Let the Bankers Fight On the Maginot Line, Labor's Fight Is **On the Picket Line!**

LABOR ACTION

Tons of Death Page 3. The Negro's Fight Page 4 Apex DecisionPage 4

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JUNE, 10, 1940

ORGAN OF THE WORKERS PARTY, SECTION OF THE FOURTH INTERNATIONAL

LABOR STRIKES FOR LIVING STANDARDS AS ARMY CHEF SEES WAR IN A MONTH Knudsen, The Same Old Tune!

War Entry Nears as F.D.R. Asks for Partial Mobilization

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WASHINGTON, June 4 - General George C. Marshall, Army Chief of Staff, testifying before the House Military Affairs Committee, told the country today that the United States may be in the war within the "next month or two". He gave this as the reason for granting the President full control over the National Guard, including the right to send the men outside the country. Saying that there is a possibility of "trouble" in the near future in the Western Hemisphere, he added that the army had to be prepared for military intervention in Latin America.

President Roosevelt last week pushed his drive to concentrate all war-making powers into his own hands.

On Friday, in his speech to Congress, he shocked the nation by his sudden request for full control over the National Guard, a step equivalent to partial mobilization for war, involving 235,000 men now working in offices, factories and mills, and 15,000 officers.

The proposal indicated that the President is preparing for immediate military actions. It was accompanied by the boosting of the proposed war appropriations an additional billion dollars, thus making a grand total of about five billion dollars allocated to the war machine for the coming fiscal year.

The President's demand, supported by General Marshall, Army Chief of Staff, in a warmongering speech, was unfavorably received in the country. Despite the war hysteria created by Roosevelt, the latest Gallup poll reveals that the overwhelming majority of the people are still against the U.S. entering the war.

Under present laws, the President has the power to call National Guard units in case of

invasion or insurrection, and has control in other cases only if Congress declares a national emergency. Roosevelt gave no explanation for his unusual request. General Marshall stated that the emergency power was necessary so that the National Guard could aid the regular army in Latin-America, if necessary.

According to Raymond Clap



KEARNY, N.J.-The first big strike under the new national defense program was called off when Local 16, Industrial Union of Maritime & Shipbuilding Workers, CIO, voted to return to work Monday morning, June 3, for wages which they had rejected last Thursday. The strike involved 6700 workers in the shipyard here of the Federal Shipbuilding & Drydock Company, subsidiary of the U.S. Steel Corporation. It held up for on \$36,000,000 worth of U.S naval craft-two cruisers



Wilson Case Goes to Trial

Stettinius Faces Red

CIO Top Leaders Blow Hot and Cold on War Issue

The big news of this week is that American labor has begun to fight for its rights and interests against the anti-labor offensive now being launched by the Roosevelt Administration under the cloak of "national defense". The two mightiest industrial corporations in the country were involved - U.S. Steel and General Motors.

Furthermore, by one of those dramatic "coincidences" that seem to happen so often, it is to the executive heads of these very corporations that Roosevelt has entrusted the job of preparing U.S. industry for war. Chairman Stettinius of U.S. Steel and President Knudsen of General Motors had hardly moved into their handsome offices in Washington, to exercise semi-dictatorial powers over American industry, when the news broke of the "labor trouble" in their respective com-

per, Scripps Howard Washington commentator, the purpose of the proposal is to prepare for American intervention in Mexico in case of civil war. "It was mainly with this situation in mind that the request for authority to call out the National Guard was made, although officials hesitate to say so.", he writes in the World Telegram (June 3, 1940).

According to a United Press dispatch from Washington on the same day: "Some (members of Congress) expressed the opinion that Mr. Roosevelt desired complete control over reserve forces at this time so that they could be used as weapons against any sitdown strikes in factories making defense supplies."

The President alone knows exactly why he wants immediate control of the National Guard, but he re-(Continued on page 2)

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3

several days all wor and two destroyers. The strikers defied not only the Roosevelt Administration but also

their own top union leadership, which opposed the strike. Quoting John F. Dempsey, president of Local 16, the N.Y. Times stated: "Mr. Dempsey said that he, Wil-

liam J. Carney, regional director of Stettinius Embarrassed the CIO, and John Green, president

of the union, realized that the strike would put the workers in an unfavorable light in view of the defense program, but the men had argued that the strike was necessary because of the rising cost of living. The men asked for 10 cents an hour increase in wages and a week's vacation after one year of employment. The company countered with 21/2 cents to 41/2 cents an hour increase and no other concessions. Yielding to pressure from all sides, the strikers gave in on Sunday. But it was a great strike while it lasted.

Shachtman Speaks at Series of Successful Meetings in Chicago

The first series of meetings in the Cleveland, where, despite inclement middle west, scheduled for the antiwar speaking tour of Max Shachtman, national secretary of the Workers Party, has been completed.

Following the successful debate with Professor Albert Hyma, of the University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor (reported elsewhere in this issue), Shachtman spent a very active week in Chicago. The highlight of his tour there was a meeting in Washington Park, sponsored by the Negro forum. Over two hundred Negro workers were present to hear Shachtman speak on the war and the United States.

On the evening of the same day, Shachtman spoke at a south side meeting organized by the Workers Party branch in that area. More than fifty workers, the majority of them, Negro, were present. In addition to these meetings, the national secretary of the Workers Party addressed a fine meeting organized by the Socialist Club at the University of Chicago. One other meeting, a city-wide gathering in Chicago's Loop, remains scheduled before Shachtman's departure for the west coast.

Prior to the Chicago and Ann Arbor meetings, Shachtman spoke at PHILADELPHIA _____July 20 sage of this resolution constituted a

weather, an excellent meeting was held. Between Cleveland and Detroit, he stopped off for a meeting in Detroit.

On the west coast, Shachtman will speak in the Bay Area, San Francisco and Los Angeles. He will cover meetings in Texas, Missouri: Illinois, Ohio and Pennsylvania, on his return trip.

TOUR SCHEDULE MAY 16-JULY 20, 1940

AUSTIN

City Date

SAN FRANCISCO AREA June 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 LOS ANGELES AREA

June 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25: July 2 HOUSTON July 3 with. July 7, 8 ST. LOUIS STREATOR July 9

CHICAGOJuly	10, 11,	12	S.
LOUISVILLE	July	13	
COLUMBUS	July	14	
AKRON	July	15	
PITTSBURGH	July	16	
WASHINGTON, D.C.	July	17	
READING	July	18	
ALLENTOWN	July	19	
There are an ended in the State of the State	A CONTRACTOR OF A	1.2.2.1	

On Friday morning there were 2000 to 3000 on the picket line. Saturday morning, the same powerful line blockaded the shipyard gates. Nobody was at work in the plant. 6700 men were out.

All of this must have been very embarrassing to E. R. Stettinius, chairman of U.S. Steel Corp. and

(Continued on page 2)

Politicians Seek to Obscure Issues with Red-Herring Humbug

Special to Labor Action

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. - The politicians, responsible for the beating of James Wilson, unemployed mechanic, answered the growing popular resentment against their conduct by framing Wilson on a charge of assault.

Ralph H. Hamilton, local political figure, and Emile "Wacky" Lauziere,

ILGWU Delegates Subjected To Barrage of Pro-War Talk

Special to Labor Action

NEW YORK-Plans for organizational campaigns and reports of past activities in the out of town silk dress, cotton and knit-goods trades were placed before the convention of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, meeting in Carnegie Hall here during the past week. A demonstration of workers new-

ly organized in out of town shops was one of the most colorful and impressive events in the entire convention. With banners bearing the name of towns scattered throughout the entire nation, the new members paraded through the hall and on to the platform singing the stirring ILGWU songs which had cheered them to victory on the picket lines. Massed on the platform, they pledged their devotion to the union and their determination to carry on until the industry was 100% union. The convention and the packed galleries gave the new members an ovation.

While the convention sweltered under a barrage of pro-war oratory, committees were grinding out reports which will be voted on in the last days of the convention. Resolutions on war, constitutional amendment, affiliation to the AFL and the presidential election are among the most important items to be dealt

Low Point A resolution praising part of the work of the Dies Committee, but criticizing it for not pushing an investigation of anti-Semitic agitation, called for its dissolution and for the continuation of its work by a new Joint Congressional committee on "subversive" movements. The pas-

sharp break with the traditional position of the ILGWU on such witchhunting committees and marked the lowest point reached by any ILGWU gathering in its 40 years of existence. An endless stream of war-mongering oratory by politicians, visiting mayors, union leaders and "socialists" like Judge Panken and Frank Crosswaith engulfed the convention. All with rare exceptions, joined the hue and cry in support of Roosevelt and war for democracy and denunciation of "fifth columnists". "Socialists' Panken and Crosswaith outdid all others. Emil Reeve of the Hosiery Workers Union, the outstanding exception to the general rule, spoke against war, against alien-baiting bills and for the organization and struggle of labor to maintain and extend its rights. Strangely enough, Matthew Woll of the AFL was so far outdistanced by all other "patriots' that he left the impression, no doubt

unintentionally, of one who put la-(Continued on page 2)

King Gives Up Sundays to Watch Workers Labor

"The King had given up his Sunday at home to see the workers in this big arms factory, which has been open day and night, seven days a week, ever since the start of the new production drive."

-New York Times June 3, 1940

Cambridge area who are supporting Hamilton henchman, appeared in court as witness and plaintiff against Wilson's struggle for a chance to live. Wilson. According to the story they Not Intimidated told in court, it was Wilson who as-The political big-wigs of the Camsaulted them, rather than they who bridge area are still on the anxious assaulted Wilson. Exactly how this seat. They did not expect anything tale squared with the fact that Willike the wave of popular resentment son had to be sent to the hospital that arose in Cambridge'as a result where doctors asserted he was in of their brutal treatment of the unserious condition, and then was oremployed worker. According to the dered to remain in bed for 10 days commentator of the Boston Observer, in order to recover from his wounds, the Wilson Defense Committee is was not established by the lawyers being "thoroughly investigated." The of Hamilton and Lauziere.

