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Donations, requests for information or communications to the Communist Party should be mailed to above address.

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PEACE MARCHES ON!

THE deepest wishes of labor and of all other peace-loving forces throughout the world have prevailed and a mighty blow has been struck against the imperialist warmakers.

That is the meaning of the peace concluded between the Soviet Union and Finland—the fruit of the greatly strengthened efforts of the international peace forces and of the peace policy of the Soviet Union.

The cause of world peace has moved ahead. The struggle to end the imperialist war and to keep America at peace has been given new life.

The imperialist war-mongers in Great Britain, France and the United States had made a military base of Finland. They dreamed of turning it into a lighted fuse with which to spread flames of the present war to the Scandinavian and Balkan countries and to convert the war into an onslaught against the workers' republic, the Soviet Union.

In Great Britain, France and Germany, this peace is bound to greatly assist the growing struggle of the people against their own war-makers and for the establishment of immediate peace.

Here in the United States, this peace will give new encouragement to the powerful peace movement which has emerged during the recent months under the leadership of labor.

But not everybody likes this peace. How the war-makers howled and raged when peace loomed in Finland. Does not this prove once and for all that it was the imperialist war-makers and not the Soviet Union that wanted war? Does it not prove that it was London, Paris and Wall Street which were responsible for the war in the first place as they sought not only to destroy the security of the Soviet Union but to spread the imperialist war by drawing in more and more nations?

Here in America we had our war-mongers from Hoover to Roosevelt who did their share in trying to

block peace and draw America into an anti-Soviet war. They failed because the masses of the people have not forgotten the bitter experiences of 1917 and therefore more easily see through the war plots today. The people are coming to the conclusion first drawn by the Communist Party, that the present war between the Allies and Germany is an imperialist war just as was the "war to save democracy" of a generation ago.

The Soviet Union has struck a powerful blow for peace. This latest blow helps the people everywhere to appreciate better the significance of those earlier moves whereby the Soviet Union sharply narrowed the theatre of war through the non-aggression pact with Germany, the liberation of the White Russians and Ukrainians in Poland, and the pacts with the small Baltic countries.

Is Soviet Russia imperialistic as the press tried to make her appear? This peace and its terms show this is not true. The red army could have marched through and taken the rest of Finland once the Mannerheim line was broken. The Soviets could have held on to the valuable nickel mines, if she wanted to. All she wanted was protection against possible bases of intervention. Finland could have avoided all this by negotiating last November instead of listening to British and French imperialists.

Can anyone show in the history of the world that an imperialist country ever got out voluntarily from a country once it got its head in the tent, so to speak? How long did it take to get American marines out of Haiti and Nicaragua? Compare the Russo-Finnish peace with the Versailles "peace." In 1918 it was "To the victors belong the spoils."

The American people can stay at peace and help end the imperialist war by exposing and defeating the National Unity of Wall Street and its imperialist war policies.

Today the American working class and all other friends of peace can face this task more confidently than ever. The resistance of the people to the war and hunger program of Roosevelt has increased and strengthened by the militant and courageous lead of the progressive trade union movement. Let these forces cement their unity now by welding together a mighty anti-imperialist front of labor and the people, and they will be invincible.

Let the demands of the people ring out:

Defend civil rights. Stop the persecution of the Communist Party.

Defeat the hunger budget; defend the living standards of the people.

Forge the unity of labor and the people against the unity of the war-makers.

Put an end to the anti-Soviet policies of the Roosevelt Administration.

Keep America out of war!

Arizona Farmers Fooled?

THE EDITOR of the *Twentieth Century Arizonian* has just completed a survey of the first issue (February 17) of the *Arizona Producer* under the new owner(?) Earnest Douglas. The first thing that strikes one is the statement on the front page referring to the change in ownership. We looked in vain for a word there disassociating the *Farmer* from the Associated Farmers. The special issue of the *Rural Observer*, September-October, 1938, titled, "Who are the Associated Farmers?," published by the Simon J. Lubin Society of California, has this to say, on page 19: "Tovrea Packing Company, through Mr. Joseph Haldiman, insurance man, purchased *Arizona Producer*, (former name of the *Farmer*) only Arizona farm journal, which is now the official organ for Associated." The real farmers of Arizona for whom Mr. Douglas says he speaks would like to know if the *Farmer* is still the official organ of the A. F. We wonder if the Arizona Farm Bureau which has made it its official organ knew about this unsavory history of the *Farmer*?

What arouses our suspicions further in the statement is the financial assistance of Mr. Burrige D. Butler, who we are told is "himself a farmer for 30 years." We wonder what kind of farmer it is who is able to own two radio stations and publish an "enormously successful *Prairie Farmer*?"

