

THE MILITANT

PUBLISHED IN THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKING PEOPLE

VOL. VII-No. 9

NEW YORK, N. Y., SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1943

FIVE (5) CENTS

NEW ANTI-SOVIET MANEUVERS REPORTED

Gandhi Fast Exposes Real Aims Of British In India

By Felix Morrow

The British government's refusal to release Gandhi from prison, in the face of his readiness to die as a protest, has undoubtedly served to clarify the fact that British imperialism has no intention of granting India independence

By ELOISE BLACK

the demand of the women work

forward a series of grievances on

been seeking arbitration for

According to the union, Local

women, and the spirit of solidarity

The militant action of the sonally.

several months.

under any conditions.

The Cripps Mission did American capitalist press — pretended that he had gone to offer independ. Aid in Defense of Minneapolis Militant ence "after the war."

But the confusion sown by ing during the ensuing year. For one thing. Churchill, over-confident at the results of the British repressions in India and the "United Nations" successes in the war permitted himself to crow too Union Strikes to soon when he boasted in November: "We mean to hold our own. I have not become the King's Win Equal Pay for First Minister in order to preside over the liquidation of the Brit-ish Empire."

For another thing, the continuing resistance of the great masses of India, despite the bestial British repressions, has brought home to many the simple thought be dying under British gunfire Elizabeth, N. J., last week. and in British prisons if Cripps had offered them a real alterna-

Now the awful spectacle of the imprisonment has undoubtedly job. crystallized a world-wide realization of the real aim in India of the British ruling class. What complete standstill when 1200 of practically directed the jury to kind of regime is it that dare not the 1400 employees in the plant bring in a guilty verdict in the release Gandhi? Obviously a joined the walkout in support of second trial.

a clever job of confusing Arguments On Postal Appeal the outside world, since Cripps — aided by the Will Be Heard In Spring Trade Unions Send Funds to CRDC to

MINNEAPOLIS, Feb. 21. - Defense attorneys last Monday filed briefs in the appeal to the Minnesota Supreme Court Cripps has been slowly dissipat- of the conviction of Kelly Postal, for many years secretarytreasurer of Minneapolis Teamsters Local 544. State prosecutors now have from 60 to 90 days to file their answering brief. The final oral argument before the Minnesota State Supreme Court

will probably be heard in late May or June of this year.

Kelly Postal was convicted last year on the trumped-up charge of 'embezzlement'' following decision of the members of Local 544 to leave the AFL and join the CIO in 1941. In collaboration with anti-labor state officials in Minnesota, Daniel J. Tobin, President

Women workers took the lead of the AFL Teamsters Internain a walkout at the Phelps that so many Indians would not Dodge Copper Corporation in tional, instigated the proceedings efforts to prevent the Minneapolis Complaining that their deteamsters from disaffiliating from mand of equal pay for equal the AFL.

work had not been met, 100 girl Postal's conviction came after aged Gandhi dying of hunger as employees in the field wire he had been completely exonerated his only means of protesting stranding section walked off the of almost identical charges in a from the first only in the amount

THE ISSUE AT STAKE

of misusing the union funds per

The Civil Rights Defense Con

It is now engaged in raising funds

The Civil Rights Defense Com-

mittee this week reported contrib-

Production was brought to a of money involved. The judge McNUTT'S ORDER

Land

The vital war role played by merchant shipping has always re-

Soviet Gains Continue



Maritime labor appeared this week to have lost a vital round On Beveridge Plan in its almost continuous battle of self-defense against the shipowner-dominated government bureaus. On Feb. 20 the War against Kelly Postal as part of his Shipping Administration, headed by the notorious Admiral "shoot-organizers-at-sunrise" Land, won complete control over **Tories**, Labor Heads the machinery of army deferment for seamen and their union Unite to Defeat officials.

Henceforth, both union leader and rank and file militants will be able to remain at their O

previous trial, which differed jobs only upon the sufferance of by War Manpower Commissioner Paul McNutt ends all this. Only the War Shipping Administra-

the right to request deferment

USSR Menaced By Finnish 'Peace' Move, Polish Plan, Vatican Plots

Charles and 26

Hard on the heels of the latest Soviet victories comes a new series of reports of anti-Soviet intrigues and maneuvers involving important forces in the democratic capitalist countries.

The reports this week centered around:

1. Finland, whose government is believed ready to desert the Axis in return for assurances that it will get Washington-London aid against the Soviet Union.

2. The Polish government-in-exile in London, which openly attacked the Soviet government on Feb. 21 and appealed to the capitalist "democracies" for support in its disputes with the Soviet Union on the ground that "at the Polish-Russian frontier not only the Polish problem is being decided but also the question of peace in Central and Eastern Europe, as well as the whole attitude of the Soviet toward democracy."

3. The Vatican, today the principal center where anti-Soviet elements from the Axis, the United Nations and neutral countries can meet and negotiate. American Archbishop Spellman was on his way to the Vatican, after a visit D-

to Franco, with "U. S. support," ments, on Feb. 17 noted editorially said Time magazine, for a Vati- that the Finnish government can plan for a reactionary Cenhopes "that our State Department will yet be able to save them from tral European coalition. the consequences of a Hitler

SYMPATHY FOR defeat" and appealed for a U.S. FINNISH GOVERNMENT declaration of war on Finland.

The whole discussion around The Finnish government will soon take steps to arrange a Finland is being carried on in the separate peace, and intends to capitalist press as though the equest the Vatican to act as go- issue were: Will the Soviet Union between if it is inexpedient for take a slice of Finland to either Washington or London to strengthen its frontiers strategicthe job, according to ally? ake

George Axelsson, newspaperman n Sweden who has contact with more deep going. Finland since Helsinki (N. Y. Times. Feb. 22.) 1918 has been an imperialist Washington has thus far refused | pawn on the borders of the Soviet to declare war on Finland, al- Union, and not the pawn of the though it is being used by Hitler German ruling class alone. Se as a base for air attacks on U.S. long as Finland remains capital. ships. And although Britain is ist it will remain a base from formally at war with Finland, which new imperialist attacks can Churchill was reported, while he be launched against the workwas in Turkey, to have held a ers' state. We are for the self-

adio on Feb. 19 broadcast a

strong denunciation of the Finnish

government. While not referring

to the reports of a Finnish peace

move, Moscow obliquely indicated

opposition to further British-

American negotiations with Fin-

land.

In reality the issues are far The British House of Com- conference with the Finnish determination of the Finnish peo-

ple but that can come only when Ever since the first rumors of it is an independent Soviet Fin-

Parliament Votes Down Move to Act

Labor Party Motion

By MICHAEL CORT

mons defeated on Feb. 18 a Laminister to that country. tion, through its Recruitment and bor Party motion demanding Manning Organization, will have the immediate creation of a a Finnish peace move, the N. Y. land.

regime which has no support at all within the country and which ers, and at the same time brought is ready to massacre tens of millions to maintain its totalitarian which they declared the union had rule.

WORLD-WIDE PROTESTS

That the true face of imperialist Radio and Machine Workers, adrule in India is becoming plain to justment of the women workers' unanimous vote of his union at a a large part of the world is indemand by the War Labor Board dicated by the protests demanding had been requested as long ago no time has Postal been accused Gandhi's release which are pouras October. ing in on the British government.

On the 14th day of Gandhi's fast, Feb. 23, the Executive Comdisplayed by their fellow workers mittee of the Australian Council of Trade Unions, representing the quickly brought a promise from is chairman and John Dos Passo the Board that the grievances entire labor movement of that country, cabled a demand to Churchill for the release of Gandhi.

after resumption of work. But the girls at Phelps Dodge to defray the legal expenses of found that it required the or- the appeal which will amount to The same day, in Chungking the ganized action of all of the work- about \$1,000. Central Daily News, known as an ers in the plant to force the Board

official spokesman for the Chinese to even consider adherence to this government, called for the immediate release of Gandhi by the principle.

British authorities. This declaration is particularly important as ers is not unusual; hundreds of Workers Defense League. New the first public expression of unions have been given the York; Fleetwood Local 15 of the Chinese solidarity with India runaround by the Board. On the CIO United Auto Workers, Desince the first days of the civil other hand the Board has been all troit; Local 2 of the Brewers too eager to intervene against the Union and Local 108 of the CIO campaign last disobedience August.

The British then took certain have appealed for assistance. punitive measures and the Chi-The Phelps Dodge fight is an and the Proletarian Club of Rochnese, dependent upon British-conencouraging sign that the women ester, N. Y.

trolled airports in India as the workers, who are replacing men All friends of labor are asked bases for air-borne supplies to in industry in such large num- to send contributions for the Kelly will now develop rapidly through-China, were compelled to become bers, can and will shoulder the Postal Appeal Fund to the national out the industrial areas. silent. For an official Chinese responsibility of defending the office of the Civil Rights Defense

(Continued on page 4)

interests and hard won gains of Committee at 160 Fifth Ave., leading editorial of Feb. 17 stated: labor.

Pioneer Issues Pamphlet On 'Your Standard Of Living'

Standard Of Living" by C. Charles, will be off the press and available for distribution within the next few days. Pioneer Publishers announced this week.

The pamphlet discusses wages, prices, taxes, profits, scarcity, the black market, etc., in the same lucid manner which has won fa- bundle orders. vorable comment for the author's Militant and Fourth International. Publishers. "West Coast Long-It concludes with an exposition of shoremen and the 'Bridges Plan'" the Socialist Workers Party pro- | by G. Thomas, was published on | University Pl., New York City.

