



THE "IRON CURTAIN"—MADE IN U.S.A.

confined to barracks. The streets belonged to Kim Koo. By the last day of 1945 he could muster 20,000 demonstrators against the Moscow decisions. Emboldened, he attempted a coup d'etat.

But the coup d'etat stalled. Support for Kim Koo's misinterpretation of the Moscow decisions on Korea as meaning permanent trusteeship never developed among the peasants, or within organized labor, the two decisive strata of Korean society. Kim conferred with General Hodge then went on the air over JODK in Seoul to announce that the revolution had been called off. Thereupon the general also went on the air—to thank Kim for calling off his revolution. . . .

Later Korean railway workers asked the military governor by letter why such strenuous attempts had been made to dragoon them into following Kim Koo's leadership. Why, they asked, had they been coerced by their superiors to take part in Kim Koo's demonstrations? And why were they forbidden to take part in the great mass outpouring of 200,000 Koreans that later welcomed the beginning of American-Soviet discussions to end the partition of their country?

THESSE were puzzling questions. They became the more puzzling when General Hodge named his "Representative Democratic Council of Southern Korea (RDCSK)." This organization was to take over the unification discussions at the point where military pour-parlers ceased, in conjunction with representatives of the People's Committees from the North.

As chairman of the RDCSK General Hodge appointed Kim Koo, who had organized the opposition to the decisions on Korea of the Moscow conference of foreign ministers. As vice-chairman of the body General Hodge appointed Rhee Syngman, who had never disavowed his call for interzonal warfare as the solution for Korea's difficulties.

All other nominees—save two—were Democrats.

One of the two exceptions was Dr. Lyuh Woon-heung, who by then headed the new People's Party formed from among supporters of the republic. The other was Huh Huhn, who had succeeded Dr. Lyuh as chairman of the Left Nationalists. Again they had been selected to serve as window-dressing for an American-appointed group of Korean quislings, traitors and collaborators. And again they refused to be

used in this flagrant attempt at political deception of those millions of Koreans who looked to them for leadership.

By this time the Democratic National Front (DNF) of southern Korea had been formed. Its supporters included the Left Nationalists, the People's Party, the Communist Party, the trade unions, youth organizations and women's organizations: in fact, all parties in southern Korea save the remnants of the old Japanese-sponsored "Righteous Party" (Dai Eui Tang), the old royalist grouping called "The Restoration Party" (Wang Chang Poku), the still-born Democratic Party, and the old Korean Nationalist Party. But even the last two have been invited time and again to enter the DNF on the basis of a broad program for the unity of Korea. Both have refused each invitation, although there have been a number of defections to the DNF by Nationalist Party leaders who put their love and hope for Korea above narrower interests.

Time and again General Hodge has attempted to compel those who lead the DNF to hand over their prestige and the political power of their huge following to the small clique of reaction that is the dominating core of the Korean Democratic Party. And time and again such attempts have been rebuffed by Dr. Lyuh, Huh Huhn and others. Since the Democratic Party controls the police, all forces outside this clique of known traitors have been subjected to increasing police brutality, constant intimidation, arrest, imprisonment and unceasing attacks. Korean labor, which was first organized by Communists under the very noses of the Japanese, and furnishes the mass base—along with the peasantry—of the parties allied in the DNF, has borne the brunt of these attacks.

World Federation of Trade Union officials who visited southern Korea in April said that what they saw there was "fascism in action." USAFIK officers conducting their tour refused to permit interchange of greetings with Korean delegations which attempted to welcome the WFTU representatives. Workers who attempted to reach the WFTU delegation with leaflets of greeting were clubbed to the ground under the very eyes of Louis Saillant, the French secretary of the Federation. This terror against the Korean working class has been intensified since last September, when an estimated 330,000 workers in southern Korea came out on general strike. They struck in support of the Southern Korean

Federation of Railway Workers, which had formally demanded abolition of the daily pay system, establishment of a cost-of-living differential, and proclamation of democratic labor laws by USAFIK's military government.

USAFIK chiefs rejected these demands out of hand. The military governor declared the general strike which followed this rejection to be "illegal." General Hodge went him one better by urging the Korean people to "exterminate the elements who organize strikes and provoke discontent." Sixteen of these civilian strikers now await the verdict of an alien military court on charges which carry the death penalty. Another 521 Koreans have been jailed on lesser accusations.

Reopening of discussions on ending the partition of Korea can only be greeted by these prisoners, and millions of other Koreans living South of 38, as cause for great hope. And it matters little now whom General Hodge chooses as spokesmen for the "democratic forces of southern Korea." Even should his nominees be the usual crop of reactionaries, quislings and drug-peddlers from the Democratic Party, it will matter little. Such individuals are powerless to destroy the solution that has been found North of 38.

