China - Symbol that Hitlerism Still Lives

The economic measures recently introduced by Dictator Chiang Kai-Shek in China to ward off catastrophe, prove once again that decay capitalism can not resolve its problems except by resorting to a "closed-in" economy — to the same measures in other words that were adopted by Mussolini and Hitler. The "democratic" lickspittles have always claimed that Hitler's economics were a distortion of the "normal democratic" economics. China shows that this is not so — that, in fact, Hitler's economics will increasingly become the NORMAL capitalist economics as its decay becomes deeper.

China is one of the weakest links in the chain of world capitalism. Like other nations she is starved for American dollars. She needs goods and materials to prosecute the civil war and to maintain the police regime by which a few thousand feudal overlords squeeze out billions in profits from hundreds of millions of impoverished peasants. At the end of the war with Japan, Chinese inflation had reached such proportions that the Chinese dollar was worth only one-twentieth of an American penny. Today, only two years later, it is only worth one-hundredth of an American penny on the official market and one-two hundredth of an American penny on the black market. Twelve thousand to almost twenty thousand Chinese dollars for one American dollar.

CLOSING ECONOMY

The Chinese nationalist regime, forced with this inflation, is unable to purchase the supplies necessary to prosecute the war. Her economists therefore turn to methods that they hope will stimulate a more favorable balance of trade. Since Chinese goods can not compete with the goods of her imperialist competitors on the world market, China, like Hitler in similar circumstances, proposed that the government give each exporter a subsidy of 100% of the price of the commodity. This would make possible, they hoped, to amass some American dollars, and British pounds, in order to purchase munition and armaments.

The hundred percent export subsidy was to be made up by imposing a tax of 50% on all imports, thereby raising the cost of living for the Chinese.

This plan has now been dropped because of the fact that American law provides that any exports that are subsidized by foreign governments shall automatically face an increase in U. S. tariff. Thus Chinese exporters would still be unable even with their subsidy, to undersell U. S. competitors in the States.

Chiang therefore turns to another method of doing the same thing. From now on no one in China, except the government, may circulate foreign currency or gold; all Chinese who own any property abroad must turn it over to the government and the government will attempt to sell it in order to gain foreign valuta (dollars mostly). Along with these measures the Chinese dollar is "stabilized" at 12,000 Chinese dollars for one American dollar.

The plan merely means that the government will try to sell the property of its nationals abroad (valued at a few billion dollars) in order to purchase machinery and armaments, mainly from the U. S., in order to prosecute the civil war. The Chinese capitalists who turn their property over will be reimbursed in "stabilized" Chinese dollars.

LOWERED LIVING STANDARDS

But where will those extra "stable" dollars come from? Obviously the only source is in...

(Continued on Page 2)

UNITY - WHAT KIND?

The unity bug is in the air these days. Messrs. Green and Murray are going through the motions of negotiating for unity of the AFL and CIO.

The word "unity" is a fraud, by itself. Workers are always asking: "What kind of Unity?" The capitalists are always talking of "labor-management" unity. By that they merely mean the workers and labor "united" in their efforts TO MAKE A PROFIT for the bosses.

During the war the imperialist government spoke of "national unity". By that they merely meant the unity of workers with Wall Street to prosecute Wall Street's war AGAINST their own interests.

When Green and Murray, therefore, now talk of unity they are only referring to the unity of the labor fakers on a class collaboration program to more easily control the rank and file. So long as the trade unions are subservient, the labor faker finds that he has competition. CIO workers are saying: "Look what the AFL got for their members" and AFL workers are saying: "Look what the CIO fellows got for "em". This competition keeps the labor leaders of capital hopping more than they'd like to. Shrewd operators like John L. Lewis recognize the dangers of such competition. The rank and file may some day burst the bounds of both the AFL and CIO labor mis-leadership.

Of course, Green used the present anti-labor legislation in Congress as the excuse to put the squeeze on Murray for "unity". Actually, however, this is merely a maneuver. What Green is really proposing is a stronger united front of the labor leaders of capital AGAINST the rank and file.

Marxists are obviously for unity of the AFL and CIO. But such unity must be carried out under the aegis of the rank and file, with full discussion, with a democratic vote, with rank and file participation in all jurisdictional settlements, and above all on the basis of a class struggle program of antipathy to and struggle against the capitalist state. Such unity will be real, lasting and effective.

The Murray-Green-Lewis form of unity will merely mean a sycophance for the labor skates.

