DEFENDLABOR'S POLITICAL RIGHTS

- AN EDITORIAL

As the day — January 7 — for the convening of the new Congress drew nearer, the press reported last week that a group of labor-baiting Congressmen had already met and had drawn up plans for a general drive against the labor movement.

This is no idle threat, as is indicated by the fact that the majority of the Democratic majority comes from the thirteen Southern states, stronghold of reaction. Undoubtedly the leaders of the "solid South" were foremost in drawing up these plans against the working class.

The reactionary caucus informally announced to newspapermen that its objectives included sharp reductions in overtime pay, elimination of the right to strike, abolition of closed-shop and maintenance-of-membership agreements in all war plants etc.

That these assaults on the labor movement are coming generally realized in the trade unions.

There is, however, still another assault being planned by the same reactionary caucus' which is less understood in the trade unions. As these Congressmen told newspapermen, they have decided to press in the new Congress for an amendment to the Corrupt Practices Act which would prevent trade unions from making contributions to political campaigns. Every worker must understand the full implications of this reactionary move

Most of the labor-baiters who want this new law have, of course, never received any financial contributions from the unions, for they are out-and-out enemies of labor and are known as such. One of the reasons for the amendment they plan to introduce is that they want to prevent their rival candidates in the capitalist parties, posing as friends of labor, from receiving the benefits of union contributions to campaign funds.

But there is another and far more important reason why the anti-labor Congressmen want to cripple the political activities of the labor movement. They have carefully studied the results of the November elections, and they recognize that the unprecedentedly low vote, especially in the industrial centers, is a sign that a large section of the masses see little difference between the two capitalist parties and is becoming dissatisfied with both of them.

The reactionaries in Congress fear that this growing dissatisfaction will result in the formation of a nation-wide IN-DEPENDENT LABOR PARTY based on the trade unions. By enacting their amendment to the Corrupt Practices Act, they hope to prevent labor's own party from coming into being. Such a law would hamstring already-existing labor political organizations like the American Labor Party which necessarily depend on trade union contributions.

Labor's fight against the coming assault in Congress must be a fight all up and down the line. Labor must defend not only its traditional economic rights but also its political rights. Today many workers, indifferent to the old capitalist parties, may think a trade union's right to donate funds to political campaigns is not important enough to fight for. Tomorrow, however, these same workers will be wholeheartedly supporting a very different kind of political campaign — that of an INDEPENDENT LABOR PARTY formed by the trade unions.

Because of that tomorrow — which is sure to come — every thinking worker must make it his special responsibility to see that his union raises hell in Washington when the reactionaries try to castrate labor of its political rights.

BAN ISSUE OF MILITANT AND DEC. FOURTH INTERNATIONAL

The Post Office, which has been holding up from the mails various issues of **Giraud Chosen**

THE MULITANT

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FIVE (5) CENTS

New Regional WLB Set-Up Will Not Change Board's Anti-Labor Policy

Red Army Presses Back Nazis

Stalin's Policies Barrier to Final Soviet Victory

By Howard Hogan

According to Moscow dispatches, huge successes are beng made by the Red Army in its second winter campaign. Four major counter-offensives are rolling forward "despite chilling temperatures and lack of roads." Since December 16 great amounts of matériel have been captured, 56,000 prisoners taken, and 60,000 German soldiers killed. Red Star, the Red Army newspaper, announced that the Stalingrad offensive had already "sealed the fate" of 22 German divisions who have been encircled.

The Middle Don offensive is within 150 miles of Kharkov and 130 miles from Rostov. On the Central Front northwest of Moscow, Soviet troops are battling near Velikiye Luki. In some areas demoralization of the Nazi troops.

RED EQUIPMENT GOOD

muniquès report that Soviet troops are now better equipped than the German troops, both in armaments and clothing. According to Henry Shapiro (New York Times, Dec. 27, 1942) the Red Army has a gun called the 'Katusha," and "so far the Germans have been unable to cope with it." While Ralph Parker, the

is a well-equipped Germany army,

but the Russians so far have not

Nothing could be more hearten-

ing to the defenders of the Soviet

Union and to all workers desir-

ous of the defeat of fascism than

to learn that the Red Army is

now better equipped, is rolling

back the German armies and that

these armies have begun to disin-



(Federated picture) Soviet troops march through the northern part of battle-scarred Stalingrad to reinforce its garrison, seeking to trap 22 German divisions in a pincers.

near Velikiye Luki. In some areas Moscow indicates important gains have been made because of the demonstration of the Nari turner RED EQUIPMENT GOOD On top of this, Moscow com- Freezes More Workers

175,000 Workers in St. Paul-Minneapolis Now Chained to Jobs, Proposed Clark Draft Bill Would Give Workers No Job Choice

By John Edwards

The War Manpower Commission, headed by Paul V. McNutt, followed mands, it will have no basic ef- boards allowed. fect on the anti-union results of up its order freezing Detroit workers to their jobs, with a similar order which WLB policy. N. Y. Times correspondent reports (Dec. 27) that the Soviet troops in effect job freezes 175,000 workers in the St. Paul-Minneapolis area. are more warmly clad. "Maybe," John C. Nord, WMC director in the Twin City Area, said the order was he concludes, "somewhere there

Unions Will Not Have Right To Appeal Region Decisions

267

WLB Acts to Decentralize in Reply to Widespread Protests Against Delays

By Joseph Andrews

The War Labor Board, as a result of widespread union dissatisfaction with its delays and anti-labor policies, announced on Dec. 23 that WLB procedure was to be decentralized.

Panels made up of representatives from labor, management and the "public" will be set up in each major city to make recommendations on union demands to new regional War Labor Boards. There will be ten regional boards.

Regional directors of the WLB will be empowered by this plan to rule on cases involving no more than 100 workers. Regional Boards will hear other?

to rule on itself.

for appeal to the National WLB.

datory and final.

APPEAL DIFFICULT

decisions of regional boards to the The new WLB system will not National WLB. But this is, in correct this process. The antireality, a fraud. The union will labor policy of the board will mer not have the right to appeal re- ely be put into effect by its coun gional board rulings. Only a terpart in the regions. member of the panel in the case,

In World War I the War Labor or the National WLB itself, can Board set-up was organized along take a case from a regional board similar lines, after widespread protests from unions against de-Thus, the rulings of Regional lays and stalling forced the gov-Boards will in most cases be manernment to take action. These regional boards during the last It would be mistaken to aswar served to hamstring the unsume that the new WLB set-up ion movement and to prevent indewill correct the anti-labor effects | pendent union action to achieve of WLB policy. While the reor- justified union demands. In only ganization may speed-up the proone out of 100 cases were appeals cess of settlement of union de-

> There is no reason to believe that the new WLB set-up will dif-

ior demand for wage increases.

of all workers, whether they are

in war industry or civilian indus-

The reorganization of the WLB

will not change the situation. The

WLB is still a weapon used by

the employers against the union

from the decisions of regional

cases, except those which the Na- ing every union grievance and detional W L B decides are of mand through the WLB, which is national significance and wishes dominated by pro-employer elements, has threatened to stifle the independence of the union movement, and convert them into There is a clause in this new mere appendages of the governplan which provides for appeal of | ment.

The Militant since the be- HighCommission'r ginning of November, declared on December 28 For French Africa that the Dec. 19 issue of The Militant and the De- Darlan's Policies of cember issue of the Trot- Colonial Suppression skyist m a g a z i n e, the Will Be Continued Fourth International, are "nonmailable" and ordered them destroyed.

This is the fourth issue of The Militant to be declared Commissioner for the French nonmailable and destroyed by African colonies. He was apthe Post Office. The Fourth International for December is the first issue of the magazine to be Darlan. suppressed.

As in previous cases, the Post Office authorities gave no reasons for their action.

The first three November issues democratic institutions. Giraud of The Militant had previously will continue Darlan's policy of been withheld and ordered oppression of the colonial peoples destroyed. The last November of North Africa. issue of the labor paper and the It is precisely Giraud's lack first two December issues were of democratic sympathies which withheld and then delivered to make him the ideal man for the subscribers after delays ranging | job in French Africa. His principal task will be to "preserve from 14 to 7 days.

MANY PROTESTS

This arbitrary action by the independence.

Post Office department, in with-Giraud's anti-democratic backholding and suppressing the Militant has been protested by many such French commentators as of the USSR's principal iron and labor and liberal organizations Pertinax felt impelled to denounce

and publications. Among those who have condemned the action are the American Civil Liberties Union, the New Republic, the Nation, the New Leader, the against the Fourth International,

Reading Labor Advocate, Labor has become the most important Action, the Weekly People, the test case of World War II in-Midwest Socialist, and the Call. volving the right of free press. The only group which has Should this action go unchalopenly supported the Post Office lenged, a precedent will have been freedom of press, has been the can silence every voice of criticnot only support this action press, by means of arbitrary against the labor press, but ad- bureaucratic suppression. vocate a witch-hunt against any reactionary Stalinist policies.

TEST CASES

The suppression of The Mili- Fund, 116 University Place, New tant, followed by the action York City.

By MICHAEL CORT Gen. Henri Giraud, French

(Continued on page 2)

tegrate. However, in view of the empty Stalinist boasting and exrightist and bitter opponent of aggerations in the past, not to speak of the doubt that. an the Soviet Union, is now High announcement of major offensives in the Russian winter arouses in one's mind, other explanations of pointed to the post on Dec. 27 the situation cannot be ruled out by the "French Imperial Counin advance. cil" set up by his predecessor

encountered it."

REVOLUTIONARY METHOD IS MISSING

Thus Darlan has been succeed In the absence of revolutionary ed by a man who shares Darlan's methods of warfare which under hatred of the workers and all Lenin and Trotsky proved the most powerful weapon of the Soviet Union in meeting invading armies, it is highly doubtful that the "demoralization" of Hitler's armies has reached profound proportions.

