We Say-**Conscript War Industries Under Workers' Control!**

Now LABOR ACTION "

MAY 25, 1942

A PAPER IN THE INTERESTS OF LABOR

Another Attack on Labor's Rights: WLB HEAD THREATENS WAGE FREEZING

THE SPRING OFFENSIVE



Bendix Aviation: War Profiteer

Sensational disclosures about the war profiteering of Bendix Aviation Corp .- as well as its patent cartels with the Siemens Trust of Nazi Germany-have been buried in the files of the House Naval Affairs Committee, headed by Representative Vinson of Georgia. Part of these disclosures have been made public by I. F. Stone in the May 9 issue of The Nation. These include the following facts:

Bendix was subpoenaed by the Vinson committee to testify about its profiteering on April 6. The testimony of Ernest Breech, Bendix president, revealed that of 718 naval-aircraft contracts on which a profit of more than 10 per cent was reported, a total of 92 of these contracts was held by Bendix. Bendix, which is a subsidiary of General Motors, held the largest number of high profit contracts of any corporation in the country!

The highest rate of profit which Bendix admitted on any contract was...122 per cent!

The records of the Bendix corporation were subpoenaed by the Vinson committee and several of the inter-office memorandums of the Bendix corporation were reproduced in the Vinson committee's files. One of these described the formula for arriving at the prices which it charged the government as being "direct labor, plus 300 per cent, plus materials equals commercial cost. To the commercial-cost figure add 50 per cent for profit, which will give a minimum net selling price. This minimum ... multiplied by two should equal the list price."

Bendix also decided that it should not apply minimum prices for the government since another inter-office memo says: "The Air Corps prices, unless under special circumstances, are more than their civilian prices, which is sound."

Breech admitted on the stand that a cartel agreement signed by Bendix with Siemens Trust of Nazi Germany was still in effect. "Its results have been to bar the export of certain vital accessories to Canada and Australia, to bring about collaboration between Bendix and the Germans in occupied France, and to limit supply in this country," says The Nation's article.

Inter-office memos introduced as evidence refer to the Germans as "Our Northern friends"!

Undoubtedly there are many other facts not yet revealed. The Department of Justice has been investigating the Nazi tie of the Bendix corporation for several months. According to The Nation article, there has been a great deal of pressure by General Motors to choke the investigation.

Bendix workers should carefully think over these facts. They are especially important now, when the Bendix workers are about to negotiate a new contract. It will be an interesting sight to see this most grabbing of all war profiteers plead that it can't afford to give its workers a decent raise!

Davis Says Wages Won't **Meet Rising Cost of Living**

William H. Davis, chairman of the National War Labor Board, indicated in a press interview in Washington that wage increases granted through his board (which covers all war production industries) would be limited to not more than 50 per cent of the increased cost of living since the pay scale was last fixed and would be given to workers in the form of war bonds rather than cash.

Davis pointed to the recent sell-out agreement which the leaders of the ship building unions signed, ceding wage raises due to the ship workers by previously signed agreements, as a "ceiling."

Rich Dominate Sikeston Jury

Special to LABOR ACTION

ST. LOUIS-Federal Judge Davis has finally impaneled a grand jury to inquire into the Sikeston lynching of Cleo Wright. He gave no special instructions but did stress the traditional caution against "hasty, ill-considered action.'

An insight into what to expect from this grand jury can be gained by an examination of its class composition. On the panel of 22 there are five bankers, nine business men, three insurance men, one farmer,

Ship Workers Rooked of Wage Raises

The shipyard workers of America got a lesson last week on what to expect from the Mediation Merry-Go-Round. Although agreements previously signed by the shipbuilding bosses and the AFL and CIO unions with jurisdiction in the field provided for raises in harmony with According to the New York Times of May 20, he "indicated that the board would apply the same formula to other industries."

One Cent

ONE CENT

According to the Times report, Davis "said that he had been personally considering establishment of a governmental policy which would forbid employers to raise the pay of workers getting more than some such figure as \$25 per week without prior approval of some governmental agency."

'To translate this fancy verbiage into plain English-the head of the War Labor Board has come out against wage increases. That's what this really means. Even in those industries where he would apply the "ship industry formula" the workers won't really get wage increases. For the half of the wage increases that they have coming to them as a result of the rising cost of living will be received in the form of war bonds.

Disguised Wage Cut

In reality, this means a wage cut, For if a worker gets the same amount of money as he did a half year ago and he can't buy as much with it-that's a wage cut!

This action of Davis makes completely clear the meaning of that famous phrase of President Roosevelt in his seven-point economic program: "Stabilization of remuneration." Davis translates it in practice as WAGE FREEZING.

The reaction of the leaders of the AFL and CIO to Davis' statement

Missouri Sharecroppers Launch Crucial Fight For Minimum Wage Rate of 30¢ an Hour

Special to LABOR ACTION

MISSOURI-On Saturday, May 16, 250 cotton field workers made history in Charleston, Mo. White and black workers from all over the seven counties of Southeast Missouri came together in a meeting to discuss ways and means of raising their wage scales. For days before there had been an intensive distribution of leaflets and pamphlets calling the workers to action. Their demands were sim-

1) 30 cents an hour for 10 hours a day.

2) Tractor drivers to get 45 cents an hour.

3) Time and a half for overtime.

What made the meeting significant not only for Missouri but for the whole cotton South, was that these workers had, on their own initiative, assembled together to meet a burning and immediate issue-the wage for the chopping season which is about to begin. The organizers of the meeting, the speakers, were all, everyone, from the cotton fields-day laborers and sharecroppers.

The meeting was held at Harris Hall in Charleston because in all the seven counties Charleston was one of the few places where such a meeting can be held and openly prepared without danger of attack by the landlords. × .

Tired of Starvation

Militant determination was the keynote of the meeting. Speaker after speaker said that they had endured enough. They were tired of bringing up their children in starvation while all around them was plenty. If they were going to starve, they were going to starve in the shade and not working in the sun. One speaker said the government sent agents around telling us we lords. must have plenty of vitamins. "We

that is the only thing we got plenty of."

Said another: "We intend to get 30 cents an hour or we shall walk to the President."

"We starve eight months of the year." said another speaker. "For this reason, when there is work it ought to pay a living wage."

Death from Starvation

One colored speaker mentioned a case where a white widow with five children went to the relief station. She had not had food for five days, but she was turned away. She fainted on the relief steps and died after a few days. The speaker pointed out that here was a widow dying of starvation while the relief station was overloaded with food. This was typical, he said, of relief conditions in Southeast Missouri.

A spirit of solidarity between whites and blacks dominated the meeting. Everyone recognized that this was the key to the situation. There were 35 whites present. They took a prominent part in the proceedings. Some of them had helped to organize the meeting. All expressed the need of solidarity. The speakers said they would not strike. All they would do was to stay at home and when the landlord sent his truck for labor they would refuse to go unless he offered them 30 cents an hour. "STAY AT HOME" was the central slogan of the meeting.

One speaker from Poplar Bluff struck the only discordant note. He said that 30 cents an hour was what the workers deserved but that they should ask the President to adjust the wages. He was heard in silence. Another speaker immediately pointed out that it was not the President who was exploiting the work-

The rest of the workers stressed know nothing about vitamins, un- that they were not trying to hold up less they are in the sunshine, and the war production program. They

ers in Missouri. It was the land-

fifth columnists. They said that in order to produce they had to eat. How could a starving man produce food?

The real fifth columnists were the landlords who were preventing production for the war by paying starvation wages which could not meet the high cost of living. This brought out a tremendous burst of applause. Walking about among the crowd

during intervals, one was struck by two things. The whites, though fewer in numbers, were as enthusiastic as the Negroes. They said that this was what had been wanted in Mis-

indignantly denied that they were souri for a long time. It was the division between the races that had kept the laboring people down. They would go back home and impress upon their people the need of unity. The second point was the underground agitation of a few people from Poplar Bluff. LABOR ACTION and the Trotskyites were their chief topic of conversation. They were busy denouncing LABOR ACTION as if LABOR ACTION was paying

the workers \$1.25 per day! Two or three of the workers were confused, but the majority paid no attention to these disrupters. As one worker said:

"We Want to Fight the Landlords"

A Cropper Asks Some Questions

(We have received the following letter from a Negro sharecropper in

Southeastern Missouri who is an active member of the Missouri Agricultural Workers Union, affiliated to the UCAPAWA, with the request that we make it public. We do so gladly .-- Editor.)

There are things happening down here that we can't understand. We would like to have them explained to us.

We always work like dogs, and we're treated like dogs. I guess we're about the lowest paid people in the United States. We know we're not getting a fair wage, nothing like it. We read where millions of workers in other places asked for better wages and conditions and got them. They were organized. They made a fight for what they wanted and they won.

That is all we want to do.

Now down here in Lilbourn, Mo., we have Local 313 of the UCAPAWA. We have been getting about a dollar and a quarter a day for working ten hours in the field. Local 313 put out a leaflet which expresses our sentiments. We want 30 cents an hour.

What we can't understand is this. We received a letter from the president of our union, Brother Donald Henderson. He says we should use all possible

(Continued on page 2)

the rising cost of living, the leaders of the AFL and CIO unions followed an "appeasement" policy toward the the profiteering bosses and agreed to take a cut of approximately 50 per cent in wage raises.

Not only did the ship workers get half of the raise they were entitled to by previous agreement, but even this raise will now be paid in war bonds. Thus, the ship workers will not get an extra cent, in their pay envelopes with which to meet the rising cost of living.

