# Missouri Croppers Win "Stay at Home" With 100% Wage Increase!

### -Special to LABOR ACTION-

SOUTHEAST MISSOURI, June 28—The cotton choppers of Southeast Missouri have won a great victory. After six weeks of exhausting struggle, which was climaxed by a long period of incessant rain, when no chopping could be done at all, the workers around Lilbourn went to work last Thursday for \$2.50 a day with prospects of \$3.00 during the coming days. In Matthews the workers also went to work for \$2.50.

In Parma last week a landlord brought his truck and offered \$2.50 to the whites. They refused to take it. It is certain that next Monday he will be back again offering more, or at least not less than the \$2.50.

At Morehouse last week during the rain a landlord came and offered \$2.50 for a hundred men to go some distance away. He promised a bonus at the end of the season if they stayed with him and worked with him all.

him and worked with him all the time. This is all the guaranteed information that we have so far, but it is clear that the landlords have capitulated to the determination of the workers not to be exploited at the old rates. Wages of \$2.50 represent a 100 per cent increase over the wage paid last year.

What has defeated the landlords is the resistance among certain groups which refused to give way when others, although sympathetic, were straggling back to work. Foremost among these were the Lilbourn projects under the leadership of Local 313, where colored and white remained out for almost five continuous weeks, thus giving an example and inspiration to all the workers around.

At New Madrid also the resistance continued almost without let-down. At Parma, where there was no local organized, the workers remained grimly determined not to go to work until they had received their demands. It is noticeable that in these three areas the whites and the colored worked in great harmony.

In Parma some days ago a scheming landlord offered the whites \$2.50 and the Negroes \$2.25. Both refused. They had struck together and they would go back together.

#### Wages May Reach \$3.00

That the wages will go actually to \$3.00 for ten hours is the confident hope of some of the leaders. The men have decided to go back to work for \$2.50, but it is reported reliably that in certain areas the landlords were paying \$3.00 and \$2.50 since last week. But in order not to antagonize their fellow landlords with whom they had entered into conspiracy to keep the wages low they kept what they were paying a secret. We are assured also that tractor drivers in many places have been

(Continued on page 3)



The sharecroppers and day laborers of Southeast Missouri have won a great, a signal victory. By fighting together, black and white; by uniting behind the banner of their union, Local 313 of the UCAPAWA; by holding out against both the bosses' threats of violence and sugar promises; they have won for themselves a **100 per cent wage increase**. They are now making \$2.50 a day and, according to the dispatch in the next column, may still gain their complete demand of \$3.00 a day.

Every cotton chopper in Southeast Missouri knows what he got this raise in wages. He got it because Local 313 fought hard and well. He got it because he stuck by the leadership of Local 313 through thick and thin. He got it because he didn't care if his brother's skin was black or white; he cared only if his brother were fighting by his side in order to gain a decent wage.

The cotton choppers of Southeast Missouri have reason to be proud of their struggle—a struggle which was greatly aided by the support of the St. Louis CIO Council.

But they must understand that this struggle is by no means over; it has only begun.

What they have won has come to them through their rallying behind their union, Local 313; and they shall have to stick by their local through thick and thin if they intend to keep what they have won and get more.

The cotton choppers know that as soon as the chopping season is over and the landlords aren't so desperately in need of labor, that the landlords will try to cut the wages again. But if the choppers stick by their local and organize into similar locals throughout the area and fight together, black and white, they'll be able to prevent the landlords from cutting the wages.

The cotton choppers must also be on the alert against any schemes which the Stalinist misleaders, Nation, Whitfield and Henderson, may be cooking up. Their record of treachery and betrayal during the "stay at home" is known to every cropper. Now the men must be on guard to prevent Nation, Whitfield and Henderson from pulling any fast one. They must protect their local from any attempt of Henderson, Whitfield and Nation to hurt it. They must not allow Whitfield, Henderson and Nation to stab them in the back!

Yes, the cotton choppers have won a great victory. They, and all their friends of the American working class, have reason to be proud. But their vigilance must be maintained; their union organization protected and strengthened; that is the road to protect their present victories and gain new victories.



# REAL PRICES KEEP PIERCING "CEILINGS"

### KEEPIN' US FLYIN'



There were indications last week that the "price control ceilings" imposed by Leon Henderson's Office of Price Administration were in danger of being pierced by continually rising prices.

The most dramatic indication of this possibility came in the form of an Associated Press dispatch of June 30 which declared that Henderson and Secretary of Agriculture Wickard were preparing to propose vast subsidies to business men as, a method of persuading, them not to allow their prices to pierce the ceilings. It was estimated that as much as \$300,000,000 to \$400,000,000 was being considered as the sum with which to entice big business to maintain the ceilings.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, however, the cost of living of the American working class was, for the month of April, 1942, the highest since late 1930. The only "subsidies" which THEY are getting this year is in the form of new taxes.

In the meantime, the vast army of consumers—mainly the wives of the American workers—were discovering that, despite the ceilings, prices were rising—slowly but surely. One of the reasons for this price rise is the fact that the OPA has not been provided with an adequate force for the checking of price chiselers—big and small. Thus, the recent congressional action in cutting the OPA buget from \$200,000,000 to \$75,000,000 will further handicap it.

#### Democratic Control

As a matter of fact, the only way that adequate control could be maintained over prices would be to establish democratically chosen local boards composed of local trade union and consumer groups which would keep their eyes on prices.

Another, and eventually more serious, reason for the rising price level (even if that rise is for the time partially hidden) is the fact that big business is discovering the idea of raising prices by lowering the quality or value of a given product, although the nominal price remains the same. Numerous methods have been discovered in order to achieve this aim. For instance, many producers pack their new products somewhat differently and therefore charge higher prices. Many companies are also resorting to the device of pushing one of their brands of a given product which is higher priced instead of a lower priced brand, although both are of the same quality essentially.

# **Unarmed Palestine Jews**

**Nazi Pogroms Threaten** 

#### By ALBERT GATES

As the German Panzer divisions roll across the desert sands of Egypt, threatening to seize its principal cities and overrun the Suez Canal, the extremely dangerous position of the Jewish population of the Near East, particularly Palestine, becomes ever more clear. It does not require a great deal of insight to forecast what a German victory means in that arena of the war.

The German army, accompanied and directed by the Gestapo and the Schutzstaffel, will unleash dreaded pogroms against a defenseless Jewish population. They will undoubtedly seek to incite the Arab tribal chieftains to take out on the Jews their hatred of British colonial policy and practice.

The most pitiful aspect of the entire situation is the fact that the Jewish population is defenseless, i.e., it is unarmed, even to protect itself. If this situation should continue under the conditions described above, a fearful slaughter will take place in Palestine.

The British policy of divide and

Chicago Negroes Rally to

"March on Washington" Meet

rule sought to placate the Jews and the Arabs in the Near East and to maintain control of that area of the world in order to enforce its grip on the profitable oil lands belonging to the colonial peoples.

#### **British Refuse Arms**

In pursuit of these aims the British refused to accede to the demand for the formation of a Jewish army made by many supporters of the war in England and in the United States. The Jewish movements which camvariety of special reasons, but all of paign for such an army do so for a them are motivated by the desire to obtain a special place in the war for their people.

It is easy to see the purpose. If a Jewish army participates in the war it will give the Palestinian Jews a firmer hold on their adopted country and in general strengthen the Zionist movement in a post-war period. Moreover, such an army, actively fighting in the war, would lay the basis for removing the British mandate over Palestine.

These are some of the reasons behind the refusal of the British to

grant the request for the Jewish army.

The British imperialists are adamant even though it is plain to see that, from the point of view of their IMMEDIATE military interests in Egypt, a Jewish army could have been of incalculable value to the British forces. Such an army might have turned the tide for the British in the Libyan campaign. But the British Tories are concerned with the effects of such an army upon their colonial policy. And the British imperialists are organically incapable of changing in the slightest degree their colonial program: keep the subject peoples unarmed and divided as the surest means of maintaining British imperial rule.

The peril of the Jews in Palestine becomes alarming because it is evident that the British are unable to defend them against the wrath of the fascist barbarians.

#### Arabs in Danger, Too

The Jews are not alone in their plight. The Arab workers and peasants will find just as little comfort under fascist rule. While they may not suffer such pogroms as the Jewish population, they face the slavery of all conquered countries. The bankruptcy of British impe-

rialist rule has long been apparent in this war. They merely repeat the practices of Malaya, Singapore and Burma in Egypt and the Near East. These practices spell out the grave dangers to the whole population there, but especially the Jews. While there is yet time, the Jews

and the Arabs must unite, the bewa and the Arabs must unite to stave off the dangers which threaten them. It is clear that what they require is an independent policy — severance from the blind and reactionary British rulers, severance from their own misleaders who keep them tied to a policy and practice which doom them in advance.

What is needed in the Near East is the independent organization of the workers and peasants, Jews and Arabs alike, in a common struggle for their freedom and independence! What is needed is the arming of the whole population to defend themselves against the conquerors!

# Va. Governor OK's Legal Lynching of Odell Waller

Odell Waller, youthful Negro sharecropper from Virginia, is scheduled to die in the electric chair on Thursday morning, July 2. That is the decision of the "liberal" Democratic governor of Virginia, Colgate Darden, who has refused to grant another commutation of sentence or interfere in any way with the scheduled electrocution.

Waller was convicted by an allwhite jury of Southern planters, from which those poor white and Negro sharecroppers who could not pay the poll tax, were systematically excluded. Waller was charged with the murder of his white landlord, Oscar Davis, whom he killed in selfdefense when Davis pulled a gun on him for demanding his just share of a crop.