There is also room for doubt that the Red Army is today superior in equipment. The Gerlaw and order." That is, he must man conquests have seriously imprevent any native struggle for paired the Soviet productive system through the capture of the

granaries in the Ukraine, and ground is so marked that even North'n Caucasus and the seizure armament industries and her chief

coal supply. No less grave have been the losses in the communication system, especially the rail-

ways which are of utmost importance above all in winter. All this has a direct bearing on the striking power of the Red Army. Hitler's armies have likewise suffered grave losses, last winter as well as throughout 1942. It is authorities in this suppression of set by which the administration not at all unlikely that Hitler's troubles this winter may far Communist Party. The Stalinists ism especially from the labor surpass those of last year. But even this would not of itself shift the relation of military forces The Militant has called upon decisively in favor of the Red and all papers critical of the ad- all labor and liberal groups to Army. Moscow's claims in this ministration and opposed to the support its fight for a free labor field appear somewhat premature. press, by protesting to the Post Last winter Stalin insisted that

Office department, and by sending the German armies must follow funds to the Militant Defense the precedent set by Napoleon,

(Continued on page 3)

designed to "end wasteful shifting from job to job."

In reality, both orders are in-?

seeking better jobs at better over the destinies of the work- The basic rights of workers to pay. The orders were given un- ers.

der the authority granted the

Wall St. Discusses Its Role in the War

Wall Street, which has been running the war up to now from behind the scenes, with a quiet unassuming devotion to duty and profits, has decided to come out into the open and claim full credit for the job.

On the financial page of the Dec. 25 'N. Y. Times,' appeared the following item:

"One occasionally hears a Mark Hanna Republican groan that affairs would be run a good deal better if businessmen were in charge of the war. This is not a popular sentiment in Wall Street. which is boastful that this is

the best run American war and proud that Wall Street men are doing much of the running.

"It points to James V. Forrestal of Dillon, Read & Co., Undersecretary of the Navy; Robert P. Patterson, a Wall street lawyer, Assistant Secretary of the Navy; Artemus Gates of the New York Trust Company, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury; Robert A. Lovett, of Brown Brothers, Harriman and Co., Assistant Secretary of War for Air; W. Averill Harriman of the same concern and Edward R. Stettinius, Morgan partners, in charge of lend-lease, and Ferdinand Eberstadt and Charles E. Wilson, vice chairman of the War Production Board.

"No emphasis is placed on the fact that Frank Knox is a big business man, and Henry L. Stimson is a Wall Street lawyer — as was Franklin Delano Roosevelt."

tended to prevent workers from | ing McNutt the virtual "Czar" | hiring hall would be abolished. According to the WMC, the job-

WMC by President Roosevelt freezing order in the Twin Cities in his December 5 decree mak- will probably be followed by similar action in the Des Moines. Iowa, and Omaha, Nebraska areas. These orders require workers to obtain certificates of release from their employers before leaving one

job for another. NEW BILL PREPARED

While the WMC was applying its new powers to the Detroit and Twin Cities workers, and moving toward more regimentation of the ment. workers throughout the country.

Grenville Clark, New York at torney who drew up the selective act, presented a new manpower draft bill to the WMC. This new bill is now under consideration in Washington.

would place all workers in the status of conscriptees, who could be sent anywhere to do any kind

that 200 foods will be rationed According to the provisions of starting in February. Almost all ways of making sure that their canned, frozen, dried and glassed stomachs will be well filled with tween 18 and 65 years of age and fruits, vegetables and soups are vitamins and proteins, come what women between 18 and 50 would involved in the ration plans. and could be ordered to do any ply of these goods from 46 the wealthy to drive a General director of national service. person.

Such an act, if passed by Congress, would bring every man and woman into compulsory service ioning program as a fair methwith no freedom of choice as to od of distributing food in preswhat job he or she would take ent conditions of shortages. Their are all fruit and vegetable juices Thus, there would be no pos claims are not borne out by a sibility for a worker to pick a plant where wages were higher.

Senator Austin of Vermont stated on December 26, that 'voluntary methods of solving manpower problems will never work" and said he would press in Congress for a national service act along the lines outlined by Clark's draft. Austin is the same labor-hating Senator who introduced the "work or fight" bill during the last session of Congress. The dangers of such a bill to

the labor movement are obvious The whole system of job seniority would be wiped out. The union

The widespread protests which fer to any extent from that of brought forth the WLB reorgan- World War I.

ization were based not only upon NO POLICY CHANGE the delays of grievances and demands brought before the board. The "Little" War Labor Boards

but against the clearly anti-labor in the regions will carry out the character of the major rulings of policy of the National WLB, the WLB. which has turned down every ma-

The wealthy will easily find

may. There are loopholes in the

rationing plans wide enough for

For example, all frozen and

candied fruits and vegetables in

containers over 10 pounds are ex-

cluded from the rationing pro-

visions. Also not to be rationed

and preserves in containers over

they want in these larger quan-

tities whereas the poor will not

(Continued on page 2)

be able to afford to do so.

The rich will be able to buy all

Grant tank through.

one gallon.

the workers.

The WLB in its decisions has choose their place of employment frozen wages to 15% above the which has taken upon itself the would be abrogated. A worker who left a job would be violating the January, 1941 level, in spite of the right to rule over the conditions law. It would create conditions

of the workers, and to fight for tions which were clearly provoked decent working conditions. Labor must be on guard against fused to settle grievances and

which mean the further regimenion offensive in the plants, have tation of the workers and an further alarmed the trade union

dermining the independence and effectiveness of the labor move-

RATIONING PLANS LEAVE

A cut is envisaged in the sup-

pounds a year to 33 pounds per

Capitalist spokesmen and the

overnment are hailing the ra-

NEGRO COLUMNIST

MANY LOOPHOLES FOR RICH



such labor-conscription plans, which are conducting an anti-un-

acceleration of the process of unmovement.

UNIONS ENDANGERED

By C. Charles

The government has announced | close examination of the plans.



movement.

Ever since the British workers first had bayonets thrust in their hands and were sent charging against German workers similarly equipped, they have been deviled by the fear that they were fighting only for the benefit of their bosses' profit sheets.

It was partly to allay this fear that Sir William Beveridge published last month his modest plan for unemployment insurance. Think how this plan will inspire the soldiers in the field, reasoned Beveridge's supporters.

But they figured without Churchill. According to a United Press Dispatch from London dated Dec. 23, the British War Office has forbidden the circulation among the troops of any mention of the Beveridge plan.

The plans leave unrationed food bought in clubs, hotels and A few military successes against their German rivals restaurants. The wealthy will be able to dine out. The food they greatly emboldens the British bosses. They no longer feel buy in the restaurants will not the necessity of making concount against their rations. This method of supplementing their cessions to their workers. Better that the soldiers never hear rations cannot be widely used by of the plan, than return home with wrong ideas about the Experience in all countries in post-war world.

COMMENTS ON THE POST OFFICE BAN "It seems that those who go to bat for Negro rights may expect trouble," says Paul Keen, commenting on the Post Office attack on 'The Militant, in his column in the Dec. 26 issue of the Negro weekly, the 'Michigan Chronicle.'

The Clark manpower draft bill of work.

> this proposed bill, all men bebe liable for national "service type of work determined by a

TWO-

Waste Endangers Food Supply—Pravda Warns

course due in part to the war

ing that there is ample labor sup-

oly, equipment, and so on.

. 1942).

IS NEEDED

Kremlin Blames Local Administrators For 'Mistakes' in Huge Crop Losses

By John G. Wright

One of the most critical fronts in the Soviet Union today is the food front. An irreparable blow has already been suffered by the loss of the richest agricultural areas, especially those of Byelo-Russia, the Ukraine and the Kuban. Added to this are alarming conditions which prevail in the remaining agricultural areas.

The Stalinist-controlled Russian press refers to During the entire lengthy speech these conditions as "mistakes." Because of these "mistakes" a special resolution was adopted by the Council of People's Commissars and by the Central Committee of the Russian Communist Party. The keynote of this resolution is: "the impermissibility of repeating last year's mistakes." (Pravda, Aug. 1, 1942.) ism and private property. Soviet agriculture suffered

enormous and 'unnecessary losses last year because of failure to harvest the crops. "Certain collective farms (kokhozi) and state farms (sovkhozi), admits Pravda, "lost a considerable part of the harvest because the getting in of the crops was not begun in time and then was dragged out too long." This delay was one of the main reasons for last year's losses which were very large. Thus, according to the Russian press, "certain kolkhozi and sovkhozi Pravda itself confesses: lost not less than 1½ to 2 hundredweights per hectare (one hectare is approximately 21/2 acres." (Pravda, Aug. 1, 1942.) And we are furthermore told the directors and political secthat "in 1941 a whole number tions of the Machine and Tractor of counties, provinces and repub- Stations are duty-bound to achieve lics prepared poorly for the an especially high degree of orgetting in of the harvest." It does ganization in fieldwork, and not not take very many "counties, to permit the slightest laxity or provinces and republics," for such losses to run into tens and even hundreds of thousand tons.

OTHER CAUSES CITED

But while delay in harvesting is an important source of losses, it is by no means the only one. "The sources of losses are by pressure from the top. But this varied," states the above-quoted leading editorial in Pravda and crats immune to the pressure of continues to enumerate instances the agricultural workers and of neglect or carelessness in peasants. storing crops, transporting them, WORKERS' DEMOCRACY

sorting them, etc. etc. Furthermore, "large losses of grain are incurred on the field trashing-floors which are left be self-acting and democratic open and unguarded." In other worker and peasant committees words, while the country is threatened with famine, grain is committees would insure the left to rot in the fields and to be carrying out of the necessary devoured by birds and rodents.

