Showdown In Asia Near For U.S.-Japan

AMERICA UNRELENTING IN DRIVE FOR ASIA RICHES

The new crisis in the Far East brings nearer the day of full American participation in the second imperialist world war. The Pacific situation cannot be met by American finance capital in the same way that the European and African conflict are: by serving as supply agency for Britain. The simple fact is that Britain is in no position, either from a military and naval, or from an economic standpoint, to wage effective war in the Pacific. Moreover, revolt in India aims like an arrow at the heart of the Empire, and direct involvement in the war will accelerate the revolutionization of India's masses a thousandfold.

What are the factors militating for and against speedy war in Eastern Asia? 1) Japan's golden opportunity to extend her control over the priceless Dutch E. Indies, the Malay peninsula, Burma and India — which would also have the advantage of cutting the China life-line. 2) England's weak position and Germany's growing need for a full-force blow at the Empire. 3) America's chance once and for all to establish her own hegemony in the Pacific and ultimately over all of Asia. These are the basic roots of the war threat. Needless to state, there are dozens of other conditions related to, or growing out of these basic imperialist rivalries, also creating the basis for a conflict. But the conjunction of these three factors is what makes the war un-avoidable.

OPPOSITION TO WAR NOW

On the opposite side, chief factor in delaying this phase of the war is Britain's vacillation. Either she must make undreamed of concessions to Japan or she must face the fact that her possessions fall to Uncle Sam. American imperialism shows no disposition to pull British chestnuts out of the fire unless she pulls them out in her own interest. One of the chief bones of contention between Britain and the U. S. has been the Singapore naval and air base. America wants this key in her own hands, and Britain is slowly being forced into a position where she must relinquish it.

A minor source of opposition to this war arises from those American capitalist groups whose interests paralleled those of the Japanese Mitsui and Mitsubishi houses. — It must be born in mind that well over half of America's export trade with southern and eastern Asia (including the Philippin-
es) is with Japan. On the other hand America exports far more from the tiny colony of British Malaya than from its own. And Japanese gold keeps flowing in an endless stream into Uncle Sam's coffers. Over six million dollars in Japanese gold entered the United States in January of this year.

But it is inconceivable that American capitalism will allow its golden opportunity to pass for the sake of these small profits. Eastern and southern Asia constitute one of the world's greatest store houses of raw materials for modern industry: an untold wealth of ore and oil reserves, agricultural products, seaports, etc.

Under these circumstances America moves full speed ahead to control of the Orient.

WAR DRIVE IS ON

The radio, papers, magazines and movies let loose an unending

Coal Strike Looms

In the midst of a swelling tide of strikes in the war industries, one of the most important events in the labor movement in recent years will take place with the convening of the national conference between the United Mine Workers of America and the soft coal operators in New York on March 11. All the members of the national government are fearful of the consequences of a national coal strike, especially in this period of furious war production. The demands of the miners are not yet clear.

But the needs of the workers are for: 1—a 25 or 30 hour week with no reduction in pay. This would take care of the hundred of thousands of unemployed miners who have been thrown out of the industry

Latest Stalin Deal with Hitler Encircles Soviets Further

The latest German "bloodless" victories in practically taking over the whole Balkans indicate that there is another deal, or at least the consummation of an old "deal." between the German imperialists and Stalinism. It is unthinkable that Germany could force Bulgaria and Yugoslavia to the Axis without the passive or active aid of the Soviets. And it is equally unthinkable that Stalinism made this move without getting something substantial in return.

What did Stalinism get? Obviously it could be only one of several things: a—Concessions in Afghanistan and to push into India or to increase its influence in Persia. b—A free hand to take over the rest of Finland.
In the paper of a small organization whose members are now busy attacking the old boys for the Socialist-International leaders of the Workers Defense League, a number of lies and fabrications are again repeated against the Revolutionary Workers League and the Richmond Wallace defense committee which has received our support.

