

## Close Ranks Against Roosevelt's Stab at Labor:

# DEFEND THE 29 INDICTED MILITANTS!

### How to Break Strikes--Roosevelt Fashion



At Camp Edwards, Mass., as soldiers were instructed in beating, gassing and shooting strikers. In the maneuver 300 fully armed soldiers (wearing steel helmets) attacked 100 "strikers" (wearing cloth hats), armed with clubs and branches. Outnumbered, the "strikers" were captured and herded into a prison pen, some of them badly bruised.

A Federal Grand Jury, sitting in St. Paul, Minn., on Tuesday handed up indictments against 29 persons charged with seditious conspiracy and advising overthrow of the government of the United States. It is alleged in the indictments that the 29 persons are members of the Socialist Workers Party. Bail was set at \$5,000 each.

Those indicted are: James P. Cannon, Felix Morrow, Albert Goldman, Farrell Dobbs, Carl Skogland, Vincent Dunne, Miles Dunne, Grant Dunne, Grace Carlson, Emil Hanson, Alfred Russell, Oscar Coover, Harry Deboer, Jake Cooper, Carlos Hudson, Max Geldman, Edward Palmquist, Rose Seller, Oscar Schoenfeld, George Frosig, Dorothy Schultz, Kelly Postal, Clarence Hamel, Carl Kuehn, Roy Orgon, Ray Rainbolt, Harold Swanson, Walter Hagstrom and Nion Wagner.

The indictment of the 29 followed an FBI raid on the Minneapolis headquarters of the Socialist Workers Party. This raid was staged by the government after Minneapolis Local 544 of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters had left the AFL and joined the CIO.

### The Vicious May Bill Has Been Beaten--But Do Not Be Misled by the "Victory"

—AN EDITORIAL—

The alertness and the militancy of labor have defeated the vicious May Bill for the time being. We say for the time being because this bill or something like it will be presented again unless labor agrees to be nice, quiet and docile. That is, unless labor consents to unlimited profits for the war industries and a stabilization of wages over a period of two years, according to the plan that the Roosevelt stool-pigeon, Hillman, is now working on.

The May Bill was pulled out of the old "M Day" plan that has been on file for several years. The War Department generals and the Navy admirals have been waiting for the chance to slip the main anti-labor provisions of this totalitarian bill through Congress. They, along with May and others, thought their chance had come with the proposed amendment to the draft act reducing the age of draftees to 28 years.

Under the provisions of the bill, workers would have been sent to jail for five years and fined \$5,000 for picketing "defense" plants. It would have sapped the Wagner Act of all its power and legalized Roosevelt's use of troops to break strikes. The bill was defeated by an almost solid attack from Republicans and Democrats. Only the draft amendment on age remained. May took the pious and hypocritical position that "this bill is the greatest protection to labor in the history of the world."

#### LOOKING A "GIFT HORSE" IN THE MOUTH

The Workers Party wants to point out some of the dangerous aspects of the "victory" that labor has won in defeating this vicious bill. THE OVERWHELMING VOTE AGAINST THE BILL IS A PEACE OFFERING TO A MILITANT AND AROUSED LABOR MOVEMENT. The Republican and Democrat congressmen who voted against the bill believe that labor has learned its lesson and that the workers are now ready to cooperate with the bosses and the boss government in support of the imperialist war. They think that the action of Roosevelt in using the army to break the North American strike has cowed labor and that now the workers are ready to be good boys, after their spanking with Army bayonets.

Also, Congress is proceeding from the stupid notion that the strikes were artificially whipped up by the Stalinists. In their fools' and scoundrels' paradise, these congressmen believe that the strikes are over, now that the Stalinists are again ready to wave the flag as star spangled patriots. These idiots on Capitol Hill cover up completely the real cause of the strikes: low wages and boss attempts at union busting, contrasted with huge profits in the war industries. They try to make us forget that these profits are increasing and that the wages of the workers are still miserably low.

They think that the workers are dumb and don't know anything. They think that we are scared and afraid to have a real strike since

(Continued on page 3)

#### THE WORLD AT WAR

### British and Soviet Sign Full Fledged Military Pact As Battle of Russia Rages

By MAX STERLING

The second stage of the Battle of Russia is on. With the conclusion of the first stage, all of Russian occupied Poland and the Baltic states passed over into Hitler's hands. The Nazi military machine has reorganized its forces and is pounding at the Stalin line which extends all the way from one end of western Russia to the other. Behind this line the Red Army, after stiff resistance to the initial shock of the Nazi blow, is massed to stop, if possible, the German smashes toward Leningrad, Moscow and Kiev.

As the second stage of the war is fraught with the most far-reaching possibilities, the British and the Russians have quickly concluded a full fledged military alliance. This has followed Churchill's immediate call for aid to Russia. The pact has only two points, but these two points are of the utmost importance and they still all doubt that may exist that Britain and Russia are only loosely allied.