Because of these losses the deliveries of grain by the collectives to the state naturally suffered. Pravda even hints that there were cases of non-delivery: "Last year a number of counties, provinces and republics lagged

Pope Denounces Marxian Socialism In Xmas Speech **By** Edith Kane

Pope Pius XII in his annual Christmas message to the peoples

of the world, departed from his accustomed tone of impartiality. in which he touched on problems of the world today and after the war, there were two points only on which he expressed himself unmistakably - Marxian Social-

"The Church," he said "con-

demns the various forms of Marxwith its disruption of the agricul- ian Socialism because it is her tural labor force, machinery, permanent right and duty to safeequipment, etc. But, strangely guard men from currents of enough, Pravda hardly mentions thought and influence that jeopardize their external salvation." these circumstances at all, claim-The Pope admitted, however. that the Church could not ignore It remains to conclude, there- the conditions of labor which ore that the fault lies with those cause workers to turn to Socialin charge, the local authorities, or | ism' in an effort to better their more correctly, the local bureau- conditions. Throughout his message

crats. This is precisely what the Pope constantly bewailed the baneful influence of materialism "These losses are absolutely intolerable in time of war. The in the world today, but his discussion of the problems of labor party and Soviet organizations, was hardly spiritual. Dealing with the concrete problems f the workers, the Pope proved by Bible texts that man is entitled to the goods of the earth. From this premise, the Pope concluded, flows the "fundamental inattentiveness to such a responobligation to grant private ownsible matter as the getting in of ership of property, if possible, to the war harvest." (Pravda, Aug. all." This guarantee of the work-

ers' right to private property as In superintending this year's a solution to their problems is harvest the Kremlin applies the reiterated even more definitely in same measures as last year: it another section of the speech. seeks to correct "mistakes" solely Although the church "does not intend to take sides for either method leaves the local bureauof the particular forms in whic several peoples or states try t solve the gigantic problem of domestic order" its preference

was apparent. Among the fundamental points listed by the Pope as essential in society, was Yet the real corrective would the conservation and perfection of a social order which will make possible an assured private propfunctioning on the spot. These erty for all classes of society. . On one subject alone the mes sage of the Pope was consistent-

tasks and would immediately call ly aloof and "impartial." To the to account all negligent or millions of people now under the 'forgetful" administrators. tyranny of fascist rule, or those But the 'method of democratic | who live in constant fear of its committees is precisely what the growth and seek a way to destroy

Kremlin itself seeks to prevent it, the Pope had nothing to offer. at all costs. For such committees They will look in vain throughout would not stop at correcting the entire speech, for even the 'The Neck of the Turkey'



(Federated cartoon) Get Some Action Now

New York School

which has its headquarters at

The labor movement has protested vigorously because the War Production Board has appointed representatives of the big daily papers to decide how newsprint will be divided in 1943. The production of newsprint has been curtailed and the unions fear that the representatives of the big papers and magazines will try to undermine the labor press by unfair division of available newsprint.

Envoy Charged With Acting **Against Bolivian Strikers**

By Helen Marshall

The American Ambassador President of Bolivia the view Ends Good Term; to Bolivia, Pierre Boal, stands points of the big mine operators accused of having intervened on and presented arguments and behalf of the Bolivian bosses against the workers during the provement of working condition **New Course Post'd** recent strike at the Catavi tin provement of working conditions mines in Bolivia mines in Bolivia.

When the Bolivian government This accusation was made last This accusation was made last week by Ernesto Galarza, chief for the tin miners' strike by call-York School of Social Science The very and that is nurseries? of the Labor Division of the Pan merican Union. A senatorial in-

A.C.L.U. Reviews Attack On **Civil Liberties During 1942**

The American Civil Liberties Union, in a statement issued Dec. 27 reviewing the status of civil liberties in America after one year of war, declared that "while it is clear that the general condition is far better than in World War I, the view asserted by government spokesmen that civil liberties are intact must be qualified by recognition of serious exceptions."

The chief exceptions listed by the ACLU are,

'1. removal of the entire Japan-[•] ese population from the West and present danger' of illegal Coast by military authority and acts. their detention in virtual concen-

SWP CASES tration camps, and the exercise

Women In

Industry

By MARIE TAYLOR

The Children's Bureau of the

U. S. Department of Labor re-

n groups while their mothers go

A truly ideal plan is described,

which takes into consideration

psychological needs of various

Thousands of mothers who are

to work.

Day Nurseries Are

of the power of removal of indi-Two of the outstanding cases vidual citizens from military of governmental suppression of zones without civilian review; 2. civil liberties are the withholding the international censorship of of the mailing rights of the Miliopinions concerning race discrim. | tant" and the Fourth Internationination: 3. censorship by the post al without notification and withoffice department of publications out specifications as to the reasalleged to impede the war effort, ons for this action by the Post without hearing or specifications Office department, and the prosein many cases, and without the cution of the leaders of the Soapplication of the U.S. Supreme cialist Workers Party and Min-Court test of 'clear and present' neapolis Teamsters Local 544-CIO danger in others; 4. certain fed- under the Smith "Gag" Act, eral prosecutions for utterances | which the ACLU has termed the and publications alleged to en- most important civil liberties case courage disaffection in the armed in many years. orces without a showing of 'clear

The suppression of the rights of the Militant and the Fourth International is continuing despite protests by the ACLU, and other labor and liberal organizations.

The December 19, 1942 issue of the Militant has been declared non-mailable by the Post Office denartment and has been ordered destroyed. The December issue of the Fourth International also has been ordered destroyed as on-mailable.

Needed Now — Let's These acts of suppression of reedom of the press are danger ignals to the whole labor move-

ment. The suppression of the Militant and the Fourth Internacently published an impressive tional, followed by similar action little pamphlet called "Standards against Labor Action, a workingfor Day Care of Children of class paper, can be used as prece-Working Mothers." It discusses dents against any and all labor thoroughly and accurately the papers which in any way criticize needs of children of all ages from the government. 2 to 16 who must be cared for

The Militant has appealed to all labor and liberal organizations to protest the action of the Post Office department and to send funds to aid in its fight for a

ree labor press not only the social, mental, and The Civil Rights Defense Committee, with offices at 160 5th age groups, and specific directions for emotional and physical Ave., New York City, is appealcare of children, but also such im- ing the convictions of the 18 Minneapolis defendants to higher The case was recently courts. heard in the St. Louis Circuit Court of Appeals. Should the detypes of day nurseries or child cision uphold the convictions, the case will be appealed to the

Rich Won't Feel

portant details as meals, naps, ight, ventilation, temperature, etc. According to the report, these standards should apply to all eare centers which are set up to aid working mothers. There is United States Supreme Court. only one flaw in the program, The Fall term of the New and that is - where are the day

ochind excessively in the harvesting; they violated the dates of grain-deliveries (to the state) which are set by law and worsenmistakes cannot be repeated again." (Pravda, Aug. 11, 1942). All this cut into the rations of soldiers at the front.

ord — Fascism There is not the slightest The growth of the ideas of reason, therefore, to assume that Marxian Socialism and the threat the "mistakes" of last year were to all systems based on private ed the quality of grain delivered not repeated and even aggravated ownership has penetrated even National Farmers Union, and a at the collection points. Such in 1942. Soviet soldiers and Fascism, seemingly, does not concivilians are paying a monstrous stitute a problem equally grave price for the inefficiency, mis- to the Pope. His clear and forth- Secretary James B. Carey. the workers in the cities and the management and arbitrary rule right denunciation of Marxian Socialism, by name, is in striking of the Stalinist bureaucracy. contrast to the complete absence

THE BASIC CAUSES

They will continue to pay this of the mention of Fascism, by What are the basic reasons for price until the Soviet democracy name, anywhere in this year's these conditions? They are of of Lenin and Trotsky is restored. Christmas message.

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(Against the Petty-Bourgeois Opposition)

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The USSR in the War		From a Scratch—To the Danger of
Again and Once More Again on	tha	Gangrene
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		Petty-Bourgeois Moralists and the Prole-
A Petty-Bourgeois Opposition in	the	tarian Party
Socialist Workers Party		Balance Sheet of the Finnish Events

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vestigation of the Ambassador's activities has been demanded by James Patton, president of the the walls of the Vatican. But series of questions on the subject was addressed to Sumner Welles, Under Secretary of State, by CIO

Galarza, citing this as a "clear example of how the foreign policy of the United States in Latin America is operating to prevent the raising of working standards and improving of living conditions of the masses of the peo-

23 PM:

the AFL and CIO protested and said that the strike was led by bona-fide labor leaders. The 60,000 miners involved live in mass misery. Their wages are about 15 cents a day according to the CIO News. They hardly know what a dairy product is, and would find it difficult to obtain

cereals and wheat even if they had the money.

While wages have remained rozen, the cost of living rose 37 per cent from January 1, 1941 to December 1941, and a further increase of 60 per cent from Janple," stated in the December uary 1942 to December 1942 is

expected. "The workers of Bolivia have been demanding for many years

The owner of the Catavi mines, the passage of a new labor code Simon Patino, is fabulously which would grant them the right wealthy. He has played a waiting of collective bargaining, freedom game with both the Axis and the of organization, minimum wages, United Nations. For this reason, and the payment of wages at and because of the fact that since least every fifteen days. There the fall of Malaya his mines have are no provisions in the code been the main source of tin for which any American workingman | the United Nations, the State Department is wooing him.

would regard as extreme. "This code was to have been One way of doing this is to approved by the Bolivian Con- take the mine operators' side on gress on December 8. the strike issue.

"On the days immediately pre-Thus the "Good Neighbor Policeding that date, the Ambassador | cy" means being a good neighbor of the United States in Bolivia, to Patino and not to the workers Pierre Boal, communicated to the in Bolivia.

