

# THE FIGHTING WORKER

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## WHY NEGRO «NATIONALISM»?

By Observer

The arrest of 81 Negro members of four alleged Japanese inspired organizations, in Chicago, by the F.B.I. was duck soup for the sensation-mongering Chicago Herald-American, Hearst's local yellow sheet. Through every trick known to journalistic skull-duggery, an entire page for three consecutive days, was devoted to "proving" the existence of a vast fifth columnist movement among the America Negroes. Pictures of Major Satakata Takahashi, a known Japanese spy, were prominently displayed along with the arrested Negroes with veiled hints as to his role in organizing the Negroes into a pro-Japanese fifth column. Such sensational dealing with the news without substantiating facts has but one purpose: to broaden and intensify racial animosity and mutual distrust between black and white. No attempts were made, of course, to explain the economic and social causes for the growth of these "anti-war", anti-white organizations, in Chicago's Black belt.

These Negro "leaders" had as their main line anti-working class ideology and actions. They represented a reactionary rather than a healthy working-class reaction to the double exploitation of the Negro masses.

### SERVE BOSS INTERESTS

The R.W.L. has nothing in common with these rabid Negro nationalist organizations, which it has fought rigorously on every occasion as a stumbling block to the unity of black and white workers for class struggle against their common enemy, the capitalist class. We have repeatedly

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## STALINGRAD IS NOT PARIS!

September 28 — The battle of Stalingrad, regardless of its immediate outcome, is preparing a bitter dish for the Soviet bureaucracy as well as for imperialists of all camps. Altho the heroic Russian workers and Red Army men have done all that could be asked of them, against the most terrific combined attack of modern war weapons (planes, tanks, artillery, etc.) on any city to date, the same cannot be said of the Stalinist "leadership". The Soviet masses will sooner or later be compelled to draw the lessons of the bankruptcy of the Stalinist bureaucracy, as accentuated by this latest of many great battles (Rostov, etc.).

## LABOR DEFENSE CONGRESS FOUNDED

The Committee for a Labor Defense Congress, formerly the Waller Defense Committees culminated another year's activity in the field of labor defense by establishing itself as the Labor Defense Congress at its first convention, held over Labor Day weekend in Washington, D. C. Delegates from 6 states and Washington, D. C., were present, as was Mr. Thomas H. Stone, Waller's senior counsel, who has agreed to function with the LDC as eastern legal representative.

The Convention adopted a Program, Constitution, and passed several resolutions demanding freedom for arrested Indian and Irish fighters for freedom, and upholding the demands of these

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### STALINGRAD AND PARIS

Already some 35 days of furious battle have passed and the city of Stalingrad still stands, altho the resistance of the whole of capitalist France was smashed after a mere 29 days of actual combat. Tanks, artillery, siege guns, hand-grenades, hand-to-hand fighting from street to street, have reduced a considerable part of the city to rubble.

There is no "declaring of the city as an open city", — capitulation a la Paris, Hong Kong, Singapore, etc. Not the defense of capitalist property, but an important city of a country where the October Revolution took place is involved. This "little difference", no capitalist politician, newspaper or radio commentator can understand (or refuses to.)

The strategic importance of Stalingrad is as follows: 1) it rests on the Volga River, up which Allied supplies come from the Caspian Sea and Persia (Iran); 2) its fall and the loss of control of the Volga would cut off all Soviet connections with Baku and other vital Southern Caucasus oil areas which are not yet in Nazi hands; 3) loss of this area would compel the Soviet Union to fall back upon the Ural area as the main source of oil, which is needed for the mechanical forces of the Army, air force, and mechanized Soviet agriculture. Without going further, therefore, it can be seen that Stalingrad's importance is far greater than its own area and industrial development.

### WASTE OF STRENGTH

The struggle to save Stalingrad, the farthest point east yet reached by the German imperialists,

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## LABOR DEFENSE CONGRESS HOLDS CONVENTION

### CAMPAIGNS ON HOWARD CARWILE CASE

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countries for liberation from imperialist oppression. A national executive committee of seven was elected, with H. Carwile, of Virginia as National Chairman; H. Ross of New York as National Organizer, and A. Ricks of Washington, as National Secretary-Treasurer.

