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JANUARY 25, 1943

A PAPER IN THE INTERESTS OF LABOR

Taxes Cut Labor's Standard of Living, While - -**BOSSES RAISE PROFIT 2420%** By JOHN BERNE

"Equality of Sacrifice" - - OPA Version!

in Washington started a special study of war profits. According to Jonathan Stout, of the New Leader, the four volumes of the study have been ready since November and the information in them since some time before. But until he started to report the astronomical their profits more than 150 per cent over the period

Some time ago the Office of Price Administration figures, which he got from private contacts, the public knew nothing of the study. It was an empty scoop in one respect. Of the papers we saw, only PM mentioned the OPA release that followed Stout's revelation.

The 1,735 large industrial firms studied increased

Corporation Profits After Deduction of Taxes

| | Average | | Pct. |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|----------|
| · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | 1936-1939 | 1941 | Increase |
| General Motors | \$184,261,000 | \$220,339,000 | 20 |
| Curtiss-Wright | | 33,233,000 | 994 |
| Bethlehem Steel | 19,269,000 | 42,929,000 | 123 |
| Douglas Aircraft | 7 7 7 000 | 18,177,000 | 930 |
| Consolidated Aircraft | 001 000 | 8,754,000 | 962 |
| Glenn Martin | | 5,773,000 | 177 |
| Boeing Airplane | | 6,113,000 | N. C. |
| United Aircraft | | 21,721,000 | 321 |
| New York Shipbuilding | | 3,075,000 | 2420 |
| Lockheed Aircraft | | 10,109,000 | 961 |
| *Deficit. | | | . ° * . |

N. C .- Not computed because of loss in base period.

their profits by 400 per cent or more.

produce war goods without converting its existing facilities. In aircraft and shipbuilding, where there was no conversion problem, profits in 1939 were already showing the effects of mounting war orders. In shipbuilding 1939 profits before taxes were twice the pre-war average; in 1941 they were 10 times as great. In aircraft, profits

1939-41. But this is small potatoes compared with what

the big boys got. Over 70 per cent of war contracts

have been awarded to 100 of the largest companies, and

a study of these 100 corporations, together with 100 sub-

contractors, reveals the enourmous profits LABOR AC-

Some of them are listed in the table on this page.

profits expansion varied with the industry's ability to

"In general," the OPA report reads, "the rate of

TION has been tellng you about.

LABOR ACTION

in 1939 were 81 per cent above the 1936-39 average, while in 1941 they were almost 17 times as large." By 1941, 69 of the 100 contractors had increased

Most of this profit was based on government funds, lent the corporations at very low rates of interest, to

finance new building and conversion. Meanwhile the HIGHEST increase for workers the War Labor Board has been haggling over is 15 per centl

Wage Raise Is Real Issue in Hard Coal Strike

Boss Press in Ridiculous Effort to Picture Unprecedented Defiance of Government Boards, Union Leaders as Dues Quarrel

By DAVID COOLIDGE

For close to three weeks, thousands of coal miners in the anthracite region of Pennsylvania have been on strike. They have so far resisted the efforts of the union leadership and the WLB to force them back into the mine pits.

· Following the refusal of the hard coal miners to obey its "order" to return to work, the National War Labor Board referred the strike to the President for settlement. At the time this is written there is no in-

back to the pits, or he can call out . The papers report that the miners the mines as he did in the North American strike.

The WLB procedure in turning the strike over to Roosevelt was accompanied by the usual bluster and billingsgate from the most reactionary members of Congress. Ramspeck, of Georgia, declared that "the government should take whatever action is necessary to open and operate the coal mines." Andreson, of Minnesota, announced that the strike was close

of all. the Army to drive them back into in "The Anthracite" are on strike

against the increase in dues voted by the last convention and also for an increase of \$2.00 a day in wages. These two demands placed together don't make sense. One demand is to their own international, and the other to the coal companies. The wage demand involves the government, the union and the coal operators; the dues question is an internal' union matter into which the government and the operators cannot

operators were the worst offenders

Since the United States entered the war the coal industry has averaged only four days a week. Some mines have worked only a day and a half a week. In the face of a greater demand for coal, due to conversion from oil to coal, the mine owners refused to operate the full five days a week.

If there is a shortage in hard coal it has been created by the mine owners. The production of soft coal for 1942 was round 70,000,000

strike for a wage increase which a committee has been appointed to negotiate, and against the payment of \$1.50 dues which represents no increase in the total amount of money paid each month? We don't pretend to be able to answer this question. Lewis gives no light on the matter. He goes along with his usual silence, acquired the past two years, and simply tells the miners to go back to work, that they are striking in violation of the contract.

Union Leaders and the WLB

being handled by the same "Policy There is one side of this control

Staggered

nine-hour shift and a staggered

work week, effective the following

week. Earlier on that very same

day the UE "Shop News" had an-

nounced to Sperry workers that the

company had agreed not to establish

new shifts or longer hours until it

had settled with the union regarding

Thus the first company attack on

Sperry workers' rights finds the un-

ion leadership making blatant pre-

tenses of action, yet doing nothing.

Sperry employees will work longer

hours with every seventh Sunday off,

and no double time paid for the six

Now, what will Local 450, UE, do

about it? In all likelihood the leader-

ship will merely send telegrams to

the War Labor Board or the War

laying for months any action that

might be taken. That the company

expects no real action is clear from

their light treatment of the union

And what of the contract the union

is supposed to be negotiating? It is

leadership's pretense at opposition.

Danger of Capitulation

Mannower Commission, thereby de-

consecutive Sundays worked!

wages and hours.

Through government contracts for war production, the New York Shipbuilding Corp. stepped up its 1941 net profits 2,420 per cent above its average peacetime gains for 1936-39.

Even rapacious captains of industry will admit that a 2,420 per cent increase in profits is pretty neat.

In general the capitalist press did not see fit to print-af least not where it would be noticed-the results of OPA studies of war profits, revealing outrageous money-grubbing by industry.

President Roosevelt, in his two recent speeches before Congress, made no reference to the damning scandal of a 2,420 per cent increase in corporation profits at the expense of the peoplein blood and suffering.

Skyrocketing multiplications **Sperry Foists** of war profits are not exceptional. What about Curtiss-Wright with a 994 per cent profit increase for 1941? And **Consolidated Aircraft with its** Shift on Men 962 per cent increase, Lockheed Aircraft with its 961 per cent, Douglas Aircraft with its A notice posted in all Sperry plants on Monday, January 18, announced a 930 per cent?

These second-class industrial hierarchs did not, to be sure, increase their profits twenty-five times, as did the New York Shipbuilding Corp. But an increase of more than nine times is still something to write home about.

ONE CENT

Then there are United Aircraft, which shows an increase in 1941 of 321 per cent, Glenn Martin with 177 per cent, Bethlehem Steel with 123 per cent, and General Motors with 20 per cent.

Don't start weeping over poor General Motors. It made up in volume of profits for a mere twenty points in percentage. Its net war pickings amounted to \$220,330,000 in 1941 after deductions for taxes. munificent salaries, fancy bonuses, very adequate reserves, and what not. These hundreds of millions of dollars were made out of the sweat of the workers.

Where is the justice in taxing the working people to pay for this war out of which the bosses are reaping a golden harvest!

All talk of "sharing the tax burden" is so much dust in the eyes of the people carrying it. These fabulous profits are rolling right over the top of corporation taxes. But taxes on the working people are cramping their already pinched way of life.

dication as to what course Roosevelt will take. He can request the miners to return to work. Under his wartime powers he can order the miners



Roosevelt has ordered the striking

coal miners back to work. As we go to press, it is uncertain what the reaction will be among the miners. News bulletins report that thousands of miners are still out.

Tresca Slaying Still Unsolved

blooded assassination in New York of Carlo Tresca remained unrelieved by the official investigation being conducted by the authorities which, so far as is known publicly, has thus far produced no serious clue leading to the assassins.

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Nevertheless, nothing has happened to make the comrades and friends of the distinguished antifascist speaker, writer and organizer change their conviction that nothing but a political motive could have existed for the murder of Tresca.

Tresca's activities among Italian workers in this country, and more broadly in the radical and labor movements, both in recent years and just before he was killed, undoubtedly aroused the violent hatred of two groups of political adversaries in particular, namely, the blackshirted - and whiteshirted! - supporters of the Mussolini regime, and the Stalinists. He gave no quarter to either group in the pages of his paper, II Martello, or from the platform, or in

to treason. He wants the Department of Justice to hail the leaders of ity there. the strike into court. We presume

that he intends that they be tried for treason. Strikes and racketeering are the same thing to Andresen: "Labor leaders responsible for strikes and racketeering are doing more than giving aid and comfort to our enemies. They are the advance invasion army of Hitler and the Japs, primarily engaged in sabotaging war production and in destroying public morale and confidence.' This wild and ignorant explosion

will really just scare the pants off the miners. Andresen perhaps does not know that the coal diggers are accustomed to the real thing in explosions and will be no more perturbed by his gas than they were by the suggestion of Hatton Sumners that they might be frightened by electricity.

Outcome Uncertain

We have no way of knowing what the outcome of this strike will be, nor do we know all the facts relating to the causes of the strike.

The mystery surrounding the cold- the movements with which he was associated.

> The fascists, both open and covert, had reason to hate and fear Tresca, because, perhaps more than anyone else in this country, he devoted his tireless pen and oratory to arousing Italian workers against this dirty gang and exposing them when they felt it advisable to assume a disguise. It appears that in the Mazzini Society, with which he was working, Tresca fought vigorously against the "democratic" pretensions of a number of prominent Italian politicians and public personages who had been notorious fascist supporters until the war broke out, after which they found it more convenient to announce their "conversion" to the principles of democracy.

