Belgian Trotskyist Leader Dies In Prison at Hands of the Nazis

Leon Lesoil, leading member of the Trotskyist movement in Belgium, has died at the hands of the Nazis in a Belgian prison, according to information received by the British Socialist Appeal and printed in its Oct. issue.

Prominent member of the Revolutionary Socialist Party of Belgium, affiliate of the Fourth International, Comrade Lesoil participated in all the national meetings and conferences of the Fourth International held on the European continent.

His life was inseparable for the last 30 years from the life of the working class in the Belgian Charleroi district where he lived as a mining draughtsman. As a militant fighter he was driven from his work and victimized by the mineowners.

After the last war he was one of the pioneer members and founders

Belgian comrades conducted their activities under difficult circumstances.

Leon Lesoil was loved not only by our comrades but also by thousands of miners. When the great strike movements swept the Belgian coal fields, workers would walk miles to hear him address meetings in the public square or from the balcony of the Town Hall. Social-Democrats, Stalinists and Syndicalists also recognized Lesoil as a leading militant in battle.

At this time when the Stalinists slander the Trotskyists and try to link them with the Nazis, Hitler has struck another blow at the Belgian workers by the murder of Comrade Lesoil. His death at the hands of the Nazis gives the lie to these foul Stalinist slanders.

We salute the memory of our Comrade Leon Lesoil, a front line fighter in the workers' battles, a gallant soldier of the Fourth International who died a martyr in the socialist struggle against capitalist reaction.

Next Week THE MILITANT will print:

VOL. VI.--No. 46

A continuation of the report on the CIO Convention by Felix Morrow, our special correspondent now in Boston. A stenographic report of James P. Cannon's historic

speech at the New York celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Russian Revolution.

CIO Opens Fifth Annual Convention In Boston

Murray Report Distorts Meaning of Roosevelt's Labor Record; Discussion on Anti-Jim Crow Fight Livens 2nd Day's Sessions

By Felix Morrow

BOSTON, Nov. 9. - The fifth convention of the CIO opened here today, with President Philip Murray making unmistakably clear, in his printed report and his first speech to the delegates, that the line of the CIO top leadership remains one of complete subordination.

to the Roosevelt administration.

our Commander-in-Chief, Roosevelt, and I am going to support ment one hundred per cent."

FIRST DAY ATMOSPHERE

The atmosphere of the first day's proceedings is indicated by pers.

those who spouted from the platform today: two



A grave threat to all labor | WPB's printing and publishing him. I know that this great or publications was revealed in the branch, declared that the sugganization that I am privileged Nov. 3 issue of the AFL Week- gestion would probably be adoptganization that 1 am privileged Nov. 3 issue of the AFL week-to represent supports that state-ly News Service, which reports and magazines would that a government board is at-be allotted only a percentage of tempting to curtail the amount their consumption, and that to obof newsprint issued to labor pa- tain an allowance a publication would have to prove it is 'essen-

> If adopted, the board's pro- tial'. posal would result in a drastic "This would create a problem which publishers of large news

The Campbell Soup Co. has been authorized by the OPA to raise it prices from 1c to 3c per can because of a "new and improved recipe" label on the cover. The only "new" thing that housewives can find is the label; contents of both, listed on backs of the can, are identical. (Federated Picture.)

And while the OPA is permitting price rises for dozens of commodities, Leon Henderson had to admit last week that the majority of retailers are violating price regulations.

Of more than 10,000 stores inspected in the last month, a majority were found to be violating price laws either by simple overcharging, by reductions in quality of goods sold or by reductions in quantity.

A Labor Department report issued this month shows that food costs for the average family rose 2.4% between September 15 and October 15. The cost of all foods has risen 6.6% since May, the date at which the War Labor Board is freezing wages.

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THE MULTANT

PUBLISHED IN THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKING PEOPLE

267

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ELECTION RESULTS SHOW of the Belgian Communist Party. He was driven out of the party at the time of the expulsion of the Trotskyist Left Opposition from the Communist International. He immediately threw himself into the work of the Left Opposition from the tion and was largely responsible for the systematic way in which our Belgian comrades conducted their activities under difficult circum-**Breitman Gets OPA Lets Price Rise Higher Vote**

Than in 1940 More New Jersey **Workers Reached** With SWP Program **Than Ever Before**

it will be a comparatively low vote and although complete returns have not yet been published, the vote cast for George Breitman, Socialist Workers Parshow an in-

crease over that tabulated f o r h i m when he ran for the same office in 1940. According to

information received by THE MILITANT, 418 votes were counted for G. Breitman Breitman last

week in three of the state's 21 campaigns. Midterm voting is counties, Essex, Union and Pas-

of skirting around — the really hours of work. vital issues of the war and the But all these other factors had parts of the state, and taunted government, and answered them in forthright. uncompromising the pre-election polls and fore-being able to get the endorsement in forthright, uncompromising casts. Bearing them in mind, the of a single labor leader in New ocialist terms. More workers

MANY WORKERS VOTED ONLY WITH THEIR FEET

Workers, Having An Independent Labor Choice, Cast Significant Vote for ALP

By George Breitman

The most important aspect of the Nov. 3 elections was the fact that a large and decisive section NEWARK, N. J.-Although of the American workers voted only with their feet.

These workers, who have generally voted Democratic for the last ten years, were faced in most parts of the country with a choice only between Democratic and Republican candidates running on virtually ty candidate for U. S. Senator the same conservative and reactionary programs. from New Jersey, will definitely Not seeing enough of a difference between them to make a choice worthwhile, these workers stayed away from the polls.

This factor, combined with the growing dissatisfaction of the middle class, professional workers and farmers - all being squeezed to the wall by the war and not knowing any other way of voicing their protests than by voting for the Republican 'outs" - resulted in sharp reductions of the Democratic majority in both Houses of Congress and the winning of many new state posts by the Republicans. O

REASON FOR LOW VOTE

The extremely low vote of 26 prevailing "apathy" which was million cannot, of course, be ex- manifested primarily in the workplained only by the indifference ing class districts, from New Jeror hostility of many workers to sey to Michigan to California, the Democratic and Republican that usually vote Democratic.

usually lower than that cast in presidential elections.

In addition, many people have Unlike the other minority been drafted, or have moved and wheelhorse, Senator Smathers, party candidates, Breitman's cam- thus been deprived of the right was supported by all the leaders paign was waged in a fighting to vote, or were unable to get to of both the AFL and CIO. He spirit, which took up - instead the polls because of their long even had a number of labor lead-

and machine politicians greatly underestimated the extent of the TREND IN IMPORTANT

INDUSTRIAL STATES In New Jersey the Roosevelt

ers running on his ticket in many

saic.

clergymen ("May you be preserv- cut in the circulation of all ed from class hatred"); Mayor labor papers, particularly of Tobin of Boston ("Trust our mili- those papers presenting a military chiefs"); Governor Salton- tant analysis of events, for in "unless absolutely necessary"); such papers are considered least Undersecretary of War Patterson: a rabbi; the "labor" attache of the British Embassy.

Except for short welcoming puts through a recommendation addresses by the regional and made by its newly-created Newsstate directors of the CIO, a paper Industry Advisory Comfraternal address by a Canadian mittee, labor publications are golabor leader and Murray's speech, ing to be struck a body blow. the day was monopolized by class. Still other government of- to 'freeze' newsprint and to make ficials-Undersecretary of War a 'horizontal' cut of at least 10

(Continued on page 2)

Boss Unity

The government last week indicted the U. S. Sugar Corporation of Florida on the charge of holding Negro workers in peonage and violating the federal laws against slavery.

The corporation was recruiting workers in Southern states and African War Shows offering them free transportation Imperialists' Aims to the plantations. Once the **Differ from USSR's** workers arrived, they were informed that they were in debt to the company for travelling expenses, and forced to work out the debt.

Workers who attempted to escape were captured, the indictment charged, and "injured, oppressed and threatened."

Behind these conditions, the newspaper PM revealed on Nov. staking the very existence of 8, are wealthy Northern in- the Soviet Union on the aid of dustrialists who own the con- the "democratic" imperialists trolling stock in the sugar com- and that he still refuses to call pany. Several of the directors and stockholders are officers of the General Motors Corporation. Among these is C. S. Mott, one GM, whose family controls 68% able by itself to defeat Hitler of the sugar corporation's stock. who had mobilized the manpower

The fact that such industrial- and resources of most of Europe ists control the sugar company for the purpose of crushing the evidence that the enemy of the that time that his policies of re-Southern Negro and poor white lying on his imperialist allies workers are the same financiers would "in the nearest future" and big capitalists who oppress the workers of the North.

papers could meet by reducing the number of pages. "With labor papers that print stall of Massachusetts (he wouldn't abrogate labor laws the eyes of government officials do), this solution would not be possible. If their supply of paper is cut, they will be forced to sac-"essential" of all.

The AFL story follows: "If the War Production Board

THE LABOR PRESS

"E. W. Palmer, deputy chief of

By ANTHONY MASSINI

Stalin showed on the occasion

of the twenty-fifth anniversary

in his speech before the Mos-

cow Soviet and his Order of the

Day on Nov. 6 -that he is

on the German masses to revolt

A year ago Stalin admitted

that the Soviet Union was un-

workers' state. Stalin promised at

bring aid from outside the USSR,

(Continued on page 3)

against Hitlerism.

of the Russian Revolution -

"BITTER FOES OF UNIONS" "On the Newspaper Advisory Committee there is not a single spokesman for the labor and farm press

Stalin Says Imperialists

rifice subscribers.

"On the contrary, it is made up "After an all-day conference spokesmen of the capitalist the committee called on the WPB largely of bitter foes of unions. "Publishers of labor papers throughout the country have protested this discrimination in letper cent in paper consumption. ters and telegrams to Donald M. DISCRIMINATION AGAINST Nelson, WPB chieftain."

Will Save The Soviet Union

READERS OF LABOR PA- conspiracy to violate the Smith PERS SHOULD DO THE SAME. Act. The convictions which are

Red Army infantry are shown moving toward prepared

positions in the outer defenses of Stalingrad. Their heroic

struggle demonstrates to the world that despite the crimes of

Stalinism, the Russian Revolution still lives. (Fed'ted Picture.)