Waller's case has become a cause celebre among trade unions and liberals throughout the nation. He has received the support of Phil Murray, CIO president, and William Green, AFL president. His case has been handled by the Workers Defense League of 112 East 19th Street, New York.

It was without doubt the wave of protests that came into the Virginia governor's office that has saved Waller's life up until now. Governor Darden has received as many as 900 messages a day requesting that a new trial be granted for Waller.

His case was brought before the United States Supreme Court with a request that it intervene on the ground that the Virginia trial was unconstitutional since it did not provide a trial by Waller's peers, in view of the fact that non-poll tax payers were excluded. But the Supreme Court, which President Roosevelt was supposed to have

packed with "liberals," did not heed Waller's plea. It was too busy with other things—issuing rulings which emasculated part of the wages and hours law and which cut into the right of free speech. As a final attempt to prevent the legal lynching of Waller, a petition signed by hundreds of prominent white and Negro liberal and labor leaders has been sent to President Roosevelt appealing for the creation of an executive commission of inquiry to investigate the case.

At the time of writing there has been no word from the President. Those of our readers who see these lines before the scheduled execution of Waller are urged to write or wire

### **Striking Chinese Seamen Win Raises**

Singapore, the 30,000 Chinese seamen of Allied ships (especially the British ships), have become increasingly militant against the British shipping companies. Paid the miserable wage of only \$41 a month (including \$25 war risk bonus) and living under conditions of virtual slavery, these seamen are rising to demand higher pay and better working conditions. With no home ports to go to, they are demanding vacations of some duration in the Allied ports.

Recently on the S.S. Cliona in New York, the seamen went on strike. On the second day of the strike, the shipowners offered them an increase of only two pounds sterling a month. The seamen remained on strike. Two days later, in an attempt to starve out the strikers, the captain refused

the President urging him to create such a commission.

If Odell Waller dies this Thursday he will have been a victim of Southern class injustice, a victim of the Jim Crow and poll tax system which never gave him the right to vote and never gave him the right to a jury of his peers. It will be another gross instance of class injustice, the victimization of the poor by the rich. The case of Waller has assumed a far greater importance than rests in the fate of this one man. It is a crucial test of the workings of our "de-

mocracy" during wartime. The Negro people and the militant workers have their eyes glued on the fate of Odell Waller.

Since the fall of Hongkong and ingapore, the 30,000 Chinese seateen of Allied ships (especially the ritish ships), have become increasngly militant against the British hipping companies. Paid the misrable wage of only \$41 a month (inuding \$25 war risk bonus) and liv-

> Although the wage scale for Chinese seamen still remains far below that of other seamen, this strike is a demonstration of what militant strike action can achieve.

### And for 1944?

War Budget for 1941....\$ 26 billion War Budget for 1942... 111 billion War Budget for 1943... 70 billion (so far!) War Budget for 1944...???

#### Proof of Price Rise

In last week's LABOR ACTION, in Susan Green's column, "Of Special Interest to Women," there was a startling comparison between the prices charged by the A&P Super Markets in March, when the ceilings were first imposed, and the third week of June. The following facts were discovered by our columnist:

In the category of fresh fruits (Continued on page 2)

### St. Louis Negroes Protest Jim Crow

Special to LABOR ACTION

ST. LOUIS, June 21—Over 200 Negroes marched in a picket line under the auspices of the local March on Washington Committee which paraded in front of the United States Cartridge Co. plant in 'protest against its exclusion of Negroes.

The demonstration also protested the discharge of 100 Negro porters last week. Said one of the placards: "Twenty Thousand Workers at Small Arms Plant in Production—Not One Negro."

In order to forestall the Negro protest, the company announced two hours before the demonstration that it was planning an all-Negro production unit within its plant. This announcement was vague as to details. It was felt here that, while any jobs that might be available for Negro workers would be welcome, it would be an error for Negroes to accept this segregated unit as a victory in their struggle. Only complete equality, without any kind of segregation, should be the aim of the Negro workers.

#### Special to LABOR ACTION CHICAGO-On Friday, June 26, 11,-

000 Negro people filled the Coliseum for a meeting held under the auspices of the March on Washington Committee.

The vast audience was in itself an impressive protest against Jim Crow —a protest far more effective than any made by the main speakers.

Walter White, Milton Webster of the FEPC and A. Philip Randolph were the principal speakers. Although all three condemned the injustices Negroes suffer both at home and in the colonies, none of them had anything concrete to offer in terms of plans for mass action.

Playing down mass action, Webster stated that the FEPC was the result of the work of some of the

mitted that so far the committee has not been able to do more than scratch the surface of racial discrimination. Walfer White carefully distin-

leading people of the race. He ad-

guished between the reactionary Southern senators and President Roosevelt. True to his policies, White failed to urge any action on the part of the Negro masses but instead called for "More immediate action on the part of President Roosevelt."

Although Randolph spoke of mass action, he had no concrete plans to offer other than continued protest meetings. The March on Washington was only raised as a vague threat when Randolph stated: "We can still (Continued on page 3)

# Europe in Revolt News from the Socialist Third Camp

#### IRONY IN THE UNDERGROUND STRUGGLE

Page 2

The following letter, whose delightful irony seems to have escaped the eyes of a stolid German censor, was recently received from Brussels and printed in News from Belgium:

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"One of the characteristic features of the new organization of the country is the remarkable efforts made, thanks to the Germans, to replace products we no longer possess.

"Automobiles no longer run on gasoline but on wood gas. As a rule they have in tow a small trailer which carries a heavy furnace, the latter spitting out fire, cinders, gas and smoke. Street corners provide a new spectacle-drivers stoking up their fires with the help of an enormous poker or emptying a large sack of wood into their furnace. And not only is this substitute more economical than gasoline it is more powerful, healthier and has a nicer smell.

"Leather supplies for boots and shoes are obviously unobtainable, but have nevertheless been replaced in a most remarkable manner. The soles are made of small hinged pieces of wood and nails, whereas the vamp is manufactured from a varied selection of textile products. As in the case of automobiles, we have at our disposal from now on a good quality product much stronger than we had before.

"The famous blockade has not interfered in any way whatsoever with the normal supplies of the European market. When I tell you that German industry has managed to find a remarkable substitute not only for gasoline and leather, but also for beer, which now contains practically no alcohol; for synthetic soap, which lasts longer than the other soap because it resembles pumice stone, and when you have heard about hundreds of similar experiments, you will realize that industry can easily carry on without the help of overseas products."

Irony is not only used by the opponents of the Nazi regime of starvation and misery; the Nazis themselves often write articles in their press which, while giving valuable information about conditions in occupied countries, insert some diversion of unintentional humor into the dreary life of Nazi occupied countries. For example, the Nazi controlled Pays Réel of Brussels wrote on April 24 in an editorial, "The Black Market in Schools."

"Too many impecunious students have found the Black Market a good source of pocket money and prefer touring the country with valises to attending lectures or interminably discussing art, science, religion and politics. This evil has also penetrated to the colleges, secondary schools and even elementary schools. Instead of writing absurd verses and dreaming of pretty faces, our adolescents exchange butter for cigarettes. We know there are also others who exalt themselves in the most beautiful and the purest heroic visions. Have we not seen 200 lads between the ages of 16 and 18 voluntarily leave for the most terrible of wars? But these youths are still in the minority; their idealism does not suffice to counteract the terrible mercenary spirit in which many of our young people are engulfed."

Notes like this, even with its humorous undertone, only illustrate the tragic situation of Europe. The fight for the immediate necessities of life encompasses everything and everybody. Europe is nearing a state which approaches actual starvation and the fight for bread by all means takes on a primordial importance. We reported the food riots in Southern France some time ago. We now hear that these hunger movements have been spreading to Northern (occupied) France. In several towns there have been spontaneous demonstrations of women and unemployed demanding bread. It has come to plundering of bakeries; in one instance the demonstrators stormed the town hall and attempted to seize the ration cards which were kept there. This kind of demonstration does not fit very well into the pattern of those who would have us believe that "underground Europe" is chiefly concerned with "a united front of all classes" for the re-establishment of national states of the pre-war types. It is, on the other hand, not yet a sign of independent class struggle waged with political weapons. But it shows that the workers are hungry and that they are aroused to a point where they do not care any more about the consequences of their actions. Hunger heeds no law.

#### A BELGIAN REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN BERLIN

Berlin has become a city of terror, reports INBEL, London, June 14. Belgian workers who have returned from jobs in that city estimate that there are 250,000 elite and storm troop guards stationed there to prevent rebellion. Every important corner of the Moabite working class district is patrolled by armed Nazis to check any attempt at revolt. Official buildings and public places are closely guarded by the Gestapo. Men or women accused of "subversive talk" suddenly disappear and are never heard of again.

The Nazis are extremely short of manpower; they urgently need soldiers on the Russian front; and yet they hold such large elite forces in Berlin! The reason for that is obvious-the Nazis, unlike many disillusioned "radicals" in this country, know that the German workers are not at all satisfied and resigned, but that, on the contrary, their fighting spirit is mounting. Hitler knows very well that defense against the Third Camp of working class revolt is at least as important for him as his fight on the military fronts. In that respect, he is more realistic than many of our native "radical" second front intellectuals.

# LABOR ACTION

# Socialist Party Convention--a Pathetic Display of Confusion

On Decoration Day week-end the Socialist Party of America, headed haps. But the so-called left wing tion issue of The Call which hails by Norman Thomas, held its 'convention.