A new popular pamphlet, "Your | gram to safeguard the workers' | the West Coast this month. The living standards. pamphlet-28 pages, 5 cents-With the cost of living rising which is reprinted from the Dec., steadily, food shortages spreading 1942 issue of Fourth International. and rationing being extended, is an analysis of the government's this new pamphlet should be as-Pacific Coast Maritime Industry Board and its effects on the strugsured of a wide sale among workers and housewives. It is 32 pages gles of the waterfront unions. It

long, has a well-illustrated front contains a new introduction which cover, and sells for 5 cents, with sums up the need for the Amera special rate of 31/2 cents for ican workers "to maintain the independence of their trade unions Another new pamphlet being free from domination or control

articles on these questions in The distributed nationally by Pioneer by government boards." Both namphlets may be obtained from Pioneer Publishers at 116

(Continued on page 2)

sulted in the deferment of active for the seamen. seamen from army draft. Previ-The McNutt order is couched in

This frame-up against Kelly ously the maritime unions were such general terms that the WSA empowered to make deferment Postal involves the important requests to the draft boards for will have great latitude for future question whether the members of moves against seamen and their a trade union have the democratic their own members, and to appeal right to decide for themselves the Selective Service if the local 441 of the CIO United Electrical, disposition of their union funds, boards disregarded their requests. since Postal simply obeyed the A Feb. 20 ukase handed down



BOSTON, Feb. 22. — The remain ashore for "essential adopening shot in what promises ministrative" posts may be defer- had been driven from Singapore, to become a new nation-wide would give the WSA the power to campaign against organized la- decide whether or not militant bor, was fired this week when union officials should remain in utions to the Kelly Postal fund 150 welders employed at Beth- "essential administrative" posts. to know what sort of a world The experience of these work- from such organizations as the lehem Steel's Fore River Ship- Only those union officials who yard in Quincy, Mass., were accepted government shipowner discharged for "absenteeism." the draft. This is the first mass firing

for absenteeism that has taken NEW SHIPPING RULES workers when employer groups United Retail & Wholesale Em- place in the country, but the ployees, both of Newark, N. J.; paign against this so-called rules which will also be imposed "irresponsibility" indicates that upon the seamen by the WSA. make similar moves against the workers Two days shore time is allowed for

> As the Boston Herald in its What happens there (Fore River)

any who may not have observed may establish a precedent for the rest of the country." The Boston with army induction. Post, also understanding the ac-This McNutt order was put tion, stated: ". . . employers all through with the greatest of seover the nation who are harrassed crecy, the maritime unions hearby similar problems gave three cheers and prepared to do likeing of it only a short week bewise." That the editors knew what fore its date of effect. The Seathey were talking about was farers International Union and evidenced by an immediate "work the Sailors Union of the Pacific, or fight" ultimatum given by the AFL, have announced that they Boston Navy Yard to its civilian will fight for its repeal and for employees, following Bethlehem the return to the unions of the Steel's action. deferment appeals.

The Quincy Patriotic Ledger The Seafarers Log, official organ ecause its patronage is almost of the Atlantic & Gulf District of exclusively from shipyard workthe SIU, called the order the ers, was forced to give a more "gravest threat" to union security accurate picture of absenteeism and announced that the fight . . the basis of the whole against it would be taken to Controuble is a lack of understanding gressional leaders. about the length of a work week

To date the Stalinist-dominated for industries. In addition to the leadership of the National Maritime Union, CIO, has taken no

public position.

government bureau to imple monopoly capitalists, has been ment the Beveridge Plan for clamoring for aid to the Finnish unemployment insurance and

post-war social security. and to appear every six months conservative Beveridge Plan, but for a review of their shipping refused even to explore any system an opportunity to create an in- "later date."

The brief history of this plan nen who resist union busting has served as an index to the fluctuating fortunes of the British for this alliance.

As for the noose placed around capitalist class. The plan was The Times editorial even offers the necks of union officials, here written by Sir William Beveridge the services of the American govis how it is done: The McNutt during the darkest days of the order says that seamen who empire, the summer and fall of class, declaring that "the Ameri-1942, when the British armies can Government, an ally of Russia which also maintains diplored IF the WSA requests it. This | Hong Kong, Burma and Libya. in a strategic position to act as The existence of the Empire was possible mediator.' threatened, and the British workers were restless and demanding **REAL MEANING OF**

FINNISH MOVES they were working and dying for In sharp contrast the Moscow

A NEW SITUATION

The Beveridge plan was meant to quiet the workers, to assure them that their sacrifices were not Big Business propaganda cam- tive with a new set of shipping in order to divert them from taking the revolutionary path, to them believe that the capitalists would voluntarily brins about a just and equitable society after the war.

> But now, when the time had come to vote on the plan, the situation has changed. The British them to the letter will be faced capitalists now feel sure of victory over their German rivals, and own workers' resistance to exploitation. They cynically disregard the vague promises they made about security for the workers, and vote against consideration of the Beveridge plan.

(Continued on page 2)

Next Week's Issue

of The Militant will contain a detailed report from Mexico of the recent final hearings in the trial of "Frank Jacson," GPU assassin of Leon Trotsky.

organ of the American SIKORSKI SPEAKS OUT

The Polish prime minister, Gengovernment. In an editorial on eral Wladislaw Sikorski, was en-Feb. 17 it stated: "Despite her couraged for the first time to The Churchill government, present alignment, Finland de- come out with a public criticism to Washington headquarters of organizations. For one thing, all which defeated the motion by serves our sympathy, for she is of the Soviet Union on Feb. 21. maritime personnel will be re- 335 to 119, not only was critical one of the small nations victim- This can be explained only by quired to register with the WSA of many sections of the entirely ized by the power politics of her the increasing anti-Soviet specumighty neighbors." Evidently the lation and discussion under way Times believes the Finnish gov- in London and Washington at of social security until some ernment is more to be pitied than the present time. censured for its alliance with

Sikorski has been known as the Hitler, and holds the Soviet Union | leader of the Soviet-"collaboraequally responsible with Germany | tionist" wing of the Polish ruling class, and has hitherto come under heavy fire from the anti-Soviet "collaborationist" wing which is ernment to the Finnish ruling dominant in Polish-American and Polish-British capitalist circles. Up to now Sikorski has deemed it. unwise to openly tell his critics matic relations with Finland, is what was in his mind, but he

result of the general atmosphere in London and Washington.

Sikorski said that "there are very great difficulties with Russia" at present. He "hoped" they could be overcome and that Poland's pre-war frontiers would be restored. In other words, Sikorski

wants to overcome "present difficulties" on his own terms. What these terms are was revealed on Feb. 4 by the well-



Why do American workers need their own independent political organizations? How are the trade unions becoming politically conscious? What is the significance of the recent elections and the pact for joint legislative activity between the AFL, the CIO, the Railroad Brotherhoods and the National Farmers Union? What is the attitude of the Trotskyists toward an Independent Labor Party based on the trade unions?

by a question and discussion These are some of the questions period, and refreshments.

which William F. Warde will The following Sunday evening, discuss in his up-to-the-minute March 7, the noted labor leader, talk on "Labor Party Prospects- V. R. Dunne of Minneagolis, will-1943," to be given Feb. 28, 8 P.M., speak on "Labor and the Four at the Sunday Open Forum, Freedoms." Second Floor, 116 University Pl., New York City.

union militants, will be followed is sponsoring the Forum.

Announcement of future lectures will be mailed on request by The lecture, which should prove the New York School of Social especially educational to trade Science, 116 University Pl., which

informed head of the Chicago The Stalinist Daily Worker, which has been strangely quiet for he most part on all these develop-(Continued on page 2)

now feels a little bolder as the In an interview with the press

dictated policy would be safe from

McNutt coupled his draft direceach week at sea, but not more than 30 days may be taken off at any one time. At six month in-

tervals the WSA will check the shipping records of all seamen and

- T W O -

THE MILITANT

| E. Marino, representative of the

and Shipbuilding Workers, who

stated that the discharges were an

attempt by the company to "keep

the Yard from being organized

by the CIO, which has been seek-

ing to become the bargaining

agent for the Fore River Yard."

Marino charged that the company

was using the charge of absentee-

ism as a "blind" for "improper

planning which caused lack of

The CIO also charged that two-

hirds of the ways in the ship-

vard were idle in spite of the

first priority that shipyards have

on all materials. These charges

appear to be well-founded, for

while the company loudly an-

nounced the mass discharges of

the welders, they were quietly-

laying off men from other de-

partments throughout the Yard,

In preparation for the discharges.

the company instructed the super-

visory staff a few weeks ago to

heck all workers for absentee-

ism, loafing or lateness, and issued

special record blanks for this

purpose. The company also an-

nounced at that time that the

third offense for any one of the

three items was punishable by

Aside from the first announce-

nent of the mass firings, the com-

pany has made no further formal

however, been represented by the

Workers, the company union and

inheritor of the old Employees

Representative Plan, which hur-

discharge and draft reclassifica-

COMPANY'S REAL AIM

especially in the boiler shop.

vork.'

A Short History A Program For Child Care New Anti-Union Drive Is Seen In 'Absentee' Case of 'The Militant'

By HELEN RUSSELL

The Biddle-Post Office attack

against The Militant is in reality active life, The Militant has been the expression of the aim, program where there are 25 children whose and organization of the Trotskyist mothers work in war plants. As-

party, presenting at once an suming that the nursery is cen-analysis and a call to action. It trally located, this means a halfis only in this light that workers mile trip for many of the women. can understand the full meaning Although this plan represents an of the administration's attempts advance on present conditions, I nurseries completely eliminate to silence this paper.

been the history of a continual can appreciate just what it means of a plant nursery automatically fight for the principles of interna- to take one or two small children adjust to the mother's working half a mile, frequently in bad hours. tional revolutionary socialism on two fronts; on one hand, against weather, before starting on a second trip to the plant. the capitalist system of exploitation, and on the other, against I vividly remember one dark the betrayers of the workers' morning when I had to maneuver

struggle for socialism. my baby carriage through an ice In 1928 The Militant made its storm. Turning a corner, I hit a first appearance as a result of the blinding north wind. I was forced increasing sharpness of the battle to walk backwards on the slick of the international revolutionary pavement and drag the coach after socialist position of the Russian me; I miscalculated, the coach left opposition led by Leon spun away and landed in a snow-Trotsky against the bureaucratic drift. I was trying to yank it out nationalist policy of Stalin. Though when a truck pulled up. The the points at issue may have ap- driver got down, helped me to free peared obscure to some, in reality the coach, and looked startled nursery; workers on the same the programmatic struggle in- when he saw my baby, just four volved the basic issue of whether months old.

the Russian Revolution was to "I'm not crazy," I said defenlive, grow, and extend itself sively. "I don't do this for fun!" throughout the world, thereby in-Ice storms are rare. A trin to suring its complete victory, or the nursery would not seem so whether it was to be undermined difficult if it were the only trip and strangled by the nationalist which a mother had to make. But non-revolutionary policy of the after she brings her children to Kremlin bureaucracy. the nursery it will take her anoth-

The Militant appeared after the | er half hour, even an hour, to get Sixth Congress of the Communist to the plant. At the end of 8 or receive immediate care in many International, when some Amer- 10 hours at the factory, a similar nurseries that are now open half delegates had returned job of double transportation awaits the day. The union movement ican determined to defend the Trotskyist policies in the Communist -at night, when stores are closed Party of this country and had or sold out—and cook the main lengthen the hours of these been either expelled or suspended meal of the day.

from membership. Trotsky had but was not yet exiled from the Soviet Union. All democratic illegally denied to him.

the Left Opposition which had been suppressed by Stalin, among which were articles by Trotsky in criticism 'of the Draft Program of the Comintern and Lenin's famous "Last Testament." The publication of such documents was a task of great historic importance and is one which the Trotskyist movement continues to carry on to this day in answer to Stalinist distortions of history.

