An Eyewitness Report:

CHINESE CITIES

See page four

THE MILITANT

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CIO Indicts Navy As Union-Buster

Union Charges Union Leaders in Navy Yard Were Fired in Scheme to Smash Their Union

PHILADELPHIA, June 3—Suspension of eight active unionists from their jobs at the Navy Yard here was characterized by Darius Kline, national representative of the United Federal Workers of America (ClO) as part of "a union-busting program" of the Navy Department.

Included in the suspensions, said Kline, are the secretary of Local 118 of the United Federal Workers, a former vice-president, the editor of the union's paper, the legislative director, and a shop steward. Two other union men were discharged previously.

A special meeting of the union is scheduled for Friday evening to take action for the reinstatement of the union members.

The union demands their reinstatement pending hearings at which they can defend themselves against any charges by the Navy Yard officials.

The union statement said:

"The Navy Department accused the discharged union secretary of getting orders from his union for a 'slow-down' at the navy yard. Is the Navy Department afraid of a hearing on this charge because the CIO could so easily prove it a malicious falsehood?'

The Navy's conduct in the suspensions was bitterly scored:

"These suspensions were made in the best copyright tradition of the Gestapo-a sudden tap on the shoulder and a quick marine escort out of the yard-no charges, no chance for reply or defense, no

On Both Shoulders

"No doubt much ink will be spilled on both sides to show that the Pope's world-wide broadcast Sunday was anti-Fascist or pro-Fascist, but a preliminary study of this Pentecost message, made both in and out of the Vatican, agrees that the balance has been kept pretty finely. Some shrewd blows are dealt at the Fascist conception of life, but there are other passages that appear to support Fascist theses. The Pope seems to envisage the new order as a compromise that would satisfy certain Fascist aspirations but, above all, preserve the freedom of the individual."-New York Times, Rome dispatch, June

How to Carry Water

previous warnings, no hearings such as are accorded even crim-

Typographers Refuse To Return To AFL

tional Typographical Union, by a refusing to pay an assessment vote of 33,498 to 25,632, has voted specifically levied by the AFL for against re-affiliation with the the purpose of fighting the CIO. American Federation of Labor, In-Baker announced Tuesday.

The referendum was held on a unanimous recommendation of

The membership of the Interna-, the AFL on January 29, 1940, for

The AFL executive board recently did away with that assesscent to the previous 1 cent per ent support of International Prescapita collected by the AFL from ident Daniel J. Tobin. Timing International's executive all affiliated Internationals, and his moves with the new unionit was on this basis that the ITU busting campaign of the employ-The union was suspended from board recommended re-affiliation.

ON THE WAR FRONTS

been sadly misjudging Imperial were opened. Japan. Somehow in recent years we have gotten the impression that the rulers of the Island Emnire are willing to go to any violent lengths in order to acquire market, raw materials and profits.

Maybe it was the Japanese invasion of Manchuria in 1931 that gave rise to this notion. Or perhaps it was the twicerepeated devastation of Shanghai. Or was it the bestial massacres and rapine which accompanied the Japanese occupation of Nanking in 1937?

And somehow the scourge of Japanese war planes over Chinese cities or Japanese armies careering through the peaceful Chinese countryside, seizing, burning, destroying, raping, have all contributed to the impression that the capitalist morals of Japan are just about the same, say, as Nazi Germany's Britain, the United States, or even Italy.

And just to show how deeply this mistaken impression has ingrained itself, we have very definitely had the feeling that the Japanese seizure of Indochina and its extended reach toward the Dutch East Indies have been motivated by the simple and unbeautiful desire to appropriate for Japan the French and Dutch "right" to sweat and exploit the native peoples of Southeast Asia.

But it's never too late to make amends for a mistake. We've had so quite publicly. And we might anything. Honest we are.

It is to be feared that we've all as well tell also how our eyes

"Good Commercial Morals and Shady Transaction Prevention Week," opened our eyes. The Japanese government is holding it this week.

from being the rapacious and bru-

Let's not be wedded to our grudges. Why they've even got banners up in Japanese theatres and public places which say: "No soul looking up to the Rising Sun Flag will besmear itself with dishonor doing shady business." And others say: "Let the gracefulness of Japan be reflected in her commercial morals." And the police even conducted a band of some 1,500 of these misunderstood Japanese businessmen to the Meijii Shrine, where they pledged themselves "to liquidate their conventional (?) tradesmen's spirit and serve the country."

Now when people will do and say such things, who's going to V. R. DUNNE SPEAKS cavil over matters like invasions. air bombings, mass murders. wholesale seizures and wholesale time. And it's high time we said we've been doing. We're sorry as

Nothing more, Nothing less, Far

tal freebooters we have been imagining them to be, the Japanese rulers are actually mild and honest men who wouldn't ever dream of doing his neighbor out of a yen, a dollar, a franc, or a guilder. Why else would they sponsor a Good Commercial Morals And Shady Transaction Prevention Week? Doesn't this show that we actually have to do with sound, sober, honest, unacquisitive peo-

V. R. Dunne reported for the the Japanese all wrong all this destruction? And that's what charged that the employers have

The First Naval Convoy



The first naval "convoy" has been used against striking American workers. Here is the scene of navy trucks and drivers carrying scabs through the picket lines of the 1900 AFL and CIO machinists on strike at 11 San Francisco shipyards. Government strikebreaking, however, has not succeeded in getting production started at the struck plants.

Local 544 Mobilizes In Showdown With Bosses

"The demands of each section

were reasonable and realistic."

declared Dunne, "yet the closer

we come to June 1st, the expira-

tion date of the agreement, the

on the part of the employers to

discuss the important sections of

the agreements." Around May

20th the Executive Board decided

that the attitude of the employers

was hostile and that the union

must be mobilized for action at

the expiration date of the present

agreement. They accordingly sent

ten-day strike notices to the State

Labor office as required by the

"The Union Board wants to

say to the membership,"

warned Dunne, "the employers

are stalling, that they are fol-

lowing plans worked out by the

Citizens Alliance-Associated In-

dustries crowd, that they be-

lieve now is a good opportunity

to strike a telling blow at this

As evidence of the bosses' con-

spiracy to smash the union, Dunne

pointed to the action of State La-

bor Board Director Blair, who re-

jected all but 19 of the union's

370 strike notices as "irregular."

same as hundreds of other notices

the State officials had used petty

technical devices to disqualify the

strike notices at the instigation

of Republican Governor Stassen

He announced that the Union

was returning corrected notices

loud applause, that "Stassen's dis-

qualification of our strike notices

doesn't mean a thing to this un-

ion, if the membership under-

stands what is behind the move

Dunne declared that if the em-

and knows how to act."

Stassen Slave Law.

Minneapolis Drivers Faced By Battle Like That Of 1934; And Again Tobin Is Aiding The Bosses With His Red-Baiting

MINNEAPOLIS, May 31—The latest attempt of the Minneapolis employers to break up the militant Teamsters Local 544 got a crushing answer last Tuesday night, when a huge overflow fneeting of the membership roared unanimous approval of their Executive Board's action in serving strike notices upon all trucking bosses who have been stalling on negotiations for renewing contracts expiring June 1st.

In resisting the union's demands, the employers are obviously basing their hopes upon the disruptive activities of a small

employer-inspired clique inside the red-baiting assault upon the Lo-ented by union negotiators over ment, replacing it by adding 1 cal 544 leadership with the apparers. Tobin has repeated his strikebreaking role of 1934 by publishing a vicious attack upon 544's leadership in the May, 1941, issue of his personal organ, the official journal of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters.

The contracts with the employers expire June 1. Tobin has summoned the leaders of Local 544 to appear before the International Executive Board in Washington on June 3rd for "trial" on charges made by the employer-inspired "Committee of 99" that 544's leaders "support the doctrines of Trot- EMPLOYERS STALLING sky" and "are members of the Socialist Workers Party."

UNION MEN MOBILIZE

Against this united front of the bosses, their tools inside Local 544, and the \$30,000 a vear President of the International, the huge membership of 544 is rising up in a solid fighting mass behind the militant union leadership who built their union and gave life to their slogan: "Make Minneapolis A Union Town."

From all indications Minneapo lis is scheduled to be the arena of another great battle equal in significance for the national labor movement to the strikes which stirred the whole country in 1934. Over 2,000 men packed the third

floor hall of the General Drivers second floor hall and into the streets on Tuesday night. Two tremendous banners dominated and the Associated Industries. the front of the hall with slogans reading: REVIVE THE SPIRIT OF 1934! and WE MADE MIN- to the Labor Office and said, to NEAPOLIS A UNION TOWN -LET'S KEEP IT THAT WAY!

Executive Board on the status of negotiations with the bosses. He been stalling on every major nego- ployers refused to deal with the critics are wrong, if they believe tiation ever since the demands union and precipitated a struggle,

For Your Son — **But Not For His**

is a 100% American patriot. He's against Negroes, Jews Catholics, Reds, Unionism, the Wagner Act, the Wages and Hours Law, the Anti-Lynch Bill, and anyone who's against a war for "democracy."

"Cotton Ed" voted for conscription with both hands. Recently "Cotton Ed"

Smith's son was reached by the conscription law. Young Smith had no dependents. He was of sound body. The draft board put him on the eligible "Cotton Ed" Smith got mad.

He demanded deferment for his son on the grounds of his essential occupation.

Young Smith's "essential" job? He is a secretary, at \$3900 a year, on a legislative committee of which his old man is the chairman.

So, young Smith's classifica tion has been changed. He's too "essential" to "Cotton Ed"

it will be a strike that they wil remember for a long time. A UNION-BUSTING MOVE

Why have the bosses taken the stand they are taking at this declared, "I believe the bosses have been heartened by what they the story of the demonstrations of think is a stir and a split in the ranks of this union. They think they see in the various 'Committees' a place to brace their feet of the démonstrations, reported although they were exactly the and strike a blow against our un- on May 31 as follows: ion. The bosses have also taken note of President Tobin's criticin previous years that have passed ism of the union leadership. The unchallenged. Dunne charged that bosses are beginning to think this is their day, that this is the time to push you as far back as they the bogeymen who lead Local 544.

has enough new members who tions and other points and or camp they were furious. have not been through the battles dered to return to camp. Enraged, of 1934 and the succeding years. and who will fall for their lies and their slander. They think they can force the union into submission, or can bring about a split in our ranks. We don't think this will happen.

"I think the bosses and all our (Continued on Page 3)

He Voted for Draft

Even Dorothy Thompson, one of 'Senator "Cotton Ed" Smith Britain's real war aims.

"Mr. Eden seems completel

"If the suspicion arises, how-

Eden Talk Bares Real War Aims

Churchill-Roosevelt Are Not Fighting Against Fascism, But To Keep Europe Divided And Put The German Nation In Chains

Reassured by Roosevelt's speech that the American imperialists will do their utmost in the war against Germany, Anthony Eden last Thursday exposed with the utmost frankness, the brutal war aims of the British "democratic" ruling class against the German nation. The British Foreign Secretary, commenting on Roosevelt's speech before a gathering of Britain's "most prominent citizens," made very clear that it was not Hitler that Britain intended to annihilate, but

Germany itself. This time Versailles would be made to stick:

"We must never forget that Germany is the worst master Europe has yet known. Five times in the last century she has violated the peace. She must never be in a position to play that role again. Our political and military terms of peace will be designed to prevent repetition of Germany's misdeeds."

plainly that, even if the German has as its fundamental aim, not people overthrow the fascists to- the fight against fascism, but an morrow, Germany is to be given imperialist war to destroy a powno other alternative except to be carved up and put in a strait- competitor has a fascist governjacket when peace comes. Versailles wasn't anything compared to what the British ruling class has in store for the German people this time.

If Eden were in the pay of Hitler, he could render him no greater service than these words. The German masses do not want the yoke of a foreign invader; yet that is all that Eden is offering

DOROTHY THOMPSON ON EDEN'S PROGRAM

the most vociferous proponents of the "war for democracy" was appalled by Eden's declaration of

have forgotten that the peoples of Europe - as contrasted with their governments - and especially the people of England, took up the sword not against Germany but against Nazism," she writes (N. Y. Post, June 2). And she warns:

eyer, that the shape of things to come is to include another attempt to forge guarantees against the industrial strength

man nation, and to attempt to keep her weak on all points because she is a formidable competitor, then no 'moral' order can be claimed (by Britain)." "The war is lost," she says, if Eden's is the program of the democracies.

Dorothy Thompson's dismay at Eden's speech indicates she thinks this the first such utterance from a responsible British official. She is mistaken. There is no "if" In these words, Eden is saying about it; the British government erful competitor, whether that ment or a democratic government.

VANSITTART'S SPEECHES SHOWED BRITISH WAR AIM

All through last November and December, weekly broadcast talks were made in London by Sir Robert Vansittart, Chief Diplomatic Advisor to His Majesty's Govern-

Those speeches, to justify postwar destruction of Germany developed a racial theory, that Germans were vicious by nature. The German, said Sir Robert

is a "butcher-bird," "which looks harmless enough to deceive its neighbors, but which is continually springing on them when they least expect it and butchering

the hostility of other nations, says Vansittart, "So far from there having been any prejudicé against Germany, the reason the butcher-bird has been given every conceivable chance is that everybody has always wanted to believe the best of it, or rather not to believe the worst, and this charity, always disappointed, come up smiling again between catastrophes. That is exactly what and work capacity of the Ger- the butcher-bird wants. He likes

Uncle Sam's Stock Exchange Hero: Chapter 2

When William McChesney Martin, president of the New York Stock Exchange, was recently drafted into the army the boss press made quite a to-do about it.

Martin, it was pointed out, wasn't going to seek any special privileges. He was going to be a foot-slogging, guntoting, potato-peeling private He was getting ready for the firing lines.

The newspapers haven't talked much about Martin in the past few weeks. They aren't publishing any more pictures of him engaged in his army duties.