The convention was marked by a bitter struggle around the paramount issue of our day-the war question. Apparently little else occupied the attention of the delegates; and rightly so, for the disagreements within the party were so serious that this issue had to be settled first.

The manner in which the war issue was finally "resolved" is a fit epitaph for the Socialist Party of Norman Thomas, a completely typical instance of the hopelessly bankrupt character of this organization.

It is not, of course, unusual for disagreements to arise within working class and radical parties. Such disagreements are to be expectedexcept in Stalinist parties or parties which to one degree or another adopt the outlook of Stalinism. If such differences are compatible within the framework of the general ideological outlook of the given party, then they are resolved at a democratic convention of the party and the majority point of view becomes that of the party. If, on the other hand, differences which arise are of such a basic and fundamental nature as to make continued existence of the differing groups within one party impossible, then a split into two organ-

izations is clearly in order. Basic Issue: the War

Obviously, the most important and basic question facing the radical movement today is the war question. Clearly, those who give support of one kind of another to the war and those who consider the war imperialist and therefore not deserving the support of the workers-these two groups, if they preserve their divergent views, cannot remain for very long in one party.

But the Socialist Party is different. In it there are at present at least five groups. There is: 1) the shame-faced, pro-war group of Norman Thomas; 2) the pacifist group of Dancis; 3) the unique group of Barshop, which believes that the SP should "ignore" the war; 4) the watery anti-war group of Clement and Symes; and 5) some militant revolutionary socialist youth who are against the war and understand the capitulatory character of the Clement-Symes "loyal opposition."

You might think, then, that a decisive struggle and definitive conclusion would have emerged from this convention. But no, not in the Socialist Party. After the rapid elimination of the small pacifist and Barshop minorities, there remained the two main groups: the pro-war Norman Thomas group and the "antiwar" Clement group. Thomas' resolution got 50 votes; Clement's 52 votes. Neither had an absolute majority.

discussion and a referendum, per- ism. Further proof is the conven of Clement (which in the past has the British Labor Party supporters ALWAYS capitulated to the right wing elements in the crucial moment and which did likewise at this convention) suddenly withdrew the crucial sentence of its resolution which declared that the SP would not give political support to the war.

#### Weasel-Worded Formula

In its place was substituted a weasel-worded formulation to the effect that the SP "does not give its blessing to this war" (as if anyone, including Roosevelt, "blessed" the war; but what about supporting it?). However, adds the SP resolution, it will "resist the imposition of fascism from within or without." And while every worker is against fascism everywhere, this point is intended to allow SP members to support the war under the formula of 'democracy versus fascism.'

Proof of this is seen in the statement of the new SP chairman, Maynard Kreuger, at the convention sessions in which he said that this resolution deliberately avoided taking a stand on the question of support or non-support of the war -that is, it said nothing about the war!

Further proof is seen in the fact that the SP accepted greetings from the pro-Wall Street Argentine Socialist Party, and had as one of its speakers at its convention mass meeting a Cuban "socialist" who extolled the virtues of Allied imperial-

### **Real Prices Keep Rising--**

(Continued from page 1) and vegetables, for instance, oranges and cabbages have gone up 33 per cent. Oranges were 12 for 25 cents in March and are now 8 for 25 cents: Cabbage was 3 cents a pound and is now 4 cents. Among the dairy products, butter costs 71/2 per cent more, having risen from 39 to 42 cents a pound, while sharp store cheese climbed 16 per cent, from 32 to 37 cents a pound. At the meat counter, the dollar is a poor contender for what is sold there. The price of fowl is up 18 per cent, from 28 to 33 cents a pound. Leg of lamb costs 25 per cent more, from 28 to 35 cents a pound. Loin lamb chops top the list with an increase of 50 per cent, from 33 cents a pound in March to 49 cents a pound today.

It must be remembered that behind these startling figures lies a sharp decrease in living standards for every worker's family. When the price of orange juice goes up-especially when the worker's income is being "frozen"-it means less juice for the kids.

The labor movement must respond this d nger with a

of Churchill with the headline of "British Labor Party Reaffirms Its Socialist Faith."

Still further proof is seen by the ludicrous and pathetic spectacle of recent issues of The Call, in which Hyman Bookbinder, a right winger, and Travers Clement actually dispute whose point of view the resolution reflects. And the obvious conclusion is that it supports nobody's point of view and permits everybody to express his point of view in the name of the SP.

Still further proof is seen in The Call, which blithely ignores the war The SP has for a long time per-

entirely, as if it didn't even exist. petuated the myth that it is a large, mass, party-far above the "little Marxist sects." Yet the past years show that the SP has been deteriorating organizationally and politically. It is today a mere skeleton of an organization and, what is even more important, it has no political line on the most important question of the day-the war.

In practice this means but one thing: the recognized spokesman of the SP, Norman Thomas, speaks for the war and thereby irrevocably commits his party to that position.

Those few remaining militant socialist youth would do well to take stock of this situation-to realize the reactionary position of Thomas and the futility of depending upon Clement-Symes to fight against him.

food and clothing prices at the 1940 level to stop the rising cost of living!

For a regulation ordering the maintenance of equal quality in price-regulated products!

For a rising scale of wages to meet the rising cost of living! Against wage freezing! For democratically chosen committees of consumer and labor rep-

resentatives to control prices and

#### Haw-Haw Note For the Week

rationing!

"The latest crusade of Marshall Field's PM has been to force New. York newspapers to drop advertisements of hotels that discriminate against Jews and Negroes and indicate their policy by the words 'restricted' or 'Christian' clientile. But while Marshall Field's PM has been campaigning against 'hate ads,' Marshall Field's Chicago Sun has been pulishing

### \_\_\_\_THE WORLD AT WAR\_\_\_\_\_ Parade of European Rulers To Washington Shows U.S. Dominant In "United Nations"

#### By WILLIAM BRAD

In recent weeks the White House has resembled the court of a divineright king of the eighteenth century. Inferior rulers, nobles and vassals of smaller states were constantly arriving to seek the good graces of the almighty President of the richest and most powerful of the United Nations.

Queen Wilhelmina, her empire ravaged and her former colonial slaves now under new masters, came seeking assurances that the lash would be handed back to her and the rich Dutch burghers after the war.

King George of Greece never spoke so much about democracy and freedom in his life as he did in America. He must have practiced hard and long to learn the vocabulary, because he never had much use for it before.

Young King Peter of Yugoslavia was well covered in the press as a handsome lad who had just had a spat with his princess-sweetheart.

All of these bankrupt and homeless rulers want two things in Washington: immediate lend-lease aid and assurances of their eventual restoration if and when the war is over. They even now seek assurances of United States military support for their regimes because the truth is that these petty rulers lack support among their own people.

Also on the roster of visiting heads of states were Molotov and Churchill. They too come with favors to ask. Can anyone doubt, in the light of these recent events, where the capital of the United Nations is?

"Equality of Nations" The phrasemongers and orators of the Allies talk about the equality of nations. But at every turn of events they are given the lie by their own actions. The discussions of the past few weeks in Washington prove this conclusively. Roosevelt did not sit in as an equal at the council of all the 28 United Nations. He listened to each one's case and complaints separately and made individual promises. At the conclusion of the discussions with Churchill, the Pacific War Council was convened and Australia, China and New Zealand were informed of the decisions arrived at. The question of getting increased military aid to China was certainly one of the problems discussed between Churchill and Roosevelt. The problem of aid for Australia and New Zealand, distribution of lendlease aid, shipping and American military forces must have been on the agenda. The nations most concerned were not consulted for an

opinion. Certainly they did not have

the power to make decisions. The

decisions were handed to them.

ization of the future." Its outline is already visible as one in which the dominating shadow of the American colossus will fall over all its dependent satellites. The powerful econom. ic strength of American imperialism will be used to keep its "friends" in line; its military strength to destroy its enemies. This is the practice, the reality behind the recent speeches of Welles and Wallace. Roosevelt is taking over control of the war in all its aspects and is gradually moving in on all the fronts. The economy of the United States is decisive and the chief supply source for all the United Nations. No decisions of any character can now be made without Washington's permission. Washington is the backbone of all the regimes in exile and increasingly of the Churchill government.

Yet despite the vastness of the economic and military resources of the United States it is clear from the statement issued by Churchill and Roosevelt that the Allies are not even in a position to launch in the near future any decisive attack which will settle the outcome of the war. The emphasis is still that of accumulating stores of war materials in sufficient quantities to be able to hold the various fronts. The first three sections of this statement deal with "production of munitions of all kinds," "transportation of munitions and supplies," and "reducing the toll of cargo

The sections of the statement dealing with military decisions were extremely vague. "Detailed discussions were held with our military advisers on methods to be adopted against Japan and the relief of China" and operations were discussed "which will divert German strength from the attack on Russia." This is not the type of statement which would foreshadow an immediate second front.

3

It does mean, however, greater increases in all types of lend-lease aid and also of military support. Squadrons of American planes are already in England and Egypt. They may soon appear in Russia. American troops can be expected to appear on all fronts.

But nowhere are there any signs that either the production victories of Roosevelt or the battle victories of Rommel can bring the war to a conclusion. Peace is nowhere in sight along the imperialist road. Each side will continue to try to outstrip the other, meanwhile further depressing the living standards of their people. But none of them offer any end to the slaughter. The imperialists of both sides cannot offer any hope, any perspective of freedom.

ships taken by submarines." Military Sections Vague

Apparently it would be necessary signed to meet the rising cost of livto find some other method to deter- ing. mine the party's opinion - further

For the freezing of rents and

them every day."-From The Nation of June 27.

