Now LABOR ACTION **One Cent**

We Say-

Conscript War Industries Under Workers' Control!

ONE CENT

APRIL 26, 1942

A PAPER IN THE INTERESTS OF LABOR

Exposed -- Another Merchant of Death DU PONT DYNASTY DEALS WITH HITLERI

The Ban on "Social Justice" -An Editorial-

- ----

The weekly paper of Rev. Charles E. Coughlin, Social Justice, was barred from using the U.S. mail last week by an order of Postmaster General Walker, on the advice of an opinion delivered by Attorney General Biddle. Biddle declared that Social Justice was "seditious" and that it followed a "pro-Hitler line" and therefore urged that it not be granted any mailing rights.

The entire labor movement has always taken an uncompromising stand of complete opposition to Social Justice. Coughlin's paper has stood for everything reprehensible and reactionary in political life. It has openly espoused the fascist creed and the vile lies of anti-Semitic racial hatred. It has been a bitter enemy of the working class and the organized labor movement. Following the pattern set by Hitlerism, Social Justice and the Coughlin movement have enticed thousands of honest people into its reactionary fold by misleading them with its demagogic, pseudo "radical" slogans which are only a cover for its fascist and reactionary content.

Of late Social Justice has pursued an extremely demagogic line with relation to the war. It has taken into account what it believes will be the disillusionment on the part of the people once the war has progressed for a while and has attempted to prepare to capitalize on that in order to create a native fascist movement. it has pursuaed an essentially pro-Hitler line. This pro-Hitler attitude has been motivated by the need which Coughlin has had of hitching his wagon to the star of the most powerful reactionary movement in the world-Hitlerism; and by a desire to play the

(Continued on page 4, in editorial column)

Would-Be Fuehrers on Display: Here's How to **Smash Fascists**

TIME FOR A BIG SALVO

HABOR

By JACK WILSON

Revelations of the sinister dealings of the du Pont family's Remington Arms Corp. with Hitler and his financial masters, the I. G. Farben Co., come as a fitting climax to the long and odious record of this gang of economic royalists in their drive for profits and power in America.

And the grave indictment against their cartel agreements, through Remington Arms Corp., with I. G. Farben, put them high on the list of this war's "Merchants of Death."

Only their vast power and influence prevent the outbreak of

Hitler Murders Dutch Socialists

According to Aneta, the newspaper service of the exiled Dutch government, Henricus Sneevliet, leaders of the Dutch Revolutionary Socialist Party (RSAP), and eight of his associates have been sentenced to death on charges of "sabotage" by the German occupation forces in Amsterdam.

Sneevliet, a life-long socialist and revolutionist, has a long record in the labor movement and was one of the leading figures in the political life of Holland. At one time he was a member of the Dutch Parliament and supported the program and activities of the Fourth International. Later his organization broke away and became affiliated to the "London Bureau," organized by the British Independent Labor Party.

The death of Sneevliet and his comrades is another of the many criminal Nazi blows at the European labor movement LABOR AC-TION salutes these revolutionary martyrs to the cause of labor and socialism. They will be avenged by the working class of Holland when it drives out the Hitlerite invaders of its country.

ILP Candidate Polls

a national scandal of major political proportions.

This is what the du Ponts have been doing, as summarized in the conservative paper, the New York Sun:

(1) Gave a German company access to military information, through Remington Arms royalty payments to the German company.

(2) Prevented sales of tetracene primed ammunition to the British Purchasing Commission until very recently.

(3) Allowed a German company to collect royalty on ammunition sold to the United States Army! What do you think Congress 1 going to do about it? Nothing. It's too busy attacking labor on the home front.

The record of the du Ponts in building their billion dollar empire out of blood profits in the First World War is public, and Congress hasn't touched them. In the First World War the du Pont fortune rose from \$74,000,000 to \$329,121,608, according to Ferdinan Lundberg, in his book, "Amer

Sixty Families," exposing the rulers of America. War Dividends Skyrocketed The du Ponts' war (equaled 458 per cent or value of the original sto

company! The du Ponts were gi 000 to build a nitrate cost-plus basis; after the plant was sold to the Nat dustrial Corp. for \$3,500,000. "Therefore the plants built du Ponts," said the Graham inv. gating committee, "had been paid out of the profits of contracts mag with the Allied nations before we entered the war." Besides, they made a profit of 33 per cent on sales Then the du Ponts extended their octopus grip into control of General Motors and the United States Rub

By Susan Green

In the issues of LABOR ACTION of April 5, 12 and 19, the anti-labor fascist movement of this country-financed and backed by American industrialists whose ideal for this country is a Nazi totalitarian regime-has been exposed. Not only the "who's who" of American fascism, but the "why" of the movement as a weapon of decaying capitalism against labor, has been explained.

Furthermore, the various angles of fascist propaganda have been analyzed and shown to be the rankest demagogy, designed to fool workers into sympathy with a movement to enslave them.

This final article of our series deals with the methods by which the Coughlins, Pellys, Kullgrens and other would-be American Hitlers hope to accomplish their barbarous aims. And most important of all, this article also outlines a program for stopping in their tracks these enemies of labor, of the Jews, of the Negroes, of society as a whole.

FASCIST OBJECTIVE IS COMPLETE POLITICAL CONTROL

The first thing that must be understood is that the American fascists are not conducting debating societies for letting off steam. They mean business, just as Hitler meant business. Their objective is to gain political and military control of this land.

In its issue of September 1, 1941, Coughlin's Social Justice editorially "predicted" the future hoped for by every American fascist: "The National Socialists in America-organized under that or some other name-eventually will take control of government on this continent.... We predict ... the end of democracy in America."

"National Socialist" is the name demoniacally adopted by Hitler for his Nazi Party, with intent to fool German workers. The unscrupulous and shameless use of the word "socialist" in connection with the "end of democracy" is typical of the filthy nature of all fascist demagogy. For the aim of true socialism is to take democracy out of the realm of wishful thinking and make it a reality for the masses.

However, as Social Justice stated, by any name the purpose is the same. The American fascists are not mincing words. They are out to get power, to become the political rulers, to settle the labor question in the Hitler way.

PROMISE ALL THINGS TO ALL MEN

As was emphasized in prior articles, the fascists promise all things to all men, like the quack who will cure everything from toothache to cancer with a bottle of colored water. They likewise organize in any and all ways that will bring them nearer the throne of power. They create a nucleus of fanatics for violent mob action, to be directed against the Jews and against labor organizations. But to lure the vast majority who do not approve of mob violence, they will form a political party and pretend to use legal methods.

(Continued on page 3)

GE's Profit Conspiracy With Nazi Tungsten Trust

Last week the General Electric pound. No company could obtain a Corp. was added to the rogues gallery of American Merchants of Death who entered into profit conspiracies with their German profiteering partners.

Contin

General Electric and the Friedrich Krupp Werke, the notorious German munitions firm that sold war materials to both sides in the First World War, had an agreement to make the United States Army pay through the nose for tungsten carbide, second to diamonds as the hardest cutting substance in existence.

Obtaining its patents for this vital material from Krupp in a pool, that is to say, in a sharing of their mutual booty, General Electric fixed a price on tungsten carbide at \$435 a

patent license from GE's subsidiary, Caroboloy, unless it agreed to sell the manufactured product at the top figure

Balking at such an exorbitant price, U. S. toolmakers got along with high grade steel for cutting operations. However, Krupp made certain that Hitler had oodles of tungsten carbide for building his mass murder machine in double-quick time. Incidentally, General Electric insists that Krupp's patent remains inviolate, war or no war, proving once again that the impeccable code of honor among international thieves is truly an emotion of very genuine depth.

The existence of the patent-pool-

Stalinist Negro Group Hails Knox's Jim Crow Rule

The Communist Party and the National Negro Congress, which has in the past faithfully followed the numerous flip-flops of the Communist Party, were among the few organizations that came out in support of Navy Secretary Knox's attempt to appease Negro anger by making some watery and vague "concessions" on naval Jim Crow policy.

While such a Negro leader as A. Philip Randolph, always ready to bend over backward in support of the Roosevelt Administration, condemned the Knox statement because "it accepts and extends and consolidates the policy of Jim Crowism in the Navy" and further stated that Negroes should "resent the stigma of inferiority and the status of vassals which Secretary Knox has affixed to them": the Communist New York City councilman Peter V. Cacchione sent a telegram to Knox declaring that "All friends of democracy applaud initial step taken Navy Department to unify nation for victory over Axis by accepting Negro volunteers...."

The National Negro Congress also supported Knox's Jim Crow rule by characterizing the Navy announcement as a "bold, patriotic action in smashing age-old restrictions which have prevented the Negro people from full service in the United States Navy."

The lie was given to this Uncle Tom support which the Stalinist leaders have given to the Knox statement by the fact, as reported in People's Voice, a New York Negro paper, that "more than 200 Negroes were turned away at Navy recruiting stations Thursday following Navy Secretary Knox's announcement...." The Knox order was also criticized by the NAACP on the ground that the Navy doesn't intend to give any commissions as officers to Negroes, that the men will be "completely segregated under the command of white officers, and that it will be six months to a year before the Navy builds a separate training base for Negroes."

Almost the only other significant (Continued on page 3)

ing agreement was brought to light before the Senate Patents Committee as a sort of preview of the government's anti-trust suit against General Electric. The company is being charged with a conspiracy, along with all other U.S. and foreign

03-TPEU

Trial Postponed

tric bulbs.