CIRCUIT COURT HEARS APPEAL ON MINNEAPOLIS CONVICTIONS

Decision Concerning Trial of Eighteen Is Expected in Approximately Six Weeks

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Nov. 5 - | being appealed followed a six Arguments on behalf of the de- weeks' trial of 18 Socialist Workfendants and the government ers Party and CIO members in were heard today in the United Minneapolis in October and November of last year. States Circuit Court of Appeals

in the appeal of the 18 defend- GOLDMAN AND FRAENKEL ants from the conviction for PRESENT ARGUMENTS

On behalf of the defendants, Albert Goldman, attorney and himself a defendant, and Osmond K. Fraenkel, attorney of the American Civil Liberties Union,

contended the Smith Act as applied in the Minneapolis case was unconstitutional and deprived the Harold Stassen was chalked up speech and free press.

The attorneys for the defense also argued that membership in any conspiracy after the passage ty.

1940 had not been proved, and The final figures are not yet that the indictment was legally in as this is written, but it apinsufficient. pears, on the basis of the latest

On the constitutional question, unofficial tabulations, that Stas-Madigan, spokesman of the Stalinthey urged the court to adopt sen's plurality over his Farmerist-dominated state CIO Council to the "clear and present danger" Labor opponent, Hjalmer Petervote for Stassen, because of Stasviews expressed by Justices sen, will be only half as large as sen's "endorsement and support of Holmes and Brandeis in the crim- his 1940 plurality, and only one-President Roosevelt's win-the-war program.'

Washington and Victor Anderson of St. Paul.

DECISION EXPECTED WITHIN SIX WEEKS

The case was taken under ad-

The Civil Rights Defense Committee of 160 Fifth Ave., New ants, has said that it will take the case to the U.S. Supreme Court if necessary.

Associated Press had predicted a were reached with the Socialist turnout of 34 million, and the promise to Smathers and gave Workers Party program than in Gallup poll, which is generally him the amazing plurality of 117. any previous New Jersey elec- accurate within 1 to 2 per cent 000 votes in Hudson County. in its election polls, predicted 30 tion.

million. A large number of workers re-Everyone had agreed that these siding in the state's industrial estimates would represent a deep centers did not go to the polls "apathy" toward the elections. at all on Nov. 3. Undoubtedly Nevertheless the low Gallup esthis had an effect - although timate was 15 per cent more than only a minor effect — on the actually voted! comparatively low Breitman vote. In other words, all the polls

C. P. Helped To Elect Minnesota Republican

Only the Candidate of the Trotskyists **Presented Correct Working Class Program**

By VINCENT R. DUNNE | Farmer-Labor nomination in the

primaries from the Association-endorsed Paul Rasmussen, was con-MINNEAPOLIS. Minn. --Another victory for the Repub- demned by the Benson-Stalinist lican machine of Governor elique as an "appeaser" and "American Firster".

ist AFL trade union leaders, such

as Sydney Brennan, business

agent of General Drivers 544-AFL,

These charges were made redefendants of their right of free in the recently concluded Min- peatedly despite Petersen's denial nesota election as a result of the of membership in the America

Stalinist-created disunity in the First Committee, and notwithranks of the Farmer-Labor Par- standing the fact that the Stalinists were the most rabid "isolaof the Smith Act on June 28, tionists" and "appeasers" during

the period of the Nazi-Soviet pact. CIO members were openly advised in a radio address by Robert

inal syndicalism cases after | third the size of his 1938 plural-Equally treacherous anti-Stalin-

ity over the then Farmer-Labor The government's case was ar- Governor, Elmer Benson. gued by Henry Schweinhaut of STASSEN MACHINE COULD HAVE BEEN DEFEATED

advisement by the judges and a decisi n is expected in about six weeks.

supported Stassen, as well as the Republican candidate for U: S. Had Minnesota workers and Senator, Joseph Ball. (The Stafarmers been given any real leadership by Farmer-Labor politi- linists in the CIO and in the cians in the campaign, they would Farmer-Labor Association sup-

have broken the Stassen machine ported Elmer Benson, the Farmercontrol of the state, a control Labor nominee for Senator). which has kept Minnesota trade PETERSEN'S CAMPAIGN

unionists shackled, by the infamous Stassen Labor Law since 1939. The Railroad Brotherhoods of But the Stalinists in control of Minnesota endorsed the candidacy York City, which is mobilizing the official Farmer-Labor machi- of Petersen, as did many trade public support for the defend- nery were actually supporting the union leaders, such as Roy Wier, labor-hating Stassen for governor organizer of the Minneapolis Cenrather than the Farmer-Labor tral Labor, Union, John Carlgren, nominee, Petersen. The anti-Sta- an official of the St. Paul Build-(Continued on page 3) linist, Petersen, who had won the

Jersey, Mayor Hague kept hi

In spite of this, Smathers and his labor supporters were resoundingly defeated by the Republican

Albert W. Hawkes. The explanation, as labor leaders ruefully admitted after the elections, was that they just couldn't get the workers in the big cities out for Smathers. If they had, the Democrats would have been able to overcome the high Republican middle class and suburban vote.

Similarly in Michigan and California, where the trade union bureaucracies campaigned for the Democratic incumbents, Senator Prentiss Brown and Governor Culbert Olson, but where the Re-

(Continued on page 3)

Elections Followed By Sales Tax Talk

One of the results of the recent elections will probably be a new drive to put over a sales tax next year.

An AP dispatch on Nov. 6 stated that the administration economic leaders forecast "that sentiment for a retail sale tax would be stronger in the new Congress."

Secretary of Treasury Morgenthau has announced that he will ask Congress for an additional six billion dollars in the near future.

Congress will probably try to use this request as an excuse for the sales tax which soaks the poor and spares the rich.

Wall Street also looks with favor on sales taxes and similar measures to tax the masses. On Oct. 17 the "Magazine of Wall Street" stated:

Whether through a sales tax or otherwise, the major part of any further increase in the total tax revenue will have to be had from the masses of lower-income people." In other words, last month's tax bill drastically reducing the workers' incomes is only the beginning!

World War I.

THE MILITANT

- NOVEMBER 14, 1942

SWP Celebrates Russian **Revolution Anniversary**

Meetings were held everywhere throughout the country last week on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Russian Revolution. Many of these meetings were held under the auspices of groups such as the Congress of American-Soviet Friendship, sponsored jointly by spokesmen of United States imperialism and the Stalinists. A few of the meetings were sponsored by renegades from the Marxist movement who no longer defend the workers' state. But only the gatherings held under the auspices of the Socialist Workers Party celebrated the anniversary in the spirit of the leaders of the Russian Revolution, Lenin and Trotsky.

Below we reprint accounts of those Socialist Workers Party meetings which reached us before we went to press.-Ed.

ing. After the singing of The

New York

T W O -

NEW YORK, Nov. 8-The journed for a social. 250 workers attending the Socialist Workers Party cele- Detroit bration of the Russian Revolution's twenty-fifth anniversary enthusiastically demonstrated their agreement with the speakganda work.

ist Workers Party and main speaker of the evening, as he of the workers' state.

Comrade Cannon commented on the Nov. 6 speech to the Moscow. place occupied by the Russian Re-"Stalin's speech," he volution, the most significant Soviet: stated, "only shows that he is event in recent history, when, in still doing all he can to insure the defeat of the Soviet Union. acting in is own interest consci-He rejects the support of the ously for the first time, kicked workers of the world and directs his appeal to his imperialist allies.

"We on our part turn to the workers and above all to the German and colonial workers as the future allies of the Soviet Union.'

He examined the theory that taneously the anniversary of the fascist Germany and the Soviet Russian Revolution and the birth- gro trade union militants, heard to the differences between the Leon Trotsky. Comradely greetcontinued strength of the Soviet ings and expressions of solidarity MILITANT, on the nature and sigeconomy and the high morale of were conveyed to Comrade Natalia nificance of the Bolshevik Revoluits people and the breakdown of in Mexico in a telegram sent by tion. Italy. As for Germany, he the audience.

stated, "Hitler must look to Musimage of his future."

Axis in the East and in Africa to Hitler's mistake concerning the Soviet Union:

"Hitler looks to the East tonight with dark gloom, with the fear of having crushed his hopes on the Russian front. . . The fascist thinking was too superficial in its attitude towards

Internationale, the meeting ad-iourned for a social

DETROIT, Mich., Nov. 8 ranks of the most militant sec- of October. tions of American labor gathers, who called for continued ered here tonight to celebrate working class defense of the the twenty-fifth anniversary of pansion of the party's propa- labor: old workers experiencing in 1917, unless the world revolu- the administration. for the second time the short- tion came to the aid of the lived false prosperity of the ini- | Soviets.

The audience gave close at- | tial war boom and young worktention to James P. Cannon, ers, many holding "steady" jobs National Secretary of the Social- for the first time; men and women; whites and their Negro comrades associating fraternally. Comrade Jones, organizer of the discussed the present critical Detroit S.W.P. Branch, who acted peril of the Soviet Union and the as chairman noted the ever-inneed for the continuation of the creasing role of women in the Trotskyist position for defense party in his introduction of the speaker, Lydia Beidel. Comrade Beidel pointed out the

> Chicago October 1917 the working class. CHICAGO, Nov. 8-A wellattended meeting in celebration the bosses out of the factories and of the Russian Revolution anthe landlords off the land. She niversary was held here this heaped scorn upon the hysterical afternoon at the Hotel Hamil-

efforts of the leaders of moribund capitalism whose vain thrashings to push back the sands of time. succeed only in burying themselves more thoroughly.