In the Pacific Coast area, workers (Continued on page 4)

has not yet been made public as LA-BOR ACTION goes to press. But, though they will probably protest his statement, they are not in an effective position to fight against it because of their policy of complete support of the Roosevelt seven-point program and of complete reliance on the mediation machinery of the War Labor Board.

It is interesting to recall, however, that the last time William Davis, then as the head of the National Labor Relations Board, tried to knife labor by refusing to give the United

(Continued on page 3)

Budd Workers Go on Strike

Special to LABOR ACTION

PHILADELPHIA - A general allout strike call has been issued by Budd Local 813 of the United Automobile Workers (CIO). This strike call has been answered by hundreds of Budd workers and solid picket lines have been thrown around every gate of the gigantic Budd plant.

• This strike is the answer of the Budd workers to years of low wages and the most ruthless and dictatorial labor policy in Philadelphia.

By means of this policy Budd has been able to maintain an open scab shop while virtually the entire automobile industry has been organized.

Long known as the "slaughter house," Budd has the most unsavory industrial reputation in the East. The speed-up has cost many Budd workers their fingers, hands and even lives. Safety has been sacrificed for speed, all to swell the fat bankroll of the plutocratic E. G. Budd.

The militancy of the men recalls the spirit of the auto workers when they brought General Motors, Chrysler and Ford to their knees. Can there be any doubt that the Budd workers will bring the industrial

slaver, E. G. Budd, crashing down? The speed with which department after department is pulling out of the plant can mean only one thing-that E. G. Budd, in spite of labor spies, cops and other devices, will have to capitulate and sign a union contract!

A strike committee composed of ten militant workers has been chosen

(Continued on page 2)

Strike Notes From Budd

E. G. Budd has the cops working overtime. There are so many around that one would think the police department was set up solely to keep Old Man Budd and his bucks "safe" from his employees. The horses bearing the strike signs on them are making more money per day than some of the Budd men.

The longer the picket line grew the longer grew the faces of the Budd management. The general manager of the plant, E. G. Budd, Jr., kept pacing the pavement outside the gates.

-By a Sharecropper-30 cents.

did NOT happen. There was no mention of any organizational assistance,

no funds, no publicity of any kind from the UCAPAWA office. Inquiry was made. Not a single penny had been sent. Many of the workers were mystified. They had understood that

the union was organized to help them. But they were not discouraged. They were determined to "stay at home" until they got their

"That is politics and we are not

mixing up with politics in this

meeting. We want 30 cents an hour

and we are going to stay at home

until we get it. The landlords have

to pay, for if the cotton doesn't get

chopped in a week it will spoil.

When we get a decent living wage

we will talk about politics. We are

Every worker repudiated the fool-

ish idea that Japan could help the

Missouri Negroes. They know what

These workers are fighting single-

handed. Letters from Donald Hen-

derson, president of their union,

were read, which authorized them to

struggle, but one of the most strik-

ing things of the meeting was what

they want and how to get it.

not fifth columnists."

Fighting Singlehanded

The men know that the bosses and their agents will lie about them in every possible way. The landlords will scream about "Reds" and "Japs." But the men are interested only in one thing right now: 30 cents an hour. Otherwise they'll stay home.

(LABOR ACTION has received a copy of the pamphlet which Local 313, UCAPAWA, has published. It is a statement of the need of the Missouri croppers and day laborers for a decent wage. We know every friend of labor, every union man is interested in their struggle-and will want to contribute aid. Those who do should send their contributions to Local 313, UCAPAWA, North Delmo Project, Lilbourn, Mo.)

Page 2

Europe in Revolt News from the Socialist Third Camp

HELL ON EARTH-The Third War Winter in Poland

The information bulletin of the Polish Labor Group has just published two eye-witness accounts on the conditions and atmosphere of the capital of Poland at the beginning of last winter. We think them interesting enough to reprint for our readers. These reports do not speak of the underground work which is conducted by Polish labor, but they throw a vivid light on conditions in Poland, conditions which are the worst in Europe and give a good taste of what Hitler really means when he speaks of the "New Order" which he is going to build. They show that what Hitler really intends to do, and does already in Poland, is the systematic destruction of millions of people and practical slavery for those surviving.

COLD AND DARKNESS-This is Warsaw's third war winter. The first one brought untold suffering. The windows of the buildings, which had been shattered during the bombardments, were boarded up for lack of glass. Dwellings were not heated, and it was necessary to wear coats at home. In writing a letter, one had to wear gloves, or the fingers would freeze. Today the glass has been replaced in the windows, but it is still as cold as it was two years ago. And it is far more difficult to obtain gloves. Letters can be written only by daylight; at 5 p.m. every day the gas main is closed and electric current shut off. The electricity, by the way, is often shut off without warning at various times of the day.

HUNGER AND THE STRUGGLE FOR EXISTENCE-Warsaw has lost all traces of gaiety. It sees long trains constantly carrying wounded soldiers. It worries about its daily bread. The struggle to maintain existence has become ever more difficult: a place to sleep and a plate of hot soup are among the most important problems. Food is more and more difficult to procure. The surrounding countryside has been plundered by the invaders and is

unable to supply the capital with adequate quantities of foodstuffs. Concern for the future is the chief topic in conversations.

Without going into details about the food situation in the "General Gouvernement" and in Warsaw, it may be summarized in a word-it is growing worse daily. Polish welfare organizations face increasing difficulties. This winter they were not even able to obtain potatoes, which are the basic item of the average diet in the General Gouvernement. The situation with regard to clothing is also becoming more and more difficult: in January, 1941, Warsaw was allotted 39,000 pairs of shoes; in September, 1941, it received only 18,000 pairs, 4,000 of them with wooden soles.

EPIDEMICS AND MORTALITY-The catastrophic food situation in Warsaw and in the rest of occupied Poland is causing a constant deterioration of health and a growing mortality. Two thousand one hundred and sixty Gentiles died in Warsaw in September, 1941, as compared with 800. in September, 1938. While in September, 1938, there were only 306 deaths among the Warsaw Jews, in September, 1941, 7,000 Jews died in Warsaw. Children are especially susceptible to typhus and to other diseases, due to malnutrition. The Germans make no attempt to improve the situation.

SCARCITY AND REPRESSION-The prices of foodstuffs in the Black Market are so high that the great masses of the population cannot afford to buy. Restaurants are also inaccessible, for the Germans severely punish their proprietors and all middlemen who illegally attempt to convey contraband food from the Black Market to restaurants and to consumers. Despite these repressions, the population continually seeks new channels for procuring food.

GERMAN SOLDIERS-The food situation is particularly aggravated by the fact that many divisions of the German army, recalled from the Eastern front, are today stationed in the General Gouvernement. The German soldiers are greedy for food after the discomforts and hunger of the Russian front.

Military discipline among the German soldiers has deteriorated visibly. Drunken soldiers may often be seen in the streets. Warsaw is constantly patrolled by the German military police on the lookout for soldiers who have violated army discipline. The German soldiers' uniform and equipment are definitely inferior to what they were in the past; the same is true of their morale.

IMPRESSIONS OF THE WARSAW GHETTO

There are more than 400,000 Jews in the Warsaw Ghetto. The streets of the Ghetto are indescribably crowded and noisy. There is not enough room for all the people who want to be out in the streets. The area of the Ghetto is extremely small, and the authorites of occupation are constantly reducing it further.

There are no taxicabs or horse-drawn carriages in the Ghetto streets; they have been replaced by "rickshaws," or man-drawn cabs. The horsedrawn street car has been revived in the Ghetto: there are 25 of them along the main streets. The few electric street cars still operating in the Ghetto have no numbers to indicate their routes, but are marked by a

Ship Workers Local 9 Repels Stalinist Domination Attempt

LABOR ACTION

Special to LABOR ACTION

The members of San Pedro Local 9 of the Shipyard Workers Union, CIO, at their last regular membership meeting beat back the first major drive of the Stalinist clique to put themselves in position to take over. control of the local. Harry Bridges himself was at the meeting; innumerable Stalinist orators took the floor; and the booing squad was well organized to shout down the opposition.

The union conservatives, except the officials who were concerned with preserving the union treasury, lined up behind the CP clique.

But the membership, by a two-toone majority, turned down the main proposal which was for the union a cost of \$15,000 a year, to subscribe for all its members to the CIO Labor Herald, an organ controlled lock, stock and barrel, by Bridges and his followers. Not content to stop there, the mern-

bership went on to kill at birth another bastard proposal born of the Stalinist-reactionary-company "uni-" This was a proposition passed by the executive board providing for bringing charges in the union against any men found "loafing" on the job. When it came to issue, even the Stalinists and their colleagues who put the proposition over at the executive board meeting lacked the gall to de-

fend it before the membership, and 'non-concurrence" was voted without the slightest discussion. So for one meeting with Bridges on the platform the Stalinists were given a shellacking, and their drive for organizational control repulsed. But they will be back

again with their sudden "superpatriotism," and unless the membership is on continuous alert their bloc with the reactionaries and the company will put them in control. This "unity" is something beautiful to behold. Bridges, the man of '34, is invited by the company to

on company time, is introduced with glowing praise by Capt. Court, and proceeds to speak on production first and unionism second. He repeats himself. This is what he means: "Production first, unionism second" (if there is any room or time left).

"Your shop stewards are not grievance men; they are production men," says Bridges. "There is only one type of grievance to be taken up today: that is a grievance against something that interferes with production. All other grievances must be put off until after the war."

