

The guns are ready. Thousands more are being forged. We, the workers and farmers, are the targets. Arms factories are working overtime already the dividends on mass murder are being paid to a few stockholders while millions of workers and their families lack food, clothing, fuel and shelter for the crazy capitalist reason that there is too much food, clothing, fuel and shelter to go round.

Capitalists, trying to profit on artificial scarcity in a new world of plenty, look forward to Imperial War, with the help of, fearful, fascistized anticipation of a homicidal maniac. War means scarcity, scarcity means prices; high prices mean big profits. *(Big profits for the big men and high prices for the little men.)* Moreover, War may open up new markets, three rival imperialist powers out of certain areas, kill off other competitors altogether.

Meanwhile, world capitalism turns to War of another kind—Fascism. Fascism is War at home against the workers and farmers, with the police, courts and government guaranteeing the profits of the bankers, manufacturers and big business men. (The NRA codes, price-jumping, labor "settlements.")

Also in the meantime, workers, farmers, while collar technicians and the trained young men and women who have never had a job, wake up to the facts of life under imperialism. Their stomachs, their hearts, their brains revolt against the program of misery and exploitation that is laid out for them. All over the world, mass resistance to War for profits is growing.

It must grow faster. Capitalist governments drive us War and Fascism at breakneck speed. Only the workers can stop War and Fascism before they start.

Workers, to the streets, to the public squares of every town and city in America; farmers to your meeting houses, your schools, your union sales, your picnic grounds. Talk, organize, demonstrate, protest, fight against War and Fascism. Go Day First and all through the summer, carry on the fight. It is a fight for a decent life for yourself and your families, for sanity instead of murderous insanity, for a workers' peace in a workers' world.

The streets and all public places are yours, workers and farmers. Use them in your struggle for the whole round earth—for an earth without War and Fascism.

2 **FIGHT** May

AGAINST WAR AND FASCISM
 112 East 19th St., New York, N. Y.

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SILVER SHIRTS

By MIRIAM ALLEN DEFOED

Most of us can remember the great days of the Ku Klux Klan—the days when fiery crosses burned and white nightgowns paraded, and helpless men and women, black and white, who had offended the prejudices of the Knights of the Alpha were tarred and feathered and beaten and in some cases shot to death when their states were under the power of the K.K.K., and public officials hastened to do their bidding.

It will not be pleasant news to those who recall those days that this organization is now uttering the rigid note of an organization headed which the Klan looks as harmless as a kindergarten. This organization, known as the Silver Shirts of America and the creation of one William Dudley Pelley, is spreading like wildfire from its original home at Asheville, North Carolina, and already has representatives in almost every state of the union.

A lot of us met the early exponents of the K.K.K., with Vernon, and most of the commentators on the Silver Shirts today are finding it as merely a subject for ridicule. They underestimate the appeal of such an association to the susceptible and bigoted. Chester Rowell, one of the ablest editorial writers in America today, makes no such mistake as to take the Silver Shirt movement lightly. He says:

When the Ku Klux Klan was at its height, its bigotry was at least American bigotry; its prejudices and illusions at least grew out of an American background. But now we have the beginnings of a genuine intolerance of the same sort, remaining from the same localities and the same sort of people, but definitely imported from abroad.

Inspiration by Hitler

The great inspiration of the Silver Shirts is Hitler and Hitlerism. Hitler, says Mr. Pelley in his official organ, *Liberation*, is "the only man to Europe who correctly understood the tie-up between Communism and the predatory element among the Hebrews." Communism

and the Hebrews are the two big Bad Wolves of the Silver Shirts—with the Hebrews a little bigger and worse a wolf than the Communists. Anti-Semitism is the "system" of Mr. Pelley's ark. In one number of *Liberation*, he ran an article by a "Heb. Arms Man" which "proved scientifically" that our Jewish brethren are not even members of the white race—they are closely related, among other people, to the Turks, the Chinese, and the Eskimos!