As a matter of fact, when the trial was first begun. Wilson was unable to appear in court because of the injuries which "Wacky" Lauziere had inflicted on him. Yet the Hamilton-Lauziere crew had the gaul to accuse Wilson of assaulting them!

The final payoff on the matter came when Kirkor Torigian, owner of the garage in which Wilson was working and in which he was assaulted by Lauziere, testified that he had heard Wilson tell Lauziere: "I'm not looking for any fight now." Torigian told, the court that when he turned around again he saw a fight taking place.

This attempt of the Hamilton gang to absolve themselves of the responsibility for the near-fatal beating of Wilson is being met head-on by the Wilson Defense Committee, composed of unemployed workers in the

panies.

In Kearny, N.J., six thousand shipyard workers in the huge plant of Federal Drydock & Shipbuilding Co., a U.S. Steel subsidiary, staged a four-day strike for better pay and working conditions that it took the combined efforts of the Federal Government and their top leaders to call off. (See story on Kearny strike, by special correspondent of LABOR ACTION).

In Detroit, Mich., the General Motors Council of the UAW-CIO rejected the company's counter-proposals for next year's contract and threatened to call out on strike 135,-000 automobile workers 'if the company refused to grant wage increases and other demands. On Tuesday, June 4, the Union's executive board met in Washington and took a further step towards possible strike action by

(Continued on page 3)

Los Angeles Looses Anti-Labor Witch Hunt Under Cover of "Fifth Column" Investigation

tician and his mobsters.

politicians are trying to put the

squeeze on the members of the De-

fense Committee through this in-

In addition to this maneuver, the

Hamilton crew is utilizing the old

"red scare" technique to obscure the

real issues involved. The real issue,

of course, is the right of an unem-

ployed worker to receive relief with-

out at the same time being victim-

ized and exploited by the politicians

The Hamilton gang and their poli-

tical masters can yell from today

till doomsday about "reds" and "fifth

columns", but the fact remains that

the Wilson Defense Committee in-

tends to continue its fight to assure

the right of Wilson, and other un-

employed workers like him, to get

unemployed relief without having to

serve as a stooge for a phony poli-

connected with the relief machine.

vestigation.

LOS ANGELES, May 29-Southern California's witch hunt was inaugurated last night with a blare of publicity when District Attorney Buron Fitts of Los Angeles met with some 300 law enforcement officers in the so-called Hall of Justice.

The nature of the meeting and of the plans laid can be gathered from a list of those attending. Included in the 300 guests were chiefs of police of more than 50 southland cities, members of the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars, as well as representatives of military and naval intelligence and various other Federal agencies.

Announced purpose of the meeting was the setting up of an organization

to fight "fifth column" activities. Aimed at Workers

Workers must be on guard, for the witch hunt is on. And it is not a hunt primarily against agents of Hitler. It is a witch hunt aimed particularly against workers and all others who don't want to die in an imperialist war, who oppose Roosevelt's frenzied war preparations and all those misguided individuals who still believe they enjoy the rights of freedom of speech, press, and assembly.

Following yesterday's meeting, the District Attorney declared that some 6,000 additional trained investigators have been added to the constituted

Federal authorities already delegated to deal with "the situation."

This is another way of saying that 6,000 additional government spies are being loosed upon the workers. These spies will be placed in factories and workshops, will be delegated to keep tab on their neighbors, to listen to telephone, street car and cafe conversations,-and to report back any criticisms of the government.

This system is one of the recognized means of suppression and terror adopted by totalitarian states.

"Patriotism"-for What?

While steps to set up similar systems are being instituted through-(Continued on page 2)

New York Leads Subscription Drive

Flogging of Georgia Unionist Reveals Boss-Klan Tie Up

ATLANTA, Ga.-Pierce S. Toney, an official of the Scottdale Local of the Textile Worekr's Union (CIO), was recently flogged almost to the point of death by night-riding Ku Klux Klansmen.

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Claiming they were police, the Klansmen forced him into a car and drove to the city dump. There he was stripped, tied to a stump, and lashed unmercifully with braided leather straps. Over twenty Klansmen took part in the flogging.

The purpose of the beating was revealed by remarks addressed to the victim by the future Storm Troopers of America. Each blow of the lash was accompanied by phrases such as: "Now, I guess you will leave unionism alone", "This will teach you to be active in the CIO", "We are going to break up these damned unions".

Union-Busting Purpose

With the exception of a few papers which, for their own purposes, are combating the Klan, the press of Atlanta and vicinity has not printed a single line about this outrage. The exception, however, printed stories which resulted in the arrest of Henry Cawthon, local Klan leader, and others.

Many of his cohorts, frightened by the arrest, turned states evidence and gave detailed testimony on Klan activities. They testified that they had been instructed to join already established unions and try to take them over. The formation of new unions was to be prevented by terrorizing those active in their organization.

Toney's flogging is not the first in this district. According to the union over 100 textile workers have been severely beaten in the past 18 months. The arrest of the Klansmen responsible for Toney's beating is not expected to provide more than temporary relief from Klan terror. Since those who are really responsible, the textile mill owners, are allowed to go scot-free.

These industrialists, retreating before the successful organisational campaign of the Textile Worker's Union, may be expected to use every means at their disposal to smash the union.

ILGWU - and a diam

(Continued from page 1) bor organization above the interests of imperialist war.

Warren K. Billings, himself a victim of the last imperialist crusade for democracy, appeared before the convention just as it was about to go on record for participation in a preparedness campaign similar to the

With less than a week having gone by since the drive for 500 new subscribers to LABOR ACTION was initiated, we have already received thirtyseven new subscriptions. Naturally, those cities which were first apprised of the drive, have taken the lead. We do not, however, expect this situation to last very long, once the branches in Ohio, Illinois and the West Coast organize their campaigns.

LABOR ACTION

Quota Raised

\$2000.00 \$1481.75

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New York has taken the lead with eighteen new subscriptions, followed by Philadelphia with five. St. Louis with four and three each from Worcester and Akron. How about it, San Francisco, Los Angeles and Chicago?

We list below the quotas and subscriptions already turned in.

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Returns on Campaign, Press Agents Frame Fund Show Nat'l Improvement

SUP Militants The response of many Branches and sympathizers of the Workers Party to the National Campaign and Case Against Men Press Fund has been quite good in the past two weeks. In New York Concocted of the particularly, the supporters of LA-BOR ACTION and the Workers Party responded with large contributions, as already reported in a pre-The government campaign against vious issue of LABOR ACTION. militant unionists has now extended Other cities which have done well, to the Sailors Union of the Pacific. either by completing their quota or A group of the crew of the steamer by raising a considerable portion of Ewa of the Matson line were arit, have been Philadelphia, Boston, rested at New York on May 16

through the intervention of FBI agents and charged under the Mutiny troit. The arrests have all the marks of a frameup and serve only as a harrassing action and warning for the future. Already the government has

BULLETIN

PIERCE S. TORREY

Government

Flimsiest Tissue

Statute.

NEW YORK, June 4-The trial of the EWA sailors, charged with conspiracy to create a mutiny, opened today with Judge Mandelbaum presiding. Two FBI agents attended giving counsel to the prosecutor. Representatives of steamship and insurance companies were present. The Defense contended, against the captain's denial, that he refused to pay out the wages to which the men were

Philadelphia Boston Akron Cleveland St. Louis San Francisco New Haven Washington, D.C. Texas Lynn Fitchburg-Gardner Gloversville, Worcester, San Francisco, Fitchburg-Gardner, and De-Worcester Newark Many cities have yet to make an Youngstown appreciable dent in their quota but Columbus Oakland Gloversville

New York

Los Angeles

Chicago

have sent in reports that they will speed up their efforts. We call upon readers of LABOR Streator ACTION and THE NEW INTERNA-Rochester TIONAL to help in the maintain-Pittsburgh ance of our press by sending in their Allentown Detroit contributions. The results of the National Cam-Ann Arbor paign and Press Fund to date are as

TOTAL 9:20 \$1754.50 follows: Was inter

Shachtman Urges, Fight on Sixty Families in Michigan U. Debate **Reactionaries Try to Block Debate**

Heavy "Defense" Pressure Put on Men To End Strike in Navy Building Yard

(Continued from page 1)

now one of the big shots in President Roosevelt's national defense council. The strike in his company's subsidiary broke out almost on the very day he took the train for Washington to give full time to regimenting the nation's industry for a war effort. Why did the Federal Shipbuilding workers go against their own lead-

ership and brave the "national defense" hysteria now sweeping over the country?

A striking welder told this reporter: "The company wants it all its own way. We're supposed to be working forty hours. We work fortyeight and they won't give us time and a half for it. I can do plenty with eight hours a week in the summer time. I need it for my health."

The U.S. Maritime Commission has handed over to the company fat future contracts for naval construction amounting to \$125,000,000. The union charged that under adjustment of contracts with the government the company had increased its profits The workers felt the company could "afford" to increase their wages.

Pressure From All Sides

But this strike was more important than merely a fight for more wages. The men were asserting their right to fight the bosses even when the bosses wrap themselves in the American flag.

Indeed the pressure exerted on the strikers to return to work was terrific. Union officials hammered at them "to avoid charges of obstructing the national defense program". Two conciliators from the Federal Department of Labor were on the job. After the men voted to return to work, reporters asked John Green, national president of the union, whether pressure had been put on

the union by government officials.

ent to say that when the government sends in its negotiators there is something behind it."

