

THE FIGHTING WORKER



WORKERS OF THE WORLD
UNITE!

Organ of the Revolutionary Workers League of the U. S.

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FIGHT AGAINST THE ROOSEVELT WAR PLANS.

Down with Imperialist War! Fight Social Patriotism

To Workers and Oppressed Everywhere:

The imperialist brigands are on the eve of a new imperialist war to divide the world once again, to save tottering capitalism from its inevitable doom, the proletarian revolution. The Czechoslovakian struggle is merely an incident; no matter what its outcome the millions of men mobilized in Europe and the untold billions spent for rearmament on all continents, especially in America, will soon be plunged into a new World Carnage.

"Peaceful" Britain, murderer and enslaver of hundreds of millions of British Indians, Africans, Asiatics, and Europeans, attempts to get its European house in order in a new attempt to plunder the vast Asiatic Markets, to keep its old Empire under her. "Aggressive" Germany is trying to gulp up little Czechoslovakia as a step toward the same end, the oil fields of Rumania, the wheat fields of the Ukraine, and the vast markets of Asia. "Democratic" America, biding her time, waiting for the powers to exhaust themselves as they did in the last World War, before entering the new slaughter-fest, stands with its powerful economic club over the whole of humanity, waiting, like the rest, to plunder more thoroughly the Asiatic markets, as a decisive step towards organizing the whole world for American Imperialism.

REVOLUTION STOPPED WAR IN 1918

The victorious October Revolution in the weakest link of capitalism in 1917, Russia, and the struggles of the revolutionary masses everywhere, particularly in Germany, put an end, after four long years, to the last imperialist slaughter. Dying capitalism was confronted with two dozen proletarian revolutions, a struggling working class fighting to end once and for all the system of war, unemployment, and oppression. The treachery of the social-patriots of that period, the 2nd International, and later the treachery of Stalinism in China, Germany, Britain, Bulgaria, etc. gave capitalism a new lease on life, and paved the way for this new imperialist war.

No power on earth, or above it, can stop the present impending "organized murder", except proletarian revolution against capitalism. The workers in Czechoslovakia and France, by organizing Workers Militia and Workers Councils for a struggle for power will deal a greater blow to the war plans of imperialism than all the "peace" gestures of Britain, America, Stalinism, or French imperialism. The workers in Czechoslovakia by tearing itself loose from the capitalist and oppressive Czechoslovak government, by preparing independent working class defense against Fascist aggression, by giving no support to Mr. Benes and his masters, the Skoda munition works, will be striking a blow for lasting peace, for the emancipation of the working class from the system that breeds war.

CAPITALISM BREEDS UNEMPLOYMENT AND WAR

"Aggressive" or "defensive", "fascist" or "democratic", "allied" or "not allied" with the Soviet Union, the imperialist brigands have but one goal: further enslavement of the toilers and oppressed of all countries.

Dozens of millions were maimed, killed, and wound-

(Continued on page 3)

War Threat Darkens Europe

September 19 — War games, fleet manouvers, frenzied diplomatic activity directly between British and German heads of state, mobilization orders, have roused the entire world to the imminence and inevitability of the second world war. On all sides the question now is not "if", but WHEN.

REAL ISSUE IS MASTERY OF EUROPE.

The immediate struggle revolves on the surface around the small Sudeten area in Czechoslovakia of 3 1/4 million Germans. The real issue, however, is the hegemony of Europe. Should Nazi Germany gain her point now, she would foment nationalist moves of the other minorities of Czechoslovakia, disintegrate the Czechs and take further steps to add to the famous munitions and steel works of Czechoslovakia, the oil fields of Rumania and entry into the Ukraine. It will mean a definite supplanting of French domination in central Europe for German domination.

British and French imperialism see looming behind the issue of Czechoslovakia, the threat of a powerful Germany able to drive for further concessions of colonies and spheres of influence from the French and British Empires. Behind the scenes these two Empires are trying to bargain away other concessions to keep

Germany from its rapid expansion. Britain, especially, would like to establish a four power bloc in Europe against the Soviet Union and the United States, promising Germany concessions at the expense of Russia while maintaining for itself the decisive voice in this bloc. To accomplish this she is willing to sacrifice Czechoslovakia and betray France.