A close-up of William Mc-Chesney Martin at his present army tasks would not show him drilling at Fort Dix. He isn't there any more! He's moved to comfortable Fort Jay, Governors Island, sitting behind a desk, the place he feels at home. No favoritism-Oh no!

nis victims to get cosy and confiding, before he pecks them to death."

"Let me now try to show you. why it is wrong to count on the better nature of the butcher-bird. and why naturalists know he hasn't got one. We must all drop the habit of making allowance for the Germans. It isn't fair to ourselves. And if anyone asks you to do it again, ask him in retur if he knows the German record." Here is a particularly crude ex-

expressed by Vansittart: "This bird of prey is no sudden apparition. It is a species. Hitler is no accident. He is the natural and continuous product of a breed which from the dawn of history has been predatory and bellicose ...

pression of the racial-theory as

"Of course, there have been (Continued on Page 4)

14,000 Soldiers Stage Fort Dix Demonstration

Furloughs Denied, Soldiers Hurl Rocks At Headquarters; Papers Suppress Story

The 14,000 soldiers from Fort Dix whose 10-day furloughs had been cancelled at the last moment on May 29, and who staged violent, rock-heaving protest demonstrations after hundreds had been halted at railway stations and ordered back to camp, have now been promised their full furloughs on their retime? "I must be frank," Dunne turn from maneuvers and training inspection.

The big dailies cooperated with authorities in suppressing

The New York Daily News, the only newspaper to carry accounts

SOLDIERS STAGE VIOLENT PROTEST

"Fourteen thousand soldiers from Fort Dix, with 10-day furhad their leaves cancelled last night as they headed home for the Memorial Day week end. Hun-"The bosses believe the union dreds were halted at railroad sta- autos. When they got back to to confirm the fact that there had they returned to the fort and FIRST DEMONSTRATE staged demonstrations which officers appeared helpless to check.

"Rocks were hurled at post headquarters; there were demonstrations in mess halls and other scenes of disorder developed. Long into the night wrathful groups prowled the reservation, defying military police to curb them.

"The order cancelling the leaves came from the War Department. Those who had already left Fort Dix were stopped by M. P.'s and were told to get back to camp mander, Major General Powell, post haste . . .

at the fort, but hundreds already hadn't been any "real trouble."

IN MESS HALL

"The first demonstrations came all." at mess. Many refused to eat. They banged their tin mess kits and set up a general din which went unchecked.

"Later they began parading the reservation, bellowing their 'diers' militant demonstrations.

Ammunition Uses

"Congressman J. Parness Thomas said that, at Fort Dix, there was a 'deplorable state' in that there was no reserve supply of ammunition and not enough small arms ammunition to deal with an internal disorder."-New York Times,

displeasure. Windows were smashed in the officers' club, post headquarters and other buildings. As far as could be learned no arrests were made.'

New York Daily News reporters who confronted the camp comfor a statement on the demonstra-"Many of the men were still tions were assured that there

> been "some trouble" and stated: "I have received information there were a few isolated cases of window breaking, but that was

> All metropolitan newspapers, outside of the "isolationists" Daily News, reported the cancellation of the leaves, but suppressed completely the story of the sol-

ORKERS'

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 cops and 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.

the members approved at a mass

meeting, are not at all to the real

liking of the workers. I am sure

that if terrific pressure had not

been put on the local officials by

the international officers, parti-

cularly Dalrymple, the workers

would have gone through with

their planned strike and would

undoubtedly have won far better

At the last membership meet-

ing the local officials had to plead

almost feverishly with the mem-

Dalrymple again did the dirty

work in forcing the company's

terms down the workers' throats.

tional defense," "aid to 'our' ally

Great Britain," etc.

more, I am 'certain.

For Leaving Y.C.L

meaning of Stalinism. At three

dazed for a few minutes, while

What was Lampert's crime

mosity? He had been a member

had come to see the wrongness

conviction of the degeneration of

the Comintern and fraternized

doubts or misgiving he might have

The whole appeal was on "na-

Well, the Goodrich workers have

seen the results of what a little

militancy could bring them if they

had been permitted to follow

local leaders had not weakened,

they would have got a great deal

RUBBER WORKER

How Chiselers Avoid Paying Overtime Under The Wage-Hour Act

EDITOR:

Here is some information about the way employers get around what is politely called the "intent" of the Wage-Hour Act.

A variable work-week plan is operated as follows. The employer hires new employees—or rehires his old employees-on the basis of getting "the week's job bers in order to get a favorable done" and not on the basis of vote for the five cents increase a fixed number of hours. Payment | And even then, none of the local is by the week, hence as hours officers dared to claim that the increase, hourly wages decrease; terms were good. consequently the base on which overtime payment are figured grows smaller the more overtime is worked.

Here is an example, which shows how much the employer can chisel by using the variable work-week plan. Suppose he has been operating on an eight-hour day basis, paying \$25 for a 40 hour week, or \$.625 per hour. His men their own instincts, and if the aliens. are getting in a lot of overtime, which has to be paid for at the rate of \$.9375 per hour. He has a happy thought and rehires his employees — or at least hires all new employees (which in course of time will mean most of his employees) - on the basis of a Charges Stalinists flat \$25 per week, without any understanding as to hours (ex. Beat Up Student cept for the time that work is to start in the morning). The Wage-Hour Act requires him to pay an additional half-hour's wage for each hour over 40, but the more hours worked in a week, under this plan the lower the overtime rate becomes, because the hourly o'clock in the morning, May 17th

rate goes down. I don't think this variable work | the room of Murray Lampert, a week plan is being used exten | fellow, student. Lampert, who had sively yet, because it involves previously been threatened with more bookkeeping, but bookkeep- physical assault by these and ing after all is designed for finegling extra money, so the plan will purpose and remonstrated with get more use as employers get them in the darkness for about wise to it. The minimum wage three minutes. They did not anshas customarily, had a work-week recognized. Finally, as Lampert has to pay overtime on 16 of those on the light, the Y. C. L'ers threw hours, can re-figure his hourly hot water into his face, blinding wage so that he won't have to him, and then proceeded to beat pay any more wages per week him. Although Lampert protected than he did before he complied himself by holding his hands in with the Act; the only restriction | front of his face, the blows were is that he can't go below a 30c. of such violence that he was an hour minimum.

The way to cope with businesses | the Stalinists unscrewed an electhat try to use this scheme to cut tric-light bulb and shattered it on down on overtime payment is, of the floor, preventing him from course, a union contract that de- following them in his bare feet fines the work-week and contains as they made their escape. Next an hourly wage stipulation. Some day, when Lampert spoke to the liberals thought that the Wage- parties concerned, he was told to Hour Act would be a substitute keep quiet about the affair or he for unions in small businesses would get worse. which are hard to organize. Precisely such small businesses, howwhich aroused the Stalinists' aniever, are most apt to use such legal devices as the above to get of the Young Communist League, around the Wage-Hour Act.

INDUSTRIAL ENGINEER of the Stalinist course, stated his

Rubber Workers Win Wage Increases When They Reject First Offer

fer for the new contract.

had by the bitterness of his at-You may be interested to learn the results of the militant stand | tack. taken by the workers at that the base rate of piece work.

ple, they would have accepted is Stalinism which is guilty of terms which would have meant this cowardly attack. Cambridge, Massachusetts practically no increases at all. As it is, the final terms, which

Reason For Lag In National Defense

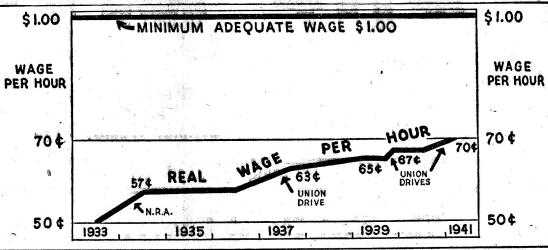
Dr. Thomas Parran, Surgeon General of the United States Public Health Service, addressing a New York state health conference on May 20,

"In 1940 disability took 50 times the losses due to strikes and lockouts. Though little discussed, this is the single greatest factor slowing up the production schedule."

Working time lost through illness and injuries, according to Dr. Parran, reaches the total of 350,000,000 work-days

However, the boss press and politicians haven't the time to notice—they are too busy with "important" problems of "national defense"anti-strike laws, curbs on organized labor, bigger sales taxes and the like.

WAGES FAR BELOW ADEQUATE LIVING STANDARD



Source: U. S. Department of Labor.

This chart, based on Department of Labor figures, shows two things: 1. that wages rise in direct relation to the strike struggles of the workers; 2. that despite the wage increases won in the past six years by the militant strikes of the workers, average hourly wages are still far below the \$1 per hour minimum which the government agency concedes is necessary for a minimum

FBI Seeking Wiretapping Authority From Congress

Is Already Training Army Of Wiretappers; Would Use Them In Attacks On Labor, As The Same J. Edgar Hoover Did In 1918

thus obtained. BUT he "supplies

information to employers on cri-

minal or subversive records of po-

tential employees." (our emph-

law to be passed, the F.B.I. today

conducts schools for training in

wiretapping, not only for their

local police. To offset the bad

use of wiretapping in 1934, the

F.B.I., protected by its parent, the

Department of Justice, blandly

considers itself immune from the

provisions of this law. In 1940,

however, the authorities decided

bill was introduced in 1940 but

favorable war atmosphere, it has

The sponsors stated in recent

hearings before the House Judi-

ciary Committee that they were

willing to limit the use of wire-

tapping to "kidnapping, extortion

and violations of the espionage

and sabotage laws." Not much of

a limit! These last two categories

can be used to apply to any work-

er engaged in war production, the

week, for example, THE MILI-

TANT published the storm of how

a SWOC shop steward in the John

Roebling Sons Co. New Jersey

plant, on charge of violating the

Federal Anti-Sabotage Act by al-

legedly closing switches control-

ling the power blocks "with in-

tent to obstruct the defense of

the United States." The charge

against Virok resulted from a

strike, and similar charges can be

made to cover any strike action.

Under the terms of the bill the

F.B.I. could tap the wires of any

union headquarters and home

Often the information obtained

from wiretapping is not used in

court against a victim. No! but

it is used to keep him from get-

ting a job, or to fire him, when

his union connections are uncov-

In Los Angeles

phones of union members.

the F.B.I. arrested Charles Virok.

majority of workers today. Last

been re-introduced.

Now pending in the House of Representatives are two bills ? which would authorize the F.B.I. and other police agencies to ered by this method. Wiretapping engage in wiretapping. Representative Hobbs, sponsor of one of has proved invaluable to private the bills, is also parent of the "concentration camp" bill for detectives, "red" squads and anti-

The bill which he introduced was drafted by Alexander Labor Relations Board reported said: "As an instrument for op-Holtzoff, legal advisor to the F.B.I. and has the approval of the tapping of the wires of Ford empression of free citizens I can

The threat to the labor movement in such legislation is clear to those acquainted with the use made of wiretapping in

In the last war, although wiretapping was supposedly illegal, the Department of Justice pracuse of wiretapping he said he ticed it freely.

THE F.B.I.'S LONG ANTI-LABOR RECORD

For every case of espionage and treason prosecuted against Ger-Harvard students have recently man agents or sympathizers there received an object lesson in the were hundreds of raids against "reds" and militant workers. The F.B.I. TRAINING HUNDREDS campaign of intimidation, mass OF WIRETAPPERS two Harvard Y.C.L.'ers entered raids and strike breaking, with wiretapping as one of its main weapons was directed at that time by the same J. Edgar Hoover who now heads the F.B.I. Nor own agents but for hundreds of other Y.C.L'ers, realized their did he stop when peace came.

On January 3rd, 1920, some odor attached to this practice, the three thousand workers and rad- F.B.I. has dignified the "pupils" icals were arrested simultaneous- by calling them "supervisors" or other words, an employer who ever — that they would not be ly in a score of cities. In many "wire technicians" and the eavesof, say, 56 hours, and finds he stretched forth his hand to put insane) without the pretense of a warrant of arrest. Much of the information, often false and worthless, leading to such raids was obtained through wiretapping.

J. Edgar Hoover, as special assistant to the Attorney General to seek Congressional sanction. in charge of "counter-radical ac- The first Department of Justice tivities," directed and played a leading role in the strikebreaking killed in committee. Now, in the activities of the Department of Justice agents in the 1919 steel strike, and the coal and railway strikes of that period. And this is the man who would be given free rein in wiretapping by the Hobbs bill!

The function of wiretapping to obtain information for use against workers, and expose their union activity and political affiliations. was revealed by J. Edgar Hoover himself in a Congressional hearing last year. In admitting the

Chicago Announces **FAMOUS**

BASEBALL BARBECUE

Sunday, June 8, all day

Westchester — Grove No. 2 22nd & Mannheim

Lunch, dinner; games; bonfire

Auspices: Chicago Local, SWP

union employers. The National ployees at the Dallas, Texas plant. In Tulsa, Oklahoma, the wires of the Oil Workers International Union were tapped by private detectives and the Oklahoma National Guard to provide information to the oil companies about emdid not use in court evidence

The Senate Committee on Inerstate Commerce reported on wiretapping in 1940: "Persons who have committed no crime, but whose economic and political views and activities may be ob-

noxious to the present incumbents of law enforcement offices, are being investigated and catalogued... the information may be used in extra-legal controversies." But that was in 1940. President

Roosevelt in stating his views on wiretapping in February, 1941 think of none worse than indiscriminate wiretapping." The catch For Roosevelt immediately added that, in cases involving the "national defense," he considered wiretapping to be justified! And that of course, means a free hand for J. Edgar Hoover.

