Jobless Force Cleveland Mayor to Restore Relief after 3 Week Crisis

Association of Unemployed Leads in Victory; Prepares For New Crisis in January

What is Behind the War in Finland?

The Red Army has invaded Finland and the world press — of all shades and colors — is outraged. Britain, which only 2 months ago shot down helpless peasants in Afghanistan who dared think of “independence,” and which has consistently refused to give India its independence, is, nevertheless “deeply concerned” over the “independence” of Finland. American Imperialism, its hands dry from the murderous assault by American marines against Nicaraguan peasants and workers, by the blood-baths of American puppets like Machado in Cuba, Trujillo in the Dominican Republic, Vargas in Brazil, etc., is “aghast” over the “brutal” invasion of Finland.

As Communists, we condemn out of hand Stalin’s latest military venture. But we condemn it not because they are attempting to extend Russian borders outward, but because BY THE USE OF FALSE TACTICS AND RUINOUS POLICIES THEY ARE THRASHING THE WORLD REVOLUTION.

Every war and “invasion” must be judged on its own merits. Wars may be bloody, but it is an unalterable fact that in the three epochs of “civilization”, wars — both civil and national — have been the main vehicles of progress (and of reaction, too). Who, for instance, would condemn the “invasion” during Robespierre’s time of Belgium — an invasion which freed backward Belgium from Feudalism?

This is not the first time the Red Army is “invading” Finland. It did so in 1918 in an attempt to save the Finnish revolution. Who will deny that the defeat of the Red Army and Red Guards in Finland in 1918 — primarily by German troops — is one of the tragedies of our epoch? A Workers State in Finland might have been the starting point for revolutions in the west, might have paved the way for a world in 1939 totally free from the bloody wars of our day.

A BASE OF COUNTER-REVOLUTION

The unanimity of world imperialism — and their social-democratic and other lackeys — in condemning the Red Army today, shows that there is more to the Russia-Finnish war than appears on the surface. The truth is
Trade Unions and the Decay of Capitalism

(Continued from last issue.)

When capitalism was expanding, the exploiters could afford to repress or root out labor as a means of creating a labor aristocracy to use against the great majority. But with capitalism in decay, the economic basis for even such truculence is disappearing. The "high" wages of American labor has been used to conceal the fact that the American worker was among the most highly exploited in the world. It is not generally understood that the degree of exploitation is determined by the relation of the wages to the commodities produced; not by the price of wages, but by the value of wages.

But in the decay of capitalism, the development of bourgeois democracy has caught up with us. Not only does the process of relative decline in the number of workers in relation to the means of production continue as in the past; but it has now transformed to an absolute decline in the number of workers while production continues to soar. That is one of the surface sires of intervention in the political life of the American people, the permanent army of millions of unemployed. The factory worker has come home to roost. The U. S. with its "high" wage (highest depression of capitalism), becomes the country with the greatest number of unemployed. The richest nation, the country with the best industrial system becomes the nation with the greatest unemployed, and still remains the country with the greatest number of union-organized workers.

With this economic decline there proceeds a decline in its political counterpart, the development of bourgeois democracy. When bourgeois democracy was the flower of capitalist development reforms could be granted. When the factory workers are driven out of the drying up market because of the profits, the reforms are fought out bitterly. Only by the in-creased class pressure can any material gain be obtained for it today.

In the past the accumulation of capital extended over years, reforms gained could be guarded over a number of years before bitter class opposition would snatch them away, and often one material gain would later be supplemented by even more material gains. But today, in decline, a material gain in one season can be wiped out before the next season, and the position of the working class placed in a much more difficult position.

One who does not understand the difference between money wages and REAL WAGES has no place in the trade union. The workers can be wiped out in a commodity rise, inflation, etc., in less than a week. What may look like a victory, a raise in money wages, may simply be a rise in the cost of living—WAGES. So too, what may look like a gain of the class, a reform instead of a class gain, may be a set-back for the class as a whole.

