Vanadium Strikers Firm - - Page 2 Natalia Trotsky Writes - - - Page 5

Negro and The Army --- Page 4

THE MILITANT

formerly the **Socialist Appeal**

Official Weekly Organ of the Socialist Workers Party

VOL. V-No. 11

LEND-LEASE CLEARS WAY FOR A. Ford And Negroes Union Can Win N. Y. Bus Strike War Goes On!

Scheme To Divide Black And White

The Ford Motor Company is the greatest single enemy of trade unionism in the United States. To force it to sign a contract with the UAW-CIO would constitute the greatest victory of the labor movement in years.

Obstacles there are, and we want to speak about one of them quite plainly. We refer to Ford's shrewd handling of the 11,000 Negro workers in the River Rouge plant and those in . Ford's other plants. Ford employs more Negroes than any other automobile corporation. In this respect Ford has been more far-sighted than other manufacturers. By his policy he has won a certain esteem in the Negro community which he has always planned to use against the trade unions, and which he is now openly attempting to use against the UAW-CIO's Ford drive.

Unfortunately for Ford, it is the ClO that he is fighting against. And the CIO from its very beginning has had a very different attitude toward the Negro than the narrow and reactionary policy pursued by the AFL. From the first the CIO has welcomed the Negro into its ranks on the same basis as white workers. And not only into membership, but also into positions of leadership. One of the most inspiring sights in the labor movement during this past year was the CIO national convention at Atlantic City in November, where a considerable number of the delegates were Negroes, who took the floor and spoke with the ease and assurance of speaking in their own house. Thanks to that CIO policy, the Negro workers have played a great part in building the CIO. They have shown a militancy not exceeded, if indeed equalled, by any other group of workers. The deep indignation of their oppressed race has held many a CIO picket line firm against cops and company thugs. The very latest strike victory-at the -Lackawanna plant of Bethlehem Steelbrought reports of the especially noteworthy sole of the Negro steel workers. Even in the South, where for centuries white workers have been poisoned by whitesupremacy bunk propagated by the ruling class, the CIO has brought about a new situation. How black and white can unite and fight even in the South has just been demonstrated in the CIO shipyard strike victory at Mobile, Alabama.

5

This national situation of the CIO can and will destroy whatever hold Ford has managed to get on a section of the Negro population in Detroit. Ford's lies may delude this group of Negroes but not for long. Ford is, for example making a desperate attempt to get these Neg- panies got the help of a "red roes to believe that the UAW-CIO is responsible for the fact that other auto plants don't hire as many Negroes as does Ford. And Ford has found tools among the Negro lawyers, doctors and businessmen in Detroit who are helping him spread these lies among the Negro | ful Transport Workers Union. workers in the Ford plants.

The main responsibility for solving this problem rests with the UAW-CIO and "the white workers of the CIO. They must demon- Transport Workers Union yesterstrate to the complete satisfaction of the Negro | day when the two companies conworkers that they mean fully to unite black | trolling 95 per cent of the surand white. The union must not be satisfied face transportation in Manhatmerely with the fact that it is wide open to tan refused, after expiration of Negro members. The union must take the lead | the old contract, to submit reasin the struggle against any form of discrim- onable counter- proposals to the ination by any of the bosses in the hiring of union's demand for a 25 per cent Negro workers.

volved, the union must have the greatest day. patience and tolerance. For at the bottom of Fifth Avenue Coach Company stantly interrupted speakers with this situation are the justified grievances of the Negro workers against the AFL unions, to a top of 81 cents after four now!" and against the attitude of many white work- years. Wages under the contract . At 5 A. M. yesterday 400 strike ers. which Ford has been able to use for his which expired March 1 with the reactionary purposes. The union can clear

up this situation thanks to the splendid record

On the third day of the bus strike, which has successfully tied up all struck lines, Mayor GRACE CARLSON La Guardia and the bus comscare", when Congressman Dies attempted to label the union as Communist.'

This move can only be termed a last-ditch piece of desperation against the power-

NEW YORK CITY, May 11-A bus strike was forced on the

increase in pay for drivers, con-While the union is seeking to prove this ductors, mechanics and garage range from 61 cents to 90 cents to the satisfaction of the Negro workers in- men and a uniform eight hour an hour after four years. When The present pay rates on the March 7, the bus workers con-

NEW YORK, N. Y. SATURDAY, MARCH 15, 1941

Unbeatable Power of Transport Workers

Shown in First Three Days of Strike

lines range from 75 cents an hour the cry, "Strike! Strike! Strike

Grace Carlson has reached the Pacific in her national speaking tour for the Socialist Workers Party. Her next talks

TOUR THIS WEEK

are: LOS ANGELES: Sunday, March 16, 8 p.m. "The Right to Life." At Embassy Auditorium, 517 West 9th Street. SAN FRANCISCO: Sunday, March 23rd, 8 p.m. "The War Today." At 421 Kearny Street.

Complete schedule of Carl on tour on page 2.

New York City Omnibus Corp. the strike vote was taken on

(Continued on page 6)

Passage Of Lend-Lease Law Cannot and Will Not Halt Fight On Next War Moves AN EDITORIAL

For most of the "isolationist" Congressmen who originally opposed the lend-lease bill, the fight is over. In the final vote in the House on Tuesday, 94 of the 165 Congressmen who had originally voted against the bill, switched sides. One "isolationist" leader after another jumped on the bandwagon and promised full support to the President in the name of "national unity." In the Senate, the great show of handshaking and camaraderie between opponents and proponents, after the Senate voted in favor of the bill, is a clue to the lack of seriousness in the forces of the opposition.

As a matter of fact, as Senator Vandenberg, one of the opposition leaders pointed out, 95% of the Senators had voted for the principle of aid to Great Britain. Practically all of the oppositionists had voted for the Taft amendment, which would give Britain two billion dollars outright.

In a word, the opposition was not a real opposition at all at any time. It was, at bottom, a sham battle.

For our part, we never put a moment's faith in the Vandenbergs and Wheelers. We left that kind of "united front" to the Stalinists and Norman Thomas. We have been just as much interested in warning the workers against the falsity and. fakery of "isolationism" as we have in the fight against the interventionists.

Hence, so far as we are concerned, we look upon the defection of the "isolationists" to Roosevelt as no defection at all. We want to have every worker see and understand the underlying unity between the "isolationists" and the interventionists. When a worker sees that, he will begin to comprehend the real basis of our opposition to this war.

Refusal To Accept Amendments Shows He'll Go The Limit

ROOSEVELT

CAN TAKE

US TO WAR

FIVE (5) CENTS

With the signing of the lease-lend law Tuesday, Roosevelt is now in a position to plunge the people of this country into actual warfare any time he decides that such a step is necessary to remove Hitler's threat to American capitalism's domination of the world.

More than the provisions of the law, the amendments that failed to pass offer an indication that Roosevelt is prepared to go the limit.

In spite of his many promises previously that no American soldier would fight on foreign soil, an amendment providing that no American Expeditionary Force would be sent was defeated by Roosevelt's forces.

The same fate was given to an amendment against the use of U.S. warships for convoy purposes.

The defeat of these amendments show which way Roosevelt is heading the country-toward total involvement in the war. It is a foregone conclusion that, naving committed themselves this policy, the Congressmen will grant any appropriation requested by Roosevelt to carry, it out.

of the CIO toward Negroes, but the record of demands upon the employers in auto and elsewhere for the hiring of Negroes.

Whatever grievances the Negroes have against the way certain unions and many white workers have treated them-and these grievances are many and justified-the classconscious Negro workers will understand the Federal Truck, Midland Steel, Shut Down; necessity of making common cause with the stand Ford's game and not fall for it. Given a correct approach by the UAW-ClO, we are confident, that the Negro workers at Ford's will do what the Negro workers have done in Bethlehem, at Mobile, in the Chicago stockyards and elsewhere. The Negro workers at Ford's will become the most militant fighters for the union!

the CIO must be added to now by bold union demands upon the employers in auto and else-On In Detroit

white workers of the CIO. They will under- GM Negotiations May Produce Fireworks

DETROIT, March 11-A wave of militancy is surging rough the ranks of the UAW-CIO.

Over 600 workers continue their strike at the Federal Motor ruck Company, holder of a \$5 million defense order for Army Signal Corps trucks. The union is demanding wage increases and a union shop. The plant is closed down tight and the union men state that it will continue that way until the company signs on the dotted line.

At 9 A.M. yesterday 1700 workers of the Midland Steel

Products Company, manufacturer ment will be jammed down the of steel frames for most of Dethroats of the membership this troit's automobile companies, time. went out on strike. Federal conciliators, mediators, state labor FORD BATTLE PREPARED Meanwhile the autolocals are board officials and sundry labor

"trouble shooters" from the U.S. preparing for the grim battle that Department of Labor have been will soon take place at the plants Final returns in New York running around the Midland sit- of the Ford Motor Company. Fly-City's 17th Congressional district uation for the past week like ing squadrons are being set up special election show that the chickens with their heads cut off, and union militants are raring votes, cast for Eugene P. Con- trying to kid the workers out of to go. Senile, old Hank Ford is-

sued another blast today from But the Midland Steel men his Georgia summer home defypercentage of votes cast for the couldn't be put off with "soft- ing the union. The Detroit auto ALP candidate in the last gen- soap." The Midland Steel men workers are ready to take on staged the first sit-down strike in old Hank here and now.

Many of the watchful union mlthe city of Detroit in 1936, the strike which set the ball rolling to litants, noting with dismay the establish unionism in the auto in- latest "anti-strike" statement of dustry. Now these men want wage Roosevelt, believe he may set up increases to meet the rising cost | a War Labor Board as soon as endorsement by Roosevelt and of living and a union shop to en- the Ford strike is called and call upon the Ford workers to return to work.

But the auto workers, thus far, Negotiations begin this morning have resisted the attempts of Sidwith the General Motors Corpora- ney Hillman to housebreak Amer-Since last November the vote tion on the demands drawn up ican labor.

The auto workers have not aldistrict increased from slightly ing the membership of 70, GM lo- lowed themselves to be intimidatmore than 5 percent of the total cals. The union is demanding a ed by the strike breaking threats union shop, recognition of the of Knudsen, and union militants Connolly was the only inde- shop-steward system, a flat 10c have confidence that the auto pendent labor candidate running bourly wage increase and a 90e workers will not permit an antiunion, Rockefeller - Morgan - Du-

The GM workers are watching Pont War Labor Board to cheat ounced, the Socialist Workers these negotiations very carefully, the Ford workers out of their Party withdrew its candidate. determined that no poor agree just rights.

It is this war we oppose. As horrible as war is, we would not hesitate to urge Roosevelt to enter the war, if it were really to be a war for democracy against fascism. We are not pacifists. He who opposes war simply because war is horrible, is doing no service to the working masses. For to liberate themselves from the clutches of war and fascism, the workers must be prepared to use the same weapons that the enemy is using.

But this war is not our war. It is an imperialist war. Roosevelt is now given a free hand to do anything he sees fit to help British imperialism defeat German imperialism-to protect the interests of American imperialism. That's what the lend-lease law means. That's why we opposed it, that's why we shall oppose any and all further war moves by the Roosevelt government.

Our opposition to the Roosevelt war program does not blind us to the fact that, by and large, it has been accepted by the workers. The major steps of the war program-armament, conscription, aid to Britain-have received the passive support of the people.

They have accepted these steps, however, for reasons profoundly different than those which motivate Roosevelt, the Congressmen and Wall Street. The workers have accepted these steps because they hate fascism and because they have as yet seen no other way to struggle against fascism than by accepting Roosevelt's war program.

It is important to make these workers realize that Roosevelt's war is not a war against fascism. But that is not enough. Only pacifist fools can think of returning to the status quo existing before the armament and conscription program. The real solution lies in an altogether different direction. The real solution is to transform this imperialist war into a war against fascism. That can only be done by taking all power out of the hands of the capitalist class. The workers can fight and conquer fascism only by taking control of the country into their own hands.

We shall oppose every further step which the Roosevelt administration will take to further the interests of American imperialism. Every step that Roosevelt takes in his war moves represents the interests of American capitalism and not the interests of the American working masses.

But we know, in advance: the workers will not be able to avoid war, and they will not be able to defeat fascism; they will be dragged into war, they will suffer all its horrors without the compensation that the war is for the interests of the working class-all this must happen so long as the workers do not accept the idea that the way to destroy fascism altogether is to have the working class take control of this country, its resources, its armed forces.

It is because we want a real fight against fascism that our party has called for trade union control of military training, for the training of worker-officers and, in a word, for the complete control of the armed forces of this country by the working class. That is the only road to victory against Hitler and against all the fascists wherever they are.

CONVOYS ARE NEXT

Scarcely was the ink of his signature dry, when Roosevelt be gan to turn over naval equipment to Britain. Destroyers, mosquito boats, etc., will be rushed across. All that is needed now is for a German submarine to sink a boatload of American war material, and then will begin a hue and cry about the absurdity of spending money on material without taking steps to prevent the Germans from sinking it. Then will come the demand for convoys, and it will be readily granted. The first convoy guarding material that runs into German submarines will fire the first direct U. S. shot in the war.

HYPOCRISY REIGNS

Hypocrisy ran riot in Congress during the debate. The representatives of the Jim Crow, poll tax South undertook the defense of democracy on the foreign field. The ultra-reactionary Republicans became the defenders of internal democracy against dictatorship powers. And there was no one in the halls of Congress to laugh these hypocrites to shame.

No one arose to a point of order to point out that the Southern Bourbons have no right to speak of defending democracy against fascism. Nor did the Southern representatives, vulnerable as they are, rise to point to Taft, Vandenberg and their crowd of "isolationists" as the group that, more than any other, is likely to destroy democracy altogether.

But even had, a revolutionary representative been present to point these things out, the hypocritical lies would have been repeated-that is all that the American capitalist class has with which to cover its nakedness. It cannot even find new slogans under which to fight this war, but must repeat its worn-out formulas of 1914-1918.