The second thing that attracts one's attention on the front page is, "The Arizona Farmer Fights for this Program." When we analyze the program we find it does not touch on one basic problem worrying the working family dirt farmer. A lot of generalities

meaning nothing and anything. Number 1: "A better living for everyone on the farm." With absentee landlords, banks and insurance companies taking the land, and the small farmer unable to compete with the large growers, how can one talk of "a better living" without solving these problems? Number 4, "Work with organized agricultural groups" can mean the Associated Farmers against the small farmer and agricultural labor. Number 5, "Put down rural crime" can mean vigilante activity against union activities of agricultural workers. Number 8, "A little fun out of life as we go along," is throwing circuses instead of giving bread to the mortgaged, hard pressed small farmer.

What are the problems facing the farmers of Arizona, which are so conspicuously absent from the pages of the *Farmer*? We venture the opinion that the majority of Arizona's farmers are dependent on banks and loan companies to finance their farming enterprises. Yet not a word for lower interest rates. High taxes are a major problem. Yet what does the *Farmer* offer? Not repeal of the sales tax, which falls most on the small farmer and merchant. Nor is there a word about a severance tax on minerals, to make the corporations pay a just share of taxation. What about a graduated land tax, beginning with the first unit above the family sized farm and sharply graduating up as acreage increases. This will help the small farmer in his struggle against the unfair competition of the corporation farmers, with their low interest rates, evasion of taxes, and large scale farming with peon labor. (Last year according to Farm Research, Inc., Washington, D. C., 114,000 farms were lost through foreclosure.)

Mr. Douglas speaking of "a better living for everybody on the farm" and "a little fun out of life as we go along," forgot the question of tax-free homes, which will help the family farmer enjoy life.

The great imperialist war now raging throughout one-half of the world and which threatens to engulf the other half is surely a problem of not only Arizona farmers but all Americans. Statistics show that the war has not only not enhanced values of farm products, but they are really less than they were at the outbreak of war last fall.

The Tennessee Valley Authority reports that residential consumers of electric power paid an average 2.14 cents per kilowatt hour, while the average paid by consumers throughout the country to private firms was 4.21 cents, nearly twice as much. Why not some agitation by Mr. Douglas for a similar Colorado River Authority, to lower power rates?

Arizona farmers are faced with a serious shortage of water. A high line irrigation project would greatly solve this burning problem of Arizona farmers. Not a peep out of Mr. Douglas on this. We have our doubts

in light of the above when Mr. Douglas says, "To be a helpful friend to every farmer..."

Arizona farmers, your problems are many and varied. They can be largely solved by cooperative and political action, not alone but with labor. A strong farmer-labor alliance is the only way to bring security to the farmers of Arizona.

Civil Rights and Vigilantism

THE COMMUNIST PARTY of Arizona has issued many thousands of bulletins and leaflets on current issues, vital to the welfare of the people of Arizona and America.

Many letters of praise have been received on our program, some including money to carry on the work. At the same time we have received only four letters of condemnation, some calling our work trash. One signed "24" was definitely threatening. This letter has been turned over to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, which, under J. Edgar Hoover, is so zealously persecuting and violating the civil rights of Communists and progressives who in practice defend democracy and oppose war. The Gestapo methods used by the FBI in recently arresting Loyalist Spain sympathizers in Detroit has so aroused the people that Senator George W. Norris and many others are demanding an investigation by the Attorney General of Hoover's methods. We are waiting to see what they will do with the threatening and subversive letter we received.

Three of these four letters were neither signed nor addressed. This alone shows who are the subversive elements. It is not the Communist Party. We do not hide our program or methods of work, as do the Bunds and American fascist organizations. We do not believe in force and violence. We leave that to Big Business and Associated Farmers, which are well experienced. We understand the general misconceptions held of our movement and why they exist—being perpetuated by a wealthy class that owns a vast press and radio.

As for the "trash" we print, it depends on who reads it. To those who are insecure, out of work, oppressed and being forced into war, it is not trash to see offered a program of *Jobs, Security, Democracy and Peace*.

The Communist Party has no fear of repression or vigilantes. It will be here as long as there is starvation, unemployment, war and misery. These, and not importation, make Communists. Such methods of repression may be used against it as the Nazis in Germany have done, but that doesn't solve unemployment and wars. Wall Street cannot justify by reason starvation amidst plenty; wars for the profit

of a few and misery and death for the many; plowing under much needed food and raw products so that prices can be kept up. Red-baiting doesn't fill empty stomachs. Sending the leading advocate of peace, Earl Browder, general secretary of the Communist Party of the United States, to jail on trumped up technicalities does not lessen the efforts of Wall Street to get us into war, nor the efforts of the people to resist war.

Reactionaries give lip service to democracy, knowing that the people demand democracy, but in practice resort to every means of violating the democratic rights guaranteed by the constitution. We call upon the progressive people of America to demand the fullest enforcement of the Bill of Rights. That J. Edgar Hoover and his Gestapo methods of terror, wire-tapping, etc. be investigated by Congress. That the red-baiting, character-smearing and pro-fascist and anti-labor Dies Committee be abolished. That the un-American Associated Farmers be prosecuted for terrorism, and violence against workers and peonage forced on American citizens.