#### L.D.C. PROGRAM

Included in the adopted Program were points pledging the Labor Defense Congress to defend the democratic rights of all workers engaged in struggle against the oppression of the capitalist system, whether in or out of uniform, as well as all members of oppressed minorities in this country or any other country where oppression exists. It opposed discrimination over race, color or creed, and will defend the workers' right to form workers' defense squads to repel attacks upon workers or their institutions.

It will participate in legal cases affecting the democratic rights of workers, and at all times will encourage pressure of the masses as the main weapon outside of the courtroom. The Labor Defense Congress stands for fullest workers democracy in its administrative policies and will at all times cooperate with and propose joint action with other organizations engaged in labor defense work.

The Labor Defense Congress hopes in the near future to issue a printed volume on the Waller Case, which will be an accurate factual report, and will clear up many of the underhanded rumors circulating the country.

#### CARWILE CASE BEFORE SUPREME COURT NOW

The Howard Carwile case, versus the State of Virginia has received the same contemptuous treatment by the "Commonwealth of Virginia", as the appeals on the Waller case received. The state has simply refused to listen to them, and the Labor Defense Congress is busy on a campaign

to publicize the facts before the Supreme Court of the United States makes its ruling. It is the contention of the state that, like the kings of old, "It can do no wrong", and it refuses to permit itself to be sued on its contractual obligations, thereby giving its injured citizens no road to redress for injuries received at the hands or institutions of the state.

It is to have this cruel condition revoked that is the aim of the Carwile Case. Carwile is suing the state for injurious treatment received at the hands of the Blue Ridge Sanatorium, and the state contends that it will not be sued. Only a Supreme Court ruling can change this status. All who recognize the importance of this case are asked to send a card immediately to the United States Supreme Court, protesting the dismissals of the case in the Virginia Courts, and insisting that the case be heard by the U. S. Supreme Court and a favorable verdict rendered. This must be done immediately, **before** the decision is handed down.

All who are interested in protecting the rights of labor are invited to join the Labor Defense Congress and participate in its activities. For more information, and for copies of the Program and Constitution, write to the national office at 1232 St. Paul Street, Richmond, Va.

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### Have You Read--

**Dialectical Materialism.** Science or Philosophy? A critique of Max Eastman — by Hugo Oehler.

John Dewey --

A Marxian Critique

**Outline of Capital: Volume 1**

**History of the American Labor Movement**

From Revolution to Reaction,  
a History of the 3rd International  
**Trade Unionism Today**

**Order Now**

## WHY NEGRO "NATIONALISM" ?

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pointed out that they are used as part of the many weapons of the ruling class, to divide and rule.

As a Negro, the writer has had some experience with the background of the origin and growth of two of the organizations, namely: "The Colored American National Organization" and "The Brotherhood of Liberty for the Black People of America," headed by Stokely Delmar Hart and C. Newby respectively. From the out-set, the above organizations were nothing but racketeering outfits capitalizing on Negro poverty, discrimination and oppression in the United States so gratuitously provided by capitalism. Both of the "leaders" are vulgar demagogues, ex-preachers and peddlers of charms. At every turn they fought any constructive action for Negro rights, such as the Waller case and similar struggles carried on by black and white labor organizations.

They were vociferous in the defense of capitalism, and at one time supported the New Deal. Their program was entirely negative in character, based on an anti-white plank, and the leaders obviously concerned only with making a living out of dues-collecting. The openly mercenary interest of these "leaders" led to fist fights and splits over dues. As to their connection with the Japanese, despite the praise of Japanese victories over the "whites", this is probably one of those myths out of which newspaper circulations are built. With all these facts in mind, however, the question still remains: why their "success" and growth among the Negro masses in Washington Park, once labeled as a "communist hot-bed"?

