

# The Fighting Worker

Workers of  
The World  
Unite!

Official Organ of The Revolutionary Workers League, U. S.

Vol. 9—No. 1—Whole No. 116

JANUARY, 1944

Price 5c

## 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 pass into the hands of the Working class, that security, bread and peace be assured to the toiling masses. At the head of these workers stood Karl Liebknecht, fearless dynamic leader of the Spartakusbund, and with him, Rosa Luxemburg, brilliant theorist of the Communist Movement.

A few days later, on January 19th, the capitalist government headed by the "Socialists" Noske and Schiedeman deliberately murdered Liebknecht and Luxemburg, having first put down the revolt of the workers.

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

After the death of these three great revolutionaries the labor movement entered a new epoch. Social democracy revived. Under the defeatist leadership of Stalin the Comintern eventually became an open instrument of counter-revolution. The world workingclass suffered defeat upon defeat, Germany, Italy, Bulgaria, China, England, Spain, etc. World Imperialism, again in need of markets, is plunged up to its neck in the workers' blood.

But the revolutionary movement is far from defeated. India simmers, and waits to rise again, Italy simmers, and boils over despite the guns of Allied and Nazi imperialism, and all Europe is gaining its second wind for revolt. It can take courage in the achievements of Lenin, Liebknecht and Luxemburg. It recalls the gigantic odds against Liebknecht when he stood, one man in a million, to denounce the war. It recalls the terrific isolation of Lenin during the war period, the smallness of the organized revolutionary movements, the political struggles at Zimmerwald against the Kautsky centrists. It recalls these things and goes on undaunted in the struggle for proletarian revolution.

**DEFEND THE SOVIET UNION—DESPITE AND AGAINST STALINISM!**

**EXTEND THE OCTOBER REVOLUTION!**

**FIGHT FOR WORKERS RIGHTS, FOR FREE SPEECH, FREE PRESS!**

**FOR THE RIGHT TO ORGANIZE, STRIKE, AND HIGHER WAGES!**

**UNITE WITH WORKERS EVERYWHERE FOR THE DEFEAT OF THE CAPITALIST SYSTEM!**

**FOR A WORLD FEDERATION OF SOCIALIST SOVIET REPUBLICS!**

**FOR A NEW (COMMUNIST) FOURTH INTERNATIONAL!  
JOIN THE REVOLUTIONARY WORKERS LEAGUE!**

## Production For Profit Brings Bread-Lines

Post war unemployment estimates run between ten and twenty-five millions of workers.

The 20 - 30% cut in production of war materials in two of the biggest war plants in the mid-west, and the outright closing of small plants at the present has little influence on the aggregate number of workers now employed, but this cut which is due to overproduction, points to the downward trend that employment will take as the material needs of the war are satisfied.

### DESTRUCTION BRINGS ARTIFICIAL PROSPERITY

After the last war there was a whole dizzy feverish decade of prosperity except for the short-lived depression of 1921. This decade of prosperity was peculiar to the United States. In Europe, however, the end of the first world war ushered in almost immediately an economic crisis that was only resolved by the present war. The good fortune of the United States depended upon the fact that it was a relatively young industrial country with a considerable home market to exploit and that it had achieved through the war advancement from a nation that imported capital to one that exported capital. The depression, from 1929 to 1940 (10 million still unemployed in 1940) proved that the happy relationship between U. S. productive forces and the market no longer existed.

Our present war prosperity is an artificial prosperity, a prosperity in which production and employment is based on the wholesale destruction of commodities at the rate of millions of dollars each day.

But already, as indicated by the Chicago curtailments, we have overproduction that has necessitated cutting of hours and layoffs. This phenomenon of curtailment in the period of all out production for war destruction indicates that U. S. industry has undergone a tremendous revolution in rationalization and ability to produce.

If industry can overproduce in war we can just imagine to what extent overproduction will be under normal "peace" time consumption.

### CAN THERE BE A POST WAR BOOM?

Bourgeois economists amidst the ecstasy of war prosperity are prone to forget that only the outbreak of the war put an end to unemployment, "We will have a post-war boom in consumers commodities that will provide employment for all," they say, "just look at all the radios, automobiles, refrigerators, etc. that the exigencies of war production have forced us to do without." A logical question to this statement is: why weren't these things produced in the period from 1929 to 1940? They were needed just as much in the ante-bellum period as they

will be needed in the post-bellum period.

It has been estimated that U.S. industry is producing today, 80% more under the stimulus of war, than it was in 1939, despite the fact that now there are 11 million workers in the armed forces. Without taking into consideration the necessary cut in production that the end of the war will entail there will be as a starter 11 million waiting unemployed.

### DEFICIT SPENDING

To forestall the reoccurring economic capitalist crisis and accompanying unemployment, certain liberal economists have advocated deficit spending, similar to the method used by Germany before the war. This method calls for subsidizing the industries, public works and controlled production.

In light of the present war it is needless to say that this method proved to be a colossal failure. If Germany had been able to adjust her great producing capacity to the home market, or compete successfully on the international market and thereby remaining a great commodity producing nation, the war would have been unnecessary.

### THE NATURE OF CAPITALIST CRISIS

The nature of capitalist crisis and unemployment lies in the relative overproduction of commodities. This does not mean that there are more commodities in existence than can be consumed by the masses, but more than can be

## "ALLIES" MAP STRATEGY

### Prepare Against Social Revolution

December 11, 1943—Conferences between the powers during the imperialist war do not bring about "peaceful settlements between allies," they are merely stopgaps. Under Imperialism an "ally" is not a friend whom you love dearly, but an enemy from whom you have the LEAST to fear at the moment. Each conference between "allies" is just a game of fencing to gain an advantage for the future struggle.