GERMANY DRIVEN BY CRISIS

The so-called "prosperity" in Germany has been achieved on the basis of her armaments industries, at the expense of a sharp increase in the cost of production, an inability to hold her own on the world market and a disorganization of economy. It is a "prosperity" of scarcity, which has come out of the hides of the masses, who are working 12 and 14 hours in Hitler's Labor Army and at least 10 hours a day back "home".

German capitalism cannot

(Continued on page 3)

New Address

All subscribers and friends of the FIGHTING WORKER and REVOLUTIONARY WORKERS LEAGUE should note the change of address of the paper and organization. The new address is 1904 W. Division Street, Chicago, Illinois.

PICKET SPANISH CONSULATES FOR NEGRETE

Rosalio Negrette, well known American revolutionist, and a member of the Revolutionary Workers League, is still in jail following his re-arrest by the Spanish government after being put on an English steamer for Marseilles on August 1st. Negrette was in custody of the American government and on his way back to the U. S., after a four months imprisonment, by the Loyalist regime in Madrid for his anti-fascist and revolutionary viewpoint. He was technically out of jurisdiction of the Spanish GPU, but neither the British nor American imperialists here explained how Negrette was taken from their custody without acquiescence.

FRAME UP TRIALS

Negrette remains in custody of the Valencia Secret Police, who no doubt are trying to use him in the forthcoming frame-up trials of POUM and other anti-fascist workers who oppose the capitalist Loyalist regime.

Workers in Canada, Scotland, Mexico, Spain and other countries

(continued on page 4)

FREE ROSALIO NEGRETE

Daladier Paving Way For Fascism

The Nazi-Czech crisis once more reveals the internal situation in France, and the collapse of bourgeois democracy. Whole sections of the leading bourgeoisie and their Deputies were ready to capitulate to the pressure and bluff of Hitler in the last week. The Bourgeois parliamentarians were helpless under the threat of a new war. Tardieu, former Premier, and pro-French Fascist rightist has objected to the "surrender" position within the Cabinet.

Daladier, representing the Bonapartist regime now ruling in France is likewise powerless for action in the present European crisis.

As a whole France now realizes that the structure built upon the Versailles Treaty has been smashed, that the League of Nations, as the hope of the French Bourgeoisie to keep the former vanquished down is a thing of the past. And dilemma — with her post war gains slipping rapidly she is at the mercy of German encroachments on the one hand, and her British "ally" demands on the other. Her weak internal economic structure that upholds her large colonial empire has left France in a most precarious position.



CLASS RELATIONS SHARPEN

The February sixth 1934 Fascist riots, followed by the workers demonstrations on the 9th and 12th, which seemingly came out of the clear blue sky, in reality only revealed the culminating class forces within the French "Republic." Again those underground forces are coming to the surface, and this time it will not conclude with a threat against parliament, but with a decisive battle of the Republic to maintain itself against a deceptive struggle between Fascism and the Proletarian Revolution.

Steps to the right since Feb. 6 have been rapid, because the Peoples Front lulled the proletariat to sleep, and paved the way for the DaladierBonapartist regime of today. They allowed France to march on in Spain. Blum helped bring on inflation, while Daladier takes away the forty hour week. Blum centralized and "nationalized" (?) the war industries; while Daladier speeds up war production on a basis of militarized labor, and declares martial law against the Marseilles sailors.

The Stalinist and Socialist leaders have sold out long before war is declared. The recent capitulation to the government's increase of hours and gearing up of war industries is the full blossom of reformism — social patriotism.

Shall Workers Support A Labor Party?

With capitalist decay reaching new heights, sixteen million again unemployed, war preparations more intense and costly than ever before, a new "beacon light" is being held forth for the American working class — the Labor Party.

Shall workers help organize such a Party? Shall they support it once it is built? In the answer to these two questions are involved our basic policies in the struggle against imperialist war, and against capitalist oppression in general.

WHAT IS A LABOR PARTY?

What kind of a Party is this Labor Party? Is it a workers' Party, a capitalist party, or what? In the sense that the Labor Party is based on the trade union movement, it is in form a "Workers" Party. In the broader and decisive sense, however, in its policies and class content, it is not. Its PROGRAM is REFORMIST, in other words a program aiming not at the overthrow but at the reform and perpetuation of capitalism. In that sense the Labor Party is a capitalist party, a reformist party.

