

THE FIGHTING WORKER

WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!

Organ of the Revolutionary Workers League of the U. S.

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FOR A NATIONAL SITDOWN STRIKE IN PACKINGHOUSE

EDITORIAL The Bunk About Taxes

According to the Wall Street Journal, which is an authoritative mouthpiece for American Capitalism, what's wrong with this country is "spending and taxes." The howl about taxes has been heard from Maine to California. Business can't pick up so long as there are such high taxes placed against it. Recovery is being trotted by high taxes.

The gentlemen of the countinghouses, of course, know better than all this. But its a good smokescreen, nevertheless.

Under the Hoover regime the corporations paid 35% of all federal taxes. Today they pay only 20%. In the same period taxes on consumers goods, that is the taxes on bread, cigarettes and all the things that the poor must buy to live on, have jumped from one billion to almost three and a half billion.

When it comes to the question of "spending," the Bankers and Industrialists don't seem to be very specific about WHERE to stop spending. Shall the government stop giving subsidies to help build the Merchant Marine — subsidies amounting in many instances to half the cost of building ships? Of course not, say the bigwigs, that would hold back prosperity because we would have to ship our products in foreign bottoms.

STOP SPENDING — ON WHAT?

Shall the government stop giving subsidies to railroads and airway companies in the form of mail contracts? Heaven forbid — ruin the sick railroad industry? Shall the government, then, stop spending about 2 billions a year for war preparations? Obviously no patriotic American could sleep nights with the threat of Bombing Airships from Afghanistan invading the shores of Lake Michigan.

Well then, possibly the government ought to call in the twelve and a half billion dollars that are outstanding in "loans" to big business. With that much money on hand the government could really lower taxes, don't you think?... Yes, it no doubt would, but for our capitalist slavemasters that is really the last straw. To withdraw so much money from business would ruin their whole economic structure. It would be like jumping out of the frying pan into the fire.

So you see the question of where to cut the spending of the government resolves itself to cutting RELIEF AND WPA. On that question there is no dispute. Mr. Roosevelt is obligingly asking for an 800 million dollar cut on

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UNION TO TAKE ACTION ON JULY 17

Danger That Economic Demands May Be Bartered Away As In Coal Strike

The meat-packing industry, which employs 110,000 workers, is on the verge of the largest strike movement since 1921.

On April 8th delegates to the National Policy Committee of Armour's met in Chicago and decided to give the company until May

10th to sign a national contract. The company has large differentials in wages, speed-up, seniority, etc., but refuses to sign with the national union — Packing House Workers Organizing Committee, affiliated with CIO, which is about to become the United Packing House Workers of America. Present preparations for a strike against the "big four" of

the industry — Armour's, Swifts, Cudahy, and Wilson — follow the failure to accede to these demands.

IMPORT FINKS

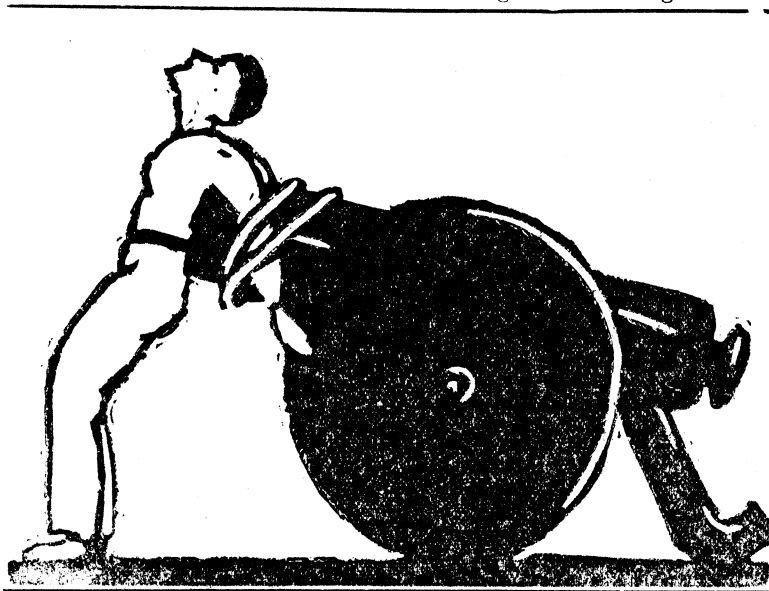
Feverish efforts are being made by the companies to check the strike wave, and smash the union. This is part of the general offensive of the capitalist class against the trade union movement.