Is it any wonder that the company invites Bridges to speak and gladly allows the men to assemble on company time to hear him? "We have only one enemy today," says Bridges, that fearless fighter for the working class. "The employers are not our enemy now-only the Axis. All our petty differences must be put off until after the war. Then we can resume fighting among ourselves as before. Then the employers will perhaps again try to 'deport Bridges.'"

If Bridges' Policy Prevails!

Possibly, Brother Bridges, but it would be a little unkind of them to forget quickly the service you are doing for them in their time of emergency. After the war is over they will perhaps not have to worry too much about unions. These shipyards will be raising sheep, the workers will be standing in breadlines and waiting in relief stations; and the unions, if your policy prevails, will be a memory-like the memory of the day when Bridges used to fight the employer instead of the militant union man.

Next, Bridges moved in to the regular membership meeting. At whose invitation? Not by vote of the membership, not even by vote of the executive board. Possibly some officials invited him, but more likely the

speak in the Los Angeles shipyard invitation was issued only by himself and his Stalinist clique.

And this time did he come to advise militant unionists how to fight back against the labor-haters in Congress, against Bethlehem, against the obvious danger that in the course of this war our unions will be destroyed? On these subjects Bridges said not a word, but on the subject of sacrifice, of union retreat, of speed-ups-here Bridges had plenty to say.

In Bridges view, no sacrifice is too great for labor to make in winning this war for American imperialism and for Stalin. And anyone who disagrees with his view is "helping the Axis." "Anyone who says this war is the same as the last one is helping the Axis," says Bridges. And then again: "Any union man who advocates the maintenance of the union as usual is consciously or unconsciously helping the Axis."

So Bridges, after the manner of Moscow, labels as a fascist any man who in the face of the war pressure still has the courage to fight in defense of the union, to try to preserve conditions today and to prepare to meet the tide of native American

fascism that will rise tomorrow!... In his speech to the union membership Bridges peddles his sell-out program as a "new kind of unionism.' It's not new, Brother Bridges! There have been labor lieutenants of the bosses ever since the labor movement began, and plenty of times before they have advocated that labor sacrifice to the bone-give its shirt to the bosses because of some emergency. In ever war there have been agents of the government and of the bosses in the ranks of labor who have said that this is labor's war, and that labor must sacrifice everything. In the last war with the same program there was Gompers and the whole AFL bureaucracy, but against them stood Mooney and Gene Debs.

____THE WORLD AT WAR_____ Why Hitler Has Not Yet Been Able To Launch **His Spring Offensive**

By WILLIAM BRAD

Last week, German troops took the initiative for the first time this year. They attacked the Russians in the Crimea, with the result that the latter were forced to retreat and may have to yield the front entirely. Simultaneously, large masses of Russian troops and mechanized forces launched a large scale offensive against the key German stronghold of Kharkov. On the entire

length of the Russian front both sides put out feelers for weak spots in the enemy lines. Although spring is almost gone,

the long expected spring offensive has not yet really begun. The military movements of the last week represent only the preliminaries. Obviously a campaign in the Crimea is not what Hitler has in mind.

Actually the Russian front last week did not represent any startling changes from what had been going on all winter, in spite of the newspaper comments. The Crimean drive is not a major one, but rather designed to clear the decks for more important action. The Russian attack on Kharkov is a continuation of the winter tactic of forcing the Germans to throw their troops into defensive positions and thereby immobilizing them for attack in concentrated numbers elsewhere. See-Saw Battles Raging

At this, early stage see-saw battles are taking place in which German

troops must fight over ground they won early last winter; Russian troops battle forward over previously lost territory. Nothing decisive is accomplished but the effect on the morale of a soldier who must constantly refight old battles over old territories must be devastating.

Why, then, this apparent hesitation, uncertainty and delay on the part of the German high command?

First, there is the increasingly critical situation inside Germany. Hitlers' recent speech was an attempt to answer the discontent with the only weapon he has: terror. The long hours of labor, the strict rationing and shortages of many basic foods and prohibitive prices characterize the German situation.

The Black Market flourishes on an enormous scale, permitting the wealthy to live well while the workers suffer. German economy has been geared exclusively to war since 1933. Is it any wonder that it is beginning to show signs of cracking? The war devours everything and

there is not enough to replace used material. The huge losses in men in the Russian campaign, estimated at two and a half million casualties, and the drain of the army has resulted in a serious labor shortage. Foreign workers and forced labor are not

crease in France, Netherlands and Belgium.

Strikes in Northern France, Norway and Austria have been small but significant, because they are the surface manifestations of an increasing restlessness.

The Russian Front

It is also true that Hitler faces an unprecedented military situation in Russia. He must attack an enemy whose morale is as high, if not higher, than that of his own troops. He has no advantage of surprise. The Russians can equal him in numbers of troops and if not in quality and quantity of equipment, at least have enough so that they can fight and not be annihilated. Neither side has overwhelming superiority.

And yet it is unlikely, that Hitler will hold off indefinitely. The Allied wishful thinkers who hope that Hitler will be unable to launch his offensive are probably mistaken.

The huge German military machine has not yet been destroyed. The Luftwaffe, which can concentrate several thousand planes at any point, has not even appeared on the scene as yet; nor have the huge masses of infantry or the mechanized divisions. Hitler is husbanding his forces and refusing, in so far as he is able, to squander them in the Russian attacks.

Hitler will launch an offensive (of course, whether or not it will succeed is another question). It will probably be on an unprecedented scale and with enormous destructive power. He must attack. After the summer comes the dread winter. Can Hitler sit on Europe through another horrible winter without food, fuel, and plunder from new territories?

Not to have an offensive would be worse than a military defeat. The offensive is Hitler's way of answering the cry for peace. To stand still on a stalemated front would make clear to the most backward peasant that Hitler is too weak to strike out, that the war can go on for years.

F

That is why the world can expect to see in the next few weeks a furious outburst of battle. The contradictions of an impossible situation force Hitler to attack. When he does, the imperialist war will take its greatest and most gory toll of blood. And so the war rises to a murderous climax in which millions more will die-the anonymous innocents of all landsfor the glory of imperialism. And the end is nowhere in sight.

Standard Oil's **Profits Jump**

Workers of the Budd plant have declared a strike against the Budd Mfg. Co.

For years Budd has had a dictatorial regime in his plant. He has paid us starvation wages. He has used spies to break up our organization. He has fired workers who stand up for their rights. He gives jobs to stooges and fires union men. He fires men of experience and gives the job to trainees. He has set up a fake company union-the E.R.A.

Budd has defied the order of the National Labor Relations Board. He has just defied the Federal Conciliation Service. He has defied the government. He has defied his workers. We are going to make Budd obey the law.

The workers are through taking it. We have decided to smash this

Budd Workers Go on Strike--

Picket captains have been picked on The line around the plant gets longer

Help is beginning to pour in from other unions. One local has already donated \$75. Other locals are sendunion men realize that the organizing of the Budd plant is of vital concern to them. If Budd remains an open shop then it will be a wedge with which to break the labor movement in Philadelphia. Other large

The goal of the Budd men is a

union contract, similar to the one

the Budd local in Detroit has with

the company. They will accept

nothing less than that. All at-

tempts at phony mediation have

been swept aside by the men; they

This time they intended to make it

The men at Budd deserve the

congratulations and support of the

stick. They feel that only a union

have been fooled once too often.

contract will do that.

Budd strike.

Budd Local's Strike Call

doing their job.

ing their men to the picket line. All

corporations will attempt to follow

(Continued from page 1) to steer the union through the strike.

the basis of their devotion and energy expended on the picket line.

and longer. The picket captains are

Help Coming In

blue Star of David.

The Ghetto is surrounded by high walls. Beggars with ulcerated feet, ragged children with old men's faces sit near these walls. unions. For this reason all unions and union men are rallying to the

TRADE IN DRINKING WATER-Trade is conducted on the street corners. Vegetables, scrap iron, books, Jewish armbands showing a blue Star of David are bought and sold. There is a great trade in drinking water: one glass of fresh water costs 18 groshy. The water is sold by water-carriers who walk along the streets with buckets of fresh water. When a military car passes, all in the crowd silently remove their hats. -

There is a sharp dividing line between the rich and the poor. The rich ride in the rickshaws and have their own clubs. They carry on a trade in houses (the Jews were allowed to keep property which was situated within the Ghetto walls)

MISERY AND HUNGER-The prevailing elements in Ghetto life are misery and hunger. The Jewish physicians, who were compelled to move into the Ghetto, are overwhelmed with work. Hundreds of people die daily from exposure and hunger. Even the sacredness of death is lost in the Ghetto. A funeral must be paid for, and few families possess the means. Misery overcomes piety, and the dead are simply put out into the streets at night. Later Jewish police carry away the corpses to be buried free of cost by the Jewish community.

The poverty in the Ghetto is appalling. The Germans boast of permitting the Ghetto to be ruled by "its own Jewish administration." In reality the functions of this administration are limited to merely paying for the food supplied to the Ghetto. The Germans mockingly explain to inquisitive foreigners that the only reason for the prevalence of hunger in the Ghetto is the failure of the Jewish community to buy sufficient quantities of food.

TYPHUS-Recently, our informant tells us, he received word from Warsaw that it is no longer possible for sick people in the Ghetto to obtain treatment.

Such is the life of the Polish Jews within the walls of the Warsaw Ghetto. The walls are 10 feet high and have 10 gates. At 9 p.m. these gates close. It is the curfew hour. The streets are silent and dark. Only the graveyards are growing. The numberless, nameless dead receive burial. Life in the Ghetto is a veritable hell on earth.