This fact is all-important. A Labor Party in program and in action, no matter what its composition, is and can be nothing but another capitalist party. Mr. Browder — the Stalinist leader — four years ago spoke of a Labor Party which was "not reformist and yet not revolutionary." The Trotskyites today are advocating a Labor Party which will have "not a reformist program, but a program of revolutionary transitional demands" (sic), in other words a Marxian program for the pre-revolutionary period. Mr. Browder subsequently came out of this coma and now recognizes that his Labor Party is to be a reformist Party. The Trotskyite rank and file, part of which is now in revolt against the leadership, may do well to bear this experience in mind.

UNITY ON A "MINIMUM" PROGRAM

The Labor Party is the American counterpart of the People's Front. In content, although slightly different in form, the Labor Party is similar to the traditional European Parties of social democracy. Its roots are in the trade union movement. Its economic base is in the ability of capitalism, on the basis of super-profits in the colonies and at home, to bribe with reforms large sections of the working class thus keeping the proletariat safely away from class struggle and proletarian revolution.

Can a Labor Party be anything else? Obviously not. For in the Labor Party are Socialists, Stalinists, bourgeois reformists and labor fakers like Lewis, Dubinsky, Hillman, Martin, Olsen (before he died), and a left cover of Lovestoneites and Trotskyists. What is the "minimum" program that such people can be united on? It can only be a program of capitulation to reformism. It can only be a program for immediate demands within the framework of capitalism. It can only be a legislative program of class-collaboration which can not even gain any lasting immediate gains for the proletariat, let alone its final emancipation from capitalism. Any attempt to push that program to the

left, to conform to the needs of the working class, must result in the disintegration of that precious "unity" which is the big propaganda point for such a "Labor Party."

UNITY ON A CAPITALIST PROGRAM

What do the Labor Party advocates tell the working class? They pander to the healthy desire of the working class for unity, but they create in reality not a unity of the working class but an ideological unity with the capitalist class — class collaboration. Unity with the capitalist is a split of the workers ranks. The Labor Party in reality splits the united class front of the working class.

"What is the sense fighting each other. Let us, the whole working class unite, and fight fascism, fight the bosses." That is the argument for the Labor Party.

But what good is such a unity if it is not on a scientific working class program, a Marxian program? The only solution for the problems of humanity lies in the proletarian revolution. Any other "solution", any "unity" on the basis of trying to patch up the capitalist system only disarms the working class, prepares it for a complete rout at the hands of fascism. An army marching unitedly in the wrong direction is doomed to defeat.

LABOR PARTIES ELSEWHERE

This has been proven in life. There are dozens of examples of the objective aid which Labor Parties — reformism — has given to fascism.

The classic example is Germany, where the social-democratic party — based on the trade union movement and with program even to the "left" of the Labor Party movement in the United States — murdered thousands of workers in one revolution after another and finally paved the way for fascism.

Austrian social-democracy played a similar role. The British Labor Party has helped tie the workers hand and foot to the capitalist state; betrayed the general strike of 1926; helped enslave the millions of colonial people of the British empire; participated in the capitalist government and helped pass compulsory arbitration laws and other strike-breaking measures.

How about the Labor Parties in the United States? The Farmer-Labor Party movement in Minnesota, for example, or the American Labor Party? The former has helped murder striking workers in Minneapolis; the latter put into office and supports a strike-breaking Mayor in N. Y., a strike breaking governor and a strike-breaking president.

(To be continued next issue)

Refreshments Prizes
HOUSEWARMING DANCE
 Swing Band
OCTOBER 8, 1938 8:30 PM Until?
 1902 W. Division St.
 Admission 25c
 Auspices: Revolutionary Workers League

U.S. Tries To Head Off Mexican Revolution

The struggle over land oil in Mexico which reflects the entire colonial policy of American imperialism, is reaching a new stage due to the sharpening class relations in Mexico. Secretary of State Hull sent a note on the land seizure to which Cardenas replied with a slap in the face. This has aggravated the situation, but in no way alters the fundamentals involved. On the heels of this diplomatic exchange, John L. Lewis arrived in Mexico for a Labor and Anti-War conference and stated that Roosevelt and Cardenas were the two outstanding men working in behalf of the common man.