To get a clear picture of the conference at Teheran between Roosevelt, Churchill and Stalin, and the conference at Cairo between Anglo-American Imperialism and the Chinese puppet, Chiang-Kai-Shek—remember that:

Five opposing powers got together; two major imperialist nations, two semi-colonial powers, and the degenerated Workers State. From the point of view of Anglo-American imperialism which is only united on the surface, except for its basic hostility to the proletarian Revolution and the Workers State—they had the following to accomplish:

1—Keep Russian military forces as localized as possible and give it as little territory to occupy as is necessary.

2—Utilize Stalinism—with the prestige of the Soviet Union and the lingering memory of the October Revolution—as a major weapon against the Proletarian Revolution in Europe and Asia.

3—Coordinate political and military strategy in such a way—

with the aid of Stalinism—as to "guarantee" a simultaneous victory both against the Social Revolution (which is primary) and the Axis Imperialists.

### NO FULL AGREEMENT

It is obvious that the results of the long-heralded conference with Stalin were far below expectations. At the Casablanca and the Quebec conferences Roosevelt and Churchill were able to make a stop-gap arrangement for the occupation of Europe. Once these forthright gentlemen had decided for themselves just how they were going to divide the booty of Europe they then decided (under pressure naturally) to "cut in" the Soviet Union which is doing 98% of the fighting in Europe.

They reached no full agreement on this point, however. Whereas Roosevelt, Churchill and Chiang-Kai-Shek were able to deal SPECIFICALLY with how they were

going to rob Japan, what territory they were going to take back, etc., they spoke only in generalities relative to Europe. Isn't it clear that they want the Soviet Union to have as few buffers as possible against the inevitable attack by Britain and America against the Workers State? Uncle Sam could be very generous in "giving back" territory to China now belonging to Japan; because when you say "China" and "Chiang-Kai-Shek," what you are really saying is American and Wall Street Capital.

But with the Soviet Union it is different. Here they are dealing with a fundamental enemy. Of course if the Soviet Union were not a DEGENERATED Workers State, if it did not have the Stalinist cancer in its vitals, the allied imperialist robbers would have nothing to do with Russia. (Continued on page 2)

## Court Upholds Frame-up of 18 Trotskyites

December 6, 1943. The high and mighty Supreme Court of the United States—class conscious to its marrow—has just ruled that the 18 Trotskyites, framed up in November, 1941, in the equally class conscious capitalist courts of Minneapolis, must serve a year to 16 months in jail.

The unpardonable "crime" of these Trotskyist comrades is that they believed in a social change. The haughty instrument of Wall Street even refused to review the case or to take up any of its legal aspects.

It is certainly a significant commentary on Allied imperialism

sold, thereby causing a violent drop in prices which then makes production unprofitable for the capitalists. When this happens there are shut downs and layoffs.

Since the capitalists, in order to compete with other capitalists, must constantly improve the productive capacity of his machines with new inventions, speedups and longer hours, etc.—overproduction is a constantly recurring feature of capitalist production. The war has done more in increasing the productive capacity of machinery than a score of peace time years development. But it has also thereby increased the contradictions of capitalism.

### WORKERS WAY OUT

The only solution to unemployment, as has been proved in the USSR, is the elimination of commodity production for profit. Until the American workers achieve this there are certain concrete steps that can be taken now, before the end of the war. 1—to fight for a five day, 30 hour week, with no reduction in pay. 2—Equal pay for equal work, irrespective of sex or race. 3—Workers inspection of company books.

None of these demands can be considered as an end in itself but a means by which we fight for workers control of production for use and the establishment of a Socialist Society.

that the U. S. Trotskyists are condemned to jail sentences but the trial of pro-Nazi Elizabeth Dilling and her wealthy cohorts, charged with Seditious, was again "postponed"; and at the same time, the British partner of the "democracies" released the notorious Fascist scum, Mosely while "Labour Minister" Bevin is whooping it up in Parliament with condemnatory speeches against the British "left."

### THE "FRIEND OF LABOR" STEPS IN

The frame-up of the 18 Trotskyites was a measure undertaken two years ago by the Roosevelt government, at the request of Daniel Tobin, teamster labor faker, to smash Local 544 of the Teamsters Union in Minneapolis. Mr. Tobin, used to goons and thugs in his top bureaucratic position, was unable to get over the fear that the rank and file militants and the Trotskyites of Local 544 would some day challenge his union leadership. He appealed to his friend in the White House for relief and Mr. Roosevelt, to kill two birds with one stone, stepped in, not only to smash Local 544, but to make a clean sweep of the Trotskyist party as well.

### SEDITION AND SEDITION

The national secretary, James Cannon; Albert Goldman, Felix Morrow, editor of the Trotskyist paper, and others were charged with the usual hypocritical indictment of sedition. To substantiate their charge, the capitalist state dug out an old law which dates back to the Civil War, and introduced a new law, just passed. The country is just bristling with native Fascists, like Gerald Smith, Father Coughlin, the old smelly bunch around the Chicago Tribune, Joe McWilliams, and thousands of others. The Fascists and near Fascists in Congress, like Senator Bob Reynolds of North Carolina and Ham Fish, exist in numbers which run into big figures. The scurvy lot of Amer-

(Continued on page 2)

# Confabs Reveal Inner Struggles

(Continued from page 1)

at all. But Messrs. Roosevelt and Churchill, in their own way, understand the dialectical relationship of Stalinism to the proletarian economy of Russia—and they take what is good for them: Stalinism as a weapon against the Revolution; and they reject what is "bad" (for them), the Soviet State itself.

## NOOSE AROUND THE SOVIETS

As a result we find the Anglo-American robber barons making a deal with Turkey. Whether Turkey enters the war or not—it is too early to state—she has certainly promised Uncle Sam and John Bull the use of the Dardanelles and of air bases in Turkey. The Dardanelles can be a dagger pointed directly at the Soviet Union. Control of them by the allies will immeasurably strengthen their hand against the Soviets. The Allies, too, made sure that Russia will not tarry too long in Persia. The "innocent" agreement with the puppet Shah of Iraq to "protect its independence" is aimed primarily at expelling the Red Army from a spot where it is well entrenched.

