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Cleveland Jobless Face Starvation

Cleveland, Nov. 18 — As the city faces the worst relief crisis in history Mayor Burton and the new Republican governor, Bricker, are continuing the old army game of the former administration. The starvation of thousands of unemployed is just a political football.

Relief rations have been cut to the bone; in fact are being given out now by Miss Bell Greve, country relief director, only on an emergency basis of five day food orders. Orders for coal, clothing, rent, and carfare have been cut out entirely. Single people are expected to live on \$4.70 a month, about 5 cents per meal. Disabled people now classed as "room and board" cases, are to be cut off from food orders entirely. Sick people at the County Nursing Home have just enough food to last two days. There is no coal for fire.

But Mayor Burton passes the buck to Governor Bricker and Bricker back to Burton. While the unemployed are starving Bricker is coming down here to give a talk to the Chamber of Commerce — no doubt on how he's going to cut down taxes at the expense of the relief clients.

A 65% vote is needed to pass welfare levies. This makes it possible for the Chambers of Commerce and the small middle class to block any effective action.

ASSOCIATION FIGHTS BACK

The Association of Unemployed on Direct and Work Relief, militant unemployed organization, has issued a number of leaflets to the unemployed and ex-servicemen now on relief, demanding immediate action and an organized struggle against the boss political set-ups. C. B. Cowan, leader of the group, delivered a ringing denunciation of the whole relief set-up in the City Council chambers on Nov. 15.

The state of Ohio in the last few years has simply been lousy with unemployed crises. Recently all relief was cut off in Toledo. Less than a year ago there was a complete cut off of relief in Cleveland, with thousands of people starving and literally living in the streets and parks.

The unemployed must answer the football throwing of Burton and Bricker by joining the militant Association of Unemployed and organizing demonstrations, and all the necessary activity to gain food and shelter.

Colonial Unrest Slows Down Imperialist War

The imperialist powers are digging in for a long war.

But their plans may be quickly upset. Colonial and oppressed nationals in the empires of all the belligerents are stirring beneath the lash.

A series of demonstrations in Prague that lasted for almost one month got so serious that the brutal Nazi regime shot 9 students and arrested 1,200. The German government announced that it expected the Polish people would react similar to the manner of the Prague people.

In India at least eight ministries have resigned as a result of the refusal of Britain to grant dominion status to India.

Grapevine reports indicate that an uprising took place in Afghanistan a few days after the war began.

In both Canada and South Africa, within the bourgeois camp there were powerful anti-Chamberlain forces who opposed the war.

All these facts and many others indicate that the plans of Messrs. imperialists are liable to receive quite a jolt. For underneath the calm of the present war colonial revolutions are boiling. The pacifist protests of Mr. Ghandi and the demonstrations by the Czech students only reveal the ferment of the workers and peasants.

What Does Stalin Want In the Baltic?

Why has Stalin chosen just this moment to push his demands against Finland? Why, after 22 years, the haste to gain naval and military bases in Esthonia, Latvia, Lithuania?

The Stalinist bureaucrats are prattling about how invincible the Workers State is today, especially after the conquest of Eastern Poland and the new military bases in the 3 Baltic countries. Actually, however, the Soviet Union today is at its most critical stage.

For the moment Hitler is an "ally" of Stalin. But German imperialism and the German army today stand at the very gates of the Soviet Union. The borders of the two countries now touch each other. Behind the scenes in the present war there are feverish attempts at re-alignment, at "peace". Even though the Stalinite bureaucracy is forced to shout Hitler's slogans against "continuation of the war" and for "peace", Stalin clearly understands against whom such a "peace" — if Britain and Germany can achieve it — would be directed.

MAY TURN TABLES ON STALIN

Despite the war going on in Europe there is still a possibility that the imperialist powers may come to a "truce" — on the basis of an attempt at a united imperialist attack with Germany as a spearhead, against the Soviet Union. The very method in which the war is being conducted — the refusal of all powers to bomb or attack important military factories, the "quiet" at the front, and the various peace gestures — indicate that both Britain and Germany (and the United States and Japan) have given this possibility much thought. The way for the conclusion of "peace" on such a basis might be paved, for instance, by the removal of Hitler by the German capitalists and the substitution for him of another capitalist agent.