At this period The Militant was therefore primarily a theoretical organ engaged in a programmatic battle with the Stalinist bureaucracy. Trotsky's article criticizing the Draft Program, which ex-

Trade Unions Should Demand Setting Up Of Nurseries Within the Factories

By IRENE JAMES

In Detroit there is a plan work-|Soviet Union: Nurseries at the directed against the entire ed out by the CIO Council's Com- plant itself! A still better plan Trotskyist movement. For through. mittee on Day Care of Children would be nurseries at housing out its close to fifteen years of with the Office of Civilian projects for mothers in industry, Defense, to set up a neighborhood | Pending such projects, the next nursery in every mile radius best plan is nurseries at the plant

PLANT NURSERIES

In isolated instances, nurseries have been established at plants in England, and a few of this type exist in the United States. Such think only a working mother who the problem of double transporta-The history of The Militant has had to cope with it herself, tion. At the same time, the hours

> By contrast, in a neighborhood nursery which cares for as many as 60 children, one mother will work on a 7 A. M. shift, another will go to a 10 A. M. office job. One gets through at three in the afternoon, another at seven in the evening. It is impossible for the

neighborhood nursery to adjust to all these schedules, and as a result the mother usually needs extra help before the nursery opens or after it closes. This problem does not exist in a plant shift have uniform hours. Through their unions, working

mothers should demand the organization of such nurseries, and put pressure on the federal government to cooperate with the workers in plans to set up and finance them.

It might, however, take several months to organize such plans and build the nurseries. In the meantime, neglected children can pressure on the government to

been expelled from the Comintern, answer to this problem in the to workers.

intensely interested New York served.

audience of well over 100 at the first of a series of Sunday Open sored by the New York School of which Forums, Felix Morrow, editor of Social Science, presents lectures liberals, like Pearl Buck, author, Fourth International, stated that on current topics every Sunday into coming out in support of the the first victories of the Red evening, 8 P. M., at its hall, second Army have already revealed the fundamental hostility between the capitalist states and the York. See Page 1 for announce-

Listing a series of anti-Soviet moves by the capitalist "friends"

WAR AND PRICES SC Ħ F WE SEPL OCT NOV DEC. JAN. FEB. MAR. APR. 1942

This chart, prepared by Consumers Union, shows that the cost of living has increased almost 22% since August, 1939; retail clothing prices 27%; wholesale prices 33%; retail food prices 40%; and basic commodities 42%. (Federated Picture)

Senate Sub-Committee OK's The 'Equal Rights' Amendment with the charge that the plan would "reduce the incentive to would "reduce the incentive to

By LARISSA REED

tee.'

A Senate Judiciary subcommittee has submitted a favorable report on the "Equal the labor movement.

sponsors of this falsely-named bill were delighted "with the tering industry, or to hire them rapidity with which it was re- at much lower pay. The argument ported out of the subcommit- then used by the bosses was that reports the N. Y. Times of women are biologically different Feb. 17. This bill is being rushfrom men, and therefore less ed through for adoption with the vigorous aid of a reactionary has brought about a change in the vigorous aid of a reactionary conditions. Now labor power is bloc in the Senate, both Democrat in such demand that there is talk of drafting women for industry. One Senatorial supporter declar-

done away with for good and all laws discriminating against womhas misled prominent declare there is no difference men, and launch their all-out assault upon legislation safeguard-What these people do not uning women workers.

The fact is that there is a diftion of this kind would cancel out | ference between women and men; | regard all protective legislation for the good with the bad. In fact, a very important difference. The women as "discriminatory."

this met with a flood of abuse in the British press, and defeat in Parliament. The plan was assailed as a step "along the road to Moscow." The London Daily Telegraph warned against "exces-

sive security" for the workers tion. and the N. Y. Times chimed in

nothing more than a rehash of

already existing social security

laws with the benefits for the un-

employed and the premiums

But even so mild a reform as

revised slightly upwards.

work. Chief among the opponents of the plan were the powerful Brit- statements. Its viewpoint has, ish insurance companies who

When the vote on the plan finally came, the capitalist class In the past we opposed the re- had succeeded in driving its labor actionary use made of this un- lieutenants into line. Although the deniable difference by the bosses official Labor Party, meeting in to discriminate against women. caucus, decided to press for ap-Today we oppose their equally re- proval of the motion for imactionary attempt to deny this mediate action on the plan, the difference in an effort to deprive key labor men in Churchill's govwomen workers of necessary leg- ernment sided with the Tory The wealthy and pampered Bevin and Home Secretary Herbert | that such a tremendous nation-

forward this bill at every Con- tion. Bevin and Morrison expounded gress for the past 20 years, frown on protective legislation for wom- the Churchill theory that the time pink slips would have solved the en, limited as it is: They, them- for social reform is after the eneselves, do not work in the fac- my has been defeated.

with the full exploitation of all consideration of the Beveridge women workers, out of which they Plan (the Labor Party has in- labor militants and organized and their boss-busbands derive the dicated it will continue to cam- labor in general. immense profits which keep them | paign for it), the prospects for its | adoption are extremely slim.

test case was made at an unor-But adopted or not, the plan ganized plant where resistance for unemployment insurance pay- would naturally be less organized ments will have little effect upon and less effective than in an orthe suffering of the workers under ganized plant.

and Republican alike.

Rights" amendment to the full committee, and the reactionary her. She is then expected to shop should lose no time in exerting

nurseries, lower the age of entry, The workers found a simple and make them more accessible

channels within the Comintern to 100 Hear Morrow Speak The first historic issues of The At First Sunday Forum

ed "that the hundreds of legal discriminations against women throughout the country should be

Speaking on "The Class Mean- After the discussion period was by an amendment to the Constituing of the Soviet Victories" to an concluded, refreshments were tion." It is true that many state

The Sunday Open Forum, spon- en are still in effect. It is this fact floor, 116 University Pl., New ment of next lectures.

Kuh, who said:

RULERS REALLY WANT

"It is known that Gen. Wladis-

law Sikorski, Polish premier, dur-

ing his recent visit to Washing-

ton handed President Roosevelt a

memorandum dealing with the

"What does Sikorski want? His

government in London is thinking

"Would that include East

Prussia, the whole of Silesia and,

in the West, a Polish frontier

future frontiers of Poland. . .

of creating a Greater Poland.

workers' state.







the real aims of the bill are to burden of pregnancy cannot be abolish all protection for women equally divided between women

in industry, achieved only after and men; nor the specific tasks many years of hard struggle by of a mother before, during and

islative protection. This need has brought a rightabout-face in the attitude of the bosses and their reactionary agents, both public and private. Whereas formerly they declared that women were different from men for the purpose of discriminating against them, now they tories. And special laws interfere whatsoever between women and

in comfort and idleness. They

annually reap hundreds of mil- Independent Union of Fore River lions of dollars from the sale of after pregnancy. This does not insurance to workers. prevent women from being fully

as efficient and capable as men ROLE OF THE in industry or in any other field LABOR LIEUTENANTS

ried to assure everyone, in long statements, that the company was wholly justified and that the company union supported the action. The CIO, although not recognized by the company, has taken up the case of the 150 men and is calling a mass protest meeting on Feb. 28 at Faneuil Hall in Boston. As most workers are aware, the real drive is not against so-called majority. Labor Minister Ernest misfits in industry. It is obvious

women who comprise the National Morrison took prominent part in wide campaign would not be Woman's Party, which has brought the debate and defeat of the monecessary to get rid of a comparatively few persons. If this were the employers' goal, a few problem. What is more logical is

that this latest action is the While this defeat does not end preliminary ground work for a new and intense drive against

It is not surprising that the

of the USSR, he quoted Lord Beaverbrook's admission that the Red Army had captured in two



months more equipment from the ploded the Stalinist theory of Nazis than they had received from building socialism in one country England and the U.S. since the and pointed out the criminal polistart of the war. tical mistakes-particularly in the The victories of the Red Army

Chinese Revolution - resulting from Stalin's policies, was later have caused panic not only WHAT THE POLISH published as a book, "The Third amongst the Nazis but among the reactionaries in the United Na-International after Lenin." Many tions who fear that the new confidid not see the issues clearly then. Only the blind can fail to see dence and high morale of the Red Army bodes ill for their plans to them now.

make a deal with Stalin guarantee-The Stalinist leaders, to be sure, ing them against a Socialist understood the issues even then-Europe. and their answer to the force of Morrow showed that only upon arguments of the Left Opposition

was the argument of force. Armed the basis of nationalized property bands attempted to terrorize could the Soviet Union conduct Militant salesmen, many of the desperate defense measures whom were beaten and had their involved in the "scorched earth" papers torn from their hands. policy and in moving entire industries hundreds of miles into bounded by the River Oder? Meetings called by the Left Opposition were broken up by the the interior.

Stalinist hooligans, using brass The stranglehold of the Stalin bureaucracy. Morrow stated, has knuckles and knives.

