

THE FIGHTING WORKER

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For Class War Against Boss War

Hail the 24th Anniversary of the Russian Revolution

The 24th anniversary of the Russian Revolution finds the world enveloped in the flames of a new world war. The Russian Revolution, which came out of the pain and agony of the last war, offers invaluable lessons for us who are thrown into the present war.

All thru the last war the social patriots and the labor fakers in the Second International and the trade unions in the various countries promised peace after the defeat of the Kaiser, the Czar, British imperialism, etc. But after three years of the most brutal bloodshed, peace was nowhere in sight, while hunger, misery and death were the daily life of the mass of people.

WAR BROUGHT REVOLT

The Russian workers and farmers, suffering the most horrible privations, revolted against the sea of words and promises. Under the leadership of the Bolshevik Party they broke the chains of tradition and fear, and SMASHED the state power of the war-continuing capitalist class. They set up a Workers Council Gov't based upon workers control of production for use and not for profit.

The new government concluded a separate peace with Germany. Immediately there followed a series of revolts in every country in Europe — French sailors mutinied, German workers revolted and set up workers councils, the Hungarian workers revolted, the Italian workers took over the factories...

The world capitalist class, terrified by this threat to their very existence, hastily settled their differences. They turned their whole attention to crushing the rising might of the European work-

ing class. They succeeded in crushing every revolt but the Russian.

REVOLUTION STOPPED THE WAR

But the imperialist war was over. Neither the promises of the patriots nor the empty words of the labor fakers but the revolutionary struggles of the European working class ended the war.

Why was the Russian Revolution successful while all the oth-

Western Front

The desperate situation of the Soviet Union (and the Stalinist bureaucracy) finds the Stalinist movement in every country resorting to the most fearful and criminal actions.

The Stalinists are taking the lead with a vociferous clamor for Britain to open a western front against Germany. By their Jesuit arguments the Stalinists have deceived many militant workers, who are anxious to do all possible to aid the Soviet Union, into supporting this call.

BRITAIN WARS FOR SPOILS

The call for a Western Front is a call to support British imperialism and its war. Britain is not fighting for the extermination of Hitlerism or for preservation of democracy — and certainly not the defense of the Soviet Union. Britain's war is the war of one imperialist power against another.

It is a war for spoils, a war that promises, if Britain wins, no liberation for the enslaved masses of India, China, Europe, or anywhere in the world. This war pro-

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ers failed? **The answer is the Bolshevik party.** They carried out a bitter and never relaxing fight against the patriots, labor fakers and liberals — all those who advocated compromising with the capitalist state.

They organized the working class on a program of struggle against the imperialist war. They taught that only the smashing of capitalist state and capitalist economy, the cause of wars and mass starvation, and the setting up to a workers council gov't could guarantee peace and plenty.

The Bolshevik party was the most important weapon in the hands of the Russian workers. **Without a revolutionary Marxian party the successful transfer of state power from the bosses to the working class is an impossibility.**

THE SECOND WORLD WAR

The invasion of the Soviet Union opened up the phase of revolutions of the second world imperialist war. Already the mass starvation, murder and pillage of the raging battlefields of Europe, Africa and Asia are creating the conditions for the dozens of revolutions that will follow the war, that will, in fact, begin DURING the war. The revolutions will come by the bucketful — the war is far too destructive to evade them.

To look for leadership to the second (socialist) international or the third (Stalinist) international is hopeless folly.

The second international repeats its social patriotic betrayals of the last war — support of the capitalist gov't in its war aims. It long ago stopped serving the interests of the working class.

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Trotskyites Seek A New Haven

Dan Tobin "has come a long way since the 1934 San Francisco Convention... Tobin's call to arms (AFL-CIO Unity) is an attack primarily on the reactionary clique that runs the AFL Executive Council. Tobin envisages a united labor organization stronger and more aggressive than the federation of the past. Tobin remains an ardent New Dealer, but he is above all, the president of an important labor union and that is why(!) his unity aims are so different from those of Roosevelt."

Who spoke so enthusiastically about this reactionary labor henchman of Roosevelt's war program? — The Socialist Workers Party (Cannon group of Trotskyites), in the February 17, 1940 issue of their publication.

At that time the **Fighting Worker** stated: "Tobin is a labor lieutenant of capitalism in the ranks of the working class. His 'unity' maneuver is one of uniting the fakers against the rank and file. Such 'unity' would be trump card for the bosses in harnessing the workers to the imperialist war machine." (April 15, 1940).

Since the Minneapolis prosecution the Trotskyites have presumably awakened to Tobin's role.

SUPPORT LEWIS

But knifed by Tobin, they now have swung to John L. Lewis. Their idea of revolutionary activity is to be a left tail to one or another reformist force.

Speaking of the coming CIO national convention, the September 20th issue of the **Militant** writes: "Militant workers, without conceding a single one of Lewis' false ideas on the war, will have no choice in the struggle over these questions but to side with the Lewis forces against the Hillmanite-Stalinite united front..."

LEWIS WAR STAND SECONDARY

The Trotskyites see only two choices: Hillman-Stalinite, or Lewis. Militant workers will take a third road: for independent working class action, for rank and file

control and class struggle policies in the trade unions.