The trial was postponed by Federal Judge Phillip Forman in Trenton, N. J., on April 13 after Under Secretary of War Patterson and Under Secretary of the Navy Forrestal burned the telegraph wires with a frantic plea for more time

"To study the question of whether a trial at this time of U.S. vs. Genera Eectric and others would interfere with war production."

Philip D. Reed, chairman of the board of directors of General Electric, is also chief of the Bureau of Industry Operations in the War Production Board. At present he is on the carpet before the Truman Committee of the Senate for having delayed conversion to war production through decisions favorable to his own company's financial interests.

His salary from the government is only a dollar a year, but you can bet your last buck that he's simply crazy about the work

NEXT WEEK'S LABOR ACTION

Will be off the press three days earlier than usual, in time to be sent to all parts of the country by May Day. It will be a special, sixpage gala May Day issue which none of our friends will want to miss. We expect to have the largest press run in the history of LA-BOR ACTION; all extra orders must be in, at the latest, by April 25. Don't forget-extra orders by April 25.

25 PC of Votes In By-Election

Running against a leading member of the Churchill cabinet, War Secretary Sir James Grigg, the candidate of the British Independent Labor Party, Fenner Brockway, polled 3,311 votes out of a total of 13,341 cast in the Cardiff East by-election. Brockway's considerable show of strength -approximately 25 per cent of the total vote case-came as an index of the growing popularity of the socialistic Independent Labor Party, companies, to fix monopoly prices and control the production of elecwhich has been steadily increasing its votes at recent by-elections. It is all the more significant when it is remembered that the ILP candidate ran against a candidate who received the endorsement of the Conservative, Labor and Liberal Parties.

ber Co. While plying their nefarious trade they built up political fences, which have given them full protection to date.

"In a broad and very real sense the du Ponts own the whole state of Delaware and parts of adjoining Pennsylvania. Delaware itself is th private fief of the du Ponts, who con structed its schools and roads, col lect its taxes-Pierre du Pont is th Delaware tax commissioner for the fourth term at this writing-and, in general, supervise every detail (Continued on page 3)

Budd Welders Win 25 Cent Raise in Sitdown Strike

On Wednesday, April 15, 1942, 300 welders of the E. G. Budd Co. made history in the labor movement of Philadelphia.

These 300 workers-making a miserable 60 cents an hour-sat down at their benches and refused to work until their wages were raised.

United, these Budd men did what has never before been done in this citadel of Philadelphia open shoppers-attack the company in organized fashion and win!

The fact that the Budd men were finally on the march threw a panic into the Budd management and they capitulated to the demands of the militant welders. The hourly rate was raised from 60 to 85 cents an hour-a raise of \$200 a day!

The welders raised their wages 40 per cent by doing what the auto workers of General Motors, Chrysler and Ford did almost five years ago-stopped talking and began acting

For a year the United Automobile Workers (CIO) has been carrying on an organization drive at the plant, known to the men as the "slaughterhouse." This action of the welders did what tons of leaflets and hours of talk have not been able to do.

This is a lesson which every Budd man should take to heart. Up to now, the Budd managemen has been able to stall the UAW of The UAW concentrated on provin to the NLRB that Budd ran a com pany union-and Budd calmly an nounced that it would continue t do so, no matter what the NLRB de cided. Secure in their belief the the UAW's hands were tied by i self-imposed no-strike policy, that it would continue to rely chiefly o

Washington and appeals to Budd for justice, the company continued i vicious anti-labor policy of cuttin rates and firing union men. Now the welders have shown th way to bring Budd-and behind his the rest of Philadelphia's open sho profiteers-to his knees: militant of ganized action.

They have shown the way to th UAW and to the men in the plantnot reliance on Washington and th NLRB, but militant union action The men should remember: althoug the action was carried through one shift only, the other two shift got the raise too. Only the unite action of the men in the whole plan will organize the "slaughterhouse. It is up to the men to organi into the UAW and see that they g that militant action.

His salary at GE is \$60,000 a year.

age 2

LABOR ACTION

Europe in Revolt News from the Socialist Third Camp

THE RETURN OF MONSIEUR LAVAL

Pierre Laval is again head of the French government. A French Quisling has been installed in Vichy. This news is of extreme importance for further developments in Europe.

Petain, while fighting the workers wherever he could, while destroying their organizations and imprisoning thousands of their best leaders, still did this at least partly out of his own initiative and not merely because of Nazi pressure. He was moved by his ultra-conservative illusions about a paternalistic society where the workers had "their share," provided they "behaved ecently" and did not disturb the weall-meaning gentlemen of government and church by any action of their own. Under the cover of the "socialminded" regime there had been established the most outright reactionary solicy which France had seen for decades. The living standards of the masses had been lowered at least 60 per cent-a rather telling achievement if one considers the rather short period in which the "social-minded" government was able to employ its methods.

And still, in spite of the nearly unbearable conditions in France, which recently bordered on famine, there was still some limited support for Petain among certain layers of the population which argued: "After all, he does everything he is able to do; he resists the Germans as much as he can." This rationalizing is now definitely over. The new Vichy regime headed by Pierre Laval is there by order of the Nazis; it is supported by exactly nobody inside France. It is a Quisling government, even if it should try to put up a show for the outside world that it remains independent and master of its own decisions.

Pierre Laval, the most hated man in France, has come to power. Laval, the personification of the corrupt representatives of the Third Republic. Laval, whose only talents have consisted of a rather prophetic gift for knowing which way the wind is blowing and being always willing to turn accordingly. Laval, who has traveled the long road from anarcho-syndicalism to fascism. Laval, who once used to pull so expertly the wires in party congresses and parliamentary lobbies, is now Premier of France ... and the wires are pulled in Berlin.

TIMES OF RADICAL DECISIONS

Indeed, these are times of radical decisions. No intermediate attitude is tenable any longer. All those who still attempt to compromise, to find a middle road or a way out through the service door, are inevitably crushed by the tremendous historic forces which are engaged in deadly struggle. This is a fight for world domination between two tremendous imperialist blocs; all countries have to take a decided stand; neutrality is no longer tolerated. But while this deadly struggle goes on, there are slowly growing forces of a Third Camp and they are shaking the ground on which the imperialist regimes seem to stand so securely.

It is yet too early to evaluate all the consequences for the French situation arising from these recent developments, but it can already be said that the struggle inside France is bound to get much more violent. Now the lines are drawn more clearly, for it is now clear to every Frenchman that the last remhants of France's national independence are gone. The wave of nationblist hatred against the German occupying forces is bound to flow higher. The unoccupied zone which up till now managed to remain aloof from what happened in occupied France, is going to feel the direct impact of Nazi domination. Those officials of the still tolerated unions who up till now thought that they could try to combine a mildly critical attitude toward the Vichy regime with more or less suppressed hopes for a Nazi defeat and a desperate clinging to their positions and salaries, must now decide: for or against. The same holds true for various middle class layers who had sought a refuge from their scruples when working for Petain by consoling themselves that Vichy, after all, was not Berlin. Now, Vichy IS Berlin.

It seems as if the Nazis, by choosing Laval, had wished themselves to destroy all possible illusions. They could have picked among their French nges somebody who covered his betrayals at least by some cloak of ideoal or moral reasons. They might have picked a Dest, who has undoubtnore following among certain layers of the former rightist and pacifist tuals. But they chose Laval, the most hated man in France, the one ild knows as the unprincipled, corrupt and cynical figurehead for the

IS LAVAL'S MAIN WEAPON

no fool. He knows very well that everything is now at stake for bound up with the Germans; he must cling to them and try to do they wish, because the day they might drop him for some other would be the day of his doom. He will therefore try to reorganize e official apparatus, strengthen the police and army. He must atto hold his grip on France by the most violent means, because the s of persuasion, which Petain occasionally tried, are definitely closed r him.

He is faced by at least the hostile passivity of most of the French population and therefore terror is his main weapon. But even an outright terrorist regime needs certain support; an efficient Gestapo is possible only where there are at least some parts of the population which are in sympathy with its aims and methods. Laval is thus faced with tremendous difficulties. We shall witness an increase of opposition in France which will leave far behind anything yet seen. A still more widespread breakdown of the state machinery than took place even under Petain may be expected-passivity and even sabotage among minor state officials. And so the Germans will be ferced to work more and more through their own apparatus.

Supreme Court "Anti-Mutiny" Edict a Blow Against Labor

that "it is true that they did not en-

The vote was five to four and three

deny men their right to be rehired

or "mutiny"? Nothing in it provides

for that. But then you suddenly re-

member: the United States is at war

and strikes by seamen are uncom-

fortable things at any time but es-

pecially in wartime. So what is sup-

posed to be a fundamental law to

safeguard labor must be restricted

and limited. And it's so much easier

to use the authority of the Supreme

Court and do it indirectly and with-

out great publicity than to try to

amend the law in Congress where

because they committed "violence"

gage in violence" Did you ever hear of a union winhing anything at all from a boss of the five are New Dealers. In adwhen the boss knew in advance that the union would not strike? Pretty tough, anyone would admit. But that's exactly the situation created by the Supreme Court in finding striking sailors guilty of mutiny and not entitled to re-hiring by a labormajority. hating shipping combany.

