they ask.

New Policy In West Indies: "Freedom" —

Jan A. Jockman, minister for overseas territories of the Dutch empire, has promised the Dutch West Indies "greater freedom". (From this ruthless old imperialist power this ranks as a grim joke.) For over a year this same government, employing Japanese troops and aided by the US and Britain, has been waging ruthless war on the workers and peasants of the Dutch East Indies for control of the fabulously rich oil and rubber resources there. Can an imperialist leopard change its spots?

A LARGE PART OF AUSTRALIA'S TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM CAME GRINDING TO A HALT AS 43,000 RAILROAD AND TRANSIT WORKERS WENT OUT ON STRIKE FOR A 40 HOUR WEEK AND A \$3.25 RAISE. THE UNIONS ARE OBJECTING TO THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT'S POLICY OF SHOVING EVERYTHING ON TO THE BACKS OF THE WORKERS EXCEPT THE HUGE PROFITS THE CAPITALIST MADE IN THE WAR.

But now that the entire existence of the union at West Allis is threatened the militants have no choice but to stop the back-to-work movement. Each day in the past week has been marked by an increasing militance on the part of the workers to keep the plant shut down. Each day the pickets have met larger forces of policemen shipped in from Milwaukee and neighboring towns.

This growing militance - the massed strength of thousands of organized workers - is the one chance for these workers to win this strike. But already the UAW leadership has made desperate moves to squelch this increasing militance at West Allis. On Thursday, Mattson, regional director of UAW, appealed not to the workers but to the state whose police have been beating up and arresting UAW pickets to close the Allis Chalmers plant.

Here indeed is a lesson in union leadership! Don't ask the workers to close down the shop! Ask the state and its strikebreaking police to shut it down!