Organ of Revolutionary Workers League, U.S.

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# Workers Can Stop War Entry

**B**OTH sides in the dispute over the attempt of the Roosevelt administration to repeal the mandatory arms embargo in the existing neutrality law are trying to represent their fight as an honest difference over the best method of keeping the country out of war. Nothing can be further from the truth.

No treaty, no matter what its provisions, can prevent imperialist war; no law, whether it contain a mandatory arms embargo, or the strictest cash and carry clauses, can keep the biggest imperialist plunderer in the world, the American ruling class, from exploiting that war for its

own profit, and from entering the war when it decides that it is to its advantage to do so.

Despite the present neutrality law American imperialists have been making a handsome profit selling implements of war to Japan for the last three years. Every one knows that in 1916 Woodrow Wilson campaigned for re-election on a program of neutrality, and that in five months the country was at war. It has been established beyond the possibility of doubt that the motive of the ruling class for entering that war was to protect its investments in outfitting the Allies against the Central Powers.

The leopard does not change its spots. The same considerations of profit and imperialist plunder shape the policy of the ruling class today. The House of Morgan still rules the roost. In 1917 its interests forced the government to alter its policy and plunge the country into war against the will of the population. It is doing the same again.

The fight in Congress is, at bottom, a show to hide

 $\mathbf{B}^{UT}$  it cannot be denied that the isolationists in the Senate today express the opposition of the overwhelming mass of workers and the middle class to going to war. This is so on the part of the workers for two reasons. The workers still have faith in capitalist democracy. And there is no national force capable of organizing independent working class action against the war plans of the government.

The official leadership of the trade unions has long been a tool of capitalist and governmental interests which it has served at the direct expense of the interests of the workers. It can be counted on to support the government. The revolutionary movement is too weak to organize mass demonstrations and is showing no intention of even attempting it.

On the part of the administration the contention that it is seeking the best means of preserving the peace is the sheerest hypocrisy. Roosevelt's position is that repeal of the mandatory arms embargo and the sale of arms to belligerents on a cash or 90 day credit basis will assure American neutrality. It is obvious that this will aid England and France.

When the cash of the purchasers is exhausted the business of manufacturing and selling arms will compel American capitalists to extend credit and will give them sufficient reason to be interested in preventing the defeat of their debtors. This was the pattern by which Morgan got the United States into the world war.

"Turn imperialist war into

civil war."





LENIN



WHAT is Russia's role in the war in Europe? The Stalinists are vainly trying to make the world believe that the Russian invasion of Poland was an act of peace. Reactionaries, liberals, pacifists, muddleheads of all sorts are shouting that Russia has joined the anti-Comintern pact.

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What do the facts show? Rejection of the British encirclement policy aided Germany. Signing of the pact with the Nazi government made the German invasion of Poland safe. Invasion of Poland by Russian troops was decisive for victory of the "blitzkrieg." Russian occupation of three fifths

of the country secures the rear for the German army which can now concentrate in the west. The negotiations with the Turkish government no doubt include neutralization of the Dardanelles which would benefit Germany by making it impossible for Britain to attack her through the Balkans.

In the Far East truce with Japan removes the immediate menace to the latter of war with Russia and enables her to speed up the conquest of China and prepare for still greater imperialist expansion, mainly at British expense.

The facts clearly show that Russian policy is actively anti-British. But does this mean that Russia intends to become a belligerent on the side of Germany?

There is yet no indication of this. Russia has assured Britain of her neutrality. There is no more reason to believe the word of Stalin than there is that of Hitler or Chamberlain. But true or false that pledge indicates that at least no immediate hostilities against Britain are contemplated.

**RUSSIAN** neutrality is about as neutral as Roosevelt's.

nefits Junany. The latter is in doubt one of the ..... compelling reasons for Roosevelt's drive to repeal the arms embargo.

This kind of neutrality gives Stalin two great advantages. The first is that it contrives to deepen the conflict among the imperialist powers in Europe, threatens to do the same in the Far East and makes remoter than ever the possibility of their uniting to destroy Russia. The second is that it hangs over the head of Britain the threat of Russia's entering the war on the side of Germany and striking the British Empire mortal blows in the Near East and in India.

There are additional reasons for the Russian govenment's neutrality. Japan is formally neutral. But no one can have any doubt that the Japanese imperialists are awaiting a favorable opportunity to make another grab.

Should the difficulties of crashing through the Siegfried line compel the British and French to attempt to attack Germany through Holland, and Holland becomes a bellige-

rent, the Japanese might enter the war on the side of Germany. In that case the Dutch East Indies would be fair prey.

But this is almost certain to bring the United States into the war. Stalin has no intention of fighting American imperialism for the sake of the Japanese. But should Russia find herself an ally of Germany and Japan this is exactly what might take place. The present neutrality policy is safer.