Atlee Saving Profits for British Mine Owners

The British nation today is bankrupt. As a result of war purchases Britain is in hock to the tune of almost 3 million pounds to the colonies alone. The 1½ million troops she keeps armed to police the colonies are a gigantic drain on a nation which has failed completely to increase its exports. Instead of a 7½% increase over the 1938 figure, as planned by Atlee, Britain has increased exports to only 3% over 1938. The Labor Party capitalist regime is driven by the same motif that drove Hitler — either export or die. It needs capital for new machinery for buying out the capitalists in various industries, and for other purposes. The 4 billion dollar loan from the U. S. helped slightly. But that is only a drop in the bucket.

Where is the money to come from? A truly socialistic form of Britain would find a ready answer — EXPROPRIATE THE CAPITALISTS. People are cold and hungry and unemployed. The nation needs new machines and production. Above all it needs higher

A BANKRUPT POWER

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(Continued on Page 4)
Small Raise Fails to Satisfy Teachers

CHICAGO—FEBRUARY 24, 1947. The meager response of Chicago’s school teachers last month is already creating repercussions in the ranks of the schoolteachers Union, Local 1 AFT. The raise amounted to $25 a month for grammar school teachers and $25 for high school teachers; substitutes received only $1.00 per day. In view of the fact that the cost of living index to the rate was almost equal to what the Chicago teachers earned way back in 1922, the raises are really quite pitiful. A schoolteacher in Chicago earns less than a service worker and skilled manual workers in the school system.

The raise will cost the city of Chicago about 3 million dollars. The raise requested by the schoolteachers Union, under the leadership of President Arthur Wall, called for a 13 million dollar boost. The Chicago Board of Education glibly accepted Wall’s proposal, with a slight “if” — Governor Green and the Republican state legislature v—will authorize the additional funds as a subsidy to the Chicago Board. Wall and his cohorts evidently are satisfied with this passing-the-buck scheme. Their whole activity consists not of arousing the Union members, but in playing bourgeois politics. The Kelly machine has spoken: Wall is therefore satisfied. At a high school teachers meeting Wall ruled strike out of order. The same happened at a grammar school meeting.

Three distinct groups are opposing the Wall policy with their own methods. One of them, the Mensa Union, has reported flitting with the CIO. This group called off its threatened strike when the $35 and $25 raise was offered. Within Local 1 two groups are fighting to take over the militant section of the Union in May, when general elections come up.

A demand for a city-wide meeting of teachers was temporarily ruled out at the last Union house of representatives meeting. As the situation now stands teachers never hold a mem-
bership meeting. The ruling body is a house of representatives of selected and elected repre-
sentatives—-one for fifty teachers. This system works very poorly since there are practically no school or sectional meetings where representa-
tives report back to the rank and file, and receive and render in-
tervals. Existence of a machine is thus easily accounted for. The constitution of Local 1 makes the rule of the pre-existing-perpetuating, since nominations for office must be made by a nomi-
nation committee selected by the ruling group. For anyone else to be nominated requires peti-
tions and an arduous campaign.

Chicago teachers are tired of the political run around. That is particularly true of substit-
tute teachers, who are guaranteed no tenure rights and are not being given many permanent assignments. They are considered the pariahs of the school system. Even the Union refuses to give them the right to vote. When raises come through they always receive less than others and have no protection whatsoever. Recently the substitute group of Local 1 has been revived under a more active leadership and has already clashed with Wall and his policies on a number of occasions.

So long as Local 1 maintains its no-strike pledge, and so long as it acts merely as an appendage to the Democratic Party political machine always trying to find loopholes in the bourgeois law for the machine politicians to “legally” grant a raise—-the teachers will be at a loss. Let the politicians worry where the money is to come from— Chicago teachers are entitled to a fair wage. They must insist on being treated as a Union, with a regular contract, grievance machinery, recognition and a Union Shop.

The present groups in the teachers do not offer a vehicle for a clean sweep in the situa-
tion confronting the teachers. A militant progressive group is needed to steer the Union away from machine politics to class struggle Unionism.

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Railroad Rank and File Move Toward Unity

Scabbing by one craft against another has become proverbial amongst the railroad work-
ers. In fact Truman was able to smash the strike of two brotherhoods last year because the other 18 railroad unions supported the gov-
ernment strike-breaking. In the great 1922 strike scabbing of one craft against another caused the worst defeat in railroad workers history. As a result of this defeat the railroad workers, who should be amongst the most powerful in the country in bargaining power, are actually one of the weaker groups of big industry workers.