#### TERMS OF THE ALLIANCE

By the first point in which "the two governments mutually undertake to render each other assistance and support of all kinds in the present war against Hitlerite Germany," the possibility of a long war between Russia and Germany is not overlooked. If the Russians should mess up Hitler's invasion time table badly, then British and American aid to Russia may indeed be decisive. This will be so even if Hitler should be successful in his conquest of western Russia. The German general staff is not only out to conquer European Russia; more important to them, is that the entire Russian army should be destroyed in the process. If they fail in this, the war will only have advanced toward the East. On the Asiatic battleground Hitler will find once more the Russian, British and American foe.

The second point of the pact in which Britain and Russia "undertake that during this war they will neither negotiate nor conclude an armistice or treaty of peace except by mutual agreement" is closely tied up with the conception outlined above. Great Britain and America want above all to maintain a land front against the Nazis. This front may be pushed back beyond the Urals but exist it must. In this case it is not Stalin who has to fear a peace between Germany and the Anglo-American bloc. Right now there exists no basis for such a peace. Rather it is the British who are afraid that Stalin may make a deal with Hitler once Hitler has rendered

the Red Army powerless and taken what he wants of western Russia. Naturally such a deal, while not excluded as a possibility, is nevertheless highly improbable.

It is highly improbable because if the Red Army should still be more or less intact in the event of its retreat beyond the Urals, it would be foolish for Stalin to accept the loss of the richest part of Russia when behind him stand Great Britain and America. It is also doubtful that Hitler would risk pursuing the Red Army beyond the Urals in the event that Stalin should refuse to put himself under Hitler's thumb. Conversely, should Hitler succeed in destroying the Red Army, of what use could Stalin be to him then?

#### CHICANERY AND DECEIT

It is interesting to note that it is only in the so-called "democratic" camp that there are any qualms about regarding Russia as an ally in the fullest sense of the word. This anxiety is understandable since these gentlemen are pretending that theirs is a war against "totalitarian slavery" and for "democracy." They must also continue to lie about communism by which there is no better way than

(Continued on page 3)

### Columbus Negroes Break Theatre Race Barrier

Special to Labor Action

COLUMBUS, Ohio.—The Vanguard League, a group of Columbus Negroes fighting for Negro rights, has finally gained its objective. The Vanguard League has won the right for any Negro to see a show in a downtown theatre. They have brought the powerful motion picture theatre operators to terms. Up to now it has been the practice in Columbus to refuse Negroes admission to all theatres except those in the Negro district itself.

The Vanguard League started to picket the Club Lincoln, a night club employing a Negro floor show, but refusing admission to Negroes wishing to view the show. The picketing had a twofold value, however, because the Club Lincoln is owned by the owner of a large chain of motion picture theatres in Columbus and was thus striking directly at the powerful theatre owners themselves.

Test cases were brought to court by Negroes trying to buy tickets in downtown theatres and then haling the managers into court for refusing to sell them tickets. It was mainly the picketing, however, that did the trick. That's what the theatre owners felt the most.

Let's have more of this. This is the way to advance the Negro people. Mass action on the picket line. Out in the open. None of this behind the scenes negotiating. That's the bosses' game and they will always beat you at it.

# Congress Throws Burden of War Billions on Labor

By FRANK DEMBY

As the July 1 deadline to begin the new fiscal year approached, the duly elected representatives of the people put on their annually astonishing burst of speed and voted the largest federal budget in the history of the United States. Almost 70 per cent of the 1942 fiscal budget will go for war preparations. What has been happening to the federal budget can readily be seen from the table:

More money will be spent for war preparations from July 1, 1941, to June 30, 1942, than was spent for all purposes during the past fiscal year. The total expenditures for the coming year are expected to exceed the previous record, during 1918-1919, by almost four billion dollars. Moreover, this total will undoubtedly be exceeded as the drive toward entry into a "shooting war" accelerates, requiring the passage of huge deficiency appropriations. From 1940 to 1941, direct appropriations for war increased about 400 per cent. From 1941 to 1942 they will increase at least 250 per cent more.

	Expenditures in millions of dollars			
	Total Expenditures	War*	Normal for War	% Budget for War
Fiscal year 1940 (actual)	8,998	1,559	7,439	17.3
Fiscal year 1941 (actual)	12,710	6,948	6,662	47.6
Fiscal year 1942 (planned)	22,269	15,500	6,768	69.6

\*Expenditures for war (exclusive of debt retirements) include only those directly listed by the Treasury under "National Defense." However, many hundreds of millions of dollars appropriated for other agencies will directly and indirectly aid in war preparations.

These figures simply mean that the United States has truly entered upon a long period of war economy. Representatives of the government and the boss press have been thundering at us for the past several months what this will mean to the working population of the country—gasless Sundays, reduction in the use of electricity for the home, no more aluminum pots and pans, etc. But it will mean much more than a few inconveniences in our normal habits of consumption.