We regret that we have to again utilize space to answer this group of professional slanders. Slender number one states that the Workers Defense League is now a sole organization which has jurisdiction in the Wallace case. This is a figment of the. noen's mind and all who were saved through the efforts of the R.W.L. months before the WDL entered the case. The facts are as follows:

- NO organization has power of attorney in the Wallace case. According to Thos. H. Stone, originally employed by the R.W.L. to represent Wallace at his trial last year, still has that power of attorney.
- All lawyers who participate, participate with his permission.
- The first organization to form the Wallace Defense Committee — the first organization to defend Wallace — is the Revolutionary Workers League, but other local and even national groups now exist that are fighting this case (are in the process of formation).

ASKED FOR UNIFIED FRONT

Slender number two speaks of the fact that the R.W.L. refused to permit the WDL to handle the case because we wanted to set up a dual defense organization. This is an outright and conscious lie. R.W.L. originally proposed to the WDL that they form a Workers Defense Committee in which all political and labor organizations could be represented; that the R.W.L. would take its place in such a committee with minority voice commensurate with its size. This offer was rejected by the WDL. They insisted that we withdraw completely from the case and that no political organizations be involved. Under the circumstances we were to defend Wallace ALONE for a period of three or more crucial months in the case.

WORK GOING ON

The R.W.L. and the Richmond and Georgia committees are still working on the line. As the date for Wallace's execution — pending a reprieve, which will probably be issued — draws near on March 15, the Richmond Committee has again asked the Workers Defense League to help organize a coordinating committee to coordinate the work of AFL groups now busily defending Wallace. The WDL has not yet committed itself definitely on this point.

Meanwhile, activity in a number of cities has netted small gains in publicity and finances for the freedom of Wallace. Affairs in Chicago, Washington, Philadelphia, New York and elsewhere have brought in funds for the case. In Chicago, despite the attempts of the local leadership of the paper Workers Defense League to exclude the Chicago Wallace Defense Committee, a united front protest meeting with various trade unions has been organized for March 12th.

One of the arguments used to win the American workers to support the war is that the British Labor Party is supporting it. And to workers who recognize the need for workers' rule, liberals and Social Democrats point to the "socialistic" speeches of Ernest Bevin and other Labor Party spokesmen in the British Government.

What are the facts?

While Bevin, Morrison, Citrine & Co. talk of instituting "socialism" — Prime Minister Winston Churchill calls on the German and Italian people to overthrow Hitler and Mussolini — the British Labor Party is busy fighting the Nazi Fascist regimes and of course are drawing funds on the capitalist system which breeds fascism. Bevin is the key factor cancelling all workers rights, increasing hours, etc., within Britain. The British Government treats political refugees from Germany, Austria, Italy, etc. in the manner of any reactionary capitalist government, like enemies. They are put in concentration camps.

The British capitalist profits rise, labor's living standards fall, the colonial millions suffer increasing oppression. The British Indian leaders are all in jail.

Bill Green, to whom the very idea of Socialism is "un-American", parades Sir Walter Citrine of the British Labor Party, at the New Orleans convention of the AFL.

CAPITALISTS HAVE NO CRITICISM

Wendell Willkie, open agent of J. P. Morgan & Co., after a brief times-Dispatch on Feb. 16th, written by a leading southern New Deal liberal, Virginia Dabney, on the Wallace Case. Among many misstatements the editorial says, "When Wallace got the Chair at Chatham, he was represented by something called the American Revolutionary Workers Defense League of Chicago. That alone was almost enough to ruin his chances for getting an objective hearing. This group of ultra-radical political agitators is no longer handling the Wallace Defense, and the current approach is much more conservative." They inform their readers that Atty. Finney is handling the case for the Workers Defense League.

First, there is no such organization as the American Revolutionary Workers Defense League of Chicago. They are possibly referring to the Workers Defense League of the United States, that did not handle the case, but was founded of the case and the most active participant in the Richmond Wallace Defense Committee which did handle the case. Second, the statement that the Workers Defense and Finney are now handling the case. It is also false. Attorney Stone is the counsel in charge with Finney as an associate along with several other Negro Attorneys. The Richmond Wallace Defense Committee remains as active as ever and is leading the class struggle defense of Wallace today as it did at the first trial.