Here are two office boys (Lewis and Cardenas) of the same groups of American imperialism who seemingly contradict each other in action, but an analysis of the actual objective conditions in Mexico will reveal that the contradiction is the result of the most difficult position Mexico faces — the danger of a social revolution, with Cardenas reacting to this pressure more directly than ever before.

GOVERNMENT SUBSIDY IN DECAY CAPITALISM

When one understands that American Capitalism cannot collect billions from England and the allies for war debts, or the billions lent to Germany under the Dawes and Young Plan; when one realizes that even in the United States, where the danger of a social revolution is not yet the immediate question, the government must give billions in subsidies to the capitalists and crumbs to the unemployed; then one can more readily understand the "go slow" attitude of American imperialism in Mexico where at the most, a total of a half billion is involved, where the imminent danger of a struggle between Fascism and the working class threatens to cost it far more.

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENTS IN MEXICO CAN CHANGE ALL

If the economic and social developments in Mexico are not guided into safe channels by American Imperialism and its office boy Cardenas, or another who will replace him if he doesn't react to the present pressure being put on him, then these upsurges can not only change relations in Mexico but can have profound effects upon the whole map of North and South America. It is these fundamental social — revolutionary forces that American imperialism is primarily guided by, even though momentarily this contradicts the interests of a few million dollars.

Detroit Meeting War Clouds in Europe

Hugo Oehler
 I.O.O.F. Hall

331 Bethune

Corner BRUSH St.

Sun. Oct. 2 - 2 pm

FREE FRED BEAL
 FREE TOM MOONEY.

DOWN WITH IMPERIALIST WAR

(Continued from page 1)

ed in the last slaughter-fest to "save the world for democracy". But the capitalist contradictions, stronger than the words of the professor President, forced capitalism in its weakest links into the tyranny of Fascism, reduced bourgeois democracy to its lowest point in history.

Twenty-five millions are unemployed in the world, fifteen million in the U. S. alone. The warehouses are full of wheat, but the masses go hungry. The factories lie idle, while the need for the things of life was never greater. Mankind has developed an abundance of the things of life; but the imperialist brigands can maintain their system only by a new world carnage, to gain new markets for the investment of capital and the export of goods, only by dealing death to more dozens of millions of the exploited and oppressed.

FOR THE CLASS WAR AGAINST IMPERIALISM

The toilers of the world have nothing to gain from such a war, from an imperialist war. The working class and oppressed can gain only by the continuation of the class war against capitalism. The imperialists are trying to use the oppressed as cannon-fodder. The toiling majority must turn this war of robbery and plunder, this imperialist war, into a war of classes, a war of the working class of the world, on both sides of the trenches against the capitalist class; for the emancipation of mankind from wage slavery. The proletariat of all nations must fight imperialist war by working for the defeat of its "own" country, the defeat of its "own" army, everywhere. It has no country to defend, except the one Workers State, the Soviet Union; it has no fatherland.

SOCIAL CHAUVINISTS AID WAR PLANS

Those who are speaking of a "fatherland", of defending it; those who stand in the way of proletarian revolution, are on the side of imperialist war. Those who are calling on us to fight for French Imperialism and American imperialism in the name of "democracy", in the name of the "defense of the Soviet Union", are on the side of the imperialists. The only Defense of the Soviet Union is the international struggle against international capitalism, fascist and democratic capitalism alike.

Those who in France are aiding the Bonapartist premier, Daladier, place military rule over the dock workers of Marseilles, who are calling off struggles against the lengthening of the 40 hour week in the interests of national defense, are traitors to the working class. Those in America who support the billion-dollar armaments, who propose "non-intervention" nostrums to the American working class, serve the interests of one section of the capitalist class, and capitalism as a whole against the proletariat as a whole. They are the future Noskes and Scheidemans of America, the butchers of proletarian revolution.

The social-chauvinist 2nd and 3rd Internationals are beating the drums for world imperialism in a "holy" crusade against Germany. Similarly the 1914 Browders, Stalins, Thomases, and Vanderveldes (who even then was called Vandervelde), beat the drums for world imperialism in the "holy" crusade against Kaiserism and Czarism.

BUILD THE FOURTH COMMUNIST INTERNATIONAL

Comrades and fellow workers there is but one enemy, capitalism, imperialism. Down with all imperialism! British and American, as well as Italian and German!