THAT its policy will lead to military action has been recognized by the Roosevelt administration which has perfected plans to draft millions of workers and farmers; organize industry on a war footing; and crush working class opposition. The War Department is in possession of data covering forty million workers which has been turned over to it by the Social Security Board for its use in drafting an army.

The real purpose of the Social Security legislation is now apparent. New Deal liberalism turns out to be a screen for imperialist war preparations. When it is recalled that this fraud was perpetrated three years ago it is clear that the administration has gone about preparing for the war in a clever and farsighted manner.

Defeat of Roosevelt's proposal to repeal the mandatory arms embargo will not stop the American ruling class from going to war. But it will make it more difficult for it to do so.

In the end only working class action can prevent entry into the war. Not laws but strikes can stop the merchants of death from pursuing their grisly business. The threat of revolutionary action arising out of giant strike movements and mass demonstrations against entry into the war, against the high cost of living, will stop Roosevelt and Morgan from shedding the blood of American workers. And it has already netted Russia three fifths of Poland. Tomorrow it may add Bessarabia.

YESTERDAY Stalinist policy supported Britain against Germany. Today Stalin is throwing the weight of Russia behind Germany against England. But against the oppressed masses Stalinist policy is consistently counter-revolutionary. The invasion of Poland is a reactionary violation of the right of peoples to determine their own existence. If the Polish masses had been able to resist they should have been supported. The occupation of Polish territory by Russian troops does not bring freedom from Polish oppression. For the latter it substitutes Stalinist oppression which is as terrible if not worse.

The contention of the Russian government that its invasion was motivated by concern for the welfare of the inhabitants is an obvious lie. The second motivation that the invasion of Poland was necessary to protect the security of Russia falls before the fact that security is possible only on the basis of the right of nations to determine their own existence which can be guaranteed only by proletarian revolution.

The coming revolutions will overthrow not only the imperialist regimes of Germany, England and France, but will exterminate Stalinism.

### **Four Million** Workers, 21-30, **To Be Drafted First**

DETROIT, Sept. 25. - On Sept. 20 the Detroit Free Press published a news item stating that so far 171 plants in this city have enlisted in the Federal Mobilization Plan. ....the plants would be used largely for the production of aviation motors, trucks and tanks, but also the machinery has been set in motion for manufacture of machine guns, long-range coast defense artilley and tools and dies for the Navy.

This means that these plants\* are ready at a moment's notice measly 86,000. He isn't taking any to turn out death-dealing instruments. All that is necessary is the man-power. Plans for this little matter are just about complete. The N. Y. Times on Sept. 11 came out with an article that explains in detail just how this will work. The article is so clear that even the dumbest scissor-bill will understand it.

A selective service law, drafted long ago, would be submitted to Congress, with the expectation that it would be passed immediately.

The President would proclaim a registration day for all men in a certain age group (probably 21 to 30 at first). Some 35 million forms would be printed for registering the first 10 million men. About 5,500 local draft boards would be created by Governors

#### **READY TO KILL**

The article goes on to say that after all eliminations for nonphysical fitness; important jobs in the war machine; dependents; etc., there should be about 4,100,-000 men ready to kill their class brothers and to lay waste the land, with starvation, misery, disease and the other Christian blessings of god's world.

All this is strictly authoritative.

chances any more because this time he knows damn well that if he asks for volunteers again he'll get less.

#### OTHER ASPECTS

There are other aspects to the Federal Mobilization Plan, one of the most important of which are those clauses referring to "labor trouble." All workers should understand right now, that as soon as Uncle Sam enters the war (and it wont be long now) a military dictatorship will be clamped down on this country. No freedom of speech, press or association; no strikes of any sort will be tolerated. Any one breaking this law will be charged with treason. And who do you think is in charge of the whole shooting match? You guessed it. The generals, the capitalists and the bankers.

We, Marxists, claim that something can be done about this. There is only one way to end imperialist war and that is by taking the gun they give you and turning it against those who send you to kill other workers in order to safeguard their profits. This world is full of misery, disease, starvation and reaction. It is in our power to correct it. The only permanent cure is a workers government run by and for the workers in their own interests. Gird your loins, comrades. Life

Jenn:

\*n 1917 Uncle Sam asked for vo-is worth living. If vor die.



MONTREAL, Sept. 18. -(Canadian Press)-The All-**Canadian Congress of Labor** was asked by its officers, today, at the opening of the ninth annual convention, to approve the executive board action, pledging full support to the government of Canada during the war.

#### \* \* \*

NEW YORK, Sept. 12.-President Roosevelt today received the pledge of the Communist Party to support the Chief Executive of the land in the current war crisis. In a letter to the President.... the National Committee wrote: ....We place before those who are responsible for the welfare of our people and nation the firm solidarity of our party.... we pledge our party to cooperation with those who subordinate their personal, partisan or class in-

--DALLI MECURU.