= by GEORGE STERN = . A U. S. Department of Com-|spending 72 per cent of its na merce official has estimated that | tional income for the war is Germany's war expenditures are another way of saying that the now being made at the rate of 72 German people are being beaten per cent of the entire German down to an ever declining level national income, or about 72 bil- of living standards. lion marks a year. The figure is based upon sketchy German revarious of our "leaders" that ports supplemented by some

ON THE WAR FRONTS

shrewd guess work. The same official report points out that this year the United States expects to spend \$17,500,0000,000 for all purposes, including the arms drive. If the U.S. were spending at the same rate as the German, it would be spending \$57,600,000,-

000 per vear. The implication here is plain enough. The Department of Commerce issues this report precisely for the purpose of advising business men of the necessary and inevitable trend.

What the report does not go into is the meaning of these figures for the people generally. The rate of expenditure for armaments naturally far exceeds the rate of increase of the national income.

To say that Nazi Germany is

We already have heard from

the American people are going to have to do without a lot of things because of the war drive. In reality an important proportion of the American people are already doing without a lot of things they need. In the times that are coming they will have to do with still

less. This is what is happening every time the OPM announces new "priorities" in vital lines for the arms program.

during the same period.

Finally there is the question of inflation as an inevitable corollary of the arms program. The Department of Commerce vote to 9 per cent. report took pains to show not

only that in the war period German national indebtedness increased but that this rise was accentuated by an inflationary increase in currency circulation



nolly, candidate of the American striking.

Labor Party, nearly doubled the eral election.

The vote was: Baldwin (Republican) 23,252; Alfange, (Demoerat) 16,690; Connolly, (ALP) 3.985.

Alfange was defeated despite the war-mongering right wing of sure security on the job.

the ALP. His vote was a far GM PARLEYS BEGIN * smaller percentage than the Democrats got in the last election.

for the ALP in this silk stocking by the GM Conference represent-

in this special election. When his minimum rate. nomination by the ALP was an-

THE MILITANT

The Pittsburgh COURIER re-

ports that Byron C. Johnson, one

of the colored navy messboys

kicked out of the U.S. Navy, has

obtained a job in a Brooklyn fac-



Write to us-tell us what's going on in your part of the labor movement-what are the workers thinking about?-tell us what the bosses are up to-and the G-men and the local copsand the Stalinists-send us that story the capitalist press didn't print and that story they buried or distorted-our pages are open to you. Letters must carry name and address, but indicate if you do not want your name printed.

Army Doctor Says **Medical** Corps Incompetent

2 -

(The following are extracts the army, everyone sneers at it from a letter sent by a member of the army medical corps to his family.)

goes with army life. Disciplining privates gives them a big kick. Most of them have always wanted to play boss, and their position in the army permits them to do this now. As for "democracy" in

the committee. and calls it plain hokum. I recently attended a public fat cat war profiteers are up dance here. When some privates

becomes clearer.

with, shall not be made pub-

lic by the committee"

to \$15,000.

came in, all the officers left the We met some reservists in the building. Officers are forbidden to medical corps. As a group they associate socially with privates. are the usual type one meets I have been shocked by the utamong the petty-bourgeois intelter medical incompetende I have lectuals and professionals-smug, witnessed and heard about. Skin narrow-minded and very aloof bespecialists are placed in charge of cause of their educational advantgenito-urinary wards; rectal surages. Very few of them have geons are assigned to heart examlearned anything since leaving inations. This may sound farschool, and don't care to learn. fetched, but I have personally ver-The things I have learned here ified such cases.

about these army medical men At one camp in the South, I make me despair. We are all told have learned that there is a vento forget our medicine; that we ereal prophylactic station for the are to be army men first and not white soldiers - but none for the doctors. Very few of us get beyond Negroes! That's "democracy" for prescribing asparin. you!

Some of those I have met are It's a sad situation so far as disgusted, but the majority are guarding the health of the nataken in by their new authority tion's youth in the army is conand the rest of the folderol that cerned.



What The Home Guard's For



Here are several of a large force of Alabama Home Guard strike-breakers patroling the Utica Knitting Co. mill at Aniston, Ala., after dispersing an AFL picket line with tear gas and bayonets. This is the first reported use of the Home Guard-and it's against labor.

Vanadium Strikers Denounce CIO Director's Aid To Boss

Firmly Continue Their Strike, Demanding New Guard Jobs Be Filled Only By Union

By JAMES COOK RIDGEVILLE, Pa. March 5 ice with the company."

hundred striking workers of the to the committee that since these during which time there has never the strike started. These are the anadium Corporation of Ame- jobs were of a "confidential ca- been any trouble. If the Vanadium demands of the strikers now. rica, here in this Pittsburgh pacity" it did not concern the un- Corp. feels, because it has Feduburb, are stubbornly holding ion. The union membership felt eroff on its side, the workers must

out for the right of their union that if these jobs were made conto have their unemployed union fidential it could only mean that company will find it is mistaken, tions to safeguard their domina- House, organizer for the United brothers get jobs that open up these guards were to be used as because the union members are tion: The function of a hangman, in the plant and to prevent the stool pigeons and snoopers among ready to fight to the end to pro- and the function of a priest. The company from using stool them, which was a breach of their tect their democratic rights. pigeons to annoy the workers contract. If the company wanted

merely guards to patrol the propon the job. Despite the pressure of the erty the union membership would

company, the plea of the "na- supply them. The company had hired as tional defense" emergency program and the attempt of An-| guards before two former coal and thony I. Fedoroff, the CIO Re- iron police, one man who said violating their agreement with gional Director, to break their that any man who attends a CIO the company. On the basis of this

gional Director, to break their that any man who attends a CIO the company. On the basis of this SCHEDULE OF strike and compel them to drop meeting is a Communist, and an-the tried to run a back-to-work their grievance, the strikers, other who used to stand over the meeting in Bridgeville. On Feb. members of the United Vanad-mem in an annoying manner 22, he hired a hall in Bridgeville CARLSON TOUR ium Workers, Local Industrial watching them do their work. Union No. 953, affiliated with Some of the men working in of musclemen. They did not even

them, called the strike on Feb. 8. whose names were not given out. Frank A. Pugne, president of The strikers held a meeting and the local, pointed out that several decided that before they would other companies around here reg- agree to return to work the comularly hire their guards from pany must not only hire the six employee having the longest serv- their own employees. The union guards from their membership,

hangman is to quell the protest

and the rebellion of the oppressed, Since the strike was started the the priest is to paint before them Corporation officials have stood a perspective of mitigated sufferpat, leaving to Federoff the dirty | ings and sacrifice under the same job of trying to break the strike. class rule."-Lenin, The Imperial-He issued a false statement to the ist War. Page 296.





The Chicago Guild, incidental- | the formation of an independent ly, has declared the Chicago labor party.

Hearst management guilty of a lockout: more than 90 Guild members have been laid off in violation of the union agreement, the management refusing to arbitrate.

* * *

tory through the efforts of the The Dubuque Iowa LEADER Scrap Iron Union Local 1120. reports the latest union to be hit AFL, which invited Johnson into by a "conspiracy" indictment. The the union, a mixed organization, Dubuque Drivers Union Local despite the fact its books were 421, three of its officers and five closed. Hurrah for Local 1120. operators of dairies were charged

with conspiracy February 13th to It is a startling and bloody fix the price of milk for retail story that Walter Merguson is resale and delivery. A federal grand lating, exclusively in the Pittsjury handed down the indictment burgh Courier, of the mass murat the request of the Sanitary der of 2,000,000 Sengalese soldiers Dairy, which sought to chisel on by Hitler. Betrayed by the French the industry by launching various government and the French gen-"thrift plans" calling for less fre- eral staff, these colored warriors quent milk deliveries by milkmen. were left to delay Hitler's march * * *

westward. The Sengalese, armed

LABOR, railroad union organ. with bolo knives and deserted by for February 25th reports that the their white officers, faced Hitler's tanks and planes. Only a handful International Association of Machinists with its 225,000 members of the 2,000,000 escaped.

Merguson says "I know now will cease paying dues to the AFL that they died for a country until that body compels the Carpenters to stop trespassing on which railroaded them into the the Machinists' jurisdiction. The army, denied them the right of jurisdictional dispute involves citizenship, exploited them and millwright work. the installation opposed their liberation and political emancipation." and dismantling of machinery. Ac-

cording to President Harvey It was on December 14, 1989, Brown of the Machinists, it will that the same Merguson in his be up to the next AFL convention story from Paris approvingly "either to enforce the Machinists' quoted the words of Father Fau rights or go without affiliation of cher, priest, that the French "are the union." not fighting for the extension of

French territory. We are fight-The executive council of the ing for the equality of all the AFL announces another new high races of the world. The idea of the superiority of race does not establish freedom and intellectual development for all who live un

der the caressing folds of the tricolor."

It took the mass murder of 2.-000,000 Sengambians to force Walter Merguson to recognize the truth - that the French "democracy" opposed the political and economic emancipation of the colon him with blackjacks. He was ored people. How many tens of millions of colored people will have to die before Merguson and He is in critical condition. his type will be forced to recog This is the second time com nize the lies underlying the propaganda of British and American imperialism?

MLDWEST LABOR, CIO paper Goodyear foremen and "service published in Duluth, reports a ven." International officers of the Duluth mother of six children has United Rubber Workers say they been thrown off relief because she house-work in Two no other payment

in membership for the Federation; membership has climbed grow in French soil. For oppres 500,000 in the last four months sion and barbarity we wish to to a total of 4,747,443, the council states. * * * The Summit County LABOR NEWS reports that John D Rubber Workers in Gadsden, Alabama, was severely beaten February 18th by five thugs who in-

vaded his office and went to work left for dead with blood stream-'ng from fifteen cuts on his head pany thugs have beaten House Some time ago he and President Dalrymple were beaten, also in



has had contractual relations with but must also agree to pay all the -A determined band of four The company replied indirectly the company for close to five years men their back pay from the day.

"All oppressing classes of every accept him as their dictator, the description need two social func-

Oscar Coover, who keeps those subs popping in the Twin Cities, is seen looking at a display of Trotskyist newspapers, at the party banquet which launched the Minneapolis (beg pardon, Twin Cities) subscription drive campaign. MINNESOTA OVER THE TOP WITH 531 POINTS IN SIXTH WEEK OF NATION-WIDE SUB DRIVE!! With two weeks still to go, and New York left somewhere in the dust at the starting post, the Minnesota Militant Miracle	UNION CLAIMS JOBS The issue involved is the ques- tion of hiring six guards to patrol the property of the company. The union grievance committee in No.	ing hall, as not a single worker came to it. OTHER UNIONS HELP The union has already received support and endorsement from several unions around here. Afnong them are the Carnegie lodge 171 and the Goodwill lodge 178 of SWOC, also the Washing- ton County Labor Council which is made up of delegates from IMWW locals and other CIO un	will insist on a complete investigation of the beating given House It would seem an elementary duty of the United Rubber Work- ers Union of Gadsden to form 2 Union Defense Guard to guard its union and officers from the viol- ence of company gangsters. *** The UNITED MINE WORK- ERS JOURNAL reports that ten- tative figures of the U.S. Bureau of Mines place the number of fatal accidents in the nation's coal mines for 1940 at 1420. This is an increase of 342 over the previous year, and the highest
And lest the abashed remaind- er of the Socialist Workers Party thinks the Minnesota comrades are content to let things go at that, let it read and weep over this blithe wire from the Sub Center of the nation: "MINNESOTA SAYS THERE IS A SAYING THAT THE	position as timekeeper, clerk, ste- nographer, office worker or salar- ied employee not in a supervisory, technical or confidential capacity shall be posted by the Company for a period of one week In filling the position the Com- pany shall give preference among equally qualified employees to the	made was to send each striker a special dismissal notice. Fed- eroff backed this up by stating in the press that he would plead with the company to take the workers back. A few days later he announced that he had gotten the company's agreement to take all the strikers back except six Won. March 31 Tues. April 1 Seattle Wed. April 2 Thurs. April 3 Fri. April 4 Plentywood Sat. April 5 Williston Mon. April 7 Tues. April 8 " Mon. March 31 Tues. April 1 Seattle Wed. April 2 Thurs. April 3 Fri. April 4 Mon. April 7 Fargo Tues. April 8 " Tues. April 9 Twin Cities	number of deaths in the mines since 1931. Still Congress refuses to pass the Flannery Federal Mine In- spection Bill which would dimin- ish the needless slaughter of the nation's mine workers. One rea- son why Congress fails to act is because there are no labor rep- resentatives in Congress. John L. Lewis and Philip Murray helped bring about this condition when 73.962 farms in the state in 1940 than in 1980 there were 5.977 more tenants 5.156 fewer "full owners" and 4. 558 fewer farms operated by "part owners." Full owners are those who hold title to the land regardless of whether or not if is encumbered by mortgage debt while part owners are those who have a contract for deed. Of the 73.962 farms in the state in 1940
HARDEST TO GET. MINNESO- TA FOUND THE FIRST 500 POINTS EASY AND WE ARE STARTING ON THE SECOND. COME ON NEW YORK!" Come on New York?—Come on, Ame- rica!! This Week Total Subs Pts Subs Pts day strike of the 150 workers in the Fada radio factory here end- ed today. with a clean-cut vic- tory for the workers. The strike was called by Local 430 of the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers Union (CIO).	L. A. Stalinists Try To Stop "Militant" Sales LOS ANGELES, March 9—The Stalinists in the CIO Council here are making frantic efforts to	No Orders Received After APRIL 15, 1941	they threw their support to Will- kie and Roosevelt instead of to General Motors Settles Flint Fisher No. 1 Fight
Chicago26344577crease for all the workers nowxDetroit5122559employed in the plant.New York33051L.A.121429Boston241927Cleveland221427Youngstown221522Newark381322	prevent THE. MILITANT from ceaching the trade union workers. Last Friday, they stationed one of their following inside the ent- rance of the building where the CIO Council meets to attempt to he meeting of their right to read bur paper, which was being dis- ributed outside the building. workers stated emphatically that they would be sure to read the paper. The Stalinist worker who was preventing the distribution in this fashion was questioned on his right to do so. He admitted that he had not been authorized by the union, and that he was "doing it on my own hook, be-	Revolution and Counter-Revolution in Spain (202 pages) Regular price of these two	FLINT, Mich., March 8—A temporary settlement was reached this week between the General Motors Corporation and the UAW-CIO, concerning the 82 trim line workers at Fisher Body No. 1 plant. The men are to go back to work at once, but are to have no seniority rights during a probationary period. After the probationary period, which will end with the end of production on the current model, probably the latter part of June, the men will have their with the company in condemning seniority reinstated provided the with the company in condemning
New Haven 3 4 10 13 Toledo 0 0 10 11 Allentown 0 0 4 7 Paterson 1 1 3 5 Pittsburgh 2 2 4 4 Milwaukee 0 0 1 4 4 Milwaukee 0 1 4 4 Milwaukee Mil Littant Mil Littant 9 San Diego 2 3 4 10 11 3 5 11 11 14 14 14 14 14 14 14 14 14 14 14 14 14 14<	By telling the workers that the paper was anti-union, this indi- ridual succeeded in getting about to papers away from workers be- fore they had a chance to read the paper for themselves. But over 150 union men refused to rield the paper up. Two of the workers came out of the meeting to inquire of those	books together In paper: \$1.50 In cloth: \$3.00 NOW YOU CAN HAVE BOTH FOR \$1.25 in cloth	company does not pin some kind of infraction of rules on them. This settlement is every bit as hard on the union militants as the case of the 17 men who lost their seniority rights in a previous struggle at Fisher Body 1. The severity of the discipline forced on the men, is the direct result of the fact that instead of brand-
$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	listributing the paper what right his Stalinist had to try to take way their papers. When it was xplained that the paper was ery much pro-union, but anti-	50¢ in paper Pioneer Publishers 116 University Place New York City	ing the company for provoking walkouts as a means to clean out union militants and speed up the lines, the Thomas-Reuther Inter- national leadership openly sided street plot to wreck UAW).