The screws are being put on in other quarters as well. The N.Y. World Telegram, like many another boss paper editorially denounced the strike: "There will have to be some way of preventing such strikes as the one yesterday which stopped work on two navy cruisers, two destroyers." Representative Hoffman of Michi-

gan offered a bill to impose a penalty of \$1000 and six months' imprisonment for strikers in plants producing "anything" for defense purposes. And that will be stretched to include practically everything.

However, on Saturday the strikers were still unaffected by this barrage against them. The strike was 100% effective and the men were whole-heartedly behind it. One striker defiantly stated: "Who cares what they say in Congress! We can ask them a thing or two. If national defense is so low, what were they doing till now?"

Who is Guilty of "Treason"?

The best answer on this question of national defense was given by the Official Board of the striking local when it stated: "The only action which might possibly be construed as 'treason' was the action of the company in taking advantage of the national situation to deny the workers their earnest and just demands."

The strikers also made the charge that there has already been an awful speed up in the yards and the output per man has been greatly increased. Furthermore it is announced in Washington that the company has offered to cut production time on naval destroyers from

Mr. Green commented: "It is suffici- 24 to 18 months. That's stepping it

The workers know how the speedup takes it out of their health. One week's vacation after a year of slavish toil is hardly too much. The company said one week in three years, as under the expired contract, quite enough. The result of this policy has been that only one third of the men employed ever get a vacation. This is one of the points to be negotiated with the bosses after the men return to work.

"Just A Decent Living"

At the union headquarters in Kearny on Saturday a group of strikers spoke to this reporter. "We're natives", they said. "We're not fifth-columnists and we're not communists. They can't give us any of that stuff. We're American workers. We just want a decent living, that's all."

Certainly the houses in the workers' districts around Kearny are far from decent. They are smoke-covered, dingy boxes, sagging from age and poor construction.

Representative Barden of North Carolina declared that this is no time for a union to "grab off 10 cents an hour" wage increase when defense estimates were being based on normal costs. That's just it. To the politicians in Washington it's "normal" for the workers to be unable to meet the rising cost of living; to exist in poor living quarters; to be sapped of their energy by the speed-

A worker near the picket line gave his opinion of the defense program as follows: " In a way this defense program may be alright. It may help unemployment. But I know they're going to put on the screws and we won't even get paid for it."

CIO Presses California Shipyard Strike 12.00

10.00 10.00 LONG BEACH, Calif., June 3-The CIO shipyard workers' juris-5.00 12.90 dictional battle with the AFL moved from Consolidated Steel shipyards to the courts today, where an order 2.00 restraining the CIO from mass picketing will be contested. 20.00

This action comes as a result of 5.35 the month old strike of the Marine and Shipbuilding Workers Union at Consolidated. The strike was called when the steel company, in the midst 5.00 of negotiations with the CIO union, suddenly signed a closed shop agreement with AFL leaders.

> Practically all of the thousand bona fide shipyard workers in the harbor area are CIO men. The AFL, protected by Long Beach police, has been breaking the picket lines with busloads of workers "imported" from Los Angeles.

Meanwhile, Local No. 9 of the striking IUMSWA has begun court action of its own, filing a \$50,000 damages suit against Consolidated and an injunction prohibiting the present construction of four ships for the Maritime Commission in the struck yards. Hearings are set for next week.

speakers have been used to cruise around to the sea side of the yards, permitting strikers to talk to AFL workers who have gone through the picket lines. Small groups. of AFL unionists, seeing the picket line and hearing the story from CIO rank and filers, have turned back at the gate with a refusal to scab.

The AFL leadership has so far managed to hide behind its police protection, sniping at the strikers with slanderous and disgusting charges of "Fifth Column."

to date has come in connection with the CIO Longshoremen and Ware-

housemen's Union.

Force Anti-Labor

disturbing the peace at the Mother's Day Peace Parade, staged here recently by the Communist Party, Thurman, was given

CLEVELAND, Ohio-Arrested for

Henry

Thurman, Anti-

War Militant

that the shipyard workers are fighting a legitimate battle and should be supported by all-especially their brothers in the maritime federation.

and cooperation."

The only disturbing development **FBI** Questions

After throwing a picket line around a freighter with steel bound for Consolidated, the ILWU suddenly called the pickets off. Tom Brown, secretary

Educator Out

of Local 1-13 of the ILWU, said this was done to cooperate with a mayor's committee which is trying to straighten out the controversy. honestly stated that they don't know

why this was done. Others attribute it to the ILWU's policy of "peace

A number of the strikers have

Whatever the reason, it is obvious

1917 hysteria which led to the imprisonment of himself and Mooney and death sentences for Sacco and Vanzetti, Billings appealed for support of McNamara and Beals and other labor prisoners.

At the conclusion of the session, the delegates and friends made merry at a special showing of "Hellzapoppin" at the Winter Garden Thea-

During the week, an occasional glimmer of reason told some of the union spokesmen that in the eves of the authentic leaders of the jingoistic crusade, all trades unions, all foreign born workers, and especially such unions as the ILGWU, are part and parcel of the "fifth column." At such moments, their only defense was to attempt to throw the Ku-Kluxers off their trail by more fervent protestations of patriotism and subservience to their masters.

They beat the war drums louder until the convention began to look not like a union gathering but a war dance.

Frances Perkins, Secretary of Labor and a leader of the Democratic Party, the party of Frank Hague, Mayor Kelly, Judge Manton, Jimmy Hines, etc. etc. appealed to labor to clean out racketeers.

To relax after nights of festivity and days of oratory, the delegates will, at the conclusion of the convention on Friday, go to Unity House for a week-end of recuperation.

Witch Hunt-

(Continued from page 1) out the country, it is significant that Los Angeles takes the lead.

Los Angeles has long been a city where the open shop is freely advocated in the boss press, where wages are notoriously low, where vicious anti-union organizations flourish.

In addition, Los Angeles is one of the key airplane manufacturing centers of the country, an important ship-building center, and one of the principal Pacific Coast harbors.

Workers in this area can be prepared for an almost immediate suppression of their rights, their trade unions and their parties. Every effort will be made by the district attorney, his pals and their press to whip up war hysteria and lynch spirit. Legionnaire and vigilante attacks are on the order of the day. It will not be long before our own "patriots" will be following in the footsteps of the nazi storm troopers.

been forced to release three of the men due to the vigorous action of SUP attorneys. The flimsiness of the charges is attested by the low bail of \$250 set for the rest of the accused.

Wanted Pav

The charges grew out of the legal demands of the crew for a draw equal to one-half their accumulated wages at the port of Colachel, India. The men were stalled off until they reached Madras, where the U.S. Consul told them to proceed to Aden, Arabia, Finally, at Port Said the men reiterated their demands before the U.S. consul who has authority to decide in such disputes. The consul agreed to pay the men their wages.

While at Port Said the men were arrested by Egyptian authorities under a local law which forbids aliens to remain at liberty in the city. The Matson line manager has attempted to have it appear that the men were arrested for refusal to obey their captain. But even Captain Leithead denies that he did anything to cause the arrest.

After the men were paid off they shipped to New York. On arrival FBI agents served them with subpoenas to appear in Federal Court the very next morning. They were also served with subpoenas to appear before the U.S. Local Inspectors.

Flimsy Case

Since the case had .all the earmarks of contemplated criminal procedure along the lines of the famous 'Algie' case the men stood on their constitutional rights in refusing to testify before the U.S. Attorney on the ground that such testimony might tend to incriminate them. The men held to this position successfully. At the hearing before the Local Inspectors the SUP attorney was able to have the charges dismissed against three of the men. The FBI agents were constantly present during the hearings. The next day the case shifted back to the Federal Court, where after statements from the captain, chief engineer, and chief officer the government proceeded to have a complaint sworn against ten of the men. The case was set over

are being held in Federal Detention Jail for lack of bail. The SUP has been vigorous in the defense of the men, and has been quick to point out that the original "crime" was of such solid cloth that the men were permitted to sail of ington.

to June 3. In the meantime the men

ANN ARBOR, Mich .- In a spirited debate with Professor Albert Hyma before several hundred interested students last Thursday, Max Shachtman, national secretary of the Workers Party, urged the confiscation of the Sixty Families before they confiscate six million lives in their war for imperialist profits.

From the moment the debate was announced on the campus, the Administration, the ASU and the ROTC worked overtime to block it. Although severe pressure was applied in an effort to forestall the meeting, and despite the intervention of university examinations, several hundred students turned out to hear the Workers Party spokesman in what they later described as "the greatest talk they had ever heard." Professor Hyma, speaking for "Aid to the Allies," confessed that although he abhorred war and imperialism, American democracy had to be prepared to meet the imposers of war. It should be the sacred and inviolable duty of all to respect our beloved flag and remain loyal to the government, Hyma declared. Later,

Hyma's Colleague, Professor Preston Slosson, took the floor to urge a World Federation to maintain peace and international order. Slosson argued that the war could have been averted had the U.S. joined and strengthened the League of Nations. Urging "Socialist Opposition to the War," Shachtman pointed out the bankruptcy of American capitalism and its inability to solve the deepening crisis save by resort to further imperialist expansion. In answer to the bloody program being prepared for the American workers by the

SOCIAL

The Yorkville Branch is holding a Beer Party (in Yorkville tradition) on Sat., June 8 at 418 E. 6th St., Apt. 5A. Free hot dogs, dancing, entertainment and much liquor. Admission 20c

their own volition to the U.S. after the dispute was ironed out at Port Said. The case has all the earmarks of being made in the U.S. Attorney's office with the help of the FBI.