The Militant of the early period progressively weakened with every has many such reports of the new Red Army victory and its consequent rise of morale among to the 1919 Riga Treaty line emgangster tactics of the C.P. leadership. It also, however, served the Soviet masses. The Red Army bodying millions of Ukrainians notice to the Stalinist hooligans is fighting for a Socialist Europe and White Russians? that the newly-born Trotskyist as well as a Socialist Russia, he movement was prepared to defend | declared, and they will never subitself from physical violence by mit to any underhanded deal to in London nowadays." workers' defense guards. After preserve capitalism in Europe for the benefit of the very same imthese defense guards were formed. perialist powers that attempted to the reports of such violence grew overthrow the October 1917 rare.

Revolution. Appeals to the Communist Party A number of Communist Party rank and file to return to the members and sympathizers were internationalist position figured in the audience and participated prominently in the paper's in the question and discussion columns. As members throughout period which followed the lecture the world were expelled, they grouped themselves around The Militant. sending in letters stating

their agreement with the fundamental position upheld by the paper.

Thus the nuclear membership and the initial organizational structure of the Trotskyist party took form, with The Militant serving as a focus for the regrouping of the American revolutionary movement. A handful of people who clearly saw what was happening to the Russian Revolution under the bureaucratic grip of Stalinism united to form the Left Opposition. The Militant was founded as their principal weapon in this struggle, and through many changes in form and function it continues to be the expression of the workers' fight for socialism.

(This is the first in a series of articles on the history of The Militant.)

(Continued from page 1) tendencies are certainly heighten- PLANS." Sun's London Bureau, Frederick ing Russian suspicions.

'Equal Rights" amendment,

derstand is that blanket legisla-

SPELLMAN'S TRIP A second front through the Balkans is regarded with suspi-The same Time article, also serious consideration. . .'

cion by the Red Army because it notes that "the appointment of believes that it would be aimed Mussolini's son-in-law, Count Gaas much against the Soviet posi- leazzo Ciano, as Italian envoy to tion in post-war Europe as it the Holy See placed him in would be aimed against the Axis Vatican circles where he could mingle with envoys of nations at during the war.

war with Italy." THE VATICAN'S PLANS The Feb. 18 issue of the N. Y

An increasingly important role in anti-Soviet maneuvers is being assumed by the Vatican, which was named as one of the parties in the Finnish negotiations this

"The Church regards the spread Would Czechoslovak Teschen be of Communist doctrine and Rusincluded in this blueprint of the sian influence as its first probfuture Poland? Vilna? Would there be an 'independent' Lithuania Spellman's trip in Time magazine under Polish influence? And would of Feb. 22. This was demonstrated Poland's eastern boundary revert last Christmas when in his annual message Pope Pius XII condemned "the various forms of

Marxian Socialism" and failed to "Those are definite proposals even mention the word fascism. we hear from influential Poles "One means of opposing a Russian sphere of influence," the

week.

To establish such a Greater Time article continues, "would Poland would thus be at the expense of the Soviet Union. The 1919 frontier was forced upon the

young Soviet republic by world capitalist intervention.

other ideas are now in the fore- high places. Poland would be a front of the mind of the Polish northern anchor, Italy the southern



NEW ANTI-SOVIET COALITION SOUGHT

of the New York School of viously not be directed primarily Social Science against Germany, which would have to be defeated before a March 3, 8:15 P. M. federation could be established; "Laws of Dialectical its chief purpose would be to block

Logic" the spread of revolution. William Warde, instructor

Next Week's

Class

116 University Pl. New York

job of the war is not to be re-Times carried a dispatch from peated in another 25 to 50 years: Berne, Switzerland, stating that yet the American point of view "informed observers in Rome" will be only as authoritative as linked Spellman's trip "with the the military strength behind it. outbreak of a wave of rumors of This is not power politics but peace feelers and the manifest realism." And obviously "Amerefforts to hasten the accrediting ica's voice" will not have to be of Count Ciano to the Holy See." directed against the already

This is a diplomatic way of saying that Spellman will probably lem," says an article on Archbishop meet with Ciano just as he met with Franco on his way to Rome. "SERIOUS PROBLEMS"

a large Army may be "insurance Celebrations of the twenty-fifth against the possibility that a victorious Russia might dominate anniversary of the Red Army's the entire continent of Europe.' founding were held in several parts of Britain last week-end. (See page 3 for M. Morrison's The N. Y. Times of Feb. 22 rearticle on "Why the Reactionports that in Cardiff alone, more aries Are Worried About Soviet

than 23,000 people, chiefly coal Gains.") be a Catholic Federation, pivoted miners, joined in the celebration. on a Catholic Austria-Hungary, We can be certain that the Cardiff supported by Danubian agrarian miners were sincerely celebrating parties and possibly involving the Soviet victories; but there

exiled Otto Habsburg, who ap- were important forces in Britain Furthermore, Kuh writes, "two parently has potent friends in which were far from happy about these victories.

As Raymond Daniell reports government. One is a system of anchor of such a federation. But, from London in this same issue ederations. of Europe: a federa- should restoration of the Habtion embracing Poland, Czecho-sburgs meet with too great of the Times, the Anglo-Soviet slovakia and Hungary, and an- resistance from socialist Freemastreaty has not "completely eliminother emcompassing all the Balkan on Czechs and pro-Russian Yugoated fears, held in some quarters in the United States and Britain. slavs, an Eastern European Cathothat a complete Russian victory lic Federation might be contrived, in Europe will raise serious prob-

binding Catholic groups together lems for the democracies. . in a Balkan cordon sanitaire from Such a coalition would ob- Poland to the Mediterranean.

"These matters, and also the question of whether it is wise to "Invasion of Hitler's Europe may be aimed through the Bal- intervene with the opening of a kans. If so, one result could be second front immediately or to a misunderstanding with the Rus- wait until the Red Army is less sians, whose armies would be in of an irresistible force than at off and isolate the Soviet Union the north while Allied armies present, are discussed unofficially from the rest of Europe, to funcwere moving in from the south. in London and in Washington... The best hope of avoiding such MORE ON SIZE tion as an organized obstacle to

a misunderstanding is a complete OF U. S. ARMY

The other idea of the Polish rapprochement with Moscow. Lackgovernment, says Kuh, is "to ing that, the plans credited to the The Militant last week reported favor strongly the earliest pos Vatican appeared to be among the Arthur Krock's statement in the sible Allied expedition into the few under real consideration.HIGH Feb. 12 Times that the reason for Balkans so that American, British SOURCES IN WASHINGTON the general staff's decision to and Polish troops could reach REPORTED THAT AT LEAST build a U.S. Army of more than

Soviet Union at the "peace table;"

defeated Axis powers at that time.

A similar explanation is cited

in the Feb. 22 issue of Time.

which says that the proposal for

Capitalism is beyond patching throughout the country can only up with reform. It must be dis- mean there will be a follow-up as soon as the Red Army. These | BEEN GIVEN TO THESE | teract the post-war demands of the carded and replaced with a sound with a broader attack on labor. social system which will elimin- This is the real fight. The attack and his observation that "that ate the evils of unemployment by on absenteeism is merely the would be an aswer calling for abolishing unemployment itself. front.



Price \$3.00

Order from Business Manager

FOURTH INTERNATIONAL

116 University Place

New York City

(See next week's issue of this paper for a review of this volume)

KEEP MARCH 13 OPEN!

A real Italian spaghetti dinner will be served on that night from 6:30 on at 116 University Place. This feast will be prepared by a nationally famous spaghetti maker from Reading, Pennsylvania.

\$1 for complete dinner Entertainment & Dancing Free

Proceeds for CRDC

BRING YOUR SHOPMATES AND CONTACTS

Eastern or Central Europe at least SOME, U. S. SUPPORT HAD 10,000,000 men may be to coun-

Sponsored by SWP

Although this request is always

accompanied by the reasonable

material would help to reduce the

friction between white and Negro

soldiers-friction results from

the prejudice circulated by certain

officers, and the segregation prac-

ticed throughout the Army as a

whole-the administration has

Instead it has recently issued.

through the Office of War Infor-

nation, a handsomely printed, il-

lustrated pamphlet on "Negroes

and the War" - intended for dis-

tribution primarily among the

Negro people. Its purpose is not

to remove or counteract the re-

actionary prejudices spread

among white people — its pur-

pose is to explain to the Negro

people why they should support

The most important part of the

pamphlet is the essay which opens

it, written by Chandler Owen and

bearing the same name as the

pamphlet. Owen has been writing

along the lines of this essay for

over three years: therefore if the

strong, it is because he couldn't

arguments it contains are not very policies?

the war.

anywhere.

never done anything about it.



A Government Pamphlet On the Negroes

On at least a hundred occasions, should fight against rather than On at least a hundred occasions should fight against rather than bile Workers Union, CIO, the one local, the giant Ford Local the diministration has been re- what he should fight for, that it bile Workers Union, CIO, the one local, the giant Ford Local quested to issue a handbook or dwells on what the Negro would membership in a national ref- 600, with 715 votes. Of the 123 some other form of educational lose under fascism rather than erendum has rejected the Inter- locals giving a majority for the material on the Negro and his what he would gain by a United | national Executive Board's con- dues increase, only eight, includrights, for distribution among the Nations victory. white soldiers in the U.S. Army.

propaganda is by no means to 1,478. accidental. The reason is that The results of the referendum explanation that such educational

Owen and the Stalinists have were belatedly and inconspicuously nothing to offer the Negro masses announced in the Feb. 1, United in a positive sense. And since Automobile Worker, six months most informed Negroes do not be- after the UAW convention, held lieve that a defeat of Germany in Chicago last August, had voted by the United Nations will to hold the referendum. materially improve their pre-war The vote represented the first

conditions or that it will abolish opportunity since the last conven- against the increase, 35 had voting Jim Crow or unemployment or tion for the members to express even the threat of fascism at their attitude toward the leaderhome, this kind of propaganda is ship and unquestionably expressfated not to achieve its purpose, ed their discontent with the dowhich is to make the Negroes nothing policies of the leadership. enthusiastic supporters of the war. Passive and in retreat before the How can the Negro masses be posses and the government, the made enthusiastic about the war leadership could scarcely justify when they see that discrimination the dues increase by claims of in--as-usual is practiced and "white creased activity. supremacy" theories maintained?