Pinkerton men and supplies of the usual tear gas, machine guns, etc., are being brought into the possible strike centers by the "big four." All the company unions — which the Wagner Act was supposed to eliminate, by the way — have been told to try to affiliate to the AFL so they can gain the appearance of "real" unions. Needless to say unscrupulous AFL bureaucrats are helping the company in their strike-breaking roles. In Chicago the Amalgamated Meat Cutters (AFL) is dickering with the management.

In a strike at the Chicago yards a few months back the AFL tried to organize a "back to work" movement but met with no success. To check these steps by the labor fakers and the professional strike-breakers, as well as the police, workers in the plants must take measures now to create democratically controlled Workers Defense Corps.

Due to the intense speed-up which resulted in a vast increase in work handled last year, despite

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New Boston Unit

A new unit of the Revolutionary Workers League was organized in Boston last month, following the trip of comrade Hugo Oehler to that city. One of the new comrades is John Hamilton, a leading member of the Trotsky youth in that city. The May 2nd Socialist Appeal carries a eulogy of the comrade's activity in the youth anti-war work this year. In his letter asking for application for membership in the R. W. L. Hamilton states that it is impossible to carry on class struggle activity on the line of the Trotskyites.

KANSAS CITY

Continuing the organizational gains made in the last few months the Kansas City Unit of the R. W. L. announces two new applications for membership, both workers in basic industries in the area.

Japs, British fight for Chinese Loot

U.S. Interests Vitally Affected

The Japanese blockade of the British and French concessions at Tientsin and Kulangsu indicates that a new stage of the struggle for control of China is at hand.

The strategic areas of China are in the hands of the Japanese army but there is no sign of a surrender as yet. Furthermore all the rival imperialists, especially Britain, have been able to sabotage Japan's economic program to such an extent that consolidation of these military victories is far off. The British refuse to recognize currency of the Japanese puppet government in Shanghai and Nanking and are honoring currency

of the Chiang Kai-Shek government.

INTERNAL DIFFICULTIES

What started out as a minor issue over the British refusal to hand over four Chinese allegedly guilty of murdering an official of the Jap puppet regime, has now taken on major proportions. The internal crisis in Japan itself must have reached critical proportions as a result of the war to force such desperate measures. Furthermore, Japan is taking advantage of British difficulties in Europe.

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EDITORIALS

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WPA. His cronies, Messrs LaGuardia, Kelly, et al are finishing the relief cuts for him in the cities. (The average family on relief gets less than \$6 a week, and on WPA less than \$13).

THE POOR RICH

Thirteen percent of the people own 90% of the wealth in the United States. For them Mr. Roosevelt and the Wall Street Journal have nothing but compassion. They are getting together now to cut taxes on the big corporations, and there is a strong possibility that the 75% surtax on large incomes will be cut to 50%. But for the 22 million workers living of relief — about 17% of our population—they must suffer the burdens which will make it possible for the parasites to pile up more billions for which they have no use, except to further perpetuate the slave system of capitalism.

The Roosevelt and Wall Street Journal bunk about weathering the storm together resolves itself to Henry Ford suffering on a 5 million a year income, while the average single man on relief must do the same suffering on \$2.50 a week or less. And old Henry and the rest of his ilk pile up millions of dollars by the simple expedient of keeping capitalist production down to about one-third the producing power of the nation; while those who are willing to produce more wealth so that more people can live on a human standard of living — these people are condemned to starvation. Most assuredly this is a land of liberty and common sense — liberty to starve, and common sense to like it.

The working class oughtn't to be in the least bashful about helping the capitalists overcome the tax and spending problem. The simplest way and only effective way we know of is to overthrow capitalism and EXPROPRIATE the Capitalists. Nothing could solve the tax problem better.

The White Paper and Zionism

The White Paper of Great Britain, which restricts immigration of Jews to Palestine and makes them a permanent minority there, seems to have taught the Jewish leaders exactly nothing. At a conference of agricultural leaders in Tel Aviv May 31, only one delegate, a colonist from Bethalpha, voiced his dissension with the anti-Arab policy of the Conference. He demanded, against general opposition, that the Arabs be accepted as members in the Jewish Labor Federation, instead of the present policy of picketing Jewish plantations where Arabs are employed.

V. Jabotinsky, leader of the Jewish Revisionists (semi-Fascist), called upon the Jews to postpone any action against Great Britain because the Jews cannot fight a nation around whom the "Democracies" are grouping themselves for "peace."

ZIONISM LEARNS NOTHING

The myth of a "Jewish homeland" in Palestine, protected by one or another section of imperialism, is thus being perpetuated. The American Zionists have been working for years to take that "protectorship" away from Great Britain and put it in Uncle Sam's hands.