FORM NATIONAL GROUP

The group set itself up as a national or-
ganization of its own, with 32 members on a national board, and two co-chairmen, one from each of the rival union, and a national fourth. They will at-
tempt to force through unification at the separate conventions of the B.L.E. which meets March 10th, and the B.F.E. which meets in June.

D. B. Robertson, president of the B. of L. F. & E. and Alvanley Johnson of the B. of L. E. were both invited to the meeting, but refused to show up. Instead they sent a couple of stooges into the meeting to take notes. Upon being discovered these people were loudly booted by the delegates.

The consolidation committee is composed of working engineers and firemen, some of them with as much as 25 years seniority. They recognize that the picaros and labor lieutenants of the capitalist class who now run the broth-
erhoods are against consolidation because it will mean the loss of some jobs and power.

With a depression coming, and with many railroads already showing red ink, it will take the present consolidation move and much more of the same to really bring about effective action by the railroad workers. They have been press-
ed backwards for years now. With 21 rail-
road unions dividing them, and the railroad industry as a whole being crowded by planes and trucks, only a militant unity can bring home the bacon for the workers. The Consolidation Com-
mittee of Engineers is a big step forward. It should be supported and extended.

NEW LOCATION

You are invited to visit with us at our new office at
700 N. STATE STREET
ROOM 303
OFFICE HOURS:
Monday - Friday 6:00 - 8:00 P.M.
Saturday 10:00 - 4:00 P.M.
U.S. - Spearhead of Counter Revolution

The American capitalist class is fearful of the unstable conditions existing throughout the world in Europe and Asia. They well know that successful working class revolutions in these countries would not only set them terrific financial losses in investments and markets for their trade, but would have far reaching effects on the struggle of the working class in the United States as well.

American Imperialism has fabricated a complete system for the assurance of "stable" capitalist governments everywhere. It is the main purpose of this system to maintain, I repeat, to maintain capitalism everywhere.

The U.S. Government loans and grants as planned will amount to $3,809,000,000. This amounts to 2% of the total U.S. income, and, of course, the American working class will pay for the slaughter of their class brothers overseas by weekly deductions in their pay envelopes in the form of taxes.

FOOD - WEAPON IN CLASS WAR

The far reaching move of American Imperialism to secure the world for its own great ambitions of pillage and profit is revealing. A fascist military rule is maintained over Germany and Austria. To curb the mass strikes and riots of the Italian workers and to maintain the De Gasperi capitalist regime the U.S. has increased the UNRRA allocations of wheat to 200,000 tons a month, and coal to $500,000 a month. The relief shipments to Italy will continue after the UNRRA expires June 30.

The U.S. is planning to free $130,000,000 in Treasury assets in American Banks and the Export-Import Bank has earmarked $100,000,000 for credits to Italy. The U.S. is waging claim to $5,000,000 in credits. In addition to $10,000,000 it had formerly been granted. The U.S. has returned Hungarian gold reserves stored in the U.S. valued at $72,000,000. In Japan, MacArthur has just beheld a general strike of 2,000,000 government workers. The U.S. has allocated $315,000,000 to establish "safe" governments in both Japan and Korea. This is aside from the money which will be used for the military occupation of these two countries. Greece is also to receive substantial sums to maintain capitalism in that country faced with Civil War.

Despite the announcement by General Marshall that the United States will withdraw its troops from China, the United States will maintain a new naval force with modern equipment and aircraft in Chinese waters. In addition, a Marine force of 2,000 strong will remain. The U.S. is spending $5,000,000 to train the Nationalist army troops in the use of modern weapons on both the ground and in the air. $21,000,000 is being given to Chiang Kai Shek to help disarm the Japanese who irrationally enough fight in the Nationalist Chinese army against the Chinese "Communists." A $500,000,000 loan remains to build a submarine army and government that American Imperialism can trust to do its token work.

The capitalist class is dedicated to the maintenance of the capitalist system throughout the world, and the subjugation of the world's exploited and oppressed masses. To this end...

BRASS HATS AND BIG BUSINESS

It will come as no surprise to many workers that the same brass hats, the generals and admirals, who led the war, were none other than the presidents of the larger capitalist industries and banks in this country.