That these really unreconstructed friends and admirers of fascism would be quite capable of planning and executing the assassination of a man like Tresca is quite beyond debate. The whole history of fascism (Continued on page 2)

enter since neither has any author-

It has to be emphasized (as the daily papers have not) that the action of the convention in making the dues \$1.50 a month was not an increase in the total amount of monthly payments to the union. Before the convention the miners paid \$1.00 monthly dues and an assessment of fifty cents a month. The total amount paid now is the same as before. This was explained in the last convention in a speech on this subject by Secretary-Treasurer Kennedy. It was also reported to the convention by the committee on Officers' Reports that the assessment had been levied by a

vote of the membership. Real Issue Is Wages

On the matter of the demand for an increase of \$2.00 a day in wages, it is interesting that this demand by the anthracite miners is in line with the sentiment expressed at the last convention. Lewis himself expressed the view that there should be an increase of about \$2.00. The handling of the wage increase was turned over to a special committee set up by the convention, but the general opinion was in support of a \$2.00 lift in wages. It is improbable that Lewis and the other international officers are really against the demand for the increase

in pay. However, it is difficult to understand why, with Kennedy, a resident of the area, and on the scene, it has been impossible for the international officers to settle the dues controversy, if this is really a factor in the strike. Also, why does this strike against dues come over three months after the convention? Even if these miners are striking

against the operators checking off the extra fifty cents, it seems that the strike would have come sooner. It may be true that Lewis is not popular among the hard coal miners, but the \$1.50 dues was voted by a convention of 2,800 delegates by an overwhelming majority.

We are of the opinion that Senator Truman was correct when he gave the opinion that the strike was not over dues but about wages. The coal industry as a whole has not been very much excited by the agitation for keeping the mines at work six days a week. One of the complaints at the last miners' convention was that the government was demanding the six-day week at a time when thousands of miners were not even working five days, as stipulated in the agreement. It seems that the anthracite

over 1941. Now, when the hard coal miners are on strike, there is a howl about lowering production and sabotage-but nothing is said about the contribution of the operators to the situation.

Sixth Day Problem

Working six days for the whole industry has been delayed because the international union and the companies cannot come to agreement on the demand of the union for time and a half pay for the sixth day. This is the demand of the union, adopted and approved by the convention. Because of the complexity of the wage structure in the anthracite region it is more difficult to adjust wages than in the bituminous regions. Also, the anthracite operators have demanded an increase in the price if they agree to the wage increase. The union claims that negotiations are being held up by the Office of Price Administration.

All of the procedure of the international in connection with the wage situation, including the old agreement and the proposed amendments containing the demands for pay and a half for the sixth day, have been sent to all districts-including the three anthracite districts. Negotiations were under way but broke down. It is clear, therefore, that this issue is not in the foreground in the present strike.

The question remains, why at the time the international is conducting negotiations for extending the workweek to six days, with the demand for time and a half and weight and a half, the hard coal miners should

versy that deserves especial mention. That is the miserable and impotent role played by the trade union leaders who are serving on the WLB. It must have been quite a spectacle to see Van Bittner of the CIO and Robert Watt of the AFL, labor members of this government-industry board, led up to the White House by William H. Davis. These labor leaders want to tell Roosevelt that they can do nothing and that it is up to him. This is quite a tangle also because these CIO and AFL men are forced to treat with the Lewis union, which recently split from the CIO and re-

Tom Kennedy of the miners is in a more embarrassing position, if that is possible. He is a member of the WLB and it is his union that has defied this government board, which Kennedy praised so highly at the miners' convention.

mains independent.

Whose side are these fellows on, anyhow? How long do they suppose they will be permitted to run with the wolves and at the same time pretend to represent those whom the wolves seek to destroy?

recently arrogated to itself the representation of the workers on the shift change question. Can we then expect the same sort of "fight" for the contract, and the wage raises it contains, and will that too be willingly laid aside at the slightest nod from the company bigwigs?

Militants in the union have already pointed out the danger of capitulation by the UE bureaucrats. Any possibility that pressure from shops would force the spineless UE organizers to take even a half-militant stand has now vanished. The recent history of Dermody, Rooney and Raben has only strengthened the conviction that they have nothing to offer but words: that their bungling and mismanagement during the organizing drive, evident to everyone familiar with the union, was due to their absolute inability to talk or think anything but production. It becomes obvious that they are a

clique who fear nothing more than a disagreement with the management.

Sperry workers can expect no ac-(Continued on page 2)

The luscious profits of the big corporations mentioned above are typical of all industry. The OPA findings show that in 1941-after tax and other expensive deductions - 200 major war contractors averaged 80 per cent more in profits that in 1936-39. Profits out of destruction and death are indeed the rule-not the exception.

What is wrong, therefore, with demanding that the plutocrats of mdustry be prevented from raking in their bloody lucre? What is wrong with demanding that the government confiscate every cent of war profits? This is elemental justice!

Not a penny of taxes on workers' wages is justified. Not a penny of taxes on consumer goods is justified. Not a penny of forced savings is justified. Let the government dig into the spacious, well-filled "war chests" of big business-instead of the cupboards of the work-

ing people. (Continued on page 2)

More Merchants of Death: Anaconda Does a Repeat

For the second time, the Anaconda Wire & Cable Co. is charged with making profits out of the blood of American soldiers. Their plant in Pawtucket, R. I., has just been accused of selling defective communication wire to the American and British armies for use in combat service. The government charged that a conspiracy on the part of the corporation resulted in the passing of this wire by inspectors.

More than a million dollars' worth of wire had been sold from November, 1940, to September, 1942, at a profit of 30 to 70 per cent. The testing equipment of the corporation had been fixed to fool the government inspectors by reducing the voltage to as little as 20 per cent of the amount required by the government. This process of "fixed" inspection equipment was later simplified by merely removing the inspected labels from accepted materials and placing them on pieces which were found to be defective or had not even been inspected. In addition the workers

were instructed to repair only one out of every four defects.

> Only a month ago the Marion, Ind., plant of the same company was charged with similar mal-practices. No decision has as yet been released. Whether it ever will be reached is a matter open to doubt! And of course all plants of the Anaconda Wire & Cable Co. still continue to work and make profits on government contracts. No reactionary senator has as yet raised the cry of "Remember the boys at Guadalcanal" against these war profiteers, as they do when the workers make a legitimate effort

to raise their standard of living. Don't be surprised if this company has a lobbyist in Washington shouting: "Kill the forty-hour week," "Pass no-strike legislation."

And Still More---Government records show that over

NINE HUNDRED fraud cases are

now in various stages of prosecution. In Iowa, a company was caught putting government inspected tags on defective shells and leaving those shells which had been approved without tags to be inspected again.

A shipyard official, who had a "cost-plus" contract with the Maritime Commission used his hired shipbuilders to paint and remodel his home. Of course, this was charged to the government and paid for by your outrageously high taxes.

These are the profiteers who are fighting to undermine the forty-hour week.

These are the profiteers who are pressing for no-strike legislation, labor's only real weapon in its fight for a living wage and tolerable working conditions.

And these are the profiteers who oppose any ceiling on income which they fraudulently receive at the expense of buman life!



John L. Silent

LABOR ACTION

WHICH HAD BEEN ELECTED BY

THE STEWARDS, and hand-picked

graveyard shift he appointed a com-

mittee with a majority of Stalinists.

On the day shift (after the company

had taken advantage of the situation

by firing Chief Shop Steward Boy-

ich), Pollard replaced Boyich on the

committee with the loudest-mouthed

Stalinist in the yard, Gandall, a

new-comer. None of these appoin-

tees could have been elected demo-

Secondly: This week Local 9

named an appointee for the War La-

bor Board, Southern California re-

gion. The selection was made by

Pollard and the Executive Board.

The man appointed to this post to

represent the union is T. Bankhead.

he became a sub-foreman not long

ago, Bankhead was the leading and

most prominent mouthpiece of the

Communist Party in the LA yard.

This Stalinist expert in the art of

giving up labor's gains is now the

representative of Californian ship-

yard labor in the WLB set-up, by

There is another angle to this

appointment of Bankhead. Believe

it or not, Sub-Foreman Bankhead

is at present a member of the Labor-

Management Committee in the LA

Yard, representing ... guess whom?

Presto-changeo, and he now rep-

resents LABOR, in the showpiece

called the War Labor Board-by

Who is Bankhead? Up to the time

cratically to their new posts.

"Two-in-One" Bankhead

Whom did he appoint? For the

committees on his own say-so.



FRENCH STALINISTS JOIN DE GAULLE MOVEMENT

of the French Stalinists, Ferdinand Grenier, arrived in London from occupied France and declared that the Communist Party of France pledges its complete cooperation with the de Gaulle movement. The monarchist generals of de Gaulle's clique and the "communist" representatives will collaborate closely from now on.

Page 2

This is much less astonishing than it may seem to those naive people who still think that Stalinism in one way or another reflects a revolutionary or socialist policy. This is just one more illustration of the fact that the Stalinists are guided exclusively by the interests of Russian foreign policy. What does it matter to them that in the same council in which Mr. Grenier is going to sit there are many who could be counted on to vote for every measure directed against the French workers. What does it matter to them if they sit with people who-as a former right wing socialist member of the French Parliament has revealed-are tools of the great French armament trust which has its agents in both camps of the war)?

For more than a year the French Stalinists have tried to establish a kind of new "National" Popular Front. Apparently this did not succeed any too well. Former right wingers and bourgeois politicians in general preferred de Gaulle because

HIS DECLARATION A TYPICAL STALINIST PRODUCT

The declaration which Grenier gave to the press when arriving in London is a typical Stalinist product. "Many Germans on the Russian front have died because of the poisoned preserves made in French factories," said this scoundrel. In former days, the communist would have enclosed propaganda leaflets in those cans as a means of reaching the German worker-soldier; today he advocates poisoning them. Thus can the anti-labor and counter-revolutionary character of the Stalinists be exposed.

You have to "kill the German beast"-that is the only slogan of the French Stalinists right now, as it is the slogan of their Russian masters. It is the consequence of an abandonment of all internation-

Last week one of the top leaders they were aware of the sharp differences within the United Nations as to spheres of influence between Stalin and Churchill and Roosevelt. They preferred to go along with the bloc of the old imperialist powers, not trusting Stalin's intentions in Europe. De Gaulle, on the other hand, hoped he would be able to monopolize the French opposition to Hitler and be recognized by England and America as the future Gauleiter of France.