But the Jewish masses, the world over, are paying the penalty for this deliberate fraud. Palestine has a population of 1,500,000, of which only 460,000 are Jews — or about 3% of the world Jewish population. The country is exceedingly small and even poorer in its natural resources. Its importance lies mainly in its strategic military position for the British lifeline to India, and in the oil pipe-lines from Iraq that end at Haifa.

To conceive that the millions of oppressed Jews throughout Europe and elsewhere can make a home of this little country is ridiculous. And to conceive as Zionism does that the Jewish people can escape the havoc of world capitalism, can find peace and security in this little nook, is utterly fantastic — as the White Paper again proves.

In this period of decay capitalism a small nation or colonial country can serve the interest of only one imperialist power or another. It will be exploited until it loses

U.S. 'Democracy' Shuts Out Refugees

In the 17th century cargoes of Negroes were brought to America chained one to the other. When a storm would break all doors leading to the Negro bunks at the bottom of the boat would be closed, and when air would finally be permitted to enter the bunks again, dozens would be dead of asphyxiation. When the ship rolled helpless Negroes would be cut to the bone by the irons tightly clasped around their ankles.

Who would think that after 300 years of "civilized progress" we would find similar situations prevalent today? Here is an item from the New York Times, June 2nd:

"Destitute refugees forced to leave their homes in Central and Eastern Europe seek any haven they may possibly enter. In desperation they board unseaworthy cargo and cattle boats bound for Palestine... Irresponsible ship captains, after extorting from these helpless passengers all their possessions, even their gold teeth, have been known to take them stealthily to the unguarded small islands strewn about the Mediterranean and leave them on these barren rocks without food, water or extra clothing... 424 survivors from a ship that left Danzig last March with 500... was stranded on the Island of Crete in utter destitution, starvation and sickness."

HUMAN DRACULAS

Throughout Europe today human Draculas are extorting thousands of dollars from unfortunate Jews, Catholics, and working class militants, on promise of getting the necessary papers that will permit them to find a haven somewhere... Others promise to smuggle refugees from one country to another. In most cases, however, the men are unscrupulous and dishonest. They seldom carry out their promises.

Meanwhile in Fascist Germany, Jewish and other workers are being told to leave the country immediately or else go back to concentration camps. And in "Democratic" France refugees from Spain are being visited by the police and "drafted" into the labor army of the foreign legion.

For those naive people who still have illusions that "it can't happen here," this is a taste of the utter barbarism and degradation society will descend to unless the working class, at the head of all the oppressed, can seize power and establish a Workers Society.

As a step toward this in the United States the workers must organize Workers Defense Squads. Wherever these enemies of Labor endeavour to organize in workers areas the working class must smash them. Rely only upon the workers' might.



its usefulness to the big imperialist powers, or until imperialism itself is replaced by a world Workers Society. The Jewish workers must give up and expose the farce of a "Jewish National Home." They must band together with the Arab masses in a common struggle against the common enemy, British Imperialism. Along that path only lies the liberation of the millions of oppressed Jews and other minorities throughout the world.

LAND OF THE FREE

DECAY CAPITALISM: HOME WRECKERS.

Three babies, the oldest 2½ years, are left alone each night while their mother, Mrs. R. Gordon of Chicago, works as a waitress to support them. A neighbor complained to police; babies are removed to an orphanage, Mrs. Gordon to jail. Her salary of \$9.00 a week was much more than the relief budget allowed so she managed as best she could. If she had kept the job and was accepted on the relief budget she would be jailed for fraud. If she tried to live on the relief budget she and the babies would starve; so she kept the job and is jailed for neglect. How about jailing the relief administration for wilful negligence, home-wrecking, encouragement of crime, murders and suicide???

THE "POOR" RICH;

Maurice Rothschild, Chicago Merchant Prince gives this message to the Youth of America "Live on little... work hard and keep the will to serve as his ideal..." He forgets to add so the profiteers won't have to work at all, and live on the best in the land... Mrs. Helen Swift (meat packer) Neilson is fighting \$117,424 income taxes due the government... Carlos Garcia, President of Garcia Sugars, part owner of Standard Sugars, Int'l Trading Co. and Insular Terminal Co., was arrested on charges of stealing 1 million 70 thousand dollars... Mrs. May H. Ayer, NY society multimillionaire was indicted by grand jury for smuggling clothing and jewelry into this country... Tradition of wealth thru piracy still exists! Mrs. Ogden Armour uses a million dollar mansion as a warehouse to store her extra furniture and family heirlooms...