### **Democratic Rights Blacked** Out in England, France

In their declarations on the third of September, proclaiming a state of war against Germany, Chamberlain and Daladier said England and France were fighting for civilization and the right against force, bad faith, injustice and oppression.

Seventeen and eighteen days later the Chicago Tribune Press Service reported the following state of affairs in these countries:

#### ENGLAND

LONDON, Sept. 20.-...Already lost to British subjects.... are most of the liberties which they have won in centuries of struggle.

The king.... has power to set aside or amend, by decree, any act approved by parliament. Parliamentary by-elections are canceled.

The censorship of the press is made ab-

#### FRANCE

PARIS, Sept. 21.-Civil rights have almost disappeared in France....

When Premier Edouard Daladier was given dictatorship powers last March 18 he gave assurances that there would no restrictions on individual liberty.

Poiltical life is being reorganized on the basis of one party, the National Union party.

### WPA Workers Compelled to Sign Loyalty Pledge

| FWA   |   |
|---|---|
| WPA Form 422  | Ident. No.  |
|   | residing at   |
|   | , (town or city)  |
| Being an applicant for emplo  | oyment or an employee paid  |
| from funds appropriated to<br>stration, do hereby certify th  | the Works Progress Admini-<br>nat   |
| I do not now and will<br>for services from funds<br>Progress Administration<br>ship in any organization | not at any time while paid<br>a appropriated to the Works<br>a advocate or hold member-<br>on that advocates the over-<br>ent of the United States by |
| S   | igned   |
|   | (signature of employee)   |
| Witness to signature or ma  |   |
|   | ·····   |
|   | ••••••  |
| Town  |   |
|   | tial here when certificate has  |
| been recorded on WPA.   |   |
| Form 507, Individual Earnin   | gs Record Card.   |

DETROIT, Sept. 23.-The form reproduced above had to be signed, under penalty of being cut from the payroll, by every WPA worker in the Detroit area last week. It is in line with the policy of the Roosevelt administration throughout the country.

When the WPA workers protested last July against the law which cut hundreds of thousands off the rolls, increased hours and cut wages, Roosevelt told them: "You can't strike against the government." As a result over 16,000 workers in the skilled trades in New York City alone lost their jobs for going on strike; and in Minneapolis workers are being prosecuted by Attorney General Murphy's G-men for "interforcico with scat WPA workers in the surke there.

#### REVOLT

Now when the capitalists are preparing to drive the workers of this country into another bloodbath, Roosevelt, acting as their agent, gets the WPA workers to sign cards they won't overthrow the government. By the government, of course, he means the capitalistic system. He knows that there is opposition among WPA workers to fighting for profits for those very people who throw them out of work and then give them starvation relief. He knows that the war will bring added misery and deprivation to the WPA workers who are already living on sub-subsistence levels. Roosevelt knows that the working class will be driven to strikes, demonstrations and ultimately to revolt.

No, Mr. Roosevelt. You should know better than to try to stop the inevitable forces of history with little mimeographed forms. This is one worker you can't fool. And I didn't go to Harvard.

#### WPA Worker



solute-radio always has been controlled by the government.

The stage and newsreels are censored. Private mail and that of diplomatic staffs is censored.

Free speech is infringed by a decree providing that nothing bearing on military matters may be discussed.

#### An Englishman's Home Is His Castle

Private premises, including homes, may be entered and searched without warrants.

The secretary of state may order any arrest he considers expedient.

Law cases, at the court's decision, may be heard in secret.

Citizens are forbidden to buy more than one week's supply of any food item, under penalties ranging from a fine of \$500 to two years in prison.

The board of trade is authorized to search homes and stores for food.

Absolute press censorship is invoked, with the government having power to suppress publications considered dangerous for the nation's morale. Penalties for offending publishers range up to ten years' imprisonment and 10,000 francs fine.

Free speech is suppressed to a great extent.

#### Liberty, Equality, Fraternity

Military courts are installed in Paris to try civilians accused of violating wartime regulations.

A tax of fifteen percent is imposed on all salaries, pensions and annuities of men between the ages of 18 and 49 who are not in military service.

New indirect taxes are placed on coffee, gasoline, tobacco, and face powder.

Part of the overtime pay of workers will be turned over to the National Solidarity Fund, created to assist soldiers' families.

DETROIT, Sept. 23. — Today I saw an example of some of that "solid support" that the Stalinists are gatting from the Polish speaking workers here for their new position on the Polish question. The Communist Party put out a leaflet in English and Polish announcing a meeting for Saturday, 3 p.m. in Perrien Park on the East Side. Subject: (believe it or not): Help Save Poland.

When I arrived there were talking excitedly in Polish. Unfortunately I couldn't understand what they were saying then, but later on I got the drift of it by their actions and a few sentences from one member of the crowd who yelled alternately in English and in Polish.