> Both calculations have gone wrong. The English still hold fast to de Gaulle. They still hope that this heavy investment will prove to have been a good one. But America is now definitely favoring another clique as against the pro-English de Gaulle. The general's position, therefore, is considerably weakened. He must, above all, try to show that all parties of France are united behind him. In such a situation even the Stalinists are very welcome recruits.

The Stalinists want to sabotage the German war machine as much as they can, not because it might serve the interests of the French workers, but solely because it will aid Russia. Of course they will not relinquish their own organization, but they will try to penetrate as much as possible into the ranks of the de Gaullists and, boring from within, win this

over to their side.

will decide their own fate.

nier once was instrumental in chas-

ing Doriot (French fascist) from his

only stronghold in the "Red" suburbs

of Paris. The day will come when

these same workers will chase this

same scoundrel and his friends in

exactly the same manner.

movement (at least inside France) Corlett, speaking before a group alist thinking. It is to be hoped that there remain in France those elements which will make an effort

to contact the German worker in uniform in order to propagandize him for a socialist Europe in which German and French workers alike tical."

Grenier's declaration once more exposes the fact that the Stalinists are among the most dangerous oppowomen. The Ohio Federation of Labor, repnents of socialism in the world. Gre-

resented by John B. Fitzgerald, told the legislators that it will oppose any revisions of the present law except to protect the health and safety of the women workers. However, the Federation favors a comission which would permit specific relaxation of women's labor laws.

are in store for the workers.

For did not Representative Martin.

Republican leader of the new House.

declare that taxes "must not destroy

initiative or business expansion"?

And does not Representative Martin

express the majority of Republican

and Democratic opinion in this reac-

Pollard Pays Off to Stalinists in Shipyard Local 9

Here's One for the Book: Bankhead, Stalinist Stooge, Represents Management on One Committee and Labor on Another!

of a "chairman of the committee."

and announced that an "executive

committee" will be "elected"-all

at his lunch-time forum, where any

real discussion is impossible and

which is not, of course, representa-

tive of the union.

pay checks.

SAN PEDRO-Certain things about relations between them have become the situation in Local 9 of the shiporganizationally much closer. For yard workers have become clearer example: One of Pollard's first acts since the lift of the local's autonomy was to reorganize the grievance and the assumption of dictatorial committees on the three shifts at the power by Walter S. Pollard, Jr., as Los Angeles Shipyard, the union emissary of the national office of the stronghold in the Harbor area. He dictatorially dismissed the yard union grievance committees then operating,

LABOR ACTION's reports from the West Coast have made frequent mention of the anti-labor role of the Stalinist henchmen in Local 9 -as in other unions. They have gone down the line in supporting every attack by the shipyard companies on the union's gains: in imposing the staggered shift on the men, in putting across the stabilization agreement, in supporting Pollard in chopping down the union hiring hall, and so on. In this sell-out line, they and Pollard have had no difficulty in cooperating.

Big Business Plans Long Range Attack **On Eight-Hour Day**

By JAMES SHEA CLEVELAND-Proof, if any is necessary, that big business does not

intend to restore the hard-earned gain of which labor is now being deprived, was given last week in this city by Spencer D. Corlett, legislative counsel of the Cleveland Chamber of Commerce.

of Ohio legislators on a revision of women's labor laws, said that the Chamber demanded a definite abandonment of the eight-hour day limitation for women workers and "industry will insist on that point even after the emergency. The eight-hour day never was practical, is not now and never will be prac-

The Chamber also supports an upward revision of the forty-five hour week and a seven-day week for

Europacus.

Bosses Raise Profit 2420% --

(Continued from page 1)

Besides current profits there are the huge capital reserves of every corporation and of every bank. Don't for a minute think that the tremendous war profits of industrialists and financiers make a complete picture of their wartime gains. They are

fits of 1941 will not be repeated. What! No further 2,420 per cent increases in bloody lucre! That is really a tragedy - which, however, is somewhat assuaged by the rosy prediction of Dr. Galbraith of the OPA about 1942 average profits. When

and bankers claim that the peak pro-

At the swing shift meeting at which Pollard announced the appointment of Bankhead, his choice

grace of Pollard.

The management!

grace of Pollard.

Workers Take Rap!

Poor capitalism! It doesn't ever seem to be able to straighten out its economies.

Ten years ago we were regaled with the following slogans: "Don't hoard-buy more." "Eat one slice of bread more each

day and help the farmers." "Share the work."

Every effort was made to prevent deflation.

Every method was used to put money artificially into circulationremember "pump priming"? Today they are worried about exactly the opposite.

There's too much money around. There's less and less to buy. Inflation is the big worry. As for the working class-whether

But since Pollard took over, the iteers in this area have made the ing Committee" is Gandall's personal men r'arin' to go on this question. property. Many of them have made the pro-And with such a set-up, Gandall

posal that the union step in and get announced triumphantly this week to work in protection of the workers' that Pollard and the Executive Board have given their sanction to this state of affairs and have decided to So far, Pollard has done nothleave this important issue to be a ing. Instead, using his own audiplaything for Gandall and his Staence, who meet in one corner of linist friends! the yard. Gandall has announced his committee, appointed a secre-**Pollard Paying Off** tary, pushed through the election

This is enough to understand what has happened and is happening. The fact is that when Pollard arrived in the Harbor area with his notice of foreclosure on the local union's decold hostility by the men in the yards. Outside of the stooges he ap-

But for all the show of chairman, pointed, like Mulholland and Detrez, executive committee and so on, there only one voice spoke up for the juis, in fact, no committee. Gandall nior dictator and tried to make him explains that the forum audience itpalatable to the men. That was the self is the "committee"-anyone who voice of the Communist Party happens to be there on a particular spokesmen in the yards. They conday. In effect, the "High Cost of Liv-

Tresca Slaying Unsolved - -

rank and file and his base in the union membership.

With good reason to fear the rank and file and to be jittery about his ability to control them, Pollard was glad enough to strike a deal with the Stalinists-and to pay for their support. He is paying off now and will continue to pay off, since his own popularity has not been increased.

The Stalinist end of this deal is easy enough to understand. They are counting on being in a position to take over things on the day when Pollard packs his bags and goes home to receive his reward for his hatchet mocracy, he was met with a wall of job. Right now, Friend Pollard is a useful stepladder for their ambitions.

This pack, who have fastened themselves on Local 9, are not wanted by the membership. It is up to the rank and file militants in the yards to rekindle the spirit of militant unionism which built the union, and throw these labor fakers out of the high stituted themselves his bridge to the places which they have usurped.

(Continued from page 1)

in Italy and Germany and everywhere else shows that, far from hesitating to employ the weapon of political murder, the black-and-brown shirts make assassination an integral and decisive part of their arsenal. That they are directly responsible for Tresca's murder cannot possibly be ruled out.

Relentless Opponent of Stalinism

Tresca was unrelenting, too, in his opposition to Stalinism. Time and again he came forward against their sinister machinations, not only in this country, but elsewhere. He did yeoman work in the campaign to bring to the public the available facts in the strange disappearance of Juliet Stuart Poyntz, whom the Stalinists were suspected of spiriting out of this country and assassinating, either en route or in Russia, for reasons best known to themselves.

Tresca was also prominent in the publicity campaign made by radicals and liberals around the "Robinson-Rubens" case in Moscow, which remains unsolved to this day because of the suspicious silence maintained about these two American Stalinists by the Russian bureaucracy and its apologists in this country.

The late militant especially incurred Stalinist wrath when he joined and participated actively in the work of the Commission to Investigate the Charges Made at the Moscow Trial Against Leon Trotsky, presided over by John Dewey -a commission which reached the conclusion that the charges made against Trotsky were false to the core and were part of a stupendous frame-up. More recently, Tresca had been active in keening Stalinists out of the Mazzini Society.

plain that they do not intend to rest until every effort humanly possible authors of the crime.

Political "Complications"

How far the authorities will go with their investigations remains to be seen. The political "complications" confronting the authorities have already been commented on by cynical, but rather candid, capitalist newspapers. "Converted" Italian fascist and semi-fascist personalities who were the object of Tresca's telling attacks, and who are suspects in the murder, happen to be on very good terms with reactionary imperialist elements in government circles.

To bring them to trial, should they be disclosed as the criminals, would greatly embarrass these elements in their policy of appeasing the whole vile fascist camarilla in Italy as well as in this country. It is their hope that it will help get rid of Mussolini, and Mussolini, ONLY, with the aim of knocking Italy out of the Axis WITHOUT knocking it out of control by fascism, which might mean unloosing a socialist revolution.



(Continued from page 1)

tion from such a clique, nor from the WLB nor any other boss agency in Washington. They can expect action only from themselves, and from those militant shop stewards who stand behind them. Workers in other places have already learned that the only way to get what they want is to take things into their own hands.

Similarly with the Stalinists. Should it turn out that they are the has been made to ferret out the true criminals, newspapers have already made it clear, the prosecuting authorities are worried about the effect a trial of Stalinists on the charge of assassinating a political adversary would have on the none-too-firm alliance that American capitalism has with the gentlemen of the Kremlin.

> New York newspapers have already hinted that these circumstances may exercise a deterring influence, or at least a good deal of circumspeciness upon any inclination the authorities may have to pursue their investigations along the obviously indicated lines.

Friends of Tresca have made no special effort to conceal their fear that the bringing to book of the real criminals may be subordinated by the authorities to the international political considerations of Washington, thus providing an additional illustration of the piety of capitalist "morals" and "justice.

Carwile Denied Writ By Supreme Court

In a gross violation of civil rights, the U.S. Supreme Court has denied Howard Carwile the right to bring suit against the poll-tax Commonwealth of Virginia.

wheath In

20

Carwile, a sharecropper who worked his way through law school. had charged that, while a charity patient at a state sanatorium, he was miserably treated for a period of eleven months and was finally evicted from the hospital while he was still sick.