There is no solution for our oppression under capitalism. The "peace" of Versailles was merely a boomerang, forerunner of new imperialist carnages. No matter who is "victorious" in the new War it is likewise no solution. The only solution for the ills of the European people, lies in the establishment of a United Socialist Soviet Republics of Europe.

If the proletariat is unable to stop the war by revolution, then when the war breaks out it must fight to turn the imperialist war into a civil war. The war and economic breakdown will give birth to many revolutions. It is up to the working class to transform these revolutionary situations into successful revolutions.

The international might of the working class can and will put an end to capitalism and its imperialist wars. Build the new Fourth Communist International to fight social-chauvinism, to fight the traitorous leaders in the ranks of the working class who are binding it hand and foot to the imperialist war moves! Build the Fourth International to lead the revolution against capitalism!

U.S. Groups Shape War Policy

American embassies in Europe, in Berlin, Paris and London are humming with activity. Uncle Sam's finger, as usual, is in the war pie. President Roosevelt and Hull have been conferring on the subject every day. The American press is staging an enormous propaganda campaign.

The British propaganda machine in the U. S. — in alliance with sections of American capital — is trying to gain sentiment for American aid to Britain in the present diplomatic manouvers and in war time. But another section of American capital — and their press, of course — is putting forth the policy of "non-intervention", let's keep out of the European war, etc.

TWO BLOCS OF CAPITALISTS

Both groups represent two powerful blocs of American imperialists. The "Anglophile" group — an important section of the J. P. Morgan Bloc of capitalists, which have important links with British capital — favor "parallel" action with Britain, while American capital, through its great economic strength waxes rich on the profits of war and undermines British power.

The other group of imperialists, whose interests oppose Britain's more sharply, is anxious to deal a blow to British imperialism from the outset, as it did in the Ethiopian struggle by refusing to adhere to Britain's oil sanctions against Italy. Using the same slogan as it did then — non-intervention — this bloc of capitalists is trying to bust up the British plans in mid-Europe and further weaken England and France.

MORE DANGEROUS PROPAGANDA

The latter bloc, by its semi-pacifist propaganda of keeping America out of war, is a more subtle and equally as dangerous to the American working class. By taking the lead today in the anti-war sentiment of the masses, it will be better able to corral the workers into the war tomorrow, having meanwhile deluded millions of workers into belief in America's "peaceful" intentions.

Whether the cry is raised in the press for aid to the "democracies" in checking Hitler (i. e. Chicago Daily News), or whether it is the cry for "peace" and "non-intervention" (i. e. Chicago Tribune) it is an imperialist policy of reorganizing the world for America's needs that dominates both sets of propaganda.

MAY FIGHT ON SAME SIDE

Despite the U. S. — British antagonism, the next war may see these two enemies on the "same side" against a common foe, postponing their open warfare to a later date. Even so, however, American and British imperialism will still continue their struggle against each other, but it will take the form of further economic and political struggles in preparation for the military struggle to come.

THE FIGHTING WORKER

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Labor Donated

War Threat Darkens Europe

(Continued)

afford to wait and use economic and financial — "peaceful" — means of expansion toward the East. Already the signs of revolt in Germany are growing. The Labor Conscripts and their wives are rebelling against their heavy lot and the iron discipline. Germany must strike out or again face new social upheavals.

AGGRESSOR AND DEFENDER

The press of the "Democracies" is playing up Nazi "aggression" into a small "independent" state. As a matter of fact the "Democracies" are equally as guilty in the robber struggle for the redistribution of the earth. Only the "Democracies", the nations that dominate the earth, are not yet pinched enough to take open military measures in their attempts to redivide the earth. They prefer to manouever meanwhile on the economic and political fields.

But the present impending military struggle is indissolubly linked with the present world crisis, effects of which are being felt in each nation. The signs of the crisis are reflected in the sharp disunity in each of the four big imperialist powers over the present struggle over the Sudetens. Strong pro-peace and pro-war factions are present not only in Germany (where the commander in chief of the army is reported by the correspondent Pertinax to have resigned) but in Britain (Chamberlain versus the Eden group), in France (Bonnet versus Tardieu) and even in the United States. This indecision, fear, hesitation, and disunity on the part of the big imperialists can only be attributed to the crisis and the fear that war will begin a new wave of proletarian revolutions. Especially is this true in France where the Bonapartist Daladier is trying to whip up chauvinist sentiment to derail the anger of the proletariat for his struggle against the 40 hour week, and the living conditions of the masses.