MARCH 15, 1941

THE MILITANT

UAW Elections Harvester Strike In 7th Week Wall St. Planned Show The Trend Back To Work **GM** Provocation This Makes Four Of A Kind Move Flops;

"Labor Statesmen" Have Little Prestige Among Men, Returns In Elections Show

DETROIT-Most locals of the United Automobile Workers of America have completed their annual local elections and many would-be labor leaders are still wondering what hit them.

The auto workers have retired to private life several of these strike of 14,000 workers at four "labor statesmen" and have issued sharp and unmistakable warning to others to mend their ways or else.

to one!

Emil Mazey, three times President of the 20,000-men Briggs local, a phony "labor statesman" leader" of the Lewis - Addes ning for re-election, by some 120 Stalinist camp, managed to votes fell behind his opponent, McMillan, an individual totally by 66 votes. unknown outside of his own local.

MAZEY MAY WITHDRAW

Mazey secured'a run-off election | Plymouth local, one of the Stalonly by violating his own local inist "Big Three" strongholds in by-laws, which clearly state that a Detroit, was defeated decisively simply majority is sufficient to for relection by an anti-Stalinist elect any local officer. It is ru- candidate.

mored, however, that Mazey sees REUTHER IN TROUBLE the handwriting on the wall and is planning to withdraw from the run-off election in order to take an appointed job with the CIO.

William Marshall, three times President of Chrysler local No. 7, another would-be "labor statesman" of the Hillman-Reuther vaviety, managed to get reelected to the local presidency by 57 votes in a run-off election against Zeller, a progressive unionist who has never previously been an officer of the union. Chrysler Local No. 7 has 10,000 members and over 7,000 participated in the balloting.

WINS BY 66 VOTES

Kurt Murdock, three times Pre- inist leadership. This election is men and other company stooges, sident of the large Packard local, a warning to all "labor statesmen" running for reelection, a "labor to mend their ways or else.

New Strike May Hit Bethlehem

Lackawanna Manager Is Balking Against **Composition Of Grievance Committee**

BUFFALO, N.Y., March 8-The Bethlehem Steel Company appears to be chewing off another big hunk of trouble for itself at the big Lackawanna plant here.

As was to be expected, Eugene Grace is trying to welch on the agreement reached a week ago after a two day strike which tied the plant up tight. The company has refused to meet with the designated committee of the Steel Workers Organizing Com-the designated committee of the Steel Workers Organizing Com-breakers and scabs hired after proved wages and working condi-in any years, and two weeks for those war ballyhoo, they can beat the points out very cleverly, that by mittee (CIO) to negotiate grievances as promised in the strike

plants of the International Harvester Company is holding solid against the combined pressure of the company, labor board and the AFL. Six weeks ago the Harvester squeeze through under the wire ractor plant here was shut down,

ollowed by walkouts at IHC All these men used to get elect plants in Rock Falls, Ill., and ed by majorities of two and three Richmond, Ind. The strikes were called by the Mike Duletzky, Secretary of the

Farm Equipment Workers Organizing Committee (CIO) after two years of company discrimination against its members and the company's recognition of a company union.

Men Are Firm

CHICAGO, March 9. - The

AFL'S SCAB ROLE

The Walter Reuther crowd con-When the National Labor Relatrolling the key West Side local tions Board ordered the company of about 30,000 members, is facing a stiff battle for reelection in to disband this fake outfit, the their scheduled local union elec- AFL lent its name to the com-

pany union. tions two weeks hence. The latest move of the company The auto workers have clearly demonstrated in these local elec- has been to make various unsuc tions that they are dissatisfied cessful attempts to stir up dissenwith the way the union is being sion among the strikers and start conducted at the present time. No a back-to-work movement. The AFL is lending its aid to local leadership is able to establish a bureaucratic machine.

this strike-breaking move. Frank The auto workers have demon- Fenton, AFL director of organizastrated that they do not approve | tion here, called a meeting to in of the cowardly, pussy-footing pol- duce the IHC workers to go back icy of either the Thomas-Reuther to work. About 700 attended, in local leaders or of the Addes-Stal- cluding a large percentage of fore-

to hear Fenton term the McCormick strike a "lockout" against

Part of the company's strategy to break the strike is to call for a labor board election, on the grounds that it does not know union rejected company propowhich union to recognize, the CIO or the AFL-labeled company union. The whole move is to get the mon labor.

Philip Murray, SWOC head, and the other executive officers were instructed by the conference to "take such steps and

This is what happened in the 17 the strike started, and manage- tions in accordance with the pro- and without raising steel prices. employed longer than five years.

Formal negotiations for a | and the company, held since Nov-1 Other vital demands beside the 10-cent an hour increase have new contract between U.S. ember, reached no agreement. been served upon U. S. Steel. GIGANTIC PROFITS These include the following:

U. S. Steel, as pointed out by Philip Murray, made \$102,000,000 net profits in 1940, and is expected to net over \$200,000,000 in 1941. During the last war the corporation netted \$800,000,000 profits. U. S. Steel, backed behind the union members. scenes by important Roosevelt administration officials, has balked

at wage increases, arguing that these would bring higher steel prices and start an upward genstraight days without rest. eral price spiral which would lead o "inflation."

UNION DEBUNKS ALIBI

The termination of the U.S.

Herald-American here. Among may deem advisable or necessary demanded by the workers and 4. One week's vacation with pay trying to provoke action, feeling those who voted were strike for the purpose of securing im- still make greater profits than for workers employed one to five

Steel contract will coincide with machinery to provide for speedier

Recent Provocations Are Spearhead In A

Drive To Smash The UAW-CIO Altogether

FLINT, Mich., March 5. - Wall | were discharged for participating in an unauthorized walk-Street has launched a campaign, out."

centered in General Motors, to The above paragraph means smash the work standards established in the past period by the clearly that the firing of 82 men United Automobile Workers. This for an unauthorized walkout, was campaign is part of a grand strat- only a part of the general strategy to smash unionism in auto, egy to speed up production in under cover of "National De GM. It means that all the raving fense" and is directed by the ruthabout responsibility and wildcat ess General Staff of Morgan-Du- actions is so much hogwash in an attempt to cover up the real ispont.

This was revealed unwittingly in an article February 24 in the Wall Street Journal, spokesman for the banker-industrialist.

This article further revealed that the discharge of 82 union men at the Fisher Body I plant in Flint, was not merely as a result of an unauthorized walkout, but as a part of the general scheme to wrest the work standards away from the union in GM and to institute a speed up on a grand scale.

"Passenger car output for the remainder of 1941 . . . is threatened by the prospects of strikes ... " says the Wall Street Journal. paign.

A DELIBERATE PLOT

Why? Is it because the workers are irresponsible and anxious for strikes? Not on your life! Here is the real reason, as given by the Wall

Street Journal: "A showdown is approaching on the measure of control that management is to have in fixing production standards... Both CIO and AFL branches of 1. Exclusive bargaining rights the United Auto Workers are for all U. S. Steel workers (261,involved in this contest. Before 000) as a corporation unit, instead it is ended, production in sevof the present agreement provideral plants may be interrupted. ing for separate contracts in each GENERAL MOTORS MAY BE ONE OF THE FIRST COMof the 66 plants and covering only PANIES TO ENCOUNTER

2. A 48 hour rest period in each TROUBLE.' calendar week, instead of the pre-When a statement like that ap sent clause which permits the company to work the men 10. it may be taken confidently as a 3/ Time and a half pay for overadopt such program of action corporation could easily lay out for all time worked during the strikes if necessary. It means that they are playing a bold game.

union in a fight.

A DEAD GIVE-AWAY

to destroy the UAW.

shops.

sue-speed-up. It also means that when Walter Reuther and R. J. Thomas side with the company in these provoked walkouts, they are merely playing into the hands of Wall Street and aiding them in their plan to destroy the UAW, which Reuther and Thomas are supposed to represent. It also means that the whole International Executive board of the UAW has failed to understand what the game of the company actually is,

and their whole policy of "respectability" serves as a good cover for the auto baron's speed-up cam-

UNION MUST ACT

If the UAW is to stop this campaign to destroy work standards, a determined stand must be taken. It cannot be met by Thomas' police measures against wildcat actions, which are clearly provoked by the corporations in their well-

planned campaign. It must be met by an equally well-planned union campaign of offensive against the corporations, especially GM, the chosen battlefield, to defend and extend the rights of unionism.

The Fisher Body incident was not an isolated example of "irresponsible unionism" as Thomas has said. It is a part of the General Motors-wide speed-up drive!

The 82 discharged employes at pears in the Wall Street Journal Fisher No. 1 are not a bunch of "hotheads" as Walter Reuther tip-off on what the employers in would have the UAW believe. auto are planning behind the These 82 are the victims of the time for work over eight hours scenes. It means that the auto General Motors anti-union drive ... in any one day or in excess of 40 barons are planning to smash work and the victims also of the short-The union points out that the hours in any calendar week, and standards, even at the cost of sightedness and stupidity of the International Leadership of the UAW.

NOW'S THE TIME!

that at this time, in the midst of The Wall Street Journal also Spring, as a result of steel prior Given this statement in the ities going to war industries, Wall Street Journal, it is now there may be considerable curtailthe ending on March 31 of the adjustment of grievances in simple to understand what is bement of ordinary production. hind the trouble at the Fisher "Should the industry run into premature curtailment this spring, Detroit, where constant attempts due to material shortages . . . the 7. Provisions for reinstatement at speed-up have been directed at union shop drive would be less effective," says the Wall Street Journal. Wall Street makes clear that if the union men of the UAW want The Wall St. Journal goes even to win the union shop, if they further, and practically confesses want to establish better condiin so many words, that the discharge of 82 men on the trim line tions, they had better do it now! at Flint Fisher Body 1 was only Union militants have undera part of the game to wreck the stood what the problems were, bestandards in General Motors, the fore the Wall Street Journal opcompany chosen by Wall Street, enly revealed them. But now that it is an open secret, what excuse as the best arena for its attempt have Thomas, Reuther, Addes and Frankensteen for following "The most important step their pussyfoot policy? The cortaken by management to retain-or, as management sees porations have told you what their plan is! Only 'a militant defense it, to regain-control of proof union conditions, only a sharp duction standards from the about-face from the policy of pro-UAW was taken Friday night by General Motors Corp. At company action in cases of "units Fisher Body No. 1 plant at authorized" strikes can save the Flint, 81 workers (actually 82) UAW.



Pickets guarding one of the entrances to the strike-bound McCormick plant of the International Harvester Company in Chicago. The strike at this plant brings the number of IHC strikers to over 14,000 in four plants. The strike was called by the Farm Equipment Workers Organizing Committee (CIO).

U.S. Steel Gets Demand For New Union Contract

SWOC's Formal Notice For Negotiditons Cancels Old Contract; Ten Cents An Hour Raise For Common Labor Is Chief Demand

Steel and the Steel Workers Organizing Committee (CIO) will the "communist" CIO. The meetopen next week in 'an atmosing passed a resolution asking the phere of grim conflict and with company to "open the gates for those employees who desire to

At a meeting of 150 representatives of the 66 U.S. Steel cents an hour raise for all com-

the workers return, the company intends to use every manner of fraud, pressure and bribery to outvote the CIO.

gram of the SWOC."

tle union on the offensive.

lodges of the SWOC, held in Pittsburg last week-end, the sals for a 2¹/₂ cents an hour pay increase and is demanding a 10

workers to go back to work. Once

months CIO strike at Hearst's which they, in their d'scretion, the additional \$52,000,000 in wages 48 hour rest period.

settlement.