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sive of their class in the struggle already under way. These \$10,000 will be simply the surface evidence of the role of the Trotskyist movement in the life of the working Watch the money come in! \$10,000 War Chest

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been launched to raise a \$10,000 War Chest fund when money

begins to pour in. Almost a thousand dollars has reached the

national center—and the drive has in reality hardly begun!

the great lessons of Lenin and Trotsky rise up to meet the

demands that history makes upon them. While others either

skulk cowardly in dark holes or leap hysterically on the wagon

to play in the band of the enemy class, the Trotskyists in true

Bolshevik fashion prepare to play a leading part in the offen-

Here is a token of the spirit with which those who learned

A) I WILLIAM	Quota	min. Iu.	10
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San Diego	100.00	00.00	00
Akron	50.00	00.00	00
Fresno	50.00	00.00	00
Rochester	50.00	00.00	00
Toledo	50.00	00.00	00
Pittsburgh	40.00	00.00	00
Allentown	25.00	00.00	00
Seattle	25.00	00.00	00
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Quakertown	25.00	00.00	00
Texas	20.00	00.00	00
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Milwaukee	10.00	00.00	00
rises to de mark sant	90% 1	a little services	·
TOTALS			99
	the factor of the	No contracting to the con-	

CONCENTRATE ON SUBSCRIPTIONS

beyond that.

The city of St. Paul led off this month with nine six-month subscriptions, although Los Angeles, the runner-up with eight, beat out St. Paul in the amount of money represented. Minneapolis came in third with seven subscriptions. for the first time in a dog's age feeling how it is not to come in

way ahead. One of our surest guarantees of continued support from subscribers comes from the fact that we put out so good a labor paper that it solicits renewal by itself. "In this crisis, more than ever, we need a paper such as THE MILI-TANT, which talks common sense and prints the news behind the news," writes one of our renewing subscribers in the note accompanying his payment.

The role of the party press as an organizer is seen in a few reports which have come to us in recent days. Boston sends in a subscription which it reports as having been received as a result of consistent door-to-door work on the part of the comrades there. Philadelphia reports that the coverage given a strike in a plant in its neighborhood induced one of the leading strikers to kick in with the price of a year's sub.

GETTING PARTY MEMBERS THROUGH THE PRESS But Allentown has the best re-

port of all to make. As a result of the consistent and devoted work of a few members there who have attended to the job of literature distribution with Bolshevik tenacity, they now find themselves rewarded in the finest way a worker in the movement can hope for. In a few weeks they will find their membership substantially increased by the coming in of a number of new workers who have

been drawn to the party and

given an understanding of its

principles through the literature supplied them over a number of Subscriptions for May from the months by the Allentown unit. branches reached only 78, but we We can understand how these comhave good reason to believe that rades feel when they say that the the record for June will go much experience of seeing their group thus begin to grow is a "pleasure incomparable."

> The record of subscriptions for May stands thus:

Allentown 1 Baltimore 1 Boston 3 Buffalo 2 Cleveland Los Angeles 8 Minneapolis 7 Newark 1 New Castle 2 New York Plentywood 1 Philadelphia 1 Rochester 3 St. Louis St. Paul 9 San Francisco Seattle Tacoma 1

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with members of the Socialist Workers Party. To question the official Stalinist mythology - this was sacrilege. Old friends refused to greet him, he was viciously I read your report in the May 17 | slandered to his acquaintances, a For the fourth consecutive year

EDITOR: MILITANT about the membership systematic campaign of charactermeeting of the Goodrich Local of assassination was carried on. For the United Rubber Workers (CIO) | Lampert was a dangerous examhere in Akron, on May 11, when ple - he might set others to questhe members gave such a cold re- tioning, to thinking independentception to Sherman Dalrymple, ly, or even actually to reading the international's president, and Trotskyist literature. Each Stalrefused to go along with him and inist proved his loyalty to the oraccept the company's measly of- ganization and stifled whatever

This was the poisonous atmosmeeting. As soon as the workers | phere out of which the assault deshowed they meant business by veloped. Almost certainly the two taking a strike vote, and sending Y. C. L'ers acted on their own back the negotiations committee initiative, probably in an instant with instructions to get more than of sheer inspiration. Even the lothe three cents an hour increase | cal Y. C. L. is not capable of such the company offered, the company stupidities. However, the physical came through with an offer of a attack on Lampert was merely a blanket five cents an hour in-continuation "on a higher level" crease and a 41/2 cents raise on of the previous attacks on his character. Stalinism is the school If the workers had listened to of which these two students are the cowardly advice of Dalrym- the worthy graduates - and it

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Left Jabs

ANOTHER HALIFAX

VICTORY By May 28th all the British fronts in Crete had broken and the Imperial forces were in full flight toward the southern coast and another Dunkirk. On May 29th Lord Halifax told the American press that "the lessons of his attack upon the Island of Crete probably will deter Adolf Hitler from attempting an invasion of the British Isles."

Whether he is delivering the Czechs to Hitler at Munich, or the Tommies and Greeks to Hitler at Crete, Halifax always sees "peace" or "victory." His Lordship is like the horse that ran into the tree... "he ain't blind, he just don't give a

WAR FOR DEMOCRACY?

"Personally I am of the opinion that it is dead wrong to harass the . . . Polish government-in-exile by making the Jewish question the all important issue." - Ludwig Lore (N. Y. Post, May 29).

Maybe it's not the all-important issue for Lore-but how about the rest of us who don't like anti-Semitism under either a Polish or a Nazi label.

HILLMAN PROVES INNOCENCE

Last week Harvey Brown, presi dent of the International Association of Machinists, told a Senate committee that Sidney Hillman had sent a man to the Pacific Coast to "aid and stimulate the strike" at the Vultee Aircraft Company. This was the first time. since Hillman joined the government, that anyone had accused him of aiding a strike, so you can imagine how upset he was.

When Hillman sat down to write a reply to Brown's dastardly charge, such phrases ran through his head as "saboteur." "provoca- mentioned it. It becomes obvious how the Negro pays. teur," and "Fifth columnist." But possessing all the restraint of a aid this protest action at all.

wrote, "I sent Arnold Tolles, a member of the staff of the National Defense Advisory Commission, to the West Coast to seek an END of the Vultee

It's nice to have the record straight.

LIFE'S SO SIMPLE

The British continue to lay their defeat in Crete partly to the fact that the German parachut ists wore Australian uniforms. thus making it difficult to tell friend or foe. Strange what the color of a suit of clothes can mean. If a man is dressed in brown . . . he's your friend. If he's dressed in green . . . he's an enemy and must be killed.

YES, JESUS WAS NO PACIFIST

"I ask you to remember that your saviour forgave the sins of the flesh, but one sin that He never forgave was the sin of neutrality." - Bishop Hunter Wyatt-Brown (N. Y. Post, May 28).

That's right. Jesus drove the money-changers from the temple-remember, Bishop?

EQUALITY IN BRITAIN

Starting this week clothing will be rationed in Britain, and, ac cording to the Associated Press. "the duds of a Duke or a dockworker will require the same amount of coupons."

They don't, however, require the same amount of coppers.

Clothes rationing is nothing new for the British workers, anyway. They've been doing it for years. They hardly need a book of coupons to tell them how little they can buy.

"Tests at Fort Bragg, N. C., show Negroes can see better at night than white soldiers." (N. Y. Post, May 28).

This discovery may open to the Negro many jobs previously closed to him. Now the Army will let him drive trucks at night and serve as air-raid spotter.

Imagine, however, the phenomenal and super-human powers the Negro would have to develop to become a General in Roosevelt's

Stalinist Won't Join **Negro March Committee**

Newark Stalinist Leader Won't Cooperate In Organizing Negro March On Washington

NEWARK, N. J. - At the or-9 ganizational meeting last Wednes- in agreement with every idea in day of the Newark committee to the heads of its sponsors, or that sponsor the Negro March to Washington to protest against discrim- we agree with all the proposals in industry, Elwood Dean, local them. We have stated our critic Negro Stalinist figure, refused on ism of some of these proposals a flimsy pretext to accept a place on the committee.

The Negro March on Washington is scheduled for July 1.

cial of the Brotherhood of Pull- against Jim Crowism. man Car Porters, representing the national office of the committee sponsoring the march, had spoken ganizational steps of the project, to support it in every way we can Dean, who was present representing a Negro youth federation interested in the march, rose to ask for some information.

He wanted to know what positaken on the question of war. Mc-Laurin answered, stating that all Negroes are opposed to the war but indicating that the committee had not taken any position on the question, confining its declarations ing to maintain the fiction that and activities more or less generally to the job of organizing the march as an expression of protest against Jim Crowism in the armed forces and industry.

Dean then replied that he would not serve on the committee because he was interested only in "peace movements and movements that took a clear stand for peace."

It should be noted, incidentally, that Dean was not in this case expressing the views of the youth federation he was supposed to rep-

STALINISTS AGAINST

The Communist Party has kept quiet on the question of the in the war industries? march. Its press has not even from the position of Dean, who

"On November 15, 1940," he movements" was obviously a fake, ployees in menial capacities, etc. dragged in by Dean to justify his stand. Stalinists do not refuse to Negro family in Harlem must pay functions in trade unions just be- for rent ranges from 30 to 60 per oust the white tenants so that cause they have not declared for cent. Rents are relatively twice they can rent the apartments to (1930) revealed that 40 per cent submitted to Mayor LaGuardia, is ponement of the strike, injecting of your heart . . . or are they immatically boycotting work in magree gro tenants, moving into apart—"mixed" apartment houses. Naturally the landlords benefit north of 142nd St. between 7th contracts). The union member—day, as it always is when workers

der a reactionary leadership. militant workers, Negro and vious tenants to have paid only white workers from realizing that with lodgers in open violation of Harlem janitors, 7,000 live in cellular and the strike committee The workers will be patient, of white, were to follow this kind \$23 and \$25). And rents are going of policy, it would result in for up during the war boom. ever leaving the workers in such organizations completely under the domination and influence of the reactionaries.

WE SUPPORT MARCH

Life grows simpler all the time tude. It does not follow, and it strongly condemns, the policy so often employed by the Communtrary, we Trotskyists offers full support to all progressive move-

> The March on Washington is fundamentally a progressive movement in that it is an ACTION FOR EVERY POSSIBLE EVENTagainst Jim Crowism. Because of this, we are wholeheartedly for its support by Negro and white ION."

This does not mean that we are

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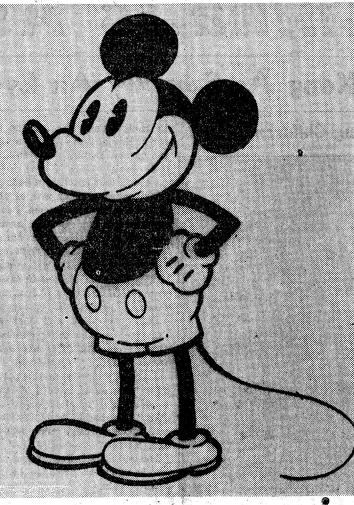
ination in the armed forces and for the march put forward by in this paper for many weeks. and have urged the marchers to adopt a program of militant de After B. F. McLaurin, an offi- mands to strengthen the protest

ments on some questions, we are on the purposes and proposed or- 100% for the march and are reads

The Stalinist press has been silent on this question because they know that they will find i hard to explain to their follower: opposition to a march of this nation the sponsoring committee had ture. But their silence, like Dean's declaration, is evidence that their policies are not based on the best interests of the Negro and white masses. In this cowardly and treacherous manner they are tryonly the Stalinist bureaucrats are interested in the struggles of the

(See Negro Column, page 5)

Mickey's On Strike



Members of the Screen Cartoonists Guild (AFL), employed by the Disney Studios, producers of "Mickey Mouse," "Donald Duck" and other animated cartoon films, are out on strike demanding recognition of their union and reinstatement of five workers fired for union activities. Mickey Mouse is on the

Harlem Shows The Price Negro Pays For Jim Crow

While Barred From Booming War Industries And Better Jobs, Negroes Are Compelled To Pay More Rent Than White People

By MYRA WARD

What is the price the Negro pays for being barred from jobs are closed to him. A glimpse at conditions in Harlem will indicate concretely

It means that his average income remains just about what

then he remembered the dignity is not a minor figure, that this it was in 1936, when the report of Mayor LaGuardia's own comof his position as co-director of silence is not accidental, and that mission (which was suppressed by all the boss papers) revealed the OPM and he wrote a message the Stalinists are not going to that half the Negro families living in Harlem must exist on incomes below \$837 a year! And these are not the people on relief. The argument about "peace but the bulk of Negro workers, porters, janitors, factory em-

> "peace." If they were to do so, as high for the Negro as for his Negroes at a much higher rate. they would find themselves syste- white neighbors. (Frequently Newhich are for the time being un- whites, find that whereas the Ne- grievances in common against the Avenue apartment, a landlord tion of 3,871 persons! Indeed, if class conscious and lars monthly, receipts show pre-

> > In the expanding district of lowering their rent. Then, as soon ers from uniting. as the pressure of expansion has

The proportion of this \$16 a week total income which a

Landlords are anxious to avoid from one to four boarders. groes must pay \$45 and \$50 dol- landlord. The ruling class is anx- rented 7-room, apartments to two The Building Service Employees in the hands of its committee of north Harlem, landlords often in the method by which the capital were on relief and received a rent of the results of his being kept to be in Washington May 5 and 6. very likely to suspect that the duce white tenants to remain by ists keep Negro and white work-

Brief and sporadic rent strikes have been attempted recently in Harlem to force landlords to remedy conditions. Such actions indicate the acuteness of the problem and the growing realization of Harlemites that only militant action can accomplish anything.

ed, on account of high rent and low income, to take in lodgers. the rest of the country. West Har- ciliator Steelman entered the pic-

ious to prevent the Negro and or three families and filled them Union reports that, out of 9,000 43. Steelman's agent accomplished here to "aid" in the negotiations. their problems and enemies are the multiple dwelling law. This lars and receive either no wages set April 28 as the deadline. common ones. Thus we have Jim- meant twelve to fifteen people in whatsoever or a mere pittance. Crowism in housing, as in indus- one apartment sharing one toilet. Such is part of the price the tional Mediation Board, request- be a more congenial attitude on try and the army. Segregation is Since the majority of the roomers Negro must pay. These are some ing representatives of both sides the company's part now, they are It is usually impossible for the monthly out of each apartment! ing march of Negroes on Wash- held the hearings in Washington women, fighting shoulder to The Socialist Workers Party created an acute housing short- Negro in Harlem to move to other High rents have led to condi- ington, to demand an end to dis was fully as biased as the state shoulder on the picket line, actakes a completely different atti- age in the area, the landlords sections of the city because they tions of overcrowding unknown to crimination.