Acting as a spearhead in the world imperialist drive against the Soviet Union, Hitler has long ago

N.Y. United Front

The P. W. I. and I. E. W. P. (Field group) in N.Y.C. are issuing a new united front call for Negroes.

laid the steps by undermining the Franco-Soviet and Soviet-Czech pacts, by taking Austria, etc. It must be remembered that the basic contradiction in the world is the struggle between the Workers State, despite its Stalinist warping, and world imperialism. The present struggle over Czechoslovakia may very well end up in a holy crusade by the powers in Europe against the Soviet Union.

BALANCE OF POWER

American imperialism, trying to duplicate its role of 1914 stays on the military side-lines, hoping to enter the war when the other powers are already exhausted. She wants time now to further consolidate on the economic sphere before taking military steps. America today holds the balance of power in the imperialist world, but her needs make her the most potent driving force for war.

"SELF-DETERMINATION"

The demand for a plebiscite and for self-determination made by Hitler and his henchman Henlein, is a clever fake manouever. It must of course be understood that every move for war by the imperialists is covered with a "holy" propaganda slogan: such as "save the world for democracy", "save the world from Kaiserism, czarism, fascism", "help the democracies against fascism", etc.

Revolutionists have in the past often raised the demand for the RIGHT of self-determination for oppressed national minorities. But here, as in the Saar plebiscite, the workers and peasants in the Sudeten area are being asked to become a part of the murderous fascist machine, under conditions of terror and threats which make a free decision impossible.

The workers and peasants of Czechoslovakia, in all sections including the Sudeten area, must organize their own independent forces, build their own workers militias, workers councils (soviets), to defend themselves against the aggression of Nazi Germany and the oppression of Czech capitalism, which like Germany and the other imperialists is an oppressor of minorities and the proletariat.

If and when the world war breaks out Czechoslovakia will be part of one of the imperialist blocs. The workers on both sides of the imperialist war must work for the defeat of their "own" bourgeoisies and armies, for turning the imperialist war into revolutionary war.

No matter what the imperialist propaganda says about "stopping Hitler", the war will bring on a dozen Hitlers (whatever happens to the German Hitler), unless the working class seizes power in one or more countries.

Workers Election Program Against Capitalism

- For the six hour day, five day week with no reduction in pay!
- For work relief at trade union wages!
- For Workers Control of Relief Funds!
- For Adequate Cash Relief!
- For the unification of all trade unions on a class struggle policy, with industrial structure!
- For democratic rights; for the right to organize, strike and picket!
- For the coordination of free education and practical vocational training for all youth; for equal pay for equal work; for independent relief for all youth equal to the adult!
- For full economic, social and political equality for the Negro masses!
- For immediate complete independence for the Colonies and protectorates of the U. S.!
- For the Class War — Against Imperialist War!
- For a Workers Council Government!
- For independent working class action!
- For Workers Control of Production!

Philco Workers Fight Long Battle

Philadelphia — Under the bosses threat to open up plants in other cities, and demoralized by the capitulationist policy of the majority of the union "leadership", the workers of Philco ended their bitter 4 month strike by accepting a rotten contract by a small majority vote. The militancy of the workers prevented the bureaucrats from yielding a complete victory to the bosses, who at first demanded an open shop.

WORKERS DEMAND FIGHT

When the bosses refused to renew the union contract on May 1st, saying that the union "represented nobody", the workers countered with a demonstration of over 10,000. The bureaucrats of the United Electrical Radio Workers Union, however, instead of putting the fight on an organized strike basis, called it a lockout and appealed to the governor and others for arbitration. Only after 2 months of growing criticism from the membership were picket lines organized, calls for physical, financial and moral assistance made to other locals of the UERW of Philadelphia and nationally.

The workers turned down the main provisions of the present contract at one turbulent mass meeting after another in recent weeks, by overwhelming majorities. A small minority of the leading officials opposed the contract, most opposition coming from shop stewards, etc. who were naturally closer to the workers. (One of the minority leaders had also opposed the labor fakers of Philadelphia at an unemployed rally at Rebyburn Plaza in July). The bureaucrats, however, won out by forcing a secret vote and a furious campaign to demoralize the workers' resistance.