National Maritime Union members staged a sit-down in July, 1938, on the City of Fort Worth while it was tied to a dock in Houston, Tex. The ship's owner had refused to bargain after the union had woh an election. This was after the Wagner Act had been passed, so the company was violating the law. The NLRB and the Third Circuit Court ordered the men rehired after the company had fired five of them, and both also found the company guilty of unfair labor practices.

But the Supreme Court reversed the NLRB and the Circuit Court and decided that the five men were not entitled to reinstatement even though the majority opinion said

The Question and the Answer: What's All This Talk About 'Class Struggle'?

By MIKE STEVENS

Whenever the workers announce their intention of forming a trade union, or a labor party, or of demanding a wage increase, slum elearance, social legislation,-no matter what it is-they are immediately accused of fomenting and CREATING "class antagonisms."

Antagonisms between the two major classes in society, the capitalist class and the working class, DO EXIST in the capitalist system, but they are NOT CREATED by unions, militant workers, or LABOR ACTION. These antagonisms are so basic and fierce in every avenue of life that we socialists refer to them as the struggle between the two classes, the CLASS STRUGGLE.

If a man employs workers for profits, he is a member of the capitalist class, and these who are employed by him are part of the working class. The boss and the workers may attend the same church, live in the same country, enjoy the same newspapers and movies, and may even be members of the same family. Nevertheless they are in two DISTINCT and OPPOSING classes.

It does not matter one bit that the boss, as an individual, is kind or unkind. His relationship to the workers is beyond his control. He is the owner of the means of production-the factory-and the worker is forced to sell his ability to labor to that boss at the lowest rate which the boss can get it at.

Of the values which a worker produces, only a small portion is kept by him in the form of wages. Even the "best" boss keeps-and in order to remain in business, must keep-a large portion of these values in the form of profit.

MEN IN BUSINESS ONLY FOR PROFIT

If a man went into business and did not WANT to make a profit, hired a worker and paid him for wages 100 per cent of what he produced, what would happen? He would go out of business. That's a bit far-fetched, of course; because a man goes into business ONLY for profits. He must make as big (or bigger) profits than his competitors or else they will undersell him, they will expand more rapidly than he, their buying power will be greater, their profits will mount, and he will go bankrupt.

Consideration of his profits must come first. He can't make profits on his buildings and machines, he makes his profit on the worker. The boss will therefore try to keep wages down and the hours long, in order to make the biggest possible profits. And the worker, even if he is the boss' own brother, is exploited for profit like the other workers throughout the world. And with these workers of the world he has more in common than with his own boss. Profits have a permanent priority under the capitalist system. The requirements, needs, health, life of a worker and his family cannot be (and are not, to be sure) given hearly as much consideration. The bosses fight unions, set race against race, color against color, religion against religion, skilled against unskilled-and use any and all means at their disposal to make profits. Profits is the life or death question of capitalism.

union pressure might have something to do with the outcome of such attempts.

Ship Tied to Dock

dition. Justice Stone was appointed That is the reason for this resort Chief Justice by President Roosevelt. to an ancient doctrine established Justice Frankfurter further distinhundreds of years ago under comuished himself in his more recent pletely different conditions. To make role as an opponent of labor and the case worse, here the ship wasn't civil liberties by siding with the even at sea. It was tied to a dock, so there was no possible chance of Why, you may ask, such a decision danger to anyone through the strike. after the long trend of liberal inter-And, to repeat, "they did not engage pretation of the Wagner Act? Why in violence." should that act be interpreted to

So outrageous is this decision that four judges felt they could not agree with such a view and argued that the discharged men should be rehired. By a five-to-four vote of nine men the organizing activities of a union in a basic industry are sharply cut down.

The decision will undoubtedly have wide reaching consequences, but it serves to teach the American unions that only by fighting to keep and extend their gains can they protect themselves. Then their organized activity will overcome the decision and will eventually lead to a change either in the law or in the decisions of the court.

Rubber Workers Keep Eye on Their **Union Leadership**

AKRON-Rubber workers are keeping an eye on the international headquarters of the URWA here, wondering what moves the leadership is going to pull on the ranks in order to chisel away present overtime standards.

Dalrymple and the others voted at the Washington CIO conference to give up the present overtime standards on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays.

They haven't made any moves in Akron to carry out those proposals yet, but that's not because they are trying to bolster union standards.

Rather, they fear, as usual, the reaction of the ranks of the rubber workers, when the chiseling begins.

And, while the scandals over the shortage of rubber, etc., rock Washington, the URWA leadership does nothing to utilize these events to blast at the war profiteers in this industry, but devotes its time to keeping the ranks pacified.



-THE WORLD AT WAR Will the Allies Open up A Second Front in Reply To Hitler's Next Offensive ?

By WILLIAM BRAD

The various military fronts were comparatively silent last week. Except for several spectacular air raids and the continued British retreat in Burma, no serious fighting had occurred.

Everything is in abeyance. The next military move is Hitler's. All the talk to the contrary notwithstanding, the initiative, militarily speaking, remains with Hitler. But Washington-London recognize that they must prepare to do something, too, this spring. They cannot just wait for Hitler to strike. They must be ready with a reply. This reply has been shaping up around the idea of a second front in Europe. When the war first broke out, Allied strategy called for an encirclement of Germany and a campaign of starvation and attrition. This was the essence of the Maginot strategy. But when Hitler marched into Holland, Belgium and France, and took Norway, this strategy collapsed. The spread of the war to Africa and the Middle East and, above all, to Asia, left the Allies with but one strategy: retreat.

Continued Retreats Expected

With the entry of the United States into the war last December, the basic position of the Allies did not change. The constantly repeated messages from Washington and London were: "We expect only continued retreats and disasters in 1942. The year 1942 is the year for building American war production. In

1943 we may begin to strike back. The Allies were definitely oriented toward 1943, at the earliest. And not all of the "experts" were certain but

that 1943 was too sonn. What, then, has caused this shift toward a second front this year? The need to open a second front is made imperative now because the Allies are, in their turn, threatened with encirclement. If Hitler can effect his projected juncture with the Japanese in India, or even if he only takes Suez and assumes a commanding position in the Middle East, then the connections between Washington - London and Russia and China will be practically closed.

What is more, Roosevelt and Churchill are not so serenely confident of Stalin and Chlang Kai-Shek as to trust them not to make a separate peace if and when they are so cut off.

But desire is not enough. The Allies are afraid to open a second front until Hitler moves first. They cannot afford to move too soon. For what if Hitler attacks Britain or. through Spain, Gibraltar and North Africa, or Sweden and the North? Just what does the ascension of Laval signify? The Allies will probably wait for Hitler to move first. More important than this uncer-

tainty, perhaps, is the fact that all is not well in the Allied camp.

London Fears Second Front London is afraid to open a second front. On April 10, the day after General Marshall and Harry Hopkins arrived in London, the British censor passed a story to the effect that some leading British government officials felt that the risk involved in opening a second European frc¹t was too great and that it probably would fail, even if the Allies could go through with it. On April 20, at the conclusion of the Marshall-Hopkins visit, the New York Times announced that "it was not a secret that the British government had made no preparations for such an enterprise, at least within the near future."

The British government is afraid of another Dunkerque. Churchill is afraid for his government. The British ruling class is afraid that throwing their naval and military forces into Europe will be tantamount to throwing their last strong point of resistance to the pressure of Washington into the jaws of death.

The British ruling class has been retreating steadily for two years now. Its empire is being swept from under it. It is a class gripped with the inertia of retreat. It lacks self-confidence. The demand of Roosevelt that a second front be opened is a reeling blow. Capable or not, they are ordered to fight.

Churchill's Dilemina

Churchill recognizes that he must do something to match Hitler's expected spring offensive, but he tries to postpone that day.

Washington, for its part, wants a fighting front to which it can send its war material and expanding army and air force. Roosevelt recognizes the need to answer Stalin's continuous plea for a second front. It has been variously estimated that it will take from 750,000 to 1,000,-000 men, with supporting equipment, to establish beach-heads in Europe. Another 1,000,000 must be in reserve to be thrown into the battle. These will be but the first installments. The cold and brutal calculations of the military must assume immense losses; some estimate that the first million must be considered an "essential sacrifice." The second front calls for a gigantic slaughter, such as probably has never been equalled. The greatest military force of all time will be concentrated on the destruction of the flower of the youth of the world.

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The complete political bankruptcy of the Allies is nowhere better illustrated than here. Having no message for the German workers and soldiers who are yearning for an end to the slaughter, the Allies depend exclusively on military means.

Among the first to be fired were

And what about the peasant who even now didn't send his products to the market because of fear that they would help the Germans? Can anything but opposition be expected from him?

The workers even before had very few illusions about Petain's regime; but now among them too opposition and hatred are going to mount tremendously. Above all, the workers of unoccupied France who up till now were less politicalized and active than their brothers in occupied France, will be drawn closer to them. The artificial cleavage which was created by the boundary line between occupied and unoccupied territory is bound to disappear. Only those capitalists working for the German war machine will support Laval, and thus their immediate profits.

Europacus.

Pine Workers Notes from Feather River Canyon

PORTOLA, Calif .- The action of the Scott Lumber Co. at Burney, Calif., seems to have been the opening gun of an undeclared war on the Industrial Woodworkers of America, by the members of the Western Pine Association. Their refusal to negotiate or arbitrate with Local 6-269 and the consequent injunction against picketing, and their law suit for damages fit into a pattern whereby the association plans to shackle further advances by the IWA, by taking advantage of war hysteria to attack the lumber workers.