Thus the Allies draw a semi-circle around their "ally," the Soviet Union. They have Turkey and the Dardanelles, Persia, and China and India in the East, and they plan very shortly to dart through Central Europe and close the noose tighter.

## U. S. BRITISH DIFFERENCES

John Bull and Uncle Sam have their own troubles. And one shouldn't think that Uncle Joe Stalin is too stupid to take advantage of some of them. For instance, America is anxious to maintain a moderately strong Germany after the war, as a buffer against British influence in Europe. Britain, however, wants to smash

Germany "forever." On the other hand, Uncle Sam may want to completely exterminate Japan, but Britain insists on maintaining the Hirohito dynasty and a moderately strong economy in the land of the rising sun as a bulwark against the insatiable appetite of Wall Street.

No doubt Stalinism takes advantage of these things; but the main trend of Allied-Russian diplomacy is one in which Stalin promises and gives one weapon after another to the Allies in their counter-revolutionary fight against the proletariat (as for instance, support of Badoglio, or the 3 power committee in London to maintain the status quo), while the Allies continue to encircle the Soviet Union. They will use Stalinism as long as it is necessary—depending on the depth and scope of the Revolution—and then dump him like used dishwater.

## THE CAIRO AGREEMENT

The Allies condemned the "ill gotten gains by violence" of Japan in the last half century. They promised to return to China (the Chiang-Kai-Shek part of it) those territories like Manchuria which Japan has stolen. But America and Britain completely "forgot" that the "ill-gotten" gains of Japan in the last war were won with the assent of the present Allies, while Japan was fighting on the same side with the U. S. and Britain. They "forgot," too, that they themselves had recognized some of the robberies after the war. Above all they "forgot" the British "ill-gotten gains by violence" in Chinese Malaya, and Hong Kong, and the American "ill-gotten gains by violence" in the Philippines.

The Cairo agreement calls for the biggest grab in the history

of the United States. It makes no difference that the agreement promises to restore large chunks of territory to China. Much more important is the fact that the U. S. and Britain "promise" to "help" China rebuild these territories—which means that a new and much bigger China will become a new and much bigger puppet colony of the Allies—with America getting the lion's share. (Incidentally, the war between America and Britain—the economic and political war—as to how to gobble up China will flare up constantly.)

The Chinese premier is merely a puppet in the masters game of imperialism. He was called to Cairo like an office boy, he was TOLD what was what, and left as he came, with Gen. Stillwell as his overseer.

Yes, the insipid words of the Cairo and Teheran communiques about friendship and love between the powers is a lie from beginning to end. The struggles between the so-called allies continue to come to light more and more as time goes on, witness, for instance, the Franco-British fight over Lebanon. Particularly is this true of the relations between the Imperialist Allies and the Soviet Union.

## Fight for Release of Framed Trotskyites

(Continued from page 1)

ican Fascists, however, is being closely cultivated, while proletarian revolutionists and rank and file militants, are ordered to go to jail.

There is a strong possibility before these words reach print the Trotskyists will start serving their sentence. The Revolutionary Workers League, ever since our inception, has considered the Trotskyist organization a centrist group, moving to the right, but that does not prevent us, in this moment of capitalist offensive, from solidarizing ourselves 100 per cent with the framed-up and persecuted Trotskyist comrades.

## TO NO AVAIL

One interesting "legal" question has been proved 100 per cent by the Supreme Court decision. In the course of the Minneapolis trial, the Trotskyists compromised themselves no end in an attempt to show that they did nothing "illegal." They denied that they were for the overthrow of capitalism. They beat their breasts solemnly and said they merely predicted the overthrow of capitalism. "The defendants," Albert Goldman stated "never advocated, never incited to violence, but simply predicted the violence of the reactionary minority." Cannon and Goldman swore that they had "never advocated the idea of insubordination in the Army," and that "the claim that we prefer the enemy, the imperialist enemy of the U.S., to defeat our government is absolutely false."

Instead of a forthright Marxist position, Goldman informed the bourgeoisie that until the Trotskyists were in a majority they would "submit to the government."

Despite all these capitulations in principle on the part of the Trotskyists in the courtroom, it availed them nought. They took out of Marxism its revolutionary heart, in the hopes that the good bourgeoisie "would give them legal justice." But the contemptuous bourgeois Supreme Court pushed all this hocuspocus aside with a wave of the hand. They condemned the 18 Trotskyists for being part and parcel of the working class, and they did it without a single regard to the legalism of the case.

# Workers of the World

## FREEDOM FROM WANT AND FROM FEAR IN INDIA

In Calcutta 200 to 300 Indians are being picked up daily and sent to the newly established refugee centers. But the majority of Indians prefer the risk of starvation to camp life. Over 60,000 have fled the city since the new relief program began.

At last the British have found the real reason why famine relief can not be effective in India. Superstition and ignorance among the Indian population keep them from entering the camps set up to shelter and feed them. Stories to the effect that the British and their allies want to trap the natives, collect 100,000 Hindus and 100,000 Moslem 'and sacrifice them to the goddess of victory,' circulate among them.

The Indians have a really fantastic imagination. Never have the British "sacrificed Indians to the goddess of victory!" Yet, what else is the significance of the famine in India but the sacrifice of the Indian population to the imperialist "goddess of Victory."

## FREEDOM OF PRESS IN ITALY

Italy is going to have freedom of press, extended to all (!) elements of Italian public opinion! That, at least is what was announced by allied headquarters on Nov. 21, after over 3 months of AMG rule. Democracy is outdoing itself.

The only restrictions will be on questions of military security and those resulting from the shortage of newsprint, the distribution of which is under the supervision of the Allies. These two restrictions in themselves are a whole program of control of the press.

## PALESTINE—"DIVIDE AND RULE"

10 Jewish newspapers in Palestine were suspended for publishing an uncensored report, of a search of the village of Ramat Hakovesh, which differed from the official report.