The burden of the war economy

will be thrown onto the backs of those who toil and sweat for a living—that is the real meaning of this war budget. One of the first direct indications of this was the cutting down of the total relief appropriation to \$910,905,000. This means a reduction of more than \$457,000,000 from last year's relief appropriation. Translated into human terms, it means that 700,000 of the 1,700,000 persons now on WPA will have to be dropped immediately.

The New York Times, in its report of this step, says: "In both

Houses, the majority contended that in the coming year defense industries will absorb many of those dropped from the rolls, but at the same time, Congress was told by WPA officials that 5,500,000 persons will be unemployed during the next twelve months and that because of the uneven distribution of defense contracts many thousands were bound to suffer because of the relief cuts." (Emphasis mine—F.D.) We can be sure that the government officials are not exaggerating the number of unemployed. Labor sources indicate a much higher figure. Moreover, dislocations in the war economy produced by the shifting of many factories from the production of peacetime consumer goods to war-time producer goods and the inability to procure some necessary raw materials for war production will undoubtedly throw many additional thousands of workers into the ranks of the unemployed.

This, however, is only the beginning of the story of how the developing war economy will mean a catastrophic decline in the living stand-

ards of the masses. War costs money. World War I cost the United States, according to the late President Coolidge, \$100,000,000,000. The tremendous increase in man's capacity for destruction in the intervening quarter of a century means that World War II will cost the United States a much greater sum.

It is expected that revenues for the 1942 fiscal year will total about \$12,500,000,000, about five billion dollars more than the past year, but still ten billion dollars short of what is to be spent. The deficit, of course, will be covered by government borrowing. This will raise the national debt by June 30, 1942, to an expected \$57,500,000,000. It probably will be much larger coming close to the present statutory limit of 65 billion dollars on the federal debt. Interest payments on the national debt during the past year amounted to \$1,111,000,000. The overwhelming majority of these payments went to the banks and insurance companies. This year these companies will receive even more.

A rising national debt, particularly one based on a war economy, greatly

increases the danger of inflation. Already Leon Henderson, federal price control administrator, speaks of the price situation as "very serious." He believes that the cost of living is bound to go up and that far-reaching controls will be needed, particularly over wage rates. The cost of living has already gone up almost 5 per cent during the past year, more than nullifying most of the wage increases that some sections of the working class have won through strike action or the threat of strikes. An indication of what is in store for the workers is shown by the wholesale commodity index of the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, which has risen almost 50 per cent since the outbreak of World War II. Retail prices always follow wholesale prices, as a rule, even though they lag behind somewhat. In other words, especially prices of necessities, will continue to rise during the next year—meaning a further and really substantial decline in the standard of living of the American workers and masses.

(Continued on page 4)



Labor News and Notes from Britain

By George Padmore

Whither the West Indies?

The following material is taken from the British New Leader...

AFTER THE WAR—MORE WAR!

"If I have not disappeared off the stage at the end of this war, I have made up my mind that the military side must be on the same terms as the Navy and the Air Force..."

CIVIL LIBERTIES CONFERENCE

Delegates (992) representing 640 organizations with a membership of 1,000,000 attended a conference on the freedom of the press...

I.L.P. HEADQUARTERS

The central headquarters of the Independent Labor Party in London was destroyed during a bombing attack early in June.

GLASGOW

The Glasgow Trades Council and the Glasgow I.L.P. Federation are demanding "hutment" settlements at coast and rural resorts for bombed refugees.

fused to organize refugee settlements so far.

FIREWATCHING

Trade union and left wing labor demands for firewatchers include the following:

- 1) Trade union wages. 2) Adequate rest periods. 3) Proper equipment, including tin hats. 4) Full compensation in the event of injury or death.

APPRENTICE STRIKES

The Scottish apprentice strike has spread elsewhere. There was one in Belfast and at a Metro Vickers factory in Lancashire.

MINERS' FEDERATION

The Miners' Federation executive committee is pressing for a minimum weekly wage of \$16.00. Government circles, however, are trying to fix a \$12.00 per week minimum!

BOSS RELIEF

The finance bill adopted by the government provides for a return of 20 per cent of the excess profits tax after the war. Special concessions are also to be given to metal and oil mining companies.

OLD SCHOOL TIES

The last list of 319 appointments to the Home Guard includes peers, baronets, knights and brigadier generals. Only 19 persons without titles appear in it.

The rich will do anything for the poor except get off their backs. Similarly the British imperialists will do anything for their subject peoples...

THE TRAGEDY OF INDIA

This is the basic reason why Britain has resisted and will continue to resist every effort on the part of the Indian people for political liberty and human freedom...

While seemingly democratic, the so-called reforms just granted to Trinidad and Jamaica reserve all essential powers in the hands of the governors.

"We see neither progress nor reform in this much-publicized blessing," writes The People of Trinidad. Giving judgment, it continues:

"Indeed, we find ourselves in this dilemma as regards the new Constitution: we are wondering whether we over-estimate the subtlety of the Colonial Office or whether they under-estimate ours. There is a good strong American word by which all such acts are explained—bluff! It is particularly apt in this instance..."