No doubt the Russian military intelligence is as aware of these secret talks as are all other secret service agencies. The Soviet Union today is in the gravest danger, and with it, of course, the privileges of the bureaucracy. The military bases Stalinism is striving to get, and those it has already gotten shows that even the Stalinite bureaucracy undertands its precarious position. The new "protectorates" over Lithuania, Esthonia, and Latvia can be, and are directed at, only one thing — defense of the Workers State against a possible attack by Germany in the very near future.

DEFEND WORKERS STATE

Shall revolutionists, then, support the military and diplomatic manouvers by Stalinism to branch out in the Baltic? Certainly no one who considers the Soviet Union a workers state and who is for its defense, can possibly be opposed to the U. S. S. R. gaining strategic bases with which to defend itself. What Marxists are against, however, is the METHOD by which Stalinism attempts to get them.

Stalinism today has succumbed to playing purely

(Continued on page 3)

BITTNER DERAILS PACKINGHOUSE STRIKE; GIVES UP MAJOR DEMANDS AT ARMOURS

Kansas City, Nov. 14 — The Bittner-Harris-Johnson leadership of the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee, continues its role as the organizer of defeats for the men in the meat-packing industry.

In April and then in July, representatives of workers in Armour's voted to strike if the company refused to sign a national contract. Immediately after the 2nd vote — a vote by a national convention of the PWOC — Bittner and Don Harris informed the company that a national contract was no longer the issue. The main demand of the fellows at Armours was thus given up even though the sentiment for strike, even for a sit-down strike, was overwhelming.

The result of the shameful sell-out to Armour's has been loss of morale and a number of local defeats.

CALLS OFF MILITANT STRIKE

Strikers in Fargo, North

Dakota, who fought for the reinstatement of 2 men fired for union activity, were forced back to work by the Bittner-Harris leadership after 10 weeks of striking. The 2 men were not given their jobs back, and the strikers lost all seniority rights in the settlement arrived at with the company.

A strike called to force reinstatement of 2 men at the Cudahy plant in Kansas City was called off by Don Harris exactly 11 hours later even though there were fully 1,200 men on the picket line. The reason given was that the County Attorney has informed Harris that "ouster proceedings would be instituted unless immediate steps are taken to open the streets". The K. C. administration had Mr. Harris' full confidence. He has constantly spoken to the K. C. workers about "our good Mayor."

In the present negotiations with the Armour company here Bittner and Harris are fighting ON THE SIDE OF THE COMPANY to

(continued on page 4)

1 Guilty, 2 Freed In Frame-Up

Boston—George Matthews was found guilty, and William Winnick and John Hamilton, the latter a member of the R. W. L., were freed, on charges of "loitering and sauntering" in the Municipal Court in this city.

The whole case is a frame-up, growing out of the arrest of Matthews and Winnick by a drunken and foul-mouthed police sergeant, while selling Trotskyite papers at a Stalinite meeting. After punching these comrades the sergeant defied anyone to say he would stand witness in court of the brutality and provocation by the police. Hamilton stepped forward and got a punch and arrest for his pains. But he testified.

Protest the frame-up of Matthews!

FOR A NEW COMMUNIST (4th) INTERNATIONAL

BUILDERS of the FUTURE

For the last few months the U. S. Government has been conducting an intensive recruiting campaign for the American armed services. Not since the end of the first World War has there been such a drive. 15,000 posters are being put up on billboards all over the country on donated space. Recruiting stations on wheels, trailers equipped as offices are being utilized. Practice public use of anti-aircraft searchlights are dramatizing the National Guard's appeal for men. National Guard units tour through neighborhoods in personal recruiting. During the month of October 20,000 men volunteered, the largest total ever recruited in one month excluding war-time.

At present there are 552,511 enlisted men in the Regular Army, National Guard, Navy and Marine Corps. This total excludes the millions that were and are being trained in the Reserve Officers Training Corps, the Civilian Military Training Camps, and the Civilian Conservation Corps. Within a few months the army plans to raise the total to 632,000 men, thus necessitating a further recruitment of 80,000. All this is under Roosevelt's proclamation of a limited national emergency. The sum of 275 million dollars over and above what has already been appropriated will be requested of Congress in January by Roosevelt in order to "safeguard and enforce the American Neutrality Program."