Most Harlem families are forc-

voucher of \$16 each, the landlord from jobs in war industries. These The union complied, but prepared government didn't have a thing to made anywhere from \$100 to \$200 are the reasons behind the com- to strike May 6. The panel which do with it, but that they, men and

Honeywell Plant Closed By Minneapolis Strikers

Tired Of Mediation Run-Around, Electrical Instrument Workers Walk Out, Demanding A Contract, Seniority And Grievance Setup

In February a company union

GOVERNOR HELPS COMPANY

Slave Law, workers must wait ten

days after deciding to strike,

while the state labor conciliator

tries to reach a settlement. If no

settlement is reached in ten days,

the governor may invoke the

"public interest" clause of the act

(and he invariably does), calling

for a thirty-day extension of the

waiting period. During this pe-

riod, an "impartial" commission

of three, appointed by the gov-

ernor, holds hearings and makes

recommendations for settling the

This is the law that Senator

Ball, Stassen appointee, is trying

MEDIATION RUN-AROUND

On April 22, the deadline set

as far away as ever, Federal Con-

dispute.

Under Stassen's Minnesota

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn.—Workers at the Minneapolis-Honeywell Regulator Co. staged a spontaneous walkout here May 21, follow more than two months of state and federal mediation that had failed to impress the anti-labor firm that the workers meant business. The strikers, members of the CIO United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers, Local 1145, are demanding a contract to cover members, seniority, and grievance line for the strike. Wyzanski re-

The incident which provoked the walkout was the "disciplin- a man across the water, too." ary suspension" of a union worker without redress, but it was only the spark which set off a powder keg of discontent which

has been brewing for years. The workers, led by their shop com- company appealed and the case mittee, decided the time had come was argued before the NLRB on to give the company a demonstra- April 10th. Its decision has not, tion of union power, however, been announced yet.

The next day a mass picket line formed at the plant gates. The began signing up workers in the cops tried to lay down "rules of plant during working hours. Inetiquette" for the strikers, but March Local 1145 served notice their partiality toward the finks of intention to strike. brought sharp reproaches from the pickets, who closed ranks after a few finks had been helped into the plant by the cops. Before noon, the company dismissed these finks as it is useless to operate the highly integrated plant

Union carpenters, working on construction, went into the plant to get their tools and demonstrated their solidarity with the strikers by marching out in procession, their toolkits high on their shoulders. They got a big hand from the

The company union, which has claimed a majority of the that day.

THE COMPANY'S GAME

Minneapolis-Honeywell, manufacturers of electrical instrucoercion against workers who have sought to organize in the

In January of this year, a trial union, finding overwhelming evidence of anti-union activity on the part of the company. The for the strike, and with settlement

The last census so far published lem, according to the 1936 report ture. He wired a request for postof the families in Harlem took in the most crowded dwelling section the issue of "national defense" tion in the world! A single block (Honeywell has a few government

Larson of the of the negotiating committee to score Wyzanski chairman of the commission and a corporation attorney.

He had been reminding Wyzanski that the union had set a deadplied, "We have a deadline with

"Do we have to sacrifice every. thing we came down here for, because you have an appointment with a man across the water?" demanded Larson.

This incident, when reported to the union membership, was greeted with tremendous applause, a convincing demonstration of the workers' anti-war sentiment.

Late in the afternoon of May 6, at the strike deadline, the company broke down. It agreed to signed an agreement providing for collective bargaining, agreement to outlaw the company union through the NLRB, confirmation of the trial examiner's report calling for reinstatement of eight workers with back pay, and cease and desist notice posting by the company, plant election AFTER the status of the company union has been determined, and provision for federal mediation. The union accepted it and negotiations for a contract were in progress when the company, in bad faith, provoked the walkout.

to palm off in Congress as a cool- JUDGE HELPS COMPANY

ing-off proposal. In this case it The company secured a sweep has set the workers aflame. The ing injunction against the union, commission was packed to start claiming it had violated the agreewith. An affidavit of prejudice ment and that it had not served ments, is one of the few remain. filed by the union was ignored by notice with the governor of ining open-shop firms in these parts, the governor. The commission tention to strike. The workers. and has a long black record of submitted a thoroughly vicious elated over the success of the discrimination, intimidation and report against the union, as was hastily called walkout, and conexpected. But its recommendation fident they could do it again if to the union that it go into a boss necessary, voted to return to work. court and secure an injunction But next day they were locked rather than strike was a sad un- out by the company. Company ofexaminer for the NLRB handed derestimation of the militancy ficials sanctimoniously asserted down a decision favorable to the and intelligence of the workers. that they wanted to prevent any violence to their workers.

The solicitude of people who took club in hand and went into the market in 1934 to beat up striking truck drivers (but came back broken and bleeding) is something to warm the cockles ny sections of the mass movement ments formerly occupied by Blacks and whites might voice from this condition. In one 7th and Lenox Avenues has a popula- ship voted strike action, leaving are solid and determined, and the he actual date for the walkout | finks aren't.

> Then came a wire from the Na brows, too, and if there should board had been, prompting Ed complished that all by themselves.

ist Party of refusing support to a movement just because the Stalinversed and the control is On the Community of refusing support to a movement just because the Stalinversed and the control is On the Community of refusing support to a movement just because the Stalinversed and the control is On the Community of refusing support to a movement just because the Stalinversed by the Community of refusing support to a movement just because the Stalinversed and the control is On the Community of refusing support to a movement just because the Stalinversed and the control is On the Community of refusing support to a movement just because the Stalinversed and the control is On the Community of refusing support to a movement just because the Stalinversed and the control is On the Community of refusing support to a movement just because the Stalinversed and the control is On the Community of refusing support to a movement just because the Stalinversed and the control is On the Community of refusing support to a movement just because the Stalinversed and the Community of refusing support to a movement just because the Stalinversed and the Community of refusing support to a movement just because the Stalinversed and the Community of refusing support to the Community of refusing support to the Community of refusing support to the Community of the Community of refusing support to the Community of the

(Continued from page one) this union will allow itself to be cut to pieces.

"THE MEMBERSHIP AND THE LEADERSHIP MUST PREPARE UALITY, FOR EVERY CONCEIV: ABLE ATTACK UPON THIS UN-

Dunne wound up his report to stormy applause when he pointed to the huge sign at his left and declared: "If I am any judge, I believe you will tell this union will keep it that way."

ing Dunne's report, representa-544 leadership. They included to handle. spokesmen for the discredited gram, who are encouraged and concludes as follows: utilized by employer-enemies of the union In general agreement ideas and the general attitude of Unity and Democracy."

leadership and empowering the Executive Board to take whatwin the union's demands. So overwhelming was the flood of solidarity that even the boss stooges were afraid to oppose the unanimous adoption of the resolution.

polis a Union Town, and that we 544 in its present struggle against against all the enemies of the work along these lines." BOSS STOOGES REPUDIATED mean that Tobin is demanding tial increases in wages, regula-In the discussion period follow- the heads of the 544 leadership. tion of their hours, seniority The employers are obviously rights and general working contives of insignificant opposition counting on the "removal" of the ditions second to none in the encliques within the union endeav- militant leaders and their replace- tire country and superior to most. ored to attack the policies of the ment by steoges who will be easy For seven years the members have

Committee of 99, led by job-hunt- 544 has met Tobin's attack with keep them at the head of the ing sore-heads without any pro- flat defiance in a statement which movement in the face of direct "The names, the record, the sources.

Stalinist-inspired "Committee for lectively and individually, are and have been no secret to any-The membership unmistakeably body, including President Tobin, expressed their opinion of these Everybody knows who they are, boss stooges by boos and hisses what they stand for and what that almost drowned out their rethey have done. The emmarks. The Chairman had to in- ployers and their agents tervene to allow them to be heard. know this leadership and so do The membership voted com- the members of the union and the

attitude toward the leadership of ried on from the very beginning. Local 544 accordingly. We stand The record shows that we have ever action was necessary to on our record before the member always tried to conduct our trade ship and remain as before subject union activities within the frameto its control.

cal 544 has been elected by the American Federation of Labor. membership in a free and democ- The record also shows that our ratic election. It is the same lead- activities have greatly benefited ership which has stood at the and strengthened these bodies. Tobin's editorial has been used head of the movement during and We hope that no arbitrary and by the employer-controlled press since the great strike struggles dictatorial action will be taken to the bosses. The boss press has in- workers, a struggle which has terpreted the editorial attack to gained for the workers substanconsistently supported the leader-The Executive Board of Local ship and indicated their desire to and indirect attacks from all

"Nobody can change this leadership, in whole or in part, except the membership which placed its confidence in them and elected them to their posts. Local 544 believes in trade union democracy. It is opposed to personal dictatorship.

with them was a speaker for the the leading staff of Local 544, col- 544 BOARD ANSWERS TOBIN the city government and police

"On its part, the Executive

plete approval to a resolution | entire labor movement of the Board intends to continue the last week, Kline asked, "Who | the labor slate has the edge on endorsing the actions of the Northwest. Each has decided his constructive work that it has card is going to deal with it; the work of the International Broth-"The present leadership of Lo- erhood of Teamsters, and the leadership that we made Minnea- to attack the leadership of Local of 1934. It has led the struggle prevent us from continuing our as Mayor Bainbridge and his pol- ning for Mayor. By defaulting, the

POLITICAL ATTACK ON 544

The boss attack upon the Min- 1934. neapolis Teamsters movement is taking place during a hot mayoralty campaign. The victory of the candidates of the Minneapolis Central Labor Union in the recent primaries, and the defeat of the present Mayor Leach, have to their union-smashing efforts put the employers in a cold sweat. than it was in 1934. "Today the They are mortally afraid that the labor slate will win the general elections on Monday, June 9th and that the bosses' control over department will be weakened.

The bosses' candidate for Mayor, Marvin L. Kline, has been working together with Governor Stassen in an endeavor to terrorize, discredit and hamstring the teamsters' movement. Referring to the strike notices sent out by Local 544 candidate of the Dunne's or one who would have our laws work to the fullest to see that each side receives fair treatment? The workers of Minneapolis don't want to turn back control to those who made our streets a shambles of rioting in the strikes of 1934,"

Kline is aspiring to play the Stalinists has refused to endorse same bloody strikebreaking hole either of the two candidates runice chief, "Bloody Mike" Johan- Stalinist group offer objective supnes, who were responsible for port to the boss candidate, Kline, shooting 52 strikers on July 20, and may be responsible, if the la-

In his speech to 544's members, V. R. Dunne challenged Kline's provocative statements by reminding Kline and the Associated Industries behind him that the situation today is far less favorable bosses don't say they won't meet with a Union committee, that we from the Teamsters Joint Council haven't got a Union, that the un- left for Washington this weekend ion can't represent the inside workers on the market and in the Board meeting of the Internawarehouses — but they DO say tional Brotherhood of Teamsters through Kline and other boss men on Tuesday, June 3rd. that the Union leadership is no good, that the members must get rid of the union leadership, inti- Minneapolis and the Northwest,

deal with the union." its last week, it looks as though situation.

winning the elections, despite the cowardly campaign conducted by T. A. Eide, labor candidate for

STALINISTS' FOUL ROLE

After their candidate, Al Hansen, was eliminated in the primaries, the Hennepin County Central Committee of the Farmer-Labor Association dominated by the bor candidate is defeated, so close is the race at this stage.

Kline, incidentally, is quoting Al Hansen's own campaign words against Local 544's leadership. Hansen received only about 6,000 votes in the primaries on his union-baiting slander.

Delegations from Local 544 and to appear before the Executive

The entire labor movement of mating that then the bosses will together with drivers' locals throughout the nation, are await-As the city campaign goes into ing the next moves in this tense

British Rule In China Is As Vile As Japan's

The British Crown Colony Of Hong Kong As Seen By An Eyewitness; Even Fouler Than Shanghai!

(The writer of the following article has just returned from the Orient. His evewitness report is especially valuable since the British censorship—plus the cooperation of the American bourgeois press-has made news of conditions in Hong Kong virtually unobtainable by wire or correspondence. The same is true of Shanghai, now virtually under complete control of the Japanese army.)

By PHILIP CHARLES

Under the guns of the British in Hong Kong, or the bayonets of the Japanese in Shanghai, the Chinese workers and coolies know only starvation, exploitation, disease and death.

If anything, and this may surprise you, conditions in Hong Kong, where there has been no actual warfare, are even worse than in Shanghai.

Even before I arrived in Hong Kong I got a hint of conditions there, from some Chinese seamen, who were being taken back to Hong Kong in the steerage of the boat I was on. These 140 Chinese seamen were being

deported from San Francisco to asked him how long the trip to Hong Kong. I got their story the camps would be by train. He from one of them who could speak looked at me, puzzled. They were

He had been a cabin steward on days walk — and no guarantee of Asia. When they arrived in

THESE CHINESE SAILORS DARED TO ASK MORE

They were being paid on the THE NATIVE QUARTER regular Pacific run \$35 to \$38 Mex per month. That's a little over and hours were almost unbeliev-

to take the extremely dangerous ings have been erected. run to England, the company offered them an increase to \$50 through the mine fields in the Mex — making a wage of about harbor, we were met by scores \$12 in our money, plus a bonus of sampans and junks. The occuof about \$18.

The Chinese sailors held a meeting on deck. They had no regular organization — it was just spontaneous. British "democracy" doesn't tolerate unions for Chinese seamen. They made a demand for \$75 Mex and a bonus of \$75 gold. That's less than \$90 a month. But the company turned them down, put them off the ship and sent them down to Frisco, from were they were deported on our American hoat.