FOR SALE

Justice by U.S. Circuit Court Judge Martin T. Manton to the tune of 1¼ million dollars in 11 months... Health! Oscar Middleton failed to buy his way into the free Chicago Municipal Sanatorium for Tuberculosis by paying \$50 to a precinct captain. Tuberculosis is most prevalent among Negroes, but it is just they who are discriminated against to the greatest degree...

'THE LAND OF OPPORTUNITY'

Forty-nine people in the U.S. made incomes over one million dollars, in 1937. One even made more than 5 million... In the same year, however, at least 6 million children in the U.S. were undernourished, 4 million people over 21 were illiterate because there were not enough funds for education in the U.S., 1,750,000 persons in New York City were living in fire-traps from 60 years to 100 years old, about 50% of American homes had no furnace or boiler, 24.5% had no tubs or showers, 17.3% had no private indoor toilet, and 9.3% had no electricity...

Demos Press has on hand copies of a pamphlet by the ASSOCIATION OF UNEMPLOYED ON DIRECT AND WORK RELIEF of Cleveland, Ohio, entitled:

For Workers Control of Production

This little work sells for only five cents, with special reductions for bundle orders. We recommend it as a valuable analysis of the present unemployed situation and a program for the unemployed — especially valuable for left wing unemployed organizations.

PACKINGHOUSE UNION TO ACT ON JULY 17

Danger That Economic Demands May Be Bartered Away As In Coal Strike

(Continued from page 1)

a 10 1/2 percent decrease in man hours worked, there was an increase of almost 20 percent in severity of accidents in the industry. A good example of this sort of thing can be seen at the Hygrade plant in Detroit, where women just returned from long illnesses are immediately set to work handling 45 pound loads in an atmosphere of steam, and are driven by Bedeaux and even more vicious "efficiency" schemes. When two women recently began having nose bleeds as a result of this killing labor they were discharged by the management.

RANK AND FILE CONTROL

In the coming struggle what will be decisive for the packing house workers is the setting up of national and local strike committees elected by the Locals. With out rank and file control of this nation-wide movement the workers cannot have the confidence necessary for effective action. Every local should set up its strike committee and should start NOW to collect strike funds. So long as the funds are handled solely from the top, there can be no talk of local autonomy.

A successful drive requires clearly formulated demands for the workers. We must learn from the Little Steel Strike two years ago. The demand for a closed shop is an excellent one, but it must be supplementary to the economic demands of the workers. The Locals must seek to formulate these demands on a nationwide scale throughout the industry.

PUSH ECONOMIC DEMANDS

Armour Local 547 in Chicago has put forth its demands calling for "increase in wages, continuous seniority, 20% reduction in speedup, 40 hour week with time and a half for overtime, recognition of stewards and grievance committees, signed contracts," etc. The Local lists 18 demands, but it is necessary to select the key ones on a national scale and thus give expression to the needs of the workers concretely.

The workers should prepare against the danger that their demands will be bartered away in return for an agreement from the bosses of a closed shop or exclusive bargaining rights. In the recent coal settlement 27 of the 28 demands of the coal workers—for wages and working conditions—were given up by the leadership in return for the "union" shop.

Despite the fact that the meat packing industry grossed 502 million dollars profit in 1937, it is nevertheless part of the general process of capitalist decay. Under the profit system it is becoming increasingly difficult for the capitalists to concede demands for higher wages and better working conditions and still squeeze out their large profits.

As a result we have seen labor fakers in many instances give up the economic demands of the workers and carry through policies to check strikes and militant action in return for agreements from the bosses for closed shops. The workers need a closed shop, but they need it to consolidate their forces, to strengthen their fight for better conditions. Too often labor bureaucrats use the closed shop to get militant workers fired from the job, and to check militant action.

FOR A NEW COMMUNIST (4th) INTERNATIONAL

THE SITDOWN TACTIC

At the April National Policy meeting, delegates from three locals called for a sitdown strike. The union sprang up like a mushroom a few years back as a result of a wave of sitdowns, primarily the militant strikes in the Kansas City plant of Armour.

No matter what leaders of the PWOC may deny its effectiveness, there is no industry in the country where a sit-down can be so effective as in the slaughter houses and packing plants. In the K. C. strike a few years back \$50,000 worth of meat was on the line when the strike broke. With the men sitting in, the company was forced to come to terms. The same thing happened with Hormel, in Austin, Minn.