They are encouraged in this by tatements made by army officers in the recent strike at Burney to the effect that we have a lot of concentration camps for the Japs, but we can put strikers in them, too.

Such statements, along with Murray's no-strike agreements, Harry Bridges' all-out drive for the speeding up of workers, and the innumerable boards created to delay and discourage strike action, apparently rive the employers the high sign or an offensive of their own.

That the Burney affair is part of plan for concerted action by the esociation is proved by the recent tatement of Harold Laws, general nanager of the Feather River Lumper Co., which is a member of the association. At a meeting with the rievance committee of the union he

threatened that the workers here would get what they got at Burney. The company has also served notice of the reopening of the contract on June 1. In commenting on a notice from the union, reopening the wage scale. Laws said that if we wanted to get a raise we would have to go to the Western Pine Association, whose headquarters is in Oregon.

Inasmuch as we work for the company and not the association, we will demand and get a raise from it and will have no dealings with the association, other than on the basis of an industry-wide contract. Negotiation on an industry-wide contract is severely handicapped on the entire coast and especially here in California where the AFL Carpenters and Joiners Union has a number of contracts. Any type of united action with some minor satellite of Bill Hutcheson is practically an im-NAME possibility. However, the kind of contract the "C&J" negotiates is usually a behind-the-scenes affair and ADDRESS highly unsatisfactory to the rank and file of common and semi-skilled labor, who soon find it useless to expect any settlements of their griev- CITY _ ances.

Plans were made for an intensive Credit to: _ organizational drive at a district convention of the IWA held in Portola on April 12.

THE WRONG END OF THE STICK

Pressure is always being brought to bear upon the worker-to get together with the bosses and collaborate for the "good of the nation." Only when there is ORGANIZED STRENGTH among the workers do the above agencies realize that workers and workers' problems exist, and their suggestions are for the obvious reason of curbing the workers' strength.

Whenever the workers fall for these schemes they always get the wrong end of the stick. For any attempt to erect a bridge between the two classes has always meant using the working class as an "auxiliary" weapon OF the capitalists.

At the present moment we see the capitalists with the aid of trade union leaders, attempt to compel working class loyalty to the employers through labor-management councils, speed-ups, no strikes, etc., while on the other hand the capitalists are trying to kill every bit of labor legislation in order to crush the trade unions.

The working class goes forward only when its actions and decisions are made in its class interests, independently of and against the interests of the class that is oppressing it.

In any contact with the boss class-whether it be a shop grievance, union agreement, high rents, priority, poll tax, colonies-a worker can have only one approach: "In what way will the best interests of my class be served?"

(Good Until April 30 ONLY)

LABOR ACTION and

The New International

114 West 14th Street, New York, N. Y.

BOTH: Six Months for \$1.00

(\$1.25 in New York City)

STATE

Branch

Special Combination Offer!

MAY DAY LABOR ACTION:

The May Day issue of LABOR ACTION will be a sparkling and militant issue of six pages! Each literature agent in the country will be anxious to increase his bundle order and have a wide circulation for this special issue. NOW IS THE TIME TO SEND IN YOUR IN-CREASED ORDERS. All extra orders must be in by April 25th if they are to be filled. We expect to print more copies of LABOR ACTION than ever before and we must have time to handle this job. SEND IN YOUR EXTRA ORDERS FOR THE SIX - PAGE MAY DAY ISSUE RIGHT NOW.

MAY DAY LEAFLET:

We are also printing an attractive leaflet which is to be stapled to and given out along with the May Day issue. This leaflet will be the last one to advertise the special \$1.00 subscription campaign now drawing to a close. Literature agents will receive it free of charge, along with their May Day bundle orders. SUBSCRIPTION CAMPAIGN:

The following combination subs and regular subs have been received during the last three weeks. New York City, we are glad to report, is finally getting started. One of our LABOR ACTION agents, Helen Bright, has done an excellent job and has turned in 12 \$1.00 subs!

	New York City	22
	Los Angeles	
	Philadelphia	6
	Lynn	3
	Michigan	2
	Arizona	1
	Washington, D. C.	1
	Syracuse	1
ŝ	Rochester	1
	Baltimore	1
	Ohio	ī
	Chicago	1
	Akron	ĩ

There are still two weeks to go in this campaign. Still time to get hundreds more \$1.00 combination subs to LABOR ACTION and The New International!

Our Chicago agents write that they have finally gotten started on the subscription campaign. "Our friends have been assigned to visit old subscribers and new readers of LABOR ACTION who have not yet subscribed.'

Pacific Bethlehem Plant Fires Hundreds in Anti-Union Move

SAN PEDRO, April 13-Bethlehem Shipyards is laying off hundreds of men in mass firing. Most affected are the workers on the night shift.

These mass layoffs came almost simultaneously with a company announcement, published in the local papers, denying a union charge that Bethlehem was laying off hundreds of workers.

In the opinion of the men, the layoffs have merely begun. Some expect half the yard to be thrown out by the end of the week. Bethlehem refuses to announce layoff figures.

The men in the plant are thoroughly aroused. There is even talk of strike action. Although that is improbable, some kind of militant action can most certainly be expected this week.

Bethlehem refuses to explain the layoffs, except for a reference to "excess personnel." The men, however, believe it may be a way of striking at the union, and at the same time warning the War Production Board to heed Bethlehem's wishes. The union's complaints are now before the WPB, which is expected to hand down a decision this week.

Bethlehem has systematically refused to negotiate properly with the union. As when it announced a new shift schedule in the yards, it did not consult the union in advance on the projected layoffs to work out plans for avoiding the layoffs.

In Philadelphia:

LABOR ACTION INSTITUTE VITAL LECTURES ON LABOR AND THE WAR Every Friday at 8:15 p.m. at 329 Pine Street May 8-The War Against Labor on the Home Front May 15-The Rise of Fascism in America

May 22-How to Make the Rich Pay for the War

the most militant' elements in the union and the shop. They were laid off without regard to seniority. Further, the layoffs have struck particularly hard at the hight shift-perhaps in punishment for the almost solid vote on that shift against the 10-hour day. Bethlehem is, of course, among the group of war profiteers which made

hypocritical appeals to the "public," charging the union with an unwillingness to "sacrifice" and produce. Their · concern with production does not, however, extend to keeping the men at work. They prefer delivering a blow at the union-if they, the biggest open-shoppers in the country, can get away with it.

Now Doesn't It Make Your Heart Bleed?

Thomas J. Watson, president of International Business Machines. has voluntarily asked his board of directors to reduce his profit-sharing contract from 5 per cent to 21/2 per cent of profits. With the reduction, Watson last year made a mere \$462,519.

Now isn't that just too bad, huh? Wonder if he had to get a loan from the Morris Plan to get by?

Total .

LABOR ACTION

(Continued from page 1)

The same issue of Social Justice that predicted the conquest of power by the American fascists and the end of demotracy, also predicted the establishment of a political party to help accomplish this end. "We predict," reads the editorial in Social Justice, "an attempt to establish a National Socialist Party in America, with emphasis on the word 'nationalist.'" It is well well known that when the Coughlinites use the word "nationalist" it is a synonym for "fascist."

Thus will the American fascist gorillas clothe themselves in legality. When asked in 1930 by a Leipzig court whether he intended to follow only "legal methods," Hitler is reported to have answered, without hesitation, "Certainly!" We all know now how legal were Hitler's barbarous methods of blood and fire. The American fascists follow the methods of their master mind. If they are permitted to exist and gain a following, they will organize a political party to coax the legal-minded into their spider's web. Let the workers be on the alert for such "legal methods."

A NEST-EGG FOR AMERICA'S FASCISTS

. 8

1

As yet, however, the fascists have not formed a political party. Fascist leaders are organizing along different lines. There is every indication of an underground movement. In a prior article we quoted from secret instructions issued to the fanatical followers of fascism. There is, however, a much wider grouping that the fascists here are drawing upon, namely, the America First movement. This movement-now officially dissolved-was a nest-egg for America's fascists.

Under cover of its legality, an organization was being shaped along milltary lines. Key workers-mostly out-and-out fascists-were designated as "generals." An undercover man in the American fascist underworld has made public an "Emergency Bulletin" sent to chapter heads of America First some months before Pearl Harbor. It reveals the military set-up employed by the America Firsters:

"Each general's assignment is to get ten 'colonels,' who, in turn, will get ten 'captains,' who, in turn, will get ten 'lieutenants.' Under this plan of action, you or the mail marshall appointed by you, should be able to phone each general, each general in turn, his or her ten colonels, each colonel his or her ten captains, and each captain his or her ten lieutenants, all in one day's time."

Nobody wise to fascist maneuvering supposed for a moment that the American gang, so instrumental in building the America First movement with its military set-up, have allowed it to disappear. They have been utilizing it right along.

Now comes more proof. One Horace Haase, fascist head of the Brooklyn speakers' bureau of America First, has promoted an organization called 'Americans for Peace.", The aim of Americans for Peace is, of course, to convert Americans to fascism. According to Life, April 13 issue, the entire America First set-up is being employed.