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**JUST OUT**

**INTERNATIONAL NEWS**  
**SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER**  
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## The Fighting Worker

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## Plenum Prepares for 6th Convention

The 13th Plenum of the R.W.L., held in Chicago on August 21 and 22, has called for the 6th Convention of the League to be held late this year. The Political Committee is making arrangements to open up the pre-convention discussion period, starting October 1st, when the membership and close sympathizers have a chance to discuss in detail the League's material.

In the present period, the League cannot show substantial gains in membership, but it can show that its membership has not only withstood the pressure of the imperialist war and social-chauvinism but the League has done relatively better than the other so-called Marxist groups. In day to day action our forces have kept busy, and are making gains, while in the field of analyses of trends and events, and the laying down of theoretical positions our forces have stood the test.

One of the high points of the convention will be the Indian Revolution. Class relations and trade union problems in the United States will also be discussed in detail. After three years of imperialist war the signs of social upheaval are maturing in the colonial as well as the advanced links of the capitalist chain. The coming class storms being prepared by the imperialist war will find the cadres of the International Contact Commission ready.

### NOTICE

Readers should note that the Demos Press has no connection whatsoever with the Social Science Institute, located at the same address.

# For Negro - White Workers' Unity!

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## NEGRO NATIONALISM A PRO- DUCT OF CAPITALIST OPPRESSION

To understand the advent and growth of Negro "Nationalism," or rather militant racialism, one has only to look at the status of the Negro in white American society. His lot is that of a doubly-exploited worker despised both by the capitalist and unfortunately also by large numbers of his fellow white workers. Before World War One, the Negro lived almost entirely in the South, under the lash of the neo-fascism of the planters in a state of dire poverty and racial intolerance. He was taught to fear and "respect" the whites, with the lyncher's noose constantly dangling ominously over his head, lest he stray from his designated place in capitalist society.

During the first war, the Negro "peasants" were transported en masse from the South by the Northern industrialists, due to the shortage of labor caused by the discontinuation of immigration. Here in these large industrial centers of Chicago, Pittsburgh and New York, they experienced, in greater or less degree, discrimination, race riots, and segregation. Herded into restricted areas that soon became the breeding places of poverty, crime and disease, they were the easy prey for landlords and merchants.

### A LETTER ON INDIA

We have received a letter from one of our comrades who recently left Australia. This letter deals with the concrete events of the Indian revolution, and helps lift the curtain of censorship that the Anglo-American imperialists are trying to keep over India. This material will be edited and publishable parts made available for our readers in the near future.

## THE GARVEY MOVEMENT

Under these conditions of inequality and oppression, the Garvey movement of the '20's found a fertile field. Garvey organized a large Nationalist Negro organization, violently anti-white, with the aim of leaving America and returning to Africa. The Japanese were looked upon by these Negroes with respect, because they were the only non-white group that stood up to the whites. Of course, they ignored the mistreatment by the Japanese of the Koreans and other minority groups within the Japanese empire, as well as the class differences and antagonisms between the American white capitalists and white workingclass.

The organizations raided by the F.B.I. here in Chicago, are the lineal descendants of the defunct Garvey movement. These organizations could not exist if there were not social and economic causes for their existence.

### SPLITS WORKERS UNITY

Nationalism, whether black or white, Ukrainian or Irish, is often a confused movement of the petty-bourgeoisie with no theoretical clarity as to the functioning of capitalist imperialism.

They distort the class struggle, and place their entire struggle on a racial and nationalist basis. Of course, no true analogy can be drawn between the so-called Negro nationalist movement, and the Irish and Ukrainian nationalist movement; however, it is significant to know that the Irish and Ukrainian nationalists were not adverse to playing ball with Germany, as a "deliverer" from British and Czarist oppression. We can expect nothing more from these confused petty-bourgeois nationalist movements, who want capitalism — and yet again, don't want it.

(To be continued)

# Stalingrad -- Epic of Soviet Workers' Heroism, Burocracy's Bankruptcy

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shows the Soviet burocracy capable only of squandering the strength and lives of the Russian working-class in a retreat which wears down the U.S.S.R. as well as Hitler's forces. This meets the needs of the "democratic" imperialists 100%. The entire battle is confined to military methods, without the slightest attempt to win over the German soldiers to the Soviet side, as did the Bolsheviks under Lenin during the imperialist intervention in 1918-21.