Sharecropper Asks Some Questions

(Continued from page 1)

means to get what we want. But he doesn't send us any organizers to help us. And he doesn't send us any money to carry on our fight. Why is that?

The president of our union in Missouri, Brother Whitfield, and our vicepresident, Brother Hughes, tell us that they are for 30 cents an hour. We're glad to hear that. But we don't see them doing anything to help us. All of us are ready to fight. But we don't get any organizers from Brother Whitfield or Brother Hughes either. And we don't get any funds from them. Isn't that what the union is for, to help us when we are ready to fight?

There's another thing we don't understand. Brother Whitfield and the people who go around with him are spreading all kinds of talk about "Trotskyltes." I don't know what that means. We don't want to fight any "Trotskyites." We want to fight the landlords.

We don't like it when our own people try to scare us with all kinds of

names just because we want 30 cents an hour. We'd like to know whose game are they playing by trying to scare us?

We'd like an explanation from Brother Henderson. We'd like an explanation from Brother Whitfield and Brother Hughes.

Are they going to keep trying to split us up with all this talk or are they going to help us fight and win what we want?

fascist regime. Budd's example and adopt his policies in the hope of smashing existing

This is your chance to win high union wages. To have a real seniority set-up. A shop steward system to represent you.

Workers, this picket line is your way to a better life. Observe it. Don't cross it.

This is a full plant strike. No union member or honest worker will pass through a picket line. Don't be a scab.

NO GOOD UNION MAN WILL PASS THE PICKET LINE. WE SHALL MAKE BUDD THE ARSENAL OF UNIONISM. WE WILL. WE MUST. WE SHALL WIN. FORWARD TO VICTORY WITH THE UAW-CIO.

BUDD LOCAL NO. 813.

UAW-CIO STRIKE COMMITTEE.

Thus far the boss press has played down the Budd strike. But the working people of Philadelphia have their eyes peeled on Budd nonetheless. They know that the Budd workers have a tough job: to crack Philadelphia's Henry Ford. But it can and will be done.

Socialism Made Easy

substitutes. The Gestapo must stand watch at every machine.

No End in Sight

There is no end in sight. The longing for peace on the part of the German workers is growing. This yearning is by far the outstanding desire of all the people of Europe.

This is the Germany which is Hitler's base for a military offensive, which is not to say that Germany is on the eve of revolt or that Hitler cannot draw upon it militarily. But this is a different Germany than the one from which he launched all of his previous campaigns.

Secondly, there is the seething cauldron of occupied and subjected Europe. Movements of revolt exist everywhere in the occupied lands. Open guerrilla warfare on a large scale continues in Serbia. Sabotage, and assaults on German officers in-

It is apparently very profitable to be a Merchant of Death and to enter into cartel agreements with the Nazi trusts.

Proof of this can be seen in the profit report for 1941 of the Standard Oil Co. of New Jersey. In 1941, Standard grabbed \$140,-572,419 profits after payment of all taxes, putting aside various. contingency reserves (which really, hide profits) and deducting \$30,000,000 for losses on foreign investments. This profit figure compares "favorably" with the 1940 profit of \$123,886,346.

Yes sir, it sure pays to be a Merchant of Death-even if one's hands get a little bloody at it.

(The following is another selection from the writings of the great Irish socialist. Even though written many years ago, its content is very much alive today.-Editor.)

Let us be practical. We want something practical.

Always the cry of humdrum mediocrity, afraid to face the stern necessity for uncompromising action. That saying has done more yeoman service in the cause of oppression than all its avowed supporters.

The average man dislikes to be thought unpractical and so, while frequently loathing the principles or distrusting the leaders of the particular political party he is associated with, declines to leave them, in the hope that their very lack of earnestness may be more fruitful of practical results than the honest outspokenness of the party in whose principles he does believe.

In the phraseology of politics, a party too indifferent to the sorrow and sufferings of humanity to raise its voice in protest, is a moderate, practical party; whilst a party totally indifferent to the personality of leaders, or questions of leadership, but hot to enthusiasm on every question affecting the well-being of the toiling masses, is an extreme, a dangerous party.

Yet, although it may seem a paradox to say so, there is no party so incapable of achieving practical results as an orthodox political party; and there is no party so certain of placing moderate reforms to its credit as an extreme revolutionary party.

The possessing class will and do laugh to scorn every

scheme for the amelioration of the workers so long as those responsible for the initiation of the scheme admit as justifiable the "rights of property"; but when the public attention is directed toward questioning the justifiable nature of those "rights" in themselves, then the master class, alarmed for the safety of their booty, yield reform after reform-in order to prevent revolution.

Moral-Don't be "practical" in politics. To be practical in that sense means that you have schooled yourself to think along. the lines and in the grooves which those who rob you would desire you to think.

In any case it is time we got rid of all the cant about "politics" and "constitutional agitation" in general. For there is really no meaning whatever in those phrases.

Every public question is a political question. The men who tell us that labor questions, for instance, have nothing to do with politics, understand neither the one nor the other. The labor question cannot be settled except by measures which necessitate a revision of the whole system of society, which, of course, implies political warfare to secure the power to effect such revision.

If by politics we understand the fight between the outs and ins, or the contest for party leadership, then labor is rightly supremely indifferent to such politics, but to the politics which center round the question of property and the administration thereof labor is not, cannot be, indifferent.

To effect its emancipation labor must reorganize society

on the basis of labor; this cannot be done while the forces of government are in the hands of the rich, therefore the governing power must be wrested from the hands of the rich.

In the phraseology of the master class and its pressmen, the trade unionist who is not a socialist is more practical than he who is, and the worker who is neither one nor the other but can resign himself to the state of slavery in which he was born is the most practical of all men.

The heroes and martyrs who in the past gave up their lives for the liberty of the race were not practical, but they were heroes all the same.

The slavish multitude who refused to second their efforts. from a craven fear lest their skins might suffer were practical, but they were soulless serfs, nevertheless.

Revolution is never practical-until the hour of the revolution strikes. THEN it alone is practical, and all the efforts of the conservatives and compromisers become the most futile and visionary of human imaginings,

For that hour let us work, think and hope; for that hour let us pawn our present ease in hopes of a glorious redemption; for that hour let us prepare the hosts of labor with intelligence sufficient to laugh at the nostrums dubbed practical by our slave-lords, practical for the perpetuation of our slavery; for that supreme crisis of human history, let us watch, like sentinels, with weapons every ready, remembering always that there can be no dignity until labor knows no master.

entire labor movement. They are fighting in defense of their rights with a spirit that is a credit to them as a new section of the labor movement-with a spirit which will lead to victory.

Of Special Interest **To Women**

By Susan Green

equals.

of this move.

where they belong."

ers."

bill.

was one of the foremost proponents

A committee of unemployed, in-

cluding two Negroes, interviewed

Cox at his office to ask him to vote

for a WPA appropriation. But, being

a "Southern gentleman," Cox's first

reply was: "Why don't you send those two back home behind a plow,

The chairman of this committee

then made what must have appeared

to Cox as a dastardly threat. The

chairman stated that Cox would be

office. At first thought, this may

congressman. But it is the custom

in the South to so treat one's "less-

Cox's chief function as a member

years has been to push an anti-strike

What gives Cox special importance

and power is his position on the

committee can determine the agenda.

the procedure and precedence of

bills on the House floor. It can also

delay legislation, modify it or re-

strict it. It is the most powerful

chosen by merit, but by seniority.

Poll Tax Domination

The other day, Mrs. Green, housewife, noticed-as she should-that her husband's shoes were down at the heels. So they were taken around to Pete, the shoemaker, for the necessary repairs, consisting of rubber. heels and leather patches inside the shoes where the foot had rubbed through the lining.

"What will that set me back?" Mrs. Green asked Pete. "One dollar ten," he said.

Mrs. Green opened her mouth to protest, but was so flabbergasted that no sound came out. Several months ago this was a sixty or sixty-five cent job. When her vocal chords began to function, Mrs. Green exclaimed: "That's robbery!"

Pete has been fixing shoes for Mrs. Green for six years. He was very apologetic-very, very sorry, but he said he just couldn't help it. "So help me God, Mrs. Green. It hurts me more than it hurts you."

"OK, Pete, OK. I know you're not a chiseler. But how come? After all, how come?"

So Pete told Mrs. Green "how come."

Recently when he went to the supply house with which he does business, he was assured by the salesman in the outer office that there was a shortage of material and that Pete could not have any of the heels or leather he had come to get. Pete protested. He wanted to know how he was going to carry on his business, how he was going to earn a living for his family. "Well," said the salesman with mock thoughtfulness, "I'll let you speak to the chief."

In the inner office the alarmed shoemaker was given a line by the head of the firm: "Seeing as how you've been a customer of the firm so long. I may be able to fix you up. I got a little goods-a special shipment that cost me plenty. If you want to pay the price, you can get yours. But it's got to be over the counter-cash and. carry. No bills, no statements, no checks, no deliveries. Get me!'

Whereupon the big shot submitted his take-it-orleave-it prices which made the local shoemaker open his mouth even as Mrs. Green did in his store. "Well? I'm a busy man," snapped the big shot.

Pete mopped his brow and began to stutter: "H-h-how can I charge such prices? I'll lose my trade."

"That's gonna be the prices everyone will charge. And I might as well tell you it's no use you should go somewhere else for supplies. You won't get past the telephone girl somewhere else. Everyone is careful with whom they deal these days. Whaddya say? I'm a busy man."