I asked the one who, gave me the information, what would happen when they got back to Hong-Kong. He said they would be black-balled from any further jobs. Once a Chinese seaman in Hong Kong leaves a job for any reason, he is blacklisted.

(Continued from page 1)

potential reformers in Ger-

many, but they have always

been able to impede the iniquit-

ous habits and courses of the

theory, twin to that of the Nazis,

tled down. The Germans never

did. Germans in the plural are

The Brazen Horde. The Brazen

Horde remained savages at heart.

History tells it to you plainly. The

German is often a moral creature;

the Germans never; and it is the

Germans who count. You will al-

ways think of Germans in the

been contrary to German honor.

"Lying and cheating have not

plural if you are wise.

"Other people grew up and set-

executed."

going by foot — a four to five

the British luxury liner, Empress of work when they did get there. As I said, this gave me a hint Vancouver, British Columbia, of conditions under British 'dethey received notice that they mocracy in Hong Kong. But I was would have to take the ship to still completely unprepared for the real thing, when I did finally

A LOVELY FACADE HIDES

As we approached Hong Kong we could see first of all the mo-\$8 in American currency. They numents of capitalism, the great work a 12 hour day. Such wages banks, office buildings, warehouses, government buildings, able to me. American unlicensed that the British have erected sailors and firemen get between around the water front. You have \$90 and \$100 a month for an or- to climb over these buildings, so dinary run, working an eight to speak, into the native quarters to see on what kind of founda-To induce the Chinese sailors tion these great, modern build

· As we were being piloted pants of some were holding up crude signs with Chinese lettering. I asked someone what the signs read. "The're begging for food," I was told. I had never before seen such skinny and dried up human beings.

Later I found that the right to approach the ships and beg for food was a real "privilege." The junk owners fight for this right. It's an inducement for hauling cargo from the ships to the docks, at low pay. The companies make verbal contracts with the junk owners permitting them to beg food for this back-breaking toil. Only "privileged" individuals

tor boat, loaded with Sikhs, Brit-He and his companions were ain's troops from India, drove full planning to make their way to speed through the flimsy junks. Free China, to try to get work Some were almost capsized. These in the labor camps somewhere be- junks carry whole families. I tween Canton and Hong Kong. I learned that there are many junks

China's Starving Children



This picture of a homeless Chinese refugee child in Hong Kong was secured by Philip Charles. The baby which the little girl is carrying on her back is one which she found abandoned on a roadside. The child has "adopted" the baby and is mother-

sunk this way, and many drownings as a result. But it's just a small example of the British officials' attitude to the Chinese natives. They look on them as less than dirt.

Then I got a whiff of the breeze from off-shore. We were still some distance from land. What a smell Did you ever get a close-up smel! of a dead rat? That's something of what it's like.

I soon found out what that smell was when I went through the native quarters. It's the smell of over a million human beings, crowded together in incredible filth, disease and hunger.

To look at the modern buildings down near the waterfront, you'd think you were in some American city. But observe the conditions of the natives for one Suddenly a large, powerful mo and you know war couldn't do

> THE DAILY LIFE OF BRITAIN'S "WARDS"

Hordes of coolies, workers, ·homeless refugee children swarm in the streets and alleyways. They live in the streets, cook and eat in the streets, sleep in the streets. They work to exhaustion for a

I saw hundreds of these natives to be either youngsters or old or old and broken down. It's be cause they age over-night from

this is the ordinary thing in this

I asked about the conditions of he coolies around the warehouses. One in a hundred manages to get work each day. They are under the well-known "shake-down" system, worked by the companies and British officials. They are paid \$1.50 Mex a day, about 35 cents in our money. They have to pay back te the company stooges about onethird their pay for the privilege

Mere children do the heaviest type of hauling. I had a heavy and of sweet pig-tailed maidens. the British ruling class, justified trunk delivered to the shipping office. The company had it carried by two small lads - over a mile - for 20 cents Mex. When 1 gave them what to me was a small

> tip, they were completely dumb struck. You cannot imagine such hunger, in this great wealthy port under British rule. I was going down one street when a jewelry merchant handed out a

bowl of rice through a grating on his shop window. Instantly there was a howling mob fighting for it. The bowl spilled in the street amidst all the dust and dung. Men; women and their knees. In a minute their wasn't a grain left on the street.

streets come up to you in crowds, begging and pleading, "Kumshaw — no pappa — no mamma," they repeat over and over.

The real war against fascism BRITISH LAW AND ORDER

as military police for the British Wangpoo River we saw a sym-

in Hong Kong, who are the terror of the natives - came around the corner. Instantly the children

I was just entering a door of a restaurant, when one of the kids came up close to me. I saw the Sikh's knobby club swing sidewise and heard a sharp crack. The child was laid out on the sidewalk for a few seconds. Then he started to crawl back into the crowd. Just before he reached the group he turned his head and spat at the soldier. The other children looked on with faces distorted with hatred.

I turned angrily to the policeman. "You didn't have to do that. I could have handled these children." He bowed very low and said apologetically, "Yes, Master. Yes. Master."

Master! The lowest, vilest per son is "master" provided he has white skin.

I rode a rickshaw only once. took one one day when I was lost. went only a short way when wanted to get off again. The rickshaw driver insisted on taking me to my destination, a matter of several miles. When we arrived his breath was coming in great heaves. Sweat was pouring down him and the veins stood out all over his body from his exertions. He asked me for 20 cents Mex, five cents in our money. I felt so bad I gave him an American dollar. He can live a month on it.

The life span of rickshaw drivers is five to seven years. Sooner or later their hearts just seem to explode. Incidentally, the rickshaw is not an old Chinese custom. It was introduced by the British.

WHAT BRITAIN DOES FOR ITS SUBJECTS

Incredible as it may seem, looking at this city with its great modern port and business section, thronged around a warehouse clean water is unavailable to its looking for jobs. They appeared million native inhabitants. There is no sanitation or water system in men. You never see any of them Hong Kong except in the few secwho don't appear either youthful tions where the British and other foreigners live or do business. Cholera sweeps through the native quarters in wave after wave. There are scarcely any medical facilities or hospitalization. Those who get sick, lie on the streets

The British have introduced a great "reform" in Hong Kong. compensation to the workers and coolies. When a rickshaw driver or a longshoreman dies, his family gets \$10 Mex, \$2.50 in our money, to bury him with.

It's easy to understand the reason for this generosity. The death rate from hunger and disease is so enormous, that the streets would be littered with corpses if this measure were not taken.

The evidence of war preparations are everywhere around the Hong Kong, if that is conceivable. of armed force is an indication people doesn't lie in the guns and docks and the business sections. It was very cold in Shanghai of the extreme hostility with bombs of any of the imperialist Sand-bag barricades are being when we arrived. One shivering which the Japanese forces are erected around all the banks, gov- rickshaw driver, dressed only in surrounded in Shanghai, though Kong or Japanese rule in Shanernment and office buildings. But there isn't much protection from take me a distance of three miles four years. air-raids afforded in the native

IMAGINE ASKING THESE COOLIES TO FIGHT FOR "DEMOCRACY"!

I did see a few air-raid shelt ers for the Chinese in the center of the city on one vacant lot. counted about 10 of them, supposed to hold from 150 to 300 people. I don't believe there are shelters for more than 10,000 na tives in this whole huge city I think a fire-cracker could blow them up.

There are posters everywhere reminding one of the war. One wide-spread poster reads, "Have you contributed for a British Bomber?" After seeing how the Chinese live in Hong Kong, you wonder if these signs aren't just a sample of the well-known British

The British can expect little support from the natives of Hong Kong in their war efforts. The small Chinese merchant class, of course, are for the British. But One day I was walking down not the workers and coolies. They would have imposed on the world own hands. They will be able to Ship Street with some American are totally indifferent to the war, had she won in 1918." The Ger- offer the German people, not an sailors. Ship Street is crowded so far as giving aid to the Brit- ists are disregarding "reformmans, he concludes, are a country other and worse Versailles, but with homeless children, packed ish is concerned. They hate the ism" and "opportunism." of homicidal maniacs, and: "The the Socialist United States of Eu-together sleeping on the side British and they hate the Japanworld must never again take any- rope and America. Against that walks, begging, trying to pick ese. And they don't see any choice

German workers would speedily --the high-caste Indians who serve we entered the mouth of the

She Toils For Britain



This is one of the photographs brought back from Hong Kong by Philip Charles. This is a woman coolie at her task of breaking rocks for twelve hours a day. The meaning of British imperialism is clearly written in her face.

bolic sight. On one side of the for about four cents in American river, the British section of the money. International Settlement, loomed the gigantic oil tanks of the Standard Oil Company of China. On the opposite shore, the Japanese flags and pennants. What a

constant temptation those oil tanks must be to the oil-starved Japanese military machine, which is in complete control, in actual fact, of Shanghai. The general appearance of

Shanghai is better than Hong much superior to those provided in the British port. I observed that the Shanghai

had some covering on their feet I managed to talk to some of

the longshoremen. They are the highest paid workers, getting about 80 cents a day, very high wages for Chinese workers. I learned that they are organized through it have been able to establish some sort of protection for themselves.

ers, on the other hand, seemed

There was a transportation

strike on in Shanghai when we arrived. All the trolleys and buses were tied up. There were 6,000 to 7,000 Chinese workers on strike, and they displayed marvelous solidarity.

The Japanese, British, French, ing workers and tried to break a little Chinese girl sitting on Kong. The dwellings for the Chi- their strike. They couldn't get the sidewalk crying. nese, terrible as they are, are any Chinese workers to scab so they tried to use the White Rus ed closer and saw that her foot sians for the job.

It hurt the prestige of the

workers to strike in Shanghai The streets are swarming with troops of all nations in the international settlement.

THE UNEASY HOLD OF

In the Japanese-controlled sections, there are soldiers patrolling every block. And they have ence to the vast suffering of the Conditions of the rickshaw driv- a reputation for being merciless people. Once you see it with your to the Chinese on the slightest even worse in Shanghai than in pretext. But this constant display a ragged thin shirt, offered to they have controlled the city for ghai: It's the same misery for the

Terrorism is going on all the time between the Japanese and Chinese. The day before we hit port four banks were blown up. The Japanese accused the Chinese and the Chinese accused the Japanese. The Japanese terrorists blew up seven cabarets and drinking places while we were there. This was in retaliation for the refusal of the Chinese girls to entertain them.

The discipline among the Japanese troops has become noticeably slack. It has always been a very rare sight to see a Japanese drunk. But I saw any number of drunken Japanese soldiers on the loose through the city.

One sign of the breakdown of discipline is the practice of these soldiers of invading places of entertainment and attacking the women and girls. I understand that the Japanese officers have tried to stop the drinking and terrorism, but can't succeed.

The Japanese troops feel very suppressed. Many of them have been away from their homes for years. They look tired and disgusted. They are in a constantly hostile atmosphere, scarcely ever seeing a friendly face or hearing a friendly voice.

I noticed their uniforms, which were worn and shabby. Among groups of troops marching down a street, I saw mismatched uniforms and worn equipment.

From all I could observe of the Japanese troops, they are plainly disgusted with the war, which has given them nothing of what they were promised by the Japanese rulers.

A SYMBOL OF THE RULE OF ALL IMPERIALISTS

I shall never forget one scene in the wealthier French section. I was lost one day in this section, on a block of nice looking apartment houses where the foreign Italian and American officials whites and wealthier Chinese buried their differences with each merchants live. I heard a moan other and ganged up on the strik | beside me, and looking down saw

She was holding her leg. I lookwas covered with a hideous gangrenous infection. I stood watching longshoremen seemed better dress- white imperialists to have to use her for half an hour. She was in ed and stronger than those in white men to scab on Chinese obvious agony. I could do nothing Hong Kong. They wore cheap workers. The workers won the for her. Many well-dressed people American style work clothes, and strike, gaining a small wage in passed by during the time, and not one noticed her. They were completely indifferent. I finally went on, after leaving her some small change on the sidewalk. But she wasn't begging. She just left the money lying there and went on moaning.

That's the symbol of imperialinto a secret organization, and THE JAPANESE CONQUEROR ist rule in China, — British, Japanese, French or American, Coldblooded exploitation, and indifferown eyes, you will understand that the salvation of the Chinese nations. British rule in Hong

These French Socialists Say Leon Blum Was Wrong--But They Do The Same The "Jean Jaures Group of Sofreedom of the world against

cialists," a small segment of the French Socialist party leadership which emigrated to England to continue their support of the "democracies," has recently trans-Those I did see were so flimsy mitted to the press a manifesto Upon reading it the eye is caught by the following paragraph:

> "They (the signers) are of the opinion that the Socialist Party, for many years affected by reformism, opportunism and electioneering, is in part responsible for the increasing weakness of democracy in France; and that new methods as well as a new spirit are necessary in order that Socialism -which is not dead and will not die-shall again be capable of fulfilling its historic mission, which is one with that of the working class."

A new beginning! The Social-

Then, however, the eye is caught by the last paragraph:

"Finally, the French Socialalone in this hour defends the

the formidable enterprise of enslavement which Hitler and Fascism represent, salute British resistance with admiration. In so doing they are certain of the agreement of Frenchmen practically without exception."

A "new" policy? Wasn't this support of Britain the policy of The scene of operations has shift ed from Paris to London: that's all that is new. The "Socialist" would still tie the workers to support of the imperialists war. Al. their pious hopes for Socialism cannot perfume the odor of their

THE FIRST ISSUE OF

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And these are only the minority of the leadership of the French section of the Second International. The majority of the leaders have gone in for collaboration with Hitler; they publish, with Hitler's blessing, L'Effort in Paris. They are not violating their principles in doing so. They were Leon Blum? What's new about it? always "practical;" i.e., serving the nearest master.

Trotsky's Books Are Banned In Nazi-Occupied France

NEW BRUNSWICK, N. J. -In the library of New Jersey College for Women a display was recently set up of books banned in Nazi-occupied France. Five of the twelve books shown were those of Leon Trotsky. These were "My Life," "The History of the Russian Revolution," "The Third International After Lenin," "The Revolution Betrayed," and "Lenin."