WHAT FIGURES SHOWED When they see the poll tax bill The extent of the members' defeated by both capitalist par-

dissatisfaction is actually conties, with Roosevelt remaining silent? When they see the railroad cealed by the published figures of hearings on discrimination called referendum were announced on and file delegates. off? When a Negro official in the the basis of the delegated voting War Department has to resign strength at the last convention. because the Air Command refuses This concealed the fact that in to halt or alter its discriminatory most of the big locals the vote

The way to answer the propa find any more convincing ones ganda of Owen and the Stalinists and government officials is by

Owen's theme is what would showing that it is based on a happen to the Negro people under thoroughly false premise. These Hitler. Naturally it is possible to people pretend that the only show that, bad as the Negro's alternative to present conditions conditions are today, they would is fascism. They say that the be worse under Hitler, for under Negro must choose between what fascism the Negro, along with the ne has now and what he would white worker, would be deprived have under a Hitler. of whatever democratic rights he But this is a lie. There is an-

now possesses other alternative, and that is the Nevertheless I do not think struggle for socialism. It is posthat Owen's essay will prove to be sible to conduct a simultaneou very effective propaganda for the struggle against fascism and simple reason that the Negro peo- present-day conditions at home, ple are already bitter opponents and to defeat them both too. What of fascism and everything it is required to accomplish this is represents. There is no need to a program aimed at establishing try to convince them that fascism | a Workers' and Farmers' Governis their enemy when they are ment.

suffering every day from fascist-When the Negro people are like oppression, segregation and able to find their way to this insult. program-and their experiences

The weak point in Owen's pro- | inevitably drive them toward itpaganda (and the similar propa- they will exhibit the kind of ganda of the Communist Party) fighting enthusiasm that will is that it has to emphasize the amaze and overwhelm all those negative side of the argument, who are so concerned about their that it stresses, what the Negro | apathy to the war today.



UAW Dues Referendum Shows Discontent of Workers Worried About Soviet Gains

THE MICITANT

overwhelming vote of no-confi- decisive.

Half the votes recorded in favor dence in the international leadof the international board's dues ership of the United Automostitutional amendment for a ing the Ford Local, had more than

The emphasis in this kind of dues increase by a vote of 2,851 20 votes each, and only 12 were in the 10-20 vote classification.

Most of the locals voting for the dues increase were small units with one, two or three votes. On the other hand, the chief strength of the opponents of the dues increase was in the older and larger locals, among the most experienced and best-tested union

solvency. strength of over 20, and 30 were in the 10-20 votes category.

REFERENDUM

BACKGROUND

In a great measure, the international board's efforts to push over the dues increase by referendum Chicago convention, when most of its organizational proposals intended to give it a tighter bureaucratic hold on the union

were tossed out of the conventhe voting. The results in this tion by an aroused body of rank MEANING OF VOTE After the delegates, by a

sweeping majority, had voted down a dues increase amendment forces of the employers on the at the convention, the internation- picket lines, who had defied all locals where the dues increase erendum proposal on the grounds ily and enthusiastically contribnarrow. Had the vote been an- reflect the sentiments of the dollars for the Ford and other the rejection of the amendment most democratic and representa- balking merely at the idea of pay-

DETROIT - Recording an would be seen to be even more tive body of convention delegates ing an additional 50 cents in the labor movement has now month dues.

received a fitting censure. The vote against the dues in crease must be understood as an The defeat administered to the unquestioned rebuke to the union international board cannot be acleadership for its general policies. counted for by any failure of the Seizing on this organizational leadership to put the heat on the issue, the membership has recordmembership. On the contrary, beed its dissatisfaction with the fore the vote was taken, a three leadership's weak-kneed capitulamonths drive was put on in an tion to the government and emattempt to obtain a favorable ployers on the wage-freezing issue vote. Gloomy reports of the finanin the face of soaring prices. The cial status of the international vote on the referendum was an were regularly broadcast by George indirect expression of the rising Addes, international secretaryresentment at the leadership's treasurer. A large number of inspineless handling of the mountternational organizers and repreing thousands of grievances and sentatives were slashed off the of the pushing around the auto pay-roll in a wholesale purge, workers are getting at the hands under the pretext of financial inof the increasingly brazen corporations and the military production |

The entire machinery of the in- officials. ernational was mobilized to A DISTORTION undertake a campaign in the The leaders of the UAW are locals to shove the amendment well-aware of this resentment, but over. International officers, repre- they try to distort its significance sentatives and organizers toured by blaming the members for the locals and counter-posed their present conditions. In his column some of those who have been was an attempt to recapture some influence to that of the local in the United Automobile Worker, of the prestige it lost at the leadership. Those who opposed the Feb. 1, which also contains the are beginning to worry lest he ac-

increase were pictured as opposed referendum results, George Addes tually be defeated. This is not at to organization of the union, as complains that since Pearl Harbor all unexpected to those of us who being for "two-bit" unionism, etc. "there has grown up a feeling understand the basic antagonism But this did not fool the membership one bit.

Men and women who had faced

the guns and clubs of the armed satisfied with keeping things as was overwhelmingly against the al officers tried to nullify their forms of victimization in uphold- is. Soldiers losing one type of increase, while in the few hig decision by pushing over the ref- ing unionism, who had voluntar- fighting equipment switch to anything that can be used effectively carried, the majorities were very that the delegates did not truly uted hundreds of thousands of and fight on. So it must be with us; we must continue to fight nounced according to membership, membership. This insult to the UAW organizing drives, were not with the weapons we still have, or we will find ourselves being

beaten back and in grave danger destroyed and Hitler left with an of having all our gains taken army that was still powerful, the way by act of Congress." fear at present is that the Red Addes insults the members when Army will be victorious without ne imputes to them a sentiment exhausting its strength. to keep conditions "as is." That.

in reality, is what the union leaders would like them to feel. But he is correct when he states capitalists and of their spokesmen they are beginning to recognize and representatives there is no bility of capitalist property sufthat without the strike weapon agreement either as to the effect fering the same fate in Europe

status quo. Addes' attempt to justify a understanding with Stalin in case upon this fear and while the ofcontinued no-strike policy is as of a Soviet victory. Lord Beaver- ficial attitude is that the Nazis full of holes as a sieve. Soldiers brook, one of the leading repremay advance or retreat, shift their sentatives of British imperialism, terrain, and maneuver in ac-stated openly, in the House of cordance with the forces opposed to them and tactical consideral thinks that the British Empire tions. But soldiers do not throw is in any way endangered by a away their weapons, or worse, Soviet victory. He may be hand them over to the enemy, whistling in the dark or he may except when they are preparing have convinced himself that no

to surrender. BOSS ATTACKS. CONTINUE

That is precisely what the union aders did when they offered to

Why The Reactionaries Are

By M. Morrison

The magnificent victories | not want to antagonize Japan. achieved by the Red Army in But Japan holds conferences recent months have inspired all with Germany and Italy. Why not the defenders of the Soviet Union the Soviet Union with its allies? with new hope. They have also Of a sudden an article appears brought misgivings to the hearts in Pravda laying down the prinof many of its "allies." It is of ciple that the Baltic countries course too early to conclude that and Bessarabia belong to the the German armies are completely Soviet Union and that it is just beaten. We must wait until the as absurd to discuss the question late spring or summer before we of the fate of these countries as know whether the Nazi army has it is to discuss whether the state lost its power to attack or defend. of California should be given to Our hope is that it has but we the United States. In view of the can come to no conclusion on the fact that the Roosevelt regime basis of our hope. And there is did not recognize the seizure of too little known of the state of the Baltic countries by Stalin, the the morale of the German army emphatic statement in Pravda and people and of the material cannot but constitute a sugresources left to Hitler to enable gestion to the United States that us to say, with any degree of cer- it had better not raise the question tainty that the Nazi army is or of the status of the Baltic counis not on the verge of complete tries.

It is obvious that the closer the But the Soviet victories have Allies come to defeating Hitler, been extensive enough so that the sharper does the basic antagonism between the Soviet shouting for the defeat of Hitler Union and the capitalist countries stand out.

- THREE

It is not of course any concern about the independence of the Baltic countries that makes the big capitalists fear a victory of the Soviet Union. True, Roosevelt said something in the Atlantic Charter about the right of all nations to be free. But since the

From the very day when Hitler Charter does not apply to India, launched his attack on the Soviet Puerto Rico and countries similar-Union, the prevailing sentiment ly situated it will not be difficult in the ranks of the big capitalists to conclude that it also does not was for the mutual exhaustion of apply to the Baltic countries, althe Red and Nazi armies. Whereas though it is a characteristic of the in the summer of 1941 and of 1942 big capitalists to want the freethe people who wanted the exdom of countries not under their haustion of both armies feared control. that the Red Army would be

What worries some of the big capitalists is the possibility that the Red Army will reach Berlin before the British and American armies. They behold a vision of the Soviet Union extending its influence to Germany and to all of

In the ranks of the leading Central Europe and they shiver when they contemplate the possithey are helpless to change the of a Soviet victory or as to the that it did in the Soviet Union. best method for arriving at an The Nazis have begun to play will not succeed in creating a rift between the Allies, it is certain that many of the monopolists Lords, that anyone is a fool who have been seized by the fears that the Nazis have or pretend to have.

The more intelligent and farsighted of the representatives of danger exists to the British big capitalism are not very greatly Empire from a Soviet victory beconcerned with the danger of the cause it is always possible to come Red Army's reaching Berlin beto some agreement with Stalin. fore the American and British His theory is based on the correct armies. They

A Common War Aim Of Stalin And The Allies

By A. ROLAND

The N. Y. Times of Feb. 14 | would never have been as costly | weaker. It was given the coup de reminds Stalin that he did after or as prolonged if Russia had grace - whatever little was left all sign the Atlantic Charter. The Charter declared that none of the Allied Nations was en- ticularly of Germany, to come to remnants were even betrayed digaging in the war for the pur- the aid of the Soviet Union. pose of territorial aggrandizement without consulting the lieve the false Stalinist propa- boration" between the GPU and wishes of the peoples in terri- ganda that this was due to the the Gestapo. The present propatories concerned. The Soviet necessities of the war, and solely ganda is therefore an implicit advictories, with their distinct ef- in order to assure aid from the mission that the Stalinists have fect in shortening the entire war "democracies." The basic reason no influence whatsoever in the and bringing victory, sooner was the instability of a regime ranks of the German masses. than was previously expected, have at once brought the re-minder that the Allied coalition

been under revolutionary leader- of it - when Stalin signed his ship. Stalin never dared make an pact with Hitler. There is every appeal to the working class, par- reason to believe that its few rectly into the hands of the Ges-Some misguided workers be- tapo during the period of "colla-

> give up the workers' most effective weapon, the strike. Naturally, influence among the German proletariat. The situation now bethat the employers, too, were where. comes clear. Any revolutionary going to drop their anti-labor movement in Germany must arise tommy-guns, and that for the not only in spite of, but against the Stalinists. The Stalinists dare not gamble with the chance that, peace. with all their resources arising

not only among the rank and file that must necessarily exist bebut also among the local union tween the Soviet Union with its leadership that this old-time en- nationalized property and all capthusiasm is useless. Many feel italist nations whether fascist or that because we voluntarily gave democratic. up our right to strike, we might just as well sit back and be

defeat.