NONSENSE OF NEUTRALITY

The whole neutrality business is so much more baloney for public consumption. Already the first big steps toward American participation in the war on the side of the Allies have been taken.

The army is not going to be used for "neutrality", nor is it for the preservation of peace. It is being used for Imperialist profits now, for American Imperialist world domination tomorrow. And for this great cause millions of youth are to be sacrificed. Machinery has already been set up by the government to recruit and train 330,000 men every thirty days or four million every year from the moment war is declared. And for what purpose will millions of young workers and students of America be asked to kill equally unfortunate youth of other countries? Will it not be for the billions in profits that Wall Street, the munition manufacturers, the financiers, bankers and industrialists, — that the whole capitalist class in America will reap? Will it not be for new seizures of foreign markets, of sources of raw materials, of colonial slaves to exploit by these same parasitic bosses? Will it not be a means by the capitalists of easing the unemployment problem in America by killing off millions who starved during peacetime? These are the real reasons for the army being enlarged and for which the youth are to die. Not the bunk about "democracy" and "patriotism" and "national security" that was dished out to the suckers in 1917 the same way it is being dished out today.

"But American youth will not and must not repeat the errors of our fathers who fell for this line in 1917. We will not die for a system that can only provide us with insecurity and unemployment, misery and hunger. We will not kill at the behest of the Morgans, the Rockefellerers and their ilk. But we WILL FIGHT to rid the earth of these gangsters who parade under the name of banker, industrialist and entrepreneur. We can do that with the very guns that these criminals have given us; let them see for once what the front of a rifle looks like!

The Profits of Peace Lead Directly to the War for Profits

Of late there have been many editorials in the bosses' press praising the big capitalists and "exposing" the Marxists. They claim that because many financiers and industrialists are opposed to American entry into the war it disproves the Marxian position. Many people believe this, but the editors know better.

NO ONE WANTS WAR

No sane person WANTS an imperialist war, not even the "leaders" of Germany, Italy and Japan. But the world is not run by desires. The INTERESTS of classes, not the desires of individuals and groups, determine in the end the actions of the imperialist powers. All nations try to stay out of the costly war as long as possible. But when the internal breakdown demands it, or when the rule of the exploiters is threatened, they go to war.

These same captains of industry who say they are opposed to war also tell us that America needs a strong military defense. They tell us that it is the objective condition of the world (oh no-not the United States!) that forces them to build a large navy and powerful military "defense." But these exploiters forget to tell us that these same economic conditions that make military defense necessary for them also makes military defense necessary for ALL OTHER capitalist nations. They also, above all, forget to tell us that these same conditions which make military defense necessary, sooner or later make necessary WAR. America is preparing for war because she understands that a military struggle with another power or group of imperialist powers is inevitable sooner or later, with the emphasis on sooner.

WAR AND PROFITS.

The captains of industry tell us that the United States should stay out of war—because the exploiters can make more money staying out than going in. But they are already IN THE WAR economically. They want to stay out of the military phase of the war and participate in the economic phase of the war. It is the WAR in Asia and Europe that has made possible the business boom and profits for these exploiters who preach neutrality. Without the war and the bloody profits, American industries would have even more than the present 13 million unemployed and thousands of idle factories.

"GOOD" CAPITALISTS DON'T WANT WAR?

The Italian Fascists don't want to enter the war either. They can make more profits if they stay out. Do the editors who praise the American exploiters mean that the capitalists of Fascist Italy (and "democratic" United States) are "good" while the "democratic" French and British and the Fascist German exploiters are "bad"?

It is not the exploiters, even though they control the state, who have the final word on the question of what shall be done and what shall not be done. True they subject and control the exploited, but it is the capitalist system, and not the capitalist that creates imperialist wars, depressions and unemployment. To defend their present trade gains and investments; to have a say in the coming division of the Earth; in fact, to avoid a more serious depression and internal crisis each imperialist power MUST enter the war.

AGAINST WAR—FOR NATIONAL DEFENSE?