Perjury has not been contrary to German honor. Nor has it ever occurred to one German in ten thousand that Hitler has ruined even the sham profession and semblance of German honor; that of all his vows, protestations, promises, internal or external, solemn or bawling, literally not one

has been kept."

Germany an effective element of invader. kindly and learned old gentlemen, on the day of battle or they turn | concocted. out to be the worst of the expansionists. Don't count on the maidens either. Women have never been allowed to play much part in Germany. In early times of

majority. Of course there have been and are Germans who may not have liked executing the programmes of their leaders, but with individuals we are not concerned; the fact remains that the programmes of their barbarianism German women leaders always HAVE been A RACIAL THEORY, VICIOUS even worse - raucously blas- These liberals, however, have AS THAT OF THE NAZIS Further developing this racial right back into their traditional

Eden Talk Bares

Real War Aims

"Germans, male and female, are content with servitude, on condition that they are provided with enough of their blindly idolised others. That is why you must never think that Hitler was an unnatural taste forced on Ger-

"No country," says Vansittart,

"It is dangerous to persist in In a word, the German masses destroy fascism.

the hallucination that there is in must be chained by the British Such is the real war aim of

That is unhappily a myth. The by as fraudulent a piece of race-German professors either vanish hating "theory" as Goebbels ever

OURS IS THE ONLY WAY TO FIGHT FASCISM

The "practical" liberals justify supporting the Churchill-Roose were famed for inciting men to ground that, after all, this war is ferocity. Today Nazi girls are already on and we must pitch in. phemous. Hitler has thrown them their moments of doubt - Dorothy Thompson's column on limitations as cooks and child- Eden's speech was such a moment.

Were any of these liberals honest enough to think through all the implications of their momen come to the conclusion that the efficiency to inflict servitude on real war against fascism, as Dorothy Thompson fears, is lost, if the Edens remain in power. And the Edens - that means also Roosevelt and Churchill and the American and British capitalist

class.

or asked more loudly for retri- will begin only when the workers SHIELDS ME FROM bution; but she got off with a of Britain and America take the CHILDREN raction of the penalties that she governmental power into their hing for granted in Germany - program, Hitler could not pre- pockets. A group of these children between the two. or endanger itself by future illu-vail. With that perspective, the began to come toward us. A Sikh

few pennies a day. That's their life. Incredible physical labor for a few grains of rice.

the hardships of their lives. You see what the youngsters will look like in a few more years from the faces of the older men twisted, distorted and diseased Their mouths are like black holes. with a few rotten teeth or none at all. Their spines stick out like door knobs. I saw men who couldn't have weighed more than 90 or one hundred pounds carrying loads which almost crushed then to the earth. Keep in mind that

British colony.

of getting this work.

children scrambled for it on

The children swarming the

ists, convinced that Britain

Negro Struggle By ALBERT PARKER

The Negro March On Washington

Last week, in our discussion of the proposed march of 10,000 Negroes on Washington on July 1, we indicated our support of the undertaking and called attention to the fact that the most important consideration in the march had to be the demands made by the marchers when they got

We discussed the proposal of the Negro Committee handling the march preparations; it intends to ask a presidential decree abolishing discrimination in employment and the armed forces. We explained how this was based on A. Philip Randolph's theory that Roosevelt could issue such an order tomorrow, "and discriminations against colored people would promptly end."

We support the demand, that Roosevelt should issue an executive order against discrimination. But we definitely do not believe that discrimination would end if Roosevelt issued the order. We support this demand because it would help the fight against specific cases of Jim Crowism, but do not believe it would by itself abolish Jim

In support of our position, we want to recall one of the statements made by A. Philip Randolph in the article in which he first called for the march. It should be remembered that this statement of his was advanced as a reason for holding the march. Printed in January, it said:

"It seems to be apparent that even when wellmeaning, responsible, top government officials agree upon a fair and favorable policy, there are loopholes, and subordinate officers in the Army, Navy and Air Corps, full of race hatred, who seek its contravention, nullification and evasion."

To this he should have added that the Negrohating, labor-hating employers in industry know very well how to avoid laws and rulings when it serves their purposé.

How does Randolph square this statement of his in January with the one he made in April that a presidential decree would "promptly" end discrimination?

What Randolph Leaves Out

He doesn't, and he doesn't try to. He ignores this question, as he does others which touch the very heart of the problem, such as:

Industry, lock, stock and barrel, is in the hands of an employer class which fosters and strengthens anti-Negro prejudices in order to be able to more easily exploit workers of all races.

Military training, lock, stock and barrel, is in the hands of a hardened anti-Negro bureaucratic military caste which is dedicated to the maintenance in military life of every form of racial discrimination that exists in civilian life.

The government, lock, stock and barrel, is in the hands of a war-mongering administration that is notorious for its indifference to the needs and desires of the Negro people, and of two capitalist parties which take turns when they are in power in kicking around legislation such as the antilynch bill and the poll tax bill.

In other words, far more important than the question of an executive order which would only echo other rulings already on the books, is the question of CONTROL.

Even if the order were issued by Roosevelt, it would remain on paper, as long as control of industry, military training and the government remain in the hands of the enemies of the Negroes.

A Program for Militant Negroes

Consequently, Negroes must ask for more than a presidential order.

Employers controlling the war industries won't hire Negroes? Then expropriate the war industries, have the government take them over, and let them be managed and operated without discrimination by committees elected by the

Negroes need military training in this period when all major questions are decided arms in hand, but the army bureaucrats are bitterly anti-Negro and determined to "keep them in their place"? Then join the fight for military training, financed by the government but under control of the trade unions, based on full equality for the Negroes!

The government and the boss parties aid the bosses in segregating and discriminating against the Negro people, refusing to pass such elementary legislation as the anti-lynch and poll tax bills? Then aid in the formation of a labor party pledged to carry on the Negroes' struggle, pledged to establish a Workers' and Farmers' government that would create a new society that would forever abolish poverty, war and racial discrimination!

This is the kind of program that Negroes need and must fight for — in Washington on July 1 and everywhere else until they win full social, economic and political freedom.

We do not pretend that the mere adoption of these demands by the marchers will bring automatic victory. Jim Crowism is too strongly rooted in the ways and customs and traditions of our great American democracy to be torn out easily. It will require a long and bitter fight, that will not be ended on July 1.

But with this program the marchers, and the Negro people, will have a weapon that will make a good start on July 1 and lay the foundation for a struggle that will end in victory, instead of in defeat and demoralization, as happens to so many actions that have no clear goal.

The LABOR WITH A WHITE SKIN CANNOT EMANCIPATE ITSELF AND BELLEA BOR WITH A BLACK WHERE LABOR WITH A WHITE SKIN BY THE FOOD CITY OF THE PROPERTY O

The Masses Go Hungry, While The Rich Guzzle And Profiteer

LONDON, England—The offensive on the food front has and lemons. That they reappeared who manufacture margarine made One of the main functions of begun in earnest. Britain's toiling population, one half of which on the tables of the "right" peo 1,500,000 pounds as against 1,250, these committees would be to fix was undernourished in pre-war days, is being placed on a starvation diet which will undoubtedly lay bare wide sections of the community to disease and epidemics. Already the food situation is so bad that the Government's propaganda sheets compare it with 1917, when Lloyd George said the country was "three weeks from starvation.'

What is the meaning of this? Why is it that in the seventeenth month of the war which according to Mr. Churchill is going to last at least five years, the country's food supplies are being reduced to a minimum? These are the questions that housewives are asking themselves as they travel from shop to shop

with an empty basket. At the be @-Unable to satisfy the needs of her ers and cabinet ministers dine in family from rationed goods, the luxury. iousewife turned towards other foods, but again found herself thwarted at the shop counter. No matter where she went, prices of unrationed goods had risen far as in the case of onions and lemarket.

"EQUALITY OF SACRIFICE" IS A CRUDE MYTH

Listening-in to the British Broadcasting Company's advice or to the "sacrifice for all" speeches of the Labour and Tory M.P.'s, the working-woman may well ask that this is a 'sacrifice for all war?" Let us hear what Cassandra, leading scribe of the Daily Mirror had to say on January

"The password to gluttony in blockaded Britain is MONEY. Within five days I have eaten at least seven times my weekly meat ration, five times my bacon ration, nearly half a pound of butter, and have had so much sugar that I couldn't eat it all. This Everest of food has been obtained without the loss of a single food coupon. I have had a double portion of bacon within 20 minutes. Eggs may be scarce, but I wouldn't know it, cheese might be a luxury but you would have to wake me up in the night and tell

And where did Cassandra go to eat like this? He tells us:

"I have been in the big hotels where a cabinet minister is almost a commonplace. I have watched the great as they dine -Mr. Herbert Morrison, Lord Beaverbrook, Mr. Brendon Bracken, Mr. Duff Cooper and Mr. Anthony Eden were among them." In conclusion he remarks: "Never in the history of a nation faced with famine can so much have been eaten by so few."

ginning of 1940 the Government | Meat is not seen from one end rationed foods which in the main of the week to the next. The faccomprise the working-man's diet. tory worker who according to Be-Immediately prices began to rise, vin is winning the war on the and cases arose where people home front has to starve while controllers would practise a little could not even afford the rations. the company directors, stockbrok- of the self-sacrifice which they

FOOD COUPONS MERELY HIDE THE SITUATION

"But Lord Woolton is against ostentatious eating," yelps the beyond the limits of her purse, or Daily Express, and "he has declin ed to call for the surrender of mons, the commodities had com meat coupons in restaurants and pletely disappeared from the cafes because it would mean that people who eat in factory can teens would have to give up their

What hypocritical nonsense! As if you can compare the guzzling which goes on night and day in "how to plan your daily d'et" and the expensive hotels and restaurants, to the workman's diet in the canteen! Monica Dawson, making an investigation on behalf of Rev herself the question: "Is it true | nolds News, writes about the prices charged in these luxury eating places! "Chicken (whole) 20 -, Loin chops 2 9, Sausages 1 each, Steak and kidney pudding 43, Roast beef and Yorkshire 43." How can one compare these prices to those which the work-

> It is clear that the question of equal distribution of food has got nothing at all to do with food coupons, because in capitalist Britain there are two food policies; one for the rich and one for the poor, and money is the decisive factor.

But didn't the Government assure us that everyone would have a fair share of the country's supplies, and that specially appoint-

HUGE PROFITS GARNERED FROM WORKERS' HUNGER

bags have said this over and over again, but let us see how it works out in practice? When the war broke out the government appointed a number of prominent company directors from the food industry as food controllers. Almost at once, these gentlemen launched a belt-tightening campaign. A number of foods indispensable to the worker were rationed, and after a steady profit was assured, As the hungry workman leaves prices were controlled. The rehis home in the morning, pros- maining foods which were unrapects of satisfying his appetite at tioned were classified as luxuries hang around like the white soldthe factory canteen are slight. Re- and, the prices began to rocket ports from leading factories show sky-high, control was instituted. that the mid-day meal often con- But lo and behold, they immedisists of potato chips, bread and ately disappeared from the mar-

ple we can rest confident.

The Daily Telegraph writes: "Buyers acting on behalf of a few West-End and large provincial hotels and restaurants ... are approaching individual wholesalers and retailers as they leave the market. They offer exorbitant sums...The lemons appear on the tables of unpatriotic householders."

No matter what belt-tightening takes place, the rich get their food in any case.

One would think that in this "sacred" and "just" war the food preach. Nothing of the sort. The year 1940 was one of the finest years for profits the food industry had ever witnessed.

Unilevers, who indirectly have five representatives on the food control committee, realized profits totalling £9,000,000 as against £6.700.000 for 1939. Van den Berghs, a subsidiary of Unilevers,

000 pounds for 1939. British Su- the prices of goods. Only when gar Corporation made 1,190,000 the determination of prices is pounds against 397,000 for 1939. taken of the hands of the greedy Smiths Crisps garnered £248,000 plundering combines and their Bakers got £480,000 against food control boards, will there be £370,000 (1939). All these are dian end to the enormous profitrectly or indirectly represented on the food control committee,

REAL FOOD CONTROL MEANS CONSUMERS' COMMITTEES

Britain's food supplies are in chaos, and the working class is going without, because the country's food production and distribution is owned and controlled by the millionaire monopolies.

The demand of the hour must be for the building of consumers' committees all over the country. The committees must have as wide as possible a basis, which will include delegates from house-wives, factory workers, co-ops, small shop-keepers and combine employees.

gainst £185,000 (1939). Allied representatives on the government eering in food at the expense of the incalculable suffering and exploitation of the working class.

By setting these committees up throughout the whole of Britain, there can be equitable distribution of all available foods.

The committees must have full access to the books of the combines. A policy of genuine equality in consumption and equitable prices, cannot be effective while the control of the nation's food rests in the hands of a few gigantic monopolies, even when such control is exercised through government boards. The monopolies must be expropriated and operated under workers' control. with the food distribution controlled by the consumers, through the consumers' committees.

A TRUE STORY

White Man's Town

camp, working in the dreary Kittired I circled the streets for a ing his way. while and came back to the same

the sky. Occasionally, you heard like it. the rumble of a train. It was a freight, you knew, loaded with speeding to the camp.

A fellow from the American a dark faced man in the late one and one for all. forties. His oversea cap didn't seem to fit him. In one hand he pepped up. held a bunch of poppies. In the other he held up a collection box. ed controllers would see to this? He was hard at work pushing the poppy drive.

"Don't forget your buddies, soldiers. We are in it again. Buy a poppy. We done it last time, we licked 'em last time; will do it again. Buy a poppy. Poppy, soldier? Poppy, mister? Poppy, madam? Get your poppy.

He'd stop for a moment to pin on a poppy and continue: "Listen to F.D.R. t'night. We're in it again."