An attentive and responsive au-The meeting celebrated simuldience, composed largely of industrial workers including many Neday of one of its greatest leaders, an address by Arthur Preis, former associate editor of THE

The assembled workers contrisolini and there he will see the buted generously to a collection sky and the Bolshevik Party in to further another celebration in their opposition to all the imper-Comrade Cannon partially at- the not-too-distant future of an- ialists in the last war and their tatives of the CIO have felt that directly sought to whitewash

tributed the recent defeats of the other revolution. **Twin Cities**

tion.

formally.

in Mexico:

Youngst'n

YOUNGSTOWN, Nov. 8-

A roundtable discussion on the

meaning and history of the

Russian revolution was the

main feature of the anniversary

meeting held here by the

Youngstown Branch of the S.W.P.

sent to Natalia Sedov Trotsky

"Dear Comrade Natalia:

The following telegram was

"On this twenty-fifth anni-

versary of the Russian Revolu-

tion, we draw renewed inspira-

tion from the first successful

proletarian revolution to face our

present tasks, supported by the

vigor, integrity and ideological

soundness of our great teacher, L.

For a Rising Scale of

Wages to Meet

Rising Living Costs

MINNEAPOLIS, Nov. 8-

At The CIO Convention First Day of CIO Convention:

Murray Tries To Distort Roosevelt's Labor Record

(Continued from page 1)

Bard, Senator Pepper of Florida, tion.

This parade of capitalist LOS ANGELES, Nov. 8spokesmen gives the dominant Fifty workers were present tone of the convention-subservience to the government. here at the S.W.P. meeting on It is worth recalling, in conthe Russian Revolution which Fifty-five workers from the Was celebrated in the frue spirit the Atlantic City convention in organization to win the war, or 1940, not a single government destroy labor?" The speakers, C. Thomas official was invited to speak, exand Janet Bowers, recalled the cept Sidney Hillman, President MURRAY'S METHOD persistent warnings of Leon of the Amalgamated Clothing Trotsky that imperialism would Workers and then co-director of made by Murray's report and Soviet Union, by pouring \$430 the Russian Revolution. Here inevitably attack the USSR and the OPM, who served as the butt speech, if added together, coninto a collection for an ex- was a typical cross-section of seek to destroy the gains made of John L. Lewis' criticisms of

ANTI-LABOR POLICIES

policy of relying on the imwas support of the "Commander- ers to support the Roosevelt Adperialists to save the Soviet in-Chief," his report and speech ministration. You can't do both Union, a policy which makes it nevertheless had to refer to some So Murray earefully abstained difficult to arouse the German of the more obvious anti-labor from adding together the facts he workers for the overthrow of Hit- | consequences of the policies of | himself presented. the self-same Commander-in-The meeting sent greetings to Chief. Among the complaints Natalia Sedov Trotsky, widow of which Murray had to record were the leader of the Russian Revolu- | the following: tion and founder of the Red

1. Growth of monopoly. "A almost half of the outstanding wise perfect situation. war contracts."

Moreover, Murray deliberately 2. Soak the poor. The 1942 tax sought to absolve Roosevelt of measure-signed by Roosevelt on all blame for the anti-labor con-Oct. 21-"will actually deprive sequences. the workers of the means to

Murray's report referred to the purchase sufficient necessities of 100 companies who monopolize life with which to maintain their 80% of all war contracts as if "The tax situation remains the the companies had been able to create such a stranglehold by

of the Socialist Workers Party. first legislative problem of the their own unaided efforts. CIO. Reactionary Congressional That it is Roosevelt's leaders have made very clear the ministration, Roosevelt's underfact that they are not yet finish- lings, who hand out these coned with their vicious work. . . tracts-about this Murray was as The working men and women of mum as a Cape Cod oyster. America will recognize in 1943 That Roosevelt signed the tax

that the Revenue Act passed this bill, that it was Roosevelt's own year has meant a nationwide party and his own lieutenants in an evil characteristic of our fas- Brophy promised that the comwage cut which creates serious the Senate and House who en-The speaker contrasted the program and methods of Lenin, Trotdangers to food budgets." 3. Anti-labor acts of the WLB. "On wage issues represen-

ROOSEVELT'S COURT

of the early Soviet Union with recognized the extent to which falsehood. the present policies of Stalinism. the needs of war production

The Stalinist policies, he demon- require upward adjustment of LIES ON THE TAX BILL

strated, have undermined the in- wage levels. . On union security The tax bill, claimed Murray, ating divisions, dissension and dent of the UTSEA. He emphas- Army, Navy and Air Corps. In ternational revolutionary socialist issues the CIO has urged un- "completely ignored the proposals confusion. Such discrimination ized the distinction between for- short, while the CIO as a whole "It is the planned economy, movement, bound the workers of successfully upon the Board a of the President and the Trea-material is undoubtedly wholeheartedly wholeheartedly is undoubtedly wholeheartedly wholeheartedly is undoubtedly is undoubted all countries to their capitalist fuller appreciation of the value sury." The fact is, however, that hampers production by depriving against racial discrimination and with the Negro against discrimination against discri socialized production and all countries to their capitalist fuller appreciation of the union shop. . . On these the differences between Roose- the nation of the use of available actually pitching in to fight it. ation, the CIO leadership is com-

"took a long step backward" on | Board? Apparently not Roosethe right of picketing. And so on, velt, who appointed its personnel, tures, one by C. Charles on 5. Anti-labor role of WPB. Of Nor did Murray breathe a word American cartels and monoetc.-will take up many hours its 15,000 employes, only 90 trade about what the labor members of polies, the other by John G. during the rest of the conven- unionists are "holding jobs of a the Board are doing. very subordinate nature" while

> "1,000 leading American business -are running the organization." apparently not Roosevelt, who second floor hall at 116 Univer-What are they running in approves their appointment. Washington? A war production

a war production organization to

On the contrary, each com

plaint remained an individual

item in a separate part of his

report or speech, and the connec-

These and other complaints viously a systematic and con- pools, and analyzed the acceleratstitute a fundamental indictment scious governmental campaign ed drive of American capitalism of the anti-labor role of the against the interests of the work- | toward monopoly control of the Roosevelt Administration. Nr ers. Such are the consequences entire economy. logical person could add all this Although Murray's keynote together and then urge the workof the CIO leadership's subor-

Second Day of Convention.

Chief." To do that, lie about his ists.

connection with the acts injurious

Encouraging Response To School's First Sessions

The New York School of explain international cartels, the Social Science opened its fall operation of capitalist war ecoterm last week with two lec- nomy, price control, wage freezing and inflation.

John G. Wright devoted his opening lecture to the question of the national aspirations of the Wright on the Bolsheviks and Who is responsible for the con- the colonial question. Both great theorectical contributions colonial peoples and traced the trol of the War Production Board lectures, held on Wednesday and men-mostly dollar-a-year men by the dollar-a-year men? Again Friday evenings in the new scientific understanding of the of Lenin and Trotsky to a problem. He emphasized that hissity Place, were marked by the tory has verified the theoretical Such is Murray's line. Above attendance of more than 50 work- truth of Lenin's slogan, "We live all, stand by the "Commander-in- ers, most of them trade union- in an epoch of imperialist wars, proletarian revolutions and colo-The Charles lecture on Novemnial uprisings.'

to labor, and pretend not to see ber 4, which was part of a series Wright's future lectures, to be that the various complaints of entitled "American Economy at held each Friday evening, will labor are directed against acts War," explained the operation of deal with the concrete problems which, taken together, are ob- American cartels, and patent of China and India.

Following both opening lectures, refreshments were served and a lively informal discussion took place. This custom will be The future lectures by Charles, observed throughout the courses. dination of the labor movement held each Wednesday evening at Admission charge to single lecto their support of Roosevelt. 8:15 through December 9, will tures is 25 cents.

Delegates Discuss Ways 1. Growth of monopoly. "A hundred companies still hold over 80% of all the war contracts. Ten of these companies hold were a single flaw in an other-

recommitted for strengthening.

After the passage of the reso-

gle of the CIO against racial discrimination was discussed this afternoon for over an hour by the fifth convention of the CIO. Com- SPIRITED DISCUSSION ing up in the course of the report of the resolutions committee, it was the first moment of real life in the convention so far. The committee presented for plantudes and mon." adoption the following resolution on discrimination:

"Whereas, discrimination velt-appointed Fair Employment against workers because of race, Practices Committee although religion or country of origin is Yancey had not mentioned it.

cist enemies. We of the democra- ing year would see "greater acgineered the bill which Murray cies are fighting fascism at home tivity" by the governmental com-Murray was silent. Moreoever, he all religions and all peoples into racial discrimination. Similarly successful revolutionary defense the War Labor Board has not Roosevelt by a demonstrable democracy. Any discriminatory ficial, defended the committee against Negroes. practices within our own ranks, resolution, against Negroes or other groups,

ployees of America - the red | lution. In answer, CIO President caps' organization - objected to Philip Murray spoke at some the committee's resolution as be- length on the detailed record of ing too weak, and asked that it be CIO actions against racial discrimination.

Murray was able to cite an impressive record of CIO actions John L. Yancey, Secretaryand to declare that no other or-Treasurer of the UTSEA, asked ganization could claim to have the convention to "get away from done more than the CIO on this platitudes" and move for "real issue. All that was true enough, but was not the real point in

Answering for the committee, question - whether the CIO was John Brophy defended the Roosedoing all it could for racial equality.

NO CRITICISM OF FEPC

Absent from the CIO resolution is any criticism of the nocondemned as anti-labor-of this and abroad by welding all races, mittee charged with discouraging Employment Practices. Committorious pussyfooting of the Fair tee, which has failed to crack a united body of warriors for Van A. Bittner, steel workers, of- down on employers discriminating

Likewise absent is any criti-Another critic of the resolution cism of the Jim Crow practices

By FELIX MORROW BOSTON, Nov. 10 .- The strug-

ad

recognized that despite the poli- a well attended Twin City Suntical degeneration it suffered day Forum in Minneapolis. The under Stalinism, the Soviet Union weekly forum session was devoted the October Revolution was still to a commemoration of the annialive and would be defended with versary of the Russian Revoluunsurpassed heroism and selfsacrifice by the workers of Rus-

sia and of the world. "The funeral of the October Revolution," Cannon continued, "now announced by so many renegades, will not take place.'

present betrayals of the petty bourgeoisie and their rejection of betrayals of the working class showed clearly their desire to machine. movement in period of reaction. (His speech is reprinted on P. 3

of this issue.) Eloise Black discussed the continuation and sharpening of the class struggle as the best method for the defense of the Soviet Union.

The meeting sent greetings of solidarity to Natalia Sedov Trotsky in Mexico. William F. Warde acted as chairman.