He therefore sued the Commonwealth of Virginia as much in an

was denounced by a vote of sixty-

salting away unprecedented reserves of new capital-which are not reckoned as profit. All corporations are adding very substantially to their basic untaxed wealth-while banks are grabbing everything that is not nailed down. In the last three months of 1942 Chase National Bank got hold of \$669,540,099 additional assets-and National City Bank increased its resoures by \$561,982,854.

Therefore, let the government put a levy on capital to cover the cost of a war springing from the rotten soil of the capitalist system. No child will have to do without butter and eggs because of a tax on capital. But many are doing without butter and eggs because taxes on wages reduce the buying power of working people.

The apologists for industrialists

they are all counted, the doctor expects "they will be higher than in 1941, and they promise to be some 200 per cent over 1939."

Against this background of conclusive evidence from government sources that of the "fruits" of war the juice goes to the ruling class and the squeezed-out rind to the working people, Congress is getting busy with its new tax legislation.

From the welter of bills and suggestions put forth, two things are very plain: (1) war profits will continue to be sacred and capital reserves-the unearned wealth of America's Sixty Families-will remain the holy of holies; but (2) higher income taxes, larger percentages of withholding taxes, wider taxes on consumer goods, more force in forced savings-these

tionary Congress? And do not "initiative and business expansion" require-if not 2,420 per cent profit increases-at least 900 per cent in-

creases? There is, however, still time for organized labor to exert its tremendous power on the lawmakers. Resolutions from the thousands of trade union locals demanding that all war profits be confiscated and that untaxed wealth be taxed will compel a few second thoughts on the subject of piling more burdens on labor.

But it must be understood by every worker that an all-out program to soak the rich instead of the poor can be carried out only through a bona fide Independent Labor Party. LA-BOR MUST START WALKING ON ITS OWN POLITICAL LEGS!

mer company. When I returned with

my credentials and asked to see the

interviewer again, I was handed an

At General Aircraft I was told

that I was too young for the night

shift, but other plants in the city

accept 18-year-olds on all shifts. At

Ford, I - saw unskilled girls being

hired while the Negroes and Jews

it is unemployment or manpower shortage, they get the short end of the stick.

eight to five! If one needs more evidence to indicate the relationship of Pollard to the Stalinists, just look at the five: all of them advocates of the now scrapped staggered week; five who urged surrender of the hiring hall and acceptance of the gagging contract. Judge a man by the company he keeps!

Gandall's Forum "Committee"

Thirdly: There is the matter of the "High Cost of Living Committee" organized by the above-mentioned Gandall at his noon-time forum meeting in the LA Yard. The outrageous do-nothingness of the government and the abuses by the prof-

That the Stalinists are subject to suspicion as possible authors of the crime against Tresca, is taken for granted by all informed persons. It is a known fact that they have not hesitated in the past to rid themselves of embarrassing political opponents by the method of murder. Their record ranges from the public juridical murders of the series of Moscow Trials, through secret murders in the prisons and concentration camps of the GPU, to murders such as the one committed against Leon Trotsky in Mexico-not acknowledged, to be sure, but unmistakably the product of their abominable handiwork. It is by reason of their ugly

San Pedro shipyard workers of Local 9, IUMSWA, forced company capitulation on the staggered work week. The method they used was to stay out on Sundays, regardless of the pay lost by doing so.

The Sperry workers are in a position to demand action, By letting their shop stewards know how they feel on the matter, they can press for membership meetings where they can question a leadership that attepts to put over a raw deal like this one. No union bureaucracy has ever been able to withstand the attacks of an aroused membership which demands that they change their habits. This is the only way Sperry workers record that the Stalinists have by no can obtain a favorable contract and means been ruled out by Tresca's abolish the staggered work week friends as suspects in the assassinawhich forces them to work on Sundays but denies them their rightful And these friends have made it pay for doing so.

effort to expose mistreatment of poor patients in the state hospitals as to challenge the immunity of the state from human-rights suits. In his two-year fight he carried the case through the courts of Virginia and finally to the U.S. Supreme Court, which upheld the Virginia courts.

Carwile, writing to LABOR AC-TION, has pointed out that the state, whose poll-tax Legislature is elected by four per cent of its citizens, permits suits by business corporations. but claims immunity from any human-rights suit. It was to test this immunity on constitutional grounds that Carwile took the case to the Supreme Court.

(A recent letter from Carwile appears in the letter columns of this issue.-Editor.)

Jhe Readers of Labor Action Jake the Floor **Buy LA and NI** In Cleveland: G&M Newsstand, Superior and 9th Street.

'More Power to You' Says Iowa Reader

Dear Editor:

In regard to your paper coming late, please don't let that bother you. If I only get a copy once in six months, it is okay with me. I'll get more facts and truth in it and more knowledge than I would in a lifetime of any capitalist sheet.

More power to you and I will help you in any way possible. Don't let my subscription run out.

I have forgotten when it expires. G. P. (Iowa.)

Carwile Raps Ruling Of Supreme Court

Dear Friends:

On January 11, 1943, the Supreme Court of the United States refused our petition for a writ of certiorari, thereby sustaining the position taken by the Virginia courts that the state is immune to human-rights suits because "the King can do no wrong." This two-year battle-from the Circuit Court of Richmond to the Virginia Supreme Court to the U.S. Supreme Court-was a fight to be heard on the merits of the case.

The highest tribunal of the land has said in substance that a sick worker has no constitutional rights. Lynchings, police brutalities, the

abuse or persecution of charity pabe heard on their merits so long as this doctrine of state immunity prevails-that a state is not liable for the gross negligence and malicious

acts of its agents and servants. Charlotte Court House, Va.

Race Discrimination

Dear Editor:

employment.

school.

application and told to mail it in. I met all the requirements, I was skill-Howard Carwile. ed and I had experience, but the company preferred taking unskilled help rather than employ a Jewish girl.

And 'Labor Shortage'

The du Pont Co. at Pompton Lakes,

erences of the others, though. Those

For the past few months Washing-

were told to mail in applications. ton has been lamenting the shortage How the hell can the government of labor. Housewives have been expect its citizens to believe in and urged to enter the factories and do support a war they claim is against their "bit" for democracy, signs in fascism and for "deocracy" when in the subways and buses beg for the factories that work under govwomen to volunteer their services. ernment contracts the bosses are al-In the light of all this, it seems lowed to discriminate against and ridiculous that many of the large exploit the workers because of race war plants still persist in their antior religion? Negro and anti-Semitic methods of

N. J., has its ad in the papers continually, yet when I applied six Ne-**Bridges Puts Over** gro girls were told that the company "had to check their references." It Another Retreat wasn't necessary to check the ref-

Dear Editor:

Negro girls have never heard from The shipyard workers in Local 9 the company, yet two of them had are not the only ones who are getjust completed courses at a training ting a bum deal. We longshoremen are also beginning to have our con-My first trip to the Sperry Gyroditions given away by our union of-

scope plant was fruitless because I ficials. Here in Pedro we have had tients in our state hospitals can never did not have a release from my for- the best conditions on the Coast, faith in.

plus a real strong militant union. BUT, ever since Harry Bridges, formerly of "The Yanks Are Not Coming" committee, discovered that he has to win the war for Uncle Joe Stalin, we have been losing condition after condition.

Last week it took Harry himself to sell the latest retreat to the men. That is the order putting all the men in regular gangs and anyone who drops out is to be laid off for thirty days. And at that Bridges didn't persuade anyone. We were just told we had to take it and like it. No vote was taken. Schmitt and Coleman, members of the Maritime Industry Board, were just about booed off the floor!

We were told we havent lost any conditions yet, but here are a few:

1. The installation of the plug board instead of the old system of dispatching.

2. Order No. 16.

C. W.

3. The freezing of men into gangs. One of the phoniest set-ups is this Maritime Industry Board. It is supposed to be half union and half waterfront employers. But just look at the chairman-Professor Eliel of Stanford, expert on business administration and how to combat union. ism. Also, this board puts out a sheet called "The Victory Hook" without a union label on it. This is the government board that Bridges

and Schmitt want us to put our

To save his face, Bridges talked about a raise-something we are certainly entitled to-and combatting the rising cost of living. Well, we certainly need action there; also on the obtaining of meat. The local should follow through and set up a rank and file high cost of living committee and get going. Because with the line of appeasement that is being followed by our officials, it is going to take the rank and file to get anything done.

West Coast Longshoreman.

Rulers for Free Press When It Suits Them

Dear Editor:

tion.

We were recently given a perfect example of how the boss press regards any infringement of the democratic right of the free press when it affects themselves and when it affects a working class paper. We all remember the hue and cry that was raised by all capitalist papers from the respectable New York Times down to the New York Daily News when the Justice Department instituted suit against the Associated Press. Compare this with the treatment given the papers to the attack on the mailing rights of LABOR AC-TION and The Militant by the Post Office.

Many of the papers failed to mention this important event at all, and those that did (including the liberal PM) had no comment to make about this flagrant violation of a basic dem-

This only serves to illustrate the fact that the ruling class regards capitalist "democracy" as being applicable to itself and not to the working class.

In Detroit at: Carl's Book Store, Clairmount and Woodward. ocratic right. Book Store, Baltimore and Cass.

S.R.

Main and Huron, next to Gamler's. Main and Mohawk.



In Buffalo:

Three Giants of the Revolution

January is a month of cruel anniversaries for the international working class. That is the month, in 1919, when the German reactionaries took Rosa Luxemburg and Karl Liebknecht into a military murder-car and shot them to death in Berlin, in the hope of decapitating the head of the German revolutionary movement. It is also the month, in 1924, when the working class movement throughout the world was stupefied and inexpressibly grieved at the report that Lenin, genius of the great Russian Revolution, had died, after a long illness

Militant, class-conscious workers have for many years commemorated the lives and work of these titans of thought and action during Lenin-Liebknecht-Luxemburg week. In memory of these three leaders of the international socialist revolution, we publish below selected excerpts from their writings.