A later issue of Labor Action will report on the results of the trial and its implications in light of the reactionary anti-seaman legislation that is being feverishly pushed at WashSixty Families, the National Secretary urged their confiscation ."before they confiscate six million lives with their war."

Describing as pro-war the positions taken by Hyma and Slosson, Shachtman stated, "Let's have a program for peace, not war; for the masses, not for murder. We will not hear it either tonight or any other night from anybody in the capitalist world. It is a world that the workers will not tolerate for much longer. The struggle for peace and socialism is directed against the world system of hunger, despair and death.'

Morale High

To date the strike has been intensive and effective, from the standpoint of solidarity and morale of the men involved.

All shipyard workers in the area have delayed the opening of the yards for two hours each morning to throw additional weight behind the men on the picket line at Consolidated.

Water taxis equipped with loud-

Mobilization

(Continued from page 1)

fuses to tell Congress or the people. His secrecy on this point is part of his conspiracy to dragoon the country into the war, and to destroy in so doing the democratic rights and labor standards of the workers.

So, for example he continued his secret foreign diplomacy with new notes to Mussolini, and confidential meetings of his subordinates with the heads of Latin American countries-all of which commit the United States without the consent or knowledge of the people. Without explanation, he ordered the 10,000-ton U.S. cruiser Quincy on a mysterious voyage to South America's east coast. Through Senator Pepper he opened a campaign to immediately turn over to the Allies U.S. army and navy planes.

At the same time, the offensive against labor increased. Roosevelt appointed a War Advisory Council headed by agents of the DuPont and Morgan munitions, ship-building and banking interests-William S. Knudsen, president of General Motors, and Edward R. Stettinius, chairman of U.S. Steel. In order to win over the unions to his war program he also placed on this Council Sidney Hillman, president of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers and staunch Roosevelt supporter.

Through the Navy Department, Roosevelt struck at the workers in the war industries. The Navy brass hats have called for suspension of the Walsh-Healy Act, which empowers the Secretary of Labor to establish minimum wage and hour conditions for workers employed on government contracts. The Vinson-Trammell Act, which contains this proposal, also provides for increased hours of labor-and increased profits for the armament kings.

Among other anti-labor measures before Congress are the amendments to be offered to the National Labor Relations Act, by Representatives Hoffman and Barden, prohibiting strikes in "defense" industries, and eliminating the jurisdiction of the Labor Board over these industries.

While the President has given a vague promise against suspension of existing labor laws he is nevertheless moving against the unions and labor standards in behind-the-scene actions. His campaign is concealed behind the guise of combatting "Fifth Column" and "Trojan Horse" activities and its first victim will be the foreign born workers against whom legislation is now pending in Congress.

> With the Third Camp INDIA

In order to fight for "democracy" more efficiently, the British authorities have arrested approximately 50,000 students in India. Those arrested-known as DETENUShave been placed in concentration camps scattered throughout the country.

There are no specific charges against them, only the general charge of "communism." Since the arrests were made under the Defense of India Act, they can be held indefinitely without any trial. So great is the unrest in India that the British are resorting to the most strenuous measures to suppress opposition to the war.

ST. LOUIS. Mo.-AFL and CIO unions, acting on information received from Flint, Mich., forced Leland H. Lamb, a candidate for the post of Superintendent of Schools, withdraw his name from consideration for the St. Louis School Board. Lamb's anti-labor bias was re-

vealed during the automobile sitdown strikes of 1937 in Flint, Mich. As Superintendent of Schools there he discharged three teachers for expressing sympathy for the strikers. The unions successful protest, in view of the fact that a majority of the School Board favored Lamb's appointment, is considered by union circles here as a splendid example of labor solidarity.

pended sentence and released.

The disturbance occurred when Stalinists tried to prevent several girls. Worker's Party members, from distributing leaflets which denounced both warring camps. Thurman went to the aid of the girls. The Stalinists called for the cops. And Thurman went to. jail.

Cleveland Police turned Thurman over to FBI agents upon finding in his possession newspaper clippings dealing with Roosevelt's war drive. The FBI men subjected Thurman to an intensive grilling which lasted several hours. After prying into his nationality, racial origin, and his connection with anti-war labor groups, Thurman was released.

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Just Published

"MY FRIENDS"

A Gireside Chat on the War

NATIVE SON

C

by

Send Orders to Workers Party, National Office 114 W. 14th St., New York City Special Bundle Rate - 80¢ per 100

To See or Not To See

Sing, You Sinner, Sing! THE STAR SPANGLED BANNER

If you get to the movies when the theatre opens for the day, the first thing you will see is old glory waving in technicolor. The words of the national anthem are flashed before you and a chorus opens up at you. Everybody in the audience rises and begins to sing. If you are a bit slow on the pickup, you will begin to feel eyes of disapproval boring into your back. Rather than have someone grab you by the scruff of your neck, you perhaps get up, making yourself as small as possible. Old glory continues to flutter in the breeze, bombs burst in air, the chorus booms from the screen, and the audience does the best it can. You hope nobody is noticing your lack of enthusiasm. If you think you're being noticed, you begin blowing your nose, wiping your eyes, coughing and indicating in various other ways what a bad cold you have.

Again Wall Street wraps itself in the American flag.

Film on Russian-Finnish War

SKI PATROL

1

ist.

3.

3 Sala

2'

Back in 1936 the first, second and third Olympic prizes for skiing are won by a Russian, Finn and American. These three are not only great skiers but good friends. The recent Soviet invasion brings the American to Finland. He joins his Finnish friend in a small company of skiers who are holding a strategic mountain against great odds. The company goes out in a desperate effort to prevent the Russians from blowing up.the mountain. All are killed except the Finnish friend. He is hit but not killed. His friend, the Russian skier, is sent out to bring him in as prisoner. Instead they fraternize. The Russian helps the Finn to escape, takes the death penalty for it, and in dying, unconsciously comletes the task his Finnish friend set out to accomplish.

Such a story affords material for an excellent antiwar film: the brutality and futility of war in bold relief against the good fellowship of international sports. However Universal Films has turned out merely a run-ofthe-mill production. The action is unconvincing, the dramatic possibilities are ignored, the acting is perfunctory. The only compliment that can be paid the film is a

Perhaps we should commend Universal for producing a weakling.

Humor in the French Manner THE MAYOR'S DILEMMA

A French film with English subtitles

A good French film of rural life is one of the most pleasing things to see. No matter what the theme, whimsicalities of everyday existence are so cleverly woven into it that the humor is an integrated part of the whole. One does not take time out to laugh, but is continuously delighted. The Mayor's Dilemma belongs to this category.

The setting is the last world war. The Germans occupy a small French village. A German soldier is killed by a villager. The German commander threatens to bombard the village unless the murderer is turned over by morning. The Mayor knows who the murderer is and that he will never be surrendered. In an effort to save the village from destruction, he makes a deal with the commander. Five hostages are to be taken. These will be destroyed instead of the village.

Sadly, the Mayor explains the situation to the villagers. As the leading citizen he volunteers to be hostage No. 1. The rich landowner hotly disputes the Mayor's title to leading citizen and himself volunteers as hostage No. 1. The competition for the honors becomes keen. Even the drunken poacher demands to be taken, protesting that the rich get all the privileges. Finally lots are drawn.

In the morning the French army reoccupies the village, so the ending is a happy one-and very amusing. While this is a war story and contains a light sprinkling of anti-war sentiment, these factors are lost in the

If You're in the Mood BUSK BENNY RIDES AGAIN

the teachings of Marx and Jesus.

the teachings of two Jews.

-Jewish Frontier, March.

milieu.

A very silly love story is used as a skeleton on which to hang a good show of songs, dancing, wise-cracks and goofy situations. When you have a yen for this type of Broadway special, go see Benny ride.

reached a conclusion: Americans must choose between

It must have cost Father Coughlin a good deal of

REGARDLESS OF WHICH WAY THE WAR GOES.

some things seem certain for the long pull . . . say the

INTERNAL DISCIPLINE . . . economic, social, moral:

Everyone says that this will become increasingly nec-

anguish to announce that there is only a choice between

by Susan Green Workers Strike at Arms Makers negative one. Because of its weakness it also fails to whoop up a war spirit on behalf of poor little Finland. In Defense of Labor Standards

But they also hastened to back up

Michael Quill, of the Transport

Already the labor bureaucrats are

Federal Shipbuilding strike and the

threatened General Motors struggle,

will preserve and extend the gains

(Continued from page 1)

voting to President R. J. Thomas authority to call a strike to enforce the union demands.

These actions, defiant challenges to the plans of Roosevelt and Congress to bridle and harness American labor to the "national defense" program, were the result of rankand-file pressure in the unions. The national top leadership of both CIO and AFL are on the spot: they want to "cooperate" with Roosevelt, and yet they can't completely ignore their own membership.

The meeting of the CIO national "Assuredly." "I am not a Communexecutive board in Washington, still ist," Lewis went on. "I am not even going on as we go to press, reflects sympathetic with communism. I am this situation. On Tuesday, Lewis & one of the few men in the country Co. came out strongly against curwho have been publicly exonerated rent attempts in Congress to register by the Dies Committee as not being and deport aliens, to sabotage the a Communist." LaFollette labor spy bill and to destroy the Wagner, Walsh-Healey and Workers Union, a "communist" of Wages-and-Hours acts. They also the Stalinoid variety, took care to criticised Roosevelt's new tax proget on the record a speech supportgram, pointing out that 66% of the ing Roosevelt's defense program, a proposed new taxes are "indirect" speech which his associates later told and will come from the consumer. reporters "sounded highly patriotic". And they even dared to say a word against the "Fifth Column" hysteria beginning to crack under the war now being whipped up by Roosevelt pressure. Only such actions of miliand the boss press. tant rank and file workers as the

But on Wednesday, these brave "labor leaders" did a little backwat-

Backwater

Yipsels Hit "Citizenship Rally" With Snappy Anti-War Leaflet

MADISON, Wisconsin - Although the professional tin-hats of this city described as "unauthorized" their distribution of anti-war leaflets, the Young Peoples Socialist League attracted wide attention when it appeared on the streets last week to oppose an officially sponsored "citizenship rally."