Here is forming the nucleus of the much vaunted "international organ-

American Supremacy



# The Program of the March on Washington Committee

June 24, to take stock with regard to the successful Madison Square Garden rally and its future perspectives in view of the militancy demonstrated by the Negro masses at the rally. At this meeting of the committee, the main question raised was: "Where do we go from here? The people in Madison Square Garden were waiting for a definite program of action and we have to give it to them."

Although every speaker referred to the skit (which called for a march on Washington) as the high point of the rally, only one asserted that the leaders at the rally should have promised a March on Washington within ninety days if a substantial portion of the Negroes' demands were not granted.

It is clear that the March on Washington Committee intends to keep the idea of an actual march on ice. Yet such a militant mass march is the one immediate action which would arouse all America to the grievances of the Negroes. To the Jim Crow employers and the government it would symbolize the rise of the new Negro who will not longer tolerate discrimination. And it would enlighten white workers as to their responsibilities in supporting a fight against the exploitation of the most oppressed group of workers in America.

The national March on Washington Committee has also held a mass demonstration in Chicago's Coliseum and is planning a similar demonstration in Washington. In Washington, however, they have found the government unwilling even to grant them a meeting place. As President Ervin of the New York committee said: "We are going down to Washington to fight everybody for a place to hold a meeting." But why should only a few people go down to Washington? Negroes from all over the country should assemble in Washington to fight for this democratic right and all the other rights demanded bythe eight-point program of the movement.

#### DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS DEMANDED

The eight-point program of the March on Washington movement demands that the government take the following steps:

- 1. End discriminatory laws now on the statute books.
- 2. Protect the lives of Negroes against lynching.
- Eliminate poll-tax restrictions on voting.
- 4. End Jim Crow in the armed forces and in national defense.
- 5. End Jim Crow in jobs and in job training. Put teeth into the FEPC.
- 6. Stop feeding federal funds into Jim Crow federal agencies.
- 7. Give Negroes representation on administrative agencies.
- 8. Give Negroes representation at the peace conference.

Most of these demands ask for Negroes and other minority groups nothing more than their elementary democratic rights as guaranteed by the Constitution of the U.S. That Negroes now find it necessary to make these demands when America is presumably fighting a "war for democracy" abroad is sufficient proof that American "democracy" is, as A. Philip Randolph has said, "a miserable failure."

#### MAKE DISCRIMINATION A CRIMINAL OFFENSE!

The eight-point program also proposes certain measures to enforce the demands for elementary democratic rights. In order to end discrimination in industry, it demands that teeth be put into the FEPC. To put teeth into the FEPC, why not make all discrimination in industry a criminal offense?

The New York March on Washington Committee convened on Wednesday, Fines for discrimination are not enough. The bosses' pockets, bulging with war profits, can afford to pay fines. New York state has already passed a law making discrimination in industry a criminal offense. It remains to be seen whether this law will be enforced ... and there are still forty-seven other states in the Union.

-An Analysis by Ria Stone-

The eight-point program also demands that Negroes be given representation on administrative bodies. It is comprehensible that Negroes, as a large minority group, could demand proportional representation as their democratic right. The Negroes naturally feel that only a Negro can really understand Jim Crow. They therefore expect men of their own race in the government to respond more quickly to their needs and demands as a race.

#### NEGRO UNIONIST PROTESTS HALF-TRUTHS

However, Negroes must be wary of representation which is identified with them only in terms of color and not from the point of view of class interests. Especially is this caution necessary when such representation is achieved by appointment from above rather than through election by the Negroes themselves. All too often such appointments are made by the government only to pacify the resentment of the Negro masses by simply placing a colored face among the white faces which have been practicing Jim Crow.

For example, Dr. Robert C. Weaver's position as Negro adviser in the Department of the Interior, the OPM, the WPB, the U.S. Housing Authority and most recently as director of a Negro division in the War Manpower Commission has been questioned by a Negro shop steward in the Colt Patent Firearms Co. of Hartford, Conn. This Negro unionist knows from personal experience that the Colt Co. not only continues to give its Negro employees the "hottest and dirtiest work" but also has refused pointblank to make the same provisions for training unskilled Negro workers as for white workers. Since Dr. Weaver has singled out the Colt company for applause, the shop steward correctly, concludes: "The good graces of Dr. Weaver's office are being used to circulate half-truths and misinformation in order to turn the attention of the President's FEPC and the public away from this area." (Amsterdam Star-News, May 30.)

#### MASS MARCH MUST BACK PETITION CAMPAIGN

One of the measures adopted by the March on Washington Committee to back up its demands is a petition campaign asking the President to use his war powers and issue a war proclamation incorporating the eight-point program. Everybody is to be asked to sign this petition. Jew and Gentile, white and black, leaders of labor, of education, of the church, of the government and of industry. The implied recognition that Jews and Gentiles, whites and blacks, can and will support the Negroes' demands for democratic rights is significant. Even more desirable would be the March on Washington Committee's calling upon the organizations of labor to support its campaign.

In calling upon the leaders of industry and of the government to sign this petition, however, the committee demonstrates that it is not fully conscious of the class origins of Jim Crow. It is not impossible that some industrialists and government spokesmen will sign this petition, for reasons of their own. Certainly, Eleanor Roosevelt can be expected to sign up. But will she not say, as she has said many times before, that the "national emergency" comes first and that the Negroes must wait until after the war to put pressure upon the government?

Protestations of sympathy from those who are part of the Jim Crow

machinery of government are not enough; mere words and even signatures are cheap. The Jim Crow congressmen, the Southern bourbons and the employers who depend upon Jim Crow for their ability to continue exploitation need more than signatures and even monster petitions to frighten them into giving the Negro his democratic rights. Continued mass demonstrations culminating in a March on Washington must back up any petition campaign.

The plan of the New York March on Washington Committee is to maintain the organization by underwriting a headquarters for a year, establishing a four-page monthly paper and founding a forum next fall to discuss world events. These organizational plans of the MOWC, particularly the issuance of a regular publication and the establishment of a forum, are significant because they indicate that the movement is assuming a more permanent form.

#### DISSATISFACTION WITH LEADERSHIP

There are signs, especially among the youth, of dissatisfaction with certain undemocratic aspects of the leadership of the committee. One youth speaker protested against the censorship of the Madison Square Garden speeches by the program committee.

When Ervin, the chairman, announced that the next meeting would be July 29, more than a month away, so that the leaders could take vacations, there were murmurings of dissent in the crowd. A young man arose and said that July 29th was too long to wait, that he hadn't had a vacation for years, and that JIM CROW NEVER TAKES A VACATION. He stated further that this was no time to hold back when the Negro people were waiting for a program of action. His remarks were greeted with applause and it was decided to have meetings regularly twice a month

Another young man, a member of the speakers' committee, arose at the end of the meeting and told how he had appointed himself special investigator of lily-white factories, demanding jobs for Negroes. His request for a committee to "march on these places and picket them" if they refused work to Negroes was accepted, not by formal motion but by the signing up of many for this work. "If that is instigating," he said, "I love instigating!"

The organizational plans of the March on Washington Committee and the militancy and eagerness for action among the youth, make this movement extremely significant. The leaders continue believing that pressure through petitions and periodic demonstrations will enlighten the government as to the demands of the Negro masses and bring about the required reforms. This pressure is necessary and must be maintained but it must be developed until becomes a mass movement of militant Negroes marching upon Washington. However, in order to end Jim Crow and achieve their full democratic rights the Negro masses will have to take more fundamental measures which strike at the basic economic origins of race discrimination. They will have to understand first that Jim Crow discrimination arises from the efforts of the ruling capitalist class to maintain for itself a source of cheap labor.

They will have to understand that Washington is and will remain dominated by Jim Crow congressmen as long as the government serves the interests of this ruling class, which profits by exploiting labor and pitting one group of workers against another. They will then come to understand that their main allies against this ruling class are the workers of all colors and creeds who also must end the system of exploitation and competitive labor if they are to achieve security and happiness.

Last week the press run of LABOR ACTION was 21,000 copies. We are rapidly nearing our goal of 25,000 copies of America's fastest-growing labor newspaper!

In New York City, 1,000 copies of LABOR ACTION were distributed at the Harlem meeting described in this issue of LABOR ACTION.

The following subscriptions have come in to LABOR ACTION during the past two weeks:

past two weeks.	
New York City	10
Lynn	4
St. Louis	4
Buffalo	2
Chicago	1
Montana	.1
Baltimore	1
Syracuse	1
North Dakota	1
Total	25

#### **Capitalist Ethics**

Mr. Thurman Arnold, whose god is the capitalist system of competition, is himself responsible for the following gem:

"An Eastern shipbuilder, who is working full time and has a backlog of orders, will not help an inexperienced builder in the Middle West with blueprints and 'know-how' unless that builder will guarantee to go out of business at the end of the war."

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### —1) Exposing a Scheme to Wreck Unions—

# The "Labor-Management Commitees"--a Menace to Labor

Nine hundred labor-management committees have been established in the United States. Information already available shows that the employers are satisfied with the way the labor-management committees have worked; and that they hope to maintain such committees in the future. Union militants throughout the country, on the other hand, are beginning to recognize that such committees are actually hostile to the interests of the workers and require at least to be curbed.