By BETTY KUEHN

That collaboration made little | is reduced from 773,000 hectares in German-occupied in 1941 to 350,000 in 1942-e progress territories of the Soviet Union is reduction of almost 55 percent. demonstrated by an analysis of Novoye Slovo declares that "this the May to October 7, 1942 issues reduction is due solely to the of the Berlin Russian newspaper bolshevistic methods of destruc-Novoye' Slovo, which Solomon tion of sugar plants in the Schwarz publishes in the Feb. 22 Ukraine." New Republic. This is the first

And for the same reason the Nazi material on occupied terri- German Ministry of Food warns against undue enthusiasm and lowing the October Revolution. tories in the USSR to reach this country. hopes concerning the Ukraine.

Although the local populations Novoye Slovo of June 17, 1942 have been forced, out of sheer states: self-preservation, to participate in "Many people see in the black

the administration of sanitation, earth zones a country of miracles education and social welfare, they where wheat and fodder grass have not done so in the economic grow without labor and care. and industrial field. The large Many people believe that the enterprises, as the Nazi-controlled agriculture of this richest of coun-Russian newspaper Novoye Slovo tries will make the task of assuritself admits, are in almost all ing adequate food supplies for the cases at a standstill. Reich easier for the German

An example is the manganese peasant. But whosoever has seen mines of Nikopol, occupied in that country knows how errone-August 1941. These mines conous such views are!" stituted one of the most valuable acquisitions of the entire Russian campaign.

"At the time of the occupation | of the fields by the Nazis," de- scorched earth policy and the the war. Its superiority over the clares Schwarz, "technical jour- removal of great factories, posnals had expressed the belief that sible on a large scale only in a been demonstrated in war as it the exploitation of the ore mines nationalized economy ,has depriv- was previously in peace. could begin in no more than six ed the Nazis of much they hoped months. to find.

"Nevertheless, Novoye Slovo for There have been no Quislings July 19, 1942 announces-almost and Lavals available. Contrast a year after the occupation-only this with the capitalist countries that 'reconstruction work is being -France, Norway, Belgium, Dencarried on in the Manganese ore mark, Finland. mines of Nikopol. The destroyed pits are being reinforced, a ventilation system constructed. Soon British and American owners of portion of the capital accumulathe mines of Nikopol will give Rumanian oil wells apparently ted at such a frightful cost under their first load of manganese ore.'

would rather have the Nazis the Stalinist methods of planning, Yet the files of Novoye Slovo up benefit from their property than has been destroyed by the superto October 7, 1942 contain no men- to destroy it. C. L. Sulzberger gangster Hitler. The Allies must tion of an actual start on the ex-states in the Feb. 17 N. Y. Times: ploitation of Nikopol.'

"Many Rumanians are inclined Such was the case not only with to blame the Allies for this [the the large industries, but also in lack of Allied sabotage in Rumaagriculture. The Nazis had hoped to win over the peasants by nia] because of an alleged lack promising them private ownership of desire to blow up wells owned of the land. However, they were by United Nations interests. . unsuccessful. They were forced to -and the writer never received state. Here we are concerned not maintain the collective farms in a satisfactory answer to this with this primary problem, but order to get the peasants to work question from the British group of oil men who used to frequent problem, the role of Stalin. at all.

In the sugar industry, even Bucharest's Athenee Palace - it | Long in advance of the war it though the Nazis utilized the is evident that the Russians would was perfectly clear that Stalin, Soviet "sowing plan," production not have any interest in abstain- left in control of the Soviet will in no way be comparable to ing from the destruction of for- Union, would play the same repre-war levels, says Schwarz. "The sown area for sugar beets | erty."

minder that the Allied coalition never survive another wave of illusions that they can regain any consists of two distinctly differworking class revolution. ent camps. An enigma hangs

What are the aims set by Staover the Soviet war aims. lin for the role of the Soviet Already the Soviet Embassies Union in the world war? He here and abroad have given wide has spoken in the nationalist publicity to certain Russian determs of "throwing the fascist inmands: the retention by Russia vader off our soil." Is this all he of the Baltic states, once part of will have to show to the Russian the Russian Empire, and of Besworkers and peasants and the sarabia, forcibly torn from the Red Army after the war? Yes. Soviet Union in the civil war folhe will be able to point, perhaps as a new "aggrandizer" to the This demand would hardly have regaining of Latvia, Esthonia, disturbed the Allies as much as Bessarabia. And to "nationalist" it has, if it were not for the Russians that might be some-

question of the spread of the Sothing. viet system of society. What kind

STALIN'S ROLE

* * *

But the war itself, with the

previous victories of the Hitler

armies, has struck frightfully

ally distorted planned economy

that had made considerable gains

over a generation. An enormous

of necessity give aid to Soviet

Russia at the present time. But

we can rest assured that no such

aid would be given after the war

in the way of building anew the

if it is to remain a working class

rather with a subsidiary political

industrial machinery of Russia-

heavy blows at the bureaucratic

ONE COMMON AIM of Russia will exist after this

war? That is one of the funda-There is one aim that is commental questions facing the capimon to Stalin and his capitalist allies. That is the prevention of talist nations — and also the world's working class! What sort a working class revolution anywhere in Europe, but especially of regime would be set up in any territory added to Russia? in Germany. This lies at the root of the kind of propaganda the The analysis of this question Stalinists conduct in relation to is far from simple. The inner efthe German people. The capitalfects of the war on Russian econ-Thus we see how the Nazis omy are veiled to us. True failed to find in the nationalized enough, the nationalized industry sponsible for the bestial acts of economy a broad stratum of was of inestimable advantage to the Nazis. The German people in-"collaborators." Likewise the the Soviet Union for conducting cludes the German workers and the masses. They will not be alanarchy of capitalism has now

lowed to set up any regime of their own, because they too are considered "responsible" for the the Stalinists (in the Soviet deeds of the German ruling class. Union) by identifying Stalin with But the motive of Stalin has a the Soviet Union. But they know

people by the Ehrenburgs, the mine whether Stalin will continue Fosters and the Browders, con- to be "identified" with the Soviet tains an admission that they do Union. A revolutionary movenot dare make openly, but that ment in Germany will immediatereveals itself in this typical fashly have repercussions in the USSR. It will bring to the fore

Trotsky pointed out immediate- the vast difference between the ly after the assumption of power | Russian masses and the corrupt by Hitler in Germany that the bureaucracy. It will reveal the Third International, by its criminal betrayal of the German ing stratum and the economic working class. had doomed itself foundations of the first working to oblivion. Never again would class state.

they then had on the left wing of what will happen in Russia when the German workers. The Stalin- | events demonstrate the one comists, in their incredible stupidity, mon aim of the leaders of the Alboasted for years that their for- lies and of Stalin with regard to ces in Germany were growing de- | Germany. Has Stalin really sucspite the fact that they had been ceeded in diverting the October forced underground.

What has happened then to this tionalist channels? Or will the 'underground"? Is it also to be Soviet masses come to the aid of held responsible for Hitler? The their brothers in other lands for eign capital's Rumanian prop- actionary role that he had pur- truth is that this underground the creation of the United Soviet sued all the years. The war movement became weaker and States of Europe?

from control of the Soviet Union, they might worm and bribe their way into the German revolutionarv movement in order to betrav it, as they did in Spain. Their very fear-causing them to hand over the German people in advance to the armed forces of the Allies-makes it certain that the

German toilers, to achieve the the dues referendum is greater fight against the Stalinists.

WHAT ALLIES FEAR The reason why the Allies view

Russia with misgivings is not of capitalism. But the capitalists our ranks."

cannot breathe easy until this is not a potentiality, but a fact. somewhat different slant. The as well as Stalin that the events talk of the guilt of the German at the end of the war will deter-

from 8:15 to 9:45 O'clock

gulf that exists between the rul-

the Stalinists regain the hold The real enigma is therefore

Revolution completely into na-

"duration" labor and the bosses The auto workers now see that ployers, taking advantage of the has prepared for it.

Naturally those among the helpless position of the workers, capitalists who do not share are continuing to blast away with Beaverbrook's confidence in Stalin their heavy artillery at labor, as cannot be as open in expressing even Addes has to admit. their fears and doubts. After all The significance of the vote on the Soviet Union is still an ally,

working class revolution, must than appears on the surface. It and furthermore the masses have is a warning to the UAW leader. a very favorable attitude to the ship that the auto workers are Soviet Union. ship that the auto workers are

growing increasingly aware of

what the real score is, and that The inability of the United they are seeking ways and means States and England to come to because they fear Stalin. He is to even it up. They are telling some understanding with Stalin not the enigma. On the contrary, R. J. Thomas, Richard Franken- on the question of the nature of a social revolution will come as they understand quite well the steen, Walter Reuther, Addes and the peace has been the subject of counter-revolutionary aid which the others on the international many columns and editorials in ist allies have the same motive Stalin affords to them. But Rus- board, "Give us a fighting, militant the capitalist press. The absence sia is as yet a working class leadership capable of defending state. Its further degeneration our interests, or we are going to from the Casablanca conference could only mean the restoration seek that leadership elsewhere in was a dramatic indication that not

BASIC TRAINING

COURSE IN

MARXISM

EVERY TUESDAY NIGHT

assumption that Stalin is indif- in the event of a real danger of ferent if not hostile to any work- the Red Army's penetration into this was done under the pretext ers' revolution in Europe or else- German territory and reaching

* * *

Berlin, the German General staff

What Lord Beaverbrook does would take complete command and not see is that an agreement with more or less invite the British Stalin is not at all decisive for the and American generals to bring were going to observe an unarmed masses of Europe or anywhere their armies to Berlin. For it is else. While Stalin has more in- almost impossible to conceive of fluence on the masses than Lord the Red Army's marching into while they, under the pressure of Beaverbrook, his power is not so Germany without a social revolutheir leaders, have carried out this great as to save the British Em- tion following. And to prevent a agreement in good faith, the em- pire from the doom that history social revolution the German generals would gladly invite the

American and British armies."