KEY INDUSTRY

The meat packing industry is one of the most completely over-capitalized and trustified in the world. Armour, the biggest operator, run by F. H. Prince, has packing-houses, transportation, stock-yards, and many other side lines under its direct or indirect control. Prince is chairman of the board of directors of Armour's, and at the same time president of the Chicago Stockyards Corporation, which owns and operates, through holding company control, a vast Chicago freight terminal system with 143 miles of railroads, 842 acres of real estate, including the entire stockyards area and the "Central Manufacturing District." Two of the Armour family are on the boards of directors of the United Stockyards Co. and all its subsidiaries, which include all the major stockyards outside of Chicago.

This far flung Armour domain comprises packing houses all through North and South America, dairy and produce houses, chemical plants for by-products conversion, transportation system, fertilizer works, etc. Armour's total assets for the year of 1937 were about \$330,000,000. Total capital stock and surplus for that year were almost \$120,000,000. Net profit ran to 12 1/2 million dollars, after all deductions.

Armour is the company holding out most viciously in the drive against unionism. But it is of the utmost importance for the future of the packing house workers to realize that their struggle is industry wide. There must be no attempt to play ball with one company in a hope of striking at Armour.

The packing house workers are a key factor in American industry. Militant action by these workers can turn the whole tide of setbacks in the trade union movement this last year or two into a new working class offensive.

For democratically elected strike committees in all plants.

For a national sitdown strike in Packing House.

For Workers Defense Squads.

For a Packing House Workers Union with local autonomy.

Strengthen the stewards councils in each plant and demand real autonomy.

THE FIGHTING WORKER

Remember the "TWO FOR ONE" sub offer — a yearly sub to both the FIGHTING WORKER and THE MARXIST for the price of one — \$1.00. Get one for a friend. Don't fail to subscribe!

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AFL - CIO Jurisdiction Strikes Aid Bosses

Kansas City — Homer Martin, red-baiting president of the AFL faction of the United Auto Workers was here June 9th and 10th to address Local 293 of the Chevrolet and Fisher Body Divisions of General Motors.

The speech, replete with sophistry, was an attempt to inveigle the workers into an ill-timed jurisdictional strike "for the purpose of showing the strength of the new group" and "to give the plant owners an excuse to recognize the new organization without bringing the labor board down on them."

The workers had contemplated taking a strike vote earlier in the week, not to "show their strength" and further split their ranks, but because the company had refused, despite an unexpected increase in the June schedule which warranted it, to re-employ workers who had been laid off May 13th. The union was informed that in the event of a strike production would be transferred to St. Louis where the union is affiliated to the CIO, and would probably refuse to back up the AFL fight. The bosses certainly know how to take advantage of the unprincipled faction fight.

VOTE AGAINST MARTIN

Martin, however, relegated this issue to the background. His primary interest is not the economic demands of the workers but to consolidate his own little pie-card gang and get job control. The Fisher Body group voted 10 to 1 against the strike. On June 13th the group will meet to vote on re-affiliation with the CIO. The tactics of Martin are throwing the workers back into the lap of the other faction, which seems to be smoother in its class-collaboration policies.

This set of developments again proves that the workers in auto face the danger of losing all they have struggled for so bitterly in the past, unless they issue a call to ALL automobile workers for a rank and file convention to build a unified auto workers union, free from the bureaucratic control of the Martins', Lewis', Thomas'es', etc., and based upon class struggle policies.

League Exposes King's Visit

Washington, D. C. — The government took every possible step to make the visit of the British King and Queen here a success. Schools were closed and government workers were given leave. Many private businesses followed suit. WPA workers had to make up for this enforced holiday by working at night. Waiters, cooks, etc. in public schools lost a full day's wages.

From every building, street car and lampost the Union Jack spouted over night. Along the route to the White House 6,000 marines, sailors and soldiers stood with fixed bayonets.

At 11 o'clock a 21 gun salute was fired. The cavalry escort clashed by with a clatter of hoofs followed by a car bearing the President and King.

RWL GIVES OUT LEAFLETS

A leaflet distributed by the Revolutionary Workers League, especially in the Negro neighborhoods pointed out the significance of the meeting of the two formal heads of the two largest imperialist powers on earth.

War Tactics Change In Europe

With British prestige heightened by the favorable reception in the U. S. of their royal highnesses and the apparent community of interest of the two great Hypocrites, the base is now laid for a new Munich in which Britain hopes to wield a stronger hand.

Confronted by the threat of war, Hitler is resorting to more indirect methods to gain Danzig. Superior German weight will force sharper and sharper interior frictions and convulsions in Poland and Danzig, until the situation becomes intolerable, and the pressure from within creates a more favorable situation for Germany to step in.