The rally, called by the Dane County Citizenship Committee, had been weeks in preparation. Some 250 young voters who had taken part in the long period of training were inducted into American citizenship and given certificates to that effect. Nine massed military bands and scores of patriots accompanied the induction.

Also accompanying the induction was the "unofficial" voice of American youth. Outside the gates of Randall Stadium stood members of Although they were watched over

William C. Hansen, Chairman of the Citizenship Committee, in a statement to the "Capitol Times" declared, "The distribution of the leaflets was unauthorized and has no connection whatsoever with the citi-

"connection" was made.

of American labor increasingly resented by Leon Henderson, of the ering. They passed resolutions opthreatened by the Roosevelt Adminposing American involvement in the -istration's pro-war program. war and insisting on labor's organizational rights and civil liberties.

War Machine Grinds On

Messers. Knudsen and Stettinius 100% Roosevelt's "defense" program. were not the only bigshot business And they even went in for some men called in last week to run the "Fifth Column" stuff themselves, exnation's industry. They are the key pressing their "unalterable opposition" to "any movement or activity men in the advisory commission of subversive nature, Trojan horse or which Roosevelt set up to cooperate with the cabinet members making Fifth Columns, which are aimed up the National Defense Council. against our nation and government". The other "advisors" included the Asked by reporters whether this chairman of the Burlington railroad, meant "ism" groups, Lewis replied,

Securities & Exchange Commission. Labor's representative - "captive" would be a better word-is Sidney Hillman, most star-spangled of all the bigtime labor patrioteers.)

Page 3

Other business men "drafted" to run the program last week included top executives of Sears, Roebuck; of the Morgan-dominated General Foods Co.; and of the Mellon-owned Koppers Co.

It is not hard to imagine the sort of national defense program these industrialists will create to defend America against their class-brothers in Nazi Germany.

Clipped from the Press

and a member of the Federal Re-

serve Board. (The New Deal is rep-

Labor-Haters Rub Palms **Over "Fifth Column" Excuse**

Connally (Dem. Senator Texas), chairman of the judiciary subcommittee considering the House approved bill, ordered prompt consideration when testimony revealed that in some instances the Navys. and other units of defense have become infested with Fifth Columnists." . . . Fifth Columnists have as their objective the inciting of disloyalty among the personnel of our armed forces."

Bankhead to discharge the Judiciary

Committee and bring to the floor

for action his resolution recommend-

ing to the Senate enactment of leg-

islation barring from the ballot "any

political party or organization which

advocates the overthrow by force

of the form of government of the

United States established by the

- Journal American May 18, 1940

New Jersey prepared to combat

fifth column activity. Gov. Moore's

emergency committee proposed an

increase of fifty state policemen to

track down foreign agents and dis-

loval citizens and the governor, after

conferring with the committee, an-

nounced that he will back a bill re-

quiring aliens to register with the

INDEPENDENCE, Mo., May 22

(AP)-The city council passed an

Constitution."

police.

purpose of assisting any person or any foreign government, organization or society in a plan to usurp the government or state by force or violence. Roy Post, amateur criminologist has an idea about the Fifth Columns. If a sixth column took his lie de-Rep. Clarence McLeod (R) of Mich. filed a petition with Speaker

ordinance last night aimed at un-

American organizations. It provides:

"It shall be unlawful for any three

or more persons to assemble for the

tector, he says, and started a canvass of workers in strategic industries, the servants of foreign powers would soon be pitilessly exposed. Post would ask them innocent questions first.

"Did you eat breakfast today"?) and then hurl the significant ones at them. The result, he holds, would be "we'd have the rat running to their holes the minute we started." -N.Y. Post May 22, 1940

ATLANTA, May 25 (AP)-In an unprecedented move aimed at Fifth columnists, Gov. Rivers today directed the business, occupation and professional licenses of all Georgia aliens be cancelled June 1.

-N.Y. Post May 25, 1940

TRENTON, May 24-Plans to organize an effective group of "minute men" to protect the state in the event of emergencies and to guard against Fifth Column activities were being formulated today by a committee comprising Gov. H. Harry Moore, military and police officials and representatives of veterans' groups.

In Tenafly, Police Commissioner Robert Van Oderstine reported that the Tenafly Home Guards, founded during the Spanish-American War, had been received to combat Fifth

Sparks in the News

We are free citizens and we believe in the supremacy of government and the supremacy of law. By supremacy of government, I mean representative government, and by supremacy of law, I mean a respect for the right of private enterprise.

-Col. Frank Chappell, director of public relations for General Motors of Canada, quoted in The Canadian Forum for May.

Better than volumes of editorials on the organized system of mass murder which modern capitalism has become is the letter which an eight-year old Kansas City schoolgirl wrote to police chief L. B. Reed. As reported in the N.Y. Times for May 18, it ran: **Dear Policemans:**

The war is getting on my nerves. I would like for you to stop it.

Betty Ruth Morris, Grade 3-A, Jefferson School.

It is in Paris that the war's really decisive battle is now being fought. The objective is the morale of a distressed nation. At this moment not Generalissimo Weygand, but France's Minister for the Interior, George Mandel, holds our civilization's fate in his hands. He must smash the biggest offensive Hitler has ever started: the imminent danger of an offer for a separate peace the Nazis have already submitted in the way of sinister rumors, demoralizing the French masses. . . .

-Willi Schlamm in The New Leader, June 1.

FIRST, FOR THE JOB OF BUILDING UP DEFENSE. This may or may not be the forerunner of war by the U.S. It doesn't NECESSARILY mean war. SECOND, FOR ECONOMIC RIVALRY . . . "trade war" . . . sure to come later, regardless of the outcome

next 10 years.

essary.

of the "shooting war". THERE'S PROBABLY A NEW ERA AHEAD, and it may be tough.

-The Kiplinger Washington Letter ("Circulated Privately to Business Men"), May 25.

About the only good thing that came out of the First World War was a number of war stories, two of which are recalled by J. Walden, member of the United Auto Workers Union.

During the war the coal miners in Wales went on strike for more pay. After several weeks Lloyd George was sent to settle the strike because of his experience in fooling workers. He made a long speech about their patriotic duty to work long hours for short wages. When the miners remained grimly silent he shouted: "How would you like to mine coal for the Kaiser?" A little Welsh miner stood up and asked: "How much does the Kaiser pay for mining coal?" Next day the strike was settled.

by the aroused tin-hats, the young socialists distributed hundreds of leaflets denouncing the war. Calling upon the young people of Madison to join the "Third Camp of Socialism," the leaflet declared, "We have inherited a world of war. From all quarters we are urged to take sides: Hitler-Stalin or the Allies. But in this war of blood and greed, who is fighting for what we want? Despite all their talk of principles, both sides

the preservation of profits."

zenship program." Despite Chairman Hansen, the the Young Peoples Socialist League. , young Socialists saw to it that the

Stalinist Convention Hears Windy Explanation Of Why Yesterday's Line Was Changed Again

Two Stalinist conventions were pressing dissatisfaction with the sharp drop in membership. held in New York during the past Communist Parties of Mexico and weeks. One was the National

are interested only in power and

Alongside Paul Reynaud appears Mandel, Clemenceau's right-hand man in the world war dictatorship. Mandel is another Fouché. He is notorious for using the basest and most repellent police methods, for spying, for third-degree tactics. He is a master hand at tapping telephone wires and at using, as political ammunition, police reports on private morals of his opponents. We may be sure that with such a scoundrel as Minister of the Interior, all non-conformist and antigovernment groups will run the same dangers as in the land of the Gestapo or in that of the OGPU.

-Bulletin du Front Ouvrier International Contre la Guerre, for May.

In his address of two Sundays ago, Father Coughlin

30,000 Tons of Death

On June 1 the 35,000-tone battleship, U.S.S. Washington, was launched with patriotic fanfare at the Philadelphia Navy Yard. It cost \$65,000,-000 and will be, when it is completed a year and half from now, the biggest ship in the fleet.

And on Thursday, June 13, at the Brooklyn Navy Yard will be launched the Washington's sister ship, the U.S.S. North Carolina. These are the first American battleships to be launched in nineteen years.

Let us take a look at the Washington and the North Carolina and see just what sort of democracy has been built into these mighty defenders of Franklin D. Roosevelt's brand of "democracy" against Hitlerism. How will the seventeen hundred enlisted men live and eat and sleep on these ships? And how will the one hundred odd officers? THE CLASS LINE ON

A BATTLESHIP

Each of these new battleships will be a floating microcosm of "democratic" capitalist society as we know it. It's all there, from the Admiral's special gas range and cigar locker to the ship's jail.

On the top there exists a privileged caste of 108 officers, having unlimited powers over the lives of the enlisted men. Of the 1772 enlisted men, a tiny group of 70 Chief Petty Officers are given certain small privileges in order that they might be induced to act as stool pigeons for the officers and report any discontent of any member of the crew with the conditions, under / which they work.