#### GO BACK TO RUSSIA

The chairman first announced the talks in English, then in Polish. Most of his words were drowned out by boos from the crowd. Some kept yelling "Stalin, Stalin, Stalin, Heil Hitler!, Heil to remove them and scram out of Stalin!" and "Go back to Russia, the park. E. B.

about 200 people in the park you got no business here!" The standing around in groups and cops mixed with the crowd trying to soothe it, but in no time the audience advanced as one man to the speakers with an openly threatening attitude.

While the cops lined up ahead of the crowd trying to hold it back, the Stalinists hurriedly gathered up their sound equipment and left in their car which they had parked very conveniently close to the stand. It had taken them more than a half hour to rig up their amplifiers, but it took them less than two minutes

## **Revere** Copper Workers Win Strike; Restore Wage Cut

CHICAGO, Sept. 17. — An enthusiastic meeting of the striking Revere Copper and Brass workers unanimously accepted the strike settlement arived at between the Union Bargaining Committee and the Company yesterday. The company pressed by the increased demand for copper and brass as a direct result of the war, by the pressure of the automobile season soon to be in full swing, and by a solid, militant strike granted every point demanded by the workers.

#### DEMANDS WON

union, Local 477, UAWU (AF of the company proposals. L), restored the 8% wage cut as interfere with union organization immediately for a new contract.

tant strike action. On June 22, Board that the men should return all the 575 workers in the plant to work on the old basis, and went out on strike, demanding re- | accept the one concession the storation of an 8% wage cut that had been rammed down their throats in July, 1938. Under the militant local leadership of John Kilpatrick, Pres., Tony Audia, Vice-Pres., J. Kula, J. Stunts, A. Hansen the workers extended their demands, during the course Anti-War of the strike, to the additional concessions which they finally won. A twenty four hour picket line was maintained throughout the strike.

The company, in a desperate effort to break the strike, called in the Landis Award Employers as federal agents, five Landis thugs were allowed to drive a truck into the plant through the picket line.

#### FRAME-UP

Coming out of the plant with a load of tools and dies for shipment to Revere plants in Detroit, Baltimore and Rome, N. Y., the truck, after a 2 mile chase, was forced to the curb and \$15,000 in tools and dies were strewn on the street. Six strikers, held for Grand Jury investigation, have been indicted on frame-up charges of assault and held in \$10.000 bail.

The Chicago Tribune, fuming at the successful defense of the picket line, said editorially, that the police

have a clear case of assault with deadly weapons, with intent to commit murder.... and the whole gang will be given. the. heavy. sentences they deserve. That will show, better than anything else could, that Chicago, as di-

and walked out; and by secret The company recognized the ballot 98% of the men rejected

About a month later, Henry of Sept. 18, presented the union Siefert of the law firm of Pope with a clear cut statement that and Ballard, attorneys for the foremen would neither harass nor company, went to Milwaukee to see George Kieber, Regional in the plant, granted that all Directory of the UAW - AF of L. strikers were to return to work Kieber, who up to this time had immediately according to seniority, shown little or no interest in the and accepted the condition that strike, came down from Milwaukee negotiations are to be started to attend the meeting of the Executive Board of the union on Fri-Victory was achieved by mili- day, Sept. 15. Kieber told the

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CHICAGO, Sept. 24 .- The first Anti-War United Front meeting in Chicago will be held at Newberry Park, Clark and Walton K. M. Landis, baseball's czar, one 6 to 12 p. m. A scond meeting thankfr' 'netric' ake no problem. of the most vicious strike-breaking will be held at Lincoln Center, compla. is free.

20,000 · leaflets are being distributed announcing the meetings and pointing out that:

"....The U. S. government is preparing to plunge the country into war.... The war in Europe is.... for PLUN-DER and PROFIT.... The President has already declared a limited state of emergency. Entrance into the war means an end to all workers' rights. Prices are rising sky-high again, while wages remain the same. We, the working class, have nothing to gain from this war. Neither the German, British..... working class, is our enemy.... REFUSE TO FIGHT in a capitalist war.... REFUSE TO DIE so that the profit system.... shall make super-profits... THE ANSWER TO THE WAR PLANS OF THE ROO-SEVELT GOVERNMENT IS A FIGHT



CHICAGO, Sept. 21. - For eighteen months I was a "career" man on WPA. I got \$85 a month. Now I am enjoying an indefinite "furlough." This will teach me (and 649,999 other "career" men and "shovel leaners") just how valuable a WPA job is and that I must not get into the habit of thinking that the government has to support me if I can't find work.

The government wants me to exert my god-given "individual initiative" for a month or two, spend my "hidden resources" and then come back to the relief station with my hat in my hand to beg to be put on relief. A couple of months of this and I will learn to appreciate a WPA job even if the pay will be less than before. SACRIFICE

Prices are going up. The papers say there will be an increase of 30% in the cost of living by the time Thanksgiving Day comes around. But the government has to economize on unessential things to raise money for "national defense." I will have to learn to make sacrifices for the "national welfare."