A second factor complicating the Hitler strategy is the series of difficulties following the incorporation of Czechoslovakia. The Czech masses are recovering from the paralyzing blow, and in the German protectorates of Bohemia and Moravia sabotage, strikes and opposition is growing. The "Legion" of General Prchala is only a first symptom. Nationalist as this movement undoubtedly is, it will nevertheless give spur to rising working class struggle. Only if the proletariat takes the leadership in a struggle against Naziism and capitalism as a whole will this struggle achieve meaning.

But, as with Sudetenland and Austria before, underlying the Danzig question is the impelling need for German capitalism to expand and broaden its economic base or perish. This is at the same time her contradiction. German capitalism can expand only

at the expense of other imperialists powers. While Anglo-French imperialism, especially Britain, to avoid proletarian revolution cannot help but continue the policy of "appeasement" they hope to direct German expansion toward Soviet Union.

ENCIRCLEMENT

It is highly doubtful that the British attempt at "encirclement" will succeed. Britain is aiming rather at preventing any Stalin-Hitler rapprochement. Stalinism, dominating the Soviet Union, pivot in any "encirclement", continues to pose conditions which Britain is not ready to accept, and to look to a possible agreement with Nazi Germany.

The long time perspective of Britain is not so much eastern Europe as the Far East. However, the two are closely related. Japan's new restrictions and drive against British interests in China have served to divert attention to this sphere, and by further involving Britain, have given Hitler more time.

The game of power politics in Europe will continue until the explosive character of the contradictions of a capitalist world in decay forces a showdown. If the fear of revolution has been a major factor in averting war thus far, the piling up of contradictions will end up in a desperate gamble and the world thrown into a raging inferno. Only the power of the working class can sweep this whole mad structure from off the face of the earth.

Japs, British Fight for Chinese Loot

U.S. Interests Vitally Affected

(Continued from Page 1)

Reports in the press indicate an enormous rise in prices in Japan and sabotage which is causing accidents and deaths and losses running into millions of yen. Driven by such factors, Japan is making this incident the pivot point of the whole Chino-Japanese war. If British and French imperialism are forced to yield to Japanese control of the economy of the major sections of China it will mean the biggest victory of the war for Japan.

The blockade and the British threat to blockade Japan in the colonies and at home has an important bearing on the Anglo-Soviet talks for an alliance, as well as the latest developments in Eastern Europe. The Japanese step creates a favorable situation for the other partners of the "anti-Communist" axis to demand greater concessions in Europe and Africa, and vice versa.

Although the "nuisance" value of the Rome-Berlin axis in Europe is an important factor which permits Japan to try a coup in the foreign concessions in China, the underlying factor still remains the Anglo-American antagonism.

"Why should we cheer for King George and Queen Elizabeth," the leaflet stated in part, "when they stand for the British Empire, where millions of Negroes, Arabs, Hindus, and British workers are oppressed and live in misery."

In opposition to this united spectacle of two imperialist heads the leaflet called for united action by British and American workers to smash imperialism.

ANGLO-AMERICAN ANTAGONISM

Anglo-American unity against Japan in 1931 could have kept Japan from Manchuria, or brought Japan to terms when she invaded China proper, but in both cases the two largest imperialist powers refused each other's bid for joint action because they have far greater friction with each other than with Japan.

Although at present the interest of U. S. and Britain against Japan run parallel, the fact remains that their economic interests in Asia are far from parallel — they are diametrically opposed to each other. The rubber, tin, and oil resources of Malaya, Burma, and the other British possessions in Asia and China are rich plums that America has had her eyes on for years. What little parallel talk against Japan these two imperialists workup will not enable them to organize a prolonged parallel struggle against Japanese incursions in China. That is what Japan is banking on more than on her German allies in Europe.

The U. S. will fight "with" England in the next war only on one condition — that she can keep her hands free as she did in the last war to enable her to steal all of the British and other imperialist markets before the end of the war.

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NOTES ON THE NEWS

While King George and Queen Elizabeth were here to sell British "Democracy" to the American people, in South Africa Britain took measures to establish huge concentration camps 15 miles from the towns occupied by Europeans and to segregate the "pure" Negroes there.

The American masters who own Puerto Rico have invented something slightly new. Instead of giving the unemployed - and the country is just shock full of unemployment - some relief, they are herded onto the large farms of the imperialist masters, forced to break previously uncultivated ground for the big landowners, and if the land produces anything they can plant a little garden and see if they can exist on its produce. About 10,000 acres are thus being "lent" to the unemployed, and 750,000 unfortunates are expected to slave away at them.