Lorne Nelles, SWOC director here, has issued a statement charging that C. L. Baker, the lopany's repeated citation by the | in Washington between the com-National Labor Relations Board pany, federal conciliators and the cal plant personnel manager, has "refused to admit the committee for illegal labor practices, the CIO union representatives ended because he objected to certain of its members." There's a name for backing of the government in carrying out its open-shop anti-union an election before it will negothe kind of union whose committees are named by the bosses. It's policies. called a 'company union,' that's In addition, the company has

some \$750,000,000 in assets, ac-

THE COMPANY'S DOMAIN

Other company steel plants are

located in Sparrows Point. Md.:

Bethlehem, Johnstown, Pottstown,

Coatesville, Steelton, Danville,

Williamsport and Lebanon, Pa.;

Wilmington, Del,; Tulsa, Okla.;

what Bethlehem Steel wants to deal with.

WORKERS' SPIRITS HIGH

But the Lackawanna workers are in no mood to be kicked the union.

around. After the recent strike, NEW SITUATION the workers trooped back into the But the situation is not quite plant in a fighting, defiant spirit, the same as it was in 1919 or 1937. with their union buttons plaster-In 1919, the company smashed the ed all over their hats and coats. strike because of the general And that's something Eugene weakness of the union movement Grace thought he'd never live to and the ease with which it could get scab labor. During the Little see.

The SWOC today sent telegrams Steel strike of 1937, union organto Roosevelt and the members of | ization in Bethlehem Steel was the Office for Production Management demanding that the governwalk-out.

ment take immediate action to Today, labor is organized as compel the company to live up to never before in American history. its agreement, based on the pro- It's a lot harder to get scabs. And posals of the OPM, or the union

further "breakdown" in Bethlehem domain. A second strike in any Bethle-Steel production.

workers so willing to go back to yards, in cities from the Atlantic war upon organized labor by West work on the limited terms acceptto the Pacific.

ed in the first strike. They know their organized power now, and they also know that there are 60,000 other Bethlehem workers in the country who have been inspired by the Lackawanna strike.

HUGE PROFITS

The corporation had the best Seattle, San Francisco and Los year of its history in 1940, soak- Angeles. The shipbuilding plants of the ing away \$48,677,524 in net proings" have gone into wage boosts | York City, Baltimore, Quincy, for the speeded-up workers. Beth-Mass.: Sparrows Point, San Franlehem Steel has a back-log of \$1,- cisco, Alameda and San Pedro, 500.000.000 in government war or- Calif.

ders - one-third of all the war contracts so far granted in the for the next three years.

contracts, granted despite the com- Jersey and Cuba.

ment executives. A conference this past week-end

tentiaries.

to organized labor.

CONTRACT EXPIRES A written notice has been sent the company is insistent on such asking for a formal conference soft coal operators. If the present

tiate. which has been in effect since the miners, as is their tradition, But the workers have already voted for the CIO by their actions cumulated out of its half century in support of the CIO picket line. of bitter labor exploitation, which The plants are shut down, and in thirty days. it is ready to employ to defeat the FEWOC says they'll stay that way until the company recognizes after six "informal" conferences U. S. Steel for common labor is from the workers benefiting by the union of the workers' choice. between union representatives \$5 a day.

present contract of 440,000 memeach plant. to the corporation, the largest bers of the United Mine Workers 6. Equalization of pay for the Body plants in Flint, Lansing and company feels it has the tacit without any agreement, because steel manufacturer in the world, (CIO) and the major group of same classifications of work. with the union on a new agree- negotiations of the miners pro- in employment of union men the men, especially in the trim ment. Under the present contract, duce no new contract by then, drafted into the military forces.

8. Seniority upon the basis of 1937, service of such notice auto- will go on a "work holiday." They length of employment and on no matically terminates the contract will not work without a contract other factor.

even for a day. 9. Adequate machinery to per-This formal notice was served The present prevailing wage in mit the union to collect dues

the contract.

5. Improvement of the grievance

James B. McNamara Dies

Death last Saturday released been desperately ill for five years thought up the idea of getting leaders and that a conference of James B. McNamara, world's old- in Folsom, where he was denied the brothers to sacrifice themsel- capital and labor would be held too weak to effect any genuine est class-war prisoner in point of privileges, worked beyond his ves by pleading guilty in return to "iron out" their differences. time served, from his 30 year pri- strength and refused adequate me- for an agreement from the emson hell in the California peni- dical care.

McNamara was an organizer

McNamara was sentenced to life for the International Association the SWOC is firmly entrenched imprisonment on December 5, of Bridge and Structural Iron would not be responsible for any throughout the Bethlehem Steel 1911 by a California boss court Workers at the time of his arrest. for the alleged bombing of the His activity and that of his union Los Angeles Times building on Oc- on behalf of West Coast labor had

Another strike at the Lacka- hem plant might easily spread to tober 1, 1910. His conviction was aroused the wrath of the openwanna plant would not find the all its plants, mines and ship- the outcome of a fierce and bloody shop interests. They were determined to get him, and through his Coast open-shop forces led by Genconviction to smear organized laeral H. C. Otis, the Times pubbor throughout the country and break the back of the rising unlisher.

> ion movement. For 30 years, 25 of them spent

in San Quentin penitentiary and McNamara, together with his the last five in the state's disbrother. John. who was arrested ciplinary penal institute, Folsom and accused at the same time, be-Penitentiary, McNamara bore came the center of one of the without flinching the deliberate greatest defense movements ever persecutions of the prison author- organized in this country. Ameriities. They could not break his can labor rallied to their defense. fits. Little of these huge "earn- company are located in New spirit nor cause him to yield an raising a defense fund of a quarinch in his indomitable opposition ter of a million dollars. Clarence to the boss class and his devotion Darrow was their counsel.

For months, the brothers un-His death followed two opera- waveringly denied their guilt.

In addition, the company owns tions for abdominal cancer induc- Their case became the focal point coal mines in Pennsylvania and ed by three decades of rotten pri- for a vicious attack upon the enentire country - enough to keep | West Virginia, iron mines in Mi- son fare and aggravated by medi- tire trade union movement. In an the company operating at capacity chigan, Pennsylvania, Chile, Cuba cal neglect. His transfer to the effort to ease the pressure upor and Venezuela, and limestone prison hospital at San Quentin the labor movement by the bosses Because of these government quarries in Pennsylvania, New where he died was permitted only certain individuals in the labor last February 13, although he had movement and interested liberals

After the heaviest pressure was ployers that there would be no brought to bear on them by their further prosecutions of labor own associates, who argued that

a guilty plea would end the immediate persecution of other labor tered a plea of guilty. According imprisonment, his brother just a

brief term and the rest of the contemplated prosecutions would be dropped.

The bosses, of course, violated the agreement. James received his life sentence, and John was sentenced to 15 years, of which he served ten. Within six months, munist Party from the state elec-54 other labor leaders were indict- tion ballot.

ed in the famous "dynamite conspiracy" frame-ups growing out of the McNamara case. Thirty-eight were sentenced to prison terms for one to seven years. In 1915, two others were also convicted.

McNamara lived up to his end of the bargain. He sacrified 30 actment of the bill has been sent Communist Party. It is neither a years of his life and freedom and by the Philadelphia SWP branch did not waver once. He upheld to the Senate committee. The

Together with all progressive forces of labor, we pay tribute to one of the noblest fighters for his

diate persecution of other labor leaders, the brothers finally en- SWP Fights Against to the terms agreed upon by the bosses, James was to receive life Ban On CP In Penna.

PHILADELPHIA, March 7. -- | lot in Pennsylvania. Passage Branches of the Socialist Workers Party in Pennsylvania are launching a vigorous campaign against enactment of a bill now before the state legislature in Harrisburg which would bar the Combill."

The proposed bill, which has the backing of the most reactionary business groups in the state, is in hearing before the state Senate Judiciary General Committee.

A protest telegram against enthe union movement to the end. | telegram reads as follows:

"The Socialist Workers Party vigorously protests bill before your committee to bar class in American labor history. | Communist Party from the bal- boss class and its government.

would mean serious infringement of democratic rights of minority parties. We condemn bill as a pretext for striking blows at genuine anti-war section of labor movement in drive of government toward war. We urge immediate quashing of

In a statement released to the press today, the state secretary of the Pennsylvania section of the SWP declared in part:

"We disagree emphatically with the policies and practices of the genuine revolutionary nor an antiwar party. Nevertheless, we defend any workers' organization, regardless of how sharply we disagree with its program and leadership, against the attacks of the



At the age of 29, when sent-

enced to life imprisonment in

1911.

THE MILITANT

The Negro And The U.S. Army

The Story Of What Happened To The Colored Soldiers And Officers In 1917

By EUGENE VARLIN **Distribution of the Negro Troops**

According to the official statistics well over 60 per cent of the Negroes were doing laborious work which did not involve the use of arms. On June 23. 1918, when about 237,000 Negroes had been called, the radio of the non-combatant to the combatant was about four to one. The non-combatant troops were grouped in Butchery Companies 322 and 363, Stevedore Regiments 301, 302, and 303, Stevedore Battalions 701 and 702, Engineer Service Battalions 505-550, Labor Service Battalions 304-315, 329-348, and 357, Labor Companies 301,324, and in Pioneer Labor Battalions 801,809, 811, and 813-816.

The Negro combat troops were almost totally excluded from the artillery, the cavalry and aeronautics, the more effective branches of the army.

925 Negroes received commissions in line organizations 356 in the Medical Corps, 65 in the Dental Corps, 1 in the Sanitary Corps; there were 60 chaplains. Leaving aside the question of the removal of Negro officers, this means that the Negroes, who contributed 13.08% of the enlisted troops had a total of 1,408 or about seven-tenths of one per cent of the approximately 200,000 officers commissioned during the World War.

The Negroes were bluntly told that they were wanted only for the mess departments in the Navy.

Secretary of War Baker, in reply to the protests of the Negroes, said that the colored people lived in a certain customary relation to the population as a whole and that there was nothing wrong in transferring this relation to the armed forces. He forgot for the moment that the Negroes had been told that those forces were fighting for democracy!

The Colored Officer

American Army when the United States entered ted to either West Point or Annapolis for a number of years. A military department has been kept up at Wilberforce University, a Negro school, and about sixty-five of its graduates and undergraduates were commissioned during the World War.

The government inaugurated a system of officers' training camps soon after its entry into the war. "Strange and paradoxical as it may seem, America, while fighting for the democratization of far-off European peoples was denying democracy to a part of her citizens at home . . . Fourteen camps were instituted for the training of WHITE (Scott's emphasis) officers - none for colored officers, nor were colored officers admitted to any of these camps." Such is the testimony of Emmet J. Scott, Negro assistant to Secretary of War Baker.

On May 12, 1917, the War Department vielded to the pressure of the Negro masses, promising to train 1,250 Negro officers at Camp Des Moines in Iowa. The Negroes were jubilant over their victory.

The upper-class Negro predominated at the Des Moines school. Few were accepted who did not have a college education. In addition to these colored college students and professionals, 250 candidates were drawn from the four Negro regiments in the regular army. Prospective white officers spent only six weeks in training; the Negroes, on the other hand, were originally supposed to train from June 15 to September 15; this was later extended a month, making four months in all.

Only 639 or about half of the 1,250 students attending the Des Moines school received commissions. Since the higher officers of the Negro regiments would be whites, the Negroes were lim-There were only a few Negro officers in the ited to the lowest positions. 105 were made cap-

Why We Supported The A.L.P.

tains: 329, first lieutenants: and 204, second lieuthe war — a lieutenant-colonel, a major, and one ' tenants. There⁴ was an unwritten rule that no or two lieutenants. No Negroes had been admit- colored man in training should receive a commission higher than that of captain.

> On one occasion, even General Ballou attacked the refusal of the War Department to accept his recommendation to promote a Negro officer. Ballou wrote:

> "This officer (Lieutenant T. T. Thompson) was originally assigned to duty as Acting Personnel Officer, in which capacity he did good work, and was recommended to be promoted Captain with a view to being assigned to duty as permanent Personnel Officer. This was disapproved by the War Department on the ground that the Personnel Officer should be 'white' . . .

"The result has been the discouragement and lessened efficiency of an officer of considerable promise who has much justice on his side in alleging race discrimination"

Handicaps were placed in the way of the Negro officers. No instruction in artillery was given at Des Moines. It was then claimed that no Negroes could quality as officers of the contemplated Negro artillery unit. The Negroes compelled the War Department to back down on its stand. In the end, however, only six Negro artillery officers, at long last, on June 10, 1918, left for France.

The Negro troops were not furnished with a sufficient number of medical officers. The resentment of the colored press was great because. , while many Negro physicians, surgeons, and dentists were serving as privates, white medical officers had been given positions in the Negro regiments.

"The fate of the colored officers," says Dr. W. E. B. Du Bois, "depended almost absolutely. on those placed in higher command. Moreover, American military trials and legal procedures . . . give the accused little chance if the accuser is determined and influential." One example was the fate of Charles Young, who had graduated

West Point and risen to the position of Colonel. He was sixth in line for promotion to Brigadier" General. As such, he would have been entitled to lead the Negro combat division. Just one day before a long list of brigadier-generals were made Young was "found physically unfit and retired from active service." Somehow Young, after the war, was found strong enough to be sent by the army for service in Africa. 'A white colonel re

marked in his introduction of Colonel Young to a public meeting in December, 1919, that "it was (when what interests them alone very plain that the only reason why this darkis the taxation of the big busiskinned military officer had been retired, was nesses, corporations and insurthat the army did not want a black general." ance companies), they say sub-

To quiet the clamor that arose on Young's re- stantially the following: tirement, another Negro, Colonel Dennison, was "The tax rate is high and will placed at the head of the 370th U.S. Infantry. ruin us all if we don't do some-But in France the colored Colonel was sent home thing about it. We must put peofor no stated reason. He'was replaced by a white ple into office who will cut the Colonel whom the men of the regiment openly | tax rate. The way to do it, is to jeered. elect honest men who will cut re-

White officers often refused to salute Negro | lief, because most relief clients officers, fights sometimes resulting. The leaders are 'chiselers' anyhow'. Stop sponof the American army found a way to stick to soring WPA projects, because the rules and still keep the Negro officer in his there are plenty of jobs available place. General Adelbert Cronkhite of Camp Lee, in private industry. Fire more Viriginia, was quoted in a Richmond daily and in the camp newspaper as follows: City Hospital. Don't waste money

"I met some junior officers who said they on the library budget. Don't perwere not keen on saluting Negro officers. They mit erection of new schools. Cut of higher rents in the workers' would not feel that way if they understood the the wages of city employees." And spirit of the salute. If one of them came from so on. a town where there was an old Negro character, one of those old fellows who do odd jobs and is

known to everybody, he'd at least nod his head and say, 'Howdy, uncle.' Now, suppose through reductions is put on them. they homes are still assessed at close some freak of nature this Old Negro should be transplanted into an officer's uniform; the salute would be merely saying to him 'Howdy, uncle,' in a military way."