I will probably get back on WPA again and resume my "career." Pretty soon this country will be in the war. There is a lot of work to be done preparing for it, building roads, armories and airports. Besides, they will naturally want me to be in good health and good spirits so that I (and 2 or 3 million, 999,999 other workers) won't object to carrying one of those new Garand rifles when the time comes.

After my "furlough" the government will expect me (and

FED UP

I have nothing against the workers of other countries. I (and millions of other workers in this country) are fed up with starvation in the midst of plenty. We don't give a damn about the interests of the capitalists

The government knows that. It is afraid that the workers will use their guns against the capitalists of this country. I hope that day is close because I am tired of being a "career" man. I want to live like a human being. C. W.

**Bohn Aluminum** Strikers Demand **Union Shop** 

DETROIT, Sept. 25.—Picket lines held firm here today as the workers of the Bohn Aluminum and Brass Corporation, the Federal Mogul Corporation, and the Detroit Aluminum and Brass Corp. neared the close of their fourth week of strike. Approximately 4,000 workers are involved. The walkout has been so complete that the corporations have not attempted to operate. The striking unionists are members of Federal Mogul Local 202, Bohn Aluminum Local 208 and the Detroit Aluminum and Brass Division of Local 155,\*

all affiliated with the United Hart Avenue, No. 3 at 2599 Automobile Workers (CIO).

On August 29th 600 employees in the Bohn No. 1 plant on East Grand Boulevard and St. Aubin struck together with two other Thursday, September 14th, because of the company's refusal to grant the unions' demands, seven additional units of the Bohn Aluminum Corp. joined the strike. REENFORCEMENTS

On Monday of the same week workers in these units had voted 891 to 249 to strike. These units are Bohn Plant No. 2 at 3516



Rear Admiral Yates Sterling Jr., than whom-believe it or not -no one abhors war more, has a solution for the unemployment

Hearst's Chicago mote:

The time has come when every unemployed American should be put to work to construct in both oceans what Charles Edison, the Assistant Secretary of the Navy terms the American Maginot line. This line.... will consist of great war fleets in both oceans supported by naval, submarine and air bases....

And when the admiral says "put to work" he means conscript labor.



ROCKFORD, Ill., Sept. 12. - | and William Green, and said that

Twenty-second street, No. 5 at 2619 Clay Avenue, No. 6 Capitol Brass Division at 2306 Franklin Street, No. 7 Foundry at 2512 East Grand Boulevard, No. 8 at bearing plants, Federal Mogul 2601 Clay Avenue, Hamtramck, and Detroit Aluminum and Brass. and the Michigan Smelting and When negotiations broke down on Refining Division at 7885 Joseph Campeau, Hamtramck.

The strikers are demanding a union shop, abolition of piecework, vacations with pay, and 5c an hour extra for afternoon and night shifts. The efforts of the Government's "ace" mediator, James Dewey, to settle the strike have been a total flop. On one hand the corporations are taking a stick-out-the-jaw attitude towards the unions. The Bohn management told union representatives during negotiations before the strike widened: "We are going to break up your union. You can use your methods to defend your union and we'll use our own methods to destroy it." This is reported in the West Side Local edition of the Auto Worker.

#### STRIKERS DETERMINED

The strikers are just as determined, and more so, than the coporations. "We will not go

ets. In April of last year Bohn workers went out on strike for a union shop and went back to work without having won their demand. They do not want to repeat this failure. When the corporations started a rumor around that they would give in to the union on all the demands and sole bargaining rights "provided that employees don't press their union shop demand at this time"-and that it was a rumor was soon proved-the strikers met 2,000 strong in Schiller hall last Thursday afternoon, and by a unanimous vote decided to reject any compromise offered by the company and to take nothing less than a union shop.

It is this sentiment and other factors which compelled R. J. Thomas, president of the UAW-CIO to sanction the strike and Richard Frankensteen and Leo Lamotte (of this-is-no-strike-buta-walkout fame at Plymouth), regional directors, to go along with the strike, even giving lip service to militancy on occasions. Further-

more, the Labor Board Elections

stinct from new other cities, is not ruled by gangland.

Stanley F. Evans, union attorney, presenting evidence of the Landis scabs posing as federal agents to Judge McCarthy, has requested an investigation by the State's Attorney's office.

#### STAMPEDE FAILS

Several attempts were made by the company to stampede the men back to work. In a series of meetings held at the Palmer House on Aug. 11, 12, 13 between the company, represented by Tom Flack and an eastern big-shot, Rollo Falk, and the Bargaining Committee, the company claimed that the men would return to work under the old conditions except for the coercion and intimidation of the local leadership. To prove this was completely false, the leadership consented to a special meeting with an NLRB obstarted the union leadership voted Workers League (REVOLT).