Giraud Represents The Capitalists Darlan Did

(Continued from page 1)

| and preferred an Allied invasion

him-prior to his appointment as with Hitler. High Commissioner. In the New York Times of Dec. peoples. He won his spurs "paci-1 Pertinax wrote: "General fying" the natives of Morocco. Giraud belonged to the extreme ight. On his staff of the Seventh election as High Commissioner Army was Guy de Wendel who by the Imperial Council the New was wont to exclaim: 'Between York Times said editorially: Hitler and Stalin I don't hesitate; "The choice of General Giraud am for Hitler'." Here is a portrait of Giraud:

1. He is a confirmed opponent development." of capitalist democracy, even of Fortunate for whom? Certainly Between Formal Logic and the Daladier type. He used to not for the natives of North Dialectical Thinking." The lecdeliver fiery denunciations of Africa who had no voice in the ture will begin at 8:15 p. m., with the problems of women in need. democracy to his troops during selection of their ruler, and who Wednesday. January 13. The ses- industry, would do far more good the regime of Daladier.

2. He is a rabid "anti-com- of the French colonial exploiters. sity Place, on the second floor. munist," that is, a foe of the Certainly not for the Soviet workworking class and trade unions. ers, nor for the American work-3. He is a bitter enemy of the ers, nor the German workers 25 cents for single lectures. Soviet Union-on whose side he who hope for real democracy once is now supposed to be fighting- Hitler is defeated.

working in factories today are 116 University Pl., New York forced to leave their young chil- Finch of Kationing City, has just concluded one of dren home alone to fix their own meals and attend to their own the most successful sessions in needs. Sometimes there is a neighits history.

The School offered one lecture each on Wednesday and Friday evenings, with time devoted to full discussions parti- shown a sharp increase since the methods. beginning of the war — naturally

cipated in by the students. result. C. Charles gave a course on 'American Economy at War" in which he covered the historical background of American economy, the development of American

and international cartels and working mothers appreciate a goods. Acute shortages of beef monopolies, patent pools, the gov- discussion of standards applying and dairy products are reported ernment and the war economy, price control, wage freezing and but right now their first problem inflation.

The attendance at Charles' lectures averaged 55 students per they can afford. lecture.

John G. Wright was the instructor of the course entitled 'Colonial Peoples and the Second which was earmarked for care World War." The lectures covered the extensive historical material on the colonial question written by Lenin and Trotsky, the events of the Chinese revolution of 1925-27, and the background and prospects of the Indian Revolu-Therefore it is necessary that the tion. Attendance at this course averaged 45 people.

Students participated actively in the sessions of the school, and for more centers. freely asked questions on prob-Thousands of women are needlems which were not clear to them. Coffee was served after women need jobs. But until ade- mittees of unions, dirt farmers the lectures, and students new to the school were able to get better acquainted with those who dustry without great risk to the had attended previous lectures. -The second term of the school will begin on Jan. 13, when Wil- ed the demand for government- the masses and would have abliam * F. Warde will conduct a financed nurseries. At the recent solutely no interest in maintainseries of lectures on "The Ideas CIO convention a special program ing the profits of the capitalist and Method of Materialist Dialec- was adopted demanding local, class, the banks, landlords, raildiscussion on "The Differences care into immediate operation.

The Department of Labor and its various bureaus concerned will continue to feel the iron heel sions will be held at 116 Univer- if they devoted their energies to because they have more money. the carrying out of this program. There will be a charge of \$1.00 Immediate government funds for

for the series of 6 lectures, or the setting up of day nurseries - that's the need for working All workers interested are in- mothers today. What's holding up the works?

(Continued from page 1)

bor or relative who can help, but which rationing has been used, all too often children must be show that the wealthy are able left to shift for themselves. Ju- to evade the rationing restrictions venile delinquency, accidents, and through buying on the "black sickness - which have already market," as well as by other

Thus while the masses of Great Britain were and are hun-Altogether throughout the gry, the rich have found ways to country, child care centers for eat luxuriously.

working mothers are so few and It'is expected that other foods, inadequate that it seems fantastic particularly beef, will be rationto discuss room temperatures and ed very shortly after the estabproper ventilation. Certainly lishment of rationing of canned to the care of their youngsters, from many parts of the country. The brunt of the shortages are is to find a day nursery in the being felt by the workers and neighborhood, with rates which their families, many of whom have not eaten beef, butter or Virtually every city in every eggs in weeks. The well-to-do industrial area is in need of child generally are able to secure the care centers. The WPA appro- scarce goods by paying higher

priation of six million dollars ceiling prices. At the same time food prices of children of working mothers have kept right on climbing. In helped to alleviate the pressing the week ending December 22 need. But now that Roosevelt has food prices reached the highest ordered the liquidation of the point in 22 years, according to WPA, those nurseries are in Dun and Bradstreet, outstanding danger of being shut down. business statistics firm.

Rationing and pricefixing are government supply funds imme- absolutely necessary, but under diately for the continuation of the control of the government these nurseries, and finance a plan and the bosses they are frauds. Real rationing and price fixing

can be realized only under the ed in industry, and thousands of control of democratic mass comquate care is provided for their organizations, . small business children they cannot go into in- men and housewives.

These committees would have welfare of their children. Vari- as their only aims the improveous community groups have rais- ment of the living standards of roads, large stores and the mid-

> These committees will assure the workers of a chance to get their share of the goods they instead of letting the wealthy get an undue proportion

For a Rising Scale of Wages to Meet **Rising Living Costs**

of the workers's state to a war 4. He is a butcher of colonial

On the day following Giraud's

as Admiral Darlan's successor in tics." There will be six lectures state or federal funds or agencies North Africa is a fortunate on this subject, beginning with a to put plans for adequate child dlemen.

vited to attend.

JANUARY 2, 1943 —

The "LABOR WITH A WHITE BELD CANNOT EMANCIPATE ITSELF WHERE LABOR WITH A BLACK SKIN IS BRANDER" - KARL Negro Struggle By Albert Parker

Plant Discrimination and Army Searegation

Two Cleveland court cases, and to guarantee the observance which ended just before Christ- of such legislation.

mas, were among the most sig-The Office of War Information nificant trials to be held in 1942. has come out with a press release They revealed that employers are designed to show that Negroes practicing Jim Crow-as- are being inducted "fairly" into usual hiring policies and that the the U.S. Army, according to a Negroes cannot depend on either story in PM of Dec. 27.

the courts or President Roose-To make its point, the OWI velt's Executive Order 8802 to statement declares that although States had recognized Darlan as put an end to these discriminatory policies. population. Negro draftees and

Suit was brought against two volunteers constituted 10.1% of war plants, Warner and Swasey all persons inducted up to Oct. 31. Co. and Thompson Products, But that's like breaking down a charging them with refusing to door that isn't locked. The main fore the end of the war. The risk employ Negro women workers so- complaint of the Negro people of civil war in post-war France lely because of their color, and about their treatment by the arm- was great enough without making demanding that this practice be ed forces is not that they aren't discontinued. The court action drafted in sufficient numbers, but rift in the ranks of the French was organized at the initiative of that they are drafted on a segrethe Future Outlook League, a mi- gated basis, and are separated from white soldiers into separate litant organization which has been combating job discriminaregiments as though they were tion for many years, and the inferior because their skin has cases were heard before Common a different color. The Negro masses don't want

Pleas Judge Frank J. Merrick. Several Negro women testified against the plants' management. They told how they had gone to training school, learned machine shop work and in most cases been

100

commended by their teachers for the two companies for machine leadership of the U.S. Army was shop work. In each case they the Christmas Day statement rewere told that there were no jobs leased by General Eisenhower, for them, although the companies commander in chief of the Allied fore a proper formula would have was necessary first to permit of their ability to withstand Arctic were at that time advertising in Forces in North Africa. the papers for women workers needed for machine shop work.

At the beginning of the trial the lawyers for the employers said they would prove that no discrimination existed. But during the trial itself company executives were forced to admit that it did exist: their excuse for it was that the union or individual white workers had objected to emplovment of Negro women, a charge which was hotly denied by questions as the number of words the union officials involved. At it contains: "Does Eisenhower the end no one disputed the contention that the employers had have no reason to be proud of never even attempted to hire a single Negro woman for machine shop work.

The lawyers for the Negro women bringing suit also showed say it openly. And while he's at erased from the scene. The most that the plants had war contracts it, I wish he'd explain why it is important question of the moment with the government and that that the only kind of 'combat serv-these contracts — as provided in ice' for which Negro troops ap-around whom the ruling class of Executive Order 8802 - stipu- pear to be eligible is longshore- France and the French Empire lated that there must be no race men and laboring work. Why is discrimination in employment.

Nevertheless, the judge hearing the case refused to do anything about it and in effect de-

Thus for the first time

U. S. Moves In North Africa Strengthen French Reaction

By A. ROLAND The statement issued in connec-assassination did not prevent him period of the economic crisis, so tion with the execution of the from using calm political judg- it is now being applied in Europe

Deal for Europe.