One who says he is against war and is for national defense is either a muddle-head or a defender of exploitation of mankind. To say you are "against war," before the nation enters the war, is often only cheap talk. The real test to determine if you are against the imperialist war is what you will do when your "OWN" country enters the war. Every capitalist nation, including Germany, Japan and England claim they are fighting to DEFEND themselves against aggressors. If we claim to be against the imperialist war our words become deeds to the highest degree when "our" country enters the war. Opposition to the imperialist war then will separate the defenders of the masses from the agents of the exploiters. A consistent position against war is possible only upon Lenin's position of revolutionary defeatism.

AGAINST WAR—FOR CAPITALISM?

To be against the war and for the defense of capitalism is to say that you are against the effect but for the cause. The imperialist wars, like the depressions, are effects of the capitalist system. Its mode of production

based upon the non-social ownership of the means of production and the production of commodities for profits instead of for use is the CAUSE. Where history reveals a system of production based upon the exploitation of man by man, instead of the exploitation of nature by united mankind there you see a history of class struggle, a history of wars and revolutions.

To oppose war, the effect, and to defend capitalism or any other system of exploitation, is like fighting typhoid in every possible way, but continuing at the same time to defend the dumping of sewerage directly into the drinking water.

The liberal wants peace, the preacher wants peace, the mothers, fathers and sweethearts of the soldiers want peace, but it is a cry in the wilderness unless one understands how peace, lasting peace against imperialist wars, can be obtained.

ONLY REVOLUTION CAN END WAR

AMERICA NEEDS A WAR MORE THAN ANY NATION ON EARTH. In order to protect its empire in the Carribean and in Latin America, as well as to extend its hold to the Pacific, to Asia, America MUST go to war. To bank on anything else is hopeless illusion.

Peace is possible, and the war can be answered effectively, only by the revolutionary overthrow of capitalism; only by the revolutionary reconstruction of society to eliminate the profit motive from production, (and its inevitable wars for profits and markets) and substitute instead PRODUCTION FOR USE. Peace is possible only after the capitalist state, the Dictatorship of the Bourgeoisie, with its labor-hating police and army, is disarmed and smashed, and when a new state, A Workers State, with Workers Councils and Workers Militia — the Dictatorship of the Proletariat — takes its place.

The last war was stopped by revolution—the Russian Revolution of 1917 and the threat of revolution by the German working class. Not an inch of German territory was ever conquered. The present war, too, will be stopped only by the revolutionary working class, under the leadership of the new world vanguard Party that is still to be organized, the New Communist (4th) International.

WHO CAN TELL THE DIFFERENCE?

We remember when our school-teachers told us about the "great leaders of our nation", the good judges, politicians, university presidents, etc?

Well, now that we're out of school let's take a look at these "great leaders."

The Chicago papers are filled these days with stories about the tie-up between the "good judges and good mayors" with Capone gangsters.

Judge Eugene Holland, who dismissed thousands of racketeers and gamblers — and who, by the way, fined a FIGHTING WORKER salesman \$100 — turns out to be a close friend and business associate of a leading Capone gangster, E. J. O'Hare.

Mayor John Patton of Burnham is another business associate and friend of the dead gangster.

Jimmy Hines, Democratic boss in New York and good friend of President Roosevelt, was the fixer for and friend of gangster Dutch Schultz.

Mr. Smith, University president in Louisiana, is nothing but an ordinary crook who swindles funds that are supposed to go for students and books.

Mr. Pendergast, the head of the Kansas City democratic machine, is just a plain shake-down artist and crook.

David L. Lawrence, chairman of the Democratic Party in Pennsylvania, is accused of blackmail, and conspiracy.

Roy E. Brownmiller, former secretary of Highways in Pennsylvania, stole \$600,000 from public payrolls.

And this is just about a one day look at the newspapers.

These are the "leaders of America."

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WHAT IS STALIN DOING IN THE BALTIC?