It is no surprise that the "economy" group in the U.S. Senate has come forward with a bill to "retire" all Congressmen and Senators on a pension of \$5,000 a year when the voters have "retired" them from politics. This procedure they say would "relieve them from group pressure," that is from the pressure of the electorate who put them in office. Strange "economy," when 800,000 WPA workers are about to be given 403's!

In a speech to the Italian soldiers who helped Franco in the Spanish Civil War, Pope Pius told them on June 11, that they had brought a "victorious triumph of the Christian ideal" in Spain.

What the "Christian ideal" turns out to be is evidenced from the following. A news story in the capitalist press states that 100 workers a day are being killed in Barcelona alone. As many as 300 have been killed in one day by the Fascist butchers. Two priests in a town in the province of Gerona left the country when they were asked to bring up 40 more men for the firing squad.

July 4th.

All men are created equal. That's what the Declaration of Independence of July 4, 1776 stated. But it was a fraud in the days when capitalism was first being established, just as today when it has outlived its usefulness and is in decay.

When the first constitutional government was organized in the U.S. only one out of thirty-three white males could vote. Negroes couldn't vote at all. Workers couldn't vote. Prisons were filled with people who couldn't pay their small debts, sometimes as small as six cents. Under Hamilton the bankers bought up worthless money - Continentals - for next to nothing, and sold them to the government at FULL value; but the poor farmers who borrowed worthless continentals had to pay back good American dollars and were bankrupted. The war was followed by one of the biggest

Once again the "Pope of Peace" exposes himself as the Pope of Capitalist Murder.

As we go to press 907 unfortunate German Jewish refugees are still on the high seas. Cuba has refused to admit them. The New Deal crocodile tears for the poor Jews failed to develop into a bit of humanitarian kindness. America did not even consider accepting these harrassed people. Aboard ship guards were posted to see that none of the refugees attempt to take their lives. Latest reports are that the refugees will receive temporary havens in Britain, France, and Belgium.

Stalinism has shut its door. Bourgeois Democracy refuses to give these refugees a place to live and posts guards above them to see that they do not die. Capitalist justice condemns them, evidently, to a state of suspended animation.

The Wall Street Journal points out that after 6 years of "New Dealism" there are still approximately the same number of unemployed. This mouthpiece of American capitalism estimates that a 50% increase in business would be necessary to absorb this ragged and hungry army, which capitalism has thrown on the human scrap heap because it can no longer exploit it for profit. Every year, according to the Journal, 600,000 young workers reach maturity and are ready to work, only to find that the heritage of youth is to stand in bread lines or the futile and hopeless task of tramping from place to place looking for job that doesn't exist.

Major Dyer, U. S. Army (retired) has come forward with a brand "new" plan to "solve" the relief problem in the country - or as Major Dyer says, to relieve the relief "burden."

The Major's plan is very simple. It proposes the "mercy (!) killing" of all old people over 70 who are without means of support. Naturally he doesn't include the rich, since the profits they have gouged from their victims makes them "self supporting." The Major himself is living off the bounty of a government pension of \$243.00 a month.

land steals in history in Ohio, with almost every important man in Washington's government involved - including Washington himself.

Workers who tried to organize unions at the turn of the century were brutally beaten and murdered. There were no schools for the poor. Negroes were being peddled like so much cotton. Even white slavery existed in many localities. And when the frontiersmen and poor farmers finally revolted in Virginia, Massachusetts, and Pennsylvania they were brutally massacred - all in the name of equality!

It took the workers a hundred and fifty years of bitter struggle to get even the democratic rights we have today.

July 4th 1939 reveals the same kind of "equality." Twenty-two million people on relief who receive an average of about \$1.50 a week per person, are just as free to starve under our laws as Louis B. Mayer, who received \$1,296,000 in salary last year!

One Of Three On WPA To Be Fired

FUNDS CUT 800 MILLIONS

While agreement between big business and the government was allegedly reached to reduce the surtax on big incomes and change the undistributed profits tax to a flat 18% rate, so that it falls more heavily on the smaller firms but gives the larger firms a large measure of "relief from taxes" - while this was going on the House of Representatives in Washington reported out a bill to give "relief" to the unemployed.

The new bill, which probably will be passed, calls for a further cut in WPA allotment of \$823,205,000 or about 35%. With industry practically at a standstill that means at least one million more families to be thrown on relief (if the relief offices don't close down) next year.

Other features of the bill call for cutting the sum asked for the National Youth Administration by more than 45 millions; the laying off of all WPA workers who have been employed 18 months; longer hours for skilled workers on WPA and a lowering of hourly wages for these workers; more investigation; and others.