The Allies one and all deplore assassin attests that he made a ment in permitting the suppres- for the purpose of saving world the assassination of Darlan-but full confession, naturally includ- sion of all information on the capitalism from revolutionary they are also breathing audible ing his motives. This confession, murder. He did not permit his "disaster" in the post-war epoch. sighs of relief. even the man's identity, were sup- indignation to becloud his poli-

There is deGaulle for example. pressed for reasons of "military tical aim for one moment. The no matter how seemingly un-He had worked himself into a real lather about democracy and to get into the public mind was process of achievement. The bent. Roosevelt knows that the ed the regime of Vichy-toadies-to- a fascist sympathizer-he had ning to close its ranks under the defeated in the war even if Hit-

laborating desk-Admiral Darlan. ing in Italy. De Gaulle could not suddenly reverse his course and stretch out | THE ASSASSIN

the hand of amity to this sinister It is of course possible that the figure just because the United youth was a fanatic fascist. There Negroes constitute 9.8% of the High Commissioner in North are plenty of followers of Doriot known to be in Algeria and North

Africa. Roosevelt had made up his mind, however, that the French ruling class must be reunited bea it more likely by virtue of a deep There would be no understand bourgeoisie.

able motive, particularly one in-Darlan had the inside track, far volving "military security," to more than de Gaulle, with the keep silent about a political the Russian weather that they very tops of the French capitalassassination engineered by theists-the Comite des Forges, the Axis. coal - steel - chemical - munitions The motive would however, be

trust. Roosevelt was aiming, figures showing that they are through Darlan, at these elements being drafted as fast as whites. so necessary to his post-war plans They want an end to Jim Crowfor Europe. The fact that Darlan was also very anti-British and pitated acrimony and added bit- were forced to retreat not because

therefore far more amenable to Typical of the extent to which American persuasion-as against their ability, and then applied to segregationist ideas permeate the the pro-British de Gaulle-had its points too. Had Darlan remained alive, it

was merely a question of time bebeen worked out to reconcile the everybody to save face and to get weather and more than a year's Eisenhower was praising the "Free French" with Darlan's together. De Gaulle could condemn time to improve their position. courage of U.S. Negro troops in Totalitarian French. His death North Africa who continued put- simplifies matters in the most ting high explosive bombs ashore highly pleasing manner. De Gaulle / need not eat crow. He

while under heavy fire. "Americans of the colored race saves "honesty and honor" in should be proud of the service of reaching out his hand, not to London with Giraud—and through their representatives in combat," he declared.

A Negro friend with whom I with the helpful consent of Dar- if the true facts leak out later on! discussed this brief statement said lan's lieutenants Nogues and that it raises almost as many Boisson. mean that non-Negro Americans Negro troops? That non-Negro

troops cannot be considered repesentatives of the Negro people? remain quite the same, even if the If that is what he means, let him | figure of one Vichyite has been it, if their behavior is such that

ism wherever it exists.

* * *

we should be proud of them, that gerous and dirty work to do?" No one, of course, expects Gen-

not invented by him, and the chief

When the Nazis occupied Bel-

Workers are boycotting the or-

Events will then have made impossible any new break, and the matter would pass off harmlessly. FDR'S TASK SIMPLIFIED POLITICAL CENSORSHIP Roosevelt thus finds his task The "military security" motive with this plan and capable of carvery much simplified. The criticfor secrecy thus may turn out to rying it out were shot by Stalin ism has already ceased. Nobody be more a political than a milicares to notice that the policies

tary motive. The military side ified only by their servility to the exists of course, since a new sharp Kremlin. The first great blunder, break between the Free French when Hitler attacked was massing and the ex-Vichymen who had great Soviet forces west of the previously clapped so many of the strong points, the so-called Stalin Free French in filthy jails to rot, line. They were surrounded and might have led to armed conflict. cut to pieces by the German Roosevelt's indignation at the armies fresh from their successes could rally under American lead.

they are given only the most dan- The Lessons of 1918-20

Soviet regime, and showed them

demobilization.

nied that anything could be done about it through the courts. No one, of course, expects Gen-eral Eisenhower to answer such questions. Army Jim Crow was **Broke Attacks On Soviet**

Behind The Dispute Over The Darlan Deal

- THREE \

deal with Darlan is perhaps dic-

It is the attitude towards the

Darlan affair taken by the sincere

Marxists. Their feelings have been

possible that those who lead such

a war can so easily come to an

By M. Morrison

The deal entered into by Gen- is so whole-hearted that they are eral Eisonhower (naturally un- willing to be more than charitable der the direction of the admin- in their judgment of anything Toward this aim, every event. istration) with the late Admiral done by the government. The Darlan has, for various reasons, Stalinists must, however, consider security." The impression allowed first phase of that aim is in toward for the purpose, will be aroused apprehension and critic- the outraged feelings of the sinism, both here and abroad. The cere liberals and progressive workfreedom. He had bitterly denound nevertheless that the assassin was French capitalist class is begin- United States will have been English conservatives as well as ers who object to dealing with an the English liberals, the Stalin- avowed enemy of democracy. Their the Nazis, especially the col- corresponded with his mother liv- guidance of the leader of the New ler is crushed, if that is followed ists and many American liberals criticism is also motivated by the have indicated their opposition to consideration that Darlan and Just as the New Deal was ap- rope. The war aims of the United any arrangement with one who, those like him are bitter enemies only a short while ago, was den- of the Soviet Union. Their gingerly approach to the

capitalism from disaster in the events in North Africa.

Red Army Wins Africa. The assassination might then have been in the nature of warning by the murderous **New Victories** Nazis to any others thinking of turning their coats that their fate would be the same. But in that case, why do the North African authorities keep the facts hidden? (Continued from page 1) in the Lowlands, France, etc.

It was evident from the first

that Stalin was deploying the Red that is, according to the legend, find themselves so ill-equipped for Army according to no general must beat a disastrous retreat. General Staff under Tukhachev-He overlooked the fact that as long ago as the first World War | sky.

quite clear if the assassin were the imperialist armies refused to a Free Frenchman. But revelation follow the example of Napoleon, armies turned from the offensive to the defensive and they applied but not the British. of that fact might have preci- but entrenched themselves and the military strategy applicable to these regions which Trotsky of the bitter Arctic frost but beand Tukhachevsky had conceived. the Frenchmen of London-Mada- cause of the scorching breath of revolution. Stalin himself has been compelled to drop the Napoleonic pattern of defeat of the German This would spoil everything. It armies after one winter's proof wintering in the Baltic countries dissatisfaction takes the form and even in Germany far beyond mainly of a half-hearted defense

> soldiers recuperated, armaments for summer when the weather their American brothers is a refwould again permit them to move forward. At the key points, strong British ruling class. forces were left well entrenched,

supplied with food and ammuniiety is assuredly not caused by tion enough for months of siege. The bitter weather thus favored any concern with the fact that a their defense as it would have deal has been made with a friend as against Darlan. For revolufavored the Red Army had Tukha- of Hitler and an enemy of democchevsky's plan been carried out racy. They would scoff at those tion of supporting the colonial successfully.

precisely when Hitler was shout- | er of Hitler is contrary to the Gaulle. Our demand of the Rooseing the loudest about capturing democratic purposes of a peoples' velt administration is not that Moscow and Rostov the German war and therefore impermissible. armies were actually taking their | Their concern is solely for their | recognize and accept the right of positions for retreat to winter quarters.

Stalin capitalized on the retreat by making out it was due to huge that France and the French colo- sor after his assassination shows ounter-offensives.

However, the German troops at to American influence. In the word to say about the question Staraya-Russa remained cut off support that the English reaction- of the form of their government. for 12 weeks without surrender- aries give to de Gaulle as against If this is a war for democracy, ing; none of the key points with the American arrangement with then it is the kind of democracy the exception of Mozhaisk were Darlan we can see more evidence from which the people of the retaken. When Spring came the of the fierce rivalry raging be- French colonies are excluded. German armies used them for tween the English and American advance bases. Even if a key point monopoly capitalists underneath

284 Tremont St

cy, 238 2nd Ave. South.

near Court House.

St. and 7th Ave.

Aves.

Sutter

Fourth

81 Third

east corner.

near Chapel

stand, 11 Springfield Ave.,

News Depot, 106 Church St.,

stands north west corner of

Lenox Ave. and 125th St.

and at the northeast corner

of Lenox Ave. and 135th St.

Newsstand, corner of 38th

St., between 4th and 7th

Aves.; Newsstands on 42nd

St., between 4th and 5th

Rochester - Newsstand, Main

San Francisco — Duncans

Smoke Shop, 1986 Sutter.

Ray's Smoke Shope, 1174

Fitzgerald News Agency, 21

Golden Gate News Agency,

MacDonald's Book Shop,

867 Mission Street.

St. and Clinton Ave., south-

The most important aspect of the support given by the ad-Whatever independent role ministration to Darlan and his mans, for these key points also France played prior to the war is successor is that it furnishes us now gone. Its ruling class is di- with an almost certain indication German monopoly capitalism, an- tary forces succeed in cracking other tied up with English capi- Hitler's military power. The Dartalism and a third with American | lan deal shows that the Roosevelt government will not hesitate to support with military force and The criticism of the Stalinists with food, any government in s also modulated. Their support Europe willing to do its bidding. It is quite probable that Roosevelt would prefer to support a democratic capitalist regime in any country in Europe. Support of such a regime would free him from criticism from the left. But his aim and the aim of any government that will exist at the time of American occupation of Europe Chicago - Socialist Bookshop, is not to establish capitalist Room 421, 160 N. Wells St. democratic regimes but to establ-Detroit-The Saturday Bookish and retain "order." The major shop, Room 5, 3513 Woodconsideration of Roosevelt and ward Ave., open Saturday his followers in making the deal evenings from 6 to 9 o'clock. with Darlan was that the latter Minneapolis - Shinder's News could deliver the goods. It is that Agency, Hennepin Ave. and consideration that will determine 6th St.; Pioneer News Agenthe conduct of any capitalist gov-

ish imperialists have not been democracy. They necessarily invery vociferous in their criticism volve themselves in an argument They selected certain key points of the Roosevelt administration, as to how far military considerawhich they were determined to for the simple reason that they tions permit an agreement between those fighting for democracy and dyed-in-the-wool reacmiles to the rear, large sections depend to win the war. Their tionaries. While sympathizing with the sincere liberals and progressive the reach of the Red Army. The of the arrangement with Darlan, workers we, of course, cannot That the English liberals have accept their premise. For us the were replaced, munitions stored, been more loud in their criticism deal with Darlan was not bad bearmies reorganized in preparation of the deal with Darlan than cause it violates the principles for

which this war is ostensibly being fought. It was simply another lection of the state of mind of the indication that the monopoly As far as the English conservcapitalists are not fighting a war atives are concerned, their anxfor democracy.