"In private conversation Haase has explained how this would be done. Small 'peace' groups, led by comparative unknowns, are to be organized in various localities. They will carry on their work locally and not seek to form a national organization. They will carry different names and appeal to all kinds of political prejudice. Haase has used the Brooklyn mailing list of America First to circularize over 400 chapter chairmen and other leaders of this movement."

SOCIAL JUSTICE'S INSTRUCTIONS

America's fascist leaders are furthermore directing their followers to join all kinds of war organizations. Social Justice has published such gems as: "There is another shortage with which we are concerned. It is the shortage of Christian Americans inside patriotic organizations." And again: "What will happen to the Christian future of America.... Therefore, Americans, Social Justice advises you to get into every patriotic organization in America." By "Christian Americans" they really mean "anti labor, anti-Semitic, anti-Negro fascists."

To summarize the organizational methods of the Coughlins and Pelleys: If they are permitted to gain strength they will blossom out into a political party, as Hitler's Nazis did. This will give them prestige and the cloak of legality. In the meantime they follow devious open and underground ways of spreading their polsonous doctrines and building a following. Their ace of spades as the war continues will be their fake "peace" propaganda and various fake "peace" movements, to cash in on the growing popular yearning for peace.

They will also "bore within" every organization they can get, into. They will, furthermore, form phony "workers' organizations" like the fascist National Workers League in Detroit-which reactionary outfit has distinguished itself by attempting to incite white working people against their brothers of darker skin.

HOW TO STOP THE AMERICAN FASCIST MENACE

Can the American workers nip the faseist movement here in the bud? They not only can-they must. It is their job to stop the fascists in their tracks. Don't think Attorney General Biddle is going to do it.

To be sure, the government will put some faseis

Some Additional Notes and Comments **On the Shipyard Workers Convention**

By SUSAN GREEN

Vigilance is the price of liberty, and the possibility of organization of opposition opinion is the price of trade union democracy. This truth was written all over the Camden convention of the International Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers of America just held.

How did it happen that out of such a considerable number of opposition speakers, only four delegates had the tenacity to stick to their guns and vote "No" on the surrender of Saturday and Sunday overtime?

The answer is that the opposition was not organized. There had been no preparation for the convention. No counter-resolutions were drawn up for submission to the delegates. No plan was formulated on procedure to defeat the rule of the chairman's gavel.

That is why the appeasing leadership had it all its own way. Its well prepared tactics could not be overcome simply by unorganized speechmaking from the floor.

The preservation of union democracy rests entirely with the rank and file. To keep and extend it, they must organize to fight for minority programs that may later become majority programs.

President Green repeated so often the falsehood that it was no sacrifice to surrender Saturday and Sunday overtime, so often did he say that only chiselers would be punished, that after a while some of the delegates were hypnotized and took on the same falsetto tone.

Yet from the floor of the convention came facts blasting the fictions emanating from the platform. The delegate from Local 25 in Boston declared that only 1 per cent of the men were getting the \$1.12 standard; that Bethlehem Steel was paying \$1.02, 87 and 771/2 cents. The delegate from Local 47 in the Greenpoint basin reported that his men were paid 80 cents tops, and were graded down to 45 and 30 cents. Other such pertinent information was given by delegates.

Can it be claimed that these underpaid shipyard workers will not suffer by the surrender of the Saturday and Sunday overtime?

Everything was very palsy-walsy between the union leaders and the representatives of the government seated on the platform of the convention hall. President Green was "Johnny" to the admirals and politicians, and Secretary-Treasurer van Gelder was "Phil."

Being patronized by government and tolerated by management on joint committees is turning the heads of the leadership-away from the rank and

Sidney Hillman is the most disgusting example of a so-called labor leader who has turned his back on labor. Every time he mentions a visit to the White House he fairly bursts his vest with pride. President Green showed a similar tendency. When he mentioned his letter-writing to Presiddent Roosevelt-although quite ineffective-his chest expanded noticeably.

The workers need leaders whose "class collaboration" will be with the working class.

Resolution No. 2. which approves the immediate establishment in all shipyards of joint labormanagement production committees, as planned by Donald Nelson, was pushed through the convention as a purely routine matter.

The auto workers did not regard these committees with an altogether unsuspicious eve. Delegates to their convention smelled a rat and said so. They declared that these committees will put over a "speed-up" which will both injure the health of workers and delay the re-employment of the unemployed.

Is this not also true in the ship and repair yards?

Delegates at the shipyard workers' convention

Sperry Men Oppose Company Union Conditions Among Worst in Country; Case Goes to WLB Next Week

The fight of the Sperry Gyroscope it contemptuously as "the company Co. to save its discredited Brotherhood of Scientific Instrument Makers goes into a new stage this week when the War Labor Board consid-ers the case of the UERMWA-CIO against the company.

On November 27, 1941, the NLRB found Sperry guilty of anti-labor practices and ordered it to disestablish the brotherhood. This decision was appealed by the company to the Court of Appeals, where it still rests. Meanwhile, the company has continued to try to force the brotherhood down the throats of the Sperry workers, regardless of the NLRB findings.

Sperry workers have long ago recognized the brotherhood as a stooge outfit and have shown their disapproval by refusing to pay dues, boycotting its meetings and referring to

Stalinists Support Knox Ruling --

union." When the Sperry men read of the contract obtained last fall by the CIO at Ford Instrument (a subsidiary of Sperry) many of them flocked to the CIO and the brotherhood was confronted with demands for action.

The tool room in the Flatbush Avenue plant, comprised of the most highly skilled men in Sperry, organized a CIO committee and demanded that the company meet with them. Upon the refusal of the bosses, the men decided to take steps to force a shutdown.

Many of the men have been pressing the union to force negotiations. Thus far, however, the dilatory tactics of the UE organizers have dissatisfied these CIO enthusiasts in the toolroom.

The men took matters into their own hands. Even if the union does not press the matter, they are going to fight for their rights. On Washington's Birthday about half the department stayed home in protest.

This time the bosses had to listen. After a stormy session the company promised - and came across with substantial improvements in working conditions, equipment, toilet facilities, etc., but refused to reinstate the fired worker.

The union, frightened by this militant tendency in the shop, appealed to the War Labor Board on the ground that it could not longer restrain the men from demanding organized action and that unless the government settled the dispute the bad morale of the workers would prevent increased production. The WLB immediately called Sperry to a trial hearing, which resulted in a stalemate. This Thursday the case goes to the WLB in Washington. Organization Much Needed

Real union organization is badly needed. Under the farcical brotherhood contract the Sperry workers are denied any rights of genuine collective bargaining. They have no protection, either in seniority rights or in grievance committees under their control. Rates of pay are lower

declared that even at the present pace of production, workers are knocked out by the gruelling labor in the yards. Other delegates described the lack of full-time employment in the repair shops and even in construction yards. It looks as if the fears of the auto workers are justified also for the shipyards.

Resolution No. 2 calls upon the labor-management committees "to diligently apply themselves to increase production in every possible way." The workers must not allow "every possible way" to be boiled down to "the only possible way," namely, by driving labor.

At both the morning and afternoon sessions of the convention, delegates got up to express their opinions on present-day politics. They stated their belief that it is not only the Vinsons, Smiths and Connallys who are pursuing an anti-labor fight in Congress. They said they thought that these political bourbons are merely the mouthpieces for the great majority of congressmen who would be just as anti-labor if they were not afraid of the labor vote.

The solution offered in these speeches was for the workers to keep sending letters to their congressmen and to fill these anti-labor politicians with fear of losing the next election.

Of course there is no objection to making politicians respect the vote of labor. But isn't it the height of folly for the mighty army of working class voters to put into office politicians who they know are anti-labor, servants of the big corporations?

It is high time for labor to end this costly folly and break away from the parties of capitalist politicians-Democratic and Republican.

What is urgently needed is an independent labor party based on the unions. To get their interests truly represented the workers must put into office their own most able and trusted fellowworkers.

April Issue of New International Is a Real Honey!

The April issue of The New International appeared last week with an issue that appears to be one of the best yet. Among the interesting features are:

1) The editorial Notes of the Month discuss the burning problem of the War and the Colonies. 2) Social Classes in India is Part II of the brilliant thesis of the Indian

Trotskyists. 3) What Next in Europe, by Europacus is a discussion article of the problems of the national question in Europe

4) An Impudent Slander, by M.S., is a reply to certain charges made in The Fourth International magazine.

5) Aspects of Marxian Economics, by J. R. Johnson and Joseph Carter, is a discussion of the application of Marxian 'economic thought with relation to the Soviet Union.

6) The Partisan Review Controversy contains a letter from Dwight Macdonald (in reply to an article in the February issue of the NI) togeth-

Negro Soldiers In Africa Fight Without Arms

CAPETOWN, South Africa (ANP)-Colored troops are being used in the armies from South Africa for transport and labor battalions but are never armed. The lists of native casualties have been tremendously large. Aftention was called to this, which everyone here knows, by a letter written to The Forum, local publication, and signed "White Soldier." The letter said:

"By what possible standards can we justify our action in sending unarmed and unprotected men into the firing lines?

"It is my opinion and that of most others who have returned from the fighting up north, that these casualty figures would have been very much smaller if the native soldiers had had means to defend themselves. "The present situation is most unsatisfactory. If we don't trust the native sufficiently to use him as our full partner in the general war effort, we should certainly not treat him as thoughtlessly as we are now doing.