The harrassed shoemaker still hesitated. I'm surprised at you," continued the big shot. "What kinda alesman are you? How about telling your trade there is a war? How about telling them the armed forces is using all the domestic leather? How about telling them this is much finer stuff that comes from Argentina? Got to know your geography these days. Ain't that what the President said?"

1

Pete explained to Mrs. Green that while the big mouth was talking, his imagination was plenty busy. He was seeing the street on which his store is located. There is another shoemaker on the block. Besides there are two chain stores which also do shoe repairing. On the next block and on the next of that business street of a thickly populated district, there are more shoemakers' shops and more chain cleaning stores. He imagined his customers taking their shoes to his competitors, if he didn't have the leather and material he needs. Pete felt he had no choice. Reluctantly he paid the blackmail prices and took the goods from the shipping clerk.

"What could I do, Mrs. Green?" concluded the shoemaker. "Could I go to the OPA office and report that chiseler?. So what would I do for leather any-

Representative Cox of Georgia:

High on Anti-Labor Rogues Gallery

were compiled, Edward E. Cox, repof Negro and white sharecroppers resentative to Congress from the Secand plantation laborers from voting. ond District of Georgia, would be Five out of the 14 members on the very high on the list. For consistencommittee are Southerners. They are cy in attacking labor, Cox has few ably assisted by another labor-hater, Adolph J. Sabbath of Illinois, and A glance at Cox's record yields the only too well known Hamilton

abundant evidence for these changes. Fish. The result has been to make In 1939 there was a threat in Con-Cox the dominant force on the Rules gress to cut the WPA appropriation Committee, and it is generally assumed that the Rules Committee is out of the budget so that not one cent would be appropriated for the Cox's committee. twelve million unemployed. Mr. Cox

From this point of vantage he was able to threaten last year to hold up all other legislation until an anti-strike bill was put through. He settled for a bill providing for a "cooling-off" period. The bill did not pass and Cox stated that he did not intend to stop at that.

His next chance came several months ago when Cox and his cronies on the Rules Committee declared that they would not put through the price control bill unless

remembered in the next election in Naming the Georgia. Whereupon Cox flew into a violent rage, slapped the chairman **Merchants of Death** and chased the committee out of his

seem to be conduct not befitting a Last December the Treasury Department took over the General Aniline & Film Corp., whose management, according to Mr. Peck of the Department of Justice "has always been dominated by I. G. or former of Congress for the past several I. G. officials." (I. G. Farbenindustrie, giant German trust.)

And who do you think served on the board of the General Aniline & Film Corp.?

Rules Committee of the House. This 1) Edsel B. Ford, president of the Ford Motor Co.

- 2) Charles E. Mitchell, board chairman of the National City Bank. 3) Walter C. Teagle, chairman of
- Standard Oil of New Jersey. committee in the House of Repre-4) Paul Warburg, board chairman sentatives. Its members are not

of Bank of the Manhattan Co. They were all original members of the 14-member company board.

It is not surprising, therefore, to Here are four of the biggest merfind that this committee is dominated chants of the "Merchants of Death" by Southern poll tax representatives. clinque of bankers and monopolists These men tend to hold their seats who dominate American industry in Congress longest because they are elected by so few votes. The poll tax and America's war.

If a rogues' gallery of labor-haters prohibits the overwhelming majority they received assurance of passage of the Vinson-Smith anti-strike bill. This attack was called off only after Green and Murray agreed to the no-strike pledge, thus handing the anti-labor bloc everything they had failed to get in two years of congressional maneuvering.

One would imagine from this brief review of Mr. Representative Cox's record that he was an unkindly, uncharitable character. who, having probably been misused by fate, has come to hate his fellow men, especially the majority of the American people, the working class. But this would be a one-sided impression. Charity Stays at Home

Cox definitely believes in charity and, quite naturally, that this charity begins at home and - this is Cox's amendment-stays at home. Thus in his 18 years in Congress ten members of his family have somehow managed to become government job-holders, nine in the federal government and one in the state government. Their salaries total \$56,000 a year.

How did Cox get into Congress and, above all, how has he managed to stay there 18 years, nine terms? The secret of his success is simple—it takes very few votes to elect him. He was elected in 1938 by 5.137 votes out of a population of 263,000 in his district, or under 2 per cent of the population. Cox received hardly enough votes to elect a councilman in New York City. Yet his vote in Congress carries much more power than most other representatives.

Some doubting Thomases are likely to question the democracy of such an election. They will be especially astonished to make a comparison with the elections in the Fifth District in St. Louis, where it takes 231,-251 votes to elect a Congressman, or roughly, enough votes to elect 45 representatives at the vote Cox was elected

But these doubters are all wrong. In the first place, there are some districts in the South which are far worse, with only 0.5 per cent of the populaton voting.

In the second place, democracy in

Georgia just doesn't work like some people think it should. Negroes are kept from voting by means of terror, the literacy test and the poll tax. Poor whites also do not vote because of illiteracy and the poll tax. In Georgia the poll tax is cumulative. To vote you must pay all your back taxes. As for the literacy test, sovereign, democratic Georgia provides that anyone owning \$500 in property need not pass it to vote. It is clear, therefore, that only the poor have to know how to write in order to vote in Georgia.

This brief survey makes clear how Cox remains in Congress. His voice is that of "lynch democracy." The "better people," the landowners, have seen to it that his voice has not been stilled.

W. B.

James T. Farrell

has given The New International special permission to reprint his booklet, Literature and Ideology, as an article in the magazine's May number.

Besides, Farrell's contribution. the May issue features: The editorial Notes of the

Month. discussing Roosevelt's seven-point economic program. Jack Wilson's lengthy study of

the trade union and political career of John L. Lewis. Henry Judd's analysis of the

War in the Pacific and the role of Japan.

Susan Green's article on Women in Industry.

The thesis of the French Trotskyists, published here for the first time in complete form, on the National Question and de Gaullism.

The third installment of the Archives of the Revolution section: Gregory Zinoviev's Social Roots of Opportunism.

And two fine book reviews: R. Craine's review of Tarlé's "Napoleon's Invasion of Russia," and H. J.'s review of Granville Hicks' "Only One Storm."

"Native Land" **A Portrait of Labor's Fight** A Movie Review

> Although it is more than a week since the writer has seen this documentary film based on the 1938 Senate Civil Rights Committee testimony on boss terror in this country, one of its episodes lives in mind as though experienced in real life.

> Vigilantes in Arkansas in 1936 have broken up a sharecroppers' meeting and driven into the swamps a Negro and an older white cropper. The Negro has been wounded. The white cropper tries to ease him. When twilight comes, they begin to think of going home, so the white man crawls up to the highway to see the lay of the land. It seems to him that the road is clear. He helps the Negro to his feet, props him against his own body and thus they start homeward in the dusk. The Negro's face is transparent with the pain of persecution and the ache in his body. Like a father or a big brother, the white cropper smilingly encourages him onward. Thus walking homeward together, black and white brothers in bondage are mowed down by the machine gun bullets of an ambushed vigilante.

The photographer and directors fully understood the symbolic and actual beauty of the episode as well as its horror and suspense, and gave it all it needed to make it unforgettable. Such feelingful direction throughout the film, by Leo Hurwitz and Paul Strand, with matching photography by Mr. Strand, creates the stir and impact on the mind and emotions that the material used deserves.

JUST PEOPLE ON THE SCREEN

The acting is so unstrained and lifelike that one forgets to appraise it as acting. There are just people on the screen. It is just a Michigan farmer who in 1934 spoke up for farmers' unity and was found dead by his wife a few minutes after a visit by strangers in a resplendent automobile. They are just three human beings tortured by the Ku Klux Klan in "democratic" Florida in 1935 because their politics did not please the powers behind the Klan. They are just working stiffs thrown out of their jobs because of union activity after a rat in their ranks turns the union membership book over to the industrial spying company employed by the boss to bust the union. It is just a friendly grocer ordered out of town by a thug because he contributed to the strike fund. And they are just women and children weeping at the graves of their husbands and fathers shot in the back by "law and order" in the 1937 Memorial Day massacre of strikers in Chicago.

The cumulative effect of the film is even greater than the sum of these gripping incidents. This is accomplished by the narrative written by David Wolff and beautifully spoken by Paul Robeson, who also contributes some fine singing. The narrative tells of the private armies, private arsenals and propaganda of the "fascistminded"; of the ruthless armed company deputies; of the utter contempt for human life of those for whom "the open shop is the American way."

The narrative unfortunately is not all factual. The film is as unequivocal an indictment of "American democracy"-better known to farmers, sharecroppers and workers as boss rule-as has ever been presented. Yet the narrative-obviously for timely propaganda purposes-would have the audience believe that the bill of rights exists for the workers anyway. Although it has been enjoyed by miliant workers from the hard end of a nightstick or the shooting end of a revolver or machine gun. Mr. Wolff assures us that it has been built into the very girders of the skyscrapers. He forgot to write at this point that the girders and the skyscrapers are owned by the "interests" exposed by the film, that in them the industrial spy companies have offices, that in them the boards of directors meet to count profits and map out campaigns against labor. If the bill of rights has been built into the girders of skyscrapers, the film proves that it has been kept prisoner there.