Of course, as is fitting for a ship going out to battle for democracy, the officers have their own separ- he is not, he must use the crew's Join Workers Party

washroom, having cold water only. ate dining rooms, toilets, and wash-If he is an enlisted man, he will eat rooms, and woe unto any misguided in a cafeteria, standing in line for enlisted man who thinks he has a right to use the officers' toilet or his bowl of soup. If he is an officer, washroom. No enlisted man can rise he will eat in an officers dining room. There are separate kitchens higher than a Chief Petty Officer. for the officers and crew, and there Officers, the real ones, can only be are separate ranges within the offiappointed if they have the proper cers' kitchen for the Admiral and social background. the Captain. To each according to

BEDS . . . AND HAMMOCKS

ate baths. If they ever have occasion

The higher officer can also relax The officers on the new battleafter a meal, since they are provided ships will each have a stateroom, with cigar lockers and card tables with a full 48-inch bed, with innerspring mattress. The higher officers, and built-in bottle openers with which to carry on the fight for desuch as Admiral and Captain, are also generously provided with privmocracy.

his taste.

AND EVEN A JAIL

improvements.

fenses. For any member of the crew

who expresses the slightest dissatis-

faction with the democratic condi-

tions on board, there is provided a

prison on the ship-with the latest

From the brief account here given.

place.

stockholder.

to house distinguished guests, there And, of course, to make doubly , is ready a Guest Stateroom, complete with a full length mirror so that certain that democracy will really the Distinguished Guest will propbe served, there will prevail an iron erly adjust his full dress uniform. regimentation on board the ship, for The crew does their sleeping in Navy Regulations give the Officers crowded berths or hammocks, withalmost unlimited powers over the out benefit of innersprings. enlisted men, providing for death penalties, in wartime, for trivial of-

If any of the men gets wounded fighting for "democracy", he will get a sample of this democracy in the ship's hospital, where the softness of the bed or cot and the extent of his care depends on whether he has gold stripes on his uniform.

Since the officers have a multiplicity of various uniforms for cold it can be readily seen that the men weather, hot weather, work, and operating the sixteen inch guns, evening dress, their staterooms are driving the turbines or performing generously provided with full size any of the other pleasant tasks inwardrobes. The enlisted man will be volved will be certain that they are grateful for the small metal locker fighting for democracy and liberty, in which to keep his wearing apparel. against fascism and oppression.

SEPARATE KITCHENS

If he is an officer, a man will be For Labor Action – permitted to use washrooms having hot and cold running water; but if

In Scotland a foreman was trying to scare a worker into going to war by telling him a German would come over and take his home and job.

The worker said: "If any German wants to pay rent on the shack I live in and work like a mule for you on this cheap job, he don't have to fight me, all he has to do is tell me."

by "Argus"

- The Northwest Organizer, May 30.

Convention of the Communist Party, which opened last Thursday and closed June 2 with the nomination of Browder and Ford by a landslide vote (1648 to 0) on the first ballot. The other was the New York State Convention held the preceding week.

Both gatherings were marked by evidence of the strenuous efforts made by the C.P. leaders to keep their flock in line following the Stalin-Hitler Pact. Even at the National Convention, planned as a rip-snorting demonstration for the benefit of the press table and the gallery, Browder's four-hour report was almost one-half devoted to a labored explanation of the reasons for the Berlin-Moscow tie-up and the invasion of Finland.

Comments in Audience

While the hand-picked delegates kept a straight face, wondering comments were heard from among the gallery (specially invited CP members) that "only a little while ago we were for collective security with Chamberlain against Hitler".

Browder also spent some time ex-

Canada. The former recently went through two public purges, and its troubles were well known to the audience. In Canada, Browder stated, the C.P. had adopted a "peculiar" position. It seems that the Canadian met on May 24 with a represented Stalinists had based their line on the membership (claimed) of about 20,expectation that Russia would get 000. The chief reports, by Krumbein together with the Allies once more

-apparently a hang-over from the collective-security line. In a passage which caused the audience to cock their ears, Browder went on to say that there were many similar shortcomings in the American party. "Certain people" in the party took the "Canadian outlook"; others wavered too long before deciding-in other words, the chiefs had a hard time putting the new line over. The whole last portion of the report was spent along these lines.

Organizationally, this trend was reflected in the re-registration of the Party, which-it was emphasized at both conventions-had been very poor. Browder explained this by saying that previously the organization had been "too large and widespread to be efficient", but the delegates knew that he was reporting a

Makes Up His Mind on World War II

Hitler.

cally one-half of the delegates (48 per cent) represented New York Columnists. State.

It remains to be noted that practi-

The New York State Convention

and Amter, both emphasized and

warned against the threat of "Trot-

skvism" inside the party. They did

not specifically mention the Finnish

invasion and the Hitler alliance, but

fulminated at length against all con-

traband ideas. Amter discussed the

attack on Trotsky's life in Mexico

City, dismissing the whole story as

nothing else than a hoax! It was in-

credible, he said-his "proof" being

that it was impossible that 300 rounds

could have been fired without kill-

The "intellectual renegades"-the

big names like Granville Hicks and

John Strachey who had pulled out

following the pro-Hitler turn of the

Stalinists-also came in for attack.

Fearful, no doubt, of the still further

desertions to take place, both con-

ventions were marked by pleas to

stead of for her or on the day that

In the meantime I can't see much

difference between what Hitler is

doing now and what all the others

have done and would still do if

the workers all over the world to

get rid of their exploiters in any

way that will do the job quickest.

Martin Lechner

stand firm by the party.

to the Filipinos.

ing him.

- World Telegram May 24, 1940 Warn of "Trotskvism"

High praise for the Dies Committee in its vigorous work against the "Fifth Column operators, in schools and colleges, went forth today from the American Parents Committee on Education.

Mervin K. Hart, chairman of the N.Y. State Economic Council, denounced the subversive activies of the educators, teachers, and social science textbooks teaching un-American doctrines in schools and colleges.

.

Armed with new evidence of asserted Trojan Horse activities in this country, the Dies Committee planned today to urge stringent restrictions against "internal enemies" as a part of the current defense drive. As its first step the Committee will meet in the next day or two to give unanimous backing to a bill requiring public registration of all "Fifth Column" groups. This bill, it was learned, has been re-drafted by Rep. Vorrhis (D). Cal. New Deal Committeeman . . . INA learned that one item is a report from the FBI regarding our asserted Communist "trigger man" in the Spanish Loyalist Army. This man, according to the report, led a strike in an airplane factory in this country and later sought to enlist in the American Army, requesting to be sent to Panama. Committee investigators contend he wished to act as a Russian spy.

- Journal American May 17, 1940

WASHINGTON, Ga., May 30 (AP) -The News Reporter, a weekly newspaper here, came out today with only six of the seven columns. on the editorial page filled with type. In the space usually devoted to the fifth column appeared these words in large letters: "We will tolerate no fifth column here."

-Herald Tribune June 1, 1940

am interested -			
in learning more about	ut the Workers P	arty	in a start
in joining the Worker	s Party	······	
Name	•		•
Address		بدور میرون میرون کورون میرون	
to site to sair of	ers. the men v	it	100tsteps

A Working Stiff Considers the Facts,

Through birth and residence I I am sure glad to see that the President is asking for bigger appropria-America gives the Phillipines back tions for the Army and the Navy and I can hardly wait till we go over there and clean up on this guy

was just due for a 2 year stretch in her Majesty's army to keep them lousy Dutch East Indians in their After long and arduous labor in the United States (not picking gold coins off the streets) I finally reached the goal I had set out for.'I have an important executive job on the WPA and am about to be made a member of the Board of Directors and a Now this guy Hitler is cutting in on Her Majesty's gravy train in Holland and it just makes my blood boil. Indians to work for themselves in-

have ties with several countries (Holland, Norway, Denmark) that have just been raped by Hitler and whose working population will now be exploited by Hitler and their own ruling class. I lived in Amsterdam un-Will Join When ... til I was 18 years old. I then could Only one thing makes me wait. Hitler didn't keep them so infernalstand my itching palms no longer Seeing as how England says it's a ly busy keeping what they stole. and escaped to America to pick the shame for Hitler to invade these So in the meantime I can only tell gold coins off the streets there like peaceful countries like Norway, Den-I'd been told you could. Besides I

mark, Holland and Belgium and that these countries should have the right of self determination I can agree that this is right. And it is right for all nations. So I am going to join the army and help clean up on this guy Hitler. I'll enlist on the day that England gives freedom and self-

determination to all people in English colonies or on the day that Belgium frees the Congo slaves or on the day that France restores its African territory to the people that inhabit it or as soon as the Dutch Queen tells all these Dutch East

Editorials.

Who Will Stop **Hitler, Hitlerism?**

Let's be hard-headed about the business of "stopping Hitler".

Every worker who knows what HIT-LERISM means knows he's got to be stopped. Not only Hitler but HITLERISM, which is a little bigger than the housepainter with the mustache.

But before the crowd around you starts yelling "On to Berlin!", ask yourself a auestion:

Whom are you going to trust to stop Hitler?

Nobody makes such a fuss about laborunion racketeering as the boss associations. But the workers answer them:

"Sure we don't like racketeers, but we don't trust YOU to fight them! YOU were working with these same racketeers till they asked too much, and YOU will team up with them against the workers just as soon as we strike for our own rights."

Right now all the boss associations and their front men (like the New York Herald-Tribune) are filling the air with "Stop Hitler!" And many WORKERS say to themselves: "That's right. Let's do it."

All we ask is: Whom are you going to trust to do it? Let's see.

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Every day, the press tells us: "Don't trust the people who tell you to fight against this war. They're the fifth column. They turned Norway, Holland, Belgium, etc., over to Hitler and we've got to clean them out here."

The expression "the fifth column" comes from the Spanish Civil War. General Franco's fifth column was the industrialists, officials and generals who whooped it up for "democracy" and betrayed city after city to the fascists. They came from the boss class and the government. The Spanish workers and peasants could trust only themselves.