WDL "MORE CONSERVATIVE"

Third, the editorial says the "ultra-radical professional agitators" (read class collaborationists) policy is in charge of the case. At least the New Deal liberals recognize the case and the most active support of the Socialists, Cannontles, Shachmanitzes, Stalinsites and the leaders of the NAACP — their friends and class collaborators.

Fourth, and probably most important, this editorial written with one very friendly with Paul Murray, WDL representative who has had many conversations with the author, is very "suiting to Walter and insinuates that he was not only "suiting" that he shot his landlord in the back in a cowardly fashion.

The "liberals" on whom the WDL and others lean so heavily are — as this editorial shows — ready to knife Walter in the back, to "suult" for a life-imprisonment term or something similar. For the genuine revolutionists and the Richmond Wallace Defense Committee, Walter is not guilty on any count and they will consider nothing but complete and unconditional acquittal.

New Deal Southern Liberal Hopes to White-wash Va. Court in Wallace Case

RICHMOND, Feb. 15 — An Editorial appeared in the Richmond Times-Dispatch on Feb. 16th, written by a leading southern New Deal liberal, Virginia Dabney, on the Wallace Case. Among many misstatements the editorial says, "When Wallace got the Chair at Chatham, he was represented by something called the American Revolutionary Workers Defense League of Chicago. That alone was almost enough to ruin his chances for getting an objective hearing. This group of ultra-radical professional agitators is no longer handling the Wallace Defense, and the current approach is much more conservative." They inform their readers that Atty. Finney is handling the case for the Workers Defense League.

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Odell Walter Shall Not Burn! — Burn Out Race Persecution!

FIGHTING WORKER
The Lovestone Group, which lately called itself the Independent Labor Party, has formally liquidated. It started out in 1928 as the right wing communist group, in blue with Stalinism, the centre, against the Marxist left opposition. It ended up by moving through centrist to open reformism in policy until its difference a few months ago adopted the policy of Lovestones' support to American and British Imperialism against "Fascism". The Lovestone group formally dissolved to enable their forces to work within the "democratic" imperialist camp, as their London Buro brothers are doing in England and other parts of the world.

The Stalinites call Lovestone a counter-revolutionist and try to white-wash themselves. But their policy, since the days of the expulsion of the Left Opposition from the Comintern has been of the same brand. First the Stalinists supported the democratic front "bourgeois-democratic" imperialists against the Fascist imperialists and with the Hitler-Stalin Pact are now standing in the same wide gang of imperialist war. The only difference between Lovestone and Browder is that while Browder stopped at one time or the other both camps of the imperialists. Lovestone "only" supported the "democratic" camp of the imperialists. It is heads and tails of the same coin.

WHY THE NRA WAS PASSED

William Knudsen, director of the Office of Production Management of the government and former General Motors President, gives the working class an excellent lesson in why "pro-labor" laws are passed in his testimony on Feb. 19 before the House Judiciary Committee.

When a Congressman remarked that "The CIO strikes", Knudsen pointed out, "When you put the running your plants today by virtue of the sitdown National Labor Relations Act on the books you settled our question (of sitdown strikes)". The NRA, according to Knudsen "started another era of industry in America".

In other words the Labor Relations Board and its election system which the reformists and centrist calls a blessing to labor, was therefore a small sop by the capitalist government given while taking the most effective strike weapon used in American labor struggles.

The phoney election system and all its month and year delays was introduced by the capitalists so that

FIGHTING WORKER

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their rubber moves and thus demoralizes sincere workers opposed to the war. The various ultra-lefts and liberals go green from these events. They point to them as "confirmation" that the Soviet Union is "red imperialism" on the march. Our good friends, however, again as in the past, forget history. An isolated revolution in a revolution, must either march forward or retrogress. The failure of Russian revolution to spread to other nations has caused the successive deterioration of the property relations and social relations within Russia. The form of the state has even taken on a violently oppressive character. But this is nothing new in history. Anyone who has studied the French Revolution of 1789 has noted similar things which took place at that time.