Labor-management committees, in one form or another, are not new as anti-union weapons. The employers and the government are always anxious to "promote better understanding" (so they call it) between workers and themselves. But "understanding" between conflicting economic and class interests is not so easy to achieve except on the basis of capitulation by one or the other. In times of "national emergency" the bosses try to force the workers to give up their gains in the name of "national unity."

#### EXPERIENCE OF BRITISH LABOR

In Great Britain the British employers have managed to establish similar bodies called works councils. The purpose of these works councils was to stave off militant strike action by English labor. These "councils were tried after a law forbidding strikes failed, because jailed workers produce nothing." (New York Times, April 20.) In one plant the management wanted to establish such a works council in 1937, when the plant was already 70 per cent organized. The management proposed that the workers' representation on the council include representation from the 30 per cent non-union workers. The union correctly objected to this proposal as one which means going over its head and depriving it of its right to represent all the men in the plant.

The union realized, too, that a works council would undermine the attempt to organize all the men into the bona fide union, and would encourage disregard of the union by the unorganized workers. The company had to drop the proposal of the works council in the plant at that time.

#### FINED \$50 FOR ONE DAY'S ABSENCE

However, because of the war pressure, there is now in effect in this plant a works council made up of ten from the company and ten from the workers, with alternating chairmen. The worker chairman, however, is always a "long-term employee." This council has appointed a sub-committee which hears cases of absentee workers, made up of three from the management and two from the workers. The workers are obviously getting the worst end of this "promotion of better understanding" outfit. The importance of hearing cases of ab-

sentee workers under the present conditions of speed-up and long working hours is clear. How anxious the employers are to penalize workers for absence from their jobs is obvious from a case in England of a worker who was fined ten pounds, or almost \$50 for one day's absence from his work.

However, the works councils have not succeeded in preventing British labor from striking for its rights, as is demonstrated by the figures on recent British strikes. British work day losses through strikes still amount to 2,122 every day. In 1940 there took place 850 strikes, involving 284,000 persons. In 1941, the second year of the war, the number of strikes increased to 1,162 and the number of persons involved to 334,800.

Despite the often crass desires of the British labor union officialdom to establish class collaborationunder the label of "national unity"-between the workers and the bosses. British workers still enter into open bitter conflict with the bosses to protect their interests. Such developments will increase in the future. In the United States, also, the class struggle, including resistance and opposition to the labormanagement committees, will express itself probably even more sharply and militantly than has been the case in recent periods in Great Britain. The character and scope of the gigantic strikes of masses of workers in establishing the CIO unions lend weight to this prediction.

#### LABOR GETS IT IN THE NECK

Today the labor-management committees are regarded by big business and the government as the best means to establish the spirit of "national unity" during the "national emergency"; that is, the imperialist war. The employers and government maintain that the wide establishment of such committees is necessary to achieve "efficient production" of war goods and to eliminate bottlenecks in production and in worker-boss relations.

In fact, labor gets it in the neck with such setups. Production is speeded up, without wage scales being correspondingly adjusted; work is harder; and working conditions more injurious to health. Labormanagement committees will more and more try to chisel down union standards, established through long and bitter struggles by the workers.

How ready American employers are to use extreme measures to speed up production is indicated by their attitude to absentee workers. This is a problem which is becoming increasingly acute for workers as the work week becomes longer and fatigue sets in. Sharply symptomatic of the employers' attitude is the declaration of W. S. Newell, president of the Todd-Bath Shipbuilding Co., Portland, Me. (New York Times, April 20) that his workers would either "work or fight in the shipyard or Navy": and that "workers absent from work would be turned over to draft officials." As in the case of British works councils, labor-management committees in the United States would serve as additional pressure on the workers for this kind of speed-up with its reckless regard for the health of the workers.

#### CORRODING THE UNION MACHINERY

Equally important, in time more important, than the immediate practical consequences to labor, is the steady corrosion of the functioning of the legitimate trade unions by the labor-management committees. The employers will try to build up gradually the power of these committees by persistent and clever propaganda built around the "patriotic issue" of the war; by playing favorites among the workers; by the use of company stooges (potential scabs); and by the nursing of antiunion elements among the workers, Thus, they hope to devitalize the legitimate unions by ignoring the regular union machinery for the adjustment of grievances. In due course they will even try to replace the normal collective bargaining machinery of the unions. There will be an increase of company union practices, compulsory arbitration, and indirect intervention of the government agencies on the side of the employers.

If this is painting the picture blacker than is yet the case, it is because it is necessary to state clearly that this is the unavoidable logic of the labor-management committees unless labor consciously intervenes to prevent this development.

#### SOME UNION LEADERS SEE DANGERS

Some labor leaders are conscious of the danger to the very existence of the unions in the establishment of the labor-management committees, even though they now find it necessary to accept their formation. For example, the Auto Workers Union, while advising its locals to set up such committees, also advised and warned the workers not to place their regular union leaders-the shop stewards, grievance men and union executive board members-on the committees. They correctly feared that if this precaution was not taken, the result might be the relegation of the regular union and its machinery into a secondary position of subservience to the labormanagement committees.

The action of the UAW, properly understood, is an implicit recognition that the labor-management committees are in actuality hostile to the interests of the workers and require, at the very minimum, to be curbed.

The UAW has grasped half the lesson. Many other unions, despite their past combats with the employers, are today too placidly accepting the institution of the labor-management committees. They hope that when the "national emergency" of the war is ended the unions will be able to return to their former status.

By H. Allen-

What is yet to be learned by the unions, in the course of the war itself, and in the post-war period, is that they must combat the labor-management committees as potentially and actually the deadly enemies of legitimate union organization. Indeed, labor in time, and at the first favorable opportunity, will have to see to it that the labor-management committees are removed from the scene, or the labor-management committees will destroy the unions.

#### STACK CARDS AGAINST WORKERS

Labor - management committees in actuality are weighted in all important aspects on the EMPLOYER side. The cards are stacked against the workers on these committees. Those unionists who mistakenly hope or believe that they can protect labor's interests by serving and putting forward labor's demands on these committees will find that the bosses have the upper hand on these committees and can easily side-track the demands of the workers.

An "employee representative" on a company union or 'employer-employee council" was always recognized to be a stooge of the company. Today, too, "employee representatives" on the labor-management committeeswho are placed there by the union or the workers as genuine union representatives-may find themselves unwillingly acting as stooges for the employers because of the employer pressure backed up by the "war emergency" pressure. Experience has shown that militants cannot successfully buck this set-up with workers' demands, while functioning within the set-up itself. At best they can try to expose the workings of these committees, or get off such committees before they find themselves thoroughly discredited in the eyes of their fellow workers.

The only immediate answer and weapon of the labor unions to the encroachments of the labor-management committees is to refuse to yield any particle of union rights and privileges to these committees; and unconditional maintenance and development of the regular union machinery for purposes of collective bargaining and in the adjustment of the daily grievances in the plant through the shop stewards or other union machinery.

[In the next article we will deal with the labor-management committees as symbolizing the bosses' pattern for the post-war period in worker-boss relations.]

jack.

# **Stalinists** Whitewash **British Rule** In Africa

Page

Stopping at no lengths to whitewash the imperialist partners of their master, Stalin, the Daily Worker has just published a whitewash of British imperialist rule in Africa. In the column "World Tomorrow," written by James S. Allen, in the June 29 issue, there appears a report of how enthusiastically the people of the African colony of Nigeria are supporting the British imperialist war effort.

Allen quotes from a Nigerian paper, the West African Pilot (Stalinist?), expressing devotion to the British war effort and the belief that "Britain shall not fail to pass the torch of liberty to Nigeria, after Nazism shall have been crushed." And then Allen commends the activities of a certain Mr. Rhodes, who is trying to whip up support among the Nigerian people for their British masters.

As illustrations of the great boon which British imperialism has been to the Nigerian people, and as illustrations of why these people are so very "enthusiastic" about the British war effort, we cite the following facts:

1) According to an announcement by British Under Secretary of Dominions Shakespeare in the House of Commons, British officers may now flog African soldiers, even volunteers. Defending this amendment to the Atlantic Charter, he said: "It has been considered necessary in other African colonies to retain the power to impose corporal punishment in the case of African military personnel."

Explain that one, Mr. Allen!

2) Because of the need for new supplies of tin, British colonial officers in Nigeria are considering conscription of labor under the recently enacted Nigeria Defense Compulsory National Service Regulations.

These regulations provide that any native chief, when directed by the commissioner, may order any number of persons of African descent, between the ages of 18 and 55, to work in any mine or on any farm nominated by the commissioner.

And now explain that one, Mr. Allen.

These are but two of the more recent incidents which illustrate the barbarous treatment afforded to the African people by British imperialism. In Allen's own article, in which he tries to sugarcoat British imperialism by speaking of its recent "reforms" in Nigeria, he is forced to admit that the "minimum" wage for African government employees is 18 cents a day.

And yet Allen dares to speak about the "enthusiasm" of the Nigerian people for the British war effort. He dares speak of Britain as a future when hit over the head with a blackliberator in Africa! So servile have the Stalinists be-Modern production - which has come to the recently-acquired impebeen built up through the ages from rialist partners of Uncle Joe, that no the labor and ingenuity of all mandistortion, no hypocrisy is too low kind-can be released for the peacefor them, as witness this latest inful uses of people only by freeing it from the stranglehold of the postance.

# Wheels of Industry Which Never Ran for the People

#### By SUSAN GREEN

Last month the press gave page after page of its space to long articles on the wonders of war production. The newspaper correspondents on a "Production for Victory" tour arranged by the National Association of Manufacturers piled up superlatives to their hearts' content.