A group of Polish Jewish soldiers, fleeing from the intensely anti-semitic Polish Army, had taken refuge in Remat Hakovesh. The village was subjected to a house to house search for arms—by Polish soldiers. The male inhabitants were rounded up inside a barber wire enclosure. One civilian was killed and 8 others injured. The official British version states that there was a training camp for a unit of an illegal armed organization, and that illegal arms were concealed in the settlement. It denies violent action.

The British—setting Pole against Jew, Jew against Arab—know the meaning of the formula 'divide and rule.' And British imperialism is well experienced in crushing the population of the colonies.

## NO FREEDOMS FOR BRITISH MINERS

Gwilym Lloyd George, British Fuel Minister, reported that from July 3 to November 13, 421 unauthorized strikes in the coal mines were reported to his ministry. The British coal miners demand that the government take over control of the mines and grant them a wage increase to \$24 a week for pit workers and \$22 for surface workers. They are striking for better working conditions and opposing another lengthening of the work week.

The papers here reported that wage increases were expected, but that the government would not go far to meet the miners demands. Promises are going to be made for the post war period to trick the miners into giving up their demands for now.

But the English miners are not so easy to trick. So, Ernest Bevin, minister of Labor, announced that Britain will start drafting men for the coal mines. They will draft men over 25 exempted from military service for physical reasons. Undoubtedly the sanitary condition in coal mines and the good sound exercise will improve their physical condition.

Strike by men drafted into the coal mines will be considered equal to desertion and punished accordingly!

Thus the British bourgeoisie and their "Labor Leutenants" close their grip firmer around the working class in fear of its rising independent class action.

## 170,000 War Prisoners In U. S., 62 Are Japanese

The bourgeois press is full of an interesting story: "Some months ago a Japanese convoy was destroyed in the South West Pacific by American planes... SOME of it is true. But what of the other side?"

The British New Leader tells

## WORKERS, SMASH THESE FRAME-UPS

With the F.B.I. making surreptitious visits all over the country to workers' homes, and taking other measures to eliminate the revolutionists and Marxists from the scene, there is a feeling in the air that the frame-up of the Trotskyists is not the end. Unless, of course, the workers in the United States begin soon to see through the fraudulent phrases of "democracy" lauded by the Roosevelt regime.

The struggle to free the Trotskyists must not end now! There must be a new and more resounding beginning. The frame-up against these 18 workers is a frame-up of the whole American working class. There can be no peace or security for the 50 million American workers while these 18 symbols of class oppression are locked up in the jails of this country.

Smash the Minneapolis frame-up! Free the Trotskyist victims of class injustice!

"THE OFFICIAL COMMUNIQUE FROM AUSTRALIAN HEADQUARTERS (our emphasis) announced that American bombers 'strafed and sank lifeboats offshore endeavoring to make land. Barges laden with survivors from the sunken transports were destroyed with all on board! The following morning 'barges, lifeboats and rafts, still afloat, were sunk.'

"According to a United Press report literally hundreds of exhausted Japanese who had swum ashore were wiped out by American patrols.

"This is not Japanese propaganda, as the following report will indicate: The battle ended with a virtual massacre. In the morning the seas north of New Guinea were awash with Jap survivors on rafts and in barges and lifeboats. Squadrons of Allied planes ruthlessly strafed them as they drifted. When a general was told that some hundreds of Japs had been spotted in boats he merely said, 'Send a formation of Beaufighters out to kill some more.' ('News Week' summarizing official reports and communiques.)"

## Unity, Solidarity, and the Class Struggle

By KARL LIEBKNECHT

The following words, uttered by Liebknecht on November 19th, 1917, are a reply to all advocates of unity with the Capitalist Class:—"Solidarity! Who can long and work for it more than we? Unity, which makes the proletariat strong in order to fulfill its historic mission!

But not every "Unity" makes for strength. Unity between fire and water quenches the fire and vapourises water; unity between a lamb and a wolf delivers the lamb a prey to the wolf; unity between the proletariat and the ruling class sacrifices the proletariat; unity with traitors spells defeat.

Only similarly directed forces are strengthened by union. Forces striving against each other are enchained or paralyzed.

To hitch together differently directed forces, that is our endeavor. To hitch together the radically explosive forces in society; this is the endeavour of the present day apostles of unity, as it was the endeavour of the priests of union during the war.

Politics means action. Working together presupposes unity on the road and destination. Whoever agrees with us in object and method is welcome to us as comrades in arms. Solidarity, union in spirit, in sense, in will, and in action—only that is real unity. Unity in phrase is illusion, self-deception and deceit.

They, the priests of unity, want to liquidate the "revolution," which has not yet begun even. They want to drive the movement into conciliatory channels in order to preserve capitalist society. They want to deprive the workers of power and restore the class state. They would maintain economic class rule while they hypnotise us with unity phrases. They attack us because we cross their purposes, because their interests are opposed to us, who really mean the honest and serious emancipation of the working class, the Socialist World Revolution.

Can we be united with those who are none other than Socialist-clad defenders of capitalist exploitation? Can we unite with them without committing ourselves to, and furthering their plans?

Should we unite with them? Ought we to do so?

Union with them would be a crime against the proletariat. To unite with them is to give up Socialism and the Workers' International. The social traitors do not deserve a brotherly hand-shake. We must extend to them not unity but battle!

The working masses alone, are the executors of the social revolution. Clear class consciousness, clear understanding of their historic mission, clear will for its fulfillment, action sure for its purpose; these are the qualities without which the workers can never achieve their task. Destruction of all clouds of unity phrases, exposure of all half-truths and luke-warm apostleship, unmasking of all false friends of the working class; this is the first commandment of the labour struggle, today more than ever.

Only from fearless criticism can clear vision develop; only from clear vision comes unity of thought and aim, of purpose and understanding; only from such unity can the workers evolve the power to create the new world order of Socialism."

**THE FIGHTING WORKER**  
**REVOLUTIONARY WORKERS LEAGUE, U. S.**  
 (Affiliated to the Provisional International Contact  
 Commission for a New Communist (4th) International)

Subscription \$1.00 per year

Published monthly by  
**DEMOS PRESS**  
 708 N. Clark Street, Chicago, Ill.