Go down the list of the nations swallowed up by Hitler. Who were the fifth columnists?

In every one they were HIGHER-UPS in the government, in the army, among the landed aristocrats, in the "best families." In Belgium, King Leopold called the workers to fight for democracy. After he threw in the sponge, the workers were told by his allies that he hadn't been anxious to fight Hitler in the first place. The Belgian people trusted HIM to stop Hitler!

And Reynaud and Churchill-are you

That is why he will be the first to crush the workers when they try to stop HIT-LERISM.

Stop Hitlerism! That can be done only by the workers themselves, when they have awakened to the fact that the blood and courage which is being displayed on the battlefields of Europe can also be used for their own rights, for their own cause.

Not support to Churchill or Reynaud or Roosevelt, but the fight for a government of the workers that can really be trusted BY the workers - THAT'S THE WAY TO FIGHT HITLER AND HITLER-ISM ON BOTH SIDES OF THE LINES.

Meaning of the **Apex Decision**

The action of the Supreme Court in the Apex Hosiery Company case was one of those looking-both-ways decisions that makes it difficult for a worker to make up his mind whether or not to call the decision a "victory," as is claimed by some labor leaders. The main issue before the court was whether or not labor unions are wholly excluded from prosecution under the Sherman Anti-Trust Act.

Labor certainly won no victory here. On this question the victory went to the New Deal Department of Justice. Assistant Attorney General Arnold is free now to go ahead with his prosecution of trade unions under the anti-trust act.

The New Deal justices handed the Justice Department a club to use against the unions by taking the position that, "while we must regard the question whether labor unions are to some extent and in some circumstances subject to the act as settled in the affirmative, it is equally plain that this court has never thought to act to apply to all labor union activities affecting interstate commerce. The prohibitions of the Sherman Act were not stated in terms of precision or of crystal clarity and the act itself did not define them."

After winding its way through this tortuous path the court said that, although the strike was conducted by "illegal" means, although the workers had substituted "the primitive method of trial by combat for . . . more civilized means of deciding an industrial dispute," it had not been shown that the strike had any effect on hosiery prices. The court added that the purpose of the union was to force the company to accede to the union's demands.

of what seems to be a clear prohibition of the Clayton Act which was passed after the Sherman Act. The Clayton Act says that labor organizations "or the members thereof, shall not be held or construed to be illegal combinations or conspiracies in restraint of trade, under the anti-trust laws." Specifically the workers cannot be influenced in their struggles by the legal mumbo-jumbo handed down by the courts. The Supreme Court made some sort of distinction between what it called "statutory construction," and "constitutional power." What does this mean? Why should a worker bother himself trying to find out what it means? What difference does it make to a worker whether he is convicted and fined by something called "statutory construction," or by some other piece of legal black magic called "constitutional power?" The only power that the workers can rely on is the power of their organized numbers.

The employers will not abide by any decisions except those in their own interests, unless imposed upon them by the organized power of the workers. It takes mass fighting unions to enforce even socalled pro-labor acts of congress and court decisions. The workers cannot depend on these decisions to win victories for them.

-"Progress" in Rubber-There's Money to Be Made in War-But Not by Labor

Despite the terrific impetus given to American industry by the war in Europe, millions of workers are still without jobs.

The facts are: Unemployment has not decreased; in certain

places it has increased. Profits have mounted rapidly in some cases

wildly. A look at one of America's vitally important industries reveals:

That, despite the war "boom," employment in the Rubber Industry has dropped by twelve percent.

That approximately sixteen thousand workers who were employed in the industry in 1937 were without jobs in 1939. That at the same time, profits for the Rubber

Barons in 1939 soared twenty seven percent over the profits of 1937. That the Rubber Moguls accumulated in

1939 the sizeable sum of \$33,408,000. In 1937, with more workers on their payrolls, they eked out a pitiable \$24,256,000.

Thus, while employment dropped by 16,000 profits went up nine million dollars.

Outlook for 1940

Refugees--in Belgium and The Congo--in War, in Peace

By J. R. JOHNSON

Millions of Belgians fleeing along the country roads, taking with them just as much as they can carry; women and children dropping down in the gutter, old men and children dying, children being

born only to die again The from exposure and Negro's want. Tanks, heavy ar-Fight tillery, motorized divisions grinding their

way through, for war is war, and when armies fight, they fight to win. Never were so many refugees on the roads before; and this time the refugees were caught between armies circled and encircling, were bounded by artillery on all sides and from above. This is the fate to which capitalist society has reduced the Belgian people twenty-five years after the war to end war and to make the world safe for democracy. But that is not the only Belgium. There is another area of this Belgian Empire-in Africa, a huge territory, the notorious Belgian Congo, with eleven million Negroes. All of them are refugees, have been refugees for nearly seventy-five years, liable at any time to see their homes destroyed, their crops burned, themselves transported hundreds of miles to do forced labor, with violent death and disease rampant throughout the

BRING IN ENOUGH RUBBER-**OR ELSE!**

whole territory.

The present Leopold's grandfather took over the Congo in the second half of the nineteenth century. He took it just as Hitler has taken Belgium to-day, sent his soldiers, murdered and massacred. The Belgian people, the workers and peasants, had nothing to do with it. Leopold didn't even allow the Belgian government to come in on the deal. He saw that the Belgian Congo was his personal private property. He wanted rubber, and the natives had to get it and if they did not bring in a sufficient quantity, a finger was cut off, then later another finger, often a whole hand. Get the rubber for the greater benefit of King Leopold's private income.

Some of these people were backward and barbarous, but all were not. Many villages astonished explorers by the high degree of excellence and organization they had attained in agriculture and social life. Strange irony! One of the early explorers noted that the cultivation of certain fields was as fine as anything in-Belgium, of all places. But that did not save them.

It is easy to imagine the ruin and devastation that fell upon these unfortunate people. Wherever Leopold's rubber-collectors passed, cultivation of food ceased, social organization went to pieces, new diseases swept away whole populations. Life reduced itself to one formula-get rubber.

the villages. The natives fled into the forest. Guerilla warfare lasted for weeks with natives using bows and arrows to defend themselves against troops armed with modern rifles. Thousands of natives, men, women and children died from bullets and starvation. The "revolt" was finally crushed.

Now what have the refugees in Belgium to do with all this? Nothing at all. When the Belgian Congo was first taken over they knew nothing at all about it. A small section of the Belgian workers can get fairly good wages from the profits made by the Belgian capitalists. But of the millions of refugees in Belgium today,

few gain much, if at all, from the destruction of human life in the Belgian Congo. Now Leopold has made his army surrender, and the Belgian people are delivered to Hitlerite Fascism. Fascism in the colonies, fascism at home: refugees on the Belgian countryside, refugees in the Belgian Congo. That is the future of the Belgian Empire as long as capitalism lasts.

And Hitler? Hitler wants to exploit the Belgian colony himself. So that "war for democracy" or "war for Fascism" boils down to "war for colonies." That is what the war was about in 1914. That is what the war is about in 1940.

Our Readers Take the Gloor ...

FOR THE THIRD CAMP **OF WORLD LABOR!**

To the Editor:

Over and over again, in the discussions and meetings and debate forums here on the campus, we insisted that there is a Third Camp to be reckoned with in the fundamental alignments of world politics. And over and over again we pointed out that to ignore its existence would spell only political tragedy. A recent lecture by Prof. Harry Elmer Barnes, world-famous historian, brought our Marxist point more sharply home to our friends and critics than even we hoped for.

In an exciting talk, Barnes accurately presented the roots of the crisis in Western civilization. Society had reached a point where the existing social and economic structures were stone-weights around the neck of progress. The capitalist system of private property and international imperialism is senile, utterly reactionary, and capable of producing only war and fascism.

But lo and behold! In his specific analyses, while he blasted both camps in the War (especially the British Empire), he betrayed again and again an "historical" sympathy for German Fascism! "The wrong people", he said, "are doing the right things". After all, was not Fascism rationalizing · the economic order, breaking down reactionary nationalstate barriers, giving the Government social responsibility, reducing capitalist profits? This was amazing. Here was anti-fascist and a relatively intelligent liberal confessing that in spite of his political and moral opposition to Hitler, Hitlerism was historically progressive! He would not see that international imperialism means chaos in the modern world, and that Fascism was only the desperate organization of that chaos to stave off utter social col-

ers Party does not control and cannot manipulate. There are trade union organizations on one side looking after the problem, badly or well,

industries, while prejudices on all other sides act to block Negro employment effectively. How can the Workers Party touch the problem?

Already Negro organizations press for jobs in Negro communities on their own initiative and without help. On occasion they have come out of their districts and picketed in white areas as upon the opening of the World's Fair last year when Negro pickets were at its gates and on Times Square. Industrial trades are beyond reach of being forced to

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hire Negroes. Only department stores present themselves as spots for concentration: Negroes buy in them, make them hire Negroes. Yet this can only be done if public sentiment is prepared for service by Negroes and is willing to demand it too. A vast propaganda campaign must ensue. For a step as that it might be possible to organize "Job-for-Negro-Committees" which would be able to take up a campaign to inform the public about the Negro populace, its good qualities and its aspirations and which would help establish the re-

quired picket lines as well The scheme is grandiose but it is not impossible to work out, for a plan to educate whites about Negro problems and enlist them in a cause that would help the Negro, would strike the Negroes as something that they thought ought to do many times and should do now that it is being proposed to them. Unless the Workers Party thinks it can organize "Jobs - for - Negroes" committees it might as well not take its slogan "Jobs-for-Negroes" too seriously.