The British government has made a great song about the new "democratic constitutions" to be granted to Trinidad and Jamaica. In this article the truth is told by a socialist leader of the Negro workers.

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The executive controls all financial matters and is the body which formulates all legislation later proposed before the Legislative Council for approval or disapproval.

Significantly enough, the new recommendations do not greatly affect the composition or powers of the executive. Such trifling changes as are to be made are in the Legislative Council.

This constitutes the essential feature of crown colony administration. Even in Ceylon, where the Donoughmore Constitution—that Labor Party gift to the Ceylonese natives—allows wider representation...

When British imperialists offer a constitution to the colonial peoples it is like Greeks bearing gifts—something to beware of. They are trying to bamboozle the West Indies, just as the East Indies, but they will succeed no better in one way than in the other.

It is quite certain that West Indian public opinion will not be satisfied with the proposed niggardly reforms. The insignificant constitutional gestures made to the native peoples of Trinidad and Jamaica completely ignore the solid political claims of the colonies...

It is scandalous that some three million people should be ruled by about a dozen separate governors and legislatures. Each colony is at present obliged to struggle to maintain its own medical and health services, education and agricultural department...

WHY NOT FEDERATION?

Today every progressive individual realizes the advantages of the political federation of national and geographical units as the best way of promoting the economic and social well-being of the people.

"Whatever might be the ultimate future of the West Indies as a whole," declares Lord Moynie, "we could not look to any uniform system of government in the component parts."

West Indians have more in common than the peoples of Europe. They belong in the main to the same ethnic stock—Africans. They speak the same language, profess the same Christian religion and have assimilated the same cultural outlook.

As President Roosevelt recently reminded the world that "there never has been, is not now and never will be any race (including the British—G.P.) fit to serve as masters over their fellow men..."

This, too, is our claim. We demand full self-determination, not as an end in itself—for we are not narrowly nationalist—but as the historic prerequisite for the free and voluntary cooperation between all nations and peoples and races.

May Bill - -

(Continued from page 1)

Strikebreaker Roosevelt sent the Army in with fixed bayonets. They point out how few strikes there are now since the Army prepared itself for stopping Hitler's tanks by acting against unarmed workmen in the United States.

Since they think we are momentarily whipped, these "friends of labor" feel that it is best to let sleeping dogs lie. May and his gang think we are whipped too and wanted to slip his bill through before we recover from the brave action of Roosevelt's Army at North American. But the "friends of labor" have more sense. Their heads are not all bone and gristle.

These "champions of labor" talked about the passage of the bill as the "collapse of the world's mightiest citadel of freedom—free America." Conservative, silk-stocking Republican Baldwin, from New York, opined that it would be dangerous to suspend the principles of the Wagner Act "just when their recognition is most essential." Thomson, from poll-tax Texas, where they murder Negroes in court and go free, prayerfully ejaculated that "this is no time for hysteria but for unity and patriotism."

THE PICKET LINE BRINGS RESULTS

Labor should not be misled by this "victory." The wolf has not really changed into a lamb. Many of these conservative congressmen who are anti-labor to the core, voted against the May Bill because they thought it the best policy now. They were afraid, as some of them said, that labor would not take too kindly to the bill. Also, they felt that if labor can be tricked into cooperation, this would be better than rubbing our bristles the wrong way. We might fight back.

Something else, however, entered into this vote. That is the opposition of big business to plant seizures by Roosevelt. This had far more to do with the vote of these "champions of labor" than anything else. It's all right to break strikes with the Army, but the bosses don't want their plants interfered with. Congressmen know their master's voice when they hear it.

It is said that Roosevelt was against the May Bill. So what? we ask. Roosevelt is Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy. He has issued an "unlimited emergency" proclamation. What need has he for more laws. He sent the troops to North American and he will repeat it as Commander in Chief. He said this in so many words in the order restoring the "seized" North American plant to its owners.

The workers need but one fact to guide them. That is the fact that wages are still low, hours too long and millions of workers outside the trade unions. Combined with this is the further and important fact that the bosses are set for the biggest profits in the history of capitalism. The vote of the "champions of labor" against the May Bill hasn't changed one damn thing. The workers are learning what produces a little change. Not the good will of labor's "friends" in Congress, but the mass picket line at the factory gate.

Singapore and British Malaya Armored Cars and Tanks Used Against strikers

An American sailor recently returned from a trip to Singapore and Penang, British ports of the Federated Malay States, has given us the following picture of this imperialist colony—important as a source of rubber and tin deposits.

conducted by the native workers of Malaya. This strike assumed violent proportions and rapidly became a general strike of all rubber plantation workers during the month of May.

Within the past year the Singapore base has been greatly reinforced and its defenses have been extended. The island bristles with guns, air fields, planes, armored equipment, etc. Singapore city is filled with troops brought from England (mainly officers and arrogant RAF pilots), Australians, New Zealanders and Indians. There is much hostility between the English and Anzac soldiers because the latter resent the fact that they bore the brunt of the defeats in Greece and Crete—with the English being the first to scam out.