PLEASE NOTE. There is no connection between Demos Press and the Social Science Institute located at the same address.

## An Armed "Peace"

"A planned peace!" "We must win the peace!"

There is no doubt that the government is making plans as to what to do with its "Victory" in war.

Judging from their recent utterances two leading "planners"—cabinet members—have reached a point of disagreement on this epochal question: Secretary of State Hull believes in an ARMED PEACE; Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox says there will be ARMED WAR!

Hull, in his September 12th speech, his first to the general public in over a year "asserted that one of the war aims of the United States is to achieve an iron-clad peace for the post-war world, backed by nations ready to use force to maintain it."

He "envisioned a world in which nations will get along like good and self-respecting friends ready to crack down jointly on the criminal element, if necessary." (AP report)

The readiness to use force will be the foundation of peace, says the Secretary of State.

But on November 10th, Secretary of the Navy Knox warns us "against the illusion that this was likely to be the last war."

Mr. Knox's program is aptly summarized by news commentator Dorothy Thompson (November 17) "...to have permanent universal military training, the world's largest air force and fleet and be sure that we don't end the war too soon. We are to knock out Germany and Japan, once, and for all, leaving only the United Nations as power factors on earth. We are to make sure that the following peace 'will last for a long time.' But we must warn against the illusion that it will endure."

We have their word then.

Both agree that the United States government, banded together with other governments of the same class, will have to remain well-armed against its enemies. Both realize that what they stand for can be maintained only by open force. Both insist upon a new American militarism—a better whip in their hands.

Yet these two cabinet members, leading spokesmen for American capitalism, disagree only on a minor point. One says "Peace with bayonets!", the other "War with bayonets." In their plans, however, the life in store for us is plain: "armed security," policing of "criminal nations" and "criminal elements" (could that mean workers movements?) permanent military training. It means the burden of a tremendous modern militarism placed upon the shoulders of the great masses of American people as their reward for "Victory."

And what also of the momentous promises of "humanitarianism" of the government for whom these two men speak? With no less than our Senators prating that America must receive her "proper share" of trade and demanding a "more equitable sharing of the British petroleum reserves in the Persian Gulf," the glorious future is apparent. The world financiers, sailing on this war's sea of blood into their ports of "Victory," will launch their ships of trade even more avariciously. And while they battle, their huge profits—and the terrible price of militarism to protect them—shall be sweated from the backs of the world workers and oppressed.

## Centrists Support Lewis

Both Trotsky groups have shamefully capitulated to the arch traitor and sell-out artist in the Labor movement, John L. Lewis.

The November 13th issue of the Cannon paper has a big to-do about the miners' "victory." "The Miners have won!" The November 15th Schachtman paper states: "Miners' Victory shows the Way."

Not a word of criticism in either paper for John L. who has perpetrated one of the outstanding sell-outs of his long career of outstanding sell-outs!

The two Trotsky groups hide from the workers the fact that this was a major victory for the bourgeois state, that they were able to force the miners—who displayed such heroic militancy and such firm unity in 4 big national strikes — the bourgeois state was able to force the miners back to work with a WAGE CUT! (See December F. W. for figures.)

The only difference between the present agreement and the old is that the miners are given an extra hour work each day and Saturday work because there is a shortage of coal. A little simple arithmetic will show anyone that the hourly rate has been reduced from \$1 per hour in the old contract to 88c per hour now, if you include Portal pay!

The Trotskyites hide these facts because their present "Labor Party" orientation make them fawn on those

Labor Fakery (it used to be Dan Tobin, now its Lewis) who are in opposition to the Roosevelt government. This reformist approach by the Trotskyists is a very clear indication of what these gentlemen would be willing to do with their "principles" when and if a third capitalist (Labor) Party were organized. If they are willing to cover up for John L. Lewis now before they get married to him in the Labor Party committees, what will they do when the marriage is consummated?

## Embarrassing Moments

Wm. Z. Foster, chairman of the Stalinist Party which now supports "our Commander-in-Chief, Roosevelt" with burning passion, wrote the following in September 1932:

"As Assistant Secretary of the Navy under the Democratic President Wilson from 1913 to 1920 Roosevelt was himself responsible for the butchery of Haitian Negroes by U. S. Marines. At least 3,250 Haitians were killed in 5 years in this Wall Street rape, according to even the most conservative estimates. Under Roosevelt this invasion was made to protect investments of the National City Bank which later used this opportunity to seize \$500,000 of the Haitians' government money.

"In 1920 Roosevelt boasted that he had himself written the Haitian constitution under which martial law by marines was placed above the native courts... And when the Haitians rebelled the Haitian Assembly was forcibly dissolved upon cabled instructions from Roosevelt in the Navy department."

This quotation is from "The Words and Deeds of Franklin D. Roosevelt," by Foster.

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The Trotskyists today are staunch advocates of a Labor Party. This is what Trotsky himself said about it on June 11, 1932:

"I have reread the thesis of the second conference of the American League (Trotskyists) concerning the question of the American Labor Party. I find it excellent in every part and I subscribe to it with both hands... (The document referred to condemned the Stalinists for supporting a Labor Party.)

"...that eventuality (of the establishment of a Labor Party), which appears to me to be very problematical, does not constitute an aim for which the Communist must strive and on which one must concentrate the attention of the proletarian vanguard....

"A long period of confusion in the Comintern led many people to forget a very simple but absolutely irrevocable principle: That a Marxist, a proletarian Revolutionary, cannot present himself before the working class with two banners. He cannot say at a workers meeting: I have a ticket for a first class party and another cheaper ticket for backward workers. If I am a communist I must fight for the Communist (Marxist) Party."