When the National Association of Manufacturers "arranges" something, you can bet its motive is not altruistic. This war has exposed the

this tour sponsored by the National Association of Manufacturers for the purpose of publicizing the marvelous technological advances made in war industries is a frantic effort at pulling its pants up. That was also the reason for the full-page ads recently run in all the papers by the bigwig corporations, in which they selfpraised their "unselfish" efforts to win the war-at the same time no loubt charging the cost of advertis-

On the "Wonders of War Production"

Definitely, the ruling class has BEINGS HAVE NO SUCH MAGIC been caught with its pants down. So EFFECT ON CAPITALIST PRO-DUCTION.

The heads of the American steel trust boast that their industry is now operating at full capacity, turning out this year 87,000,000 tons of all the different weights and styles of steel needed for tanks, bombers, fighter planes, warships. But in peacetime the crying needs of one-third of the nation for housing did not constitute n for producing steel to the lim-

PEACETIME NEEDS OF HUMAN enough to reduce man, her creator, last week's column, "Of Special Into a lost speck in a jungle of giant machines" - stupendous dies and presses will stamp out big bombers

almost as easily as the Model T's were formerly produced. But no such measures were taken to make, for instance, apartment houses to replace the old tenement houses where dwell the poor in American citieswithout heat and hot water, without proper toilets and baths, without minimum ventilation, without fire protection.

terest to Women," 90 per cent of Kentucky mountain children haven't the clothes to wear to get to school, and the 10 per cent who have are too hungry to learn anything when they get there. But the wheels of industry and agriculture have never been geared to relieve this and similar inhuman situations.

The General Electric Co. now employs 1,750 scientists in its sixteen laboratories, all busy turning

machinery geared to its new high, will be used for peacetime needs. But working people must remember that World War I also stepped up industry to a then new high. And what happened? After the war the marvelous new machinery of production stood idle. The whole world was plunged into the depths of a postwar depression out of which it could not crawl. Only World War II brought relief-of the same kind that a guy suffering from toothache gets

litical and industrial rulers of the

world. This is true for America and

step in human progress. NOT the

"national socialism" of the cruel, ex-

ploiting Nazis. NOT the "socialism"

of the totalitarian Stalinist bureau-

crats. NOT the "socialism" of the

New Deal protectors of private prof-

The socialism for which Lenin and

for the whole universe.

mammoth industrialists of the country for the profit-grubbing bunch they are.

First they wouldn't even take war contracts until they were assured of ample profits. Then the dollar-a-year men in Washington were revealed as go-getters for their corporations.

Next it was shown that many of the industrial magnates are closely linked with German industry and raking in fancy war profits from both the Nazi and "democratic" sides of the war. Finally it is now an open secret that many new inventions-such as the production of necessary light metals and certain more potent fuels-have been held up by mutual agreement between the capitalists of Nazi Germany and such pillars of American "democracy" as the Aluminum Company and Standard Oil.

ing to war contract prices paid by the government!

#### **Motives of Capitalist Production**

However, while the motives of the manufacturers are as small as their self-interest, the grandeur of war production pictured by the newspaper correspondents is real and should be so understood by every worker.

But it is also a fact-to be engraved on the mind of every worker-that American capitalist production was stimulated to further technological progress only by the call of war-which means the lure of war profits plus the prospect of preserving and acquiring more foreign fields for exploitation. The same call of war also activated German production and gave birth to the remarkable industrial achievements of the Nazis.

it. In peacetime steel mills were on only 50 per cent-and even less-of capacity, while that third of the nation continued to live in holes unfit for animals.

#### Ships and Houses

Ships for war cargoes are now being turned out on assembly linesan adaptation of the auto industry mass production principles. But no such easy and natural development was employed, for instance, to produce in mass modern bungalows to take the place of the ramshackle, disease-infected shacks inhabited by the millions of black and white agricultural workers of the South, the West and the Middle West.

At Ford's Willow Run plant-described by Sidney M. Shallett in the New York Times as "vast enough to swallow up an entire city, awesome

Now a new Chrysler plant is being erected which will be "big enough

to put the Ford Willow Run plant inside and have room for twenty baseball diamonds around the edges.' These are the all-out methods for producing bombers in . record time. But at the rate tenement house clearance was taking place in New York City, for instance-before it came to its untimely end in favor of producing bombers-it would have taken 133 years to have provided modern apartments for the 2,500,000 old-law tenement dwellers in the queen of American cities.

#### **Guns and Kentucky Kids**

The Buffalo Arms Corp., a United States government arsenal, is rolling out machine guns "like breadsticks," as one newspaper correspondent put it. But, as reported in

scientific knowledge to the uses of war. In fact, all science is today used for the same destructive end. But there are normally 50,000,000 Americans in families with an income of \$1,000 a year or less who cannot afford to pay for adequate doctors' services, to say nothing of hospital care. There has never been an all-out effort of science to solve this human problem of making X-ray diagnoses, electrocardiograms and other essential tests available to the masses. Sickness still remains a luxury that only the rich can afford, but which conditions nevertheless inflict on the poor.

#### **Post-War Promises**

The heads of government-both of Trotsky fought will free industry for the United Nations and of the Nazi the people. For it will be a society of workers' rule in government and Axis-today promise their peoples in industry. that after the war the productive

### Socialism will accomplish this next Negro Rally In Chicago--

(Continued from page 1) march."

Only one speaker, David Grant of St. Louis, gave an example of concrete action undertaken by the Negro people. He reported on a demonstration held in front of the U.S. Cartridge Co. when 500 Negroes picketed the factory to protest its Jim Crow policies. As a result of the picket line, 72 Negroes were hired immediately.

The numbers who turned out to the meeting and the deafening applause that greeted every militant statement are an indication of the fighting spirit of the Negro people today. But it is essential that this spirit be turned in the right direction. If led by demagogues it can easily turn into an anti-white direction. The anti-white and anti-union sentiments expressed in the play given at the meeting have already been mentioned in LABOR ACTION. An equally harmful sentiment was expressed in the speech, "Your union is over half filled with aliens who can't even speak English." 'The tremendous applause that greeted these lines was unfortunate. It must be clearly pointed out to the Negro people that they cannot fight prejudice with prejudice.

The most glaring contradiction at the meeting was on one hand the condemnation of treatment of Negroes in the colonies and in the armed forces, the statement "we were fooled once before but we won't be again," and on the other hand the pro-war sentiments expressed, "We are the most patriotic of them all." No effort was made to reconcile these ideas.

The meeting was another example of what has been obvious since the calling off of the March on Washington. The leaders are tied to the war machine and because of this will not start any mass action movement.

# Missouri Croppers Gain 100% Wage Increase--

(Continued from page 1) getting \$4.00 a day already instead of the \$1.50 and \$2.00 they were getting last year. For working in wheat and hay the pay for some days now has been \$3.00 a day instead of \$1.50 and \$2.00 as it was last year.

This is already the concrete result of the struggle. Today Southeast Missouri is union-conscious as perhaps no cotton state has ever been, except Arkansas in the early days of the STFU. The workers know and repeat to one another and to any stranger who discusses with them the fact that even the \$2.00 that they were offered some weeks ago came from the struggle of the union.

They want to join the union. They are begging for organizers. They want officially accredited representatives from the CIO. But as can be expected, for all of those who have Reject Otis Nation been near the centers of struggle the name of the UCAPAWA Stalinist leadership is MUD.

The workers cannot forget that Otis Nation and Whitfield have been telling them to go back to work for 20 cents an hour. They know also that Whitfield and Nation would have sent them back to work, if they could, at \$1.25 a day. On the other

hand, there is tremendous enthusiasm over the St. Louis CIO. Even while arrangements were being made over the \$2.50 wage, Whitfield and Nation were fighting the men tooth and nail.

Last Monday, Whitfield and Nation visited the Lilbourne project. These two have absolute freedom to come onto government projects as they please, do what they like, hold meetings, etc. They are obviously hand in glove with the FSA, whose openly stated policy is to get the charter away from Local 313. Whitfield and Nation addressed the men with their usual talk about War Labor Board, Trøtskyites, etc. At the end of the meeting Nation asked all those who were willing to follow the leadership of the UCAPAWA to put up their hands. The 60 people present walked out on him!

When Nation saw them going he pointed out to them someone whom he had brought with him from Arkansas and said that this person would stay and organize. The men continued to leave, telling Nation as they went out that his Arkansas organizer would probably be another Otis Nation and they wanted no part of him.

meeting. He could get only seven people. This despite the fact that for weeks he has been hammering

Nation then went over to the white he could meet, sowing dissension, project, where he tried to hold a telling them that the whites should be in the lead, that the whites should receive whatever money was sent, and even promising to expel Local away at all the white leaders whom 313 and give the whites a separate

### St. Louis CIO Resolution --

Whereas a committee appointed by the St. Louis Industrial Union Council has investigated the actions of Local 313, UCAPAWA, in its struggle for 30 cents an hour for cotton chopping and has found that this local is carrying on a bona fide union struggle for minimum living wages, and

Whereas this local needs funds with which to carry on its organizing campaign and to extend the wage struggle into the cotton picking season, and

Whereas these workers are struggling for their elementary democratic rights in the face of landlord terrorism, and are thus fulfilling the CIO program to stamp out fascism at home and abroad,

Therefore be it resolved that the St. Louis CIO Industrial Union Council reaffirms its support of Local 313 in its struggle for 30 cents an hour and urges all other groups to do the same, and

Be it further resolved in view of the fact that the motives of members of the Council in supporting the struggle of Local 313 have been questioned, that the secretary of the Council dispatch a letter to Donald Henderson, president of the UCAPAWA, explaining the union principles upon which the action of this Council is based.

every case with an indignant rejection. And this is in Southeast Missouri.