## WHAT STALINISM FEARS

The burocracy is beside itself with fear, altho it puts up a brave "front". Caught between the demand of the Soviet masses for a fulfillment of the promised blessings of Stalinism's foreign policies, and the crass denial of Churchill in the British Parliament that a second front in '42 had been part of the "20-year" British-Soviet pact, the burocracy has had to twist mightily to avoid the rapid development of proletarian wrath. Thus the Stalinist press criticizes sharply the "democracies" "delay", and ignores the lolly-pops of Churchill's praise of the "great Stalin," the "heroic Russians", and other cheap phrases which only a short time ago they would have grabbed up in their entirety. Instead, the burocracy cynically watches the buck-passing debate between Washington and London as to whether a definite second-front promise had been made.

The real truth Stalinism refuses to divulge: in return for the most vague promise of aid by the "democracies", Stalinism "delivered the real goods", by agreeing to oppose workers revolutions in Europe. That the "20 year" British-Soviet Pact meant only a new and worse Versailles, the German masses above all understood. Under the circumstances, it gave Hitler the greatest help to arouse the German sol-

diers to a renewed fury of attack, under the pretense that only a victory by the German imperialists can save the German masses from a future of starvation and oppression. It should be remembered that optimism as to Hitler's failure to carry thru the offensive last spring gave rise to a whole flow of talk of post-war order. Had the Soviet Union shown the German masses an independent stand, a workers' way out, the new offensive might well have been definitely stopped in its tracks.

Instead, Stalinism signed the Pacts, and the offensive followed soon after. Now it is brought to the public's attention, that there was no promise of a second front in 1942, in the pacts themselves. Only in the communique announcing the Pact, was there some vague statement about an "understanding". And to cover up this double dealing, the capitalist press and radio now shout about how bad it would be, should bad feeling occur "among allies" merely on account of a "slight misunderstanding."

Such are the real relations of the "United Nations"!

## WALL ST. INSPECTION

The trip of Wendell Willkie, representative of American finance capital, to the U.S.S.R. is part of a campaign to assuage the Soviet burocracy's feelings with new vague promises. Moreover, American capitalism wishes to get as accurate a picture of Soviet strength as possible in order to map out their future war and post-war plans.

Whether or not Stalingrad falls, the bitter month-long struggle has forced the Nazis to revise their plans. They will be compelled at best to attempt to stabilize their gains so far, and use the coming winter mainly to reorganize their forces for new advances toward the Near East and Asia.

The compact armed forces still held by the U.S.S.R., together with the Moscow, Leningrad, Ural and other areas, enables them to look forward to a future of continued serious battles, despite the vast losses so far. With Japan forced to delay further her threatened attack on Siberia, as a result of the vigorous Soviet defense of Stalingrad, the main Soviet military front that must be watched is the one against German imperialism.

## CLASS FRONT DECISIVE

More important than this, however, are the developments on the CLASS front. Behind the Soviet lines against the bankrupt Stalinist burocrats, as well as behind the German lines against the Hitlerite imperialists, the Stalingrad battle will push the masses toward independent action. Given self-confidence by their gigantic struggles against the imperialists, the Russian workers will lose their fear of opposing the GPU and the oppressive burocracy, and move towards action for the restoration of workers democracy, real soviets and trade unions (not the present burocratic frauds), and the reestablishment of workers control over the domestic and foreign policies of the Soviet Union.

Given the revival of Lenin's revolutionary internationalist policies, under the leadership of a New Communist Party, the Russian workers can disintegrate Hitler's forces, regain all the lost areas, and aid the masses of Europe in a real rising against fascism, for a Socialist United States of Europe. Only developments along **this** line can save the Soviet Union, regardless of the ebb and flow of present German-Soviet military battles, and the "promises" and imperialist maneuvers of Wall Street and London.

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**FOR A NEW COMMUNIST PARTY IN THE SOVIET UNION**