Liebknecht

On the day before his murder, Karl Liebknecht wrote "In Spite of All!" for the Rote Fahne. It proved to be his last article:

General storm against Spartacus! "Down with the Spartacists!" The shouts resound through the side-streets. "Sieze them, shoot them, trample them uderfoot, tear the mto pieces!" Atrocities which put those of the German troops in Belgium into the shade are committed everywhere.

The shout of jubilation runs from the Morgenpost to the Vorwaerts: "Spartacus smashed!" And the disarmament of the revolutionary workers, and the re-established imperial police with rifle, sabre and revolver will seal its defeat.

"Spartacus smashed!" Yes, revolutionary workers of Reinhardt, under the machine guns of General Luettwitz the elections for the Constituent Assembly will take place as a plebiscite for Napoleon-Ebert.

"Spartacus smashed!" Yes, the revolutionary workers of Berlin have been defeated, hundreds of their best have been thrown into prison. Yes, they are defeated, for they were abandoned by the sailors, by the soldiers, by the safety troops, by the people's guard, whose help they firmly expected. Their strength was wasted by the indecision and weakness of their leaders, and the immense counter-revolutionary back-wash of the propertied classes overwhelmed and drowned them. Yes, they were defeated, for history had demanded that they should be. The time was not then ripe. But yet, the struggle itself was inevitable. To surrender the Police Headquarters, the stronghold of the Revolution, without resistance to Ernst and Hirsch would have been a shameful defeat. The fight was forced upon the workers by the Ebert gang, and it burst from the Berlin masses violently, brushing aside all doubts and obections.... And Ebert, Scheidemann, Noske have won, they have won for the militarists, for the bureaucrats, for the junkers of industry and agriculture, for the parsons, the priests, for the money-bags. And all that was narrow, limited and mean stood with them and fought victorlously with rifle, bomb and bayonet.

DEFEATED OF TODAY WILL BE THE VICTORS OF TOMORROW

But there are defeats which are victories and victories which are defeats. The vanquished of the bloody January week have fought gloriously. They have fought for a great cause, for the noblest aims of suffering humanity, for the mental and material salvation of the tortured masses. They have shed only sacred blood, blood made sacred by this fight, and for every drop of this blood, dragon's seed for the victors of today, avengers of the fallen will arise, new fighters for the cause which is as unforgettable and eternal as the firmament, he defeated of today will be the victors of tomorrow, for this defeat is their instruction. The proletariat still lacks revolutionary tradition, and exeriences, and only by tentative actions and youthful errors, by painful defeats and failures, can it gain the practical training which guarantees its future success. For the fundamental forces of the revolution, the unceasing growth of which is the natural law of social development, every defeat spells ... swift recovery.

And over defeat and defeat the way leads to victory.

But what of the victors of today? For a criminal cause they carry on their criminal bloody work. For the powers of the past for the deadly enemies of the proletariat.

Already they are defeated, for they are the prisoners of those whom they intended to use as their tools but whose tools they always were. Their name is still the cover but they have only a little longer to live. They stand already in the Pillory of History. Never were there such Judases in the world, not only have they betrayed their most sacred trust, but they have crucified it with their own hands. As in August, 1914, the official German Social Democracy sank deeper than any other Social Democratic Party, so now at the dawn of the social revolution it presents the most detestable picture.

The defeated of today have already learned, they have recovered from the insanity of relying upon leaders who have proved weak and incapable, they have recovered from a belief in the Independent Social-Democratic Party which has abandoned them faithlessly. They can rely only on themselves they will fight their own battles in the future, their future victories. And the truth that the liberation of the working class can only be the work of the working class, has received a new and deep significance through the bitter experience of this week. The deceived soldiers also will realize the nature of their tasks when they feel the knout of re-established militarism. They too will wake from their stupor.

Lenin - - Revolution's Genius

country. And every dollar is stained

with blood-of that sea of blood

which was shed by the ten millions

killed and twenty millions maimed

in the great, noble, liberating and

holy war which was to decide whe-

ther the English or the German cut-

throats will get more of the spoils,

whether the English or the German

The following excerpts are taken rich and despoiling the poor in every crush the resistance of exploiters from a "Letter to American Workers" written by Lenin during the First World War, and at a time when the American government was aiding an Anglo-Japanese armed expedition against the newly established Soviet Republic. The "Letter" is dated August 20, 1918:

executioners will be the first to smother the weak peoples the world The history of modern civilized over.... America opens with one of those great, really liberating, really revo-

lutionary wars of which there have been so few among the large number of wars of conquest that were caused, like the present imperialist war, by squabbles among kings. landowners and capitalists over the division of seized lands and stolen profits. It was a war of the American people against English robbers who subjected America and held it in colonial slavery as these "civilized" blood - suckers are now subjecting and hold in colonial slavery hundreds of millions of people in India, Egypt and in all corners of the world.

Since that time about 150 years have passed. Bourgeois civilization has borne all its luxuriant fruits. By the high level of development of the productive forces of organized human labor, by utilizing machines and all the wonders of modern technic, America has taken the first place among free and cultured nations. But at the same time America has become one of the foremost countries as regards the depth of the abyss which divides a handful of brazen billionaires who are wallowing in dirt and in luxury on the one hand, and millions of toilers who are always on the verge of starvation. The American people, who gave the world an example of a revolutionary war against feudal subjection, now appears as a new capitalist wage slave of a handful of billionaires; finds itself playing the role of a hired assassin for the wealthy gang, having strangled the Philippines in 1898 under the pretext of "liberating" them, and strangling the Russian Socialist Republic in 1918 under the pretext of "protecting" it from the Germans.

WAR OF 1914-18 EXPOSED WORKINGS OF CAPITALISM

But four years of the imperialist slaughter of peoples have not passed in vain. Obvious and irrefutable facts have exposed to the end the duping of peoples by the scoundrels of both the English and the German groups of brigands. The four years of war have shown in their results

DURING THE LAST WAR ... I also recall the words of one

of the most beloved leaders of the American proletariat, Eugene Debs who wrote in The Appeal to Reason, I believe toward the end of 1915, in the article, "In Whose War I Will Fight" (I quoted that article in the beginning of 1916 at a public meeting of workers in Berne, Switzerland) that he, Debs, would rather be shot than vote for loans for the present criminal and reactionary imperialist war; that he, Debs, knows of only one holy and, from the standpoint of the proletariat, legal war, namely: the war against the capitalists, the war for the liberation of mankind

nitely mature to victory and power in the course of struggle against the resisting bourgeoisie

peasants, seized state power. We

in a sufficiently firm and deter-

We know that the fierce resistance

of the bourgeoisie to the socialist rev-

olution is inevitable in all countries

and that it will grow with the growth

of this revolution. The proletariat

mined manner.

a general trial of strength. Here we stand before one of the great historical laws of the revolution against which all the pedantic cleverness of the little "revolutionists" of the Independent Social-Democratic Party, who in each fight merely search for pretexts to retreat, are wrecked. Immediately the basic problem of the revolution is defined, and in this revolution it is the overthrow of the Ebert-Scheidemann government as the first hindrance for the victory of socialism, it confronts us again and again in all its actuality in every single episode of the fight, may the revolution be ever so unready for its solution, may the situation be ever so unripe. "Down with the Ebert-Scheidemanns!"-this slogan confronts us in every revolutionary crisis as the only exhaustive formula in all partial conflicts, and through its own inner objective logic, whether one will or not, forces every episode of the fight to its utmost point.

when we, the workers and toiling On the day before her brutal murder, Rosa Luxemburg wrote an article, are proud that we have been doing "Order Is Established in Berlin," for the Rote Fahne. It was published on it and are continuing to do it. We the actual day of the crime. From the article we publish the following exonly regret that we are not doing it cerpts:

> "Order is established in Warsaw," reported Minister Sebastiani in 1831 to the Paris Chamber, when, after the ferrible storming of the suburb of Praga, and the taking of Warsaw, the soldier gangs of Paskievitsch commenced their hangman's work amongst the rebels.

> "Order is established in Berlin!" triumphantly announces Ebert, announces Noske, announce the officers of the "victorious troops" to whom the Berlin petty bourgeois mob waved their handkerchiefs and hurrahed! The glory and honor of the German arms are saved before the world! The deplorably defeated of Flanders and the Argonne have re-established their reputation by their glorious victory, over the three hundred Spartacists in the Vorwaerts. The days of the first glorious invasion of Belgium by German troops, the days of General von Emmich, the conquerer of Luttich, pale into insignificance before the deeds of Reinhard and his comrades in the streets of Berlin. The massacre of the delegates sent out to negotiate the surrender of the Vorwaerts, the delegates who were beaten unrecognizable with rifle butts by the soldiers of the government so that the identification of the bodies was impossible; the prisoners who were put up against a wall and murdered in such a manner that skulls were smashed and brains scattered-who would remember, in the face of such glorious deeds and the shameful defeats before the French, the English and the Americans? "Spartacus" is the enemy, and Berlin is the place where our officers know how to fight; and Noske, the "worker," is the general who knows how to succeed where Ludendorff has failed.

> Who does not remember at this time the victory madness of the "law and order" gang in Paris, the bacchanal of the bourgeisie over the bodies of the fighters of the Commune, the same bourgeoisie who had just previously miserably capitulated before the Prussians, surrendered their capital city to the external enemy and themselves fled like the cowards they were. But against the half-starved and badly armed proletariat of Paris, against their defenseless wives and children-how did the manly courage of the sons of the bourgeoisie, of the "golden youth," of the officers, recover itself! How did the bravery of the sons of Mars, which had so drooped before the external enemy, recover itself in bestial atrocities on the unarmed, on the prisoners, on the dead!

> "Order is established in Warsaw!" "Order is established in Paris!" "Order is established in Berlin!" So run the reports of the defenders of "order" every half-century from the one center of the world historical fight to the other. And the joyous "victors" do not understand that an "order" which requires periodical and bloody massacres for its maintanance inevitably approaches its historical fate-collapse. What was the last "Spartacus week" in Berlin, what were its causes, what does it teach us?