(Continued from Page 1)

power politics. It uses only military force, or threat of it, to gain its ends in the Baltic. It has completely discarded any attempt to stir up proletarian revolution in the small countries around the Soviet Union. Revolutionists will continue to condemn the purely military and administrative methods by which Stalinism pushes the "defense" of the Soviet Union. In the long run such a "defense" spells defeat. Only the extension of the October Revolution can really give adequate defense to the Soviets. As it is, a hostile population in the Baltic and a disgruntled proletariat within Russia, and the newly conquered Eastern Poland, dissatisfied with the rotten regime of the Stalinite bureaucracy — these things make the Defense of the Soviet Union under Stalinism a thousand times more difficult.

Should Germany and Britain fail to arrive at a "peace" directed at the Soviet Union — and that seems to be the most likely variant, there is the danger that the Soviet Union under Stalinism, will be sucked into the war as a TAIL to German Imperialism. Already Stalinism — and the Soviet Union through it — is involved in the war on Hitler's side. Economic aid to the Nazi war machine is being increased and political aid, through the new slogans and "line" of the Stalinite parties everywhere, is being given the fascist war drive. Just as yesterday Stalin supported the war aims of "democratic" France, so today he is giving full (and much more material) support to Hitler's actual war.

BREAK WITH HITLER AND DEMOCRACIES!

If, through this false policy, the Soviet Union becomes involved in the war, Marxists will oppose the Stalinite participation on the basis of power politics and as a tail, completely subordinate, to the German group of imperialists. AS REVOLUTIONISTS WE MUST DEMAND THAT THE SOVIET UNION PARTICIPATE AGAINST THE WAR ON THE BASIS OF CLASS STRUGGLE.

Concretely that means we continue to defend the Soviet Union. But that defense must revolve around the axis of extension of the October Revolution. It must take on 2 forms: (1) the demand that the S. U. stop subordinating itself to German or any other Imperialist power. If Russian territory is being attacked the Soviets may have to make an alliance with some capitalist nations against others. Such an alliance today is totally unnecessary. But even if it were necessary it would be 100% false to subordinate the Workers State in POLICY to the imperialist needs of Hitler or Chamberlain — as Stalin is doing today. There can only be one ally of the Soviet Union — the working class. And (2) the constant agitation by the Workers State for a truly socialist peace based on the extension of the proletarian revolution to ALL belligerent countries.

THE DEFENSE OF THE SOVIET UNION CAN NOT BE ACHIEVED BY STALINISM AND THE STALINIST POLICY OF POWER POLITICS AND SUBORDINATION TO ONE GROUP OF IMPERIALISTS AGAINST ANOTHER. THE SOVIET UNION CAN BE DEFENDED ONLY BY WORKING FOR THE MILITARY, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL DEFEAT OF ALL THE WARRING POWERS AND A POLITICAL REVOLUTION AGAINST THE AGENTS OF CAPITALISM WITHIN RUSSIA, PRIMARILY STALINISM!

Symposium

THE SOVIET UNION —
RED IMPERIALISM OR A
WARPED WORKERS
STATE?

M. Olay — Libertarian
S. Okun — Revolutionary
Workers League
Francis Heisler — Prominent
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THE WORDS AND DEEDS OF TROTSKYISM

A centrist is a person who TALKS as if he would like to overthrow capitalism, but ACTS to patch up and preserve the system — someone, in other words, who just doesn't mean what he says. In Lenin's definition, centrism means revolutionary WORDS, coupled with REFORMIST DEEDS!

Take a classic example — the Trotskyites.

Against the war, against the Roosevelt War Plans IN WORDS. In DEEDS it calls on the New York workers to vote for the biggest war-mongering party in America, the American Labor Party! (See the Nov. 15 issue of the FIGHTING WORKER).

In WORDS for a new world party of "revolutionary socialism". But in deeds? Build a new capitalist party, a Labor Party.

In WORDS — "we are for independent class action." But in DEEDS — support to the 'Ham and Eggs' pipe-dream: support to the wage-hour bill; support to the Bigelow pension scheme; support to the Ludlow pacifist amendment!

In WORDS — "we must fight the war by working for the overthrow of capitalism." But in DEEDS — "let the people vote on war", patch up the system of capitalism by still another legislative illusion!

We could go on with many many more examples. But these illustrate the point.

Many honest revolutionists remain in the Trotsky swamp because they hope that someday the WORDS may be put into practice. What they do not understand is that the WORDS merely cover up the reformist deeds. Revolutionary workers must break from this opportunist outfit and join with the Marxists to build a new Communist Party and International.