MUST REORGANIZE FORUS

At this writing about 1,500 workers out of 13,000 members are being called back. The terms of the contract leave a wide loopholes for the bosses: preferential shop, reclassification of jobs and wages, changes in basic rates of pay, 40 hour week instead of 36, etc. The task of the workers is to reorganize their forces to fight for a better contract: no giving out of parts for outside production; the return of the 36 hour week, against the wage cuts; and above all the return of the CLOSED SHOP with no qualification.

A militant progressive group on a class struggle basis must be built to fight the ruinous policy of the bureaucrats. Otherwise the union will be smashed and all union conditions destroyed.

THE FOURTH INTERNATIONAL

SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER
The Soviet-Jap crisis
Struggle in the Maritime Union
Palestine
Trade Union report of the 5th Plenum
Workers Vote
International Notes
Another Chapter on Dialectical Materialism
Don't Delay!
Order Yours NOW!
FOURTH INTERNATIONAL
1904 W. Division Street

Organize The Unorganized

Krogers "Insures" Workers

Cleveland — One of the unexposed rackets victimizing the workers in Ohio is the tie-up between the big insurance companies, the chain stores, and the company unions in the retail food industry. The racket is fleecing the workers of thousands of dollars a month, deducted openly from earned wages.

MUST TAKE INSURANCE

The Kroger Grocery and Baking Company, whose workers have been on strike in Detroit for almost three months, is one of the worst in this legalized robbery. A worker that is employed by Krogers works three months and then receives a notice that, to hold his job, he must take out a \$1,000 or more insurance and that such action automatically places him in the company union, the Kroger Employees Mutual Benefit Association (Kembra). Not to accept these terms is to fire yourself off the job.

Here and throughout the country the chain stores are cutting expenses. In Cleveland they have closed about 25 stores in three months and in place of

these they open about three self-service stores, thus cutting the personnel to 1/3 of the regular staff.

In 1934 Prudential Insurance made a contract with Krogers in which Krogers was to assume a certain amount of "group insurance" on their employees. The fact that they had several hundred stores at the time of the contract means that despite the closing of stores the insurance amount contracted for remains the same, but the amount prorated for each person increases. In April 1938 the company forced an extra \$500 insurance on each employee in addition to the \$1,000 already carried.

COMPANY UNION

The Kembra union is supported by Krogers and is short and simple a company union despite any advertised statements to the contrary. Its membership is there under open compulsion, contained in a printed and circulated document that membership is a necessary condition for employment. Yet the membership is never called to meetings or permitted to call meetings of their own. They are never consulted on policy nor asked to take more insurance, just arbitrarily ordered to do so. Just to illustrate the tie-up between Kembra and Krogers, the national headquarters of the company union is located in the National Offices of the Kroger Company.

Picket Consulate for Negrete

(Continued from page 1)

ries have added to the International pressure on Negrete's behalf which helped secure his first release from the Loyalist government. A new appeal to these same organizations to resume and intensify the pressure on the Loyalists and on American imperialism, has been sent out by the Revolutionary Workers League, through Hugo Oehler, National Secretary and co-worker with Negrete in Spain last year, and himself a Loyalist prisoner for 43 days.

CLASS COLLABORATION SABOTAGE

Attempts to start united front action in the United States have met with the sabotage of this campaign by the Trotskyites and the Stamm "Revolt" group which has tailed the Trotskyites in their class - collaborationist "defense" policy. It is to be hoped that the four months of failure on their line, and the pressure of their members and other, will force a retreat from this policy depending on the State Department. Whatever excuse they use to cover-up, the RWL will welcome every honest effort from all groups towards an effective class struggle campaign in behalf of Negrete and the class war prisoners in Spain.

The Revolutionary Workers League is supplementing its past work of meetings, protest cards, propaganda, etc., with a number

NEW PAMPHLETS

COMBINATION OFFER

Five newly printed pamphlets and one timely pamphlet of two years ago,

ALL
for 25c postpaid.

SHALL WORKERS SUPPORT A LABOR PARTY?

CAPITALIST DECAY AND UNEMPLOYMENT

WHY COMMUNISM

FIGHT AGAINST THE ROOSEVELT WAR PLANS

FIGHT FASCISM — DEFEND REVOLUTIONISTS IN SPAIN

BOSS RULE OR THE WORKERS VOTE?