In St. Louis the Whitfield forces tried to get the St. Louis CIO to reverse its decision to help the choppers. Keen as ever after all these weeks, the workers organized a delegation and went to St. Louis for the discussion at the CIO Council on Wednesday. They report that they heard Whitfield make a vicious speech against the Missouri workers. He repeated all the lies about the Charleston meeting being "wildcat," etc. Whitfield, they said, was very diplomatic. He said that he wanted the St. Louis CIO Council to help the workers but the money should be sent through the international and not to Local 313.

In other words, he wanted it sent to treacherous Donald Henderson, Otis Nation and Whitfield. Whitfield's attempt was defeated. The workers spoke against him and in the end a resolution was carried reaffirming support to Local 313 not only for the cotton chopping, but also for the cotton picking.

Resentment and wrath against Whitfield and Otis Nation and their treacherous activities are widespread plant. over Southeast Missouri. But for

charter. He has been met in nearly their treachery and dirty tactics they could have had in their hands today a magnificent union comprising thousands of people and a \$3.00 a day victory won long ago.

As it is, the workers feel that they have won their victory against not only the landlords and the government but against the UCAPAWA leadership as well. And that is the simple truth.

The resolution of the St. Louis CIO Council appears in an adjacent column.

#### A Letter from a **Brewster Worker** Dear Editor:

Your paper is swell. I just can't wait until Friday comes every week so I can get a copy. I like the way you expose the fascists and I like the way you dig up all the dirty things these people do and how you fight for labor. I have already donated 50 cents two times ever since this past December and I intend to give more. I gave the money to the people who give out the papers in front of the

Brewster Worker.

EDITORIAL PAGE

# Editorials-

### **How Long Will This War Last?**

More and more the people of this country are acquiring an attitude of skepticism toward the official Washington propaganda agencies with regard to the progress of the war. A feeling is becoming prevalent that one must take the war pronunciamentos from both sides with a grain of salt.

toward the official war statements, there of a war lasting until 1945. The other day is likewise growing up a perceptible feeling that the war has reached a stalemate as expect easy victories. Both sides are obvifar as its essential issue is concerned.

The British may lose a battle here, the Germans may suffer a defeat there. The British may lose the Near East, but such a defeat cannot mean a decisive victory for the Nazis; it can only mean the prolongation of the war and the perpetuation of the stalemate. The Nazis may suffer from the British bombings of their cities, such as the raids on Bremen or Cologne. But most military commentators admit that raids alone cannot knock Germany out of the war.

#### A Long, Catastrophic War

A glance at the present military situation confirms the dreaded but realistic feeling which the masses of people hold, that the world is in for a long, catastrophic war which shows no immediate signs of coming to a conclusion. The Allies boasted-before the battles were joined-that they had tremendous superiority in war productive facilities and raw materials and that they would win because of that behind-the-lines superiority.

While it was true that the Allies did have such a superiority (being the dominant imperialist bloc in the present world), it has been gradually whittled down by the following factors: 1) Many of the sources of raw materials which the Allies held are now in Axis hands—the entire Far East, which supplies such essential war materials as rubber; 2) the Axis has the advantage of having accumulated war materials for several years beforehand; and 3) because of this accumulation of war materials the Axis has been able to win victories and gain strategic bases and points, thus greatly increasing the amount of productive superiority which the Allied forces will require if they are to win these bases and points back again.

The Stalinists, for their part, have tried to make it appear as if this entire situation could immediately be liquidated in favor of the Allies if they were to launch a second hoopla designed to fool the unsuspecting. Leaving aside for the moment the question of the tremendous slaughter involved in opening a second front, it is clear that even if the Allies succeeded in actually gaining a beach-head in Western Europe, that would not end the war; it would, on the contrary, only begin the war. The Stalinist advocates of a second front speak as if its launching would mean the automatic collapse of the Nazi might; nothing of the kind is likely. From the Allied point of view, it can at best mean the opening of a hard and bitter campaign.

This, then, is the perspective which the world faces. And rest assured, we are not the only ones who so believe; these lines are not based on any "pessimistic" outlook from a socialist viewpoint. Only last week the House Military Affairs Committee proposed a new gigantic war budget with the Together with this increasing skepticism remark that it was based on a perspective Mussolini warned the Italian people not to ously trying to prepare their people for a long and bloody war.

> And in the meantime? In the meantime, millions of innocent boys will perish in mutual slaughter. Millions starve in Europe at this very moment. The standard of living of the American people continues to sink. The world is devouring itself in a mad and bloody slaughter in which two rival bands of imperialist rulers or would-be rulers are slugging it out for the ultimate stakesworld domination.

And it is in that fact that we must search for the basic causes of the present military stalemate. The world is divided into two opposing imperialist blocs; both of them are fairly evenly matched and if they continue their struggle it can only result in an unprecedented slaughter.

Neither side, however, is capable of using the one weapon with which to shorten the war and decisively undermine its enemy-the political weapon. The Nazis are obviously incapable of attracting the people of the Allied countries to their banner. They have only starvation, tyranny and dictatorship to offer.

#### What the Allies Offer

But the Allies, though speaking in the name of democracy," have little to offer to the people of the world as far as a political banner around which to rally is concerned. The British Empire can hardly solicit enthusiasm among its subject peoples. That is why the Burmese refused to fight for the British and in many cases even made the tragic error of supporting the Japanese. That is why the Indian people are so apathetic to the Britsh war effort.

And the Allies have nothing to offer to the people of Germany, either. What can they promise the German people? A new Versailles, as innumerable Allied statesmen have hinted? A dismembered, chopped-up Germany saddled down with debts to the Allied imperialist victors?

For that is all the Allies have promised to Germany; it is all that the Allies can promise. And that is why Hitler has thus far succeeded in maintaining his hold on the German people. He points to the speeches of the Allied politicians and says to the German workers: "There, you see, if they win you'll suffer the same thing as after the last war." This is really Hitler's secret weapon, and front in Europe. But that is dangerous his most powerful one, too. It is the continued existence of Allied imperialism that makes possible the perpetuation of Hitler's rule in Germany. But if there were workers' governments in Britain or America then they could appeal to the German people as brothers; then the German workers would have no cause to fear a new Versailles; then these workers' government could cut Dear Editor: out from under the props upon which Hitlerism rests. That is why we say that the only way to both shorten the war and bring it to a successful conclusion in the interests of the masses of the people -that is to say, to destroy root and branch all forms of Hitlerism, fascism and imperialism-is to struggle for socialism. Only workers' governments in the Allied countries can achieve this double hope of all humanity: the destruction of fascism and the establishment of a genuine peace.

#### LABOR ACTION

# **Stalinist Meeting Tries To Divert Negroes from Struggle**

addresses this rally, which was held

McNutt said that "the govern-

ment has taken the lead" in using

Negroes in war work. This, of

course, is hardly the case. The gov-

ernment has done little, if any-

thing, to see to it that Negroes are

placed in war production plants-

an objective it could achieve in a

week by simply refusing contracts

to plants which discriminate against

Negroes. It is true that in certain

cases, because of the great labor

shortage, attempts have been made

to get Negroes into the produc-

tion lines-but on a strictly Jim

Crow and segregated basis. Wit-

ness, for instance, the recently pro-

posed Sun Shipyards set-up in

Chester, Pa., which Jim Crows

9,000 Negro workers into a sepa-

in New York on June 28.

#### Special to LABOR ACTION

NEW YORK-Memories are short in capitalist and Stalinist politics. Yesterday Stalin and Hitler were buddies and the Stalinists were condemning the Roosevelt government as an imperialist war-monger. Today the Stalinists and Roosevelt are buddies, both plugging for "victory" in the imperialist conflict which they entitle the "People's War."

So the Stalinists now regard the Roosevelt government as "champions of democracy," and these imperialists in turn no longer regard the "red-hot for the war" Stalinists as white elephants. The White House sends official greetings to boost the rally of the Negro Labor Victory Committee (a Stalinist front organization) and Paul McNutt, director of the War Manpower Commission,

**Negro Paper Attacks Stalinists for Treachery** 

An indication that the Negro people and the Negro press are becoming aware of the danger which the Stallnist Communist Party represents to their struggle for full social, economic and political equality can be seen in an editorial in the New York Age, a Negro weekly, of June 27. The Age, condemning the Stalinist policy of subordinating the struggle for Negro rights to their support of the war machine, writes editorially:

Those who remember the bitter fights led by the National Negro Congress, the International Labor Defense, the New York Daily Worker and other Communist-supported organizations in behalf of the Scottsboro boys, the share-croppers, the WPAers and home reliefers-the ignorant, disfranchised and oppressed people of this country-during the depression days must be mystified at the present attitude of the Communist Party and its supporters.

Since Russia entered the war on the side of the Allies, they have taken the position that winning the war and opening a second European front to help the Russians beat Germany are the paramount issues and the discussion of any domestic issues at this time is disrupting to the war unity so necessary to victory.

Instead of leading the fight against discrimination and Jim Crowism of the Negro, Ben Davis, Jr., of the Daily Worker and Dr. Max Yergan of the National Negro Congress and others of kindred thought are now political bedfellows with the white South and its leaders who insist that now is the time to keep silent on these issues.