CHICAGO UNEMPLOYED DEMAND RELIEF INCREASES

The following leaflet issued by Local 45 of the Chicago Workers Security Federation gives a picture of the plight of the unemployed in Chicago. We reproduce the whole leaflet:

The sixty-five percent starvation budget (or the eighty percent Thanksgiving budget) of the city of Chicago is a disgrace to America, and is an insult to the unemployed and their families who are supposed to peacefully starve to death on this ration.

But the unemployed have decided that they will not starve and freeze to death. They will not accept this handout (13 dollars a month for a single man for food, rent and clothing); that is worse than the Hitler war rations.

The unemployed of Chicago are beginning to move, are beginning to organize a mighty movement that will sweep all before it and gain its objective.

The unemployed will not be satisfied with the 100% level formerly obtained before the 35% cut. Even this 100% budget is 30% below the government estimate for the minimum necessities of life.

The unemployed demand a HUNDRED PERCENT increase over the present 65% level. Mayor Kelly's starvation budget must be thrown out.

The unemployed are organizing. They are getting ready to PICKET ALL RELIEF STATIONS, and let the bosses and the bloody war profiteers understand what we want this winter. The unemployed will not stop there. They will shake the City Hall and the State Capital with the vibrations of the mighty mass protest. THEY ARE ON THE MARCH.

They want you to join them. As an individual your might is insignificant. But as PART of the ORGANIZED WORKING CLASS YOUR MIGHT IS INVINCIBLE! You must join up and do your part. As an unemployed worker, on relief or off relief, it is your duty. As an employed worker it is also your duty to join with us and give us your fullest support.

Winter is here. We need clothes! We need fuel! We need food! We need better homes!

WE DEMAND ADEQUATE FOOD, CLOTHES, AND FUEL

WE DEMAND A RENT MORATORIUM UNTIL OUR RELIEF BUDGET IS RAISED 100%.

News from Europe

Despite the arrest of two leading comrades of the INTERNATIONAL CONTACT COMMISSION in Europe the work of the European comrades of the Commission continues unabated.

The I. C. C. is an international grouping that stands for the New Communist (4th) International. In the last month the leading committee of a split — off from Trotskyism with groups throughout Europe have joined with the three original signers of the 14 Points, the Red Front of Germany Leninist League of Scotland, and the R. W. L.

We print below excerpts from a letter just received from comrades of the Commission:

October 19, 1939

Dear Comrades:

"We are bending all our efforts to the task of getting to — and here setting up together with the French and other comrades a European revolutionary-Marxist center on the basis of the 14 Points.

"The Molinier group, profiting by the organizational unreparedness of the official Trotskyites, has set up a new Centrist 'bureau for the 4th International' in Belgium, together with V. and similar centrist elements. We have gathered the following information about this:

"There is a violent sectarian struggle between the new centrist grouping and the official Trotskyites, which has come to special sharpness in Belgium, because the remnants of the west-European Trotskyites and the center of the Molinier group are located here..

TROTSKYITE STOOL PIGEON

"The Trotskyite leader, Walter Dauge, who came from the reformists, informed the police that V was identical with one of the supporters of the illegally published 'Internationalist Correspondence', put out by the Molinier group. Dauge declared himself ready to bring forward 'a dozen witnesses' for proof. He defends his action to the workers by saying that the illegally appearing 'Internationalist Correspondence' serves no other purpose than to set the bourgeois police against the official Trotskyites.

"Dauge still rejects every proposal for issuing an illegal organ. Now he is trying to withdraw from the 4th 'International' and found a LEGAL party for the 'Fourth International'. This means a split in the Belgian Trotskyites, since all do not follow Dauge.

"All this only makes the centrist work of the Molinier group among the workers disillusioned with Trotskyism so much the easier. In fact the political line of this group in no way differs from that of the official Trotskyites, except on the question of proclamation of the Fourth 'International'.

"As the axis of their whole agitation and propaganda campaign during the imperialist war they present the bourgeois — pacifist slogan: 'Let us end the war through the unity of the workers peasants, and soldiers!' 'These people carefully avoid a discussion with us.' Signed.....