"The Nazi attitude toward "inferior races' is an unpleasant one and bodes ill for those unfortunate native or colored troops who fall into German hands. It is a contravention of the very principles of liberty and humanity for which we claim to be fighting, to expose those soldiers to the hazards of the 'front line' without affording them the means of selfdefense. Their behavior in the field, apart from principles of justice and decency, has earned them this elementary right."

Leader Speaks In Chicago "Once again the Negro people are learning what democracy under the present capitalist system means to them and other oppressed people." This was the main theme of the speech made by Rev. Charles A. Hill, chairman of the Detroit Citi-

Sojourner Truth

zens Sojourner Truth Committee, who spoke at a mass meeting for the Chicago Sojourner Truth Committee last week.

The meeting was sponsored by the Chicago Urban League, the United Transportation Service Employees, the Midwest office of the International Union of Aluminum Workers, CIO, Chicago Youth Fellowship of Reconciliation and a number of individuals.

Rev. Mr. Hill began his speech by saying that at present it isn't only the housing project which is at stake, but a lesson which the Negro people must learn if they want anything they must fight for it. He stated further that this battle must be waged in unity with other workers, regardless of color, creed or nationality.

The Detroit Citizens Committee has pledged to fight to organize a march on Washington, if the Negroes are not permitted to move into Sojourner Truth by May 1. The meeting passed the following resolutions unanimously and accepted all the contributions offered by the representative of the Workers Party: 1-That we affirm our support of the plans of the Detroit Citizens' Committee for a march on Weshington.

no worker will be sorry to see them there. Some of the filthy fascist sheets will be suppressed, and nobody but the fascists will miss them. But such measures are being taken against the American fascists only because the government believes they are impeding the war effort-and for no other reason.

In the post-war period, when the expected depression and chaos set in, when more industrialists and scions of America's "Sixty Families" use their war profits to finance the fascist movement here, what then? Will the government stamp out the fascist movement supported by the pillars of capitalist society? Will it not help capital keep itself in power by smashing labor?

The republican government of Germany allowed Hitler's gangs of Storm Troopers-financed by the industrialist Thyssen and others-to be organized under its very nose. The same thing happened in Italy. When it comes to a choice between the fascists and the workers establishing a socialist order of society, the capitalist government invariably aids and abets the fascists.

HITLER'S IMPORTANT CONFESSION

Hitler has confessed: "Only one thing could have broken our movement -if the adversary had understood its principle and from the first day had smashed, with the most extreme brutality, the nucleus of our new movement." And his side-kick Goebbels declared: "If the enemy had know how weak we were, it would have crushed in blood the very beginning of our work."

Obviously, the capitalist republic of Germany, with the police and military forces at its command, could have ended the Nazi movement at will. Ah, but here's the rub-the republican government of Germany was NOT the adversary and enemy of Hitler's movement.

When Hitler and Goebbels referred to their adversary and enemy they meant the workers, labor unions and labor's political organizations. They knew they had nothing to fear from the republican government. But they did fear labor.

The American workers have it from the very leaders of German Nazism that THE WORKERS could have crushed Nazism. That is the lesson the American working class must learn regarding fascism-only the working class can crush it.

While this war is raging among world imperialisms, the workers must not forget that the source of American fascism is right here. Outstanding fascist leaders may be put in jail, but the industrialists behind them are making plenty of war profits to finance a more powerful fascist movement for post-war use.

LABOR ACTION, therefore, calls upon the American workers to fight the fascist movement in this country.

WE MUST FERRET OUT THE FASCIST RATS

Every worker must be able to smell a fascist a mile away. Every union IN PHILADELPHIA: local must ferret out these groups of fascist rats, and at union meetings and in union papers expose them for what they are and for what they do.

Every local union must make itself ready to defend its headquarters, its press, its leaders, its militant members, against fascist mob violence. Every working class neighborhood must be prepared to protect itself against fascist attacks. Every Jewish neighborhood and every Negro neighborhood must do likewise. The workers must stand solidly behind the Jews, the Negroes and every racial minority. In doing so they defend their own basic interests against a common enemy.

On the political field an independent class-conscious labor party is imperative. Labor must win the political power away from the politicians who are the lackeys of the capitalist class. Neither Roosevelt nor Willkie is an insurance against the spread of American fascism.

The salvation of the Jews and the Negroes is bound up with the salvation of the working class. Jewish and Negro workers should know this. Jewish and Negro small-business and professional people who struggle along for a living must learn this. Capitalism throughout the world is at the cross-roads. If the American workers allow capitalism here to take the road to fascism, the Jews, the Negroes and all the workers will be the victims. If the workers take the lead, turning society onto the progressive road to socialism, there will not longer be a racial problem.

LABOR ACTION calls on all the oppressed to join with the workers in the fight against the American fascist movement.

(Continued from page 1)

force in the Negro arena which called the Knox order a "victory' was the Pittsburgh Courier, but it had to backtrack clumsily in a lead article in its next issue. The Chicago Defender violently at-

tacked the Stalinist leaders of the National Negro Congress, Max Yergan and John P. Davis, for supporting Knox. It said that they "broke faith with you and us who looked to them as among our leaders," that "they misrepresented thousands of Negroes" and that "they have destroyed their own influence and the influence of the organizations they represent...."

Nor are these words too barsh for condemning the Stalinist Negro leaders (as well as Walter White of the NAACP, who also gave his okay to Knox's Jim Crow rule) for playing Uncle Tom. The Stalinist Communist Party is so anxious to help its boss in the Kremlin that it doesn't give a hoot as to what happens to the rights of the American workers or Negroes. The statements of Cacchione and

National Negro Congress are the final proof that they have lined up with the Jim Crowers and the enemies of the Negro workers. Let them be recognized for what they are!

Fire Committee Chairman The bosses responded by firing the

committee chairman for "lacking patriotism." When the news reached the tool room the men decided to fight. They called a stoppage and marched up to the personnel department.

Delaware life!" (Lundberg's book.)

Death?

families.

PAUL TEMPLE

Organizer, Workers Party

SPEAKS ON

"The Third May Day of the War"

SUNDAY, MAY 3, AT 8:15 P. M.

431 PINE STREET

tures of society?

Capone a Mere Piker

Is it a wonder that the congress-

men and senators from Delaware are

mouthpieces of these Merchants of

Is it a wonder that the du Pont

plants are open shop? And that the

people don't know the facts, when

the schools are run by these vul-

Al Capone ran a minor racket

Having industrial power and polit-

ical influence, and driven by an in-

satiable appetite for profits, the du

Ponts smashed their way into the

top ruling circle of America's Sixty

They organized the notorious "Lib-

erty League" in the 1936 elections to

compared to the du Pont clan.

than in any union shop of its size; yet even those standards are disappearing.

To meet the growing demands of Sperry workers for better conditions, the brotherhood can do nothing but promise. And promises get a bit stale after five years.

seek absolute control of America's tures use as luxurious nests in which political destinies.

They paid professional strikebreakers to devise and use the deadly "Mohawk Valley formula" to smash the strike at Remington plants.

And they expanded their empire CIO and the AFL devote their main into a world domain which they efforts to get labor to sacrifice some shared with the I. G. Farben Co. in more, while the du Ponts, the Rockéthe vital field of war chemicals. fellers and the Morgans live in a

They own all the big newspapers in Delaware. They are powerful in Detroit, New York and Washington. What sacrifice are they making in the present war? None! Instead they are getting away with murder when it comes to war profiteering, from the deals both at home and with

The du Pont Empire

Nazi Germany!

These vultures live well and untouched during wartime on the spoils of their industrial enterprises and dirty dealings. A billion dollar fortune. A vast industrial empire. And a state as private property to boot!

"Near the environs of Wilmington, Del., there are precisely two dozen du Pont estates, four of which are of the first magnitude.

"There is, for example, Winterthur, the ducal 150 room residence of the Henry F. du Ponts, boasting 40 bedrooms, each with a radio complete, each replete with costly antiques; the cost of the building alone was \$2,000,000, and including the grounds, trappings, furniture and fixtures, the cost of the whole establishment easily touches \$10,000,000," Lundberg writes!

The Longwood residence of Pierre du Pont is worth \$15,000,000. William du Pont has two imperial palaces. These are just a few examples! And we haven't mentioned the yachts, the planes, the private trains, city apartments, etc., which these vul-

er with an editorial rejoinder. 7) The Social Basis of Opportunism, by Gregory Zinoviev, is Part II of the Archives of the Revolution selection.

to gorge their war profits.

... asking THEM to sacrifice.

8) Book reviews of St. John's "From the Land of the Silent People," by Jack Wilson.

Instead of fighting against this

fabulous empire and its rulers, the

congressmen are busy chiseling the

overburdened workers in the plants

And the misearable leaders of the

style and grandeur and make profits

such as the world has never seen

before. And this during a time when

hundreds of thousands of workers

and youth in the army are sacrific-

ing their lives and the men in the

Perhaps this presentation of facts

will indicate why we think that LA-

BOR ACTION has a correct program

when we ask for: the conscription

of the war industries run by the du

Ponts and putting them under work-

Workers' control of production

would not bring deals with Hitler

and his agents, or blood profits while

the world suffers in the agony of

After the exposé of the du Ponts

and other capitalists in the First

World War, the soldiers and union

workers vowed: "Never again." For

Expropriate the Merchants of

Change the system that breeds

"An Alabama doctor seeking a

new automobile told the rationing

board: 'I average above 20 babies

a month. I believe this would

come under war materials, maybe

not for this war, but for the next

one."--PM, April 12, 1942.

they suffered and died in vain.

these vultures of mankind!