FOR BETTER WORKING **CONDITIONS!** FOR TRADE UNION WAGES ON WPA! ALL WAR FUNDS TO THE UNEMPLOYED! NOT A SOLDIER NOT A CENT FOR U.S. WAR SCHEMES!

END THE PROFIT SYS-TEM!

#### ESTĄBLISH A SYSTEM OF PRODUCTION FOR USE!

The meetings are organized by the Chicago Anti-War United Front Committee. Organizations participating in the Committee are the Chicago Workers Security money to the Mooney Molders the Chicago Workers Security Federation (15 locals); Commun- Defense, walked in picket lines ist Workers Group; Marxian Labor College; Plebeian Forum; Revolu- his freedom, this must have been tionary Workers League (Fighting Worker); Socialist Union called for a "third term for our server present. When the voting Party; and the Revolutionary

Labor Council, Tom Mooney, America's most famous class-war prisoner, in a prepared speech which he read to 1,000 union men, called for support of Roosevelt's call for "National Unity." This is the way, he said, to achieve labor unity.

#### SOCK IN THE JAW

Mooney ,a short, stumpy man, partly bald, with deep-set eyes, read in a low voice. His speech was dull. It was received in dead silence; but half-way through it he startled his listeners when he said the "great Democratic Party got me out of jail." To his listeand marched in demonstrations for like a sock in the jaw. Mooney great president."

Mooney praised John L. Lewis

At a meeting here tonight, ar- the CIO and AF of L Unions are are to take place at Chrysler this ranged by the Central Trades and run democratically. From start to week, and it would not look just finish he gave a Stalinist line. Mooney is a member of the Democratic Party. Like other

New Dealers he has been playing ball with the Stalinists. Now that the New Deal is growing cold toward the Stalinists as a result of the Hitler-Stalin pact and the partition of Poland, Mooney will have to make up his mind which capitalist camp he will support. Members of the League and the Socialist Union Party distributed

Revolt and Labor Power at the meeting.

#### \* \* \*

CHICAGO, Sept. 17 .- A disappointingly small crowd of 2,000 sident of the company, claimed the workers, came to the Coliseum this afternoon, and paid 35c admission to welcome Tom Mooney, "Labor's tatorial powers in the direction Champion." The meeting was held of the working force of the comunder the auspices of the Mooney Defense Committee. Molders'

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right to the Chrysler workers if their leaders refused to agree to the strike.

#### PRESSURE

Finally, there is evidence of considerable pressure from the rank and file for militant action because of the rise in the cost of living here and also because of grievances piling up in the different big shops. Thursday of last week two plants of the American Blower Corp. went out on strike, affecting 500 workers. They are demanding a restoration of a six percent wage cut made a year ago. Clark T. Morse, preunion also wanted a preferential union shop and "additional dicpany," but Leo Lamotte denied this. At Kelsey Hayes a slow

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#### UNITY REVOLUTIONARY

The Central Committee has received a number of replies to the Open Letter to Revolutionists, published in the previous issues of REVOLT. Others are expected.

In order that there shall be no misunderstanding the Central Committee declares that it has not offered the program of the League as the basis for unity.

It believes that unity of the revolutionists is made urgently necessary by the new situation created by the outbreak of war in Europe and the imminent entry of the U.S. into it. It believes there is a long standing position on imperialist war which is held by many groups and individuals who are separated by differences over other issues.

It believes that the imperative need to organize effective revolutionary agitation in the United States today against imperialist war and for proletarian revolution has made agreement on this issue decisive for unity and has caused differences which do not touch the fundamental positions of Marxism to lose their validity as a basis for the existence of separate groups.

#### UNDER ONE ROOF

It does not believe that the basis for unity can be those positions which separate the League from other groups which have an identical position on the war question. It understands that these differences cannot be ignored. But it believes that if it is agreed that they shall not be permitted to stand in the way of unity, means can be worked out to resolve them under the roof of one organization. Any other position would make unity impossibile since no group apparently is ready to abandon its program and recognize the program of another group. Hence no group should be asked to do so as a condition for unity.

Other groups, the Central Committee recognizes, have an equal right to disagree with its position and to advance a different approch to the problem. Whether unity is possible at -II. whether unity will be achieved on the basis of the Central

- or whether it will be realised any

mompt to unite. The Central Committee has not attempt to lay out a blueprint to which the process of unification must nation is in need of better housconform.

#### NO RIGHT TO DECIDE

For these reasons the Central Committee declares that the replies which it receives to its Open Letter are not its property exclusively; they belong to all revolutionary groups and interested revolutionists.

For the same reason the Central Committee recognizes that it does not have the right to decide for other groups whether unity is possible and which basis is acceptable and which is not. The fact that the Central Committee took the initiative in broaching the problem of revolutionary unity openly does not make it the custodian of the process which it began. The decisions can be made only by these groups.