Problems Facing the Convention of the CIO Retail and Wholesale Clerks

By MIKE STEVENS

CHICAGO-The third convention of the United Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Employees of America (CIO) is being held here this week. The delegates will represent 100,000 members in department stores, warehouses, cafeterias, bakeries, mail-order houses, teamsters, all types of retail stores and candy and drug factories. This international union was chartered by the CIO in 1937 and its membership at that time consisted of a few locals of retail clerks that had split away from the racketeer infested AFL Retail Clerks Protective Association. The entire trade union movement will face many new and serious problems during the coming months. The URWDSEA is no exception; as a matter of fact, it will hit a few additional problems all its own. These problems should take up a major part of the convention agenda in order to work out a program that will strengthen and develop the union.

tion headquarters, the Hotel Morrison, but would have to find accommodations elsewhere. This is the first time in the history of the CIO that anything of such a reactionary nature has taken place, and it is impossible to believe that the delegates will permit this scandal to be hushed up. 1

the stores and warehouses. Local autonomy, regular conventions, salaries of all officials and organizers on national office payroll to be fixed by convention.

The above suggestions will go a long way toward making the international office function on a militant, democratically controlled basis.

destroy working conditions, refuse to fill vacancies and speed up the remaining workers.

The convention must steer clear of the administration's present policy of "cooperation with management." A clear-cut, militant class struggle policy must be adopted. The new members can be taught of the union's background, struggles and ments through classes, discussions and lectures. BUT if the union does not meet their problems of today the workers will drop by the wayside, and certainly no new organizing will be done. Education through militant action to meet the problems of today is not only the best, but the only way that the workers will remain in the union to learn the fundamentals and to prepare for tomorrow.

way?, How could I hold my trade? Even if I do complain, the big shot anyway gets away with it. And he ain't the only one. You know how those things are-like fighting City Hall. I only ruin my own business. So every week I go and get my stuff and pay through the nose."

Mrs. Green had listened with intense interese to Pete's story.

"Pete, by yourself you can't do a damn thing," she commented. "All right, give me the check. I'll come for the shoes this evening."

A look of apprehension came into the shoemaker's eyes as he handed Mrs. Green the check. "Maybe I talk too much, Mrs. Green. I trust you. I want no trouble. I try to make a living. I'm in this country twenty years and an American citizen. But it could be easy to make trouble for Italian-born."

"Don't worry, Pete," Mrs. Green assured him. "People like me don't want to hurt people like you."

This columnist can vouch for the authenticity of the above incident for the simple reason that Mrs. Green, housewife, is nobody else but this columnist.

Pete may have over-dramatized his story. He may even have added five or ten cents more to the charge than he had to. All this, however, is unimportant. For Pete's story contains the essential pattern for all war profiteering, for the Black Market, for the unpunished flaunting of all price ceilings under the present capitalist set-up.

Let us follow the streamlines of the pattern.

There is a big shot corporation that has hidden caches of priority goods or knows how to get them. It pegs prices at what the traffic will bear. It hides its illegal practices by doing a cash and carry business so as to eliminate all bookkeeping records of its profiteering.

There is the helpless small retailer like Pete threatened with ruin if he doesn't come across. There is his fear of his competitors, his justified lack of confidence in the government, his knowledge that the little man and the big shot are just that in the eyes of the law.

There is finally the filthy flimflam of passing the illegal prices onto the consumer under the false cover of war necessity. And if that doesn't work, just tell the customer that the quality is much better, that the cheaper grades are no longer available. So what? For better goods you must pay more money, no?

There is only one way to check these vicious profiteering practices: THE WORKING CLASS MUST CON-TROL PRICES-both at the production and consumption ends.

At the production end, the workers must fix the prices of the goods they produce and handle. They alone must decide whether prices are right. If they let the chiselers' prices get by them, it means, that their wives have to pay them.

At the consumption end, housewives must band together in neighborhood committees to be able to act on such stories as that told by Pete. These committees must go before the OPA and demand action against black-mailing corporations. These committees must picket the profiteering capitalists and the procrastinating OPA until they know by the lower retail prices that the correct action has been taken.

The convention opens with a black mark against it. The national office informed the locals that the Negro delegates would not be permitted to stay at the conven-



PRIZE WINNER: Helen Bright, our Queens LABOR ACTION literature agent, is the winner of the special prize offered during the recently concluded subscription campaign.

Helen was responsible for the obtaining of 16 special \$1.00 combination subs. Congrats, Helen, and your prize is in the mails!

The following subs were received during the past week:

New York City Serraville, Calif. ____ 5 Los Angeles Chicago St. Louis _____ 1 Mexico 1 Total 24

NOTE: The special \$1.00 combination offer is now concluded. LA-BOR ACTION cannot accept these subs any longer and requests its friends not to send them in.

Organizational Structure

The national leadership of the URWDSEA has attempted to copy the organizational structure of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, and this attempt to follow the structure and methods of the Amalgamated, as it exists today, has developed the URWDSEA into a caricature of the Amalgamated with all of the Amalgamated's vices and none of its virtues.

The original URWDSEA locals split away from the AFL because union democracy did not exist and racketeering did. Within the URWD-SEA we see obvious attempts by the leadership to build a new machine. Let us cite only three examples:

1) All of the organizers sent out into the field have been proved friends of the present administration.

2) The fear that large locals would develop leadership that could challenge the power of the present officers has been the reason for the mass issuance of charters in industries where established locals were already in existence. In New York City alone over 50 locals have been chartered, most of them competing with each other, often leading to jurisdictional disputes and disgraceful picketing of one local by another.

3) The 1939 convention unanimously agreed to reorganize the organization apparatus by setting up three departments: chain store. department store, and warehouse and production. To this day not one of these departments has been created because the outstanding people in each of these fields cannot be trusted as "friends" of the present administration. The result has been that only 20,000 members have been added to the union since the 1939 convention in an industry of two and a half million workers. The fact that the present leadership is financially honest or that three distinct groups exist within the international is no guarantee that a bureaucratic machine will not develop. A possible guarantee (the main one must be the vigilance of the rank and file) would be an im-

proved organizational structure. The executive board should not contain any salaried officers (a procedure followed in a number of CIO international unions) but workers from

Labor Unity Necessary

The unity of the American labor movement, along industrial lines, is of paramount importance. Within the URWDSEA the question of unity has been looked upon by some through "business agents' eyes" wondering what would happen to certain pie-card jobs if unity were achieved. The future of the trade unions durthe war and in the post-war period depends very much on the unity of labor-a need which this convention

should emphatically stress. Labor Party Needed A national committee on labor leg-

islation should be elected, not only to fight reactionary and fascist-minded legislation and to protect existing social legislation, but also to fight for new gains in the interest of the working class.

Such a struggle, we are convinced, will prove to the workers of this union that the burning need of the American labor movement is an independent labor party, divorced from the two old capitalist parties and fighting for the interests of the working people.

Need for Education

The turnover of workers in the retail industry is and will continue to be greater than that in any other industry. Those who built the union and knew of the conditions that existed before they were organized and received their education on the picket line are now being drafted or leaving for the war industries. The new workers coming in must be educated.

One of the tasks of the convention will be to set up an educational department. The 1939 convention left it up to the national office and nothing was ever done. There is absolutely no coordinated educational work being done within the international. Active locals have attempted in isolated instances to run classes or an occasional lecture without any aid whatsoever from the headquarters.

Class Struggle Policy Necessary

The war has curtailed (to say the least) the production of consumer goods. This will affect the jobs of 95 per cent of the members of this union. The bosses will refuse to grant wage increases, they will attempt to lay off workers, cut wages,

WLB Head on Wage Freezing--

(Continued from page 1)

Mine Workers a union shop agreement in the "captive mines," he was given an emphatic and effective answer by the UMW's strike. By that action, the UMW got what it deserved and wanted.

And certainly now, with the antilabor hysteria that is being whipped up, it will be only the militant action of the workers in the shops, giving the needle to their timid leaders to go out and do some fighting for their rights, that can prevent what would be a catastrophe for the workerswage freezing.

Thousands Protest Murder of Negro

Thousands of indignant Negroes crowded the Golden Gate ballroom in Harlem to protest against the fatal shooting of Wallace Armstrong, a Negro, by Patrolman Harold Reidman.

Reidman has been accused by a dozen witnesses who have sworn out affidavits to the effect that he shot Armstrong without serious provocation. According to those who knew him, Armstrong was mentally deficient and Reidman was one of two policemen who came to take him to Bellevue Hospital. Instead of making allowances for Armstrong's mental deficiency, Reidman lost his temper and shot him.

This incident has enraged Harlem Negroes because it is but one of a long series of such police actions.

ROLE OF THE "FOUNDING FATHERS"

Also, to serve the purposes of timely propaganda, the narrative constantly refers to the "Founding Fathers" as if they were the patrons of the present-day struggles of the farmers, sharecroppers and workers. Naturally no mention is made of the historic fact that there were plenty of labor-haters among the "Founding Fathers," whose idea was that "liberty, freedom, democracy" should function primarily for the benefit of the capitalist class.

The acme of the ridiculous is reached in the epilogue. Paul Robeson appears on the screen to assure the audience that the bitter class struggle so stirringly filmed has today been ended by "national unity." All of a sudden there are no more :: fascist-minded interests" in America. They are all in Germany and Japan. Would you believe it-since 1938, when a Senate committee exposed their vile practices, they have turned over a new leaf and now clasp the hand of labor in brotherly love! However, this inept attempt to vitiate the effect of what preceded, fails. The final scene, and not the epilogue, stands out as the real conclusion. It is the burial of the victims of the Memorial Day massacre in Chicago. Women and children are weeping, while the men stand grim and silent. A worker speaks a few words in farewell to his fallen brothers. He says: "We don't forget that!"

The reviews of the film in the boss press prove that this worker's simple pledge, "We don't forget that!" is much more powerful than Robeson's concluding verbiage. The New York Sun tries very hard to discourage the reader from seeing the film by describing it as amateurish, tiring, boring. The Daily News thinks: "Since it serves only to revive the wrongs inflicted upon the 'little people,' there seems little argument for it release." The New York Times comments: "And one might also inquire whether a picture of this sort is not disturbing to national unity at this time."