The National Negro Congress instead of trying to aid the March on Washington in its protest mass meeting at Madison Square Garden spent several hundred dollars advertising in the Negro press in what was construed by many as an attempt to sabotage this meeting. The ad intimated that this demand for full and equal participation in the war effort on the part of the Negro was hampering the war effort and warned:

#### "Those who would use selfishly the just demands of the Negro people to obstruct America's war program are not friends of the Negro. They work for Hitler."

And in the Sunday Worker of June 14. Ben Davis used two full columns in an open letter to A. Philip Randolph to explain why the Worker could not give publicity to the Madison Square Garden mass meeting. The burden of his argument was the same as that of Westbrook Pegler-that agitation for democracy at home is hampering the war effort-but Pegler was more candid and terse than our Communist friends.

It's a strange sight to see known Communists who led a wave of strikes under the banner of the CIO, prior to June, 1941, and who have been the severest critics of American democracy, now prate about their patriotism and love for American institutions, including race prejudice as practiced in this country.

The Negro can less afford to keep silent at this time than at any time in his history. For the record shows that we only get what we are willing to fight and die for.

rate project. This is along the lines of Secretary of the Navy Knox's Jim Crow naval units. But it hardly warrants McNutt's saying that "thegovernment has taken the lead" in helping the Negroes."

It must also not be forgotten that the government (in the person of Secretary Ickes of the Department of the Interior) has also taken the lead in refusing the March on Washington Committee a place in Washington to hold a mass demonstration for Negro rights. Not to mention that Roosevelt's hand - picked Supreme Court justices, Frankfurter, Black and Jackson, have just refused to "find any justification" for granting Odell Waller a reprieve from execution. Camouflage and speeches by government representatives about democracy for the Negro don't change or disguise such flagrant abuses of democracy as these.

#### Democracy a la McNutt

McNutt told the Negroes at the rally that when they "demand a redefinition - a reiteration - of fundamental American rights" their "claims are just and sound." The Negroes are expected to ask Roosevelt to spell out a few words here and there, mouth a few phrases, split a few hairs about definitions - and presto! the Negroes have democracy a la McNutt. But the democracy demanded by the Negroes today is very concrete - and not an accumulation or reiteration of empty phrases. Negroes want a chance to vote by getting rid of the poll tax, they want decent schools, decent homes, a chance to protect themselves against Sikeston lynchings, a chance to get equal jobs-all of which are denied them in American "democracy."

#### Stalinists Toy with Negro Struggle

Representative Vito Marcantonio, who also addressed the rally, let his Stalinized tongue slip at one point. He admitted that Congress would never pass the rider to withhold funds from Jim Crow firms which he intended to include in every arms appropriation bill. (The Daily Worker didn't print this part of the speech.) Even a Stalinist apparently has to recognize that a Jim Crow Congress is not going to permit enforcement of the existing executive order against discrimination in industry. Negroes who have watched the Stalinists toy with the Negroes struggle during the last ten or more years will not be deceived by this rally. They will see it as the most recent attempt of the Stalinists to camouflage the ruling capitalist class' responsibility for Jim Crow and to divert the Negro's struggle for democratic rights into imperialist war channels. Approval from the White House and addresses by the McNutts only serve to confirm the fact that the Stalinists are the betrayers of the Negro masses as they are of the working class.

## MILITARY: **Basis Now Is Laid** For a Mass Army By Henry Judd-

The House of Representatives has voted the largest military appropriation in our country's history. The sum is forty-three billion dollars! This one bill represents a billion dollars more than was spent in the entire period of the last war. It means that a total of 220 billion dollars has been spent since June, 1940. Roosevelt is playing for the highest stakes of any power engaged in the World War and he who plays that way must have the most to back him up!

Militarily, American imperialism makes no bones about what it is aiming at: It wants the world's largest and best equipped army; it wants a two-ocean navy that will completely outweigh and absorb the remnants of the British navy (after wiping out its only other rival, the Japanese fleet); it wants the greatest air force in the world, a fleet of bombers and flying fortresses capable of destroying any opponent.

American imperialism banks primarily on its great industrial machine, its power to produce all the weapons and materials we have described. With its terrific weight and its ability to deal out more death and destruction than any of its opponents, American imperialism hopes to overwhelm and subject Europe, Asia and South America to its rule.

In line with this policy, Congress has just adopted a bill containing a four-point draft policy, as well as provisions for dependents of men. The inadequacy of the provisions has been dealt with in LABOR ACTION. Here we are interested in the policy by which the order of drafting is determined.

#### DRAFT BY AGE GROUPS

In the militarized nations of Europe, the dictators have a simple method of drafting their cannon fodder. Upon reaching a certain age, men are automatically forced to undergo military training. After completing their service, they are placed in reserve and are called up according to their year group. (The class of 1912, for example, is made up of all trained youth born in that year, etc.). On the whole, all youth in Europe above the age of 18 are now in the armies of their respective imperialist masters.

Roosevelt-although urged to do so by innumerable military men-did not utilize exactly this method when he set out to militarize America's youth. In classic Rooseveltian fashion, however, he is getting the same resultsinch by inch and step by step! That is, we are adopting in piecemeal fashion the system of militarization we formerly condemned by calling it "Prusssianism."

The greatest step yet taken in this direction is undoubtedly the registration and classification of the 18 and 19 year old youth, this week. In addition to completing the registration of all American man power from 18 to 60, this particular registration is beyond doubt preparation for the wholesale drafting of these 2,500,000 18-19 year old boys. Says the United States News: "It seems very probable that draft age will be lowered to 18 before 1943.... Elections will be over. War will have changed Congress' attitude. There'll be less resistance to tapping ranks of 2,500,000 18 and 19year-olds." Undoubtedly, this modification of the draft act will be followed by some bill fixing automatic induction and training requirements for those who reach the age of 18 in the future. And there we have our "Prussianism." by date of birth! In fact, the newly registered group will be listed in the order of their birth rather than by draft lottery, as in ALL previous registrations!

# **Photo-Finisher Writes in**

I am writing you because a friend let me see some old issues of LABOR ACTION which came out before the war started and after. It seems you knew what the score was because I read that you warned against the very things that are happening in my union and in the unions and factories all over the country.

I am employed in the photo finishing industry, which is about 90 per cent unionized in New York City. Our union contract called for the discussion of the question last month after one year of a two-year contract. The membership voted for a \$5.00 wage increase for all the members, regardless of skills or previous wage. We submitted this proposal to the employers' association and they coun-

FOR THE RECORD!

tered with much lower wage increases which got lower as the skills and wages descended down the scale. The unanimous vote of the membership was to refuse the counterproposal. The matter was then turned over to the government arbitration board because we had voluntarily given up the right to strike and had no alternative. There we thought the government would be on our side because it is common knowledge that living costs have gone way up and because the product we turn out had gone up in price between 20 to 30 per cent.

The outcome of the arbitration decision was very disappointing. The highly skilled workers got increases of \$2.00 to \$3.00 but the unskilled workers, who were paid \$17 and \$19

a week, were ignored unless they were in the industry at least three years and then they only got a \$1.50 raise.

I feel the reason we got such a lousy break was that the members had decided, after much prompting and under the influence of the national union leaders, that they were not going to strike during the war, even though this is not a war industry. And we did the very thing you warned against by playing into the bosses' hands.

To prove the effectiveness of the strike weapon in this industry, and to prove we could have gotten much better general increases, we only have to remember what happened a few years ago in this same industry. At that time practically none of the shops was unionized but the small body of organized workers and the leadership of the union, which was then very militant, called a citywide strike of the photo finishers. The call was answered so well that the whole industry was paralyzed. Within a week to three weeks most of the shops had signed up; the wages which were decided upon gave everyone a raise and assured everyone of a certain period of work. Right now we're going to have a meeting of the membership in a week or so and I expect fireworks to pop on account of the wage decision. But then again I don't know because most of the time spent at meetings is concerned with contributing to this or that government alphabet.

A Member of United Photo Employees' Union, Local 415, **UOPWA, CIO.** 

Where Does It Stop? The War of 1812 cost....\$ 20,000,000 The Mexican War of 1848 38,000,000 cost The Spanish-American War 230,000,000 cost ... The Civil War of 1861 . 1,000,000,000 cost ... The World War of 1914 42.000.000.000 cost The World War of today has cost America (so far!) \$220,000,000,000!

#### SATISFYING NEEDS OF THE WAR MACHINE

Furthermore, the new automatic and rigid categories setting the order of drafting are filled with the same "Prussianism" as are the edicts of Hitler and Mussolini. The all-powerful military state becomes supreme, commandeering men automatically to satisfy the needs of the bottomless war machine.

First come those who are single, without dependents.

Second come those who have dependents that are neither wives nor children.

Third come men married prior to Pearl Harbor. Fourth come men with wives and children dependent upon them.

This order applies to those already registered; behind them stand the great untapped sources of the 18 and 19 year olds-that is, those who will openly be organized into class and age groups, in the European fashion.

As the imperialist horizon of America broadens, so does the mechanical nature of the war machine harden. A system is worked out; everyone's place is fixed in advance-practically before he is born! Accompanying this steeling of the war machine we find an increase in the estimates of army size: approximately 4,000,000 today; 6,000,000 in 1943; 10,000,000 in two years; 12,000,000 in three years. Such is the price of imperialism!



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!
- 4. No government contract without a union contract! The closed shop in all war industriesl
- 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 Crow 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!

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