There is a very simple criterion by which one may discover whether any given person is a Communist or a Jew. Beware of anyone who believes in any liberal movement or opposes War. That is the sure "mark of the cross." Hence bear in mind that in this article I am quoting directly from the official literature of the Silver Shirts, no matter how extravagant, wild or absurd these quotations may sound. For example, according to the Silver Shirts, both Eugene O'Neill (whose father was one of the founders of the Catholic Actors Guild) and George Arliss are really Jews and part of the vast international Jewish conspiracy in which Jacob Schiff was one of Lenin's "right-hand men!" "About forty per cent of the Brain Trust appointees" have "friends for Communism." General Hugh Johnson and President Roosevelt himself are really Communists in disguise, or at the very least the dupes of Jewish Communism.

Roosevelt the "Red"

In fact, it was the Jews and the Communists together—really the same thing, says Mr. Pelley—who caused the depression in the first place, for the specific purpose of manufacturing a condition where the president would have to seek a remedy, which they themselves then suggested, and which is known to us as the NRA! "We are against President Roosevelt because he is a tool of the Jew capitalist, and opposed to the NRA because it is the economic product of Jewish thought," said a spokesman for the Silver Shirts at a recent meeting in San Francisco. At the same meet-

3 **FIGHT** May

The Campus Is Moving

By CHARLES B. STRAUSS, '34
 Editor, *Internationalist* Newspaper

American undergraduates are not prepared to meet the threat of War. Unless they undergo a radical change, they are certain to be bowled over and smothered in, dead yet they are everywhere asserting their opposition to War. The truth is that they are desperately confused. The gross factor in their confusion is an unwillingness to regulate the system which is bound to produce War. Aware that the half of them will be flung among the unemployed, they inconsistently and wistfully continue to identify themselves with the very class which is robbing them of their security and which alone stands to profit by War.

The Present Set-Up

The college themselves perpetuate this confusion. Not only their misrepresentation of the facts about the present set-up but also their traditions of tolerance, leisure, and skepticism act as screens to prevent hard working of reality. In effect the professors say, "College means eternal suspension of judgment. Please, let us not have any direct opinions." The result is a strange and false self-sufficiency in college life, a pernicious preoccupation with the spirit of the school and its traditions and peculiarities. At the same universities there are additional deterrents: the ROTC, the work of the American Legion, and the frequent presence of the more homogeneous state community.

If the student is going to have his neck, he must get beyond the school and the state. He must see his economic relation, for as graduating he will be controlled by capitalism to one or another of its categories.

A few will be enabled to enter the big industrial-machine class. They will stand to gain by War and they will have the best chance of staying out of the dull, suffering masses at

the front. The threat to them is cultural rather than financial or physical. They have already suffered disillusion with 1918, modern culture is at its end, and consequently, to depend on them, not as an intellectual appeal to ally themselves with the one and only class whose collective activities promise a psychologically powerful and beautiful world of life.

What Is Facing Us

A far greater number will graduate into the decreasing middle-class whose members are now being cut off from the traditional expectations of cashing in on a college education. Many of them will remain unemployed and a dangerous situation faces them, for they are universally the material of Fascism. Cheered and bewildered by the trend of capitalism, pitifully striving to avoid being pushed into the proletariat and then as pitifully striving not to admit that they have been so pushed, they are the group who will succumb despairingly to false appeals to their "historic" American heritage, their "civicized" class heritage. Capitalism will inspire them for War and for opposition to the rise of the working class, whose interests are actually their own. This has happened already in Germany and Italy and it is now beginning in the United States.

For these reasons all undergraduates, in resistance to the absorbing tactics of their professors, must recognize the showdown between the Fascism which will victimize them and the revolutionary working-class movement which alone offers them positive and true salvation. For there is only one way the student can victoriously combat War and that is by getting to its capitalist cause and fighting it. Men-educational campaigns against the War ten-



The Italian Fascist State prepares young children for War. The Bulletin organization alone has 2,000,000 members. Boys and girls, trained in the fundamentals of Military technique

CALL TO WOMEN

"Women will play a crucial part in the future success... A woman's power will come from within and not from without... Major General Howard E. Ellis, U. S. Army."