\* \* \*

Winston Churchill in 1927:

"I could not help being charmed like so many other people have been, by Sig. Mussolini's gentle simple bearing and by his calm, detached poise, in spite of so many burdens and dangers. Secondly, anyone could see that he thought of nothing but the lasting good, as he understood it, of the Italian people, and that no lesser interest was of the slightest consequence to him. If I had been an Italian I should have been wholeheartedly with you from start to finish in your triumphant struggle against the bestial appetites and passion of Leninism... Italy has shown that there is a way of fighting the subversive forces which can rally the masses of the people properly led, to value and wish to defend the honor and stability of civilized society. She has provided the necessary antidote to the Russian poison. Hereafter no great nation will be unprovided with an ultimate means of protection against the cancerous growth of Bolshevism."

## November F. W. and I. N. Banned

FLASH!! THE NOVEMBER "FIGHTING WORKER" AND "THE INTERNATIONAL NEWS" HAVE BEEN DECLARED BANNED FROM THE MAILS, BY THE CHICAGO POST-MASTER. NO REASON HAS BEEN STATED. WRITE A PROTEST LETTER AGAINST THE CONTINUED DISCRIMINATION AGAINST THE WORKERS PRESS! THIS IS THE 5TH RWL PUBLICATION TO BE BANNED IN 6 MONTHS.

## Labor Party and Mosley

Of utmost importance is the attitude of the "democracies" toward Fascism as treated in Samuel Grafton's article, "Are Fascists No Longer Dangerous?"

This bourgeois columnist who wants nothing so much as the right to be a literary "liberal" (at so much a word) in the system of bourgeois "democracy," strikes hard blows at the Fascist trends in Europe particularly the release of that stinking understudy of Hitler, Sir Oswald Mosley. Indeed as Grafton says, since the London workers are demonstrating against Mosley today on precisely the same corners they demonstrated on four years ago against the same Mosley, it seems as if there had been no war "against" Fascism.

We leave to Grafton and his dupes the illusion that

the war was or is a war against Fascism. Already history has refuted this lie of the imperialists. The case of Sir Oswald Mosley is not an isolated one by any means but it shows clearly that the British ruling class has no fears for the menace of Fascism. It is the workers who recognize this beast for what it is: the last prop of a parasitic system, the beneficiaries of which will defend nothing except their own profits and privileges.

In the Mosley instance the Labor Party has proved its "worth" to Labor. It is Mr. Herbert Morrison, big shot in the British Labor Party no less, who united with those who fear a possible victory of Labor far more than the military victory of Hitler, to bring about the release of one of Europe's leading Fascists.

The American worker can ill afford to sit back with a sigh. The anti-social and anti-labor elements which compose the leading ranks of American Finance Capitalism are only too willing to try Fascism "at home" as well as abroad, when the masses can no longer be fooled by the "democratic" illusions.

And that day must come when the American worker discovers that "democracy" without bread or "liberty" without a roof over one's head is indeed no more than a hollow mockery. The abolition of Capitalism is the first question on the agenda of the proletariat!

## Starvation Amidst Plenty

The Indian revolution is not dead. Amid the death drums of the imperialist war thousands die of starvation, millions remain undernourished. The oppressed are condemned to die while their masters continue to insure that death. The Indian masses will awaken to the tasks that they have before them.

In Bengal, one hundred thousand persons are dying of starvation each week, over 1,000,000 live on one meal a day. The same holds true for Bihar and Orissa. In Calcutta the death rate is three times above normal, food and clothing prices have risen as high as 400 to 500 per cent, medical goods, 1,600 per cent. Four thousand beggars roam the streets. According to the former Director General of the Indian Medical Service, Sir John Megan, two-thirds of the Indian people are undernourished. Such is the state of a country which the Allied imperialists have forced into the war. The Indian masses (except its army of over two million men) do not die in the front line trenches as the soldier does amid flying bullets. They die in the "peace" of their hovels and slums for want of food, clothing, and decent shelter.

Despite these facts, no less an authority than the former Viceroy of India, Lord Halifax, boasts of the fact that India's wheat production is as large as Canada's, its production of rice is second only to China, it is the greatest producer of cane sugar, its cotton production ranks second only to the United States, it grows one-half of all the peanuts in the world and grows all of its jute. India's steel mills are the largest in the British Commonwealth: Its industrial productivity and capacity has been expanding at an accelerated rate, but all this has been squandered for the needs of the imperialist war.

The sixty-five million proletarians together with the many more peasants cannot continue in such a condition much longer. If the slogans of Bread, Peace, and Land are not realized, if all the imperialists are not driven out of India, it can only mean the continued mass, legal murder of the Indian masses.

The Indian proletariat, together with their allies, the peasantry must build their independent class instruments of struggle against all imperialism and they must ally themselves, with the world proletariat for a Soviet India. The Indian masses will successfully free themselves from their bondage with the aid of the European, Asiatic and American proletariat. The story of India, then, will become a giant beacon in the liberation of humanity as a whole.

## DEBATE IN AKRON

"Do The American Workers Need A Labor Party?" was the topic chosen for the debate held in Akron on December 17th. T. Harden, Eastern organizer for the RWL says NO, J. Thomas for the Independent Labor League says YES.

The history of Labor Parties, wherever they have existed, have been that of betrayal of the workers to the class system of production for profit. A Workers' Council Government, with a system of production for use, is the only form of government whose function is to the interests of the working class.

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Theoretical Organ of the  
 International Contact Commission.

### JANUARY ISSUE

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## Rat Kills Negro Baby In Va. Hospital

Richmond, Virginia. To the glorious four freedoms of democracy announced in the Atlantic Charter another freedom was added on Oct. 17, 1943. On that day, in St. Phillip's Hospital, a segregated hospital for Negroes in Richmond, Virginia, maintained by the state, rats bit two babies in their cradles, and one of them the four day old child of Mr. and Mrs. Fauntleroy, died. St. Phillip's is located in idyllic surrounding right next to one of the largest of the city dumps. This horrible occurrence was but the culmination of a series of minor horrors prevailing at the local slaughter house, known by courtesy as a hospital. It has long been a matter of common knowledge that the hospital not only supports many white officials, but also supports another type of parasite, particularly chinchies.