For critical liberals it was a question of supporting de Gaulle tionary Marxists it was a queswho proclaim the principle that people of the French colonies Facts now available show that a deal with a reactionary appeas against both Darlan and de he support de Gaulle but that he imperialist interests. They saw the natives to determine their in Darlan's close tie-up with the own form of government. The American forces an indication appointment of Darlan's succesnies have completely succumbed that the natives have not one



Red Army generals acquainted

and replaced by bureaucrats qual-

your comrades that we wish them

heard of these revolts. They,

followed suit. The immediate

without arms."

Darlan, but to his fellow-Gen- him with Nogues and Boissonstrategically placed west of the eral, Henri Honore Giraud, chosen having once been well begun, what vital Moscow-Kharkov-Crimea line. Upon attack, troops west of these points would retreat carrying out delaying actions, exchanging space for time, while the country mobilized for the defense. But the

THE MILITANT



It is necessary to understand tated by the fact that they are the reasons motivating the dif- not exactly in the best position ferent critics of the horse-trade to criticize deals with fascists. with Darlan. On our part it is Not so long ago they strenuousalso necessary to place the great- ly defended a certain agreement est emphasis on those aspects of between Stalin and Hitler which, the deal which can be least be- in the words of Molotov, was clouded by arguments dealing "sealed in blood."

with military considerations. British imperialists were not happy about the obvious willing- liberals and the workers who ness of Darlan to subject himself believe that this war is really one to the control of the American for democracy, that deserves the strategic plan or at best misapply- military leaders. It has been re- closest attention of revolutionary ing the plans of Trotsky's original ported that Giraud, Darlan's successor, at one time definitely outraged because, believing that

stated that he would work with this is a war for democracy, they When winter came, the Nazi (by that he meant that he would are unable to explain how it is take orders from) the Americans, As is to be expected, the Brit- agreement with an open enemy of

defend. The bulk of their armies cannot afford to antagonize the then retired some hundreds of power upon whose support they

court confirmed the often-made charge responsibility for its continuation that Executive Order 8802 is does not rest on him. But Negro completely toothless and ineffec- and white workers certainly have tive. the right to address such ques-

Also confirmed by this court de- tions to Washington, and to decision is the necessity for carry- mand answers to them. They also ing on a militant struggle to have the duty, as well as the force the adoption of really ef- right, to organize for an end to fective anti-Jim Crow legislation all forms of segregation.



By BETTY KUEHN

On December 21, the National | support not only among the 'Hird' Congress party of Ceylon passed (native) storm troops, but even a resolution calling for "freedom | in the army of occupation. Dozfrom Britain after the war in- ens of German officers have been stead of dominion status" accordshot, and hundreds of German ing to the December 22 New soldiers are in concentration York Times. camps for treasonable coopera-

This is especially significant in tion with the underground opview of the fact that the Ceylon position." Congress party is considerably more to the right than its counterpart, the Indian National Congress party.

all trade unions and other work-In India, where the Bolshevik- ers' organizations and formed a Leninist party of the Fourth In- "unified" organization called the ternational was founded as late Union of Manual and Intellectual war. It was the Bolsheviks who as 1941, many revolutionists are Workers, But the UMIW has been educated the French soldiers and still in the Congress party. In | a failure, according to the Bel- sailors as to the real nature of the Ceylon, however, the revolution- gian News Center release of Deary party, the Lanka Sama Sam- cember 19. aja (Fourth International), has been functioning effectively since ganization and are selecting their 1935. It has drawn the revolu- own men to negotiate with the tionary elements into its own factory owners. They also have acknowledged leader of the toil- duces several widely circulated ing masses. It was outlawed by newspapers.

the British in 1940.

The following item was report-Another Ceylon Congress resolution 'urged "the United Nations | ed from Asuncion, Paraguay in | ically invaded the workers' quarto make an immediate declaration the December 28 CIO News ters, the cantonments and the guaranteeing freedom for Cey- through the Stalinist-controlled ships." (Andre Marty, "The Re- when they fight against exploit- ist foe. It was due, says Marty, to lon." These resolutions reflect news agency ALN. the pressure of the Indian events "In an attempt to disrupt growof the past year on even such a ing unity between organized laconservative party as the Nation- bor and anti-Axis groups within al Congress. They also give an the army and the administration destine printing press, which put ered morale considerably. Fraindication of what is going on be- of President Higinio Morinigo, out a special journal for the ternization at that moment was cretized their discontent in the methods of warfare utilized by hind the curtain of censorship in Paraguayan fascists and their ac- French soldiers and sailors called already attained." complices in the Asuncion police

Ceylon. * * *

The lie that all Germans are dred union leaders and beat up ler, is refuted by the following of Asuncion." item in the November 15 Bulletin of the International Federation of Trade Unions which re-

ports from Norway: "It is significant that the op- gotten, the real way to fight fasposition movement is finding cism is forgotten.

azines, penetrated the canton-tured us you would have shot us. perform the function of advance By MIRIAM CARTER

terness in the relations between

gascar-Brazzaville and the French-

and Vichy

men of Dakar and North Africa-

The signing of the armistice with whom contact was establish- We know what your chiefs are on November 11, 1918 was ed by the party organization, and worth, who are your enemies as in ample time to prepare for acgreeted with joy by the French who each day found ingenious well as ours. Here are your tion and to avoid being taken by people, as it was by peoples all new devices to get the literature weapons. You may go. And tell surprise. to their ranks.

over the world because it meant Another means the Bolsheviks no harm. We are even prepared to used to spread their ideas was receive them as brothers, but on thrilled the world and awakened to them an end to the meaningless slaughter and suffering of the telegraph. "Radiotelegraph- one condition-that they come the First World War. Their ists of the Black Sea Fleet," says celebrating was cut short, how-Marty, "every morning at three ever, when, by order of Clémenreceived long telegrams from ceau several French divisions Moscow in French, German and and ships were sent to Russia English. . . Although the exact to attempt to crush the young meaning of the word 'Bolshevik' workers' state, whose very ex- often escaped many of them, an ardent sympathy developed rapidistence was a threat to the imly among them for the men who perialist rulers.

expressed so well their sentiments The French troops and fleet in leaflets and on the radio. The were concentrated, mostly, in the repeated appeals 'Form Soviets! Black Sea region. Together with Return to France!' were under-Poles, Serbs, Greeks and White stood by a greater and greater Russia!" gium they seized the property of Guards, they occupied the Rusnumber of sailors." sian coast along the Black Sea.

> The French soldiers and sailors had no enthusiasm for this new illustrated in an account by one of the French sailors.

> > **RED FRATERNIZATION**

the way to realize their desires: peace, the return to France, and "A group of French sailors were stationed on guard in a city. The Bolsheviks were forced to A small detachment of Red work underground, since this ter- troops passed. Very simply they ranks and, indeed, became the an underground press which pro- ritory was in the hands of the came and shook our hands. This REASON FOR VICTORY counter-revolutionists: With the gesture toward us who fought White Terror hounding them them a few days before touched

> in Russian and in French period- a little Russian engaged them in volt of the Black Sea" p. 86) BOLSHEVIK PROPAGANDA The Bolsheviks had a clan-

"The Communist," in French, and

EFFECT ON FRENCH

force last week arrested a hun- innumerable leaflets, appeals, The first French regiment to small pamphlets in French, Polish alike, that they all support Hit- numbers of workers on the streets Greek, Rumanian and English. refuse to fight was the 58th. A reconnoitering party of this regi-Numerous handbills and procla-Its formulation is obviously de- mations were also printed and ment was met by the Bolsheviks, signed to make us forget the posted on the walls at night. disarmed, and made prisoner. The of seeing insurrections in France." state, there is the danger that connection of the police force Distribution of this literature was Bolsheviks questioned them, then with the State. When this is for- carried on, says Marty, in the freed them with the words, as "cities by children, who under described by one of the French the application of these Bolshevik

cover of selling cigarettes or mag-party, "If you comrades had cap-methods today.

here or there had been taken-as, the cloak of a joint effort to for example Mozhaisk, it still smite the common enemy. would not have defeated the Ger-

ments," or by soldiers and sailors But we say to you: You are free. patrols who via radio and airplane vided into three groups - one as to what can be expected in warn the main bodies of troops depending upon and supporting Europe should the American mili-

> Last year it was the defense of capitalism. Rostov and its recapture that expectations the German armies were faltering. When Spring of the Roosevelt administration

The news of the revolt of the came, the German armies opened 58th spread through all the regi- the campaign they had prepared Where You Can Get THE MILITANT Boston-Adelman's Newsstand

> center of attention. But the military balance sheet of its heroid defense cannot be drawn in full able to see what key points the Red Army has been able to recapture and what kind of campaign it has been able to prepare during the winter months to meet the new German offensive. The Nazi armies are meanwhile seeking to repeat their tactics of last winter. The outstanding fact, however is that Hitler has once again failed to attain his objectives, and has to retreat. The Red Army on the offensive. This advantage in the fourth year of the world dealing Hitlerism its death-blow. The German troops, extending their lines farther and farther.

the Soviet battlefields, are bound to be more and more susceptible to revolutionary ideas and genuine revolutionary appeals. This applies with even greater force to the all the workers.