The bourgeois revolution, which set out to abolish slavery, for a period relegalized it and enforced a property relations on the farmer of France of that period. The revolution which was to free the serfs from the landed bondage, bestowed the seizure of the land by the serfs. And so on and so forth. That was not an accurate conception, pure and of the whole cloth. It is a process.

The October 1917 revolution expropriated the capitalists and took the first DECISIVE step to ward eliminating exploitation of man by man. After 21 years, however, was the famous born with a revolution under Stalinism has gone backward. And precisely because of the non-Marxist policy of Stalinism, and the Soviet weak position — its isolation, its weak economy, etc. — the Soviet Union is placed in a position where Stalinism, in order to keep in power, must use repressive and brutal measures and must play purely capitalist (and subversive) policies.

But the basic feature of the revolution still remain. Despite the new deal with Germany, here for the first time is a state which has made the first great step toward liberation from the chains of the capitalist market — now world-wide in scope. Here is a state with a basic factor, not the Marxists and workers, but the Marxists, who stand, richly defended with their best drop of blood, THE DEED WITH HITLERISM.

DEFEND THE SOVIET UNION DESPITE AND AGAINST STALINISM.

2-18 — 1941
THE PROFESSOR CAN'T READ

One of the most amusing bits of joke writing in the financial pages of the Chicago Herald-American of February 7th. Column number three has a column by "Dr. Lewis Haney, professor of Economics at New York University". Its headline line: "Labor cannot expect to share in profits where there are none".

Column 7 and 8 carries the story of "Two Firms' profits rise 20% in 1940". Evidently the good professor doesn't read his own paper.

War In Asia

(Continued from page 1)

torrent of vicious chauvinistic propaganda against Japan. Hitler's "undemocratic" theory of Aryan racial supremacy covered by Hull's "democratic" theory of a "yellow peril". Naval officers testify before Congress for the fortification of Guam. It will be recalled that this proposal of Roose- velt's was twice defeated in the past. There is every reason to expect that it will carry this time.

The British and Dutch colonies are being moved into America's sphere by steps. Australian and Netherlands East Indian ministers confer with Roosevelt on a joint program against Japan. In the Philippines enormous re-enforcements to the army are being made under the draft law.

Meanwhile America prepares for war by first carefully weighing "peace". Economic sanctions against Japan become more stringent. It is practically impossible for Japan to receive oil or gasolines from the United States. Coal mining, steel scrap exports, on machine tool exports, and others now in effect or pending. It begins with the direct sale of arms to Japan. But knives and tools that America is making giant strides forward in the Orient.

Thus a new sector of the world is being swept into the cauldron of imperialist war. The second International stands idly by and the Third International contends itself with licking Stalin's boots. M. E. A. W. L. E. thousands of millions of workers thorough the world seek for the way out. Only the New (4th) Communist International can fulfill this mission. The overthrow of the colonial and semicolonial regimes and the liberation of the colonial peoples, combined with a proletarian revolution in the west can end this ever-spreading slaughter.

The Main Enemy Is At Home

Coal Miners Hold
Key to Strike Wave

Main Danger, Is Lewis Leadership
Which Gave Up 26 Demands in 1939

(Continued from page 1)

in recent years as a result of the new leading machine devices and other technical improvements.

2.—A minimum yearly wage in order to offset the effect of lay-offs and the stagger system.

3.—Demand for more safety devices in the mines to stop accidents.

Coal mining is one of the three or four most hazardous jobs in the country. Last year, there were 1420 accidents in the mines, 342 more than the year before. In the state of West Virginia, for instance, of 500 mines all but 10% meet the minimum requirements of the state department of mines.

HAZARDOUS OCCUPATION

Furthermore not only are the mines unsafe but the miners homes in most mine towns are equally death-traps. In W. Pittston region, for instance 1 full block of homes and buildings caved in as a result of the careless method used by the Sullivan Trail Coal Company.