Boston

BOSTON, Mass., Nov. 8 -Felix Morrow, editor of Fourth International, main speaker at | the meeting celebrating the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Russian Revolution held by the Boston Branch of the Socialist Workers Party, stressed the fact that the Russian Revolution was carried out by a majority of the population, led by the Bolshevik Party.

He was followed by Farrell Dobbs, National Labor Secretary, who pointed out the role of the Socialist Workers Party in the D. Trotsky." United States as the vanguard of the American working class, and showed the growth and increased activity of the party during the past period.

About thirty-five members and sympathizers attended the meet-

the Soviet Union. Hitler saw only the Soviet Union which reprethe bureaucracy. He did not un- sents the workers' power that ing was the showing of the docu- sions of the Board." derstand the vitality of the still the Trotskyists defend today," volution, "Tsar To Lenin," which

Only the Fourth International said Max Geldman, speaking to was greatly enjoyed by the audience.

Newark

NEWARK, Nov. 6-George Collins was the principal speaker at the Newark S.W.P. meet-

They condemned the Stalinist

ton. The meeting was under the

auspices of the Chicago Local

lerite capitalism.

Army.

Citing the heroism of the Red ing held to celebrate the an-Army on the one hand, and conpresent leadership of the Soviet Revolution.

Union which has abandoned the Comrade Collins emphasized tions." only be postponed, but will never struggle for socialism, the speak- the thoroughgoing and uncomer showed that the Trotskyists promising nature of the revolu-Cannon was preceded by Joseph are the only group in the world tion. It was this solid foundation, to the rights of organized sea-Hansen and Eloise Black, as which calls for real defense of he pointed out, which made pos- men." "Three of the five decisions things in Murray's report is his speakers. Hansen compared the Soviet Russia through a program sible the resistance of the work-

of world socialism. Following the speech, a num- Stalinist regime and also provided the working class character of ber of workers present parti- the basis for the unequalled the Soviet Union with the past cipated in the discussion and Soviet resistance to the Nazi war

know the facts about the He compared the conduct of degenerate Stalinist bureaucracy the Bolshevik government in the which rules Russia today. last war with that of the Stalin-The usual social hour followed | ist government today. He reviewthe forum session at which a ed the Bolshevik slogan of "no lunch was served and opportunity annexations - no indemnities," provided for those in attendance which attracted the support of to carry on their discussion in- the militant workers everywhere.

He then contrasted this policy with that of the Stalinists which at present is preparing a bill of indemnities to be presented to whatever government may be in



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A special feature of the meet- been in agreement with the deci- Finance Committee were limited to minor points-whether cor-

> 4. Anti-labor acts of the "normal" profits, and similar renews its pledge, as a war-time tern" - that is, catering to white the way in which the Stalinists Roosevelt - appointed Supreme items-while Roosevelt, and the Court. "The past year in the "reactionary Congressional lead-Court has witnessed the crystal- ers" stigmatized by Murray, saw lization of an increasingly con- eye to eye on the fundamental servative majority consisting principle of sharply cutting down primarily of Justices Stone, Rob- the living standards of the erts, Frankfurter, Jackson and masses by taxes.

Byrnes. . . The decisions have in-Had the differences between cluded a number of extremely un- Roosevelt and the reactionaries demning the policies of the niversary of the Russian fortunate regressions in the law been fundamental, Roosevelt affecting labor and labor rela- could have vetoed the bill. In-

stead, he signed it. The Southern Steamship Com-MURRAY'S HOPES pany case "dealt a severe blow One of the most ludicrous

relating to the Fair Labor Staners' state to the reactionary dards Act were adverse" to labor.

reason for hoping that the "increasingly conservative majority" In the Ritter case the Court of the Supreme Court may be changed. "This line-up," writes Murray, "may be significantly af-

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He cited the example of "a prom- mitted to covering up Roosevelt's "Therefore be it resolved, that inent CIO leader" in the South, responsibility for the continuing the CIO now reiterates its firm who had told him: "We organize of discrimination in government porations should be taxed a top opposition to any form of racial in this section of the country ac- and industry.

limit of 40 or 50 per cent of or religious discrimination and cording to the established patduty, to carry on the fight for supremacy. protection in law and in fact of the rights of every racial and re- lution against racial discrimina- of the resolution. Stalinist dele-

ligious group to participate fully tion, Walter Reuther of the UAW in our social, political and indus- proposed that the committee be Union (Smith), the United Electrial life."

instructed to bring in another trical Workers (Wm. Sentner), Officers of a Negro trade union, resolution, implementing in dethe Leather Workers (Feinglass), the United Transport Service Em- tail the principle of the first resoand Philip Connolly of the Cali-

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near Chapel. Roxbury, Mass. - Friendly Variety Newsstand, Grove Hall.

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delegates nudged each other in amusement as this parade was There is a certain vagueness concerning the actual present membership of the CIO. The Murray report gave no figures, but

there have been several oral references to "about five million" and one to "over five million." The plain fact is that, in a year of unprecedented increase of employment, the CIO does not claim much growth beyond last year.

rushed to the aid of the CIO lead-

ership in resisting strengthening

gates from the National Maritime

fornia Industrial Council, all

rushed to the microphone to de-

fend the resolution. Informed

Election Results Show Need



The Effect of the Nov. 3 Elections on the Fight to End Jim Crow and Judge Lynch

of the century.

By JOHN SAUNDERS

Ever since Roosevelt came to | ers that they are friendly to the the White House, militant aspirations of the Southern ruling DEMOCRATIC ALIBI Negroes have protested against class and would never dream of his policy of "appeasing" the altering the lovely institution of white supremacy." Southern Democrats. It is not hard to guess what

They have pointed out, with complete accuracy, that even such a Congress will try to do when Roosevelt did not person- to proposals to abolish the poll ally object to a particular tax or punish lynching or end measure which the Negro people | segregation in the armed forces. wanted passed, he would usually be influenced into opposing it by the objections of the Southern members of his party in Con-

Bear in mind also that unless When Roosevelt transferred the a Workers' and Farmers' Gov-Fair Employment Practices Com- ernment is established by the mittee to the jurisdiction of Mc- workers, both white and Negro, Nutt's War Manpower Com- before then, this Congress may knew that the funds for the the war.

FEPC's work-and therefore the Most Negroes have long been policies for the FEPC-could be convinced of the necessity for limited and controlled by Con- beginning a fight against Jim up this alibi. There the workers' gress committees in which the Crow now and continuing it until poll-taxers have so much inthe fight is successful. fluence.

Roosevelt himself would prob- show how justified your attitude as usual, corresponding to the ably like to remove, at least for is and how necessary it is to predictions. the duration, some of the Jim speed up and extend this fight THE ALP VOTE IN N.Y. Crow bars to Negro employment, with all the energy at your com-Not because he is interested in mand.

There are still some Negroes the Negro's welfare, but because who think if they sit back during he wants to win the war. Nevertheless, he has gone easy the war and act respectable, the

since the war began because he way the Jim Crow artists want doesn't want to start a fight with them to act, that maybe they will Alfange on the American Labor Bennett. the die-hard poll-taxers, who in- get some concessions and make Party ticket in opposition to the sist on maintaining Jim Crow in some advances. To them we say: Wake up! full force, regardless of its effects on the war.

the elections beginning on Page 1 tions show that you have been ed more than 10 per cent of the themselves, who were more surof this issue of THE MILITANT suffering from illusions. The state vote, and included 18 per prised at the encouraging out- nation. and the editorial dealing with the elections show that if you don't cent of the New York City topoll tax on Page 4, from now on fight for your rights, you'll have tal. This represented a very than anyone else. and for the next two years Con- less of them after the war than gress is going to be a harder nut you had before Pearl Harbor. for Negroes to crack than ever The fight against Jim Crow and for governor in 1938, although it Judge Lynch may be a little before.

The poll-taxers are now the harder from now on. balance of power in Congress. But if the fight against them Both Roosevelt and the Repub- doesn't continue now, it will be licans will be falling all over very much harder to achieve themselves to show the poll-tax- racial equality later on.

Second Front Depends On Political As Well As Military Considerations

By MARK BRADEN

Union on the one hand, and to its (The following article, deal-Roosevelt-Churchill "friends" on ing with some of the political the other. considerations affecting the | To the former, it emphasizes the

Administration spokesmen, in-

lican Dewey.

that year.

cluding Vice-President Henry A. Wallace, and administration pa- they knew their candidate did almost indistinguishable from history of the ALP. pers such as PM, have tried to not have a chance of being elect- that of the Democrats and Remake it appear that the "apathy" ed, which is a very important publicans. Alfange avoided all on the part of the workers was psychological consideration to the the fundamental issues. due to satisfaction with administration policies. This "explana-So far as the Negro is contion" can be refuted on many cerned, the coming Congress will grounds. be one of the most reactionary

(Continued from page 1)

publicans won because many work

ers did not feel it worthwhile to

go to the polls for the candidates

whom they had elected previous-

For one thing, the workers genwhen they feel really interested. and urged them to vote for Ben- pectations. In 1934, a midterm election, and nett. in 1936, when most workers were sold on the New Deal, they gave ticians claimed that Roosevelt

Furthermore, the vote in New York State also serves to blow a big vote for Alfange so that reactionary crowd in January. interest in the elections was very ley opposition in the Democratic there is already increased talk in

keen, and their participation in Party. To them we say: the elections the voting was almost as great was that Sidney Hillman, Roose- week, etc.

cant number of them voted for ated Clothing Workers behind

INTERNAL OBSTACLES Democrat Bennett and the Repub-

corded, also, in spite of many obcome of the Alfange campaign

Democratic Party which they had

so long supported.

The ALP leaders had not wantsmall decline in the total state vote cast for the ALP candidate ed originally to run an independent candidate. They would have was a small increase in the per-

centage of the state vote over the for some "acceptable" Democrat — that is, acceptable in the sense that the ALP leaders would But the political significance of the ALP constitutes something have a chance of "selling" him

far greater than these figures to the workers as a "friend of labor." show by themselves.