(This is the fourth article in this series.



By GEORGE BREITMAN

The coming Newark City Commission elections may very well be decided around the issue of the ever-rising tax rate, which was \$4.85 last year and which is driving thousands of homeowners, grocers and small shop-keepers to ruin, at the same time that it is partially responsible for the rising cost of rent for the workers.

The forces of big business in Newark, are uniting around the coalition ticket of Commissioner Byrne (Hague Democrat) and Reverend Clee (Republican who was almost elected Governor a few years ago by denouncing Hagueism) and Company. Crying crocodile tears about the plight of small business

sion let the banks and bonding houses go without some of that money this year. The city's bonds should be recalled and refinanced at a lower interest rate. Of course, this would mean the bonding houses wouldn't make so much money, but it would also mean that the taxpayers would get some real relief.

The city could go further, as some municipalities have, by just declaring a moratorium on debt services. The bankers would howl about "the sanctity of contracts," school teachers. Cut down on the but what they would mean really is "the sanctity of foreclosures on small homes" and "the sanctity districts."

STEP NO. 2

The Ellenstein group has no The second way to reduce the satisfactory answer to the prob- tax rate is by reassessing the lem either. When the pressure for property of the city. Many small respond by cutting the same to pre-depression values, while on things the Byrne-Clee group want the other hand the larger properto cut: the socially necessary ties are assessed below their maritems which are used primarily ket values. Reassessment of property that would raise assessment

Secondly, it must be remember- figures on the corporations and ed that the more money they lower them on the small taxpayspend, the more patronage they ers woul lower the tax rate and have. This is a very important at the same time would make the consideration for a group whose corporations pay more in taxes, main program is stay in power thus placing the burden of taxaat all costs.

by the workers.

Every taxpayer is thinking ness which can afford to pay it. about the 1941 tax rate in connection with the election. In most years, the rate is figured out and City Hall has adopted a weak and announced in February or March. distorted variant of it. In an ef-Unable to answer the problem fort to cut the tax rate this elec-

to go through with refinancing all of them, although that's the only There is an answer to the prob- way to get a real tax rate reduclem which would cut the tax rate tion. And and at the same time provide the

Similarly, they began a reasnecessary money for relief, librasessment of property with these results: sented by the Socialist Workers

tion where it belongs, on big busi-

Since the Socialist Workers

Party put this program forward,

The 1937 total assessment of al-Party on numerous occasions. It most a billion dollars was cut 67 has not been picked up by the millions by 1938, and another 67 millions the next year: 1940 re-

An Answer To Critics On The Principles Involved In Backing Eugene Connolly

By ALBERT GOLDMAN our party to give critical support sion is taken either way. to Eugene P. Connolly, running A reason that would justify sup-Marxist analysis the decision of ferent circumstances. the New York Local is complet-

ely justified. To support or not to support

cision of the New York Local of, must be analyzed before a deci- which constitute steps towards himself. entry.

And what has been said with reference to supporting a Labor party is also true with reference another workers' party in an elec- to the question of giving critical tion is not at all a question of support to the candidates of a and we have not hesitated to say ment. principle. There are no general workers' party that is not strictly rules which can be followed in a Labor party, such as the Socialist or Communist party we it critical support. mitted to the idea of refusing to bor party or any party of workers give critical support to the can- YES, WE'LL FIGHT SIDE didates of such a party. Our deci- BY SIDE WITH STALINISTS by the particular factors that pre-

I can hear the sectarians shout critics that if we deemed it ad revolutionary party. We do not rank and file that we are correct. OUR ANSWER for Congress on the American La- port of another party at one time that Connolly is not really against visable and of benefit to our party agree with you but nevertheless In the last analysis the tactic of bor Party ticket, is not very well would not justify supporting it the imperialist war; his program and consequently to the working we shall fight with you against giving critical support to the understood. Subjected to any at a different time and under dif. is an isolationist and pacifist pro- class we would not hesitate to the capitalist class. We shall show American Labor party is a tactic gram. To that we answer that the give critical support to Browder you in real life that everything which is best suited to destroy workers supporting Connolly running on the Communist party the Stalinist leaders tell you the influence of the Stalinist leadthink that he actually will be a ticket. We are now defending about us are lies and nothing but ers on the militant rank and file fighter against the imperialist Browder and Bridges against the lies. war. We don't like the program repressive attacks of the govern- Our support of Connolly does rectness of our program.

ning our own candidate help elect who is in favor of entry into the that we support the Soviet Union the Stalinist bureaucrats. To the not mean that we give up our Judging by remarks made by to office a reactionary candidate? imperialist war or of any meas- against any imperialist attack and rank and file we say: You do not program. Not for one minute. We satisfactorily, City Hall has desome of our sympathizers, the de- All these and other questions ures, such as the lease-lend bill, the Soviet Union is led by Stalin agree with our program and our continue fighting the Stalinist bu-

criticism of your leadership; you reaucrats, criticising their pro- announcing the 1941 rate until sinking fund. But they are afraid We can even whisper to our think that your party is really a gram and trying to convince the after the May 13 elections!

and to convince them of the cor-

should give critical support to a of this country there is no Labor party. The only general rule that can be followed is that a decision are not at all in principle comto give critical support to a Lashould further the interests of the working class and consequently sion will always be determined of the revolutionary party.

It can be seen that a rule so vail. general cannot alone aid us in determining our decision in a specific situation. There is no way to avoid an analysis of all the factors to determine whether supporting or not supporting another working-class party furthers the party at a particular time.

WE ARE FOR AN . INDEPENDENT LABOR PARTY

remembered that our party fav- the Labor party but enough imors the building of a Labor party, portant trade unions are left in that is, of a party organized and the party to justify the statement controlled by the trade unions or that it is a real Labor party and a substantial portion of them. Un- that its growth will help build der conditions where the vast ma- a Labor party on the American jority of the workers support ca- scene. From the point of view of pitalist parties, the creation of an our general program of helping independent Labor party would build, a Labor party, giving criconstitute a tremendous step for tical support to Connolly was the of Glasgow, Scotland. THE FORWARD is scarceward. We must therefore do every- only justifiable tactic.

thing in our power to further the building of such a party.

It would be absurd for us to didate was the anti-war program full: wait until a Labor party is creat- of that party. It is of course out ed on a national scale before sup- of the question for us to support porting a local Labor party. Whenever and wherever there is a local Labor party which has substantial support from organized labor we should support it against capitalist parties unless there are valid reasons for not doing so. To pile up as many votes as possible for a local Labor party helps support a Labor party candidate build one on a national scale.

- Are we in a position to get on the ballot and run our independent candidate? Is the party that we are thinking of supporting a real Labor party or only one on paper? Even though it is a small party will our support help build a larger Labor party? Will run-

THE ALP HAS REAL TRADE UNION SUPPORT It is enough to state that a sub-

stantial number of important led unions and we have at no time trade unions constitute the back- and we shall never at any time interests of the class and of the Labor party. It has not as many ty to realize that it is not a paper ply because they are Stalinist-led.

unions as we would like to see it have. The pro-Roosevelt and pro-

A factor of importance in our

decision to support the ALP can-

a Republican or Democratic can lidate even though for one reason or another such a candidate happens to come out against war. All the reformists of the district where the election is taking place. ire supporting the pro-war Democatic candidate. We could not

> Take Advantage of the Combination Offer 3 Issues THE MILITANT ? Issues FOURTH INTERNA-**FIONAL** FOR ONLY 50c

so. But the fact remains that the Our politics are not determined ALP is considered by the workers by hate or a desire for revenge determining when and whether a cialist or Communist parties. If as an anti-war party. The program but solely by what we think furthrevolutionary Marxist party in any country or in any locality of a party to which we give cri- ers the interests of the revolutiontical support will never be com- ary movement. It is unfortunate candidate of another workers' party but there is a strong So- pletely to our liking. If it were but it is a fact that we can not we would immediately offer to ignore, that there are many thoumerge with it and not simply give sands of militant workers that are

in the ranks of the Communist Party and many more thousands support it. It is also an unfortunate fact that these workers do Many well-meaning people are not agree with our criticisms of horrified at the idea that we are the Stalinist leadership. They do supporting a Stalinist-controlled not believe what is obvious to us, party. But we must not forget that the GPU for instance, is a that this Stalinist-controlled parmurder machine directed against ty is backed by Stalinist-controlthe interests of the revolution.

THE EFFECT OF OUR bone of the American Labor par. oppose workers' crganizations sim- SUPPORT TO THE ALP

It is in reality these militant We want to remind our critics workers that we support and not partment; at the time of his

Joe Gouailhardou

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal. - Joe death he was already a veteran. Gouailhardou, youngest fighter in although but 21, member of the the '34 maritime and general Marine Cooks and Stewards.

strike, is dead. He was killed Comrade Gouailhardou joined the when his automobile struck a tel-YPSL some two and a half years ephone pole. ago. It was at his own request Joe went to sea to support his although he was under the confamily at the age of 13 as soon stitutional age, that he was transas he graduated grade school. A ferred into the Socialist Workers year later the maritime strike Party. Despite his youth Joe was found him actively engaged on a man among men, and above all the workers' battlefront. Too

young for actual picket duty, the strike committee used his willing services for messenger work and a hundred other duties. Joe sailed in the stewards de-

a revolutionist Joe's untimely death robs the movement of a promising young

revolutionist, whose place will not easily be filled.

Goodbye, Joe! We'll carry on.

World War

1933 to 1938

sador to Germany

Price: \$3.50

New York City

City Hall group, in spite of its claims that it represents the in- ductions were 51 millions, and terests of the "common people," this year 53 millions. Had both for only a party that is really op big taxpayers and small taxpayposed to big business could es ers received the same proportionpouse and fight for it. For this ate reductions, this would mean reason, among others, we are call- the tax rate goes up the same for ing for the formation of a labor both. party, based on the unions and

ry, etc. This answer has been pre-

embracing the unemployed and of this reduction of almost a Negro groups, and running its quarter billion dollars, the bulk own candidates on an independent platform. (The 1940 budget was 55 million reductions for the small tax-pay-

millions were for debt services, small. the largest single item in the budget. Of this, part is for amortization (repayment of past bond

issues) and the rest is for interest on these loans. STEP NO. 1

made for big business, while the dollars. Of this, more than $9\frac{1}{2}$ ers have been comparatively This is one reason why our slogan in this election campaign is: LET LABOR CONTROL THE CI-

But there was a change. Out

of reductions in assessment were

TY COMMISSION! Only a labor party can win the friendly support of the small taxpayer and There could be a large cut in form a successful alliance against

the tax rate if the City Commis- the aims of big business.



INDEPENDENT LABOR PARTY In the first place, it must be war right wing withdrew its support and thus reduced the number of trade unions supporting A Scottish Labor Paper On British "Democracy"

> by the following editorial in the January 25, 1941 issue of THE FORWARD, a labor weekly ly a revolutionary newspaper; but occasionally its comments are well worth reprinting. The editorial, entitled "Old School Tie," follows in

The real situation in Great Britain is illumined

The letter written by Lieutenant-Coloner Bingham and published on the leading page of the 'Times" has roused a storm of protest.

"Never was the old school tie and the best that it stands for more justified than it is to-day," wrote the Lieutenant-Colonel, declaring that the new type of army officers from the democracy were not doing their jobs.

It is interesting to note that the "Times" thought this letter of such importance as to publis it on the page it reserves for important communications.

The War Office has repudiated the Lieutenant-Colonel and the popular press is full of articles denouncing the studipidity and snobbery expressed in his letter.

A well-known Scots educationalist, Sir William McKechnie, has this week concisely summed up the Lieutenant-Colonel's letter as drivelling nonsense and added the pertinent comment:-

"The, 'old-school-tie' superstition must be destroyed for ever, because it meant that one class and one race-one group of people of wealthwere going to say that nobody but themselves were fitted to govern or lead the men of this Empire. The thing was utterly opposed to any idea of commonsense or the desire to get the best out of the available material of this country."

But is the old-school-tie point of view confined to a few snobbish, old-style army officers?

In spite of all our democratic pretensions, is the influence of the class that the old school tie represents not a tremendous power in the land? Indeed, is it, not powerfully represented in the present Government?

At the last re-shuffle of the Cabinet the "Daily Express" announced the changes under the heading:-

"FOUR MEN IN NEW JOBS. Three Eton and Oxford.

Only One from Harrow."

The slightest glance at the composition of the Government is sufficient to reveal that in it the influence of the old school tie predominates.

It does not express its point of view as crudely and blatantly as does the Lieutenant-Colonel in his letter, but it is there all the same.

MARCH 15, 1941



Jim Crow Plans of the Bourbons

There is an interesting story in Charley Cherokee's column, "National Grapevine," in the March 9 issue of the Chicago Defender:

"Last week army big shots had a secret and informal session where they admitted concern over the attacks on the army for maintaining Jim Crow. One old colonel demanded peevishly: 'Why in hell don't they shoot at the navy and marines for a while?' It was agreed that the program for the next few months will be to procrastinate and stall the critics by pointing to Brigadier General Davis and the Negro commissioned officers now on active duty . . .

"These big shots are naive. Any Negro high school kid knows that General Davis will retire in a few months and that when the National Guards leave, there will hardly be a commissioned Negro officer in the army."