A REUNITED Korea can only strengthen the forces of the people in the South. And a unified Korea, drawing on the food resources of the agrarian South and the industrial power of the North, is capable of producing the highest standard of living in all Asia. Secretary Marshall and General Hodge probably recognize this full well. For the State Department has announced to the world that it is prepared to pour \$600,000,000 into southern Korea in the next four years—if Soviet cooperation is not forthcoming on State Department terms. But even this fabulous amount cannot restore private ownership in northern Korea, nor replace nationalized production with the anarchy of "free enterprise." It cannot even erase from the minds of the Korean people in the South what their brothers have done in the North.

Korea has again become intimately involved with the United States as the site of first application for what is now called "the Truman Doctrine." And since the logic of necessity is stronger than the logic of dollars, the Doctrine as applied in Korea may now be assessed as a costly and dismal failure.

THE UNFORGOTTEN FORD

"History is for the most part bunk," said the man who founded a dynasty on the tin lizzie — and the brass knuckle. An epitaph for King Henry.

By **CARLETON HENDERSON**

HENRY FORD died three deaths. The first came soon after 1921. In that year Ford sold 55.45 percent of all cars sold. Then the company's sales percentage began to diminish steadily until today it is glad to get twenty percent of the market. Two once lowly competitors are ahead of it—General Motors with almost fifty percent of all sales and Chrysler with well over twenty percent. That marked Henry Ford's death as the mass production king of the auto industry.

He died a second time in April, 1941, when his company, lone hold-out against the unionization that had been almost completed by the 1937 sitdown strikes, surrendered to the United Auto Workers-CIO after a ten-day strike that had shut down all Ford plants. That marked Henry Ford's death as an effective individualist dictator in industry.

The final, physical, death came at the age of eighty-three in his Dearborn home where the Michigan floods had temporarily stilled the electric power plant, cutting off light, heat and refrigeration, so that he died as he had probably been born on the nearby Dearborn Ford farm, by the light of a kerosene lamp.

Ford had become an almost mythical figure in Detroit by 1947. Rumor had it that in his last year he had frequently become unaware of his own identity. Facts proved that he no longer controlled his industrial empire, of which his grandson Henry Ford II had become president, and head of the many new executives weaned away from other motor companies. Rumor further had it that a grim inner family struggle was necessary to loosen old Henry's grip and that it was done only under threat by Mrs. Edsel Ford, after her husband's death in 1943, to sell her and her children's holdings on the open market. Ford in his long career had quarreled with all of his associates, drop-

ping them overboard one by one or in batches, but his daughter-in-law was too much for him. He faded and died. Under his will Mrs. Edsel Ford controls her children's shares of stock until they reach the age of twenty-five.

IN A mental hospital in Ypsilanti not far from the Ford mansion lies a union man who was clubbed into insanity by Ford servicemen during the union demonstration at the Rouge plant in May 1937. In a cemetery on the Detroit side of Dearborn lie the bodies of four young men shot down in front of the plant during the unemployed demonstration of March 1932. In many homes are men who bear the scars of Ford blows and shots, victims

of Ford stormtroopers described by the federal government as "most brutal, vicious and conscienceless thugs," who set "upon any person pointed out to them as a CIO organizer, member, advocate or sympathizer, to be beaten, whipped, tarred and feathered, or otherwise brutally assaulted" (National Labor Relations Board Trial Examiner Robert N. Denham's findings, 1940).

A far greater number of men than those physically assaulted were those intimidated every day in the plants and in their homes as well. These men and their families bore Henry Ford no love, and for every worker trotted out by the newspapers to mumble words of respect for the dead master there are thousands who cherish him only with curses. Until the union called a halt Ford ran his realm as Hitler did his and with the same purpose, to get the maximum work and profit out of each individual in it. The NLRB report on the Ford Motor Co., published after the extensive 1937 hearings in the Detroit Federal Building, bears almost unending witness to this. Small wonder that the vice president of the Bavarian parliament said on Feb. 7, 1924, after Hitler's unsuccessful beer-hall putsch of November, 1923, that "the Bavarian parliament has long had the information that the Hitler movement was partly financed by an American anti-Semitic chief who is Henry Ford. Herr Hitler has openly boasted of Mr. Ford's support." Fifteen years later, after Hitler was the autocrat of Germany, two of his consuls at a highly publicized ceremony in Detroit pinned a Hitler medal on Ford's breast on the occasion of his seventy-fifth birthday. Needless to say, no newspaper in Detroit nor any big daily elsewhere mentioned the Hitler medal in its obituary article. "History is for the most part bunk," Henry Ford once said. Many Detroiters were inclined to agree after reading the obituaries on King Henry.