Admiral Ben Morell, the man who organized the "Seabees," has become chairman of the board and president of the Jones & Laughlin Steel Corporation. William Knudson of General Motors was made a General in the army for a period during the war. General Grehan Sommerville, former head of the Army Service Forces has been made president of Koppers Company of Pittsburgh. One of the most direct representatives of Morgan and Wall Street is General Draper of the Army of Occupation in Germany. Countless more could be named.

The war that has just ended was an Imperialist War waged for the interests of the capitalist class. It was paid for with workers lives and blood as well as their money. The capitalists who control the government make doubly sure that their own particular interests are protected by having important representatives of theirs take key jobs in the Army or Navy as Generals or Admirals. To see that their interests are further secured, although the government is theirs, they have selected their own men to advance the policies and interests that will be beneficial to the capitalist industry.

Whether it is in the army or in the factory, the General or the Boss, the worker is faced with the same enemy.

RUTH FISCHER
Stoolpigeon

What happens to people who depart from Marxist theory on the Russian question is aptly illustrated by the shameful acts of stoolpigeoning by Ruth Fischer, famous German Revolutionary leader of the '20s, against her brother Gerhart Eisler.

In the last few years Fischer has developed the concept that Stalinism is an independent force that is a greater danger than the capitalists themselves. This mechanical separation of the capitalists from their major world agent, Stalinism, sounds very "left." Actually as Eisler has proven— it is a cover-up for support of capitalist "democracy" and for... stoolpigeoning. Fischer is only a late adherent to it: others have used this road before her.

The articles in the Hearst papers by this once famous Marxist against Eisler, who is supposed to be the secret head of the Stalinists in America, are a disgrace. Not one sentence against capitalism! From press reports arc her testimony for the capitalists on un-American activities in Congress, it appears that she even gave some encouragement to bourgeois democracy. Without a trace of the theoretical rigor we are of course, not clear on this point, but it is obvious that her whole line of testimony is aimed at SOUING American Revolutionists and the Stalinists at home— and under a cloak of anti-Stalinism, against the real revolutionists. Of course, of course, apologizes for Eisler. The working class is said to fight only with the Elilers, Browders, Fosters and Stalins in its own way. But no self-respecting revolutionist will give information to the capitalist government against an opponent in another working class organization, even though that organization is reformist and a disgrace to our principles. Fischer gets around this difficulty by the absurd position that the Stalinists are not a working class party.

The testimony of Ruth Fischer in the capitalist chambers against Stalinism, and her articles, only serve to bolster the struggle of the Socialist Party against her. Regardless of her subjective tint, Ruth Fischer is thus stamped as a simple stoolpigeon.

WHAT WE STAND FOR

1. Capitalism can not be reformed. The profit system can only bring more misery, war and depression.

2. We are therefore opposed to all reformist parties, including the Labor Party, which strive merely to patch up the present capitalist system.

3. We are for independent working class action on all fronts, starting from strikes action at the point of production and leading up to the revolutionary destruction of capitalism.

4. We are for full equality for all oppressed minorities, for the right of self-determination for all colonies.

5. Defend the Soviet Union, Re-establish a Marxist Party, and Re-establish and Armed Workers Militias to accomplish the Political Revolution against the Stalinist bureaucracy. Extend the October Revolution throughout the world.

6. For a Revolutionary Marxist Party in the United States and a New Fourth Communist International.

7. For the establishment of workers control of production for use under a workers council government.
Terrorism In Palestine

Terror is ruling Palestine. The terror imposed by British imperialism in its desperate struggle to keep Palestine under its domination. The East, the slow, grudgingly permitted Great Britain into a secondary position in a world where she once ruled supreme, make and in Palestine as strong as ever before. Oil is still the great inducement and in addition Palestine has become essential as a military base.

Britain is trying to keep the support of the capitalistic class which is using the Zionism movement as a wedge. Therefore, in this stage of the game the Jews in Palestine are more directly hit by British oppression than the Arabs.

The Zionist underground movements, especially the terrorist Irqun Zwai Leum, respond to British terror with terrorist acts of the same kind. The object of the Irqun is Jewish immigration. Hundreds of illegal immigrants are brought into Palestine each week. British soldiers and sailors, often with a number of armed men, board the ships that bring these people looking for asylum, and send them to Cyprus for internment. On February 11, the Irqun staged a one-hour protest strike against deportations of illegal immigrants to Cyprus. Enforcing a larger immigration law is a matter for the Zionist capitalists in order to expand their industrial and agricultural enterprises. And for that very reason of Palestine is attempting to stop or at least seriously curtail Jewish immigration.