A call for an International Women's Congress Against War and Fascism to be held in Paris, July 28, 29, and 30 has been received by the American League Against War and Fascism. Some of the speakers to the call were: Madeline Roland, Clara Charles-Costant, Miss Agnes Walton, Andre Villa (France); Elm Wagner (Sweden); Helen Gust (Great Britain); and Corinne Karoly.

The American section of the Congress organized by the American League elected a National Executive Committee of which the following are officers: Chairman, Margaret Forsyth, Teachers College, Columbia University; Vice-Chairman: Eleanor Copeland, Margaret Lambert and Ella Bruce (Iowa).

"The American League Against War and Fascism calls on all women," reads the call in part, "of every walk of life, of every point of view, to help send a strong delegation of working, farm and professional women, to unite with the women of all countries in this struggle. Build anti-war and anti-Fascist committees in the factories and mills, on the farms, in the schools, in the hospitals, in the neighborhoods wherever you live and work."

"Regional conferences and mass meetings will be held during the next two months to elect delegates. Build and support the regional conference in your community. Help by reaching your friends and sisters with the program against War and Fascism."

FARMERS in the STRUGGLE

By ROY F. HALL
Assistant Editor, "Farmers Weekly"

One morning last fall, when we were publishing the *Farmers Weekly* in Washington, a white-haired old gent, Major Southworth, or other, from the R.S.V.C., came into the office to find out about the farmers. "I know him," I said.

"I can't say what you want with the farmers," I told him. "The farmers, but War like poison."

"That is precisely the reason," replied the Major. "We must enlist the farmers in the cause of National Defense. With that naturally conservative instinct, the farmers can be a real bulwark against radicalism, and against the other ones which threaten our institutions."

"This is an idea which one comes across pretty frequently, even in these days of farmers' mass action against freeholders and of militant picketing battles between state towns and striking farmers."

The truth of the matter is that only ten per cent of the farm population—the rich farmers

and large landowners—can be predominant in the Mayor's "industrial" against the "poor."

The Major wants recruits for a bloody imperial War, and for a Fascist slave trooper against the workers. With the great majority of the farm population are farm workers, small farmers and middle farmers who can be won—and many are being won—to an alliance with the industrial workers. From this union of the farm population are coming some of the best fighters against War and Fascism.

For the farmers the fight against Fascism is not just a matter of revolutions of protest. Where the movement against freeholders and exactions, led by militant organizations, has been most successful, there the farmers have had to fight the Fascist methods of the local ruling class on their own ground.

Fascist Tactics

In Kosciusko County, Indiana, last January, Alfred Taha, national secretary of the United Farmers League, led several thousand farmers in a fight against a threatened Federal land foreclosure. Taha, his wife and Jesse Hahn, a young farmer, were thrown into jail and machine-guns were mounted to prevent the farmers, releasing them. Since then, Taha and Hahn have been sentenced to prison terms.

In February, the United Farmers League of Roberts County, South Dakota, followed a long series of successful actions against the landowners, the loan sharks and the banks by refusing Henry Nelson, a promoter, to farm from which the Northwestern Insurance Company visited him. Two

weeks later, 17 militant farmers, including Julius Walden, vice-secretary of the U.F.L., were thrown into jail. Circuit Judge Howard Babcock then issued a temporary injunction against the United Farmers League, the Unemployed Council, and 30 workers and farmers, forbidding meetings, demonstrations, sale of literature or any other organized action.