* * *

That the conditions described about the Negro in the first world war in the series of articles by Eugene Varlin in The Militant hold true for today was corroborated by Duncan Aikman in his series of articles on the "national defense" program' currently appearing in the Washington Post:

"I found a widespread inclination throughout the South to look upon the defense crisis as another crisis in labor relations. Southerner after Southerner, in various economic brackets, said to me substantially this:

"We're not going to let the colored man come out of this war on top of the heap the way he did in the last one.'

"That means, and plenty of Southerners state it specifically, no colored officers, this time; no colored skilled labor training and, if avoidable, not even any colored combat regiments."

* * * * The Negro worker certainly did not come out on top of the heap in the last war, but what these southern crackers mean was that in the labor shortage of the last war many Negroes left the South for jobs in the industries of the North. According to a speech at Kentucky State College by Robert Weaver, Negro administrative assistant of the advisory commission to the National Defense Council, the crackers need not worry about a repetition of what happened in

the last war. For the Negro is being kept out in the cold in the present industrial boom, according to Weaver, and from present indications, he will cominue to be kept there. What is chiefly required by industry today is skilled and semiskilled labor. The Negro, by and large, has been and is denied the opportunity to get skilled training.

Discrimination in Military Training

in the second

The Afro-American this week showed that Jim Crow treatment of the Negro soldiers is just as well organized in the northern camps as it is in the southern.

It showed that while the 20,000 or more white at Fort Dix, N. J., have been given train

The "LABOR WITH A WHITE SKIN WHERE LABOR WITH A BLACK WHERE LABOR WITH A BLACK WARX

THE MILITANT

Stalinists Would Free Sigueiros, The Murderer Of Bob Harte

By NATALIA TROTSKY

spies of which they form part." | tionary artist," that is, for the enough to speak with pathos to On March 1, 1941, El Popular carried an account of the just concluded Congress of the Mexican Confederation of Labor the police of the action of the (CTM)"; El Popular also reprinted a resolution adopted by the GPU and the guilt of Siqueiros a gang of GPU agents dressed in Congress. Every honest reader will be astounded by the section of this resolution which reads: "The Congress also declares itself (this "also" is incredible!) in favor of the revolutionary painter, David Alfaro Siqueiros and will take all the necessary steps in the case.'

The contempt of these completely demoralized people for the working class is without limits; there is no limit to their cynicism. They refuse to remember their own yesterday and they are not accountable for tomorrow. Through their lies, their slander, their fantastic confusion, their crying contradictions, they corrupt the consciousness of the assault on Trotsky's house will be working class. Their own yes; terday reads: "The attempt severely punished." On page 5: "The assault on against Trotsky is an attempt | Trotsky's house was organized was repeated in every single and executed by provocateur-ele against Mexico." This slogan column of the front page of El ments disguised as police and ar my officers." (Statement by the Popular for May 25, 1940. The Communist Party). leading editorial, under the self-same heading, demanded a rigorous investigation and exemplary punishment of the or Mexican, who perpetrated this criminals independently of their political affiliation and of their must be discovered and pitilessly

REMINDING "EL POPULAR"

power.

Editorial, page 3: "The terrorists or pseudo-terrorists, foreign act of anti-national provocation

connections with any foreign punished." Same editorial: "Once the guilty ones are discovered and

WHAT IT SAID THEN

25. 1940:

On the night of May 24, 1940, himself, El Popular wrote in an police uniforms, tied up the poleditorial on June 20, 1940: "To- ice guard outside of our house, day we repeat our petition of yes- placed there by the Mexican govterday. Our desire is to have the ernment, broke into our house at law applied in all its rigor to the 4 A.M. and marched firing

And even after the exposure by defense of terrorists.

through the room of our grandcation is a member of the party; character of the bullet holes in that all of them are uncontrol- the doors and walls. On the

teurs; that an act like the one by the flames of an incendiary perpetrated at Trotsky's house, bomb thrown by one of the policontrary to the genuine forms of tical murderers, I saw a silhouproletarian struggle, has nothing ette in a police uniform; he van to do with us."

NOW THESE HIRELINGS DEFEND THIS TERRORIST On May 25, 1940, El Popular wrote articles full of haughty impartiality and patriotic indigna-

tion. El Popular was hastening to their motives clarified we ask create an impression that it was that the most severe punishment above all suspicion; and was dis-

Here are other quotations, be meted out, regardless of their tracting attention away from the which merit attention, from this background, their political affilia- GPU. This is what they all wrote ture for humanity and at the same issue of El Popular of May tion, the political group to which vesterday; today all these gentle- same time they scurry around to they belong, the foreign power men are creating a GPU commit- succor a "revolutionary artist" -On page 1: "The authors of the which they serve, or the band of tee for the defense of a "revolu- a murderer. They are brazen



lable elements and agents provoca- threshhold of an open door lit up ished, I could not see him clear. ly . . . Was it perhaps "the re-

Mexico wrote on June 19, 1940 as volutionary artist" himself, the follows: murderer of Bob Sheldon Harte. our secretary-guard? Was it the ents at Coyoacan, the Communist master of the night assault? Was Party conducted an investigation it the accomplice of another to ascertain what had happened. "great. master" who is boss" of This investigation immediately

the Soviet land? led to Alfaro Siqueiros, an uncontrollable element who is consider-These people preach a better fued half crazy . . . And since that

time there have been suspicions of Alfaro Sigueiros who had associated constantly with a certain White-Guardist and Antonio Puiol, his disciple and personal help-

The working class of Mexico ould not have forgotten this tesimony. In the course of three and

the workers about a society with-

out classes and so on and so forth.

But on what do they build it?

On what foundations? How are

they preparing the working class

to build such a society? Lies and

murders are the foundation of

their activities. On these founda-

tions it is possible perhaps to

build only for one's own comfort

in our reactionary epoch of wars,

seizures, plunder and all other

If the Stalinist clique has for

gotten its own yesterday, then

the Mexican people cannot have

'orgotten it. Although befuddled

by revolutionary phrasemongering

and vile slander, the Mexican peo-

mle still remember that the Com-

munist Party organ, La Voz de

"Immediately following the ev-

THE MEXICAN PEOPLE

HAVE NOT FORGOTTEN

kinds of bestiality.

half years which we spent in Mexico, all the Congresses of the CTM took place under the slogan of a struggle against Trotskyism and the demand was made for he deportation of Trotsky - in actuality, that Trotsky be handed

over to the GPU. The March, 1941, Congress differs from the last Congress in this, that it convened after the catastrophe of August 20, 1940. Stalin's Enemy No. 1 is no longer among the living. "I can therefore say that I live in the country not in accordance with the rule but rather as an exception to the rule." That is what Lev Davidovich wrote in his book: "The Comintern and the GPU." The "exception" was cut short by a olow of the GPU. And this circumstance found its reflection in a monstrously shameless form in a few lines of a resolution which



By HARRY FRANKEL

Among the "revelations" made at last week's sessions of the Rapp-Coudert committee on education was the story of a "plot" on the part of Communists to rewrite history with the intention of picturing "American patriots, such as Benjamin Franklin or Abraham Lincoln, as the forerunners of present day Marxists." This disclosure, embellished with the garish details of conspiratorial conferences, threw the committee into a state of outraged palpitation, and had a similar effect on the bourgeois press, which gave it feature billing.

It is characteristic of the senile and decrepit bourgeoisie that its sensitivity about the youthful revolutionary origins of the bourgeoisie increases the more its reactionary bestiality of today is exposed. More and more, the actual facts about the first and second American revolutions of 1776 and 1861 become so many skeletons in today's bourgeois closets.

There is a wonderful sequence in the Russian revolutionary film, "Ten Days That Shook the World," which portrays the bourgeois, Kerensky, as he strides through the halls of the Winter Palace, stopping every so often in front of a statue of Napoleon and, striking an attitude, places his hand in his coat front. And this was the very Kerensky who was at that moment working to betray the workers and peasants of Russia into the hands of the white guard agents of foreign imperialism. It is not at all surprising that he had to seek moral justification for his otherwise unsupportable regime in the previous deeds of a bourgeois-revolutionary conquerer.

It would not be too much to believe that Henry Ford, passionate antiquarian that he is, sometimes takes tea in the uniform of a revolutionary, General, taken from his extensive collection of early Americana. Or perhaps rereads reverently a rare manuscript copy of the Declaration of Independence, while outside at River Rouge, Ford "service" men smash the heads of union organizers.

The most amazing recent manifestation along these lines was the speech made by Mussolini only the other week, in which he appeals to the Italian heritage of revolutionary democracy while at the same time excoriating the institution of democracy! This desertion of Caesar for Mazzini and Garibaldi, which is important and unmistakable testimony to the awakened mood of the Italian masses, signifies at the same time the need on the part of the Italian bourgeoisie for a more adequate prop of self-justification during their present crisis.

Stalinist Confusion

Here As Everywhere

The attitude of Marxists towards the early bourgeois revolutionists is absolutely clear. The work of Ben Franklin and Lincoln is continued by the revolutionary proletariat, in the sense that the revolutionary and equalitarian slogans with which the bourgeoisie awakened the masses and freed themselves from the hand of Britain and the slavocracy, can be realized today only through the socialist revolution. It would however, be folly to imagine that a program for the working class can be found in such documents as the Emancipation Proclamation or the American Constitution.

What The Critics Didn't Tell **About Ambassador Dodd's Diary**

William E. Dodd served as United States Ambassador to Germany from June, 1933 to December, 1937. During those fateful years preliminary to the Second World War, Dodd had an unexcelled opportunity to observe the inside workings of capitalist diplomacy, particularly of the democratic nations, Great Britain, France and the United States. These he recorded in a daily journal. He died soon after. Under the title "Ambassador Dodd's Diary 1933-1938," Dodd's intimate private observations have just been published by his son and daughter.

The diary has been hailed by the bourgeois press reviewers as a further justification for our participation in the war for "democracy." To do that, however, they glossed over or ignored the most vital portions of Dodd's revelations: the equal guilt of the capitalist "democracies" with that of the fascist imperialists for the present war, and the aid which the "democracies" gave to Hitler.

Long before Hitler came to power, France and England began preparations for the war. Dodd indicates this in many passages, including the following:

"French politicians have for ten years violated the spirit of the disarmament clauses of the Versailles Treaty. The German Social-Democratic movement was ruined by French policy. Now, after the German Nazi uprising in protest, the Germans are trying to govern themselves by autocratic methods, alienating the world by their indiscretions ... Wrong and right are so mixed and confused everywhere." "France played a sad game in 1919 and then continued her mistake under the League from 1930 to 1932. That helped to give Germany Hitler... Now, as Sir Eric (Sir Eric Phipps, British Ambassador to Germany, 1933-38) says, all Europe must watch Germany day and night, living under an encirclement system which may even bring economic collapse.".

"Last September, Mr. Bullitt was appointed Ambassador to Paris. He has made a good beginning there. But the story goes he is on the reactionary side. The Washington newspaper story says he is in full sympathy with Nazi ideas. This is hard to believe. However, yesterday Monsieur Marcel Knecht, editor and owner of Le Matin in Paris, came to see me, reporting that Bullitt, working for an alliance between France and Germany, had requested him to see me and ask me to advise the President to lend a hand in this. Knecht convinced me that he is an able but very conservative man, perhaps a Fascist in France. A little while after Knecht left, a telegram from Bullitt urged me to see

Leading British diplomats played the same role as Bullitt. They sabotaged all aid to the Loyalist government of Spain and supported Franco. Dodd writes, January 11, 1937. "Sir Eric Phipps was as discreet as ever, but he revealed more sympathy for the Fascist crowd in Spain than I had noted before. I believe now he is almost a Fascist, as I think are Baldwin and Eden." (Eden is now British Secretary of War.)

and talk with Knecht "

The Hoare-Laval agreement permitted Mussolini to invade Ethiopia without fear of the application of economic sanctions by the League of Nations. Dodd reports why: "I had heard previously that the reason for the Hoare-Laval proposition was the English-French fear that Communism might come to Italy in case Mussolini falls."

ing with rifles, steel helmets, masks, etc., "and afforded miles of wide open space for sham battles," "the 381 colored selectees of Company E are forced to drill on an acre plot without as much as a proomstick."

"White army officials who were appoached (for an explanation) appeared more eager to discuss the musical and entertainment abilities of the men.

"While none would admit that racial discrimination and segregation is being practiced at the post, all point with pride to the new cantonment area for the 372nd Infantry Regiment which is located beyong Hopkinsville-nearly three miles from the nearest white cantonment, and will be occupied around March 10.

"The cantonment, which will house 3,000 troops, in view of its isolated location, is definitely a segregated set-up.

"Because of the objection of the Southern white soldiers to sitting in the theatre with the colored soldiers, a separate theatre has been built at the new cantonment area for the members of the 372nd.

"Other entertainment features have also been taken care of in order that the colored troops will have no reason to leave their own cantonment. One high army official hinted that the 372nd will have its own maneuver area."

* * *

"England is not perfect, but she is better than Germany," said the good Bishop J. K. Humphrey of the Seventh Day Adventist Church in New fork last week. "Every Negro who wants to see Germany win, ought to be sent to Germany, where Je will be castrated."

By the same logic one could insist that every American Negro who wants to see the victory of the British Empire, which rules over more than 400,000,000 colored people in the same way that Hitler rules over his subjects, himself, should be sent to Africa, where he will be castrated economically, politically and socially.

* * *

2,500 West Indians at a mass meeting in Port Au Spain, Trinidad, passed resolutions last month demanding (1) the outlawing of United States Jim Crow on British bases being leased to the U. S., and (2) payment of the same wages for abor by the U.S. in the British West Indies as in the Virgin Islands and Cuba.

West Indies wages, according to Nancy Cunard, are now:

Oil industry: 80c. to \$1.20 for 8-9 hour day. Sugar: 30c. to \$1.00 for 12 hour day. Cocoa and coffee pickers: men 40-45c, women, 20-25c, per day.