In the rubber districts of Singapore and the state of Johore there labor tens of thousands of workers—mainly Tamils brought over from South India and Ceylon. There are also many Malayan workers. Organized into a militant union, they struck for higher wages and shorter hours than the 11 per day they labor. They organized themselves into picket bands that roamed the plantations, driving off would-be strike-breakers (blacklegs). They fiercely battled the local constabulary, who soon found themselves overwhelmed by the strength of the workers.

Far more important has been the extended and bitter rubber strike

Then armored cars and tanks (we thought they were there to be used against the Japanese aggressors!)

The World at War - - Lynn - -

(Continued from page 1)

to identify it with what exists in Russia. Since Churchill, at any rate, knows what the real state of affairs is, he has no hesitation in coming forward with a real alliance with Russia. Naturally he still peddles the lie about communism in Russia.

Since the alliance with Russia is real, as Churchill points out, it is amusing to note with what embarrassment the officials of the British Broadcasting Company viewed the suggestion that the "Internationale" be played alongside the other national anthems of Britain's allies.

For their part the Russian bureaucrats are certainly not so squeamish about their new alliance with British and American imperialism. They don't even take the trouble, as Churchill has with communism, to disassociate themselves from the ideology of capitalism.

LITVINOFF ON THE WAR

Litvinoff's words expose the true character of the Russian-British alliance, which is reactionary through and through. Is it any wonder that Churchill comes forward at once to embrace Stalin? The arch-enemy of labor, Churchill, knows his Stalin. He can depend upon him to hand over the working class bound and fettered to the nefarious aims of his imperialist masters.

The Soviet Union and Great Britain are fighting for the integrity and independence of their states and against the extermination of their peoples, and at the same time their common victory will bring the emancipation of their peoples from the

heels of Hitler, and this victory will bring new foundations for the organization of a better life in conformity with the desire of each of the liberated countries."

Trussed up to appear as a war of liberation, and the imperialists are given a clean bill of health. Could a greater betrayal of the peoples who hunger and are slaughtered in the imperialist war be conceived? Is this the lie for which the Russian masses are fighting? Is this what the workers exploited and starved by the British and American capitalists are fighting for? And the millions of colonial slaves of British and American imperialism, shall they too fight for this falsehood? Is this the way to inspire the German and Italian workers to throw off the chains of Hitler and Mussolini in order only to have them exchanged for the shackles of a new Versailles treaty of Churchill, Roosevelt and Stalin?

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Conscript the War Industries Under Workers' Control!

This is an up-to-date illustration of "democratic" imperialism in action against the enslaved colonial workers. This is why troops are sent overseas.

(Continued from page 2)

council on the housing question have had a good effect in one sense. They have shown labor that it cannot trust capitalist politicians, whether they be Republicans or Democrats.

Everyone in Lynn knows that there is a shortage of decent housing facilities. War boom expansion at the GE plants has brought thousands of new people into Lynn, intensifying the shortage. And everyone knows what the unscrupulous landlords, bankers and real estate operators are doing. These greedy people are busy profiteering, cutting as big a hole as they can into the workers' pocket-books. Naturally they are against any decent housing project.

The Workers Party in Lynn has led the way in pointing out that the workers cannot trust the bankers' stooges in the council. It is the capitalists who own the two old parties, here as everywhere. Both Democrats and Republicans are their servants. So it is only natural for those politicians to listen to their masters' voices. "He who pays the piper calls the tune."

Labor must organize to protect its political interests just as much as it needs unions to protect its interests in the shops. The WP therefore has urged and supported labor's move toward independent political action in its series of leaflet "Messages" being distributed locally.

Table with 3 columns: Branch, Quota, Subs Obtained. Lists Boston, Lynn, St. Louis, Syracuse, Columbus with their respective quotas and obtained subscriptions.

Table with 3 columns: Branch, Quota, Subs Obtained. Lists Los Angeles, Chicago Central, Worcester, Kansas City, Akron, Buffalo with their respective quotas and obtained subscriptions.

PRESS ACTION

25¢ SUB DRIVE The national campaign to obtain 200 special 25 cent subscriptions to LABOR ACTION by July 15 has been extended by one month in order to enable several branches, which for various reasons have not been able to get to work on this drive, to fill given in an adjoining column.

The standing of the campaign is given below:

NEW YORK CITY The drive for its quota of 75 subscriptions was delayed until this week. However, work is beginning on the campaign, which is expected to be completed within three weeks.

BRANCHES NOT HEARD FROM What has happened to San Francisco, Chicago South Side, Streator, Baltimore, Buffalo, Rochester, Cleveland, Philadelphia, Washington?

There are still five weeks to go to complete this drive. Let's go over the top with MORE than 200 new 25 cent subscriptions. Already obtained are 91 subscriptions toward the out-of-town quota of 125 subs. (However, note that 40 of these were sent in by St. Louis.) New York promises its 75 subs within three weeks. Let's have the subs come rolling in during the next few weeks to make the drive a 100 per cent success!