In the first place, the workers But the reactionary trends inwere voting for an independent tensified by the war and reflected candidate of labor last week, in all capitalist parties made this attempt to unify the Farmer-Lawhile in 1938 they were voting impossible, and the ALP leaders for the Democrat Lehman on the were forced to go through with ALP line of the voting machine. an independent campaign, hoping In 1938 the choice before the to get enough votes so that they and rebuild the Farmer-Labor As- Railroad and Warehouse Commisworkers was which lever to push would be "recognized" by the capdown for the same capitalist can- italist parties next time.

against it.

didate. In 1942 the choice was | Their choice of Alfange, a colan independent candidate in op- orless Tammany hack, was cer- Labor standard bearer, he did not ist Farmer-Laborites had been proportions as to constitute an the Far East, Africa, even here



f imperialists who refuse to free

their own colonial slaves or abol-

ish their own Jim Crow laws

could not be very persuasive, Sta-

For Nationwide Labor Party position to a capitalist party can-didate. tainly not the cause of the high the Nov. 3 elections also show-vote given the ALP. The choice ed that the workers are ready It is true that the workers were of Alfange undoubtedly disheart- for a labor party - negatively, still voting for a reformist pro- ened many rank-and-file ALP on the part of the 10 to 15% of gram when they voted for the workers. The vote for Alfange the voters, most of them work-

> were doing it in opposition to the dividual - it was a vote for an and did not - positively, on the part of the approximately same independent labor ticket. The campaign itself was run in Still more, they were voting an an inept and defeatist manner. ers who supported the first stateindependent ticket even though The platform of the ALP was wide independent candidate in the

LABOR PARTY IS NOW NEEDED AND POSSIBLE

A labor party would quickly And yet, despite all the obaverage militant worker, who does not want to waste his vote. stacles - internal, external and win the support of more than Even more important, they psychological — the workers saw these 15 per cent of the voters, were doing it in opposition to the the class line clearly enough to who represent in many ways the most advanced and militant secplea of Roosevelt, who asked pile up a vote which far exceed-

erally vote in greater numbers them not to cast a protest vote ed the ALP leaders' fondest exa labor party was formed, the other workers would soon recognize it as a step forward and

Many self-styled "astute" poli- THE NEW CONGRESS

The Nov. 3 elections showed would give it their allegiance. the Democrats the greatest Con- really "did not mean this," that the need for the creation of a In addition, such a party, by gains which mankind has made could not have become victorious. mission last summer, negro or- be in olice not only for the next gressional majorities in many he was just pretending loyalty to labor party. The present Con- adopting a fighting anti-capital- since our species first became able party traditions and that he real- gress, reactionary though it is, ist program could win the sup- to think and to work out methods ever, differed from all previous ly wanted the workers to pile up will be replaced by an even more port of the greater part of the of controlling the surrounding revolutions in one profound he could rid himself of the Far- Even before it has been seated, voted for the Republicans in this step forward was that taken in most the recurring revolution had Washington of a sales tax, abo- are convinced that it will benefit proletariat blazed the pathway to power dual to that of the bour-None of these "acute" people lition of the National Labor Re- them but because they saw no the planned world economy of the geoisie, now the workers had con-

has yet tried to explain why it lations Act and of the 40-hour other sizeable party through future. which they could register their

velt's most consistent labor lack- The most anti-labor section of protests. A labor party can and should ey who certainly is in a position Congress has long been the For in New York, in contrast to know what Roosevelt "means," Southern Democrats, elected by be formed now. Workers should to other important states, a large deserted the ALP in this came a small minority of the southern not make the mistake of thinking defense. The conquests which the section of the working class felt paign and swung the official sup- electorate. Their numbers have that political problems are setit had a real choice, and a signifi- port of the powerful Amalgam- not increased as a result of the tled just because the elections are

Nov. 3 elections, but their rela- over. Unless they prepare now, they tive strength has. They now clearly hold the balance of pow- will be unprepared when the next er between the Republican and national elections come around in This vote for Alfange was re- Democratic congressmen, and will 1944, and when the fascist dema obviously have a greater voice gogues in this country set out As is shown by the analysis of yourselves and others! The elec- cast for Alfange. This represent- stacles raised by the ALP leaders than before in legislation affect- seriously to create a mass base ing the workers of the whole among the bewildered and des-

> C. P. Helped To Elect ent candidate. They would have Minnesota Republicans

> > (Continued from page 1) ing Trades Council and a number But Petersen did not conduct he kind of campaign which could

among the workers. He did not Minnesota.

organized workers and farmers to get rid of the Stalinist disrupters sociation as an instrument of working-class political action. Although he was the Farmer-

WE CELEBRATE THE **RUSSIAN REVOLUTION**

By Joseph Hansen

Opening Speech at SWP Meeting in N.Y.

It is a great historic privilege trified the masses of the whole to be able to celebrate the ex- world, inspiring them with hope ALP last week, but now they was not a vote for him as an in- ers, who were expected to vote istence of the workers' state for and confidence and the determia quarter of a century. For nation to strike out for themthousands of years planned selves.

percentage of the New York vot- society was nothing but a dream These petty bourgeois radicals of the future, a distant goal were unable to see what the which one could not hope to see Marxists saw-that they must although he gave his life in the place the revolution of 1905 under struggle to attain it. Even when the microscope and study it with such a society became objectively the most scrupulous scientific possible, thousands and tens of care. They were unable to see of thousands who hoped to par- that out of 1905 would come a ticipate in the victorious strug- still mightier upsurge of the

gle never gained their wish, workers and peasants. The confidence and toughness What wouldn't Marx and Engels have given if they could have of the Marxists proved well tions of the working class. Once lived to see the fruition of their justified. 1905 was the necessary struggle in the mighty leap for- condition for the revolution of ward which humanity took in 1917. It was the dress rehearsal for 1917. Without the experience 1917!

For of all the great historic of 1905 the revolution of 1917 farmers and middle class, who environment, the greatest single respect. Whereas previously the last campaign not because they October, 1917 when the Russian succeeded in establishing was a Our celebration of the October to hold it. This enabled them to

Revolution constitutes not only smash the bourgeoisie as a class praise of this great accomplish- and thereby to lay the economic ment but more properly its foundations of a new order.

made under the leadership of the Soviet Union its great vitality Lenin and Trotsky face danger and which permits us to say with of destruction today more acute scientific precision that it is still than at any time in the history very much alive. We can see the verification of this scientific judgment in the magnificent

* * *

Our defense of the Soviet ple against the imperialist

includes its defense invader. In the past the petty bourgeois against certain former friends of radicals had a semblance of the USSR, and that is what I want to talk about. These former justification for their defeatist mood, for the bourgeoisie refriends have abandoned the defense of the Soviet Union. They considered the October on a firmer basis than before. Revolution and its conquests as liquidated even before the attack er of the present defeatists can of Hitler's armies.

the October Revolution as having ed in a few days nor in a few perished some time ago? As months but has existed today for

But they give as their reason the monstrous crimes of the the workers of the whole worldthe Fourth District. These were Stalinist regime. These crimes, not only in Europe but in the the offices for which anti-Stalin- they say, have reached such colonial countries, in China, India, successful in the primary election. economic system hitherto un- in America; and that world

today.

ask the support of the working masses of Minnesota to place a working class administration in office and clean out the corrupt anti-labor Stassen machine, which

has placed so many reactionary have aroused real enthusiasm laws upon the statute books of

bor movement by calling upon the THE C. P. VOTE The Communist Party ran candidates for the offices of Governor, reason.

sioner, and Representative from

The Stalinist candidates used the known in history. Disoriented and capitalism never stood on such campaign in order to put forth repelled by the degeneration of insecure foundations as it does

established its power, apparently The miserable, cowardly charactbe judged from the fact that the Why do these people consider 1917 revolution was not vanquish-

capitalism in its death agony a quarter of a century despite all reached the impasse of a second the corroding influence of Stalinworld war, they responded to the ism and despite all the blows of war pressure emanating from world imperialism. Their stupidity the world bourgeoisie who are is evident in the fact that they irreconcilable enemies of the are incapable of seeing what even Soviet Union. That is the basic the bourgeoisie are aware ofthat the October revolution exists deep in the consciousness of

The Trotskyists throughout the

world celebrate the Russian

Lenin and Trotsky, the most

defense put up by the Soviet peo-

of the Soviet Union. Union perate middle class.



more than a week before United States forces landed in North Africa. It is printed here as a discussion of a political question overlooked or distorted by most commentators. It will be followed by other articles in subsequent issues dealing with other aspects of the same general question.-Ed.)

Every time the question of the second front is raised, Roosevelt and Churchill assert that the second front is exclusively a military question which should be left to the general staffs and its military strategists.

Yes, the second front is a military question and one which the imperialists will weigh carefully before they launch an invasion of Europe. But like every other believe will ensure their victory major military move, beneath its over Hitler without exhausting purely military aspects are grave their own forces. For an exhaustpolitical issues. ing struggle would leave them

The Stalinist policy of making helpless in the face of the rising every concession to the "demotide of workers' revolts. cracies" in return for the "second front in 1942" becomes more only when they have a tremend-Roosevelt-Churchill have claimed ous force capable not only of defeating Hitler but also of mainthey are all for the second front, taining "order" among the opbut that they don't want to launch a premature invasion which might be defeated. Behind this reply, however, are concealed the political motivations which clearly reveal their real views on this question:

perialists against the revolt of The underlying strategy of only that amount of aid which ers. will keep it in the fight against To the "democratic" imperial-Germany but will drain its fightists, a second front invasion is a ing forces and economic capacities. It must never be forgotten for a moment that world imredivide the world, and to prevent perialism is hostile to the workthe oppressed European masses ers' state, even in its degenerated from utilizing the occasion to es-Stalinist form; and that if Hittablish their own workers' reler is defeated, the "democratic" imperialists will renew their ef- gimes. forts of 1918-20 to destroy the nationalized economy in the from being a concession to the

nomic conquests of October; but class.

power, territory and economy might accrue from a second front, ist war will end in the defeat of erations which involve "in all four shall discuss this aspect of Sta- of war, fascism, racial repression have a totally different meaning already purchased at staggering imperialism.

the catastrophic policies of Stalinism; to the imperialist "allies," these losses mean that they have so far been largely successful in letting Germany and the Soviet Union mutually weaken each other. This factor is ever-present in second front considerations of Britain and the United States. the imperialists.

to the defenders of the Soviet

THE KIND OF VICTORY THEY WANT

Consequently, they will invade

prop up the defeated German im-

solving his own policies of re-But sooner or later the "demosponsibility for not securing such cratic" imperialists must come to aid. Stalin again said that the decisive struggles with Hitler; defeats were due to "the absence the stakes for which they are of a second front"; and he again nations and the restoration of fighting dictate that they invade promised that the Soviet Union Europe, and all the evidence in- would be saved from disaster by dicates they are now carefully a second front of the imperialists preparing for that. which was bound to come "soon-

When they do launch the in- er or later."

vasion, however, it will be only DEFENDS HIS POLICY under such conditions that they

Soviet Union.