Pork, she points out, costs 30c a pound. Wages in the Virgin Islands are 17c an hour, and in Cuba on "national defense work" \$2.24 a day.

"I think the Goering air program is truly belligerant but France, Italy and England have armed in violation of the Versailles Treaty too." (March 17, 1935)

"Democracies" Sought War Against USSR

The policy of British and French diplomacy after the rise of Hitler to power was to aid in the arming of Hitler for a war on the Soviet Union. Dodd reports the following about the attitude of Lord Lothian and the British ruling class in May, 1935. (Lothian died recently, while British ambassador to the United States.)

"Lord Lothian, who as Philip Kerr was secretary to Lloyd George during the World War, wrote me ... a letter which I received today... He indicated clearly that he favors a coalition of the democracies to block any German move in their direction and to turn Germany's course eastwards. That this might lead to a war between Russia and Germany does not seem to disturb him seriously. In fact he seems to feel this would be a good solution of the difficulties imposed on Germany by the Versailles Treaty. The problem of the democracies, as he sees it, is to find for Japan and Germany a stronger place in world affairs to which, in his opinion, they are entitled because of their power and tradition. He hopes this can be accomplished without any sacrifice to the British Empire and with as little destruction to human liberty as possible."

Bullitt's Anti-Soviet Role

William C. Bullitt. American ambassador to the Soviet Union, was also intrigueing at the same time, with the French and British diplomats, to turn Germany and Japan to an armed attack on the Soviet Union.

"Ambassador Bullitt from Moscow came in this morning ... His remarks about Russia were directly contradictory to the attitudes he held when he passed this way last year ... But Bullitt is the heir to a great fortune and was known as a liberal contribut r to the Roosevelt campaign in 1932...

"Bullitt said Russia had no business trying to hold the peninsula which projects into the Japanese sea at Vladivostok. That is all going to be taken soon by Japan. I said: You agree that if the Germans have their way Russia with 160,000,000 people shall be deried access to the **Pacific**, and be excluded from the Baltic? He said: 'Oh that makes no difference.' I was amazed at this ' kind of talk from a responsible diplomat who had done much to get Russia recognized in 1933. The President must know the man's mentality, but if so, how could he have appointed him Ambassador to Soviet Russia?"

On December 13, 1936, Dodd writes: "Later ... when the new Italian Ambassador came here directly from Moscow, we were told that Bullitt had become attracted to Fascism before leaving Moscow ...

"Democracies" Helped Arm Hitler

Dodd's diary gives conclusive evidence, of how the policies of the "democracies" toward Hitler was implemented by direct help in re-arming Germany.

"I visited Sir Eric Phipps and repeated in all confidence a report that Armstrong-Vickers, the great British armament concern, had negotiated a sale of war material here (Berlin) last week, just before a British Government commission arrived to negotiate some plan with Schacht for payment of short-term debts due on current deliveries of British cotton yarn from Lancaster. It is impossible, Schacht said to me yesterday, to pay British debts. Yet, last Friday, I reported to Sir Eric, the British arms people were selling for cash enormous quantities of war supplies. And I was frank enough-or indiscreet enough-to add that I understood that representatives of Curtiss-Wright from the United States were here this week to negotiate similar sales. The British Ambassador pretended to be surprised "

"Norman Ebbutt of the London Times came in to give me, a report on the effects of the London protest to Hitler about rearming-a protest made after England and the United States have sold millions of dollars worth of arms to Germany "

Several days later, Dodd writes: "Ebbutt confirmed the report of mid-October (1934) that a British woman, connected with Hitler's inner group, was here just before the negotiations on Lancaster debts, to sell war equipment for Armstrong-Vickers. The British Ambassador 'had not known about it' according to previous conversations. I am sure now the British staff members did know."

"Colonel Edward A. Deeds of Akron, Ohio, and New York City, president or director of twenty great American industrial concerns came to lunch today ... Deeds had negotiated a deal with a German corporation for sending over our airplane patents so that the German company could manufacture and sell a hundred planes to Italy, the American company to share the profits This sort of thing is done all the time in this European war atmosphere ...

"... Our Commercial Attache said, 'In two years Germany will be manufacturing oil and gas enough out of soft coal for a long war, the Standard Oil Company of New York furnishing millions of dollars to help.'... Mr. Phillips (Under-Secretary of State, 1933-36) was amazed and distressed, although all this information has been going to the Department for two whole years."

At one point, Dodd is forced to the conclusion: "In the United States, capitalists are pressing in the same Fascist direction, supported by capitalists in England. Nearly all our diplomatic service people here have indicated their drift in the same direction."

These brief extracts, out of scores which might be quoted, give an idea of the real character of the war for "democracy" which Dodd discloses. The men who are shouting loudest for the war, and profiting most from it, are these same fascist-minded capitalists and diplomats, who armed Hitler and tried to turn him eastwards against the Soviet Union.

was passed behind the backs of the Congress by the bureaucratic Stalinist tops, who took up the defense of a terrorist, the organizer of the night assault, the murderer-"revolutionary artist."

THE MEXICAN WORKERS WILL NOT PERMIT THIS INFAMY

The gentlemen of El Popular are apparently of the opinion that the law exists in order for the slanderers to monopolize the right of slander, and also in order to punish those who expose the slanderers. The shameless version of self-assault which was maliciously circulated by the GPU, did not succeed. It was blown away by the facts like dust from a table, but the "revolutionary artist" remained behind. As is well known, facts are stubborn things. The tops of the Con gress, who are independent of the Congress, defend the organizer of the night assault. No, this crying infamy will not fall upon the

working class of Mexico. The working class of Mexico will overthrow the Stalinist clique who strained all their efforts at the Congress to save their agents from trial. The criminal-"revolutionary artist" must face trial! Demand of the authorities-as did El Popular only yesterday-the punishment of the guilty ones, first and foremost, David Alfaro Sigueiros!

On the 25th day of August, 1939, before the break of Franco-German diplomatic relations, the French Ambassador Coulondre was informing the minister of Foreign relations, Georges Bonnet, about his dramatic interview with Hitler at 5:30 in the afternoon:

"'If I really thought,' I observed, 'that we would be victorious, I would also be afraid that at the end of the war there would be only one real victor: Mr. Trotsky.' Interrupting me the Chancellor cried: 'Then, why have you given Poland a blank check?"" That is what is decisive in the conspiracy of Hitler and Stalin concerning the fate of the "exception to the rule."

But this is precisely the illusion which the Stalinists create with their ridiculous obeisance to the traditions of American bourgeois democracy, a form of posturing which has outlived the Popular Front period of the Stalinists and continues unabated today.

As for the committee of Rapp-Coudert, of course, no conceivable machinations on its part will ever make it appear that the sentiments of the Emancipation Proclamation find their modern expression in the lynch, Jim Crow rule of Roosevelt's Democratic Party and its Bourbon backers in the South today.

In their shocked reaction to this "plan" to rewrite American history, the Senators unwittingly disclosed the real nature of the school system. They value it as an instrument for the teaching of a bourgeois view of history and for the education solely of props for the decayed social order. This type of teaching in the interest of a class is known as "liberal education." When it is carried on in the interest of the proletariat, it becomes "immoral Bolshevik propaganda."

Paytriotism Plus

Bethlehem Steel is out to make a big profit grab at the expense of its workers as it did in the last war. Then Bethlehem Steel made profits ranging to many thousand per cent by selling armor plate to the government at prices from \$411 to \$604 a ton. A Senate investigation determined that the cost of production of this armor plate was only \$262 a ton.

Eugene Grace, present head of Bethlehem Steel and right hand man of Charles M. Schwab during the last war, admitted that the cost did not exceed \$315 a ton. Yet while charging their own country top prices up to \$604 a ton, the Bethlehem Steel bosses charged Czarist Russia \$349 a ton, Italy \$395 a ton, and Japan \$406.35 a ton for identical armor plate.

This is the corporation and Eugene Grace is the man who are trying to prevent their workers from enjoying the benefits of unionism, increased pay and decent working conditions, with an appeal to the interests of "national defense."



per copy in all foreign countries. Single copies: 5 cents.

"Reentered as second class matter February 13, 1941 at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the Act of March 3, 1879."

FIGHT WITH THE SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY

ON THE WAR FRONT:

For:

- 1. Military training of workers, financed by the government, under control of the trade unions.
- 2. The establishment of special officers' training camps, financed by the government and controlled by the trade unions, to train workers to become officers.
- 3. Confiscation of all war profits-all company books to be open for trade union inspection.
- 4. Expropriation of all war industries and their operation under workers' control.
- 5. Trade union wages for all workers drafted into the army.
- 6. Full equality for Negroes in the armed forces-Down with Jim Crowism.
- 7. An end to secret diplomacy.
- 8. A peoples' referendum on any and all wars.

AT HOME:

For:

- 1. A job and decent living for every worker.
- 2. Thirty-thirty--\$30 weekly minimum wage-30 hour weekly maximum for all workers on all jobs.
- 3. \$30 weekly old age and disability pension.
- 4. Full social, political and economic equality for the Negro people.
- 5. Workers Defense Guards against vigilante and fascist attacks.
- 6. A twenty-billion dollar Federal public works and housing program to provide jobs for the unemployed.
- 7. Expropriate the Sixty Families.
- 8. An Independent Labor Party based on the Trade Unions.
- 9. A Workers' and Farmers' Government.

Roosevelt On Strikes

"President Deplores Defense Strikes" was the headline in the March 8th New York Times. At The Miners' Demands

means is to look up the record of the 1918 board and he will find that governmental strikebreaking and union-busting are the essence of the proposal. Roosevelt doesn't make Patterson's mistake; he warned reporters that the board he wants now will not be "merely" a recreation of the 1918 board. But the difference between the two, we say in advance with all assurance, you could put into your right eye.

Army Discipline

The latest edition of the United States Army's manual "of military courtesy and discipline" includes an innovation: the soldier is no longer required, when off duty, to salute officers. This is about the only specific change in army discipline to be noted in the "new" manual, which the army's publicity staff label as "an end to iron discipline."

Correctly enough, the manual says that "modern warfare, requires self-reliance in every grade; individuals capable of independent thought and action, who are inspired by a distinct feeling that as an individual or as members of a unit they are competent to cope with any condition, situation or adversary." But that principle is in no way carried out, either by this "new" manual or by the army's general system of discipline.

The backbone of the army's totalitarian system of discipline is the court-martial. One man in ten was the victim of a court-martial during the last war, most of them convicted, for usually a charge presented by an officer is as good as conviction. The present manual of court-martial is essentially the same as in the last war and, we predict in advance, it will not be changed. It will not be changed until the capitalist control of the army is done away with and the working class controls all the armed forces of this country.

For the army's system of discipline is a class weapon. It is the means by which the bourgeois minority rules by terroristic means over the proletarian majority.

The March issue of Fourth International has as its principal feature an article by Michael Cort on "The Court-Martial System of the U.S. Army." Every worker should read it. Even many revolutionary workers will be amazed by what it reveals in great detail concerning discipline in the army.

It is not accidental that Comrade Cort's article, the first of its kind in this war, appears in the Trotskyist press and that nothing like it appears elsewhere. A conspiracy of silence surrounds the army. Yesterday's liberals, who wept over the plight of some individual victim of the class war, say not a word today about the millions who are to be subjected to capitalist terror in the army. This is as it should be. Only those who are irreconcilably opposed to the present system can tell the truth when the truth counts.

THE MILITANT

"Defense" Means Worse Wages In Canneries

The National Defense Commission Absolves the Canneries From Obeying the Chief Provisions of the Walsh-Healey Act

The National Defense Advisory | the exemption. Walling ruled that | large section of the workers in Commission has advised the War he could not legally grant exempthis industry.

Department to give the fruit and tion from this one provision, but While the average weekly earnvegetable canning industry com- suggested that it would be legal ings of all workers in manufacplete exemption from the section for him to give an exemption turing industry in August, 1940, of the Walsh-Healey Act which from the entire section of the act were \$26.10, according to the U.S. prohibits child labor, requires sa- containing the overtime clause. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the fety conditions and time-and-a-This section deals with laws average weekly wage for cannery half for overtime. which regulate the use of child workers was \$18.14. The average Prior to the present Army ex- labor and safety conditions, two 46.5 cents hourly wage in canpansion, the War Department, in aspects of the cannery industry ning compared with an average order to get around the provi- which are notoriously bad. hourly rate in all industry of 66.7 sions of the Walsh-Healey Act, For a while the NDAC and cents.

split up its contracts into less | War Department dropped the mat In October, 1940, when the avthan \$10,000 orders and placed ter. Neither wanted to go on recerage weekly wages of all workits orders with dealers rather ord as advocating such an infaers rose slightly, to \$26.54, that than the canned foods manufac- mous policy. of the cannery workers fell to turers direct. The Walsh-Healey But now things are different. \$16.61. Average hourly pay for Act does not apply to contracts "National defense" requires "sacall workers rose slightly, in the of less than \$10,000. rifice" from the workers. So the same month, to 67.1 cents. The Some time ago the NDAC canners are to get an exemption cannery workers' pay fell to 43.5 thought it would make a savings from the whole section of the act, cents an hour.

by buying larger quantities direct- not merely the overtime pay Here is another example of ly from the canners. But this clause. Of course, the cannery what is in store for all American would have placed the canners bosses will be asked to make a labor during the coming war peunder the provisions of the Act, | "promise" not to take advantage riod. Starting on the most exploitand they objected to this very of this exemption, and to make strenuously particularly to the a "gentlemen's" agreement to ed and least organized section of the workers, the government will overtime pay requirements. "voluntarily" live up to the whole progressively seek to take away section of the law except the HOW THEY "SOLVED" the rights of even the best paid

THIS PROBLEM

The NDAC and the War Depart- | CONDITIONS IN ment asked L. Metcalfe Walling, THIS INDUSTRY Walsh-Healey law administrator, Conditions in this industry are cannery workers, of even the

to exempt the fruit and vegetable about the vilest of any in the meagre protection of the Walshcanners from the overtime provi- country. The work is seasonal, and it has been extremely difficult Healey Act, what compunction sion. A hearing was held on the mat- to unionize the terribly exploited will it have about the better paid ter. The CIO and AFL opposed migratory workers who form a workers?

overtime provisions.