BOURGEOIS DEMOCRACY AND REFORMS

The narrowing economic base of reforms, and the inability to grant important material gains in relation to the productive forces, the capitalistic exploitation of the working class, all add to the decay of bourgeois democracy, although bourgeois democracy itself is the flower of capitalism. The workers' gains are in the hands of the workers, and the controlling forces have been in the hands of the workers' organizations. New developments here are on the way. This a-two-fold effect. It not only stems the tide of revolt but it also directs the class energy into false parliaments and the pursuit of direct material gains.

The agents of the capitalists in the workers' ranks will advocate the political "independence" of the union movement. They will then proceed to work for one of the two CAPITOL PARTY parties, or the third, Labor party of democracy. We don't think the workers in the unions should be compelled to vote for any particular party or candidate. They should have their independent-ness. But the officials of the unions, if they represent the workers' Interest will advocate NO SUPPORT TO ANY CANDIDATE of either the Democratic, Republican, Labor Party, etc. Vote only for a working class party. We of course will advocate a vote for the revolutionary Marxian party and candidates, who will promise nothing under capitalism, but a chance to further expose the capitalists, and point out the plots against the workers they are hatching.

Above all we demand in the union the right of political expression for all working class groups, organizations and individuals. That is our main demand.
What is Behind War in Finland?

(Continued from page 1)

The myth that Finland is “independent” — or that any small nation in the present imperialist epoch CAN BE independent factories, railroads, mines, factories, and even the government — is a complete fallacy. Finland is attested to by the cold-blooded massacre of 20,000 Finnish workers after the victory of the Finnish bourgeoisie and by the same General who heads the army today.

Finland is not just “little Finland”. On Finnish soil was and is being prepared — with the full knowledge and support of British, French, and American imperialists — the counter-revolution against the Workers State. The struggle of the Soviet Union against Finland is a struggle against American, British, and French imperialists, which is supported by American, British, and Canadian imperialism and the counter-revolution to the hilt.

DOES NOT AID SOVIET DEFENSE

The “Finland” in the title about the present “invasion” of Finland is not the “invasion” itself, but the fact that this type of attack by the Soviet Union, under Stalin’s leadership, will seal, destroy Finland as a workers state. Stalin does not subscribe to the role of the imperialists nor help their defense of the Soviet Union.

A workers state, Finland, without the Stalinist, fascist methods of the present danger of Hitler and Chamberlain uniting and using Finland as a base for an attack against the Soviet Union, would have exposed the machinations of the Finnish AND GERMAN and other bourgeois forces, and would have prepared the social-revolution in Finland. But Stalinism, because it fears the social-revolution — more than anything else on earth — and because it recognizes the pressing danger of a combined world attack against the Soviet Union, can resort only to stupid and costly illimitary measures to bureaucratically conquer Finland. It can not and does not rely on the initiative of the working masses, either to take power or to develop the revolution after power is seized.

DEMORALIZES WORKING CLASS

The result is that neither the Finnish nor the world working class can understand or sympathize with the present invasion. Whatever gains from a military point of view these elements may make, they are made at the expense of their living conditions. The present moves by Stalin in both hundred times more in the demoralization and confusion it fosters in the world working class; it will thus deal a blow to the defense of the Soviet Union a thousand times more severe than any possible gains it can make by its military venture.

The desperate moves by Stalinism, despite the big national colonial war, reflect two dangers: 1 — Soviet foreign policy is now being dictated by Hitler. The invasion of Finland gives Hitler an excuse in the region of a front to cut a slice of industrial Sweden, and of central Europe. What’s more, Germany is using the invasion as a two-edged sword to try to achieve its “peace” with Finland the same as a front or a attack against the Soviet Union. The American Imperialism is pushing for this variant. And if Hitler can not achieve a “peace” with Finland, he will at least have involved Russia in the war on his side and Russia is the strongest subordinating element and domestic power, then the war is in the making.

And 2 — The capitalist elements within Russia are constantly gaining strength in their straight drive towards open counter-revolution.

The incorporation of Latvia, Estonia, and Lithuania into the Russian sphere of influence, without the destruction of capitalist property relations, greatly strengthened these elements. The present moves by Stalin in both Poland and Finland undoubtedly are attributable in part to the pressure of the far-sighted capitalist elements in Russia who are looking forward in the near future to the days of a new imperialist Russia. It is quite evident that the present situation in the Soviet Union is closer today than ever before.