We Demand: Higher Wages and Workers' Rights for Conscripts!

# Editorials

## OUR PROGRAM AGAINST THE WAR

1. Against both imperialist war camps! For the third camp of World Labor and the colonial peoples!
2. For the right to strike! For the defense of civil liberties and all workers' rights! Stop the persecution of aliens. Against the M-Day plans and war-time dictatorship.
3. Thirty hours a week; thirty dollars minimum pay! Time and a half wages for overtime above 30 hours. For increased wages to meet the rising cost of living.
4. Let the people vote on war! For the right of youth to vote at the age of 18—old enough to fight, old enough to vote!
5. Not a man, not a cent for Wall Street's war! A capital levy to cover the costs of imperialist war. No indirect taxes on the people.
6. Conscript the war industries under workers' control!
7. Expropriate the "Sixty Families"—the three per cent of the people who own ninety per cent of the wealth!
8. No government contract without a union contract!
9. Abolish secret diplomacy! Open the files of the State Department.
10. Full workers' rights for conscripts—the right to organize and to bargain collectively with the officers, the right of free speech, press and assembly.
11. Double the wages of the conscripts! Former employers to pay the wage differential and guarantee return of the job.
12. Withdraw all armed forces from territory outside the United States. Free the colonies. Hands off Latin America.
13. Down with Jim-Crow and anti-Semitism! For full social, economic and political equality for Negroes. End discrimination against Negroes in industry and in the trade unions.
14. For Workers' Defense Guards against fascist and vigilante attacks!
15. For an Independent Labor Party.
16. For a workers' government and a people's army! No confidence in the Roosevelt government.
17. For Peace through Socialism. For the Socialist United States of America, for the Socialist United States of Europe, for the World Socialist Federation.

Upon this CLASS basis we call upon labor, acting through its unions, to condemn and oppose both measures, and by doing that to condemn and oppose every stage of the bosses' war.

## Mayflower Story

Picture to yourselves the following cartoon:  
The Mayflower is about to land its cargo of men and women who fled Europe. On Plymouth Rock stands an Indian warrior with hand raised in stop signal. "If any of you have relatives in the old country—says the Indian (in Indian of course)—we can't take the chance of letting you in. You'll have to turn around and go back."

Well, that's just about the size of the new State Department regulation concerning refugees fleeing from Nazism. (See last week's LABOR ACTION.) Applicants for United States visas, or those who already have them, will not be allowed to enter the country if they have relatives in Hitler controlled territory. Inasmuch as nearly everyone has a relative of some kind, the order bars all but the influential (and rich) refugees.

The theory behind the State Department action is that the Nazis will be able to put pressure on the refugees through their relatives. The assumption behind that is that every anti-fascist will act in the image of the careerists in the State Department. That refugee dowagers whose anti-fascism is not as deep as their love of comfort, may turn coat, is undeniable. But the regulation is a label against those working class anti-fascists who stood firm in the face of terror—and this type of refugee is the only one really affected, because the wealthy and socialite "democrats" from abroad will find a way of getting in.

This country was founded by immigrants and built by successive generations of immigrants fleeing European intolerance. Barring the victims of Hitler terror is a vilely reactionary piece of political totalitarianism. OUR loyalties, that is the loyalties of the working class, are world-wide. Loyalty to our class and to the anti-fascists of the world, makes it necessary that we demand:

AN OPEN DOOR FOR REFUGEES!

## A Message to Finnish Workers

Below we publish a translation of a leaflet distributed by the Workers Party to the Finnish workers in the Fitchburg, Mass., area.

American Finnish Working People:  
For Peace and Freedom for the Finnish People! We see now what the Finnish capitalists have been hoping for: war between Germany and Soviet Russia. And those Finnish capitalists and generals who yesterday spoke so much about "Finnish Freedom" today call the Nazi hordes into Finland.

As in 1918, those "patriots" unite with, and prefer, foreign tyranny to Finnish freedom. Why? Because the capitalists have only one fatherland—their purse. They know that the German rulers are their brothers.

The Finnish working people want no tyranny—neither Hitler's nor Stalin's—nor that of the Finnish bourgeoisie. The Finnish working people know Stalin, the murderer and despoiler of the real Russian Revolution.

The Stalinist "Communist" leaders have no concern over the needs of the working people of the world. They have but one goal: to aid the interests of the Stalin bureaucracy. Thus it is that the Stalinists in America and every other country change their "principles" as easily as any opportunist bourgeois politician.

The Finnish working people have not forgotten 1918. We do not forget what "The Butcher" Mannerheim did together with his German allies. The thousands of working class comrades that they murdered will always be in our memory.

In the Russo-Finnish war of 1939 the revolutionary socialists (Workers Party) said that the road to Finnish freedom and independence is through freedom from our own bourgeoisie, not through supporting it, and then we could fight the assaults of Stalin and Hitler. THE MAIN ENEMY IS OUR OWN BOURGEOISIE.