(Continued from page 1)

Stalin's policies have not re-

sulted in any effective aid for the

A good part of his latest speech | lin went on to belittle the imwas consumed in attacking the portance of "the difference in idea that a second front would not the ideologies and social systems be created. Unquestionably this of the countries composing the part of his speech was intended Anglo - Soviet - American coaliprimarily for home consumption; tion."

there would be no point at this BASIC DIFFERENCES

time in his directing such propa-There are such differences, ganda toward the U.S. or Brit-Stalin said, but Britain and the For the last six months there United States will launch a sec-

has been a growing dissatisfac- | ond front sooner or later because pressed European masses. Just as tion on the part of the Soviet to do so is in their own inter-Hitler's bayonets propped up the masses with Stalin's imperialist ests as well as those of the Sodefeated Petain government, so allies (and consequently, most viet Union.

"democratic" imperialists likely, with Stalin's policy of re-That a second front will serve will use their armed forces to lying on them.) Evidently this the interests of U. S.-British imperialism is obviously true. But

cost to the Soviet workers and because of the difference in their Roosevelt-Churchill thus far has lish another variety of dictator- the world working class, would ideologies and social systems, the been to give the Soviet Union ship against the European work- be more than counter-weighed by interests of the Soviet Union and lieve the military pressure of Hit- be calculated to serve interests the hostility of the imperialists nical detail . le only to establish a new ring different from those of the USSR to the nationalized economy of In the muddle of opportunism,

the day after Stalin's speech. But the oppressed workers and The Stalinists have not looked front.

had their say. All the dreams of ond front through southern Eu- the Soviet Union in the hands of the Government of the G While Stalin places the fate of the "democrats" to police the rope and the Balkans. According imperialism which by its very brought the clarity of principled Under such circumstances, far world will be placed on the same to President Roosevelt's Nov. 10 nature must desire the destrucscrap heap as Hitler's dreams for press conference, Stalin was in- tion of the USSR as a workers'

USSR. The glorious defense of the Stalinist demands or a victory of a 1000 years of Nazi rule. Under formed in advance about the state, he rejects the policies Soviet workers has shown the the Stalinist position, the second the banner of the Socialist United coming North African invasion, which alone could mobilize real whole world the terrific fighting front will present a terrible im- States of Europe, the workers even if he was not given a voice effective assistance to the USSR

> Whatever military advantages see to it that the second imperial- secondary role of the African op- rope and Germany. Next week we German divisions and eleven Ital- lin's speech.

Will Save The Soviet Union dissatisfaction has become so ian divisions" while the Axis has tion returns that the Stalinists widespread that Stalin now feels 240 divisions on the Soviet front. will increase their vote over 1940 in the form of a second front by it necessary to speak out openly The Daily Worker in this country has also denounced the idea To this end Stalin launched of a second front through south-

of others.

into a eulogy of his imperialist ern Europe. The Worker's "Vet-Soviet Union. Last week, still ab- allies, claiming that they were eran Commander," plainly a GPU fighting for the "abolition of ra- | agent who prints what the Kremcial exclusiveness, equality of na- lin wants, complained bitterly on tions and the integrity of their Nov. 1 against Willkie's call in territories, liberation of enslaved a recent radio broadcast for a es, for example, many of them on second front through Italy. their sovereign rights," etc., etc.

Realizing that this whitewash THE AFRICAN FRONT

British troops landed in North Browder's 1940 vote does not rep-Africa, on Nov. 7, and Roosevelt pointedly declared that this was "an effective second front assistance" to the USSR. Stalin does not want his im-

perialist allies in the Balkans - sticker candidate, so her vote will which constitute a dagger point- not be reported until the State 1848 made possible the Paris 1917 revolution. when Hitler's military power is vember 17. broken; he wants a second front

through western Europe so that ces in time to have something to ponse to the 1940 Trotskyist cam- of the future will look like. say about post-war Europe. es; they are serving their own tion must sign a petition before petty-bourgeois radicals. The sive of Big Business. interests, and that is why the second front takes place in the

form and at the time that THEY, want.

To the workers and farmers of Minnesota, struggling under the heavy burden of the war, Comrade Grace Carlson brought the meswhole work the terrine lighting perialist threat to the working and peasants can follow the road in deciding about it. Despite this, — a revolutionary second front sage of international socialism — and peasants can follow the road in deciding about it. Despite this, by the oppressed peoples of Euclass.

and colonial tyranny.

their hysterical demand for a sec- the Soviet Union, they gave up ond front, opposition to so-called all the conquests of the October "appeasers," etc. Revolution.

Such people are not an un- Revolution by defending the It appears certain from the presknown phenomena. They have ap- Soviet Union not only rifle in ent unofficial tabulation of elecpeared before in history. They hand but primarily by furtherwhen their presidential candi-

the international bourgeoisie. In contradistinction to the Stalin-In 1848 the first great proletarian revolution ended in defeat. As a result of this defeat all the petty bourgeois radicals, the unstable elements who had joined it to advance the interests of the with the revolution in its up- world socialist revolution. The great Bolshevik party of

-they had 11 or 12 radio speechcause as hopeless.

lose hope. They understood that party in history, was principally line which their 1942 candidates in the final analysis the lessons a product of the 1905 revolution. Nevertheless, American and put forth, the possible doubling of of the defeat would seep down to The great product of the 1917 the bottom-most layers of the vevolution in addition to the masses and prepare them for a Soviet Union is the Fourth Innew and more powerful uprising ternational, which on a new his-

in the future. Out of those ex- toric level continues the tradiperiences in 1848 arose the First tions and program of Bolshevism. The Fourth International con-International. The confidence of the Marxists stitutes in the political arena the

was justified. The experience of crowning achievement of the Now in the midst of a second

Commune of 1871 when the working class stormed the heights and | World War it may seem on the gave the world the first sample surface that the world labor of what the workers' government movement has reached a new low ebb. In Italy, Germany and Japan But that bright token of the the workers' organizations are a sticker campaign in this elec- socialist society likewise was completely smashed and in the not concerned with Stalin's wishdid not vote in the primary elec- despair prevailed among the on the retreat before the offen-

> But underneath, the revolution ward. A new October is forming -a new October that will be a

The Paris Commune, however, continuation and extension of the the invaders' bloody attempt to the imperialists are different. advanced workers can see that it petition and the signer may be for study. Out of the experiences old. It will burst out of the bloodis precisely "the difference in punished by prison sentences if of the Paris Commune arose the shed and destruction of the suppress the European working Consequently a second from ideologies and social systems" — the law is violated in any tech- Second International which built second world war with invincible powerful mass parties and spread force and sweep the entire earth. the program of scientific social, Then on the titanic scale of the

> humanity can look back at The Paris Commune prepared October 1917. What will be their the Bolsheviks for their great judgment? They will see it as role in the revolution of 1905 in the first brilliant conquest o Russia, when the working class socialist society-the dawn of reared a socialist government in real civilization. They will see opposition to Czarism.

that the Russian Revolution and But that revolution too was the defense of its conquests was defeated. And again a period of the indispensable condition for intense reaction set in, the reac- final victory. And they will also tion which culminated in the first see that history chose as leaders world war. The petty bourgeois for the next victorious upsurges after 1917 only those who were They were unable to see that capable of defending the old

German imperialism's attempt to of imperialist steel against the This was graphically illustrated the user of the user of the election which characterized the electi questions dealing with the second which characterized the election earth.

Marxist politics.

society, free from the barbarities radicals scurried for cover. the revolution of 1905 had elec- positions.

for state offices obtained an aver-Considering the large sum of money which the Minnesota Sta-

constitute a tendency that is ing the class struggle against easily recognizable. date, Earl Browder received 2711 votes and their sticker candidates

ists who defend the Soviet Union mainly to safeguard their own bureaucratic privileges we defend

swing, now gave up the workers'

linists put into the 1942 campaign However the Marxists did not honest and the most revolutionary

class A time - and, more impor-

resent a very significant gain. In 1940 Grace Carlson received 8761 votes as the Socialist Work-

ers Party candidate for U.S. Senator from Minnesota. In the camnaign just ended, she ran as a

ed at the heart of the USSR - Canvassing Board meets on No-

S. W. P. CAMPAIGN

age of 300 votes.

Despite the encouraging respaign, it was feasible only to run

a Notary Public in order to place First International was overthe name of the candidate of a whelmed in the backwash of re- is preparing for another leap foraction.

minority party on the ballot. The state law further provides Stalin will not admit it, but that both the circulator of the became for the Marxists a model

campaigns of other so-called working class parties in Minne-

FOUR -----

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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 gov-

ernment but controlled by the trade

unions, to train workers to become

2. Trade union wages for all workers

3. Full equality for Negroes in the armed

4. Confiscation of all war profits. Expro-

operation under workers' control.

5. For a rising scale of wages to meet the

6. Workers Defense Guards against vig-

7. An Independent Labor Party based on

8. A Workers' and Farmers' Govern-

Stabs In The Back...

An unprovoked act of aggression! A treacherous

Do such expressions sound familiar? They've been

Most recently these tones of indignation have been

heard from the French government. Less than a year

ago they were heard from the United States govern-

ment. Even Japan this week denounced the invasion

of French Africa as "ungentlemanly." The same

things have been said countless times by all other

with Jim Crowism everywhere.

forces and the war industries-Down

priation of all war industries and their

drafted into the army.

rising cost of living.

the Trade Unions.