"DEMOCRACY" IN FRANCE

One hundred and forty-nine working class political and semi-political organizations have been banned in France.

Subscribe to the
YOUNG WORKER

Nov. Elections Reflect Lack of Independent Class Action

The November 7th elections in the United States should act as the danger signal for the labor movement.

Not that elections, or Congress, or capitalist bills, settle anything. Election of "good liberal" capitalist politicians is just as ineffective against wage cuts and speed-up as election of "bad reactionaries". In the whole history of the U. S. (and every other country) Congress has never once granted a demand of the working class — and never will. On occasions the politicians in Congress will enact some concession. Usually it is something that the workers have already gained by independent working class action. At other times some law full of loopholes will be put forward to head off any possible organized threat.

The first ten amendments to the Constitution giving the right to assemble, free speech, etc. were written only after the farmers in Massachusetts and in Virginia raised holy hell—actually organized an uprising. And all the so-called liberal acts of the New Deal came after thousands of strikes, the famous bonus march of the veterans, and a lot of other plain old-fashioned hell-raising.

Who is elected in the November 7th holiday isn't really important. What is important, however, is that it usually is an indication, although distorted, of what the workers have been doing in the period before the elections.

SWING TO RIGHT

The present elections show a strong swing to the right. The utopian Ham and Egg pension scheme was defeated by 2 to 1 in

California, even though in the last election it lost by only 200,000 votes. Similarly, the Bigelow pension in Ohio was badly defeated. In New York, reactionary Tammany Hall won an overwhelming victory — almost a clean sweep. In Philadelphia a conservative Republican ousted a New Deal Democrat. In Reading the Socialist Party administration was given the boot.

What does all this add up to?

The elections are a warning. They show that since the working class, because of its reactionary leadership, has pursued no militant course in the last year or two, millions of farm and city middle class are moving to the right, are leaderless.

PLOWS GROUND FOR FASCISM

If the present course is continued, if Lewis and Green can continue to hoodwink the workers into giving up the sitdown and all other rights to strike and depending only on the "liberal" government and Congress — if this course is continued then the vast middle class will become even more demoralized and be an easy prey for some Fascist demagogue in the U. S.

That's what the elections show! What shall the workers do?

Three things: 1—Organize Progressive Groups in every union run by Green or Lewis or Stalinite or other boss agents, on a program of militant action of class struggle. 2—Organize and fight on the basis of independent working class action. And 3—Build a New Communist Party in the United States.

Packinghouse Men Strike Vote Disregarded

(Continued from page 1)

have two reactionary provisions put into the contract under discussion. The first is a "no-strike" provision; and the second is the virtual elimination of the shop-steward system.

The stewards have been and still are the backbone of the militant workers in this plant. September a year ago, after lots of stalling by the company the stewards called a sit-down strike. Hudson, a labor faker serving Bittner and Harris, persuaded the men eventually to vacate the premises and to accept arbitration. Fortunately the men — with the militant stewards again leading and pointing the way — took things in their own hands and called a number of departmental sit-downs, thus forcing Armour's to come to terms.

ON COMPANY'S SIDE

In a dispute recently between the workers in the yards and the companies, this same labor faker, Hudson, openly denounced the rank and file leader of the men during the negotiations with and in front of the bosses. Fortunately the men refused to budge from their original demands, threatened to strike, and Hudson and the bosses had to give in.

At the Swift plant in this city about 300 men, who have organized into the union despite very difficult conditions, company spying and a powerful company union, are now so disgusted that they have quit the union cold.

Following the recent CIO Convention Bittner is now getting rid of all Stalinists in the union leaderships. Yesterday the Stalinists were Bittner's staunchest allies. Without them he couldn't possibly push the no-sitdown idea down the throats of the packinghouse workers. Without them he couldn't force the men to give up the demand for a national contract. But now they've fallen out.

Two stooges have been sent in to work with a local steward (a member by the way of the Socialist Party) to act as finger men in pointing out Stalinists and seeing that they are purged.

The only ray of hope in the situation in K. C. is the powerful shop stewards committee. So far the militant stewards on the Negotiations Committee have been able to keep the no-strike clause out of the contract. But the plan to eliminate the Department Stewards' right to handle grievances is temporarily incorporated in the tentative draft of the contract. This means that hundreds of grievances will pile up, without any possibility of settlement. As it is, it is hard to settle the great number of grievances.