The figure allotted is only 45 millions less than was asked for by Roosevelt. With no mass pressure worthy of the word against them, the heads of the nation un-animously felt safe in cutting one third of the WPA workers off the rolls.

In Minneapolis the trade unions took the initiative in organizing a demonstration of 5,000 against the relief cut. Revolutionists must try to emulate this demonstration in every city on a class struggle program.

RED AID

HELP THE VICTIMS OF FASCISM

A special campaign for Red Aid against Fascism, to run from June 1 to July 14, has been organized by the Revolutionary Workers League. Each new offensive of Hitler - every consolidation move of Franco - makes more desperate the need for Red Aid for the victims of Fascism.

We must not fail these distressed comrades. German, Austrian, Czechoslovakian revolutionists, struggling in deepest illegality... Wives and children of those who will not return from concentration camps... Dispossessed Jewish refugees... Spanish refugees herded like animals in filthy camps... Escaped revolutionists stranded in foreign countries, and those still in German areas - and in Spain - who must be helped to escape the nets of Fascist terror.

Send funds to:

ALDINE GUNN, TREASURER
1904 W. Division Street
Chicago, Ill.

AGAINST IMPERIALIST WAR, FOR CLASS WAR

AFL-CIO Factional Fights Aid Bosses

Shop Councils Must Fight For United Action

A new wave of strikes throughout the country is being seriously hampered by the factional disputes between the AFL and CIO leaderships. In Flint, Detroit, in the Maritime industry, rival unions are fighting each other more than the boss and placing jurisdictional demands above the economic demands of the workers.

The abortive strike of a handful of UAW-AFL (Martin) men in the General Motor plants in Flint, Michigan, ended up in street battles between the two auto worker unions in that city. Instead of uniting against the common enemy, General Motors, which has been wiping out literally dozens of gains made in the militant national GM strike of 1936-37 - instead of that the CIO men walked through the picket lines.

In the Detroit Briggs strike it was the AFL men who were willing to walk through the CIO picket lines. Because of the relative solidarity of the Briggs men in Local 212, under Emil Mazey, they won a number of concessions, concessions which would have been far greater if the strike had been spread to Chrysler's where 50,000 workers were locked out.

FORGET ECONOMIC NEEDS

Jurisdictional disputes, which played havoc with workers in the old AFL days, have multiplied a hundred fold. The major issue in many strikes is merely which section of the labor movement the bosses shall be obligated to deal with.

Meanwhile John L. Lewis, head of the CIO in a statement June 14, indicated that these strikes and disputes will become sharper. After an executive board meeting Lewis announced termination of "peace" negotiations with the AFL. He charged that the leadership was too reactionary and too consumed with personal financial

interests which would be jeopardized by unity.

Specifically he charged Matthew Woll with earning a large income from a life insurance company because of his AFL connections; Thomas Rickert with earning \$20,000 a year from advertisements in the "Federationist;" and others.

While there is little doubt that the charges are true, it is strange that Lewis reveals all these things now. Why didn't he expose these parasites when they acted as his own funkeys while he was the real top figure in the AFL. Secondly, many workers will remember the charges by Frank Farrington - himself no novice at crooked dealings - and others, against Lewis for accepting bribes from employers and investing money in non-union coal mines in the South.

STEWARDS COUNCILS

Both the AFL and CIO leaderships are more interested in their own pie-cards than in the rank and file, so that even though they agree substantially on policy they refuse to unite. Real trade union unity means a struggle against both these leaderships. It means primarily initiative by the plant committees, the Stewards councils and other democratically elected instruments of the workers in the lower rungs of the unions - instead of the top bureaucracy - to unite the forces of labor on concrete economic issues against the boss.

The key to labor unity - and this must be stressed over and over - lies not in peace negotiations between Lewis and Green, or jurisdictional fights, but in a struggle for real autonomy for the Stewards Councils in every plant and the organization of broader councils of workers in related plants no matter to what union they belong, to fight for better wages and living conditions.

CLARIDAD PROLETARIA

The latest issue of CLARIDAD PROLETARIA is just off the press. It contains a special article on Soviet Economy and an article exposing the centrist line of Trotsky. In addition there are other documents of interest.

If you have a Spanish speaking friend write in and get a copy. CLARIDAD PROLETARIA sells for ten cents.

POUM Left Wing

A Special document of the left wing of the POUM and an analysis by the RWL will be published in English and in Spanish very soon. Write now and ask us to mail you a copy when these are ready.

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