He Understands

Imperialism

plants are toiling.

ers' control.

war! .

Death!

2-That we pledge ourselves to organize a Chicago contingent for the march.

3-That we demand abolition of restrictive covenants, which keep Negroes herded into a Jim Crow ghetto at the mercy of rent-hog 4-That we demand that the federal government place a ceiling on rents, maximum rents not to exceed 1940 rentals for similar nonrestricted areas of Chicago. 5-That we demand the immediate construction of new government lowrent housing projects to relieve the increasing housing shortage which is fast reaching a crisis in Chicago.

Debs Speech a Special Treat at **May Day Dinner**

The voice of Eugene Victor Debs, preserved in a rare recording, will be special feature of the gala May Day dinner which LABOR ACTION is sponsoring in New York at Irving Plaza, 15th Street and Irving Place, Saturday evening, May 2, at 7:00 o'clock sharp.

Debs' recording is a wonderful example of how this old socialist warrior stirred the American workers with his eloquent and passionate appeals and it's worth the price of admission to hear it alone.

But besides this special treat, this affair promises to be the best in a long time. Max Shachtman, national secretary of the Workers Party, will be the main speaker of the evening -after a splendid meal, some firstrate entertainment and other special treats. There will be dancing after the dinner.

This affair is being held to celebrate both labor's traditional holiday and the second anniversary of LA-BOR ACTION. Every friend of LA-BOR ACTION will want to make sure to be present.

Admission is only \$1.25.

Celebrate May Day!

Dupont Dynasty Deals (Continued from page 1)

Editorials

LABOR ACTION'S PLATFORM

Against Both Imperialist War Camps! For the Victory of World Labor and the Colonial Peoples! For the Victory of the Third Camp of Socialism!

LABOR MUST DEFEND ITSELF!

- 1. Hands off the right to strike! For the defense of civil rights and all workers' rights! Against any wartime dictatorship neasurest
- 2. Thirty hours a week; thirty dollars the minimum wage; time and a half for overtime! Rehire the jobless millions by a six-hour shift!
- 3. Wage increases which meet rising costs! No sales tax on consumer goods; no taxes on wages! Freeze rents and food and clothing prices at the 1940 level to stop the ries in the cost of living!
- 4. No government contract without a union contract! The closed shop in all war industries
- 5. Maintain and increase all government social services!

SOAK THE RICH-LET THEM PAY FOR THEIR WAR!

- 6. A government levy on capital to cover the costs of the imperialist war! Confiscate all war profits!
- 7. Conscript all war industries under workere' control!
- 8. Exproviate the "Sixty Families"-the 3 per cent of the people who own 96 per cont of the national wealth!

DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS TO THE DRAFTEES!

- 9. The right of free speech, free press and free assembly for the men in the armed forces!
- 10. Sixty dollars a month minimum for draftees!

SMASH JIM CROW!

11. Down with Jim Crow and anti-Semitism! All discrimination against Negroes in the Army and Navy, or by employers in industry, must be made a criminal offense!

BE PREPARED!

- 13. For Workers' Defense Guards, trained and controlled by the unions, against vigilante and fascist attacks!
- 14. For an Independent Labor Party and a Workers' Government! No political support to the Roosevelt government!
- 15. For Peace Through Socialism! For immodiate independence of all colonies! Only a socialist world will destroy capitalist imperialism and fascist barbarism. For a League of Socialist National

The Ban on Social Justice

(Continued from page 1)

role of American Quisling or Laval who would collaborate with a victorious Hitler in case of American military defeat in the war.

The action of the Roosevelt Administration, however, must be understood for what it really is. It has proceeded against the Coughlinites, not out of genuine anti-fascist motives, but rather because of miliary considerations in its prosecution of an imperialist war.

The Roosevelt government has not had the slightest qualms about allying itself in the present war with dictatorial, fascist or semi-fascis regimes. It has not had a word semi-fascist regimes. It has not had a word Polish government-in-exile of General Sikorski. It has had no qualms in allying itself with the two-bit dictaor of Brazil, Vargas, or with the military ruler of Cuba, Batista. It has allied itself with that great imperialist power, the British Empire, and had not a word to say about the dictatorial treatment accorded the African people or the Indian people by British imperialism.

the Nazis (in reality, it failed to disarm them) and then followed by a brutal assault on the rights of the labor organizations.

In France, the Daladier government failed to disarm the fascist Croix de Feu and Cagoulards but did disarm the workers.

In America, even before Washington took one step against the fascists, there was already a frame-up trial staged against the militant trade unionists and socialists in Minneapolis.

The action of Washington must be view in the light of the war hysteria which there is now an attempt to whip up. There is reason to believe that this step against Social Justice may be used as a pretense for destroyng the freedom of the press of the labor and radical journals which may be critical of the Administration, of its war or its conduct of the war. There is the dread memory of what happened during the last war, when the liberal, labor and radical papers were constantly suppressed because they dared challenge the sanctity of that very war which Woodrow Wilson was later to admit was fought "in behalf of business interests."

Jesse Jones Gives a Nevada War Firm a Little Present

By BILL HAINES

Last week the lid was blown offin Washington on a deal described by an investigating Senate sub-committee as "one of the most flagrant attempts at war profiteering to come to our notice."

The fireworks started when Senator Bunker of Nevada attacked Jesse Jones, head of the Defense Plant Corp., for granting a contract which would mean "inconceivable profits" to the Basic Magnesium, Inc., company. Senator Bunker charged that Jones had made an agreement with Basic Magnesium, Inc., which was a "fraud" and "so sinister as to indicate that some officials in the government are guilty of malfeasance in the performance of their duties."

Senator Bunker Specifically, charged that Basic Magnesium, Inc., was to receive \$300,000 from the Defense Plant Corp. for supervising the construction of a magnesium plant at Las Vegas, Nev. This money would be the equivalent of an outright "gift" from the government to the company because the government will pay for the entire cost of construction, estimated at \$70,000,-000 and will retain title to the plant. Basic Magnesium, Inc, will be paid for merely its "supervision and know-how," as Jesse Jones himself admitted in his reply to Senator Bunker.

In addition, Bunker charged, the Defense Plant Corp. is now paying traveling expenses and salaries of forty-five company officials now in England 'studying a magnesium process and will pay a special \$84,000 yearly bonus to Basic Magnesium, Inc., for the release of some raw materials.

A Typical Contract

Shocking though this profiteering may be, it is important to realize that it is merely one example of hundreds of similar contracts which have been negotiated by the Defense Plant Corp. On March 21, Jones, who is also Secretary of Commerce, published a report summarizing the activities of the Defense Plant Corp., of which he is also the head, since the start of the national defense program in June, 1940. This report shows that the Defense Plant Corp. financed to the amount of almost five billion dollars the constrution or expansion of more than 700

plants for the production of war materials.

All these plants will be owned and paid for by the government but will Fisher Body Division of General Mobe constructed and operated by pritors: \$18,000,000 to Consolidated Airvate companies which are guarancraft; \$10,000,000 to General Electric. teed 15 per cent of the profits to pay for "management costs." More and many others. concretely, these agreements mean that big business is being guarantracts may seem boring, their sigteed juicy profits without investing nificance is very great. They fura penny of its own money, while the government, which is footing all the that big business is profiteering from bills, will be stuck with a lot of

from now, when the war will be The most flagrant examples of boss profiteering subsidized by the Defense Plant Corp. are the contracts already completed with the Bethlehem Steel Company and the Aluminum Co. of America (ALCOA), both of which were denounced by the Truman Committee as "outrageous." Under these agreements, both these monopoly corporations will receive from the government practically as outright gifts, \$50,000,-000 each in one case to expand steel production, in the other to build six new aluminum plants.

worthless factories five or ten years

Similar Agreements Similar outrageous agreements

Industrial 'Doughboys' Cash in By Raising Their Own Salaries

Though your daily papers continue increased his salary from \$25,000 for their anti-labor barrage on their front pages, we'll bet dollars to doughnuts that most of them didn't even mention a report of the American Investors Union, an organization of 5,000 stock owners. This report showed the tremendous in-

jacked his from \$147,249 to \$181,480.

LABOR ACTION Probes Behind the Headlines

The Chinese Sailors "Mutiny"

By RIA STONE

The headlines shrieked the story nese sailors against a British captain. A couple of days later, hidden on an inside page of the New York Times, there was a brief report of the claim by Chinese labor representatives that working conditions were at the root of the trouble. Through an exclusive interview, LA-BOR ACTION is able to report what really lies behind the headlines.

received from the British line was \$41 a month, including the four \$180 a month. Indeed, so low were strike or go elsewhere if he paid

There were dozens of similar cases. But this should be enough to give you an idea-and answers to these scoundrels who talk about "labor

Although the details of these con-

nish conclusive evidence not only

the war but also that it is being

aided and abetted in this profiteer-

ing by the Roosevelt Administration.