S.G.

Shachtman Speaks At New York Forum

Last Sunday night, at Irving Plaza, 175 people gathered to hear Max Shachtman, of the Workers Party, speak on "Roosevent's Seven-Point Program." In contrast to what is generally heard on the President's proposals, Shachtman gave a real analysis of its meaning to the workers of this country, and to the big business interests.

Spending considerable time on the first point of the \$25,000 limit on individual income, he gave a picture of the profits made by the large corporations, specifically Bethlehem Steel Corp. and the Glenn Martin Airplane Co. hese companies, though claiming either a loss in profit, as in the case of Bethlehem, or only a small profit, as in Martin's case, have, by allocating funds to all sorts of special reserves, actually made 20 per cent and more over 1940 profits. The officialdom of these companies, aside from actual salaries, have taken into their own pockets in the form of bonuses, premiums, etc., hundreds of thousands of dollars.

EDITORIAL PAGE

LABOR ACTION

Editorials-

Good News From Ceylon

The Militant informs us that, according to British radio reports in the Far East, two of the imprisoned Fourth International leaders on the island of Ceylon have managed to escape from the jails of British imperialism.

These revolutionary socialists were the founders of the Ceylon Socialist Party, a nationalist and revolutionary movement that has the overwhelming support of the people. They were imprisoned because of their opposition to the war. Their escape is welcome news and LABOR ACTION knows they will continue the struggle for the freedom of their country from English rule and against the impending Japanese invasion.

The Pardon of **Earl Browder**

The freeing of Earl Browder by presidential pardon is long overdue. We say this not as supporters of his Stalinist political point of view but rather as the bitterest enemy of Stalinism.

Though finding the views of Browder utterly reprehensible from a working class and socialist point of view, LABOR AC-TION was opposed to the imprisonment of Browder at the time of his trial. It was apparent that the basis of his conviction was his political opinion. If there be any doubt as to that it is dispelled by the rather cynical statement of the White House that the freeing of Browder "will have a tendency to promote national unity." Clearly implicit in this statement is the suggestion that, just as the freeing of Browder was for a political purpose ("national unity") so was the original conviction for a similar purpose.

Browder was sent to jail 14 months ago because he was then a supporter of the Nazi-Soviet pact. While today he is a frenzied supporter of the American side of the imperialist war, he was then bitterly opposed to America's entry into the war. This opposition stemmed not from any feeling that it was against the interests of the working class to enter the war but rather from support of the Hitler-Stalin camp.

The Administration has the right to look forward with some confidence to the aid which Browder will give it. Wherever there is need to suppress labor militancy, wher- ACTION is indispensable, regardless of ever there is need to sabotage labor's struggles in defense of its economic rights, litical opinions. Browder will be there. His role will now be even more than before that of a stoolpigeon and speed-up artist within the labor movement.

the imperialist war (as Browder was), were convicted because of their intransigeant socialist opinions. No gesture of clemency is made to them because they, unlike Browder, are proud and uncompromising fighters for the socialist goal.

More Pay for **The Soldiers**

For some time now, one of our national scandals-taking top rank with war profiteering and the Nazi deals of our Merchants of Death-has been the miserably inadequate pay of the soldiers. It has not received the same publicity, unfortunately, but it is a scandal nonetheless.

Innumerable surveys have shown that the average soldier cannot get along, to put it mildly, on \$21° or \$30 a month. Either he is broke when the month is half over, or he has to borrow from someone.

The stench of this scandal has become so overpowering that finally Congress has gotten around to raising the soldiers' pay. This need is especially accentuated by the fact that men with dependents are now being drafted, or shortly will be, into the Army.

(And we suspect that the coming elections may have had something to do with the sudden haste with which Congress has considered this matter.)

Of the two bills now before Congress, the \$50 a month bill should be passed as against the Administration-supported \$42 a month bill.

While \$50 a month will represent a sizable pay increase in pay, it should be understood that it is by no means adequate, especially if a proposal pending in another bill providing for a compulsory deduction of \$20 per month from soldiers' pay for dependents is passed.

The cost of living has risen so rapidly, the difficulties in purchasing commodities by soldiers is so great, there is such a market tendency to overcharge and rook soldiers, that we think that even the \$60 a month proposed by LABOR ACTION is barely enough to scrape by.

But the least labor unions can do is to rally to the support of the \$50 a month bill and oppose the Roosevelt Administration's atempt to substitute a \$42 a month proposal.

It's Indispensable

Yes, we think you'll agree that LABOR

Congress Plans Income Tax On Men Making \$10 a Week

WASHINGTON - The House Ways ingly gentle on the upper income 6 per cent, on top of which there'll and Means Committee has adopted brackets. an income tax schedule that hits the workers in the midriff but is exceed-

· Reports indicate that the committee proposes a normal income tax of

DAR Throws Kiss at Stalin

Last week's convention of the Daughters of the American Revolution made history. The doughty dames, stronghold of feminine conservatism, kept up with their tradition of endorsing every reactionary current in American political life: the Dies committee, for instance.

But what really tore the house down was a statement by Mrs. Tryphosa Duncan Bates - Batcheller (no less!) that the hope of Europe now rested on Stalin. Said Mrs. Bates-Batcheller:

"Stalin is a university graduate and a man of great studies. He is a man who, when he sees a great mistake, admits it and corrects it. Today in Russia, communism is practically non-existent."

We don't know where the doughty lady got her information about Stalin's education and studies. Maybe she's got an inside track about the Kremlin butcher which we don't know about. But



with her: there isn't any communism in Russia and there isn't anything approaching it. Next to this column you can see

a picture of Mrs. Tryphosa Duncan Bates - Batcheller. You can bet your last dollar that when a dame who looks like that says there's no more workers' rule in Russia, she ain't fibbing,

Shipyard Workers Rooked of Wage Raise by Sell-Out Pact

(Continued from page 1)

entitled to a 15 cent raise because of the 13 per cent rise in the cost of living received only an eight cent raise-in the form of war bonds.

Even though the ship workers are thus suffering an indirect-but nonetheless sharp-wage cut (since they can't buy as much with their present wages as they could a half year ago), the profits of the shipbuilding corporations continue to assume astronomical proportions. To cite but a few:

1) Bethlehem Steel Co., as of July 16, 1941, had ship construction and repair contracts totaling \$1,060,-000,000. The company estimated that it would make a \$65,533,000 profit on an \$897,507,000 slice of this total.

2) The Cramp Shipbuilding Co. estimated its own worth at \$4,442,-937 when the war program started. The Navy provided \$12,000,000 for new facilities and then gave the concern cost - plus - fixed - fee contracts on which it makes a profit this year of \$7,442,280.

Here you can see the result of the so-called policy of "equal sacrifice." The workers give up their pay raises, the bosses increase their profits.

And it is also the result of the timid policy of retreat pursued by the labor leaders who put their entire hope on Roosevelt and the Mediation Merry-Go-Round. In reality. it was the now-famous telegram of several weeks ago which was sent by President Roosevelt opposing wage increases which laid the basis for the present sell-out agreement.

Labor Action Answers "California Eagle" Attack

May 18, 1942

be a surtax of 12 per cent. That makes a total tax at the bottom of the income tax scale of 18 per cent.

The committee's plan would start the income taxes at \$500 for a single man. That is, a man making \$10 per week would now have to pay an income tax!

The minimum income on which income taxes for married couples would now be placed is set at \$1,200 by the House committee.

While the House committee thus proposes a devastating tax on working class incomes, it goes easy on the rich by merely not increasing the surtax on bigger incomes at even the very mild rate suggested by the Treasury.

Because of its refusal to place a higher tax rate on the incomes of the rich, the House Ways and Means Committee has fallen \$2,000,000,000 short of what the Treasury said would be the necessary minimum for taxation.

It thereby leaves the door wide open for proposals to institute a federal sales tax (on top of local and state sales taxes) which would hit the poor another terrific blow. Or, in accordance with the suggestions of other reactionary congressmen, it leaves the door open to proposals for a withholding tax on wages at the source (direct deductions from payrolls) in addition to the already steeply jacked up income taxes.

Truly, when Price Administrator Leon Henderson said that the standard of living of the mass of American people would go below that of the 1932 depression level, he wasn't exaggerating. With the help of the reactionaries in Congress, that goal may be achieved very soon-unless labor rises in angry protest.

But perhaps the most reactionary action of the Ways and Means Committee was its refusal, by secret vote, to place a tax on state and local tax exempt securities.

By this method the rich can escape taxation by sinking their funds in interest-bearing and tax-exempt state and local securities-something which the workers, of course, cannot do. Not only did the committee refuse to tax outstanding securities but even refused to place a tax on future issues.

Thus by its mildness in regard to every form of taxation affecting the rich, the House committee-which is in a powerful position to push its proposals through on this matterhas decided to make the poor pay for the war

EUROPE **Released Reporters Tell of Discontent** By Henry Judd-

Page 4

A group of American newspaper reporters have reached the Portuguese city of Lisbon, where they will be exchanged for Axis internees in the United States. All of these men were prisoners in Germany and Italy from the date of America's entrance into the Second World War.

In the comparative freedom of London these men have sent a series of dispatches describing conditions of wartime life in the Axis nations. Even if we allow for a certain patriotic exaggeration, it is clear that their descriptions represent a good deal of the truth.