The enemy is capitalism. Mannerheim, Ryti, Valenius & Co. do not fight for Finnish independence. They fight to maintain their profits and riches. The way to Finnish freedom leads through the overthrow of our own capitalists, to the establishment of a free, socialist Finland.

Now it is clear that in Finland, as throughout the world, the bourgeoisie fought only for its wealth. For them there IS NO principled war. Yesterday Finland was an outpost of the "democratic" countries. Today it is fascism's outpost. The young Finnish workers had to fight at the front for both "ideologies."

But the bourgeoisie is the bourgeoisie. It has but one ideology, but one goal—the maintenance and extension of its riches. And for the workers there is but one road: the road to freedom. Capitalism is the enemy; capitalism must be overthrown.

Capitalism creates war and fascism. Against capitalism and its offspring! For a free, workers' Finland! For the Socialist United States of Europe! For the Socialist United States of the World! Fitchburg District Workers Party of the U.S.

# Billions for Boss War Will Come Out of Labor's Pocket

(Continued from page 1)

Nor is this the whole story of what the war budget means. The increased revenues will be covered only in small part by increased yields from existing taxes. The House Ways and Means Committee has not yet reported out the new tax bill. When it does I shall analyze it in detail. In the meantime, advance reports indicate that close to a billion dollars will be raised through new excise taxes, which will be passed on to the consumer in the form of higher prices. Practically all of these will bear most heavily on the workers and those in the low income brackets. In addition, the bulk of the increased revenue from income taxes will come from the middle classes. The most damning indictment of the proposed revenue bill, however, is the fact that it proposes a mere 10 per cent increase in the rates for the excess profits tax. This is a drop in the bucket and still leaves the excess profits tax as a pure swindle.

The opposition of the Workers Party to the war budget flows from our opposition to the imperialist war toward which Roosevelt is heading us. All sections of the working class

should therefore oppose this war budget. The workers, especially the organized workers through their trade unions, must oppose this war budget because it means death and strangulation for them. It means a tremendous decline in their standard of living at the same time that the big capitalists are raking in fantastically high profits. It means a steady undermining of the hard-won rights and civil liberties of the workers as the capitalists try to solve the budgetary crisis by a more and more open drive to institute a rigid totalitarian regime in this country.

We are not in the habit of giving advice to the capitalists on how to run their government. But we have the right and the duty to point out to the workers that there is absolutely no reason why the main burden of the war should be shouldered by the workers and masses. There is no rational reason why people should be unemployed and starving in this country of wonderfully abundant resources and highly developed technical skills. There is no reason why prices should go up, why indirect taxes, which fall most heavily on those who can least afford to pay

them, should increase. In short, there is no reason why the standard of living of the working population should go down while a few build up huge fortunes, except that this is the way the capitalist system functions, particularly in war-time.

Let the capitalists pay for their war! They can afford it! Let the government levy a 100 per cent excess profits tax. Take all the profits out of war. Nationalize the war industries and place them under control of the workers. Place a capital levy on the accumulated fortunes of big business men, wrung from the sweat and blood of the workers, and there can be a steadily rising standard of living and the preservation of democratic rights!

## New International Out This Week Will Analyze Nazi-Soviet War

The New International announces another splendid 32-page issue chock full of interesting political and theoretical articles. The magazine will be off the press this week.

A partial list of contents follows:

- 1) A detailed editorial analysis of the Russo-German war which includes comment on its domestic repercussions as well as its relation to the World Imperialist War.
- 2) The first section of a lengthy review of "The Managerial Revolution" by James Burnham. Albert Gates, who reviews the book, discusses the nature of fascism and capitalism in relation to the Second World War.
- 3) An article by David Coolidge reviewing the past period in the labor movement, defining trends within it, and analyzing its present position.
- 4) A discussion article on the Russian question by David Grey.
- 5) The continuation of Franz Mehring's article on Historical Materialism.
- 6) A review by Frank Demby of Many Gordon's book on the Russian workers before and after the czar. The review discusses the economic conditions of the Russian working class.

This plus other material will go to make up an attractive and interesting issue. Don't fail to get your copy! It's only 20 cents a copy. Subscription rates: One year, \$1.50; six months, \$1.00. Write The New International, 114 West 14th Street, New York, N. Y.

## A Reader Takes the Floor

HE DOESN'T GET THE POINT AT ALL

Dear Editor:

Six months ago the Commies were jumping over Sidney Hillman because he did not get a union agreement when Ford was being given a war contract. The Commies even in Moscow noticed it and devoted their special brand of love for Hillman.

Now, six months later, the CIO is in Ford for good. The Commies wanted the revolution then, at that minute. The point some level headed people make is that if it only takes six months to get what you want without unplay and bloodshed, then it is a good idea to wait those six months.

The detractors of Hillman then are probably whooping it up for more production for the Soviet Union now. Of course they gave up their minds when they signed the fake name for the first time.