To make this possible the Central Committe will publish the replies which it receives in the next issue and will propose additional steps.



pressure on the union representatives to close the strike on the grounds of "national defense." Any settlement reached on this will probably be a comprohasis



NEW YORK, Sept. 25 .- The boss tried a dumb trick to prevent the workers from organizing and asking higher wages. He distributed applications to all of us to try to get into a government housing project. Everybody grabbed one and filled it out on the boss' time. None of us would turn down an opportunity to get cheaper rent. Between ourselves I told the fel-"The boss, by being so lows generous, shows that he knows we need more money to live on. If we get cheaper rent we won't ask for higher wages. That way the

boss will save money for himself." "Will you turn down the opportunity?" I was asked. "No," I replied, "but I will continue to fight for higher wages. Would you live in the dump you're living in now if you get \$10 more a week? Darn right you won't."

"Isn't the boss taxed to pay for the cost of building the hous ing projects?" "Sure, but it doesn't amount to one-half of one percent of his total taxes, or of the wage increase we should get."

#### FAITH

"Then why does the government these houses?" build someone asked. "Well, if you haven't money enough to pay your rent, you'll organize for higher wages. The boss won't give it to you, you'll go out on strike. The boss will try to break the strike with the aid of the police and the courts. You won't think much of the government then. Maybe you will become a communist. The government wants you to have faith in it."

"Well the government is trying to help up anyway, even though d the boss won't," came the reply.

\_\_.d. "Con-gress says that one-third of the ing. Congress reduced the WPA appropriation, and cut relief, and killed the Housing Bill. Do you think its going to build low rental houses when it won't give ad-equate relief? Besides what will become of all the capitalist landlords?"

"The whole country will have to be rebuilt to give better housing to the working class. A capitalist government will never do this. A workers government of councils of factory and farm workers will. But we need a revolution against capitalist property relations to achieve this. And we have to build a revolutionaly party of workers today thru agitation on this and the bread and butter question in the shop to organize and prepare for the coming revolution."

#### D. Whitman

### Revere

#### **Continued from Page 3**

company was willing to make, paid vacations in 1940.

Kieber said, "this is the best offer the company will make. They will go no further." The Executive Board rejected Kieber's proposal and instructed the Bargaining Committe and Attorney Heisler to press all the demands. Within 24 hours the union won a complete victory.

**NO MONEY** 

Neither Kieber nor Homer Martin, International President, who made a special trip to address the strikers contributed one cent to the strike. The strike was financed solely by the strikers themselves, through personal loans and social affairs.

Although the workers have won a strike settlement they are not yet out of the woods. The attempt to frame-up six strikers must be smashed; a new contract must be negotiated. With the cost of living going up, wage increases won today will be wiped out as the price of sugar, lard, flour and other food essentials go up. The new contract should make provision to reopen the question of wages at the request of the union, to bring wages into line with living costs. **Brass** Worker



#### **Continued from Page 3**

Leaflets announcing the meeting promised "A never to be forgotten occasion."

Mooney said he came out of prison "a defender of American democracy." He hailed Roosevelt as the "greatest President who ever sat in the White House." Reactionaries were seeking to destrov Roosevelt's prestige, he said. and praised the President for the Social Security laws and WPA and relief bills. Mooney's praise for the President's reform legislation followed by fift<del>een days</del> revelations made by the Chicago Tribune that the War Department had on file the names of 40 million workers turned over by the Social Security Board for use in drafting an army.

Among those mentioned by Mooney as being pro-labor were: 'Memorial Day Massacre" Kelly, Mayor of Chicago; La Guardia of New York; Olson of California, "the great New Deal governor," and other California capitalist politicians.

#### SLOGANS

The hall was decorated with American flags, and the black and gold flags of the Molders' Union. Slogans in red, white, and blue read: "Forward to national unity and support of the New Deal;" "Labor united, not divided, is the road to victory in 1940."

The chairman was Anton Johansen, vice-president of the AF of L August Scholle, mid-west regional director of the CIO, spoke for unity of the CIO and AF of L. proof that Mr. Walker has not



AN OUTLINE OF MAN'S HISTORY

By Patrick Gordon Walker National Council of Labour Colleges, England 2 /6d or 2 /d post free. 262 pp.

May, 1939.

An Outline of Man's History. the latest in the series of Plebs outlines, is, as the title indicates, an attempt to set forth in relatively few pages a short history of the world from the first appearance of man up to the very present. Like all the Plebs outlines the present book is written primarily for workers.

As far as the attempt at the history of the past is concerned, the work must be hailed as a step forward. If nothing else it helps to shove to the background all such bourgeois presentations as Van Loon's History of Mankind, H. G. Wells' Outline of History, and other drug store compendiums of "universal knowledge." It gives a fairly accurate Marxist presentation, although its technique could be improved to make it more suitable for workers to read. In seeking to be an outline, it is too sketchy and unless one has a fair knowledge of world history in advance (and few workers do) the reader is left dangling in the air on many occasions .