It is this probability of a social revolution coming as a result of a complete defeat of Hitler by the Soviet armies that is creating anxiety in the minds of the more intelligent section of the representatives of big capitalism. They are not worried that Stalin will call for a social revolution; they know Stalin better than to expect such a thing from him. They are result of a defeat of Hitler by

the Soviet armies.

To these people Stalin's help to suppress a workers' revolution in Europe appears indispensable. With Stalin's prestige mounting all is well between Stalin on the steadily as a result of the Soviet one hand and Roosevelt and Churvictories, they feel that to have chill on the other. The explana-Stalin on their side is almost a tions offered to make it appear certain guarantee that the revoluthat Stalin's failure to be present tion can be suppressed. They are at the conference or to send a therefore anxious to come to some representative was quite natural, agreement with Stalin and it is are altogether too weak. He was their inability thus far to arrive too busy with the offensive of the at an understanding with him that troubles them.

> For the advanced workers two serious dangers appear with the possibility of a defeat of Hitler's armies by the Red Army. One is that the capitalists will come to an agreement with German capitalism for an attack on the Soviet Union. Skeptics have been hinting that a possible reason for the insistence by some American generals that an army of over ten million soldiers is necessary lies in their anxiety to prepare for a possible clash with a victorious Red Army.

The other, and greater, danger is that the capitalist powers will come to some agreement with Stalin to suppress any workers' revolution in Europe. The working masses must be placed on their guard against these dangers.

Inquire 4th floor Red Army. But was he too busy 116 UNIVERSITY PL., N. Y. to send a representative? He did **TWIN CITIES CLASSES** present The fifth in a series of 6 lectures THE COLONIAL PEOPLES IN THE SECOND WORLD WAR Saturday, March 6, at 8 P. M. "THE AWAKENING OF CHINA" Discussion leader: DOROTHY SCHULTZ

919 Marquette Avenue Minneapolis, Minn.

Subscription for course, 50 cents Single lecture, 10 cents Social program will follow the lecture

Auspices: Socialist Workers Party

FOUR-

THE MILITANT Published in the interests of the Working People VOL. VII-No. 9 Saturday, Feb. 27, 1943 Published Weekly by THE MILITANT PUBLISHING ASS'N

at 116 University Place, New York, N. Y. Telephone: ALgonquin 4-8547

> Editor: **GEORGE BREITMAN**

THE MILITANT follows the policy of permitting its contributors to present their own views in signed articles. These views therefore do not necessarily represent the policies of THE MILI-TANT which are expressed in its editorials.

Subscriptions: \$2.00 per year; \$1.00 for 6 months. Foreign: \$3.00 per year, \$1.50 for 6 months. Bundle orders: 3 cents per copy in the United States; 4 cents per copy in all foreign countries. Single copies: 5 cents.

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



To defend the USSR as worker.

the main fortress of the world proletariat, against all assaults of world imperialism and of internal counter-revolution, is the most important duty of e v e r v class-conscious

- 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.

and be entitled to \$25,000 clear after all taxes are The Civil War in Yugoslavia

However, it is clear that Roosevelt belongs to a slightly different school than the majority of the House Ways and Means Committee.

paid.

Both agree that the workers will have to pay to make drastic sacrifices if it can be asserted that the rich are sacrificing too. He thinks that if the workers have the idea that the wealthy are giving up some luxury, the workers will be reconciled to accept without resistance the assault on their living standards.

The group represented by the majority of the Ways and Means Committee, however, takes the stand that the best way to deal with the workers is by ramming the high taxes, wage cuts, working week extension and increased prices down the work-

ers' throats and then spitting in their face by removing even the present, mainly symbolic, limitations on capitalist income.

Basically, it is a difference on how best to get the workers to accept a lowering of their living standards.

If there were a workers' representative in Congress he would stand for really drastic and fargoing limitations on capitalist income. At the same time such a spokesman for the working class | 120 Ustasi bandits (Croatian fascists) were "sentenced to be shot would explain the reasons behind Roosevelt's proposals, and would warn the workers not to permit themselves to be diverted by these proposals from the struggle to safeguard their living conditions.

Dispute In War **Production Board**

There was a shake-up in the top posts of the all these spheres the previously War Production Board last week. Chairman Don- existing central and local state ald Nelson fired his chief assistant Ferdinand Eberstadt' and promoted Charles E. Wilson to Eber- Partisans is to bring under their stadt's post.

This move has been interpreted in the press as ments in Yugoslavia. For instance, last May the General a victory for those capitalist leaders who favor Headquarters of the Slovenian civilian control of war production over those who Partisan Units issued the followwant the army and navy to have the final word. ing order:

"The Partisan authorities, on It has been reported that the military was so the basis of the decisions of the angered over Eberstadt's dismissal that Undersecretary of Navy Forrestal and Undersecretary tional Liberation Front) will July 26, 1942.) of War Patterson have raised the demand for Nelshoot everyone who is proved to son's resignation. have attempted to form no mat-

ter what kind of armed units. Actually, we have no clear picture of the reaaside from partisan units which sons for Eberstadt's dismissal and the subsequent are under the command of the attacks upon Nelson. The public is seldom told General Headquarters of the Sloof the real issues behind the inner disputes in rulvenian Partisan Units." (Official Documents of the National Libing circles. But knowing only the superficial faceration Front. published in "The tors of the dispute, there is one thing of which Truth About Yugoslavia," Page

we are certain — it is a teapot tempest. 13.) It can make no real difference to labor whether This prohibition — "to form no industrialist Wilson or banker Eberstadt controls the WPB. For while they may differ on administrative detail, their fundamental policies are identical.

Both are opponents of the labor movement and of letting the workers have a voice in production. Both represent the big corporations using the war

Gandhi Fast Exposes Real to destroy all competition and to line their pockets with profits. Both are concerned above all in protecting and maintaining the capitalist system and

The 'National Liberation for the war out of their living standards. Roose-velt holds that it will be easier to get the workers Front' And Its Policies

It is hardly necessary to stress

Yugoslav landlords and capital-

ists who pursue the policy of col-

laborating with the Axis, and

even those who support Mikhail-

ovich, for they also fall in the

category of "traitors to the peo-

It is clear that the Yugoslav

peasantry, land hungry for cen-

turies, has been seizing the op-

portunity to divide the landlords'

estates. And it is equally self-

evident that the leadership of the

Partisans has tried if not to fos-

ter, then to supply a legal cover

at least, for some of these land

No less drastic measures have

peen applied in other economic

fields, particularly in the field of

finance. Velimir Vlakhovic has

been permitted to cable from

Moscow that the Partisans have

confiscated "banks and their

"In Usice (the first capital of

the central government set up by

the Partisans,) they confiscated

more than 10 million dinars. In

large towns such a Chachak and

Kralyevo, similar large sums

were taken over. Large sums

were also obtained by attacking

Axis military and passenger trains." (Daily Worker, Feb. 2.)

The only trains still running in

Yugoslavia are "Axis military

and passenger trains." The only

banks existing there are those

funds in liberated towns."

POLICY REPRESENT?

WHAT DOES THIS

seizures.

| tisan Central Command. The | terror. . ." (Daily Worker, July By JOHN G. WRIGHT

very need for such an order, by 28, 1942.) In the Yugoslav areas where the way, is proof that there are they operate the Partisans base such independent formations. that this policy of confiscation themselves on locally-elected Apart from the fact that they hits not only the deposed local committees (or councils) — exist, nothing is known about and central authorities but all 'National Liberation Commit- them as yet; nor about their difees." And, as we stated in last ferences, if any, with the Partiweek's Militant, they have san program and leadership. sought from the beginning to WHY PARTISANS HAVE establish a' central government WIDEST MASS SUPPORT

based on these local bodies. In any case, it is the Partisans Police power is wielded in who have thus far enjoyed the towns and villages under the widest mass support, especially

Partisans by the creation of a among the peasants. The reasons "people's guard." Tribunals, milifor this are not hard to establish. tary or semi-military in charac-In addition to the above-cited ter, have also been instituted. democratization of the Yugoslav

These tribunals are evidently rigstate apparatus, the Partisans orous in their procedure. Thus have pursued a policy of confis-"Free Yugoslavia," the Partisan cating food supplies and distribradio, reported last August that uting them among the population which faces starvation.

"Food from army stores capby a guerrilla court martial.' tured by the guerrillas. . . was (Daily Worker, Aug. 20, 1942.) distributed to needy population.' (Daily Worker, July 26, 1942.) ASSUME ALL FUNCTIONS

"Flour. . . was distributed to In the territories controlled by the starving population." (Idem.) the Partisans, they establish con-

On Oct. 7, 1942 the Daily trol over food-distribution and the Worker reported that the Partiissuance of money; they conduct sans in Croatia had seized suptheir own schools and publish plies of "requisitioned wheat" newspapers. In short, they take and had distributed "several carover all legislative, executive and loads" among the local populajuridical functions, displacing in tion.