Soviet offensives can be turned class consciousness, who con- into a general advance. If the aim to refuse to fight against Lenin and Trotsky are turned the Russian people, and who upon the German armies, the pushed them so strongly along the Soviet Union can gain the greatest revolutionary path that the gov- military victory in history. But so ernment was obliged first to bring long as the methods of Stalin them back to France and then to continue to weaken and undermine demobilize them rapidly, for fear the defense of the first workers' Hitler's army and his rear German imperialism may recuwould be disintegrated rapidly by perate and reinforce its war machine for another all-out offensive.

ernment in Washington. Delivering the goods means two things: to keep order, that is, to prevent the masses from taking power into their own hands, and to do the bidding of the American government. It can be stated with the utmost certainty that any government, no matter how reactionary, that is capable and willing to do these two things will receive the support of the American government.

It is quite probable that, before Hitler's armies crack up, Hitler and his closest associates will turn the reins over to some German generals for the purpose of making the best possible peace with the Allies and to prevent an uprising of the German masses. There will be no hesitation, we can be sure, on the part of the American government in supporting any reactionary regime in Germany if it can assure "order" and obedience to Washington's commands.

Even for those liberals and workers who support the war the task is to prepare for a struggle against the attempts of any government in Washington to prevent the masses of Europe from determining their own fate. No Darlan deal should be tolerated.

cause of the revolts in the flect lines. lying ready for battle at Seva- This year Stalingrad was th stopol were the demands of the officers that the sailors work Easter. The revolt rapidly assumed a different character. The until next summer when we are demands became, "Back to Toulon! No more war against

At the beginning of April the The story of how the fraterniza- French command received orders tion between the Russians and to evacuate Russia immediately. French was effected is best The evacuation took place in disorder, most detachments withdrew without officers. The soldiers marched through Odessa singing

"Bolshevik pamphlets and papers us deeply. One of us who knew ers and landlords. . . All the de-

the Internationale, wearing red ribbons, shouting "Long live the Bolsheviks. An end to the war!" possesses the advantage of being Many detachments left their stores and munitions for the Red Army. war opens wide the possibility for The fleet also was withdrawn from the Black Sea. The final

withdrawal of the French from South Russia was mainly due to conversation. One of them asked the methods the Bolsheviks used us why we treat them as enemies in battling against their imperial-"the persistent work of the Boltachments of Red Guards or Red shevik, of all the proletarians of all the workars soldiers who met French sailors the occupied cities, who wakened agitated in this way. This low- in the French soldiers and sailors from their present limited scope

ments. The French sailors too during the winter, conquered the Crimea. and rolled over Rostov toward the Soviet Union's oil

> Newark (Downtown) - News-New Haven — Nodelman's New York (Harlem - Newsspending their second winter on New York (Garment Area) -New York (Manhattan)-14th

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THE MILITANT

Published in the interests of th Working People.

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the main fortress of the world proletariat, against all assaults of world imperialism and of internal counter-revolution, is the most important duty of every class-conscious worker.

- LEON TROTSKY

JOIN US IN FIGHTING FOR:

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

The Meaning Of 1942 **Election Returns** The Associated Press issued on December 24 its

tabulation of final official figures on the Congressional elections. It bears out even more than earlier unofficial figures the contentions we have made concerning the significance of the election returns:

1. The total vote in the Congressional contests was only 28.111.583 - the lowest in any national election in 22 years. Allowing for population increases, it is the smallest vote in an even longer period. Only about 50 per cent of the eligibles voted. The votes were only slightly more than half of the 50 million who voted in the 1940 Presidential contest. In the last mid-term election -1938 — the Congressional vote was 36,203,133 - that is, there were in 1938 more than six million votes than this time.

These figures, however, only begin to tell the story. All observers agree that the middle class came out in force to vote this year -- certainly in greater numbers than in 1938. On the other hand, proportionately fewer workers voted than any other group, according to a survey by the Gallup poll, which has stated:

"Of four major occupational groups the Gallup institute's preliminary findings reveal that in proportion to their numbers professional and business people went in greatest numbers to the polls. Farmers came next, and then white collar workers. LABOR UNIONS TURNED OUT FEWER IN PROPORTION TO THEIR NUM-BERS THAN ANY OF THE OTHER MAJOR GROUPS." (New York Times, Nov. 24, 1942.)

These facts support our original contention that considerable proportion of the workers, especially the organized workers, found no choice between Tweedledee-Republican and Tweedledum-Democrat and voted with their feet.

The one important state and city where the workers had a chance to vote against both Republicans and Democrats and for a labor ticket - the American Labor Party in New York the ALP candidate for governor polled 18 per cent of the city and 10 per cent of the state vote.

Add it all up and it indicates the basic trend which is developing among the workers — away from the two capitalist parties and toward their own party an Independent Labor Party. And this trend is developing down in the ranks of the unions in spite of the fact that the top AFL and CIO leadership keep clinging to Roosevelt's coat-tails.

2. The trend toward the Labor Party is certain to be speeded up by the fact, demonstrated by the Associated Press tabulation, that control of Roosevelt's party is openly shifting to its most reactionary section, the "solid South." Of the 222 Congressmen elected by the Democrats, 118 - more than a majority - came from the thirteen Southern states! These Southern reactionaries will run the Democratic Party in the new Congress.

Even more significant of the relationship of forces in the Democratic Party is the fact that



The columns are open to the opinions of the readers of The Militant. Letters are welcome on any subject of interest to the workers, but keep them short and include your name and address. Indicate if you do not want your name printed. - Editor.

and Company.

AYC Offers Aid to Lift 'Militant' Ban Editor:

As the Chairman of the American Youth Committee, a group debacle. of over 500 members in 10 states. allow me to express my utmost

sympathy with you in your fight to have the post office ban on The Militant lifted. I disagree with most of your views, I am a pro-victory moderate socialist, but I believe that there is no reason to call

you seditious, or to deny your constitutional civil liberties. I will be glad to cooperate with

you and the CRDC in fighting Women Writers Are against the Post Office ban and gaining the freedom of the Min-Praised for Work neapolis teamsters. Editor:

John Loeb, Chairman American Youth Committee La Crescente, Calif.

Elections Unseat CP in Local 302 Editor:

After 7 years of uninterrupted myself for her fine articles. job-control, the C. P. ticket was I have heard much favorable finally defeated in an election comment on the last 4 or 5 issues held in the Cafeteria Employees of The Militant. A Negro worker, Union, Local 302, two weeks ago. whom I met at the post office, One factor contributing to their contributed several dollars to help defeat was their sponsorship of a | along with the fight against supcontract providing for open shop pression. He has never been a wages and conditions. The decidsubscriber and never has been ing factor in the election, howreached by the distributions, but ever, was the deep cut in the knows of the paper and what it will vanish completely from this Stalinist vote in the chain stores. stands for. Many of their stalwarts have G. C. been drafted or lost to war in-

dustries and this was a big blow | Company Unions to the clique of Sam Kramberg **Beaten in Texas**

The Confederated Unions of America, organized in Chicago last October by the allegedly "independent" unions, got off to a bad start here in Houston where their main strength used to lay in the Brotherhood of Welders, Cutters and Helpers of America, Local 5, and the two company dominated locals of the Independent Metal Workers Union. These last two locals were separated for Jim Crow reasons and were definitely labeled company union some time back. In a recent election, however, the I have been pleased and proud workers in these locals voted to of the articles which our woman join the CIO's United Steel comrades are writing for the Workers. This was a body blow to the CUA in this territory.

> The CUA's only remaining strength here now is the independent welders union, an outgrowth of the struggle in the AFL for craft recognition of the welders. For a period they were really going to town in the Gulf area, but are now declining.

It looks like the CIO's Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers will soon take over this outfit and the CUA territory.

Metal Worker Houston, Texas

THE HOUSING CRISIS

War Workers Must Live in Shacks Under Dangerous Health Conditions While Millions Are Spent On Unnecessary Plants

By JOHN ADAMSON

DETROIT - The disgraceful condition of housing and health facilities in the Detroit area is now reaching the proportions of a national scandal.

There is such grave danger that an epidemic may break out in Wayne, Macomb and Washtenaw counties that even the public health officials are beginning to sound the alarm.

Spencer Gordon, Executive Secretary of the Willow Run Community Council has come forth with the announcement that health conditions in Western Wayne and Eastern Washtenaw counties, in the vicinity of the Willow Run plant of the Ford Motor Co. are "grave and menacing." Appearing at a meeting of the Committee on Defense Health and Welfare, Michigan Council of Defense, he reported that despite months of discussion, housing and sanitation for workers at the war plant are growing steadily worse. He informed the committee that warning of disease, reaching epidemic proportions, had been issued by the Wayne County Medical Society, Michigan State Medical Society and officials of the U. S. Public Health Service, but all to no avail.

workers of the "arsenal of democracy" must be constantly exposed to the dangers of disease and epidemic?

They haven't got the "critical materials" to build homes and supply water for the workers, but apparently there is plenty of "critical materials" to construct huge, sprawling and wholly unnecessary plants which are handed over gratis, free of charge, to these same billionaire corporations. There is scarcely a large corporation in Detroit that has not built new plants or "addi-

The Four Freedoms Have **A Double Anniversary**

By JOHN BATES

January 6 is a double anniversary for President Roosevelt. Two years ago on that date he first formulated his "Four Freedoms." The first of those freedoms was freedom of speech which, according to FDR, was to apply "everywhere in the world."

January 6 also marks two months to the day that the Roosevelt administration moved against a working class paper. It was on November 6, 1942 that his Post Office officials suppressed The Militant by refusing to send it through the mails.

In the brief two years since the first appearance of the four-freedoms slogan, the colonial peoples living under the British, French and Dutch empires have been officially excluded from these rights. Roosevelt pleads "military expediency" for the betrayal of these democratic slogans abroad. He can offer no such alibi for his suppression of working class opinion at home.