According to the Trotskyites, although Lewis has an isolationist position on war, his other positions make it necessary to support him (shades of Tobin, "ardent New Dealer"). This is "practical politics". Of course, in their manifestos the Trotskyites will vehemently point out that the key question facing the working class today is the war question and that a false position on this will poison every other position.

But look at the "correct" position they attribute to Lewis.

"The Hillman-Stalinites stand for support of and collaboration with the government in its efforts to hogtie the unions while the Lewis forces seek the independence of the CIO..." The Hillman-

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Stalinite forces glorify the National Defense Mediation Board... which the Lewis forces attack and condemn..." The Stalinite Hillmanite united front at the convention will be "not only against Lewis' position on the war, but also against those progressive union policies with which his group has been associated up to now..." (Militant, Sept. 20).

What a mockery! Lewis opposes the Mediation Board, Conciliation Boards, etc., only because he wants representation on them, not because he opposes hog-tieing labor, or opposes strike-breaking.

"PROGRESSIVE POLICIES"

The members of Lewis' miners union will be glad to hear about his "progressive union policies". For years every left wing tendency in the labor movement has condemned the sell-out agreements, the check-off, the bureaucratic control, gangsterism and class collaborationist policies that Lewis has put over on the miners.

Over 20 thousand miners went on STRIKE a few weeks ago against these very policies that the Trotskyites call progressive. The Trotskyites make a fetish of in-

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NATIONAL UNITY

The real meaning of "national unity" is seen in the line-up in the Minneapolis "seditious conspiracy" case against Local 544 CIO and the Trotskyites.

Sponsor of the Act under which indictment was drawn — Congressman Howard Smith, anti-New-Deal Democrat from bourbon, poll-tax Virginia.

Pushing the case, to defend AFL bureaucrats and gangsters against rank-and-file opposition — Dan Tobin, chief of the Teamsters International, leading member of the war-now-if-not-sooner outfit, "Fight for Freedom, Inc." (!), New Deal member of the National Committee of the Democratic Party.

Organizing the prosecution — Attorney General Biddle, liberal

—against anti-labor "witch hunts" in words, and for them in action — leading New Deal Democrat.

Trying to destroy Local 544 — CIO by having the Minnesota State Labor Conciliator deny their right to an election — Governor Harold Stassen, anti-New Deal Republican, possible aspirant for Presidential nomination in 1944.

Whitewashing the trial — the Stalinist "Communist" Party, who in their jump on FDR's war bandwagon are willing to sacrifice workers' democratic rights.

Leading the big push — Franklin D. Roosevelt, who is for the 4 freedoms everywhere except at home, and who opposes the Nazis abroad and unites with the worst reactionaries in the U.S.A.

for a western front of revolution

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 mises nothing but mass murder for the working class and profits for the parasitic capitalist class—profits that today can be "earned" in no other way than by war.

REVOLUTIONARY WAR OF DEFENSE

The war of the Soviet Union on the other hand is a revolutionary war of defense against capitalism, a war of the society that has overthrown capitalism against the society that seeks to re-forge the shackles of private property on the masses of Soviet Russia.

None of the exploiters want to see the Soviet Union win this war. They are interested only in using the S.U. as a pawn to exhaust Hitler, and at the same time wear out the Soviet Union as well.

It is rank hypocrisy to talk about England and the United States as "allies" of the Soviet Union. England and the United States represent the same society as does Germany today — the society of exploiters.

What if the western front is opened tomorrow by Churchill? Does that help the Soviet Union or make the Anglo-German war a workers' war? By no means! It simply gives the British bosses a new hold on the masses, a hold they need desperately now that the workers are becoming more and more critical of the "sacrifices" made by the British upper classes.

The workers now can be asked to die shooting their German class brothers under the catchword of "Soviet defense." New slogans are badly needed, now that the old catchwords of "democracy" and "liberty" arouse no feeling. Now the labor fakers and the Stalinists will aid the boss class more readily in carrying on their imperialistic war.

WESTERN FRONT WOULD SMASH REVOLTS

The revolts in Europe are a portent of real working class aid to the Soviet Union. Revolution behind Hitler's lines would wipe out all the gains he has made.

The first thing the capitalist British army would do if it should open the western front would be to take control of the rising revolts of the European masses. If it could not control them for its own interests, Britain would mercilessly crush them.

What if the Churchill government falls and a "Labor" Party government assumes "power"? Will a war against Germany THEN be a workers' war? By no means! If Ernest Bevin continues the war, even waxes "militant" in the war, it is because the labor fakers have most to gain from a military victory over Hitler.

The Labour Party is just another capitalist party, whose love for the liberty of the masses was best demonstrated when the last Labour Government justified itself to the British bourgeoisie by more ruthlessness toward the Indian masses than the Conservatives ever dared show.