Transport Workers Can Win Despite La Guardia

(Continued from page 1) captains of the Transport Work- less than they were in 1929. ers Union, under the charge of a "If the companies' attitude has The other two had a more realdozen organizers, were dispatched changed and they are now prepar listic attitude. "LaGuardia got in from union headquarters at 153 ed to make reasonable counter. office through the labor vote," one West 64th Street with copies of proposals, we shall be pleased to of them said. "Now it's clear he's an official call for strike on all resume negotiations." the bus lines operated by the two MAYOR'S FINK ROLE

The strike tied up a total of tempted in the past to pose as a buses in Manhattan, which run anti-union and pro-company posi- Quill replied: over 27 routes, including 11 cross- tion. In an interview with the town lines. Subways were clogged press he declared:

|ters of a million dollars a year | "friend of labor" and would help them.

workers. If the government can

cold-bloodedly deprive the lowest

lavers of wage earners, like the

out against the unions. He'll never get another office with the vote of labor."

Mayor LaGuardia, who has at-When questioned as to what the 1,094 buses, 95 per cent of all "friend of labor," took an openly attempt to run in strike breakers, union would do if the companies

THIS ISN'T 1916

The British Workers ---Not Churchill---**Can Defeat Fascism**

MARCH 15, 1941

By JACK WEBER

The American workers are being sold on the idea that all-out aid to English capitalism will help defeat Hitler and so get rid of fascism. At the same time the English workers have played to them an old and well-tried tune: first we must win the war and defeat the Nazis; then we can have socialism. Churchill flashes his most winning smile in the bomb-torn areas and, while announcing that he has one single war aim-to win the war-lets fall a remark or two that things will be quite different after the war.

Why Not Socialism Now?

The English masses should demand an answer to the simple query: why not socialism now? The first answer they will get is that any move to obtain socialism now would cause difficulties, would split the nation, would disturb class peace. And, that would endanger the victory and permit Hitler to conquer. Who, however, would make it difficult and give trouble? Surely not the workers who would stand to benefit by the elimination of profits, the complete central planning of production for a nationalized economy, the elimination of privileges so that there would be a better distribution of the goods of life. No, it would be the capitalist owners who possess all the privileges who would be up in arms-and who would then stand in the way of conducting a victorious war!

The workers are giving their lives to neip defeat fascism. The factory owners haven't enough gratitude right during the war to yield up anything to those who are giving everything to save the capitalist system. Would these same owners give up any of the prerogatives of their rule after the war?

Assume that England wins the war with Churchill still in power. Where would English economy stand? Right now it is so close to bankruptcy that it must appeal to the United States for aid without any illusion that this assistance will ever be repaid. The end of the war will see an economically helpless England faced with the most gigantic tasks in rebuilding what has been destroyed. The first World War ended with nothing but misery and unemployment for the masses. This war will leave capitalism so rotted through that it would be able to maintain itself only by a terrific slash at the living standards of the English people. In other words, the war will have hastened the entire process of capitalist decay that undermined all Europe in the period between the two wars. That brought fascism to one country after the other because the factory owners had to destroy all resistance to their plans to cut wages, lengthen hours of work, and put the masses 'on starvation rations. England would be no exception. Churchill or his successors would resort to exactly the same measures that brought Hitler in Germany under similar conditions.

In this process the Churchills would be aided by the United States, for after an utterly exhausting war, England would not even be able to maintain her independence. Churchill tries to undermine Italian morale by gibing at Mussolini for having made Italy nothing but a German province. Mussolini could very well retort that Churchill is rapidly making England a colony of the United States.

Workers Can End This War

Churchill tells the British workers that the German people have made themselves responsible for Hitler and all his doings. Otherwise why do they tolerate Hitler? And Hitler talks in exactly the same fashion about Churchill and the English workers. See, he says to the German workers, the English are united against us, the workers are solidly with their bosses. In this argument, however, there is the whole key to ending the war in a victory for the working class. The English workers have it in their power to destroy the "national unity" of Hitler. How could the English proletariat do this? By breaking down the walls of their own national "unity," by sweeping aside the Churchills and their labor lackeys and setting up a workers' government in England. Such a government could really and fully mobilize all the resources, all the forces of production and all the people of England to defeat fascism. Hitler could no longer talk of the nefarious plot of the international bankers against Germany. The hypocrisy of Churchill would make itself evident at once. He would show immediately that his main aim is to win the war-for capitalism, not for democracy. When the French General Staff saw defeat looming, their fear of revolution made them capitulate at once. Churchill, faced with a proletarian revolution at home, would not hesitate for one moment. He would sooner see the victory of Hitler and the salvation of capitalism through fascism, than the defeat of Hitler by the revolutionary working class. The French capitalists forestalled a revolution by giving in quickly to Hitler. But let the workers of England start their revolution for socialism and the situation would be quite different. When the victorious army of Bismarck faced the armed Paris workers in the days of the Commune, he did not dare send his troops into Paris to disarm the Communards. He did not want his own troops to become infected, for through them all Germany would have burst into flame. The flame of the English revolution would light up first of all Germany and then all of Europe. Does anyone believe that the German workers are enthusiastic for the war and have any great love for their fascist masters? No, an English revolution would cause the very ground to quake under Hitler's feet. All the lessons of the events in Europe since the Russian Revolution make it clear that only the workers can defeat fascism. They cannot leave this task to the "democratic" capitalists. Churchill defends imperialism, not democracy. It is capitalism in putrid decay that breeds fascism. And the war is hastening and extending this decay. The defeat of Hitler would bring revolution in Germany, no doubt. But if the Churchills were victorious, then they would protect their capitalist system by attempting to drown the German revolution in blood. That would mean a new form of fascism unless the German revolution then spread to England. Any way one looks at it, only the workers can defeat fascism. The English workers can bring Hitler down by themselves taking power in England against the capitalist government.

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first glance the headline seemed inaccurate; Roosevelt was ostensibly directing his remarks merely in opposition to jurisdictional strikes. But the Times headline was essentially accurate. The reference to jurisdictional strikes-which are unpopular with the workers generally-was merely being used by Roosevelt as a peg on which to indicate that he is against all strikes and is heading toward a "mediation" plan to prevent strikes altogether.

Like his right-hand man, Knudsen, Roosevelt has become convinced that Hillman's method cannot prevent strikes. Hillman had Knudsen convinced for a while. As Knudsen told the House Judiciary Committee, he thought strikes were due to "inexperienced and immature" union leaders. But "as we get more conservative leaders . . . little by little we will do better." Seven days after he said that, Knudsen changed his mind and came out for anti-strike legislation. The Bethlehem strike victory had changed his mind for him. Roosevelt, too, it is clear, has lost hope in getting "more conservative leaders" to do all the dirty work for him. "The President said that all strikes could not be averted merely by pressure from leaders at the top of the unions. Questioned about the suggestion of Hillman that this was the way to handle the labor problem, Mr. Roosevelt said that theoretically, it was grand." (New York Times, March 8.)

But practically, Roosevelt indicated, it was another matter. "There were other cases where local people will not listen to advice from on top."

The rigidly adhered-to rule of the White House, prohibiting reporters from quoting the president directly except where (very rarely) express permission is given, serves to blur a little the full meaning of Roosevelt's words, but it is clear enough that he plans to find ways and means to crush "local people (who) will not listen to advice from on top," and top leaders who go along with strikes.

Roosevelt is a good deal cleverer than some of his lieutenants. Assistant Secretary of War Patterson, for example, last week proposed to end strikes by "establishment of an agency similar to the National War Labor Board of 1918." All any intelligent worker has to do to know what Patterson

The United Mine Workers is the oldest and still the biggest of the unions of the CIO. All the more revealing, therefore, is the condition of the miners which is expressed in the demands now being made by the union for the new contract.

After some eighty years of unionism, it is a fighting demand to call for guarantees of 200 days' work per year and a \$6-a-day basic wage. That is, less than \$25 a week for a miner's family is a fighting program, not to be secured without a strike. After four decades of unionism, sixty per cent of the miners live on less than \$700 a year.

Could any figures more eloquently indicate that we must go beyond unionism, to workers' power and socialism?

Capitalist 'Democracy'

The Democratic Party spent six million dollars to retain their job-holders in Washington and elsewhere. The Republicans dished out over sixteen million dollars trying to get those jobs. These are the official figures; undoubtedly more was spent.

It must be remembered, of course, that the money spent during the election campaign is but a drop in the bucket of what the capitalist class disposes of to keep its ideological control over the workers. Day in and day out, through control of the press, cinema, radio, schools, and other means of propaganda, the ideas that serve the ruling class are pounded into our heads.

As against the money spent by the capitalist parties, the funds are infinitesimal which a revolutionary working class party, even were it a party of considerable size, could find to spend.

Fortunately, neither' their expenditures nor their control of the means of propaganda can save the capitalist class from the workers' awakening. All the lies of the capitalists are exposed by the unemployment, war, fascism, which the capitalist system produces.

Far-more than our own propaganda, the dreadful conditions which the capitalists create will clear the minds of the masses of the deceptions that keep them in subjection.

The fact that the capitalist parties retain control of the means of propaganda and can afford to spend millions of dollars in an election campaign which the workers can never spend, shows that capitalist democracy is not and cannot be real democracy. Real democracy can exist only where the wealth of society belongs to society.

nd taxis swarming around the terminals were doing a land office business. It is the city's biggest transit strike in 15 years.

MANY COPS ASSIGNED

companies.

ailed for duty at each of the garage terminals and depots. They carried night sticks, most of them They prohibited several attempts Union which has organized apat mass picketing and cut down proximately 50,000 workers on the the number of pickets.

STRIKE MACHINERY

Six to 12 policemen were deand stupid." terests of the bosses in the present inconspicuously concealed in the strike is clearly part of his drive slash-pockets of their overcoats. against the Transport Workers

city-owned transit lines. At a meeting of the BMT divi

sion of the union on March 5. At union headquarters the LaGuardia's Board of Transportastrike machinery is functioning tion was accused by Harry Sacher, in well-oiled fashion. Union books counsel for the union, as "more were exchanged the first day of cruel and vicious than any private the strike for picket cards which management we have ever dealt will be returned at the end of with." He cited as an example the strike. Most of the pickets the board's refusal to raise the were dressed in their uniforms pay of ticket agents from 39 to and at important stations were 40 cents an hour at a time when directing people to the nearest members of the board increased as an expert union-buster. subway entrance or to the nearest their own salaries by \$100 a week. taxi stand.

COMPANY PROFITS

On March 6 at a meeting of the In an exchange of letters with 5,000 BMT workers a resolution Mayor LaGuardia, Michael J. Quill, president of the union, re- was adopted demanding that the vealed that "The companies did Board of Transportation negotiate not negotiate in good faith with a new contract with the union for

the union. Although the net pro- city transit employes. The workfits of the New York City Omni- ers want a 33 1/3 per cent wage bus Corporation have been and increase, pension contributions paid by the city, longer vacations are more than \$2,000,000 a year, with pay and the closed shop. which represents an annual re-They booed and hissed as speakturn of almost 100 per cent on ers described commissioners of the investment of its stockholders, it not only rejected all our the board John H. Delaney, Frandemands . . . but had the audacity cis X. Sullivan and George Keeto suggest the elimination of sick nan for their "labor-hating, cheat leave and holidays with pay which | ing, vicious management." were provided for in our previous The Transport Workers are

staging a series of meetings for old wages with the exception of contract. all divisions in a drive for a new "So far as the Fifth Avenue those whom the company considercontract. The present contracts Coach Company is concerned, the ed to be the leaders. with the BMT and IRT expire on figures furnished us by the com-

pany itself show that in 1920 the June 30. The Board of Trans-**NEVER AGAIN!**

portation, in accordance with the But the labor movement in New stockholders had an equity of \$3,policy laid down by Mayor La-000,000 which by 1940 grew to York stands at a different level Guardia, has indicated no willingfrom what it was in those days. \$10,000,000 notwithstanding that ness to negotiate a new contract. Now the transport workers are the company paid out \$9,500,000 in dividends to its stockholders Among one group of three pick- strongly organized and affiliated at the rate of half a million dolets at a Terminal a lively dis to the powerful CIO. The inspir lars a year since 1922. During the cussion was going on yesterday ing solidarity among the ranks of same period wages have declined afternoon. One of the three the strikers is a guarantee that so that they are now three-quar- thought that LaGuardia was a this time they will win.

"They just want to strike. They "We would use the strength of refuse to arbitrate even though our whole organization to win officials of the bus companies are the strike." He did not anticipate willing to extend the present con- that any scabs would be brought ract. The union's attitude seems in however. "This is not 1916. to me to be bull-headed, obstinate Ours is an industrial union. Neither is it 1934 in Chicago. LaGuardia's defense of the in- Ritchie (head of the struck companies) himself brought in strikebreakers and gangsters to smash a strike there and won. But he will not do it here." He reminded reporters that the Byrnes law forbids the transportation of strikebreakers across state lines.

Ritchie has run full page advertisements in the bourgeois press attacking the union. Such reactionary papers as the New York Times are backing him up with editorials attacking the strikers. In 1934 the Hertz interests which dominate both companies broke a bus strike in Chicago. Ritchie established himself in this strike

The last big transit strike in New York in 1926 was the strike of the IRT motormen and switchmen. That strike began on July 6 when a group of subway workers organized the Consolidated Railway Workers Union of Greater New York.

The IRT imported more than 600 strikebreakers from Philadelphia, Boston, Chicago and Kansas City and paid them what the strikers were demanding and gave them food and lodging in addition. They ate and slept in the company's guarded shop at 147th St. and Seventh Ave. and were trained there to operate subway trains. By the end of the month the strike was broken. The strikers were taken back at their

SUBWAY FIGHT SOON