The artillery regiment had come in. The artillery was a colored outfit. The black soldiers didn't walk leisurely. They didn't iers. The black soldiers marched in military formation through the street on the way to the colored I said: "What of it, you have colsection on the other side of the an "ersatz" liquid sold as tea. ket; witness the fate of onions tracks. They marched in groups

We were building the army ing along with every other group. walked into the store.

Sometime, you could see a black sachie forest day in day out and soldier marching alone. You could gray jacket pushed the soldier glad to be back in town at night. see the way he walked that he out of the store. A group of men But the town was small and in knew how to keep out of trouble. ran over, the Legion man ran the heart of the South. I stood He held his head up, looked over and the traffic cop was on Main street in front of the straight ahead, stepped on the there, too. The cop grabbed the corner drug store. When I got side when white folks were com- soldier's arm and led him away

their eyes fixed on the black sol-When it got dark, you looked at diers passing through. They didn't

F. D. R. was speaking. He spoke against aggression and for army trucks, guns, equipment, defense and asked for sacrifice and said that everybody had to do their bit - rich and poor. Ev-Legion was on the corner, He was rybody had to sacrifice. All for

Thé Legion salesman was quite "Got to get in now. Got to

beat Hitler now." And in the same breath: "Don't forget the boys.

Don't forget the buddies that done the last time. Buy a poppy."

A fellow came over and stopped te talk. "It's gettin' mighty tough. Ah's

never seen 'nythin' like it." I thought he was talking about F.D.R.'s speech and the war coming nearer and nearer, and I said

'Yes." But he went on to say:

"This town never seen so many coldiers. Sho' we got to be prep ared Ah don't mind 'em soldiers. not a bit. It's 'em niggers. Just look at 'em marchin', look at 'em messin' around the sidewalks."

That fellow sure looked hurt so ored folks in town."

"That ain't it. Now 'em niggers roun' heah know their place, it's 'em soldiers. You can't just do the same to the nigger that's got Uncle Sam's uniform on. If you beat 'em up, you got to look out fer the M.P.'s. 'n' if you don't put 'em in place they get to think they's like a white man." So that's what was troubling

Then he let a spittle fly. "This ain't the North. We put em niggers in place the last time. We strung up some soldiers." He said it calmly and you could see

"What did you hang them for?" "Fer rapin' a white woman," he I didn't like the guy. As a mat-

ter of fact, I didn't like the town and the people and none of their ways. But I was lonely and a stranger and looking for no trouble. So I said: "Yes sir, everytime there's a woman, there is trouble." Just kidding him along F.D.R.'s speech was over. The stores that had kept open late to attract extra business were putting

soldiers hurried back. In front of the drug store the Legion man was still pushing the

poppy drive. Then one fellow said: "Look at that nigger." Everybody turned around to look. A black soldier came march-

After a while a white man in a

from the entrance. The fellow in The crowd of town folks kept the gray jacket followed then and was telling the story to the cop.

"How you all come to mess round a place where white folks sit eatin'?" the cop demanded of the soldier.

"Ah's done nuttin'," the soldier stuttered, standing up against the wall. "Ah wuz gwanna buy me some thin'. I can buy in the store, cain't ah?" "You sho' can," said the cop,

"but you wasn't near the drug counter 'n' you wasn't near the cigarette place. You was messin' near the counter where 'em white folks is sittin'."

The soldier didn't know what to say. He just looked on.

"Well. I got to turn you over to the M.P.s," said the cop.

Just then an army officer in light brown pants and khaki jacket pushed himself through the small knot around the soldier. The cop did the explaining. "Artillery?" the officer asked.

"Yes sir," the soldier said.

"Let's see your pass." After looking at the pass, the

young officer said: "You fellows had orders not to hang around in this part of the town. You were told that when you get off the bus you were to march through this part of the

town and do your hanging around among your own people. You have plenty time to buy things at the canteen on the reservation and you have stores in the colored section."

> "Yes sir," said the soldier who stood at attention. His oversea cap was smartly fixed, but his face was blank. "You like to get in trouble,

> don't you?" "No sir," said the soldier. "Well, a good stretch in the

brig will probably teach you to obey orders." There was nothing more to say. Everybody was waiting for the

M.P.'s to come. The two M.P.'s came along swinging their clubs. They took a strong grip of the soldier and led him away. They pushed him

into the army car and sped away.

Trotsky's Last Work MANIFESTO OF THE

FOURTH INTERNATIONAL

on the IMPERIALIST WAR and the were on their way home and the PROLETARIAN REVOLUTION

5 cents per copy

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Our Stand On "Taking Over" War Industries

By JACK WEBER

The press has given space to the demand of Villard and the "Keep America Out of War Congress" that the government take over the war industries, including all the heavy industries. Oswald Garrison Villard says he also wants these industries to be run by the government "under iemocratic control.'

What should our attitude be towards this demand of Villard and the isolationists who hope that by taking the profits out of the war industries they will stop United States entry into the war? To many people it may seem almost obvious that we would support Villard. For don't we also call for the expropriation of the war industries? And what difference is there between 'democratic control" and "workers' control"?

Villard looks upon the government as something apart from the classes in society, and to him the drive for war is a pressure on the government by special interests which the government finds it difficult to resist. Villard wants to withdraw the pressure and thus free the government to act once more in the "common" interest. By eliminating the profit-making in the war industries, it would no longer pay the individual capitalists to press for war; they will stop pushing the government into war. Such is Villard's

Our answer is that the government is the executive committee of the entire capitalist ruling class. That class sees its whole future jeopardized by a redivision of the world not in accord with its basic interests. It is not a question of this or that industry, of profits of one group of capitalists as against those of other groups. What is involved in the imperialist war is the fate of the entire system of profit-making in the United States. Roosevelt speaks in the interests of capitalism as a whole.

Roosevelt May 'Take Over' Industries

Modern war calls for a tremendous concentration of power over the complete national resources and productive forces. The big bankers and industrialists are not at all averse to having the government exercise this power for war purposes. On the contrary, they call on Roosevelt to extend his power more and more, knowing that through him real control remains in their own hands, that his policies will be the policies of monopoly capitalism. If it were found necessary, Roosevelt would even take over certain industries in order to conduct the war more effectively. Thus in the last war Wilson took over the railroads. The jur sbsor

The mere taking over of industries by the government is, therefore, no way to stop war at all. True, the bankers and the big industrialists never like the prospect of seeing the government actually take over and run industry. The reason they dislike to see this happen is because the working class may learn some valuable lessons from this experience as to the ease with which

Why do we call on the government, the capitalist government, to expropriate industries and let them be run under workers' control? Our first aim is to educate the working class concerning the nature of war and its relation to the profit system as a whole. We have no illusions about the capitalist government—but many workers have. Our object is to dissipate these illusions and hence we try to get workers into those forms of struggle which will help them to understand, the real nature of things. The workers are asked to sacrifice their lives in the war for "defense" of their country." At every turn the conditions and circumstances of war permit us to contrast the sacrifices demanded of the masses with the failure to demand sacrifices from the ruling class, particularly in the matter of profit-making.

The Aim of Our Slogans

As war becomes more and more burdensome to the masses, they more willingly listen to proposals to ease their lot and not to permit the capitalists to amass wealth at the expense of our very lives. But let the slogan for expropriation of war industries once take hold, and let the workers begin to put up a strong fight to see this accomplished, and the education of the working class speeds up enormously. They would soon learn that the government of the capitalists has no intention whatsoever to squeeze the profits out of war. On the contrary, even where an industry might be nationalized, the first care of the government is to insure the steady flow of profits to the capitalist investors.

The struggle of the workers to force the government to take over certain industries and to permit the workers to have a say in the running of these industries would soon develop into a wide-scale struggle between the two basic classes, the working class and the capitalist class. The government would reveal itself in its true light as the instrument of the ruling class. The workers, trying to eliminate war-profits and to be in a position to see that this is done, would soon find out that the only way to do this, is for the workers themselves to take over the government. Only a workers' government could really carry carry out a program of taking over and running the war industries and the basic industries in the interests of the great masses.

Villard's slogan implies a faith in the government as an instrument for the "common good." Our manner of presenting the issue, on the contrary, is to dispel this illusion and to set the workers in motion on a path which leads to the proletarian revolution. Our slogan teaches that the only democratic control of industry is workers' control and that the only way this can be achieved is by means of workers' power over the

Militant Resolution Up In Irish Labor Party

consciousness among the workers of Ireland is reflected in the res olutions submitted to the Annua Conference of the Labor Party in Dublin, April 21, 22 and 23

Although we have not yet received a report of the final decisions of the Conference, the MI-LITANT this week received by mail from Ireland the printed Final Agenda of the conference containing all the resolutions submitted by the various local branches and councils.

Cf particular significance ar two resolutions on the war submitted by the Dublin City Constituencies Council. This Council is an elected committee representing all the branches of the Labor Part in Dublin, and is generally refer red to as the Dublin Labor

The first resolution declares:

"Conference states its conviction that the present bloody conflict is an Imperialist War; that under Capitalism wars are an integral part of the profit

by the need to seek new markets, cheaper sources of raw material, and labour; therefore, the Labour Party must remain hostile at all times, to any element in Eire which desires this country to take sides in the

This resolution is implemented by a second, on the attitude of the Irish workers toward the arm ed forces of any of the imperialist countries which might occupy Irish soil, including British troops which might be sent ostensibly to "defend" Ireland from a

Nazi invasion. The resolution reads:

"That in the event of the occupation of Eire by the Armed forces of any of the Belligerents in the present struggle for the Capitalist Supremacy in Europe, no member of the Labour Party shall act or function in any civil administration functioning in conjunction with the Invaders."

the ranks of the Labor Party for the capitalist Eire government terrible conditions of the Irish workers and poor farmers.

Branch, states:

end the Political Truce, and lead the people away from the policy of the two Capitalist Parties and towards a clearcut programme for the control of production and distribution to save our people from starvation and evictions."

It is clear from the 42 resolu-

tions presented by the local bodies to the Conference, that the Irish workers are eager to do battle against their class enemies and to fight against the unemploy-

The growing revolutionary class | making system, and are caused | dicate the rising demand from a policy of class struggle against and the ruling class and for the twinkle in his eyes. fight for a socialist solution to the

> One such resolution, submitted by the Waterford City Branch and amended by the Drumcondra

"That the Labour Leaders by the workers of the means out the lights. The town folks

ment, high prices and heavy taxes ing by the store, then halted. He which increasingly burden down stood looking into the drug store A number of the resolutions in the Irish masses. window. Hesitatingly, slowly, he

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JOIN US IN FIGHTING FOR:

- 1. Military training of workers, financed by the government, but under control of the trade unions. Special officers' training camps, financed by the government but controlled by the trade unions, to train workers to become officers.
- 2. Trade union wages for all workers drafted into the army.
- 3. Full equality for Negroes in the armed forces and the war industries-Down with Jim Crowism everywhere.
- 4. A peoples' referendum on any and all
- 5. Confiscation of all war profits. Expropriation of all war industries and their operation under workers' control.
- 6. For a rising scale of wages to meet the rising cost of living.
- 7. Workers Defense Guards against vigilante and fascist attacks.
- 8. An Independent Labor Party based on the Trade Unions.
- 9. A Workers' and Farmers' Govern-

Shrunken Bellies

"Demagogue" and "liar" were two of the terms applied to John L. Lewis by the bosses when he asserted last year that there were "52 million shrunk-, en bellies" in this country.

But we now have public admissions to the same effect from leading government officials. Last week at the National Nutrition Conference for Defense,

"We find that at least three-fourths of the people of the United States do not have what can be called good diets by any reasonable standard.

"At least 40,000,000 people in the United States are suffering from very

Federal Security Administrator Paul McNutt followed Wallace with a statistical report showing that a minimum of 45,000,000 persons in the United States are suffering from malnourishment and

This unprecedented admission by the Roosevelt administration is, to say the least, a paradox. It comes at precisely the moment when the government is urging the workers to pull in their belts still more in the interests of "national defense."

Deliberate curtailment of mass purchasing power and civilian consumption, in order to feed the war machine is admittedly one of the intents of the proposed new federal tax laws, the highpressure "defense bond" drive, the effort to "freeze" wages, the slashing of WPA.

Why this sudden and unprecedented administration hullabaloo about America's 52 million shrunken bellies? Why wasn't such concern expressed two years ago, or six years ago, or nine years ago, when there were even more shrunken bellies?

For eleven years of the depression, the workers were starving even worse than today. We didn't hear army generals and high government spokesmen getting up at public conferences and bewailing the terrible undernourishment and hunger. They didn't attend such conferences. They didn't hold such conferences.

Yet even a reactionary brass hat like Brigadier General Lewis Hershey, deputy director of the Selective Service Act, today joins in the "shocked"

'We are physically in a condition of which nationally we should be thoroughly ashamed," declared Hershey, who had previously observed the ravages of eleven years of depression without once opening his mouth.

Hershey then gives the show away by expressing what he and the administration are really concerned about. He cites the figures of over 40 per cent of potential draftees having to be rejected for physical reasons, and adds:

"Probably one-third of these are suffering from disabilities directly or indirectly connected with

The very name of the conference at which

Hershey, Wallace and McNutt spoke is a dead give-away of the reason for their concern-National Nutrition Conference for DEFENSE.

Roosevelt, Wallace, McNutt and the brass hats aren't worried about the 52 million shrunken bellies as a matter of principle.

All this hypocritical agitation represents nothing more than the desire of the government to fatten up more lambs for the imperialist slaughter. It has nothing to do with any genuine desire or attempt to straighten out the wrinkles in the 52 million shrunken bellies.

All the administration can do, however, is bemoan the situation. It cannot take measures to improve the health of the working population, which is the reservoir of fighting man-power. On the contrary, the administration is driving in the opposite direction: reducing the living standards still further by deliberately curtailing the production of consumers' goods and mass purchasing power.

A Straw In the Wind

The latest returns in the national referendum of the International Typographical Union indicate —the ITU officers concede it—that its members will reject William Green's invitation to reaffiliate with the American Federation of Labor.