FOR A WESTERN FRONT OF REVOLUTION

The Stalinist' call for a western front is a social patriotic rejection

of Lenin's policy of revolutionary defeatism in the imperialist war. **The "western front" that the Soviet Union needs is not on the imperialist battlefield, but the front of revolutionary action of the workers in Hitler dominated Europe and in Great Britain. This, and not any crumbs that the imperialists may give, can cancel out the Hitler gains.**

The only way in which the British workers can fight a workers' war against Hitler is by taking over the means of production and establishing their own government of workers councils.

This workers government will aid the Soviet Union in reality — by helping overthrow the Stalinist clique that betrays the needs of the Russian masses; by organizing a Red Army of all the toilers for attack against the class enemy everywhere, not merely on the German coasts; by giving real aid to the German workers in their struggle for the overthrow of capitalism and Hitlerism in one mighty upheaval that will bring about the Socialist United States of Europe.

24 YEARS OF THE SOVIET UNION

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In the name of "defense" of the Soviet Union the third international has joined the ranks of the social patriots.

The Stalinists oppose strikes in "defense" industries, support conscription and the extension of the conscription term, give concessions to the British and American agents of counter revolution in the S.U., etc. Stalinism cannot defend the interests of the Soviet Union. It can only undermine those interests. It can play only a counter revolutionary role, as it did in Spain.

The Trotskyites, in spite of revolutionary words, are a left cover-up for social patriotism. By supporting the Independent Labor Party in England, calling for a third capitalist party, a Labor Party, in America, by supporting

John L. Lewis in the trade unions, by pledging to suspend its "fight" against Stalinism in the Soviet Union at the critical moment, it plays into the hands of imperialism.

FOR A WORLD PARTY OF REVOLUTION

Only the International Contact Commission for a Fourth (Communist) International stands on the program of Lenin and the Bolshevik party. Out of the last war came the successful Russian Revolution and the third international, Marxist until it degenerated at the hands of Stalinism. Out of this war will come the Fourth International, to lead the world working class to the overthrow of capitalism and the establishment of the World Federation of Workers Council Gov'ts.

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Trotskyites

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ustrial unionism as such. But Lewis' policies have proven that industrial unionism on a class collaborationist policy is just as rotten as craft unionism with this policy.

The Trotskyites are making a bid to take over the erstwhile Stalinist role of left cover to Lewis in the union movement. How far they are willing to go is shown by the **Militant** in its Sept. 27th, issue.

It **condemns** the miners in eastern Pennsylvania for their insurgent strike against raised dues and assessments, the check-off, and bureaucratic gangster control. They see in this only a Hillmanite maneuver; the plight of the miners is scornfully brushed aside with the argument that the increases amount to only \$10 a year.

CENTRISM IN ACTION

And they have the criminal effrontery to write that these increases were "voted by the international executive board and approved by a referendum of the membership..."! Hitler also has "referendums".

It is doubtful that even such a whitewashing of Lewis will avail the Trotskyites much. Tomorrow, when Lewis goes over to the war camp of the bosses, the Trotskyites will find themselves high and dry once again, seeking a new reformist force to which they can be a red tail.

The Trotskyites call for a "Labor" Party, a third capitalist party. They whitewash John L. Lewis. That, we presume, is the reason for their modest claim of "the only genuine anti-capitalist party, and therefore the only genuine anti-war party".

**U.S. Tightens
Japan Pressure**

"War with Japan is inevitable," says Knox, Secretary of the Navy. And this is true unless Japan will capitulate and give the United States the concessions she demands in the Orient. But all indications are that Japan is in no condition to "give in". She must either strike out and try to consolidate her "New Order" in Asia, or face internal convulsions and revolution at home.

The growing military might of the Anglo-American imperialists is like a pistol pointed at the pockethooks of the Japanese ruling class. Japan must fight now or it will be too late. To head south will provoke a direct clash with the rival imperialists. To march north means war with the Soviet Union who is in easy bombing range of vital Japanese industrial areas.

**U. S. HOPES FOR GENERAL
EXHAUSTION**

Even though the Red Army is locked in a death battle with Fascism, and in spite of the ravages by Stalinism, the Siberian forces will be the first real army that Japan will face. In one way the U. S. would be well pleased to see Japan exhaust herself as well as the Soviet Union by such an invasion. Probably, British and American aid for the Red Army would be greatly increased — not enough so that the Soviet Union could conduct an offensive, but enough to more or less continue the struggle on a losing basis.

The U. S. will probably attempt to use the Chinese, Siberian Dutch and Philippine troops, backed up by marines and air forces, keeping intact the main U. S. forces for bigger battles to

come.

But there is a strong possibility that the United States will seize the opportunity to create further "incidents" leading to a war with Japan.

STRUGGLE FOR PACIFIC

In any case, Wall Street's action will be for the imperialist interest of Wall Street, and not for the purpose of aiding the Red Army forces. On the contrary, the U. S. will work to undermine the Soviet Union in preparation for its overthrow under Wall St. hegemony.

The United States is rapidly taking over hegemony of the anti-Japanese bloc in the Pacific. Britain is more and more playing second fiddle. Some say it will be a battle of Uncle Sam to protect John Bull's Pacific interests. That is the British aim, but that is not what is happening. American imperialism is dislodging Great Britain as well as Japan in the drive to dominate the Pacific for her own needs.

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