THE SOVIET UNION IS IN THE MOST PRECARIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES. S.I.C. 1921 The Finnish invasion shows more clearly than anything else.

AGAINST IMPERIALISM AND ITS STALIN AGENTS

But precisely the weakness of the Soviet Union demands of revolutionists the greatest vigilance and resolve for defense. The attack on Finland today by the present methods, strength, others, rather than helps, the defense of the Soviet Union. But even though Russia fired the first guns, it is the imperialism who are the aggressors.

The Red Army cannot turn back. Otherwise, the imperialists and counter-revolution will be victorious. But the Red Army must fight to the death the present policies of Stalinism.

The Red Army must fight as an occasion to deepen the Finnish invasion and overthrow the imperialists of World Imperialism. It is a fight on two fronts — against world imperialism and its domestic elements. The small Finnish capitalists and Stalinist on one hand; and against Stalinism, which can not defend the Soviet Union, on the other hand.

FOR A POLITICAL REVOLUTION AGAINST STALINISM AND FOR THE COUNTER-REVOLUTION. Its elements in the SOVIET UNION!

FOR THE DEFEAT OF THE FINNISH BOURGEOISIE AND FOR THE SOCIAL REVOLUTION IN FINLAND!

EXPOSE THE REACTIONARY ROLE OF ROOSE—VELT’S FINNISH POLICY!
REMEmBER!

LENIN

LIEBKNECHT

LUXEMBURG

On January 6, 1919, two hundred thousand armed workers massed in the streets of Berlin and demanded that the capitalists be expropriated, that power should pass to the working class, that security and bread be assured the toiling masses. At the head of these workers stood Karl Liebknecht, dynamic leader of the Spartakusbund, and Rosa Luxemburg, brilliant theorist of the Communist movement.

For eight or nine days the workers held on to the newspaper offices and police stations they had captured. Finally, however, the "Socialist" minister Noske rallied enough counter-revolutionists to put down the revolt and slaughter thousands of workers.

And a few days later, on January 19, the same Noske and Schiedeman deliberately murdered Liebknecht and Luxemburg while they were on their way to prison.

Five years later in the same month of January, Vladimir Lenin, heroic leader and guiding genius of the victorious Russian Revolution, died as the result of a long illness.

With the death of these three great revolutionaries the labor movement entered a new epoch. Social-democracy revived. Under the leadership of Stalin the Communist party degenerated after many years into an open counter-revolutionary force. The world proletariat suffered one defeat after another. Germany, Italy, Bulgaria, China, England, Spain, etc. World Imperialism, after the lapse of only one generation, is again plunged into a new bloody bath.

But the revolutionary movement is far from defeated. It can take courage in the achievements of Lenin, Liebknecht and Luxemburg. It recalls the gigantic odds against which liebknecht fought when he stood up one man amongst millions to denounce the war. It recalls the terrible isolation of Lenin during the war period. The madness of the Spartakusbund, the political struggles at Zimmerwald against the Kautsky terrorists. It recalls these things and can go on undaunted in the struggle for proletarian revolution.

DEFEND THE SOVIET UNION

EXTEND THE OCTOBER REVOLUTION

FIGHT THE ROOSEVELT WAR PLANS

Down with the Rytti-Mannerheim Agents of World Imperialism

For a joint struggle of Finnish and Russian workers for a Workers State in Finland, and Political Revolution in U.S.S.R.

Down with the Stalinist Sellout to German Imperialism

Turn the Imperialist War Into A Civil War

FIGHT FOR WORKERS RIGHTS, FOR FREE SPEECH, THE RIGHT TO ORGANIZE AND PICKET, FOR HIGHER WAGES!

Refuse to shoot your fellow worker on the other side of the trenches!

Unite with workers everywhere for the defeat of all capitalist armies and the capitalist system itself!

Peace is possible only through the revolutionary overthrow of capitalism!

For a new communist (4th) international

JOIN THE R.W.L.