This is a straw in the wind of more than passing significance.

In arriving at this decision, the ITU members were voting against the unanimous recommendation of the ITU executive board that the union return to the AFL. They voted in this fashion despite the fact that the AFL leaders had come to terms with the leaders of the ITU, and had agreed to discontinue the special assessment for a "war chest" to fight the CIO. The ITU was suspended from the AFL in 1939 for refusing to pay this assessment.

What is of most significance is that this continued opposition to the policies of the AFL is expressed by members of a union which has had its deepest roots in the AFL craft tradition.

The attitude of the ITU membership can be taken as nothing less than a reflection of the sentiments of an ever increasing number of craft unionists who have come to realize that the craft union policies of the present AFL leadership are wrong and detrimental to the labor movement.

It is a sign that the ranks of the craft unions have been observing the superior merits of the industrial union policies represented by the CIO.

Step by step the AFL has had to yield in power and prestige to the CIO. Today no one can seriously dispute the fact that the CIO is the outstanding organization of American labor, and that its recent material contributions to the welfare of the working class have far surpassed the small change which the AFL has offered.

The vote of the International Typographical Union should not be viewed as a mere reflection of continued disunity in the ranks of organized labor. It is a hopeful token of the growing desire amongst the craft union rank and file to achieve labor unity on a progressive, industrial union basis against the reactionary opposition of the AFL leaders.

Gene Debs' Tradition

The war mongering Social Democratic Federation has presumed to speak in the name of Eugene

In a statement to the press attacking the pacifist Norman Thomas, the Social Democrats this week asserted that Thomas does not represent the movement of Debs. These recruiting sergeants for imperialism attempt to represent themselves as the continuators of Debs!

Every word and act of these "socialists" betrays the ideas for which Debs lived and died.

The Wilson administration murdered Debs for his uncompromising opposition to the last imperialist war. Old and sick, Debs went to federal prison rather than agree to maintain silence against the war. He died of tuberculosis contracted during his years of prison confinement. To his last breath he called for unyielding class struggle against the boss class and its wars.

Yes, Gene Debs was the mortal enemy of all the Social Democrats uphold.

And he would have spat with equal scorn upon the pious pacifism of Norman Thomas. Debs would never have joined hands with capitalist politicians like Senator Wheeler and pro-fascists like Lindbergh. He would never have slobbered pacifism to the plaudits of Bundists and Christian Fronters.

Debs was no pacifist. He did not fight against capitalist war by puling appeals for "peace." Debs sought to end imperialist war by the proletarian class war.

Whoever would speak in the name of Gene Debs, must address the world in the true spirit of Debs' immortal words:

"I am not a capitalist soldier; I am a proletarian revolutionist. I do not belong to the regular army of the plutocracy, but to the irregular army of the people. . . I am opposed to every war but one; I am for that war with heart and soul, and that is the world wide war of social revolution."

Only one political party of the American working class today has the right to speak in the name of Debs. That is the Socialist Workers Party, our party. We, like Debs, are opposed to every war but one. We, like Debs, are heart and soul for the world wide war of social revolution.

Let the "socialists" of the Social Democratic and Norman Thomas stripe dare to profess as much, before they ever again presume to utter the name of America's greatest proletarian fighter.

A Big Business Threat Against Wage Raises

David Lawrence, Big Business Spokesman, Threatens That If Wages Are Not Kept Down, Inflation And Fascism Will Follow

David Lawrence, spokesman for America's most reactionary big capitalists, has just made two threats to the Roosevelt administration: first, inflation-second, fascism!

Mr. Lawrence's threats are contained in a signed editorial appearing in the May 21st issue of The United States News. This weekly magazine (of which Lawrence is editor) is not read by the general public but serves rather as a sort of internal news bulletin for the capitalists. It is not a magazine given to hysterics: rather it is a calm and thoughtful expression of opinions held by a very weighty section of the bourgeoisie. When Lawrence speaks through this medium he is not talking for effect, he is speaking, in all sobriety, directly to the President over the heads of the

Lawrence begins by deploring Roosevelt's inability or unwillingness to crush the CIO's strike wave and wage gains:

"... President Roosevelt (recently) suffered the most ignominious defeat of his public career... Unable or unwilling to deal with the CIO in any other way, he permitted his own National Defense Mediation Board to grant 100 percent the wage demands (on General Motors)...thus set the pace for a nationwide set of wage increases even as the Government strove feebly in other quarters to argue against price rises and inflation."

Lawrence then makes clean that big business has no intention of paying wage raises out of its profits, but will try to pass them on to the consumer.

"At a time when the youth of the nation is being compelled to serve at \$21 a month, the auto workers had their pay boosted by \$208 a year. With overtime it will mount still higher... The General Motors Corporation can stand the increase but can the American people? The American people will pay the increased cost all along the line. Prices can not

ucers have developed several dev-

The "bootlegging" of war ma-

terials - particularly vital metals

like zinc and aluminum, of which

there is a limited supply - has

become such open scandal that

Leon Henderson's Office of Price

Administration and Civilian Sup-

ply has had to threaten to

"crack down" on manufacturers

transactions are known to have

transferred supplies of scrap alu-

minum and zinc at double the

erating to make huge war profits

despite the price "controls" is

described by S. F. Porter, in the

A manufacturer who is anxious

to get some metal - zinc or alu-

minum, for instance - and is

willing to pay any price for it,

goes to the producer and offers

to pay an amount over the price

The producer states that he

doesn't have any available supply

of the desired metal - that is,

until the buyer offers a handsome

enough price. The producer then

What he can do to beat the

"The producer may sell the buy-

er of zinc a few thousand pounds

of, say, lead -- or any other com-

modity he has around that is not

subject to official control - at a

price far above the market level.

the buyer the zinc he demands

at the official price. The two trans-

actions must be considered as one.

for the buyer is taking the lead

"Simultaneously, he may sell

price regulations "legally" is des-

cribed by Porter as follows:

How these "bootleggers" are op- wagers."

"maximum" official prices.

June 2 New York Post.

GETS HIS MONEY

fixed by the OPACS.

"sees what he can do."

HOW THE BOOTLEGGER

government has fixed restrictions. reported.

be held down if wage costs in- 1\$12,000,000,000 of gross income crease."

RATHER INFLATION THAN A CUT IN PROFITS

Thus Lawrence reveals that not only do the big capitalists intend to absorb no part of increased labor costs, but also that they plan to brand labor with the responsibility for the coming inflation. He admits the inevitable THIS "DEMOCRAT" IS scarcity of consumer goods as READY TO INVOKE FASCISM production is geared to war goods, but denies inflation would result if it were not for increasng costs. Why, then, don't these patriotic

corporations aid in avoiding inflation by absorbing at least part of increased labor costs? The question stares Lawrence in the face and he tries to answer: "On most of the defense con-

tracts, the big manufacturers are making less profit by a good deal than on their normal operations,'

In short, if it's a choice between inflation and cutting profits, it will have to be inflation:

"The amount of purchasing power created by the payroll inwill soon be bidding for consumheld stagnant."

scales. His minimum demand is "stagnant" wages.

"We are on the threshold, therefore," he warns, "of an inflation cycle of incalculable proportions."

Lawrence demands from the Govwould be left.

while, because of politics, about which Lawrence expresses.

Manufacturers and metal prod- only because he wants the zinc. ent a number of financial big

ices for beating the price regula- the price controls is being used mouth about labor's "impeding"

"Or the buyer may make an

obviously ridiculous bet with

the producer. For instance, he

might say, 'I'll wager \$10,000

you can't jump over this match-

num or zinc or scrap steel or iron

at the right prices, yes. But when

and producers who in recent you add in his profits from other and price violations get too raw,

"The producer sells the alumithe law.

These metal bootleggers repres- fish operators.

Business Goes In For

'Bootlegging' Metals

tions on metal upon which the with surprising frequency, it is "national defense."

earned by 80 per cent of America's families in the lower brackets will escape income taxes and direct defense taxes."

In reality of course, the "lower brackets" are taxed indirectly in a hundred different ways. But that still isn't enough for Law-

And if business is not appeased? Lawrence, in a scarcely veiled threat, sees fascism.

"It is precisely this sort of decay and disintegration from within Democracy," he says, "that gave Hitler his chance in the last eight years. The French Republic collapsed because of this very internal poison ... For the economic collapse that must someday follow such foolhardy policies (wage increases and taxing capital)...must inevitably produce a terrible reaction against democratic government and sow the seeds of fascism in America.'

Such are the "democrats" who creases must go somewhere. It rule big business. This war to "save democracy" is their warer goods. The Government will it is at their instigation that try to hold prices down. This is Roosevelt is entering it. Lawimpossible unless wage scales are | rence has no quarrel with Roosevelt on foreign policy! But he, In this paragraph Lawrence is and those for whom he speaks, warning Roosevelt and Hender- will brook no interference in their son that price control will be manner of conducting the war on sabotaged by big business unless the home front. Their main they appease business at the ex- enemy is at home! The war is a pense of the workers' wage golden opportunity to crush that enemy...the workers. That, indeed, is one of the main objectives of their "war for democracy."

The American capitalists have grandiose plans for crushing To secure the cooperation of their enemies abroad (the rival business in avoiding inflation, imperialists), but these plans would never be prosecuted at the ernment, not only a reduction of cost of a defeat at home. The workers' wages, but also an in- home front must be secured at creased tax burden upon what any price. If, to defeat the enemy at home, it becomes necessary to "The well-to-do will be taxed make peace with the enemy heavily-in fact to the point of abroad, they will not hesitate to confiscation," he laments. "Mean- do so. That is the class outlook

Government officials, Congress

men, and Big Business represen-

tatives generally, know what is

going on. But there is no clamor,

no demands for "life imprison-

ment or electrocution," for these

war profiteers who are beating

At most, when the profiteering

from the manipulations of the big

Where We Stand By Albert Goldman

Roosevelt's "Freedom of the Seas"

Roosevelt's sudden resurrection of the doctrine of freedom of the seas brings to mind a prediction made by Comrade Trotsky. When the first draft of the Manifesto of the Fourth International on the Imperialist War and the Proletarian Revolution came up from Coyoacan, it contained a sentence to the effect that American imperialism will intervene in the world war under the slogan of freedom of the seas. That sentence was in the paragraph which is now the first on page 9 of the printed Manifesto. The present formulation is: "Under one or another pretext and slogan the United States will intervene in the tremendous clash," etc.

I recall that when I read the first draft and saw the definite prediction on the part of Comrade Trotsky that the slogan of freedom of the seas would be utilized by the American imperialists, my usual caution prompted me to raise an objection. It was rather risky, I argued, to make such a definite prediction, especially in view of the fact that the United States had partially, if not wholly, surrendered the right of freedom of the seas by the Neutrality Act. My objection was delivered to Comrade Trotsky and with his customary habit of giving in on secondary questions he agreed to the present very cautious formulation. But he did not agree that the freedom-of-theseas idea had been surrendered by the American ruling class.

The present formulation in the Manifesto does not exclude the possibility of the utilization by the imperialists of the slogan of the freedom of the seas. Indeed, it was worded so as not to exclude that possibility. But I must confess that at that time the idea that Roosevelt would utilize that slogan appeared extremely improbable to me. It was used by Wilson and because of that, very fact it appeared to me that it would not be utilized by Roosevelt.

Freedom of the seas is not a slogan capable of arousing tremendous enthusiasm amongst the masses. Can one imagine huge numbers volunteering to join the army and navy to protect the right of U.S. merchant ships to deliver goods to foreign countries? It is not a slogan that even the ruling class would become enthusiastic about (although in so far as it is connected with trade and profit it is far more truthful than the slogan of fighting for democracy). As a matter of fact, there was no serious opposition to the passing of the Neutrality Law which in effect surrendered the doctrine of the freedom of the seas. There was some opposition from some elements of the reactionaries, but not on a large or serious scale.

Why the Slogan is Revived

It cannot therefore be the purpose of the administration, in its revival of the slogan, to obtain greater support either amongst the masses or am portant sections of the ruling class. As far as the masses are concerned, the slogan of a struggle for democracy against fascism remains primary. The masses can be gotten to support the war only because of their fear and hate of fascism. And as far as the ruling class is concerned, even that section which is now opposed to Roosevelt's foreign policy, it will support the war because its basic economic interests are involved.

Insisting on the right of the freedom of the seas at the present time can be explained only on the theory that the Roosevelt administration wants to go further than it has gone in helping Britain defeat Hitler and at the same time prepare some "legal" basis for entry into the war. Because Roosevelt made such a flat statement some time ago that convoying means shooting and shooting means war, he would like to find a different way than convoying by which to intervene actively in the shooting war. The doctrine of freedom of the seas might furnish the necessary pretext. It certainly furnishes a legal justification for the "patrol system."

What the Slogan Really Means

And then it must not be forgotten that the doctrine in itself is a very good one to hold in reserve for the future even as against British imperialism. What does freedom of the seas actually mean? It certainly does not mean what it says. For it is obvious that only those countries can have freedom of the seas who are powerful enough to enforce it. The countries without a strong navy must in actuality look to their "protecting" big brothers to give them freedom of the seas. Freedom of the seas in actuality means the right of the strongest to dictate the conditions under which merchant ships of other countries will be permitted to ply the ocean.

Before the war became total in its characterthat is, before monopoly capitalism gained complete control of the economic life of the world and before the whole nation became an integrated part of the war effort—it was possible for a number of rules to be observed during a conflict between two nations. It was possible under limited circumstances to make some distinction between contraband and non-contraband goods. But under modern conditions everything is contraband because everything is necessary for waging war. Monopoly capitalism based on the highest development of technique made all rules of war

There can be no such thing as freedom of the seas when the world is dominated by a few strong imperialist nations warring amongst themselves for supremacy and exploiting all the weak nations. True freedom of the seas can exist only when world economy is organized on a socialist basis with the whole world freely participating in the production and exchange of goods. Freedom of the seas will come into being when the working masses will organize such

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