Talking About

used so often that they should.

imperialist governments.

ment.

stab in the back!

ilante and fascist attacks.

TANT which are expressed in its editorials.

phone: Algonquin 4-8547

Saturday, Nov. 14, 1942

all overtime pay for week-end and holiday work un-THE MILITANT less these days were the six and seventh of a work-

ing week. The fact that many unions had contracts stipulating such payment did not halt Roosevelt. The contract is not at all sacred when it benefits the workers; when it favors the bosses it is a holy of holies.

The WLB sternly notified the workers that not even to correct maladjustments and inequalities would any group of employees be allowed to receive wage increases greater than 15 per cent over the January 1, 1941 level.

In his statement announcing the policy of the WLB. the chairman of that body, William H. Davis, said that the board would grant increases "very sparingly" and that the "Little Steel" 15 per cent formula would be interpreted "rather strictly."

For the small handful of capitalists who are making tremendous profits out of the war, the government adopts a policy of conciliation and makes further extensive concessions.

For the great mass of the people, the toilers who produce the wealth of the nation, the government adopts what Davis calls a "pretty damn tough policy." Nothing illustrates better than this the fundamental policies of the government.

Now He's 'Our' S.O.B.

"From the headquarters of General Eisenhower in North Africa comes the dramatic announcement that General Henri Giraud, hero of two world wars, has arrived in Algeria and that he will organize there a French North African Army 'to take up arms side by side with the United Nations for the defeat of Germany and Italy and the liberation of France and her Empire'." From an editorial in the Nov. 10 N. Y. Times.

Who is this great "hero" who once more unsheathes his sword for the cause of "liberation?"

The answer was not long in coming. Out of the wrangling, bickering camp of French capitalist refugees who prefer to kneel at the foot of the Anglo-American masters rather than bend before the German overlord comes an answer written by the informed Pertinax in the N. Y. Times the following day:

"Anti-German General Giraud decidedly is, but he is also anti-communist and it cannot be said that he ever was a friend of Great Britain. With all that, for the sake of national liberation, he dropped for the present his anti-British prejudice."

"General Giraud is a vigorous leader in the field. He pacified South Morocco before the war, but in Belgium and in Northern France two and a half years ago he did not have the opportunity to prove his mettle."

"All Frenchmen opposed to Germany who at the same time want to save the Vichy regime and prevent the restoration of the republic will flock to General Giraud while former republicans take their stand by General de Gaulle."

"General Giraud (in pre-war days) belonged to the extreme right. On his staff of the Seventh Army was Guy de Wendel who was wont to exclaim: 'Between Hitler and Stalin I don't hesitate; I am for Hitler'."

"As Prime Minister and Minister of War, M. Daladier did not relish General Giraud's public indictments of representative institutions and several times was on the point of dismissing him."

Here is the portrait of our "great" general who has been assigned the task of "liberating" France: 1. He is a confirmed opponent of capitalist democracy, even of the sickly degenerate kind represented by Daladier before the war.

2. He is "anti-communist," that is, a foe of the working class and the unions and therefore undoubtedly a supporter of fascism.

Old Enough To Fight? Old Enough To Vote!

By A. ROLAND

now work the other tack and glor- | ones, are not far to seek. They ify the idealistic youth who, if are characteristic of class society, The exacting and exhausting anybody, will save their civiliz- and particularly of capitalist sodemands made on the mechanation of privilege. Or so they ciety. Politics, the game of rulized soldier in the present war hope. ing society, is held to be the But the ruling class will take sphere of those who have a stake have caused all the nations to no chances with the youth who in it. turn for man-power to the

youth. The United States is preare found perfectly capable of paring to take the unprecedent- carrying all the burdens of the class that dominates modern sowar on their shoulders. They are ciety, who permit the right to ed step of applying conscription given all responsibilities except vote to the masses only so long to those who are eighteen and that of having a voice in their as the vote does not endanger over. It is recognized that the young make the best fighters,

WHERE DEMOCRACY ENDS those who can "take it" under the It seems that democracy ends sorts of pressures in their daily worst conditions. Thus the youth where youth begins. The right to lives to keep them under the are being called upon to make the supreme sacrifice in the imperialvote is reserved for their elders. thumb of the powers-that-be. The law which acknowledges ist war. their manhood by sending them

It is not only as fighters that to the battlefield, gives them the the idealists and the radicals. the young are called upon to bear status of minors when it comes to They do not fear, but on the conthe burdens. In the factories also politics. They are not asked to trary, welcome change and proboth young men and young womake up their own minds con- gress. men are being driven for produccerning any of the larger issues tion in the totalitarian war. The of the war or the post-war world. tion is especially under suspicion "forgotten generation" is sudden-That will be done for them by by the finance capitalists who ly no longer forgotten.

those with greater experience, really run capitalist society. This All the agencies of government, the experience that brought on generation has been raised in the all the controlled peripheral or- the war. The old line, "Theirs not period of the greatest crisis in ganizations, lay themselves out to to question why, theirs but to American history. foster the good will of the youth. do and die," applies doubly now

The employers who but yester | - to the home-front as well as rience of seeing fathers and day hurled anathema at the New | the battlefield. brothers and sisters out of work, Deal for "coddling" the young | The reasons back of the failure of being on relief, of having to men and women who could find to grant the democratic right to fight for its daily bread. The lesno place in an industry in crisis, vote to the eighteen to twenty-



And They Call It A 'War For Democracy'!

What are the British fighting for? Do they intend to grant freedom to the colonial peoples in the British Empire?

Stung by the growing criticisms of British imperialist policy, Brigadier General Lord Croft, Joint Parliamentary Under Secretary for the War Office got up in Parliament on Oct. 28 not only to defend the British government but also to brag about its slave-master policies:

"The time has come to throw off the inferiority complex and realize that what Britain is fighting to defend is as sound as anything yet discovered and to cease apologizing for our existence. This 'decadent, dying race' has a finer system of justice and better social services than any other land, and nowhere in the world has the gap between riches and poverty been made so narrow without a revolution ...

"We intend to drive out the aggressor from Malaya and Burma and restore happiness and liberty to those unhappy countries. Far from quitting, we have the opportunity of continuing to lift those countries from illiteracy to understanding, and some day, in our wisdom and at our own time, into full self-expression, and by our example, lead the world to a fuller, happier life.'

It is unlikely that the speech of Lord Croft who, according to Time of Nov. 9, "was a supporter of Francisco Franco during the Spanish Civil War, of Benito Mussolini at the partition of Abyssinia" --will be published in all sections of the British Empire to encourage the colonial masses.

After all, 90% of the colonial subjects still cannot read after hundreds of years under British rule; and very few of those who can read, can afford to buy newspapers.

More On Why Bosses Are Happy About New Tax Bill

By C. CHARLES -

The recently passed tax bill is full of provisions favorable to the capitalist class. These loopholes, which are called "relief" provisions, were exposed in last week's issue of THE MILITANT.

There is an additional method that the bosses use which was not mentioned in THE MILITANT article on "Why the Bosses Are Happy About the New Tax Bill." This method, which has been in operation for some time, is called the tax amortization allowance.

This is an example of how the tax amortization allowance works:

A firm plans to put up a new plant to produce war goods (at a very good profit). If the Army and Navy decide that this plant is necessary, they certify it to receive the benefits of the tax amortization provisions.

According to these provisions, the firm is allowed to deduct from its taxable income 20 per cent of the cost of the plant for purposes of "amortization." Amortization is a financial device whereby a company each year or period pays off a certain part of a debt.

Since a steel plant wears out only about 3% each year, this means that every year the firm receives 17% of the cost of the new plant as a gift in the form of exemption from tax payment.

Thus the government, over a period of less than six years, gives a free plant to the firm, saving the capitalists hundreds of millions of dollars in taxes annually.

ern Trends, a progressive youth group which meets at the Harlem YMCA. On the list of speakers for the evening were representatives of the Stalinists and the

The fireworks began when a Howard said he could not appear been informed in time. (Johnson ous week). Besides, he went on, he could not appear on the same

REACTIONARIES AND THE while to send ballots abroad, and The letter aroused a great deal of indignation among the mem-SOCIAL-DEMOCRATS bership, who voted to send a let-It is interesting to see that reter of censure to the Young Comactionaries like Vandenberg have munist League on their undemo- taken up the cry for the right cratic attitude. of these youth to vote. The re-The joker of the evening was actionaries want to capitalize on that Johnson did appear but re the natural feelings of the young fused to come up to the platform. soldiers. The point of view of Trotskyism The Vandenbergs rightly fear was presented by B. Lenz and that we Marxists may gain inwas well received. creasing influence among the THREE-LINE announcement that THE MILITANT meets with fayoung soldiers by our efforts in application cards for war ballots vor among those who attend Modtheir behalf. But these demawere available at the regimental ern Trend meetings. A. STEIN gogues are not serious for one headquarters. moment in putting up the de-New York City mand. They know that Congress will never grant the right, and says. Then they have to clean Bridges Takes On up and eat. By the time a soldier Job of Censor they bank on that fact to gain a false popularity. ters, it is long after 5:00 P. M. Editor: The attitude of a political par-But all the personnel leaves the ty towards the rights of youth Stalinist bureaucrats in this characterizes the nature of the state have been carrying on a party. The social-democrats, for thing to encourage the soldiers in MILITANT and intimidate union wild campaign to smear THE example, fear to make the devoting. There were no speeches mand for the right to vote. The about it by any of the officers, it is distributed before meetings members from accepting it when editor of the New Leader, Wilno propaganda about the "beneliam E. Bohn, has conducted sevand at plant gates. fits of democracy." eral columns treating this ques-They have built ashcans and When there is a campaign for tion. There are repeated all the "soldiers' relief" or for war bond ions under their control . . . but rammed resolutions through uncapitalist arguments for refusing the right to youth. brother recently described to me, ers continued to accept the paper without much success. The work-Bohn even goes to the trouble and read it. to quote at length from the let-On Nov. 1 H. Bridges, Stalinter of a "socialist" lawyer (God ist stooge and California director save the mark!), in which this of the CIO, personally assumed cretin harps on the inconsistency the role of cop and censor. He of calling youth "minors" in law cers continually nagging the ranks stood in front of the hall where - and granting them the vote! At least 95% of the 5 million men's union was meeting and ex- and its definitions shows precisethe 'Frisco local of the longshore-His concern with capitalist law or more soldiers are eligible to horted the men not to take THE ly how he views the functions of vote. Why didn't Mr. Roosevelt MILITANT, and he asked those his party. give a couple of speeches to the who took it not to read it but soldiers on the importance of vot- tear it up. Bohn evidently fears for "democracy" should youth get the The stevedores gave him the fascist-minded officers in the arvote. Our attitude is clear and my, doesn't want the soldiers get- went off without difficulty and unambiguous. We demand the right, the democratic right, of most of the men took the paper, rights, such as the right to think most of the men took the paper, youth to vote. The so-called irreindependently and politically, in- ried it into the meeting with sponsibility of such youth we consider to be the responsibility to the future, and not to the dying S. B. MARY R. San Francisco | past. New York City A New Pamphlet! MANIFESTO OF THE FOURTH INTERNATIONAL To the Workers and Peasants of India 20 Pages 5 Cents