THE COURSE OF THE SPARTACIST REVOLUTION

Confronted with the fact, the insolent provocation of the Ebert-Scheldemanns, the revolutionary working class was forced to take up arms. The honor of the revolution demanded the immediate repulse of the attack with all energy, otherwise the counter-revolution would have been encouraged to further attacks, and the revolutionary ranks of the proletariat, and the moral credit of the German revolution in the International, shaken.

The immediate opposition came spontaneously and with such natural energy from the Berlin masses that from the first the moral victory lay with the "street."

It is an axiom of the revolution never to remain in inactivity after the first successful step. The best manifestation of power is a heavy blow. This elementary rule of struggle dominates especially every step of the revolution. It is natural and is proof of the healthy instincts, and of the fresh power of the Berlin proletariat, that it did not content itself with the reinstatement of Eichhorn but that it spontaneously occupied the most powerful posts of the counter-revolution-the bourgeois press buildings, the buildings of the semi-official news service and the Vorwaerts building. All these measures resulted from the instinctive knowledge of the workers that the counter-revolution would not remain inactive under its defeat, but would force



Luxemburg



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OUR PROGRAM WILL LIVE-IN SPITE OF ALL!

Spartacus smashed? Not so fast! We have not fled, we are not defeated, and if they fetter us, we are there, and we remain there and victory will be ours.

For Spartacus means fire and spirit, means soul and heart means will and action of the proletarian revolution; means all the suffering and longing for happiness, all the determination of the class-conscious proletariat to struggle. For Spartacus means socialism and world revolution.

The Golgotha of the working class has not yet ended, but the day of salvation approaches. The day of trial for Ebert, Scheidemann, Noske and for the capitalist rulers who hide behind them. Events rise high to the sky; we are used to being thrown from the heights to the depths-but our ship continues its straight course firmly toward its goal.

Whether we still live when the end is attained, our programme will live. It will rule the world of a saved humanity, in spite of all!

Under the rumblings of the approaching economic collapse, the still sleeping masses of the proletariat will awaken as from the trumpets of the last judgment, and the corpses of the murdered fighters will arise again and demand a reckoning from the curse-laden criminals.

Today, only the underground mutterings of the volcano. Tomorrow it will burst and bury them all in a torrent of glowing ashes and streams of lava.

THE PAMPHLET OF THE HOUR: **India in Revolt** An Up-to-Date Study by

HENRY JUDD

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the general law of capitalism as applied to war between murderers for the division of spoils: that he who was richest and mightiest profited and robbed the most: that he who was weakest was robbed, decimated, crushed and strangled to the utmost. In the number of "colonial slaves" the English imperialist cut-throats have always been most powerful. English capitalists did not lose a foot of their "own" territory (acquired through centuries of robbery) but have managed to appropriate all the German colonies in Africa, have grabbed Mesopotamia and Palestine, have stifled Greece and have begun to plunder Russia.

German imperialist cut - throats were stronger in regard to the organization and discipline of "their" armies, but weaker in colonies. They have lost all their colonies, but have robbed half of Europe and throttled most of the small countries and weaker peoples. What a great war of "liberation" on both sides! How well they have "defended the fatherland"-these bandits of both groups. the Anglo-French and the German capitalists together with their lackeys, the social-chauvinists, i.e., socialists who went over to the side

of "their own" bourgeoisie! The American billionaires were richest of all and geographically the most secure. They have profited most of all. They have made all, even the richest countries, their vassals. They have plundered hundreds of billions of dollars. And every dollar is stained with filth: filthy secret pacts between England and her "allies," between Germany and her vassals, pacts on the division of spoils, pacts on mutual "aid" in oppressing the workers and persecuting the socialist - internationalists. Every dollar is stained with the filth of "profitable"

I am not at all surprised that Wilson, the head of the American billionaires and servant of the capitalist sharks, has thrown Debs into prison. Let the bourgeoisie be brutal to the true internationalists, the true representatives of the revolutionary proletariat! The more obduracy and bestiality it displays, the nearer comes the day of the victorious proletarian revolution....

from wage slavery!

The international imperialist bourgeoisie has killed off ten million men and maimed twenty million in "its" war, the war to decide whether the English or the German robbers are to rule the world.

If our war, the war of oppressed and exploited against oppressors and exploiters, results in half a million or a million victims in all countries. the bourgeoisie will say that the sacrifice of the former is justified while the latter is criminal.

Now, amid the ravages of the imperialist war, the proletariat is thoroughly mastering that great truth taught by all revolutions and left as a heritage to the workers by their best teachers, the founders of modern socialism. That truth is, that there can be no successful revolution without crushing the resistance military deliveries enriching the of the exploiters. It was our duty to

'THE WORLD REVOLUTION IS INVINCIBLE"

We know that help from you, comrade American workers, will probably not come soon, for the development of the revolution proceeds with a different tempo and in different forms in different countries (and it cannot be otherwise). We know that the European proletarian revolution also may not blaze forth during the next few weeks, no matter how rapidly it has been ripening lately. We stake our chances on the inevitability of the international revolution. but this in no way means that we are so foolish as to stake our chances on the inevitability of the revolution within a stated short period. We have seen in our country two great revolutions, in 1905 and in 1917, and we know that revolutions are made neither to order nor by agreement. We know that circumstances brought to the fore our Russian detachment of the socialist proletariat, not by virtue of our merits, but due to the particular backwardness of Russia. and that before the outburst of the international revolution there may be several defeats of separate revolutions

Despite this, we are firmly convinced that we are invincible, because mankind will not break down under the imperialist slaughter, but will overcome it. And the first country which demolished the galley chains of imperialist war, was our country. We made the greatest of sacrifices in the struggle for the demolition of this chain, but we broke it. We are beyond imperialist dependence, we raised before the whole world the banner of struggle for the complete overthrow of imperialism. . . .

In a word, we are invincible, because the world proletarian revolution is invincible.



From this contradiction between the sharpening of the task and the lack of the preliminary conditions for its solution in the opening phases of the revolutionary development, results that the partial struggles of the revolution formally end with defeats. The revolution is the only form of war-it is its special axiom-in which the final victory can only be prepared by a number of defeats.

FROM DEFEATS-TOWARD PROLETARIAN VICTORY

What does the whole history of modern revolution and of socialism show? The first outbreaks of the class struggle in Europe-the revolt of the Lyon silk weavers-ended in a heavy defeat. The Chartist movement in England, in a defeat. The revolt of the Paris proletariat in June, 1848, with a crushing defeat. The Paris Commune of 1871 ended with a terrible defeat. The whole path of socialism, so far as revolutionary fights are concerned, is paved with defeats.

And yet this same history leads inevitably, step by step, to the final end! Where would we be today without these "defeats" from which we have drawn our historical experience, knowledge, power, idealism? Today, when we are near the final struggle of the proletarian class wars, we base ourselves on these defeats, with none of which we can dispense, each one is a part of our strength and understanding.

With the revolutionary struggle it is exactly contrary to parliamentary struggle. We had in Germany, through four decades of parliamentary action, gone from victory to victory and in the great historical trial of August 4, 1914, the result was an annihilating moral and political defeat, an unheard-of collapse, an unequalled bankruptcy. The revolution has brought us till now only defeats, but these inevitable defeats accumulate guarantee on guarantee for a future victory.

However, under one condition, it is a question under what circumstances the defeats have been suffered, whether they resulted from the pressure of the advancing masses against the limits of the immature historical preliminary conditions or whether the defeats of the revolutionary actions were caused through half-heartedness, indecision or internal weakness,

Classic examples for both cases are on the one hand the French February Revolution, and on the other the German March Revolution. The hereic action of the Paris proletariat in 1848 has become a living source of class energy for the whole international proletariat. The poverty of the German March Revolution has dragged upon the whole modern revolution like a manacle. It has affected the history of the official German social democracy up to the present dramatic crisis.

"THE REVOLUTION WILL RISE AGAIN MAJESTIC"

How does the defeat of "Spartacus week" appear in the light of the above historic problem? Did it result from the pressure of the advancing masses against the limits of the immature situation, or did it arise from the weakses and haf-heartedness of the action?

Both! The double character of this fight, the contradiction between the powerful, determined, offensive attitude of the Berlin masses and the indecision, hesitation and half-heartedness of the Berlin leaders are the special characteristics of this episode.

The leaders have failed. But leaders can and must be newly created out of the masses, and by the masses. The masses are the deciding factor, they are the rock on which the final victory of the revolution is based. The masses were on the heights, they have forged this "defeat" as a link in the chain of those defeats that are the pride and the strength of international socialism. And therefore the future victory will spring from this "defeat."

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"Order is established in Berlin!" You fools! Your "order" is built en sand! Tomorrow the revolution will arise again majestic and to your terror announce with a voice of thunder: "I was, I am, I am to be!"

EDITORIAL PAGE

Editorials Save the Freedom

Of Labor's Press!

There have been no new developments this last week in the campaign of the Post Office Department, and its advisers in the Department of Justice, against a free press. Though LABOR ACTION was released for mailing somewhat earlier than in the previous four weeks, the same procedure continues, and we are informed that there will be no change.

That is, each week when the LABOR ACTION mail sacks are brought to the New York post office, they will be held pending examination by the Washington authorities. Up to now they have been held for periods up to a week, and then released with a statement by the postmaster that their release is not to be construed as a decision on mailability-that the papers are being mailed with full responsibility resting with the publishers should the department later wish to take action against the publishers because of the contents of any given issue mailed.

The same is true in the case of The Militant, which has had several issues destroyed (for which The Militant had to pay, anyway!) and which has been summoned to a hearing this week (January 21) to show cause why its second-class mailing rights should not be revoked. We go to press befear the hearing and therefore cannot comment on its outcome. Should the secondclass mailing rights of The Militant be lifted, a damaging blow of unprecedented proportions will have been delivered against freedom of the press.