Unfortunately, however, the leadership of the miners still remain in the hands of America's outstanding labor bureaucrat, John L. Lewis. The miners still remember that in 1939 Lewis gave up 26 of the miners demands for better pay, better working conditions, etc. in return for a promise by the mine owners of a "union" shop, which would help Lewis continue collecting his dues while excluding the rival I.W.W. organization, the Progressive Miners of America.

NO FAITH IN LEWIS

The mine workers have been saddled with Lewis' bureaucratic set-up for 20 years. In that period he has broken many a strike and thrown out thousands of militants. He has divided the ranks of the miners by signing contracts with the soft coal operators that end a month or so before the contract with the hard coal men. The struggle against the mine owners will never be won so long as the miners keep Lewis at the helm. They must organize now into progressive groups to wean the membership away from this gangster-ridden bureaucracy and to re-establish a democratic union on a militant policy. The struggle against the bosses includes the struggle against the capitalist agents in labor's ranks.

The evolutionary worker can't read.

FIGHTING WORKER

JUST OUT
March issue

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

theoretical organ of the

International

Contact Commission

Uncensored Report from Germany, Soviet and the rest of Europe. Anglo-Axis-America

an Antagonism.

FOR WORKING CLASS UN-
ITY; AGAINST NATIONAL UN-
ITY!

FIGHT AGAINST THE MILIT-
ARIST MOVES OF AMERICAN

IMPERIALISM!

Negro Opposition to War Growing

Recently, from several widely located sections of the country, the Negro workers and youth have answered the war drive of the administration with unprecedented militancy. These answers, though not directly opposed to the war were all motivated by the glaring discrepancy between the alleged democratic war aims of the ruling class and the policy of discriminating and segregating Negroes in the armed forces and in industries engaged in the production of war materials.

A. Philip Randolph, the President of the sleeping car porters union has proposed a march of 10,000 Negroes on Washington as a means of protest against Jim Crowism in the army, navy and industry. In Chicago, on Feb. 9th, three hundred Negroes and a sprinkling of whites marched carrying slogans denouncing Jim Crowism. And of still greater importance there has been a movement in Chicago a group of conscientious objects that have-vowed not to serve in the army, if drafted, as long as Jim Crowism exists.

RESENTMENT CAN BE DEVELOPED

All these movements are symptoms of a deep feeling of resentment among the Negro people against the bosses of this "demo-
cratic country" that can be crys-
tallized into a genuine movement against the imperialist war. But as soon as today, demanding the right to die equally for Wall St., they find themselves in the paradoxical position of giving creation to a slaveholders war.

These movements have, how-
ever accomplished one positive gain:exploding before the Negro people the myth of the democracies vs. dictators. This accomplishment can only be fully realized if the true nature of the war, its imperialist character, is pointed out.

In Chicago the petty bourgeoisie "leadership" skillfully blocked every attempt on the part of workers to raise anti-war slogans. This was done on the pretext that the war question would split the community. The leadership further demonstrates its weakness of character by sabotaging a parade in the loop because the mayor had refused to give a permit, after the membership had voted to march with permit or no permit.

Capitalism can no more give the Negro economic, political and so-
cial justice than Southern slave society could liberate him from chattel slavery. Neither can giving support to any of the terrible war conducted by the six robber barons of the world, achieve for the Negro his liberation. The sal-
vation of the Negro lies along another road—that of intransigent opposition to all capitalist wars and fighting toward socialism.

Vital Pamphlets

The Workers Answer to Boss War

Trade Unionism Today

Workers Rights or Democracy

U. S. S. A. S. T. S. W. in the War

Stalin-Hitler Pact

American Imperialism—the Main Driving Force for War

Negro Slavery—Then and Now

Where Shall the Jewish Masses Turn?
The Social Security Measures

Shall Workers Support a Labor Party?

Why Communism?

Capitalist Decay and Unemployment

The Worker in the 1940 Elections

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