young soldiers who return from the battlefield. The kind of democracy they are fighting for is Write to us-tell us what's going on in your part of the labor movement-what are the workers thinking about?-what are the

bosses up to?-the labor leaders?-the Stalinists? Send us that story the capitalist press wouldn't print and that story they buried or distorted-let us know whether you agree or disagree with the views expressed in this paper. Letter should carry name and address, but indicate if you do not want your name printed.

Soldiers and The Elections

Editor:

There was a lot of talk by the press and the politicians about "apathy" so far as the elections were concerned. There were even appeals by Roosevelt, Dewey and Farley for the greatest possible vote.

But there was one group of eligible voters whom none of these on the ground that he had not people was interested in getting to vote. I refer to the soldiers had accepted in person the previboth at home and abroad. Everyone knows that Congress

recently passed a bill permitting platform with those betrayers of the soldiers to vote. But Secre- the working-class and fifth-coltary Knox didn't think it worth- umnists, the Trotskyists. as a result an item appeared in the press the other day that not a single American soldier in Britain voted on Nov. 3. As for the soldiers stationed in this country, I have a brother in camp who told me how difficult it is for the soldiers to get a vote. Tucked away in a corner of the bulletin board where very few people would notice it was a

'29 to '39 can never be forgotten. LEARNING LESSONS The war and the post-war events will serve, without question, to drive those lessons even deeper into the minds of the

> not in the least the same as the democracy for which the bankers have sent them to fight. They are not interested in seeing American imperialism dominate the world in place of Hitler imperialism. They want a world that will really be fit to live in without fear, without con-

stant insecurity. The demand for the right of those who are eighteen and over



being the fact that capitalism exploits youth in special ways

resisting politically and economically. But the democratic demand for this right now becomes even more urgent and more meaningful when these young men - and women - are sent into the war.

to vote, has long been inscribed on our banner. The very reasons for the capitalists' fear to grant this right are the reasons for

our making the demand. We make this demand in time of peace, an additional reason then

which they must be capable of

It is the prerogative of the

the present system. The older

men and women are under all

But the youth cannot so easily

be cowed. They are proverbially

The present younger genera-

It has learned the bitter expe-

communication from

Socialist Workers -Party.

Johnson, vice-chairman of N. Y. State YCL was read. Johnson

Remember how Secretary Hull denounced the deceit of Japan which engaged in long diplomatic discussions while Pearl Harbor was being prepared? That's the same Secretary Hull who this week smilingly admitted that the government's policy of "friendship" toward Vichy was designed all along to pave the way for an invasion of the French Empire.

A nation that gets beat to the punch always hollers. It seeks by acting the part of injured innocence to justify its own imperialist policies and thus gain support from the masses. This unprovoked aggression, they say, proves that ours is a just and holy war. As for the imperialist nations that manage to put over the "Pearl Harbors," they have a different line, but also a uniform and by now trite one.

President Roosevelt says that French Africa was invaded "in order to forestall an invasion of Africa by Germany and Italy." "The ultimate and greater aim is the liberation of France and its empire. ..."

And Hitler says he has marched into unoccupied France "with one single aim, and that is to repel an American and British landing. I have given the order to the troops to look after the interests of France."

And of course Japan also claimed to have invaded China in self-defense and in the best interests of the Chinese people. And the French government originally entered the war to defend poor little Poland, didn't it?

We have often said that the character of a war cannot be determined by who strikes the first blow or by diplomatic maneuvers employed to prepare the first blow or by the indignant complaints of the nation that gets struck the first blow. For these are methods and arguments used interchangeably by all the imperialists to serve their own reactionary interests.

We hope that the latest events will open the eyes of the workers and lead them to an examination of the real causes of imperialist war -- the capitalist system and the continuous struggle for profits which it breeds among all capitalist nations.

The Central Aim

The central idea around which all the activities and decisions of the government revolve was again illustrated on Friday, Nov. 6.

On that day the Treasury Department announced that it would "ease up" on the \$25,000 limitation on the "salaries" of the bosses.

And on the very same day, the War Labor Board, which has jurisdiction over wages and salaries below \$5000 a year, cracked down on the workers' wages.

The Treasury made another concession to the bosses. It ruled that the wealthy who hold contracts providing salaries in excess of \$25,000, would be permitted to continue receiving this "salary" in 1942, providing the contract was entered in before Oct. 4. A few months ago Roosevelt abolished by decree

3. He was a supporter of the now defunct Vichy Regime which collaborated with the Nazi conqueror in a reign of terror against the French people.

4. He is a bitter enemy of the Soviet Union --on whose side he is now supposed to be fighting --and preferred an allied invasion of the workers' state to a war with Hitler.

5. He is a butcher of colonial peoples. As a "great general" he won his spurs "pacifying" the helpless natives of Morocco.

6. He differs from de Gaulle only in the time he jumped on the Anglo-American bandwagon. De Gaulle, leader of "Republicans" is an avowed monarchist and recently took to his bosom Vallin, one of the leaders of the French fascist Croix de Feu. The N. Y. Times commented in its editorial that Giraud's "assumption of leadership of the Free French movement in North Africa cannot fail to aid our cause enormously."

What "cause" is this? And in whose interests? The cause of imperialism! Against the interests of the French masses!

Election And The Anti-Poll Tax Bill

The danger that the present Congress will not pass legislation abolishing payment of poll taxes for federal elections has been increased by the outcome of the Nov. 3 elections.

The poll-tax Democrats will hold the balance of power in the new Congress. If they throw their support to the Republicans on any issue, the Democrats can become a minority. And vice versa.

The tendency of the Democratic and Republican machines will therefore be increasingly to make horse trades with the poll-tax Democrats in return for support on issues in which the machines are interested.

That tendency will develop not only next January when the new Congress is seated, but right now. More than ever, the national leaders of the two parties will hesitate to take any steps that might offend the poll-taxers.

During the next six weeks the anti-poll tax bill will be threatened not only by the danger of filibuster and obstructionism on the part of the poll-taxers, but also sabotage, concealed if not open, on the part of the administration and of the Republican leaders. It will be hard to pass the anti-poll tax bill this year under these conditions.

But it will be much harder to pass it next year. It is therefore necessary, even more now than before the elections, for all workers' organizations in the country to intensify their pressure on Congress, the administration and the Republicans, to demand the immediate passage of the anti-poll tax bill.

The soldiers are on duty from reveille to retreat, my brother

gets to the regimental headquar-

headquarters at 5 sharp. Nor did the officers do a single

sales, such as a friend of my the situation is altogether different. Then the soldiers really see some high-pressure salesmanship, with everyone from the lowest non-coms to the highest offi-

to "do their share." ing? Is it because he, like the

ting any ideas about having some stead of having everything de- them. cided for them from above?

Editor:

In a democratic atmosphere the miserable weapon of slander with which the Stalinists try to meet the program of Trotskyism fails and alienates those whom the Stalinists are trying to influence. This was demonstrated on October 27 at a forum, "Political Parties in This Election and the Negro People," presented by Mod-

Order from PIONEER PUBLISHERS 116 University Place, New York, N. Y.

German Tax Laws Also Go Easy On **Capitalist Class**

By HOWARD ALLEN

The Nazis and Fascists have always posed as anticapitalists. The speeches of Hitler, Mussolini and their stooges have been full of demagogic attacks on "Big Business." They have tried to cover up their naked dictatorship with phrases against profiteering.

Nazi propaganda in particular has exploited to the limit the deep-seated desire of the workers for an economic system without profits. In this they have been aided by a host of phoney economists and sociologists, inside Germany and out, who have pictured the Hitler dictatorship as a non-capitalist system.

According to these vulgar, would-be theoreticians, the Nazi economy is a new social order, a planned economy; they identify Nazi Germany with Soviet Russia. In spite of their divergent interests, both the apologists for "democratic" imperialism and the fascist soothsayers have agreed that the capitalist class no longer rules in Germany. They both lie.

Waverly Root, writing in the Nov. 2 Philadelphia Record reports, "When the war began, German business firms were subject to a corporation tax of 50%and an excess profits tax of 100%. But there was a loophole in the law big enough to drive an armored car through. The German companies simply added their excess profits to their reserves, instead of listing them as profits. . .

"In order to keep on paying high dividends without running over the 6% of capital, (upon which a heavy tax was levied on June 12, 1941) the big German concerns wrote up their capital, revealing in so doing the tremendous hidden reserves they had accumulated, which now became part of the permanent capitalization.

"The reserves in many cases turned out to be greater than the original capital. Thus, the Deutsche Waffen and Munitions-fabriken increased its capital 300%! ... The overall capital increase for all German corporations was 60%."

In other words, Mr. Root charges the German capitalist class with a hunger for profits equal to that of the American capitalists. The tax-evasion devices of the German industrialists which Root exposes, is certainly nothing new to the American "captains of industry." Despite the political differences between the Nazi and the "democratic" imperialist states, one fact sticks out: Both are concerned primarily with helping the bosses to coin profits at the expense of the workers.