The Farmers Fight

But the farmers did not give in. On March 27 when a hearing was called to determine whether the temporary injunction should be made permanent, 1,000 farmers came to town. They crowded the courtroom, and overflowed into the corridors and the court yard. The judge finally agreed that he was too prejudiced to base judgment on such a serious matter and disappeared. And then the farmers held a meeting in the courtroom while Judge Walden stood outside a light for food and buy for their starting live stock. "The Farmers Weekly," the magazine *Fight* and other militant publications were sold in all the public places, including the courtroom, a farmer correspondent wrote.

But Fascist tendencies are not confined to local governments. The blanket bill for compulsory cotton acreage reduction, originated by the Southern planters, is partly Fascist, directed against the Negro croppers and a long series of successful actions against the landowners, the loan sharks and the banks by refusing Henry Nelson, a promoter, to farm from which the Northwestern Insurance Company visited him. Two

Federal Government Threatens

Mr. Wallace has shown Fascist tendencies upon other occasions. On January 31, he stated to dairy farmers: "Any group which looks with favor on (farm) strikes as a means of intimidation must realize that the Department of Justice will scrutinize most carefully all strikes which involve interstate commerce and the movement of the United States mail." To this Fascist threat, the farmers replied: "We intend to fight the A.A.A. with program with organization and mass action."

The Fascists want the farmers, all right. The "other side" are working overtime to help. But whether they will more than ten percent who are rich farmers depends upon the help which the Department of Justice has been "stopped from active operations," making execution possible. If it is precisely this alliance which spells the doom of the hopes of the Major and the other Fascists, broadened and strengthened, it is this alliance which will mean that the great masses of rural farmers will turn a deaf ear to Fascist demagoguery and War talk and mobilize against War and Fascism.

DIED IN VAIN

By RABBI JACOB WEINSTEIN

The address which we print here in part was delivered at a student demonstration at the *Evening Light* in New York City on April 6, the 11th anniversary of the U. S. entrance into the World War. Unfavorable circumstances prevented the delivery of this address.

We are here to dedicate the 17th anniversary of America's entry into the World War. It was fitting that we come in school-boys and ashen for we are here to remember that those who died in vain. Yes, in vain, so far as we are concerned. They might have thought that they died for a noble cause, for the protection of their homes, for democracy, for world peace. . . .

If this eternal light were a beacon light and could cast its rays a few blocks up this very avenue into a certain brownstone house on 15th Street and Madison Avenue—we might better know why these dead had died. They died for Morgan's millions and for the munition makers—for the laughing hypocrite, the international purveyor of fear and traveling salesman par excellence—Sir Basil Zaharoff. They died for Victor Armstrong, for Schmitz-Cressant, for Krupp, for Sikorski and for Dayton. For those and their allied firms, for the interfering directors and their lost of legal and executive shenanigans—those young dead gave the year they might have given.

They gave their lives for a system so chanceless that it would uncover their graves, capitalise their bones and grind them into fertilizer for the seeds of the next War. See for instance how Hearst is using the gruesome chronicle of the horrors of the last War to scare the country into a panic of wild preparations. Even the great technocrat Roosevelt . . . confirmed the largest military budget in our history—made our poor shiver for lack of shelter and our children crawl each other in fire-traps for the sake of a crowded car system permits them to have. We need another vision of the day dead bones. We need a vision that will cause these bones to rise and cry have against the days of War—that will turn them into swords and spears against the system that leveled upon their flesh.

Turn to Germany and see how the present regime was the bones of its dead—to fan the flames for the next destruction. They, too, are taking occasion of this anniversary. The rooms they learned from the last War is that Germany must be so well prepared in the next that she will have annihilated her continental enemies before the transcontinental one can arrive. If you read their military text book, such as *Ewald Bauer's Germany Preparing for War*, you would see how solemnly Fascist Germany takes the certainty of the next War. And what a War it will be. Poison gas poisoned with-revolutioned air currents—perhaps death rays—fatal disease germs planted in foods and beverages; plague-infected rats sent into enemy countries. In the plains of Kansas, a wheat harvester will spread cancer on a locust (Morgan will be

ROAD of FASCISM

By WILLIAM GROPPER

you have a little castor for morale) and it will be his last castor—a German agent has gotten into a Russian factory and sprinkled a few germs on the castor. There will be no fine distinctions between combatant and non-combatants—between neutral and non-neutral. . . .