FIGHT POLICE AND ARMY

The acts of individual terrorism of the Irqun are aimed directly at the British rulers, their army, their police. Dov Gurzen, a member of the Irqun was sentenced to be hanged for taking part in an attack on a police station near Tel Aviv. The Irqun threatened bloody revenge if the execution took place: it has been postponed supposedly because of legal difficulties involved in an appeal.

The other members of the Irqun were sentenced to death by a military court for owning and carrying arms. Their trial was postponed by the new military commander of Palestine, Mac Millan.

On February 13 two government ships were damaged by fire set by underwater explosions. Hagannah took revenge with a more powerful explosion.

On February 20 the Iraq Petroleum Company's pipeline was severed by explosions in several places.

But the Jewish underground organizations are not fighting the British rulers exclusively. On February 11 fighting broke out between followers of the terrorist Irqun and those of the essentially anti-terrorism Ḥagannah. This was the first important outbreak of its kind. Although hostile to terrorism, the Jewish organizations refuse to side with Britain. The Jewish Agency for Palestine and the Jewish National Council both made an effort to accept the ultimatum given them by the British, to cooperate with them against the terrorists, on the grounds that Britain's anti-immigration acts are the cause for these activities.

The government in Palestine is divided into four parts by barbed wire enclosures, with communication forbidden between them.

TWO SEPARATE STATES

In this atmosphere of violence, all Bevin had to offer the conference of Arabs and Jews in London was a split-up Palestine under continued British rule, with some local authorities for Arab and Jewish communities. Both the Arab and Jewish representatives rejected his plan. In another attempt to stall, Bevin has announced he will bring the Palestine issue before the U.N. Security Council which will not meet for another two months. The troubles in Palestine obviously make it impossible for anyone to remain neutral, the British government being perennially every one. What then should be the position of revolutionists toward the Zionist terrorists? We must defend them against British imperialism not because we agree with their aims — we do not think that any kind of nationalism offers a solution to the working masses: only proletarian revolution can solve the problem of national minorities. Nor do we agree with their methods. Individual terrorism is directly opposed to the class action on a class struggle basis. We must defend them, because they are fighting British imperialism. But we do not defend them by adopting their methods, by our defense we must expose the foibles of their methods. A revolutionary organization would ask them to enter into a united front to further the fight against British imperialism by mass strikes and mass demonstrations — a fight uniting Arab and Jewish workers against their common oppressors.

The Jewish problem can only be solved as part of the problem of the world socialist revolution. American workers must expose the crocodile tears of Truman and Wall Street, who are using Zionism today as Britain formerly did — to consolidate their foothold in the great oil fields of the middle east.

SLOWDOWN STRIKE WINS RESULTS

A variation on the ordinary strike tactic was used with telling effect by militant workers of Local 329 AFL, Chicago, in an effort to gain better wages for 115 candy factory workers.

Variations of ordinary walk-out strikes are seldom used in the new labor movement. In the thirties American workers perfected the slowdown strike, where employees walked factories but did not produce anything. In the last few years other variations have become popular in Japan, Italy and elsewhere. They include:

Slowdown strikes — concerted action to cut production by so many.

Production strikes — where the employer is elected from the plant, along with the supervisor, but production continues under the control of a workers committee. None of the funds or profits, however, are turned over to the company until it acquiesces.

No-charge strikes — operating public transportation without slowdown, but refusing to collect fares from passengers.

The candy factory workers of Local 329, employed by the Hillman Company, had a Labor Board election in January. Since then their committee met the Hillman Company four occasions but was never able to boost the employer's wage offer to higher than 11c per hour. When the company made the 11c offer it put down an anti-mine proposal "take it or leave it".

SLOWDOWN STRIKE

The workers, however, had another idea. The next two days all of them in union cut pro-
duction down to less than half. Frantic appeals by supervisors to raise output fell on deaf ears. After a couple of days of this treatment the Hillman management suddenly realized that the 11c offer was better than the 10c which was offered before the slowdown strike. The 11c offer probably will be accepted. Along with it the union has negotiated a four hour reduction in the work week, an improvement in the vacation plan, and other benefits.

This little struggle involving only 115 employees is an excellent indication, however, of how much more effective the struggle of American workers would be if they adopted measures such as the slowdown, sit-down or other terms of control of factories.