Carl Peterson.

(We don't get it. "Waiting" had nothing to do with the Ford victory. A picket line did. Without it the men would have had to wait many times six months for Sidney Hillman, the bosses' man, to put the squeeze on Ford. That the Stalinists, along with union militants everywhere, jumped on Ford, is no proof that the "jumping" was wrong. It merely means that at that time, and for their own reasons, they approached a legitimate working class point of view. The complaint truly comes NOW when, as a result of the Hitler invasion of Russia, and the change in Stalin's alliance, the Stalinists are loudly bidding for the jingo contract in the United States, including full approval of Sidney Hillman, if the terms of the contract include that point—as they do in one way or another.—Ed.)

Editor's Note: We ask the indulgence of correspondents if their letters are delayed in publication. Put it down to space limitations—and the need of a larger paper. We urge you to continue writing us—in fact, to write more often.

## THE NEGRO'S FIGHT

# Negro Protest Runs Too Deep To Be Squashed

By J. R. JOHNSON

Roosevelt is out to break the Negro movement. He has won the first round in the fight. Without Randolph and Walter White he couldn't have won. But the fight isn't over. It is just beginning. The Negro protest against the crimes of American democracy is running too deep and too strong to be squashed by a slick President and two traitors.

For the Workers Party this is a question of the first importance. Our party has therefore been seeking to find out by its own contacts and its own investigation what is the attitude of the Negro people to this recent sell-out and to the whole political situation.

### NEGROES WANT SOMETHING DONE

First, Washington. The general attitude is a growing militancy and a feeling that something must be done. The Negro petty-bourgeoisie is of course concerned with its own petty pleasures, and with its old game of aping the government bureaucracy. But the people in the street are responding to events. Two party members were distributing leaflets in a Negro neighborhood some weeks ago. Cops in a car wished to intimidate them, asked them what they were doing there and tried generally to be tough. Negroes crowded out to see what was going on. They read the leaflets and then shouted at the cops: "Yes, this is right, this is true."

The idea that the war is a war for democracy is treated with profound contempt. The march on Washington they thought was a good idea, but many had not heard of it at all. What did they think of it being called off? There was no hatred of Randolph and Walter White; perhaps they had done what was right. But "we want leaders who wouldn't sell us out; educated, cultured men." This perhaps is the most remarkable characteristic of the reports: "We want leaders."

The Negro people suffer more than most sections of labor from this conviction that political activity of any extended sort is the business of "leaders," of "educated people" who will do the necessary thinking. The average labor leader and many revolutionaries, the latter through corruption or short-sightedness, suffer from the same weakness. The function of the revolutionary party is to lead and to organize, but to lead and to organize awakened masses. Above all, leadership must stimulate the creative capacity and sense of historic initiative in the masses. That was the chief characteristic of Lenin's great Bolshevik party.

### BALTIMORE NEGROES OPPOSE THE WAR

In Baltimore our party is in contact with a type of Negro more "proletarian" than in Washington. One Negro had a very interesting story to tell. He works with a group of Negroes who do laboring work. These Negroes have one opinion about the war. They have no democracy to fight for. They are not opposed to war but they will fight only for two countries, for Ethiopia and for Russia. This is a very high degree of political development and if they are still deceived by the Stalinists, their willingness to fight for Russia is in reality their desire to fight for the revolution. They do not hide their feelings, either. The man who spoke to our comrades said that one day a white man, obviously a stooge for the government, came up to them and asked one what he thought about the war. "I have no democracy to fight for. You have democracy. You fight," was the gruff reply. The stool-pigeon went down the line and all the men told him the same thing. It is not unlikely that reports like this in the hundreds are going into Washington from all over the country. That is why Roosevelt is so determined that there must be no march.

These Baltimore Negro laborers had one response to the treachery of Randolph and White. They said that it was a shame to call off the march. Most interesting, however, was the response of some white men on the same job. They, too, thought that the Negroes should march on the government and ask that something be done. The Negro who reported this is an old militant who knows the Stalinists for what they are, but the others have come to their conclusions from the every-day experience of their lives. They are not fooled by Roosevelt or Randolph or Walter White.

A prime danger today is from the Stalinists, for with their revolutionary talk and their well-financed organization, they are now busy everywhere "proving" that the war is no longer an imperialist war, and that Britain, Russia and America are fighting for democracy. Instead of getting leadership the workers get misleadership.

### MUST PREPARE FOR NEW ACTION

Every Negro must reflect very carefully over the political situation today. We must think and work out ways of action. To break the march Roosevelt called on Eleanor Roosevelt, La Guardia, Stimson, Knox, Knudsen and Sidney Hillman; in other words, he mobilized the most powerful forces in the government today. That shows how much he wanted to break action by the Negroes. To any thinking Negro it is clear that the ruling class considered the march a great danger, a means of helping the Negroes to struggle. If that is so, then it follows that the Negroes themselves must prepare for similar action on a bigger scale, this time, however, under leaders who will not sell out.

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