Typical of segregation so marked in the south is the whole set up at St. Phillip's. The "Nordic superiority" of the white ruling class does not prevent them from seizing upon all the soft jobs at this "hospital." The executive staff is entirely white, the doctors and surgeons are white. But when it comes to the real hard work, such as that of nurses, attendants, et cetera, this is given to Negroes, at wages a little over half of those paid to white workers doing the same kind of work in other hospitals. Negro doctors and surgeons are not allowed on the staff, even though their own patients may be in the hospital.

### COMMITTEE REFUSED

For some reason the Fauntleroy baby case broke into the local press.

Storms of indignation swept the city. In order to counteract this, and to prevent the whole rotten set-up from being exposed, the hospital and state authorities got busy with a white-wash committee. Colgate Darden, the Dupont office boy for Virginia, known as Governor, issued a few words about cleaning up the dump

but that has not been done up to the present time.

The Richmond Civic Council, a federation of organizations, embracing practically the entire Negro population, as well as many white people opposed to Jim-Crow selected a committee headed by Dr. J. M. Tinsley of the NAACP and including doctors and lawyers, among whom was Thomas H. Stone, counsel for Odell Waller and Samuel Kelly, and requested of the hospital that this committee be given full facilities for an independent investigation.

The committee pointed out that the state investigations were regarded in large circles as nothing but white-wash and stated that it wanted to get at the truth of the whole set-up at St. Phillip's.

The answer of the Board of Visitors was a refusal. They stated that an investigation had been conducted and that no further investigation was necessary. The infamy of this refusal is almost as bad as the rat killing of the infant. If these people have nothing to hide, why should they object to an independent investigation by anybody? But they do have plenty to hide.

### MASS MEETING PLANNED

They want to hide from the masses of Richmond the fact that St. Phillip's is not only infested by rats, but also by the capitalist bureauc-rats. They know that an investigation will disclose the whole machinery of the oppressive Jim-Crowism at St. Phillip's. It is understood that the Civil Council Committee does not intend to let the matter rest with the refusal. The Labor Defense Congress is also planning to have a mass meeting in the very near future in connection with the St. Phillip's situation.

It is characteristic that this gruesome killing came to light at a time when the United States Government was making special efforts to have Negroes form groups to buy war bonds and stamps.

# Segregation Cracking In South

## Negro Masses Waking Up

Richmond, Va. — Within the past year several events have occurred in this city that indicated the possibility and probability of a real struggle against segregation of the Negro people. The fight against the Jim Crow rationing board; the formation of the Richmond Civic Council, the development of a left wing in that organization on the questions of the war and of segregation, the Kelly case and the mass resentment aroused by the rat murder of the Fauntleroy baby at St. Phillip's Hospital have been among the most outstanding indications.

### AGAINST SEGREGATION (?)

All these circumstances naturally had their repercussions in the ranks of the white ruling class and the Negro handkerchief-head stooges of the rulers of Richmond.

In order to counteract the rising wave of militancy among the Negro people a meeting was held at Durham, N. C. attended by the most representative collection of handkerchief-heads that could be found. Suffice it to say, for Richmond readers, that among those present was Dr. Gordon B. Hancock. This gentleman is a super-duper Uncle Tom. The others were of the same type, presidents of state-supported colleges and the like. The result of this meeting was a miserable document calling for any crumbs from "the white man's table" that "the good white people might grant." In keeping with the comedy, a group of whites, apparently including Virginus Dabney, dastardly vilified the martyred Odell Waller, met at Atlanta, went through the formality of ratifying what had been done by their stooges at Durham, and patted the handkerchief-heads on the back as "good and sane Negroes."

Negroes of the South, particularly of this city, became very weary of the old run-around. The Durham meeting was greeted noisily, but the noise was that of loud guffaws. In desperation the handkerchief-heads went to Dabney, chief editorial office boy of John Stewart Bryan, one of the really important rulers of Richmond. And the result was the celebrated editorial of November 13th in the Richmond Times Dispatch.

### BOSSSES DIFFER ON PARTIAL OR COMPLETE SEGREGATION

This editorial called for the abolition of segregation on street cars and buses! But, not too fast, it called for this to be done by the Virginia Legislature! Dabney is at his old tactics. Eleven years ago, the unemployed will remember that this creature, urged the then Mayor Bright to receive the unemployed graciously and throw their demands in the waste basket! His cowardly editorials in the Waller case, his lies, slanders, and suppressions are still fresh in the memory. All the more significant, therefore, was his editorial of November 13. Not that it represented any "change of heart" on Dabney's part. Oh, no! He repudiated any such suggestion in the editorial, saying that the segregation laws as to street cars and buses are functioning contrary to the desires of those who formulated them, and that such laws were "probably desirable" at the time when they were passed! But the significance lies in the fact that the shrewdest, most unscrupulous, and most demagogic servant of the Richmond Bourbons has been compelled to come out with the paper "demand" for partial abolition of segregation. This is indicative of the tremendous boiling below the

surface. And the local ruling class tho divided understands this. One group, the greater majority, are in favor of the tactics of Dabney, they count upon the fact that the poll-tax legislature is not going to do anything anyway, will not meet again for two years, and that, so they think, will give Dabney and his Hancocks time to head off any real action against segregation. Another section, the out-and-out Fascist gang, regard Dabney as having made an impermissible concession that will open a wedge for the complete smashing of segregation.