#### SUPREME NEED

It is with the author's analysis of the present and the future of history that we have a quarrel. After correctly stating the crisis of present day capitalism-its inability to feed the workers and its reactionary collapse into Fascism-Mr. Walker concludes that the supreme need is for the working class not merely to defend its immediate class interests, but to lead and focus the increasing discontent of increasing masses of the people." In the last chapter the author states this ultimate goal of the working class to be a new society in which production will be vastly improved, the state will be altered, and in which there will be only one class, the producing class. This we assume to be Mr. Walker's definition of Socialism.

#### REVOLUTION

How is this future society to be achieved? The author speaks of "transforming the present social institutions." How this is to be done he does not say. This is generally the language of those who reject the progressive character of proletarian revolution and pin their hopes on a peaceful evolution to socialism. The experience of the last world war, and the entire course of history since its close with the peace of Versailles, not to speak of the present war in Europe are the most convincing

| down strike has been in pro-<br>gress for a week now.<br>But one important factor invol-<br>ved in the present strike raises<br>the question of how far these<br>leaders will go along with the<br>rank and file on the demand for<br>a closed shop. The strike threatens<br>the war preparations of the capi-<br>talist class. The plants involved<br>make a good percentage of the<br>pistons and bearings used in the<br>aircraft and automobile plants.<br>The latter will begin to manufac-<br>ture tanks soon. The government<br>is rushing a program through for<br>three thousand new planes by<br>the end of 1940. Already the<br>capitalist papers are talking of<br>the danger of the strike to the<br>defense program. The auto plants<br>here have supplies stocked up, | the case in the Briggs strike last<br>summer when the Briggs workers<br>could have had the moon with a<br>fence around it but went back to<br>work with only sole bargaining<br>powers.<br>Frankensteen and Lamotte have<br>already indicated their position.<br>In a telegram they sent to the<br>corporations asking verification<br>or denial of the rumors for a<br>compromise, they stated.<br>We repeat that in the in-<br>terest of aiding our country's<br>defensive program during this<br>period of a limited national<br>emergency the companies<br>should join with us in a<br>mutually satisfactory settle-<br>ment of the strike arrived at | WHICH ROAD<br>Will they continue to struggle<br>for their own interests in spite<br>of the war program of the capi-<br>talists or will they go along with<br>their misleaders, and, misled by<br>patriotism, subordinate their own<br>interests to those of the capital-<br>ists? In deciding this question<br>auto workers should bear in mind<br>that while there are soft jobs<br>for their union heads in Washing- | said, would be the formation of a<br>"third party if necessary."<br>A chorus from the Amalgamated<br>Clothing Workers' Union began<br>the meeting by singing the Star-<br>Spangled Banner. Later they sang<br>Stout-hearted Men, and O, Suzan-<br>nah. A worker in the back of the<br>hall yelled "Sing the Internatio-<br>nale." No attention was paid to<br>him.<br>A collection was taken up, the<br>amount of which was not announ-<br>ced. Then the chorus sang God<br>Bless America.<br>After the meeting, copies of<br>Mooney's Pardon personally auto-<br>graphed by him were sold for<br>two-bits .<br>Members of the League distri-<br>buting <b>Revolt</b> were attacked by<br>Stalinists. | Inderstood either Marxism or the<br>history of our time.<br>Emil Barton<br><b>REVOLT</b><br><b>PUBLISHING</b><br><b>FUND</b><br>This is the second printed<br>issue of REVOLT. It is made<br>possible by the generous con-<br>tributions of friends and sym-<br>pathizers to the REVOLT<br>PUBLISHING FUND.<br>The rapidity with which the<br>United States is preparing to<br>enter the war opens new tasks<br>and responsibilities in the<br>strugggle against imperialist<br>war. For us, the least will be<br>the continued publication of |
|--|---|--|---|--|
| capitalist papers are talking of<br>the danger of the strike to the<br>defense program. The auto plants  | should join with us in a<br>mutually satisfactory settle-<br>ment of the strike arrived at<br>in the American manner of<br>negotiating around a confe-  | ists? In deciding this question<br>auto workers should bear in mind<br>that while there are soft jobs<br>for their union heads in Washing-<br>ton, D. C. during war, for them<br>there is only speed-up, wage-cut-   | two-bits .<br>Members of the League distri-<br>buting Revolt were attacked by<br>Stalinists.<br>D. Lockwood   | and responsibilities in the strugggle against imperialist  |
| being hit.<br>NATIONAL DEFENSE<br>The government, it can be ex-  |   | ting and military discipline in the<br>factory and death for many of<br>their sons and fellow workers on<br>the battle-field .<br>Auto Worker.   | JOIN<br>the<br>LEAGUE   | VOLT PUBLISHING FUND<br>should be sent immediately<br>to 1806 North Ave., Chicago,<br>Illinois.  |