Typical of the way in which the bureaucratic mind works and skirts its responsibilities with cheap lawyers' devices is a letter sent to Max Shachtman, as publisher of LABOR ACTION, by Mr. L. M. C. Smith, representing the Special War Policies Unit of the Department of Justice. On December 21, Shachtman wrote Smith asking an explanation for the withholding of the December 21 issue, the first issue of LABOR ACTION to be held up by the Post Office.

Several weeks elapsed without an answer from Smith, and during these several weeks each subsequent issue of LA-BOR ACTION was held up. This week an answer finally arrived. Said Mr. Smith: inasmuch as the letter referred to the December 21 issue, and inasmuch as that issue had been released by the Post Office, he, Mr. Smith, considered the matter closed and requiring no further answer. But what about the later issues? Not a mention. Shachtman, writing on December 21, referred only to the December 21 issue. Hence Mr. Smith, who undoubtedly knows that subsequent issues have been held up-possibly on his instruction!-can only answer with reference to the December 21 issue. That's a lawyer's mind for you! And HE has the authority to tinker with the vital freedom of the press!

long as the Post Office continues to abuse the rights of LABOR ACTION and The Militant. The violence committed against these papers can, and WILL, be used to crack down on any free expression of opinion. Acting without any cause or foundation, the bureaucrats in the Post Office and in the Department of Justice are plainly warning all periodicals-even the most ardent Administration supporters-that they had better hold their tongues about the viciousness of Jim Crow, about the justice of la-

bor's demands . . . or else! How this case will develop, we cannot at the moment say. But we ask our friends and, in general, the friends of democratic rights to stand ready for such action as may be needed to defend labor's right to a free press!

'Liberalizing' North Africa

General Giraud's intention to "liberalize" the North African regime was given wide publicity. However, reading between the lines, one could detect the journalistic tongue in the cheek.

The appointment by the General of Marcel Peyrouton as Governor-General of Algeria simply indicates what peculiar uses are made of the words "liberty," "liberalize," etc., these days.

Marcel Peyrouton has distinguished himself in various ways. But, like all the roads that led to Rome, all Peyrouton's distinctions led to the conclusion that he is an unadulterated reactionary and fascist.

When he was in the seats of government in Algeria, Tunisia and Morocco in former years, his "liberalism" manifested itself in the dubious practice of shipping from his bailiwick to France individuals who opened their mouths in behalf of colonial freedom or any other "dangerous" political views. His record was so unbearable that, in 1936, he was removed as Resident General of Morocco by the Popular Front government.

More recently, Peyrouton was closely connected with Adrien Marquet, whose outstanding accomplishment is the vicious anti-Jewish laws in France. Under this rabid anti-Semite, Peyrouton satisfied his own lust for Jewish blood as Secretary General of Police of France. In 1940 he made sure that the anti-Jewish laws would be carried out to the letter by discharging fifty-seven of the ninety-four prefects and replacing them by more "reliable" men, many of them members of the Cagoulards, an allout-for-fascism group of the deepest dye.

It is generally agreed that Peyrouton could not have found his way to North Africa without the consent and assistance of

Negro's Road to Freedom Linked With Labor's Fight

By HARRY ALLEN

The American ruling class is seriously concerned with the sharp growth of dissatisfaction among the Negro masses. Meager sops and remedies now, and big promises for the future, placate some Negroes, However, the acute and distinct abuses and discrimination that the Negroes continue to suffer as a race cause the vast majority to be skeptical and cynical about their status, present and future - especially as long as they are dependent upon favors from above for improvement in their situation.

Not even the increase of jobs for Negro men and women, induced by war needs and somewhat alleviating their economic conditions, can lead them to ignore fundamental realities.

No Freedom

For example, the influential Negro columnist of the Pittsburgh Courier, George S. Schuyler, comments on the disillusionment of those intellectuals who only now learn that the war "has ceased to be a fight for freedom" (Pearl Buck). "It never was such a fight," states Schuvler, "except in the minds of the easily deluded, wishful thinkers?

Still, this otherwise realistic Negro intellectual, who understands that the promises of "a new order of justice, freedom and security" are just so much mouth-wash under imperialism, refused to draw the conclusion of his own logic: only socialism can end colonialism and racial oppression.

Instead, Schuyler skirts this decisive solution, which is in the long run the only truly PRACTICAL answer for the Negro masses. He contents himself by stating that the Axis must be defeated, thus relinquishing the needs and demands of the Negro people to war requirements.

However, the responsibility for the soundest immediate and ultimate aid to the Negro masses rests with the revolutionary proletarian movement. as the only force grasping accurately the immediate and historic needs of all the oppressed and exploited.

Stalinists Betray Negroes

Significantly, the Negro writer, Horace R. Cayton, recognizes and is troubled with the role played by the evolutionary movement with respect to the Negro in the recent past and during the war. He writes in the Pittsburgh Courier of January 2:

"The entire left wing and progressive movement, to which large sections of the Negro population have looked for leadership throughout the depression to an extent. let them down by subordinating the Negro people to the war program."

Cayton here penetrates to a central issue, namely, the necessity for all the oppressed to stand and strike out independently for their joint class and inter-racial needs as against Sparks in the News By Everett Weston

the demands of the ruling class. Note, though, that by the "left wing" Cayton can only mean the Stalinists. It is they whom the Negroes must castigate and completely turn their backs upon. For it is the Stalinists -supporters of Kremlin interests and the allies of one of the war campswho have "let the Negroes down." Through the years they have distorted and betrayed the needs of the Negroes and all the masses. Only the genuine left wing-the revolutionary outlook represented in the program of the Workers Party-has pointed a clear road to the Negroes.

Mr. Cayton declares categorically that the Negro masses "now are more unified on the issues which confront them than they have ever been in their history Negroes are beginning to think alike." He then asks why this new solidarity among the black people has not brought forth a living organization, program and leaders to give leadership to the Negro people?

This is indeed the central question: the need of a dynamic leadership, based on a definite program. It is here that all Negro organizations and their professed leaders

Discrimination In New York

A report of the New York State War Council acknowledges that the Negroes remain heavy sufferers from racial discrimination in getting jobs. Although the Negro population in New York City is six per cent of the total population, only one per cent have received war industry jobs. Further, six per cent of the population represent over twentyfive per cent of the city's relief load. The Jim Crow evil stands out even more sharply when it is remembered that Negro discrimination in New York City is considerably less than in other parts of the country.

run in a vicious circle and fail to examine where and how a dynamic leadership on a definite program can be achieved.

The interests of the Negroes are not uniform or homogeneous. They are also divided by divergent class interests among them. Some present an entirely bourgeois outlook, determined by their status as capitalists of varying importance.

Why MOW Fails

Thus, for instance, the fault with the MOW (March on Washington movement) lies in the fact that its leadership, from Randolph down, endeavors to appease the contradictory forces within its own movement and within the social order of capitalism.

Specifically, Randolph, a working class representative, but backed and surrounded mainly by a secondary leadership of middle class Negroes, declines to get tough with the powers that be, except on secondary matters. Supporting the war, they cannot see, or refuse to see, that the ruling class (with a tremendous Southern bloc of Jim Crowers in Congress) has, above all, its war aims to attend to, and concedes to the Negroes only what it cannot avoid conceding.

Only the organized labor movement, also taking a beating from boss and government, gives real protection to the Negroes who help make up its organization.

The overwhelming bulk of the Negroes are workers or poor farmers of varying degree. It is to be expected that labor problems as a whole are receiving greater consideration than ever before by the Negroes. Thus the California Eagle, in discussing the entry of thousands of Negro women into war industry. comments editorially:

"But of the greatest significance is the fact that they (the new Negro workers in industry-H.A.) are now in a position to be drawn into the full stream of the progressive labor movement, whose heroic efforts in behalf of Negro liberation are the hope of our people.'

White Labor Has Special Duty

A part of the Negro world therefore recognizes the relation and indispensability of Negro workers to the labor movement. However, the decisive responsibility for the integration of the new Negro workers into the labor movement rests with white labor. The California Eagle pointedly voices the Negro's suspicions, as well as a friendly warning to the labor movement, to exercise its responsibility by cracking down on Jim Crow practices within the labor movement:

"What is imperative, however, is that labor recognize its SPECIAL duties to Negro workers. The simple statement that labor believes in 'equality' isn't worth a tinker's damn. Negroes are a submerged group in the body politic. Before there can be any talk of equality, a militant campaign to hoist colored workers up to the levels of equal treatment before the law must be made. Labor cannot afford to take the position of a friendly endorser of the fight for Negro rights. Labor must become the forefront of that struggle."

Out of a fighting alliance and unity of Negro and white workers and the Negro masses to achieve the democratic, social and economic rights of the Negroes will ultimately come a conscious class struggle policy against the common exploiters and political rulers.



Page

Seldom has there been as unscrupulously misleading a journalistic campaign as that conducted by sections of the daily press-especially the Scripps-Howard newspaper chain-on the problem of taxation. The New York World-Telegram, for example, has been campaigning long and loud for the so-called Ruml tax plan as a means of solving the taxpayer's headaches. This plan has been put forward as a means of painlessly settling the painful problem of taxation by a mere wave of the Ruml hand.

On examination, however, one can see what a fraud the Ruml plan is and one can also see en actly what the motives of the capitalist press are in promoting this or similar taxation plans. The Ruml plan is really very simple. It proposes that the nation's taxation be put on a "pay as you go" basis. Up till now, when you go to pay your income tax in March of one year, you are paying taxes for the previous year; that is, taxes paid in March, 1943, count for the year 1942. Ruml proposes, however, in order to avoid the difficult situation whereby a person may have to pay the heavy taxes of the previous year out of the earnings of a greatly decreased income of the present year, that the tax paid in March, 1943, be counted as the first quarterly payment for 1943.

Thus far, however, his proposal does not differ in any important respect from the proposals of other tax plans put forward by congressmen, Treasury Department officials or the President himself. They are all agreed upon the necessity of basing tax payments on present, instead of past, earnings. Where the distinctive feature the Ruml plan comes in is in his suggestion that 1942 taxes be wiped off the books completely.