### TASK OF WORKERS

In this situation we workers are confronted with great tasks and opportunities. The bosses are split, but make our main task the 'his issue. We must widen this split, but make our main task the rallying of the working class, Negro and white, for the smashing of segregation in all spheres and by mass action. Negro and white workers should get their organizations, their unions particularly, together into a Workers' Anti-Segregation Committee. The program should be very simple. The complete wiping out of segregation, which has so long degraded not only the Negro people but also the white workers. Workers, regardless of race, must be united, because only in that way can their struggles be carried to the limit. A section of the Negro middle class will falter at some stage of the road, but the working class has nothing to its interest that would deter it from smashing segregation. This is particularly necessary at the present time as the KKK is beginning to organize again according to rumors current in this city. This outfit of Fascist degenerates should be given such a reception that they will flee at the mention of a worker. But for all this the workers must be united. They should create their own anti-segregation committee. This committee should have a definite meeting place to which all workers could resort. And above all, it should have the complete abolition of every form of segregation as its avowed aim. And its method should be that of mass action, not reliance on poll-tax legislature. Yes, workers should go the coming session of the legislature, not as lobbyists, but in hundreds, demanding an end to the slave market. Anti-segregation marches should be organized. And the Negro people should remember that the best way to smash segregation is by mass violation, after careful mass preparation. On to the first real step, the creation of a Workers' Anti-Segregation Committee!

sands of relatives of some of these condemned men in France, after the last war tried to "clear the name" of their dead fathers, brothers, husbands. The full story of the result of the class system in the Army for America, Britain, Germany, Japan, Italy, is not available to us at the moment. But we venture to say that the results of a class system in the imperialist armies do not differ to any large extent all over the world. For every apology by every General Patton there are a million unconscious stupidities, errors and bureaucratic moves

Only with a really democratic army, a workers Red Army under a Soviet government, with the right of the men to choose their own officers and set their own policies will these evils eventually be eliminated.

## Kelly Case to Supreme Court

Richmond, Virginia. On October 12, 1943, the Virginia Supreme Court of appeals cut the Gordian knot in the Kelly case by denying petition for rehearing and at the same time denying petition for writ of habeas corpus. In each instance no reason was given for the opinion.

No doubt one of the greatest factors affecting the action of the Virginia Court on Kelly was his steadfast opposition to the war, as particularly manifested by his support last year of the fight against the slogan "Buy War Bonds and Stamps." Mr. Kelly was one of those of the Richmond Civic Council supporting the statement of the Richmond Science Forum, published in the Jan. 15, 1943 number of the Fighting Worker.

The next legal step is petition to the Supreme Court of the United States for a writ of certiorari. In connection with this, and simultaneously, counsel for Kelly plan to request bail for him while the petition is pending.

On November 18, 1943, a mass meeting was held under the auspices of the Samuel Kelly Defense Committee at the 31st Street Baptist Church. The principal speaker was Annabel R. Ricks, National Secretary-Treasurer of the Labor Defense Congress. She gave a very excellent summary of the facts of the case and its importance to the working class. Dr. C. C. Scott, chairman of the committee presided. Resolutions were passed on the Kelly case and the case of the baby bitten by a rat at a local hospital. \$110.00

was collected for the Kelly defense.

### KELLY'S FREEDOM DEPENDS ON YOU

All workers and workers' organizations are urged to support the cause of our imprisoned brother to the utmost. Contributions, which are badly needed, should be sent to Dorothy Thomason, secretary of the Samuel Kelly Defense Committee, 705 North Fifth Street, Richmond, Virginia. At the same time, and of even greater importance, protest meetings should be held everywhere, and letters and telegrams demanding the release of Samuel Kelly on bail while his case is pending, should be sent to Harlan F. Stone, Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court, Washington, D. C. The assistance of such a militant as Samuel Kelly is badly needed in the struggles of the workers and Negro people at the present time. For this reason the ruling class is making every effort to keep him in the penitentiary for the full three years. And also for this very reason we must see to it that he is released at the earliest possible opportunity.

The Samuel Kelly Defense Committee also suggests that workers and their organizations write to Mr. Samuel Kelly, 500 Spring Street, Richmond, Virginia, assuring him of their support. This will not only be a source of encouragement to our imprisoned fellow worker, but a flood of letters will also have its indirect effect upon the ruling class.

## The General and the Private

November 25, 1943. The whole country is seething with the story of Lt. Gen. Patton. All the liberal bourgeois papers—many of the reactionary ones too—are making political hay out of the slaps General Patton administered to wounded shell-shocked privates in Sicily.

See, says the bourgeois press, isn't our Army democratic? Even the highest general has been made to apologize to a mere private—what could be more in the spirit of democracy?

The unfortunate incident, unfortunate for General Patton, of course, lends itself most easily to this type of propaganda. It certainly was a Godsend to all the bourgeois newspapers who were desperately looking around for some sort—any sort—of answer to the growing charges of brutal dictatorship and class rule in the Army.

### SPARE THE BRAIN SACRIFICE THE BRAWN.

Here, however, in the Patton incident was a wonderful opportunity to vindicate the bourgeois structure of the Army. But talk though they will, the bourgeois press cannot eradicate the system, the class system that prevails in the Army. The Patton incident is only one of the minor, absolutely unimportant results of the class system. Other results are infinitely more tragic. There is the case, for instance, in the first World War (you can look it up for yourselves in the Pacifist Lichenstein's book) the incident where stupid and absolutely unrealistic Allied Generals ordered one fatal offen-

sive after another and sent dozens of thousands of men to their deaths in some of the most fantastic military (?) steps ever undertaken. Without question, these incidents—although they have not yet come to light—have their parallel in the present world slaughter.

The bourgeois dictatorship is reflected in the Army to the highest degree. The private receives \$50 a month, generals over a thousand. The private is merely supposed to be a human automaton, the dumb body of the Army; the commissioned officers are supposed to be the brain. The officers are law unto themselves, beyond the pale of any democracy or of any real rights for the "common man." Is it any wonder that under such a system there are abuses? Is it any wonder that under such a system of absolute dictatorship there are stark tragedies?

### NO CHANGE OF LAST WAR POLICIES

More people should read books on the last war. Read about men who were court martialled and killed—by all the imperialist armies—for such things as failing to adhere to some petty regulation. There is one French case, for instance, where a lieutenant who ordered a retreat after three-fourths of his men were killed, after all his ammunition was gone, after all his guns had been destroyed, and after all his provisions were gone, was court-martialled and shot for having "retreated." Similar instances exist by the thousand. Literally thou-