DEMOS PRESS
1904 DIVISION STREET

of picket lines in front of the Spanish Consulates in New York, Chicago, Washington and other cities. New York has already begun its activity in this direction.

All workers interested in helping defend Negrete and the other victims of Loyalist "justice" in Spain, should immediately send funds and get in touch with the Negrete Defense Committee, 1904 Division Street, Chicago.

FREE ROSALIO NEGRETE

Boss Parties Ignore Workers Issues

Four thousand more families were forced onto relief in Chicago during July and August. Thousands of families are threatened with a 15% relief cut, despite the starvation level of present relief standards. 37,000 certified applicants on WPA can get no jobs. In war industry factories workers are being finger-printed, given blood tests, and regimented as part of Roosevelt's (and Horner and Kelly's) war preparations. Workers of the North Shore line are out on strike against an attempted 15% wage cut.

BOSS PARTIES IGNORE ISSUES

The Republican candidates for office, as well as both the Horner and Kelly cliques in the Illinois Democratic Party, are blissfully oblivious to these miseries of the masses in their present election campaign. No matter who is elected, it is clear that none of the ills of the workers will be eliminated. Once the elections are over, relief will be cut more, WPA workers 403ed, and the National Guard called out to break more strikes, and possibly repeat the Memorial Day massacre of 11 workers in Chicago last year.

PROTEST VOTE

It is clear that the solution for the workers of Chicago and Illinois (as well as the rest of the country) is not by voting for this or that capitalist politician, whether Old Deal, New Deal, or Raw Deal, but by fighting on a class struggle line for our immediate demands and for the overthrow of capitalism. The R. W. L. uses the election campaign to bring the real issues before the class and to organize and register working class protest against capitalist misery and exploitation. the RWL organization in Chicago, is running J. Hadley for Congressman-at-large, in order to register the vote of those workers opposed to capitalism. Those workers deprived of a vote by the capitalist election laws — negroes in the South (and North), whites who can't pay a poll tax, youth under 21, foreign born workers, etc. — are asked to signify their sympathy for the RWL election program by signing the Workers Vote lists circulated in Chicago by the RWL. Those who can vote should write in comrade Hadley's name and sign the Workers Vote lists as well.

The Workers Vote program of the RWL is printed in adjoining columns.

For Workers Control of Production

Rail Workers Take Strike Vote

The railroad managements have issued an order making the proposed 15% wage cut effect at 12:01 A. M. October 1st. The involved red-tape of the Railway Labor Act is now in its last stage. The National Mediation Board's efforts have failed and the Union Negotiation Committee has correctly rejected arbitration. President Roosevelt still has the power to appoint a fact-finding commission with 30 days to make its report. Then employers are free to cut wages and the workers "free" to strike.

MUST PREPARE FOR STRIKE

The railroad unions are now taking a strike vote. But it is not enough merely to vote strike. Active preparations for a strike must be made, strike funds collected, active support of other unions obtained, especially the support of the Maritime and truck drivers unions. The great danger is that the class-collaborationist leaders of the railroad unions will pin all their hopes and efforts on Roosevelt and his "fact" finding commission and sabotage strike preparations. The railroad workers must have no faith in the President or his commission.

The Roosevelt-appointed Maritime Commission is setting up union-busting fink hiring halls. The railroad workers will fare no better at the hands of another Roosevelt commission.

Industrial shop and yard strike councils must be built now which will include workers of all crafts. Into these must be drawn the line and train men. These councils will guarantee unity of action and give the workers the only kind of leadership that can win any of their demands.

Chicago Forums & Classes

ANNOUNCING

NEW CHICAGO CLASS

Starting: Monday, October 10th, at 8:30 P. M., for six weeks a class on

History of the American Labor

Movement —

—Hugo Oehler

Sunday, OCTOBER 9th, first forum of the 1938 series:

HOW FAR WILL HITLER GO? BILL STREETER, Speaker.

8:30 P. M.

Workers Center
1904 DIVISION STREET

Funds for Spain DEMAND THE RELEASE OF THE CLASS WAR PRISONERS.

Send all contributions to the
Secretary, Treasurer.

PHIL SOLD,
THE NEGRETE DEFENSE
COMMITTEE

1904 W. Division Street
Chicago, Ill.