PROGRESSIVE GROUP

A bulletin issued by a Progressive Group to the Armour workers, THE VANGUARD, has received a wide response. The 8 point program of this group is a genuine class struggle program. It calls for a 30 hour week with 40 hours pay, a closed shop, extension of the steward system, monthly adjustment of wages as the cost of living goes up, reduction in speed-up, local autonomy, etc.

The progressive group is giving full support to the Stewards body insofar as it has fought for genuine local autonomy and the retention of the steward system. The Packinghouse Workers can defend the gains they made 2

New Deal «Aid» Killing Chrysler Strike

November 18 — When 50,000 workers went out on strike in 1937 in the Chrysler plants, John L. Lewis and Dick Frankenstein told them that their best friend was the New Deal. The men eventually went back to work, without gaining a single point they weren't offered before the strike began.

And Chrysler began 2 years of chiseling on the contract, and speed up.

Now the Chrysler men are out of the plants again. They've been locked out after pulling an effective slowdown strike against Chrysler's speed-up.

The New Deal has shown its "friendship" in two ways. The National Labor Relations Board ruled that the workers must bargain on a plant-wide instead of a company-wide basis, thus helping Chrysler pit one plant and one group of men against the other. And now the Social Security Board in Michigan has refused to grant the 55,000 workers thrown out of the plants unemployment compensation on the grounds that they are "refusing work."

The role of Lewis and company gets worse in each strike. Even though Frankenstein and Lewis have a strong disagreement in this strike they both seem to agree on a number of points. First, that they shouldn't spread the strike to other plants and other companies, even though about 50,000 other workers are already locked out because of the Chrysler lockout.

Second, not to call the strike a strike, nor to act as if it were a strike. Just depend on the New Deal mediator to settle it. And third, tone down on the economic demands of the workers, wage increases, etc. and just fight for a union shop.

The Chrysler offensive and speed-up is in line with the war plans of the American bosses who are leaving no stone unturned to make more profits from the war. The slow-down and subsequent strike of the Chrysler workers is a direct result of this speed-up and interferes with the war preparations. That is why the Roosevelt mediators, the unemployment "Compensation" Board, etc., are united to stem the workers resistance.

And here the CIO bureaucracy again shows its treachery with the statement made by President R. J. Thomas, Lewis hand-picked stooge, on his return from the Frisco CIO Convention, just when the strike was hottest. Instead of exposing the reasons for the speed-up Thomas' first public statement was to the effect that "AFTER the war" seniority rights must be guaranteed. The entire boss class as well as Chrysler can read this as a go-ahead signal for their speed-up and efficiency plans for more profit and eventually for their open war drive. Against this treachery of the CIO labor skates the workers of Chrysler and elsewhere must organize progressive groups within the unions to fight the bosses and their war plans despite these "labor" agents who, in addition to breaking strikes today, will be the recruiting sergeants tomorrow.

The Press Fund — \$177; Help it Grow!

Contributions to the TWICE A MONTH FIGHTING WORKER press fund in the first 9 weeks of the campaign totaled \$177.02. This is about 8% or 9% behind the quota we set ourselves of \$100 a month.

Biggest donation was \$20 from comrade J. S. in New York. The rest is made up mostly of dollar bills, nickels, dimes and pennies.

Chicago has contributed \$67.31; New York \$37.50; the Current Events Circle \$35.50; Kansas City \$5; Boston \$6.36; Washington \$3.75; Cleveland

\$7.97; Philadelphia \$4; Richmond \$1; Columbus \$1; and 7 other cities and sources contributed \$7.63.

Now we've got to raise about \$130 to put the campaign over and assure the appearance of the TWICE A MONTH paper. We want to thank every sympathizer who has already helped AND CALL ON THEM TO HELP SOME MORE.

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Following close on the tour by Comrade C. B. Cowan to the West Coast, the League is sending Comrade Bob Campbell to the East Coast for unemployed and organizing work. Comrade Campbell will cover the cities of Richmond, Washington, Baltimore and Philadelphia.