WLB Decisions Reveal **Infamy of Labor Leaders**

By EDWARD HILL -

In recent weeks both AFL and CIO International union leaders have attacked the delays and red tape of the War Labor Board. But the most significant fact in the mounting anti-labor record of the WLB is never mentioned by the top union officialdom. That important fact is that the labor representatives on the board have been cravenly casting their votes along with the employer and "public" members in several anti-labor decisions.

The most flagrant recent case of the betrayal of workers' interests by the labor representatives on the WLB was the unanimous decision rejecting the demands of 32,000 transport workers of New York City, and ruling against the WLB taking jurisdiction in cases involving government workers.

Two CIO unions and one AFL union had united to demand that the WLB take jurisdiction in the case of the New York transport workers, and the Newark, New Jersey municipal workers.

The AFL and CIO conventions held recently both passed resolutions demanding that the WLB take jurisdiction in the cases of government workers. The CIO convention specifically demanded that the WLB grant the wage demands of the New York transport workers.

Van D. Bittner and Delmond Garst were the CIO members on the WLB on this case. George Meany and Matthew Woll were the AFL representatives. Despite the mandate of the AFL and CIO conventions these labor "leaders" voted with the employers against labor in this case. Not one of them so much as opened his mouth publicly against this anti-labor WLB decision.

When Meany and Woll in December 1941, voted with the employers against the United Mine Workers in the captive mine dispute, CIO President Philip Murray correctly called their action "arch treachery and treason to labor."

Meany and Woll were arch traitors in December

Minneapolis, Minn.

paper. Please offer my congratulations to Eloise Black, Miriam Carter, Marie Taylor and Betty Kuehn. I have congratulated Larissa Reed many times

'Victory Ticket" which opposed the Stalinists, had no real program and has not committed itself to an unrelenting fight against the bosses for decent

wages and conditions. Food Worker New York City

There were only 3 out of 12 Editor: candidates for paid office on the C. P. slate who survived the The unfortunate aspect of the election was the fact that the

No Tax On Wages!

On January.1 the new 5 per cent "Victory Tax" went into effect. This tax is a real "Victory" for the rich.

From now on every worker will be forced to pay 5 per cent on all wages over \$12 a week. This will be deducted automatically from his pay check by the employer.

By this means another chunk is taken out of wages which have been frozen despite the constantly rising prices of necessary commodities. This is in addition to the already exhorbitant taxes on low incomes, and the hidden taxes on commodities and services which hit the workers harder than any other section of the population.

To make sure that the tax soaks the poor, but allows plenty of loopholes for the rich, the law provides that a wage earner cannot deduct insurance payments, donations to charity, and the like, from his taxable income. However, the businessman is generously allowed such deductions.

But the claim is that the "Victory Tax" is the most democratic of all taxation. It applies "equally," says the administration, to all citizens, rich and poor alike.

Whether you earn \$15 a week or \$1000 a week. you have the "equal" duty to pay 5 per cent over \$12 a week to the government. Thus, a man earning \$1000 a week will have to struggle along on a little over \$950 a week. . . provided he is not able to make enough "deductions" to get around the payment of the tax. The man earning \$15 a week, will have the "equal" right to get along on a little over \$14 a week.

While this tax adds another pill to the bitter medicine the workers have been forced to swallow, the administration's promises to limit the incomes of the wealthy have been proven to be nothing but frauds. The \$25,000 ceiling on incomes has been exposed as a fancy piece of demagogy. With the bountiful aid of the government, the war profiteers are piling up unprecedented wealth, and the tax program is deliberately planned to protect their profits.

The workers, on the other hand, must not only work under speed-up conditions, deprived of many of their fundamental union rights, but must pay for the "privilege" out of their already frozen wages.

The Victory Tax is another vicious attack on the workers standard of living,

No Tax on workers wages! Abolish the Victory Taxl

outside the solid South that party polled majorities only in eight states, and those were small or sparsely-populated: Arizona, Maryland, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Rhode Island, Utah and Washington. This means that the bulk of the likely electoral votes for a Democratic presidential candidate is in the bailiwick of the Southern archreactionaries.

The popular vote is even more indicative. As against 50.6 per cent for the Republicans, the Democrats got 47.4 per cent of the popular vote. Yet this minority of the popular vote was enough to give the Democrats a narrow majority of the House of Representatives - thanks to the fact that in the thirteen Southern states the Democrats polled 76.8 per cent of the vote (including of course the eight poll-tax states where only tiny portions of the citizens can vote.)

All these figures indicate that while starry-eyed Wallace may still be making speeches, Messrs. Bilbo, Dies and their poll-tax gang are firmly in the saddle in **Roosevelt's party.**

When the new Congress convenes, they will show who is running things. One bitter lesson after another during the coming year at the hands of these Democrats will teach the workers that they can expect nothing but blows from Roosevelt's party.

Foreseeing the workers' disillusionment with the Democratic Party, some of the more far-seeing Republicans are trying with might and main to refurbish their party with a pseudo-liberal coloration. Willkie is the outstanding example. Moreover it is reported that Willkie, in the event that he fails to re-upholster the Republican Party, is playing with the idea of a third party.

We are confident, however, that neither a redecorated Republican Party nor a new catch-all capitalist party will get the workers when they turn their backs on the Democratic Party. The time is ripe — indeed, rotten-ripe — for an end to company unionism in politics.

This time the workers are already beginning to sense the basic necessity, not only to turn away from Tweedledee to Tweedledum, but to step forward with their own party, an Independent Labor Party. That is the plain meaning of the fact that millions of workers, refusing to choose between the two capitalist parties, simply voted with their feet in the November elections.

Plans "Came to Nothing"

"There have been innumerable plans for extending water to the area from Detroit," Gordon stated, "but thus far they came to nothing.".

What is wrong? Who is responsible for this callous and criminal disregard for the health and lives of the war workers in the area that is called "arsenal for democracy?" People who do not think and venal newspaper writers have a ready answer: "bureaucracy," "inefficiency," "official bungling," "inability of county, state and federal officials to act in concert," etc., etc. These superficial explanations, however, are designed to hide the truth from the people rather than expose it.

Gordon himself revealed later on in his testimony why the innumerable plans and endless discussions have still not produced one particle of. action. "It is said by the War Production Board that critical materials cannot be spared for the purpose." At last we know where the bottle; neck is.

Is it true that we do not have the necessary "critical materials" to build the houses and install the necessary sanitary equipment to ensure the health and the lives of the workers in the "arsenal of democracy?" Is it true that the war

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tions" in the past two years, while the old plants are standing half idle. At the present time, the Budd Co. is building a huge new "addition" to its Detroit plant, while half of its old plant remains unused.

Plenty of Material — to Waste

The War Production Board found the critical materials to approve the building of the monster Dodge plant outside of Chicago, the "largest plant in the world," one section of which, it is stated, occupies over 50 city blocks, while whole sections of the Chrysler Corporation plants in Michgan stand idle.

Gordon revealed in his testimony that unsatisfactory housing in the trailer camps and shack settlements about the Willow Run plant, as well as lack of restaurants and facilities for recreation had caused a turnover of nearly 100% of the working force at the Bomber plant.

"The women were compelled to walk a mile and one half to the nearest restaurants or hot dog stands. Thre was no recreation of any type available. Most of them wearied of the life and quit their jobs to drift elsewhere."

(Of course, the officials of the Ford Motor Co. do not have to worry about this problem any longer. Victor Reuther and Gus Scholle of the CIO have generously consented to "freeze" the workers to the job.)

Upon receiving the foregoing alarming report, the Defense Council committee got into immediate and decisive action: they authorized their chairman, John D. O'Connell, who is also direotor of the Michigan Department of Social Welfare, to petition the Commanders of the Wayne and Washtenaw County Citizens Defense Corps to appoint a committee to study and report on problems of health in the Willow Run neighborhood.

And they call it "Detroit the dynamic!"

1941, and they are still guilty of treason againstlabor in December, 1942. To their ranks are added Bittner and Garst.

Suicides Declining As Mass Murder Increases

By GRACE CARLSON

One more glaring example of the utter inability of the U.S. ruling class to provide peace, freedom and plenty for the American working masses is shown in a recent Statistical Bulletin of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company.

Listed as a "beneficial by-product of war" is the fact that the suicide rate in the United States has dropped sharply since this country entered the war. A similar fall in the suicide rate was also observed in World War I when there was a 50% drop in the U. S. rate of suicides from 1915 to 1920.

How can war, with its awful weight of suffering and sorrow, stay the hands of thousands of individuals bent on self-destruction? Because, says the agent of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, "The demands of the military forces for material cause a sudden spurt in production and money incomes," which, in turn, creates a "more favorable mental outlook."

In its times of peace-rather, in the periods between its wars-the dying capitalist system is wracked by financial crises, depressions and colossal unemployment problems. As a result thousands of sick. cold, hungry workers are driven to suicide each year. Now the Metropolitan Insurance Company finds cause for gratification in the fact that workers have stopped killing themselves by the thousands to take part in the war program, in which they kill each other by the millions!

Although the number of annual suicides has dropped to almost one-half of what it was in the depths of the depression ten years ago, there are still 18,000 suicide deaths in this country. It is estimated that an additional 100,000 unsuccessful attempts at selfdestruction occur annually.

"It is a melancholy thought that considerably more than 100,000 people in this country, each year, find life so hopeless and cheerless that death seems preferable," says the statistician of the insurance company who is distressed because the premature deaths of so many workers means a loss in profits to his company.

Socialists, who are genuinely grieved by the "hopeless and cheerless" outlook that leads to so many suicides, are organizing to end the capitalist system, which is primarily responsible for the wastage in human life represented by suicide deaths, as well as for the far, far greater loss of life in capitalist wars.