The Negro, the Man and the Leader, should be the outlook that the Workers Party should prepare the Negro to hold. The Negro is rightly

Page 4

going to trust THEM? The British governmental rulers rejoiced when Hitler came to power in Germany, reveals Neville Henderson in his recent book. They helped him to rearm and strengthen himself.

Every step taken by Hitler to extend his power over Europe was aided or tolerated by England and France. They gave him money and gave him arms. The biggest French capitalists (the Comite des Forges) provided him with coal from Lorraine. But the racketeer Hitler wanted too much, and so Churchill and Reynaud turn to the workers and ask them to help keep Hitler in his place.

Are these the leaders, are these the governments that can be trusted to stop Hitler?

Yes, it is possible for England and France to defeat Hitler's armies. But Churchill wants only to substitute another Hitler in the housepainter's placeone who will be a little more considerate of the British Empire, to be sure. But one who will also know how to keep the German workers in chains.

Like the boss who unites with the labor racketeer against a strike, Churchill knows that a rising of the German workers against Hitlerism means a signal to the workers of all Europe to strike a blow that will at last be for THEMSELVES. That is why he supported Hitler before.

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The court then delivered the opinion that has inclined some labor leaders to talk about a "victory." The majority of New Deal justices upheld the Circuit Court in reversing the District Court. The District Court had awarded the Apex Company \$711,932 in damages. The high court said that under the conditions damages were not warranted. The justices did not stop here, however. The company was advised of the proper legal steps to take in order to collect from the union. The company was informed that the strike was "illegal," that the strikers violated the civil and penal laws of Pennsylvania, and that state was the place for the company to go for satisfaction of its alleged wrongs and grievances.

The minority opinion, concurred in by Justices Hughes, McReynolds, and Roberts, was more definite. They claimed that interstate commerce had been interfered with in a substantial way and, that therefore, the assessment of the damages was correct and proper. Furthermore Justice Hughes appealed to the National Labor Relations Act to buttress the position of the minority. According to him the main reason for the court sustaining this act was to force employers to accept collective bargaining so that interstate commerce would not be interfered with by labor strife and strikes. According to Hughes, the court, in sustaining the National Labor Relations Act, was concerned in no way with the rights of workers to protection, or their right to protect their wage standards and working conditions. The act was sustained solely to guarantee the free flow of commerce, which really means that it was sustained solely for the protection of business.

The real meaning of the court decision is that, though the union, for the present, escaped the payment of a huge fine, it endorsed the vicious anti-union prosecutions under the anti-trust laws. We especially call the attention of the

workers to the fact that the Supreme Court made this recent decision in face No Brighter - For Labor

These facts were revealed this month in a report submitted to the CIO's unemployment division by the Research Department of the United Rubber Workers of America.

What is the outlook for 1940; especially in view of the fact that plant expansion and increased sales will come as a result of the newly announced program for National Defense.

Since the Rubber Industry is a key producer of materials used in the construction of tanks and ships, airplanes and guns, will it mean more jobs?

Despite the noise accompanying the program for National Preparedness, the employment outlook is pessimistic.

Says the United Rubber Worker, official organ of the URWA, in its issue for May, "There is no reason to believe that the year 1940 will be any better than 1939."

But for the Rubber Barons the picture is differently hued.

Continues the United Rubber Worker: "While the unemployment picture is decidely gloomy, the profits side is bright."

Speaking directly for the manufacurers, the Akron Beacon Journal comments; "Apparently they would be well satisfied with another 1939." How apparent, indeed, is it who benefits by "the war for democracy" satisfies!

That less workers are now employed in rubber while enormous profits are piling up is especially revealing.

The Research Department of the URWA points out that hourly productivity per-man has been stepped up four hundred percent in the tire and tube branch of the industry since 1921. In other branches of the industry, hourly output per-man has been raised twenty five percent.

Thus, in the year 1939, seventeen percent less workers' accounted for a seven percent production increase in tire casings.

As a result of this increased, and ever increasing, efficiency, some 35,000 workers have been permanently ousted from the Rubber Industry during the past ten years.

Despite the war boom, this highly streamlined industry will nevertheless not absorb the bulk of the unemployed rubber workers. That much is clear.

Clear too is the fact that they must be provided with jobs.

In that connection, the CIO has laid down a positive, if minimum, program calling for three million WPA jobs at trade union wages.

Workers, employed and unemployed, in all industries, in rubber, steel, auto, coal, petroleum, have a stake in that program, must support it.

To achieve it, they will have to fight, and fight stubbornly.

Because the bosses and the politicians aren't much interested. The bosses are busy counting up their profits. The President and his gang are busy sighting non-existent airplanes over Greenland and submarines in the Great Lakes.

The "war for democracy," which leaves the capitalist class so well satisfied, has not changed, will not change, by a single whit the desperate plight of the unemployed and underprivileged.

NATIVES BENEFIT LITTLE FROM WORLD EXPOSE

This went on for a generation. Then in the early years of the nineteenth century a tremendous campaign was waged all over the civilized world against the atrocities in the Belgian Congo. How pleasant it would be to believe all the ballyhoo that the conscience of mankind had awakened at last! What had awakened was the capitalist conscience. British and French capital didn't see why Leopold should run this huge colony as a private estate. The Belgian Congo was a monopoly. The Belgian king laid down the conditions of trade for all outsiders. These conditions were hard. Whereupon the capitalists of Britain and France subsidized investigators and propagandists who said to the world: "Look at the poor natives. See how their fingers are cut off to get. rubber for the wicked Leopold."

The scandal was so great that Belgian Congo became a regular colony. The natives didn't benefit much. Capitalist enterprise began to develop the industrial resources, for instance to build railways. As late as 1928 one piece of railway construction, cost the lives of 28,000 men. Life is cheap and therefore the work that is done by machinery in Europe and America is done by muscle and bone in the Congo.

It is not only the drain of men for labor on European enterprises which ruin native life. When the ablebodied men from the village are rounded up for work, life in the village goes to pieces. Only the old men, the children and the women remain. They are refugees who stay at home, suffering from the blitzkrieg of the white labor-contractors.

A COLONY BY ANY NAME SMELLS -

After the war, another portion of Central Africa was handed over to Belgium. Not as a colony, oh no! The war for democracy changed that. Ruara-Urundi was given a new name,—mandated territory. In 1932 M. Vandervelde, the late leader of Belgian labor, told what had recently been taking place in the mandate. Belgian officials had raped the wife of a native who as is customary in native law, demanded compensation. The native was whipped, a fight broke out and one official was killed. White authority and prestige had to be restored. The Belgian governor organized a blitzkrieg. Armed troops swept down on

How is it that Barnes, in many ways a talented historian, could make such a monstrous error? Con-

trast Barnes with a man like Harold Laski. He too knows that capitalism is bankrupt, and socialism is the only hope. But Laski throws his weight on the side of the Allies, for he thinks its democratic elements must be the elements of the new world. Barnes, throws his weight on the side of German Fascism, for he thinks its elements of "organized economy" must be elements of the new world. The simple fact of the matter is that both Laski (followed by most English and American liberals) and Barnes are driven to "accept" in some part one of the Two Warring Camps because they see only Two Camps!

They do not or will not see the

inevitable growth of mass defeatism

in Europe and in the colonial world.

They do not see the consequences of

a ruthless and protracted military

murder (which is in the cards, for

American capitalism will stabilize

the Allied Empires when the going

gets tough) - desertions, revolts,

strikes, etc. They forget all about

the lessons of 1914-18. They have

learned nothing. Once upon a time

they temporarily realized that both

War Camps need to be opposed. But

they never understood the realism

For the Third Camp of interna-

of the revolutionary challenge.

tional socialism!

Ann Arbor, Mich.

SOME THOUGHTS ON

May 27, 1940.

regarded as being in the vanguard of the coming socialist revolution. This honor that is to be his must have glory attached to it in advance. Our propaganda must present the Negro to himself. Knowledge of his virtues, the achievements of his race, his important role in events to come as a leader, a position for which he must prepare himself, should constantly be drummed into him. The Negro as a leader of the white race as well as his own in the fight for economic and social justice is an ideal that will lift the morale of these oppressed people while it will also stir them to look into the future and feel confident that they have a worthy destiny. John Andrews

New York

(We would appreciate hearing from our readers on the proposals suggested by comrade Andrews." Branches in other sections of the country which have contact with the Negro community are especially invited to write their reactions to the proposals for a "Jobs for Negroes Campaign." A detailed article dealing with discrimination against the employment of Negroes will be published in an early issue. - ED.)

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SAYS LABOR ACTION 1:00 IS PLENTY GOOD ST T

To the Editors: John Melvin

> The initial appearance of LABOR ACTION was bright and snappy. There was plenty of that colorful zest that gives life to a paper. In contrast, consider the other papers -the anaemic Socialist Call with its pontifical Norman Thomas spieling on every subject: the very academic Workers Age and the unreadable junk in the Sunday Worker.

The labor movement can certainly use papers with ginger and zip in them.

Yours fraternally,

Chicago, Ill.

I am subscribing -Negro employment has had its low and high peaks in various industries. Enclosed find For example, in N.Y.C. about forty subscription to Labor years ago only Negro help was em-Action. ployed in certain service industries, while in the basic industries hardly Address any of them were working. Today, the trend has changed considerably. Name All this has been due to social and economic factors which the Work-City

NEGRO ORGANIZATION Dear Friend: The Workers Party proposes to

raise the slogan, "Jobs for Negroes." The purpose of the campaign is to mobilize the Negro masses in a broad campaign against discrimination in employment, particularly in Negro communities and in the trade unions. The Negroes are not to be given all

the positions opening up but are to

be given a fair opportunity to com-

pete with white workers.