We call on the American people to stop the irresponsible warmakers of Wall Street and Washington who are trying to drag us into another bloody slaughter.

We call upon those who want justice and peace to stop the persecutions of the Communist Party in its struggle for *Jobs, Security, Democracy and Peace*.

Unemployment: Enemy No. 1

AFTER ten long years of unemployment (11 million still unemployed and increasing, in spite of the war), America is awakening to the fact that *job security* is the fundamental solution to recovery. During ten years of Hoover "do-nothingism" and New Deal remedies, of CCC and NYA for youth, PWA and WPA for adults, FERA and FSA for transients, unemployment insurance for part-time workers and Social Security for the elderly, it has become apparent that the problem of unemployment is the same as the problem of flood control.

It does no good to pile sand bags on top of the levee. What is necessary is to go back to the watershed and apply sound soil conservation and reservoir dams. The result is not only adequate flood control but also the by-product of cheap electric power.

In the same way, it does no good to relieve some parts of the unemployed people inadequately while ignoring other parts. What is necessary is to provide Job Security for *all* unemployed people at useful jobs, with decent incomes at an American standard of living for every family in America.

This can only be done permanently when the American people change our present profit system,

where 60 parasitic families own most of the basic means of livelihood, to a system of common ownership of the factories, land, mines, etc.—a socialist system of economy.

Meanwhile, we cannot sit back until the day when the majority of the American people are convinced of the need of this basic change. The unemployed have to live meanwhile. Therefore, we support every effort and measure which is in the direction of improving the standard of living of the American people.

In February, Representative Marcantonio, of New York, and others, introduced a bill into Congress known as the American Standard Work and Assistance Act. It provides for three million Federal Works Jobs, at prevailing hours and wages, to average about \$70 monthly; elimination of the 18 months clause, relief tests and arbitrary layoffs; and grants to the states to supplement state relief. This bill is now in the hands of the House Labor Committee for public hearings and report.

The bill should be supported by all trade unions and workers' organizations in the first place. Moreover, it merits the support of merchants and farmers, who stand to gain by any increase in mass purchasing power. These groups and their organizations should send their congressmen letters, telegrams and resolutions urging the speedy passage of the American Standard Work and Assistance Act.

Copper Chains

"After the armistice was signed the government generously continued taking all the copper output at the guaranteed figure, 26 cents a pound, until it had accumulated a surplus of 140,000,000 pounds. When copper dropped to 15 cents, it was announced that the government would dispose of its surplus, 'in cooperation with the producers,' at the existing market price. The government sold its surplus back to the copper producers at from 50 to 75 per cent of the rate they had received for it; the latter then immediately boosted the figure again above 20 cents a pound." (From *Shall It Be Again?* by Kenneth Turner, exposing the First World War racket.)

It seems like Arizona is not the only place the copper barons control governments.

Labor Front

NEW YORK Court of Appeals ruled that a labor union may picket a store to organize the employees, even though none of them belong to the union at the time.

The AFL sawmill local at Eureka, California, has

voted to ask all other locals to support John L. Lewis' proposal for a joint AFL-CIO convention to bring about labor unity.

Two hundred ninety-seven congressmen have signed a pledge not to vote through the 1939 Transportation Bill, allowing merger of railroads, without the Harrington amendment, providing that railroad workers must not be fired in the process. (It is estimated that 300,000 railroad men would be laid off without this amendment.)

W. A. Gardner Lodge, BRT, Milwaukee, passed a resolution for a trade union "peace mobilization day to declare that The Yanks Are Not Coming," and against M Day plan.

The *Arizona Labor Journal*, March 7, carried on page 2 a red-baiting editorial and an eulogy on Jefferson. The editor had better study American history and learn that Jefferson was called everything the Communists are called today. Only difference he was an "agent of red France" instead of Moscow.

Political Potshots

GOVERNOR JONES, besides being a stooge for Big Business against the people of Arizona, exposed himself as an enemy of our constitutional and democratic rights, when he, along with ten Southern governors, Tuesday, March 12, joined in pressuring the Senate to defeat the anti-lynch bill—a bill to help curb that disgrace to the name of our founding fathers and democratic traditions: lynching.

We warned in our January issue that the enemies of tax-free homes would, "jine 'em, if you can't lick 'em." We suspect they are already active. The circulation of petitions to put two or three measures on the ballot in November is a sure way to defeat *all* measures. Those home-owners who really want tax-free homes should force the sponsors of the various petitions to get together and agree on *one* measure. No sales tax, but a severance tax.

WE WANT to express thanks to our readers who responded to our appeal for financial contributions, making possible the printing of the Arizonan. Strong voices speaking for the people are needed more than ever today, when war and unemployment stalk the world.

To continue printing will require continued support from our readers. We receive no "Moscow Gold." If you like our paper help us carry on.

THE EDITORIAL BOARD.