THE FLY IN THE OINTMENT

At first hand this proposal may seem to the beneficial to the American worker. Wipe out 194 taxes? Why not? It makes it easier to get along and as everyone knows it's pretty hard to pay taxes these days.

But a moment's consideration will show that such reasoning is superficial. The United States is now conducting the most expensive war in its history. It is estimated that in 1943 America will spend some eighty billion dollars and that of this somewhat less than twenty-five billions will be collected by taxation. If the problem of getting this additional revenue is met, the major method will have to be increased taxation. Present estimates indicate that sixteen billion dollars of additional revenue will be secured by taxation.

Now it is clear enough that, regardless of whether these taxes are labelled "1942" or "1943," they will have to be paid. If the taxes due for 1942 are cancelled, then what will happen is simply this: new, additional sources of tax revenue will have to be found.

The real problem involved in discussions of axation is not the question of for which year taxes are to be earmarked, but rather the questions WHO is going to pay the taxes? Which section of the population, which economic class will bear the burden of taxation?

And when we ask this question we can see exactly why the Ruml tax plan is so reactionary. For it proposes that taxation be abolished for 1942, the year in which the war industrialists, the giant corporations and big business in general made the greatest profits of recent history. It is the year for which they would have t largest taxes. The Ruml plan would offer them the gigantic lollypop of just erasing these taxes from the books. It would mean that the income that would have accrued from big business would now probably be extracted from the poorer classes which are less able to pay taxes. That's why the Scripps-Howard press is so enthusiastic about this plan.

It is impossible in the circumstances to relax for a moment a viligant watch for the protection of the freedom of the press. No periodical, no publication-and in particular no labor publication-can feel safe so

the State Department of a place called the USA.

General Eisenhower-of the same placehas blessed the appointment-for reasons. The expressed reasons are that Peyrouton has had experience as an "administrator" in North Africa.

Yes-he has the kind of administrative experience that Mussolini and Hitler can boast of. As a matter of fact, by his words as well as by his deeds, Peyrouton is a fascist. He has paid tribute to "the creative spirit of fascism."

Estimated profits for 1942 for the country's railroads was \$950,000,000 -an all-time high. This is just short of double the profit in the year before, and about \$60,000,000 more than 1929, the previous high point. -LA-

"Mr. Speaker, I move the House do now adjourn."-Maiden speech of Representative Will Rogers, Jr.

-LA-

The Liberal Weeklies: "Southern housewives who sit around passing on riot rumors and talking against Negroes, because their own servants are showing some economie independence, are feeding the fires just as dangerously-and in infinitely greater number-as are Negro leaders who demand the impossible overnight abolition of Jim Crow. If riots come, these white people will share a grave measure of the responsibility."-First of a series of articles on race relations by Thomas Sancton, managing editor of the New Republic.

-LA-

Among the thirty-five more first to get the Army-Navy "E" recently were the Anaconda Copper Mining Co. and the Anaconda Reduction Works. -LA-

"We may have been caught short of rubber when the Japs moved into the Dutch East Indies, but the U.S. supply of Sumatra leaf for wrapping cigars, the finest in the world for that purpose, is sufficient for the next couple of years."-New York Post.

-LA-"An advertiser in a North London paper asked for 'help' for a modern flat, stipulating 'good wages, hours and days to suit the applicant and two eggs fortnightly."-Reuters dispatch. -LA-

"Several months ago the OPA Division of Research made a study of the war profits of 1,753 of the larger industrial corporations and 200 of the more important war contractors. The OPA War Profits Study fills four books. The bound volumes have been available since November; the information in them -

for some months before. But as late as the first week in January the OPA Publications Division denied knowing anything about a War Profit Study or the existence of the four volumes.... WHAT THE VOLUMES REVEAL IS THAT, WHILE THE WAR LABOR BOARD HAS BEEN HAGGLING ABOUT GIVING A 15 PER CENT WAGE INCREASE TO A HAND-FUL OF WORKERS HERE AND THERE, THE TOP BIG BUSINESS CONCERNS RUNNING OUR WAR EFFORT HAVE INCREASED THEIR NORMAL PROFITS ANY-WHERE FROM 200 TO 900 PER CENT BETWEEN THE OUT-BREAK OF THE WAR IN EU-ROPE IN 1939 TO THE MIDDLE OF 1942."-New Leader.

ter taxes, of the Kendall Refining Co. was \$2.10 per share, compared with

-LA-

Since it was proposed, LABOR ACTION has pointed out that the \$25,000 on salaries was a fake. Most of the income of the big-money boys comes from clipping coupons, which isn't affected. But ...

"A canvass of Congress indicates that there is more than a 50-50 chance that the \$25,000 salary limit will be nullified."-Newsweek.

-LA-

"One little-known task the Bureau of the Budget has begun... is the collection of all current government documents on the military and economic conduct of the war-a survey unfortunately neglected in the last war. If and when the next war comes the new Roosevelts and Nelsons can see just how we did it." Newsweek.

"The Administration will intensify its campaign to prepare the American people for acceptance of post-war plans, particularly U.S. participation in policing the world." -Newsweek.

-LA-

ARE YOU PAYING MORE FOR FOOD? Hygrade Food Products

Corp. netted, after all taxes, \$2.19 a share, contrasted with \$1.48 the year previous. -LA-

"The Litzannstadter Zeitung reports the sentencing to death by a special court in Wloclawek, Poland, of a Polish girl of 23, Zofja Dominiak, who slapped the face of her German employer."-New Republic.

-LA-

A. L. Lowell, long president of Harvard University, died. It is not reported that he said anything on his deathbed about Sacco and Vanzetti.. -LA-

"One reason the Navy turned down the Army's offer to share its huge Pentagon Building was fear of being drawn into the expected congressional investigation of its cost and location."-Newsweek. -LA-

Is nothing sacred these days? The National War Labor Board was recently called on to settle a wage dispute between the New York Stock Exchange and its employees.

'Friends of the Soviet Union

"Captain Sergei N. Kournakoff will speak on the 'Strategic Possibilities of the Present Movement on the Anti-Hitler Fronts,' Sunday, 8 p.m., December 27, at Svea Hall, West Brighton, S. I.

"Captain Kournakoff is a Russian whose family has been identified with Russian fighting forces for several centuries. He was a captain in the Russian Imperial Army during the First World War and later fought the Red Army for three years and was defeated.

"International Publishing Corp. recently published a book written by him on "Russia's Fighting Forces." "The Lecture is sponsored by the

International Workers Order."

-From a publication of the Staten Island Community Center.

PROGRAM WEIGHTED FOR THE RICH

As it is, the nation's tax program is heavily weighted in favor of big business. While, in the past year, the income tax paying section of the population increased to 27,000,000 as opposed to 15,-000,000 in 1941, it will reach the figure of 50,000,-000 in 1943. And everybody earning as little as \$12 a week will have to pay a five per cent "victory tax" on that wage. Not to mention the fact that there is now a movement afoot in Congress to increase the "victory tax" to ten per cent,

While the workers suffer these outrageous tax burdens, all of the mechanisms with which big business evaded payment of even that unequal section of the tax bill still remain; tax exempt securities, various depreciation and amortization allowances, the "alternative" method of calculating corporation taxes. etc.

These paragraphs are written before the submission of President Roosevelt's new tax bill. But there is little reason to believe that this latest program will differ materially from the previous ones. While there is no doubt that the rich will have to pay quite a few pennies in taxes to keep their war effort running, they will not, we can state with certainty in advance, have to really cut into their fortunes of wealth the way the workers have to cut into their daily necessities of life.

A fair tax program would impose a 100 per cent tax on all war profits; it would exact a capital levy on accumulated fortunes; it would sharply raise corporation taxes. It would soak the rich. They, and not the workers, should be made to bear the financial brunt of this war; it's their war and they can afford to finance it. The workers are having enough trouble just getting by.



LABOR MUST DEFEND ITSELF! DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS 1. Hands off the right to strike! For the TO THE DRAFTEES!

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!

- defense of civil rights and all workers' rights! Against any wartime dictatorship measures!
- 2. \$1.00-an-hour minimum pay! Time and a half for overtime; double time for Sunday and holiday work.
- 3. Wage increases to meet rising costs. No wage or job freezing! Equal pay for equal work!
- 4. For a greater share of the increasing national income. For a higher standard of living!
- 5. No sales tax on consumer goods! No tax on wages! Against forced savings!
- 6. For control of price fixing and rationing by committees of working class organizations, housewives and farmers' organizations. Freeze rents and consumer goods prices at the 1940 level to stop the rise in the cost of living.
- 7. No government contract without a union contract! The closed shop in all war industries!
- 8. Maintain and increase all government social services!

SOAK THE RICH-LET THEM PAY FOR THEIR WAR!

- 9. A government levy on capital to cover the cost of the imperialist war. Confiscate all war profits!
- 10. Conscript all war industries under workers' control!
- 11. Expropriate the "Sixty Families"-the three percent of the people who own 96 per cent of the national wealth!

12. The right of free speech, free press and free assembly for the men in the armed forces.

- 13. The right of soldiers to vote in all elections.
- 14. The right of all youth, male or female, to vote at the age of eighteen. Old enough to fight; old enough to work; old enough to vote!
- 15. For adequate dependency allowances paid by the government with NO deductions from the soldier's pay.

SMASH JIM CROW!

- 16. 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!
- 17. For full political, social and economic equality for Negroes!

BE PREPARED!

- 18. For Workers' Defense Guards, trained and controlled by the unions, against vigilante and fascist attacks!
- 19. For an Independent Labor Party and a Workers' Government! No political support to the Roosevelt government!
- 20. For Peace Through Socialism! For the independence of all colonies!
- 21. For a World Socialist Federation! Only a socialist world will destroy capitalist imperialism and fascist barbarism!

-LA-

Silver Lining in Oil: Net profit, af-\$1.42 per share.