In great detail they describe the enormous shortages of goods, the intense and ever-growing rationing of all normally used commodities, the growth of Black Market racketeering to wholesale proportions; the discontent of the workers with the unfair distribution of war burdens upon them, etc.

The military machines of Germany and Italy are both obviously on the down-grade. Not only is this due to the enormous losses of on the Russian front (particularly for Germany), but to shortages of war materialsoil, coal, magnesium, copper, tin, rubber, material for uniforms, etc. As Reynolds Packard, one of the correspondents, points out, Hitler maintains his economic stranglehold on Italy by supplying 1,000,000 tons of coal to her each month.

They are careful to emphasize, however, that the German war machine is still a formidable force with 12,000,000 men in the fighting services: 7,600,000 in the Army, 1,500,000 in the Air Force and Navy, and 3,000,000 in the Labor Corps. Joseph W. Grigg states that Germany still has 35,000 planes, but the monthly output has dropped to between 1,100 and 2,500.

Although reserve supplies of food and basic raw materials still manage to hold out, the descriptions of life in the fascist countries (and particularly in the occupied territories) indicate that livings standards are rapidly approaching an all-time low for Europe. There is very little tobacco, nightly blackouts are longer to save electricity, restaurants close at 10 p.m., two eggs a month are allotted in Germany (an egg is 28 cents in Italy!), all fairs and expositions in Germany are cancelled, metal coins are withdrawn from circulations, seats in the Berlin and Breslau trolley cars were removed to permit more overcrowding, etc., etc.

PROBLEM OF FOREIGN WORKERS

It is worth noting that the problem of foreign workers dragooned into Germany from Belgium, Holland, France, etc., by all the sly tricks of the German Gestapo has become a major concern of the Nazis. Every method is used to keep the foreign workers apart from the German workers. Nazi decrees forbid association, talking, inviting one another to their homes, etc. The idea is put out that the foreign workers are a defeated people, inferior to the German workers. But, as LA-BOR ACTION, in the column of "Europe in Revolt" has reported on numerous occasions, this effort to keep them apart does not work.

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Italy appears to be worst off, with the greatest shortages and the lowest military and civilian morale. People are completely indifferent to the war and get no satisfaction out of even the Japanese victories. Mussolini's prestige is lower than ever in his history. Living standards in Italy are apparently almost as bad as those in the occupied territory of Poland, France, Belgium and the Balkans. As Herbert L. Matthews puts it: "It would be a great mistake to believe that the Italians are rave than other races. they simply will not fight unless their heart is in it." Cleary, there is no war enthusiasm inside the Axis nations. Europe, in its third year of bloody struggle, is approaching the break-down point. The standards of living have reached just about the lowest point possible without a general collapse along the economic front; the production of war equipment and war products has reached its highest possible peak; there are many signs that the methods of circulation and distribution (especially the German railroads) have begun to disintegrate. It is obvious that another war winter in Europe can only mean mass starvation, epidemics and a chaos such as was never known even in the last war. This seems to be the general meaning of the numerous details described by the released correspondents. This is the state of affairs to which Europe and its people have come as a result of capitalism and its imperialist war. Only the revolt of the people, headed by the workers of Europe, can lift the nations of Europe out of their collapse and misery and put an end to the war. The present deterioration cannot continue.

on one thing we sure can agree

In sharp contrast to the freeing of Browder is the determined attitude of the Administration toward the socialist and trade union defendants in the now-famous Minneapolis "sedition" trial. These defendants, guilty of supporting neither side of SUBSCRIBING!

whether or not you agree with all of its po-

LABOR ACTION?

Where else can you find the exclusive specials we've been running on the Sikeston lynching, on the heroic struggle of the Missouri sharecroppers for a decent wage, on the union situations?

That's why you should make sure of reading LABOR ACTION every week by

Editor, California Eagle Los Angeles, California Dear Sir:

May I reply to your May 7 editorial attacking LABOR ACTION? I believe that it is a grave distortion of the facts, containing slanderous innuendos about the character of LABOR ACTION.

First, your editorial is inaccurate as to the sponsorship of LABOR ACTION. It is not, as you state, "the official organ of the American Socialist Party," nor does it have any connection with the Socialist Party. This obvious factual error, which your writer could have checked had he been interested in establishing the facts instead of slandering a paper because he disagrees with its point of view, is merely indicative of the carelessly inaccurate manner in which the entire editorial is writ-

It is a vile slander, of the kind which we had believed possible only in such rags as Coughlin's Social Justice or the Stalinist Daily Worker, to say that LA-BOR ACTION is "deliberate fascist propaganda." It requires either monstrous ignorance or deliberate lying to say such a thing. Let me inform you that LABOR ACTION and its supporters were fighting against fascism when many others advised an ostrich policy. We were in the lead in the famous anti-Nazi demonstration at Madison Square Garden in February, 1938. We were fighting against Nazism when Winston Churchill praised it (see his speech of November 6, 1938) and when the American government was tolerating the shipment of scrap steel to Japan (which today lands in the bodies of American boys).

Our paper has taken the lead in exposing the fascists, native and foreign. The writer of your editorial need but have glanced over a few copies of LABOR ACTION to see that!

The same process of misstatement and distortion is used in your editorial with reference to our position to the war. Since when does a belief that this is an imperialist war on the part of both sides, mean that we are in favor of "letting the Japs win"? Since when does a belief in the "Third Camp of socialism" mean that LA-BOR ACTION "plays Hitler's game"? Now you may disagree with our position; you may think it ineffective or incorrect; that is your right. But it hardly warrants the abandon with which you hurl the epithet of "fascist" around. It hardly warrants the amalgams which you attempt to create by insinuating that those who believe in socialism are partners of Hitler-the greatest enemy of socialism!

We must likewise categorically reject your insinuation that we are in favor of a victory of fascism. On the contrary. .We are in favor of the defeat of fascism. We believe, however, that an indispensable prerequisite for that defeat is the establishment of workers' and farmers' governments in the Allied countries, which, by freeing the colonial peoples now enslaved by the Allied imperialist powers and extending the hand of socialist brotherhood to the German workers oppressed by Hitler, can alone effectively fight a revolutionary war to smash all forms of fascism.

Your charge that LABOR ACTION "means to stir Negroes against whites, whites against Negroes, capital against labor, labor against capital" is absolutely preposterous. LABOR ACTION doesn't try to set workers against the capitalists; they're set against each other already; they're in deadly opposition already in this society in which we live. LABOR ACTION tries to teach the workers how to achieve liberation, how to throw off the yoke of capitalist oppression.

Likewise with the question of Negro-white relationships. If your editorial writer had been interested in the truth instead of concocting gross slanders in the fashion of the Gestapo or GPU, he would have seen that week after week LABOR ACTION tries to teach Negro and white workers that their salvation lies in UNITY. But those antagonisms which do undoubtedly exist, how dare you say that we "mean to stir" them?

Why don't you read your own paper? Why don't you look at the front page of the very issue in which you slander LABOR ACTION? Read your headlines: "2,000 U.S. TROOPS GUARD RIOT AREA." "YOU HAVE TO BE WHITE TO VOTE IN TEXAS." "BLOODY RACE FRICTION IS RACE RIOT RESULT IN DETROIT," etc., These are the facts of racial antagonism; LABOR AC-TION reports some of these facts, just as the California Eagle reports them in more detail. By what peculiar logic do you infer therefrom that we wish "to stir Negroes against whites, whites against Negroes?"

LABOR ACTION has constantly championed the struggle for full equality for Negroes. It has tried to educate both white and Negro workers to the need for cooperation and unity. Thus, our program says:

"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!

"For full political, social and economic equality for Negroes.'

You say that "LABOR ACTION's policy appears to this paper as fascist as Father Coughlin's." In that case, how do you explain the fact that LABOR ACTION has just finished printing a series of articles attacking Father Coughlin and that Coughlin's paper has often attacked the Trotskyist point of view with which LABOR AC-**TION** is associated?

Let me say one more word. I believe that you are playing with fire by launching this kind of unsubstantiated, slanderous attack against a minority radical paper merely because you disagree with it. A paper such as yours-speaking for a minority group, the Negro people, and itself only recently under the surveillance of the authorities because you were so aggressive (and rightly so!) in the fight against Jim Crowism-should be the last in the world to unleash the hysteria of intolerance against groups and papers with whom you disagree.

I hope that you will be fair enough to print the above reply in full in your paper.

I am also requesting the West Coast representative of our paper to visit you personally in order to discuss the matter in full.

> Sincerely yours, IRVING HOWE. Managing Editor, LABOR ACTION.

To Our Readers

We are certain that you will understand that the press of timely labor material forced us to omit certain feature articles promised in last week's issue.

The second section of Paul Temple's article on the Socialist Party convention does not appear this week due to the illness of the author; as soon as he is recovered, the article will be printed.

The promised analysis of the Stalinist union wreckers by Max Shachtman does not appear because of an unusual press of work which made it impossible for the author to write the article; he promises to have it ready for our next issue.

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WORKERS PARTY 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 measures!
- 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!
- 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 rise in the cost of living!
- 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 cost of the imperialist war Confiscate all war profits!
- 7. Conscript all war industries under workers' control!
- 8. Expropriate the "Sixty Families"-the 3 per cent of the people who own 96 per cent 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 row and anti-Semitism! All discrimination against Negroes in the Army and Navy, or by employers in industry, must be made a criminal offense!
- 12. For full political, social and economic equality for Negroes.

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 immediate independence of all colonies! Only a socialist world will destroy capitalist imperialism and fascist barbarism. For a League of Socialist Nations!