To those who object that the fault is

not President Roosevelt's but rather

that of Jesse Jones, it is merely nec-

essary to point out that Roosevelt

has never once taken any action to

dismiss or even to criticize Jones,

who has long been criticized as one

of the most outspoken friends of big

The only way to prevent this and

other types of war profiteering is

through the adoption of one point

"Let the government conscript

Victor Emanuel of Aviation Corp.

the war industries and run them

of LABOR ACTION's program:

business in Washington.

under workers' control"



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The federal government has announced that it will investigate the Sikeston lynching.

It is necessary to be on guard. LABOR AC-TION has repeatedly warned the workers of Southeast Missouri to organize themselves, to trust only to the organized strength of labor for their economic and political rights. Now that the cotton-chopping season is near, the warning is doubly necessary. All over the seven counties, the workers are stirring, condemning the \$1.25 a day. The tenseness of the situation is recognized on all sides. Nobody recognizes this more clearly than Washington. For this and other reasons, the course of action pursued by the rulers of Missouri and of the United States must be watched closely and the lessons drawn. They are of the utmost significance in the approaching economic struggle and closely connected with it.

Cleo Wright was lynched on January 25 at Sikeston. Today it is perfectly clear why he was lynched.| To quote the NAACP report made by investigators on the spot:

"There is increasing feeling against labor unions organizing Negroes. Negro labor is less subservient than white labor at present, and employers do not expect this.... The white people of Southeast Missouri do not like independent Negroes. There was a growing feeling that they should be put back in the place where they belong."

In September, 1941, around Lilbourne, an organization of some 4,000 whites and Negroes had been formed and had even attempted a strike at cotton picking time. The lynching was the consequence of a widespread feeling that a wedge should be driven between white and Negro labor.

Immediately after the lynching took place, Editor Blanton of Sikeston wrote an article endorsing the lynching. A chorus of disapproval swept over the country, directed at Sikeston. Now there are three governing bodies connected with Sikeston. One is in Sikeston itself, another is in Jefferson City, the third is in Washington. All three of them constitute "the government."

GOVERNOR DONNELL'S STATEMENT

The noisiest of the lot is Governor Donnell. Said the Governor in a prepared statement (St. Louis Post-Dispatch, January 27):

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"Every possible effort must be made to bring to justice all who took any part in this cruel violence. I am confident the prosecuting attorney will use every effort to that end."

David Blanton is the prosecuting attorney of Scott County, where Sikeston is situated. His father was the one who had indorsed the lynching. We need not worry about what he thought of it. But with all the agitation over the country and the statements of the Governor, Blanton himself made a statement (Post-Dispatch, January 31). It was as follows:

"At first residents of Sikeston seemed satisfied with the lynching and our investigation was blocked by a veil of silence. After a few days of sober reflection, however, the better element came forward to give us names of mob leaders and other invaluable information. We are now making difinite progress in our investigation."

So that Blanton had been given names. To the same Post-Dispatch reporter, Blanton said that he had asked Circuit Judge J. C. McDowell of Charleston to convene a grand jury to which his evidence would be presented. Lo and behold, how-

1940 (remember, these figures don't include profits on investments, they are "only" salaries) to \$79,150 for 1941. Eugene Grace jacked his "special remuneration" (extra take in English) exclusive of regular salary, from \$298,144. to \$357,724. C. E. Wilson of General Electric (of Nazi-trading fame) hiked his cut

crease in the salaries of corporation presidents and big shots. According to this report, which most daily newspapers deliberately refused to publicize, the corporation big shots cashed in plenty on their war orders. They weren't content

with anything as measly as double

flint, Tom Girdler, swelled his salary from \$176,000 to \$275,000. time for Sunday or time and a half for Saturday. Here are how a few T. H. Morgan of Sperry Corp.

of them, chosen at random from a long list, jacked up their take: sacrificing."

from \$135,000 to \$175,000. And that old labor-hating skin-

went to the captain, demanding their back pay, which in some cases was April 12 about the mutiny of Chi- pounds war bonus, although wages as high as \$40 to \$100 a person. The on other lines run as high as \$90 to captain, fearing that the men would

It is the Roosevelt Administration, let it again be remembered, which tolerated the shipment of scrap steel to Japan-which steel was used to strengthen that imperialist power and is now landing in the bodies of American youth.

It is the Roosevelt Administration which refused to lift the embargo on war shipments to Loyalist Spain, thereby again helping in the rise of fascism.

And it is this same Roosevelt Administration which tolerated, for years, the anti-Semitic outpourings of Henry Ford, of Coughlin and of various other fascists.

It would therefore be a grave error to consider that the Roosevelt Administration, or any other capitalist government, for that matter, is motivated by any genuine ideological anti-fascist reasons when it suppresses Social Justice-especially at the very moment when it conducts an imperialist war which strengthens every domestic fascist and dictatorial tendency.

The Roosevelt government acts against Coughlin basically from military considerations-on the same plane and for the same basic reasons that it conducts counterespionage against German agents and evacuates Japanese residents on the Pacific Coast.

Yet there are some who may say: "True, Washington may not be acting out of genuine anti-fascist motives-but at least it is suppressing this vile anti-Semitic sheet."

Here again we must utter a warning. Every time that a capitalist government, regardless of how "liberal" it might be, has taken some kind of action against the extreme right-wing capitalist or fascist organizations, it has followed this with blows twice as severe against the labor movement.

In Germany, the pre-Hitler Breuning government took some weak steps against

Every worker, then, must be on guard to see to it that this action is not used as a pretext for an attack on the labor press or labor organizations.

And above all, let nobody entertain the illusion that the action of the government has done away with the necessity of a vigilante struggle against the fascists and Coughlinites. The genuine struggle against fascism can be conducted only by the working class and its allies because it is fascism's most intransigeant enemy.

The genuine struggle against fascism requires a struggle against the roots of fascism-the social crisis of a decaying capitalist system which serves as the fertilizer for fascist movements.

This struggle requires working class independence, the creation of the necessary means of labor defense against fascist hoodlum gangs-in a word, working class independence and strength. For it is the labor movement which, fundamentally must come to grips with the fascist menace and destroy it. For that there is no substitute

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The Chinese sailors working on the British ship were practically in a state of peonage, forced to work for wages lower than those on any other line. All the Chinese seamen

the wages that British ships could not keep their seamen, and the story goes that captains are easier to get than seamen. It is also reliably reported that through political pressure the British are forcing the Dutch to keep seamen's wages down in order that the British might be permitted to continue their exploitation of the men.

When the ship docked at New York last week, the seamen planned to agitate and perhaps strike for higher wages. With this in mind, they



them the money rightly due them, refused to give any man more than \$10.

Who started the actual fighting is difficult to determine. The seamen claim that the captain drew his gun, pointing it at the sailor nearest him. The seaman thus threatened approached the captain to grapple with him. All the seamen realized that the captain would be ready to kill one of the men, probably the one nearest him, in order to intimidate the others.

Case Rushed Through

The captain claims that the men drew a spike and would have killed him had he not shot first. But the spike referred to is a small tool, used by sailors to tighten screws. It has a wooden handle and is not believed to be at all dangerous, except possibly in very close combat. The captain was not very close to the man he shot and killed. The seamen claim that he was almost ten feet away when he fired and that he was able to draw back two paces before he fired the actual shot.

For his killing of the Chinese seaman the captain was released and not indicted by the grand jury. The district attorney rushed through the case, producing no evidence to back up the testimony of the dead seaman's companions, although such evidence could easily have been found.

The Chinese consulate in New York has attempted to use its power and prestige to prevent the complete whitewashing of the captain. So far, however, it has had no success. In fact, one Chinese official, moved to protest by the obviously prejudiced procedure, was threatened with legal retribution and forced to apologize.

Some may ask, why was this so, since the American government and the American press is continually pleading for us to "understand China and the Chinese people." As a matter of fact, American officials were very much embarrassed, torn between their desire to antagonize neltheir the British nor the Chinese. But the class status of the British captain as compared with the class status of the common Chinese seaman proved decisive. The captain won, in other words, not merely because he was British or white, but because he represented the steamship company. And the Chinese seaman's death goes unpunished because he was a mere worker.

ever, when the Grand Jury met, the case was dis missed and the Judge attacked people who printed names in papers and held mass meetings.

Meanwhile, the agitation has continued, people have denounced the farcical proceedings of Mc-Dowell's court and the Washington bureaucrats have continued their investigations by means of the FBI. Washington knows the situation in Southeast Missouri and is afraid to leave the whole thing and let it die down. In addition, the Negroes all over the country are looking to see how Washington will reconcile "war for democracy" in Java with an unpunished lynching in Sikeston.

Attorney General Biddle, therefore, announces that a special investigation will be held by the federal government and he asks Governor Donnell for the notes which were made at the Circuit Court by a state attorney. Now Governor Donneil, who had been so loud in his denunciation of the lynching, had a chance to show how anxious he was to bring the criminals to justice. Instead he refused to hand over the notes. He said it was against the law. So there we are. Both Blanton and the Governor, who had made such powerful statements to the press, when it came to the showdown, showed where they really stood.

Now the Washington government has the matter to deal with. The workers must be on the alert. They must be on the alert to see that justice is done, but they must be on the alert not to be fooled about what is behind the whole thing: the economic struggle. Everyone knows that the real issue which is up before Missouri now is the wages for cotton chopping. The way to force a just decision on the lynching, the way to force a decent day's pay for chopping is by workers rallying around the union.

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