"500 carloads of wheat... were distributed among the population." (Daily Worker, Nov. 21 Another main objective of the 1942.) This distribution of food,

the largest yet reported, came on direct control all guerrilla detachthe eve of the creation of the central government in Bihac. But that is not all. By decision of the leadership of the "National Liberation Front" peasants in

classes.

localities received "timber for owned by Yugoslav bankers, finbuilding and for personal use anciers and capitalists, who are Narodne Osvobodilne Fronte (Na- | without charge." (Daily Worker, likewise the only ones able to carry large sums on their persons when riding on trains. CONFISCATIONS

The creation of a new state Naturally, the Yugoslav landpower through the assumption of lords and merchants who own executive, legislative, legal, police these huge supplies and timber and military powers, the confislands are opposed to such meascation of landlords' estates, ures. And so is Mikhailovich who stocks of food, timber, etc. and represents the Yugoslav ruling their division among the peasants, the confiscation of banks-

Their opposition is all the more what are all these if not revolu pitter because the policy of the tionary measures? And what can Partisans goes far beyond par- they flow from if not a condition

matter what kind of armed units" tial seizures. "In Slovenia the of civil war in the country? — is obviously aimed not only at Mikhailovich and the native fas-This automatically raises the confiscated the property of Italquestion: Under whose leadership cist formations, but at all guer- | ian spies and traitors to the peo- | is this struggle being conducted rilla detachments which try to ple and has distributed it among at present? We shall answer it

operate independently of the Par- | the peasant victims of the fascist | in our next article.

ownership in general.

not

WAR ENDED ILLUSIONS

Qualifications for Posts In War Production Board

Defrauding the government of thousands of dollars does not necessarily land a man in jail - not if he is an important capitalist.

For instance, on Feb. 14 executives of the General Electric Company, Okonite Company, General Cable Corporation, Phelps Dodge Copper Products Corporation and Anaconda Wire and Cable Company refused to contest indictments charging them with conspiring to fix prices on cable for the Navy and paid \$77,500 in fines to a New Jersey Federal Court.

Yet, according to I. F. Stone in the Feb. 18 PM. these same companies now dominate the copper division of the War Production Board which controls government purchases of the very products involved in the indictments.

Eight companies are represented on the new committee, and five of the posts are controlled by representatives of the indicted companies.

Moreover, three of the men on the new committee, who will help advise the WPB on wire and cable purchases, were named individually in the criminal proceedings instituted by the government.

Anaconda Wire and Cable was not only convicted of fraud in price fixing, but now faces trial in Indiana and Rhode Island on charges of knowingly selling defective cable to the armed forces. The Indiana indictment, which will go to trial in April, charges that the officers of the company knew the use of such defective wire and cable "would endanger the lives of men in the military force of the United States."

The fines so far imposed upon these companies constitute a mere slap on the wrist and make no appreciable dent in their huge war profits.

If their past record means anything, they can be depended on to use their government posts to more than compensate for the payment of these fines.



Egidio Mattina of Easton, Pa., died in a Virginia army camp on Feb. 7. He was 26 years of age at the time of his death and had been drafted into the army one week before.

Egidio Mattina did not carry a membership card in the Socialist Workers Party when he died - but he was our comrade. He was always close to the party, following the teachings of Lenin and Trotsky, and in his quiet, shy way, participated as much as he could in the struggle against the exploiting capitalist class.

Isolated in a small town, Egidio had no opportunity to work within the great mass labor movement. Yet, deprived of this opportunity, his devotion to socialism remained steadfast. Had he lived, he would undoubtedly have played a role in the movement at a future stage

Two weeks before his death Egidio wrote the following letter to a close friend who was active in the revolutionary movement. The type of youth he was. is revealed in his own words:

"I was drafted today as a private in the U.S. Army and must leave next Saturday for New Cumberland, N. Y. My papers were stamped 'Limited Service,' which probably means that I'll never get nearer to the front than a general does. I am not at all happy about it.

"Certainly these years will be the most important

The Fight Over The \$25,000 Salary Top

Within two weeks tens of millions of workers will have to pay staggering income taxes. Faced with the upward spiralling cost of living, with frozen wages and with the highest tax rate in history, they are being forced to endure real and immediate suffering in meeting the huge war costs which have been loaded upon them.

But while the workers must carefully ration their few dollars between the grocers and the landlords. and the government, the capitalist class has opened a drive in Congress to abolish the ceiling of \$25,000 on capitalist salaries.

The House Ways and Means Committee has reported favorably on the Disney bill which calls for the outright repeal of the \$25,000 salary limit imposed by presidential decree. Democrats and Republicans voted together to end the salary top.

The same committee which voted to remove this "burden" on the capitalists is deliberating over methods to increase the tax load on the workers. Among some of the devices under consideration is a 15% wage tax, increased sales tax and higher income taxes.

Actually, the \$25,000 salary ceiling has little effect on the income of the capitalist class, for their primary source of revenue, profits and interest on investments, were not touched by the president's order of last year. But the very principle of limiting big salaries irriates one of the schools of capitalist thought on the method of financing the war.

President Roosevelt has announced that he will oppose the removal of salary limitation for corporation officials and their agents. He has gone even "further." In a letter to the House Ways and Means Committee he says that he agrees with those who wish to limit not only salaries but other forms of capitalist incomes such as interest, profits, etc. He urges that income from all sources be limited to \$25,000 a year per person or \$50,000 a year per couple.

This proposal appears more radical at first sight than it actually is. It is vaguely formulated and appears to contain wide loopholes. For instance the president advocates allowing a "single person" \$25,000 or a "married couple" \$50,000. Under this statement, the baby in the crib could be considered a "single person" and have signed over to him stocks and bonds, administered by his parents,

Aims Of British In India all the contradictions and inefficiencies which are

21 to state that "American au-

thorities" are "discussing" the

But this was a perfunctory ges-

ture, designed solely to mollify

situation with the British.

an inseparable part of the capitalist system. (Continued from page 1) Wilson and Eberstadt may have differences, but

neither of them is interested in or capable of orbehalf of India indicates that ganizing production in the interests of the masses there must be broad public pres-- which can be achieved only by workers' control sure for action on behalf of Indian independence. and operation of production and the elimination WASHINGTON'S GESTURE

of the profit system.

Against those who would raise such a working Pressure on Washington to inclass program, all factions in Washington - Wilson and Eberstadt, Nelson and Baruch, the dollarindicated by the fact that Roosea-year- men and the army and navy procurement velt's "personal" envoy in India, officers-would unite and fight with every weapon William Phillips, called in the at their command. American correspondents on Feb.

Prices Still Rising

fact was exposed by the N. Y. other foods have gone up. This became clear dur-Times correspondent when he reported that Philips made the aning the past week.

nouncement only to American correspondents and that it was a ceiling on wholesale milk, Charles F. Holman not given to the Indian press. of the Dairy Farmers Lobby asserted the slaughter Washington, it is clear, has no houses would be filled with dairy cows, if it con- intention of encouraging the Indian struggle for independence. tinued to be more profitable to sell beef than milk. If Gandhi's fast illumines to the Holman's blackmail was clearly expressed when outside world the bestial character he said the real issue was not ceiling price, but of British rule, that is of course

Congressional farm bloc leaders took up the fight by threatening to cut off OPA funds unless publishes a dispatch from its cor- against Japan if Britain granted

After a feeble show of resistance the OPA began rapid retreat before the farm bloc. By Feb. 20, milk price boosts had been authorized in eight sections of the country and "studies are being made on the need of upward adjustments" in seven other areas.

It is by now obvious that the Washington bureaus are incapable of preventing the capitalists from securing an almost continuous series of price rises and thus lowering the workers' standards of living while the capitalists' profits continue at their present record levels, if they do not go higher.

The only sort of price control that can be effective is that of the masses themselves in the form of mass committees representing the unions, working farmers, small retailers and housewives.

> Equal Pay for Equal Work by Women

The offers, obviously, conever for this writer that the end voice to be raised again now on of British rule here will not be tradicted the doctrine of nonattained by negotiations or con- violence. Even Gandhi then said: stitutional methods." ". . .non-violence with me is a

This situation is certainly a creed. . .But it is never as a creed paradox, for no one more than that I placed it before India. . .I Gandhi has stood for the method placed it before the Congress as of peaceful negotiations. That

a political method. . .As a politiflowed from his creed of noncal method it can always be tervene publicly with Churchill violence, and it was eagerly acchanged, modified, altered or even must also be considerable, it is cepted as a political method by given up in preference to another the Indian bourgeoisie, which . . If you can get what you want. feared that mass revolutionary you will strike the bargain, and methods would not only free you may be sure that I will not India but would also give the shed a single tear.' masses the power to put an end

Britain turned down the bar to the landlords and private gain, but those offers put an end for all time to any pretense that non-violence was the fixed method of the Indian struggle. Obviously It was the war that dealt a if violence could be used against death-blow to the doctrine of nonthe enemy from without, it violence. Up to then it had a could also be used against the certain surfaces plausibility as a enemy within. The Indian masses method of resisting the British thought so and acted so when the under conditions where the Britcivil disobedience campaign began, ish had arms and the Indians did and they did so in spite of Gan

dhi's declaration that the cam-But the war posed the question paign must be non-violent. in a new form: would not a free India arm itself to resist Japan-Now this process of the disese invasion and aid China?

creditment of non-violence as a political method for India is In July 1940, after the fall of limaxed by the failure of Ganeven more true within India. The France, the Congress leadershtp dhi's fast to move the British to Feb. 24 N. Y. Herald-Tribune offered to arm and defend India rélease him.

NEW YORK, N. Y.

(This is the second of a new series of articles on India. The conflict between Gandhi and the in the negotiations with Cripps, Viceroy "makes it more clear than the Congress made a similar offer. | third will appear next week,)

A Timely Pamphlet!

Manifesto of the Fourth International TO THE WORKERS AND PEASANTS

OF INDIA

20 Pages Five Cents

Order from:

PIONEER PUBLISHERS

116 UNIVERSITY PLACE

in my life. I can only look back on my past years now with anguish, and the feeling that they no longer belong to me, but have already merged with the stream that carries the lives of my father and grandfather.

"I long for peace with every fiber of by being, not for that peace which will only be a continuation of the war by other methods, but for the peace as natural as fresh white bread.

"Ah, may victory remain with those who have made war without loving it.' Although Malraux had imperialist France in mind when he wrote them, no one can deny the inherent truth of these beautiful words.

"I clipped the list of places where The Militant is sold out of one of the issues. If I am stationed near any of them, perhaps I shall be able to renew my contact with my own past once in a while.

"I am afraid my ideas will have to 'go underground' for some time. I could tolerate that, but what makes it so terrible is that my heart will be forced underground with them - the two are so closely linked. "Faithfully yours,

Egidio"





"whether we will get food."

it lifted the ceiling on milk.