The German High Command will be tight. We have been making false distinctions between peace and War. There is no such distinction in Capitalism. A careful study of vital statistics will not show too startling a spot in the death graph for 1914-1918. The years before and after made high enough platforms to dampen the laughability of any fool. The fact is that War merely emphasizes and dramatizes tendencies that are at work every day in capitalism. War is the chamber-maid of the system, she is employed to clear away the human dung heap of our machine order. . . .

These demonstrations and anniversaries will not be in vain if we can make that clear to the masses. The system breeds War as a bitch breeds pups. To smash War we must smash the system. There is no other way. Many who once were pleased to be called liberal thought that they could isolate the elements of War and deal with it on its own terms. They said it was due to human nature, the pupations incident, the bludge in search of itself with a capital, Lenin said they said it is a rock match, a periodic madness, a cosmic tremor in the bed. They thought they could fight War by changing the child training, by emphasizing the mutual aid agencies, by teaching women that their mission is peace. The inveterate idealists in religion still thought that all would be better and flowers if only man could follow the Prince of Peace. In more recent years, we have had writers who go in for a special kind of martyrdom—made but false. We have had a Woman's organization that is breaking good blood vessels of fortune on the munition makers. But to use a proverb from the language of Goethe—"Es wird so per nichts helfen."—These devices are of little avail. War is an inevitable part of capitalism. It will go only when capitalism goes and is replaced by an economic order that does not respect the myths called national boundaries or the still more perfidious fictions called classes.

Those of us who have tried to find a way out of War within the framework of capitalism could well paraphrase a verse from Francis Thompson's *Hand of Heaven*—The "Shim" is the god of capitalism—the Hand of Heaven and of Earth:

We had known down the nights and down the days
We had known down the splendor and the gloom
We had known down the labyrinthine ways
Of our machine—
From those strong eyes that followed, hid
And after
But with whirring chains
And rapturous pain
With their speed, Mysterious anatomy
They beat—did a voice that
More intense than the Fall
All things before them, who served me

ROAD of FASCISM

By WILLIAM GROPPER

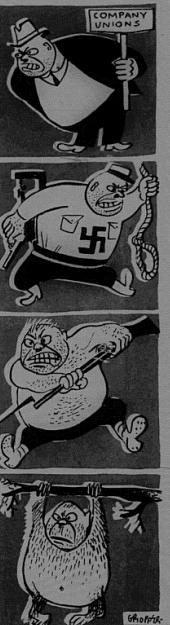
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More intense than the Fall
All things before them, who served me



Wall Street makes millions through War—Workers die in the trenches

WALL STREET'S BOOM

By HARRY ROSS

Wall Street, which discounts the present and anticipates the future in the buying and selling of stocks and bonds, has begun to form the base of a War market.

Motives, chemical, silk, metals and steel, the backbone of a booming War stock market are being taken in hand by the bulk of investment houses and speculators. Visions of U. S. Steel at \$400 and Bethlehem Steel at \$400 a share are again whetting the appetites of the speculators in the money market.

"Buy, Buy"—War Is in Sight

A quiet boom has spread over the Stock Exchange. Roger W. Babson, from his Massachusetts college of banking, has passed the word around to those taking his advisory service to buy War stocks for the long pull.

In the issue of March 15, 1934, Mr. Carlton A. Shively, financial editor of the New York *Evening Sun*, wrote as follows: "Strength in powder stocks attracted attention. Advances of four to five points were made by Hercules and Atlas. . . . The increased mining operations due to the higher prices for gold and silver are helping the powder manufacturing companies. In addition to that, Wall Street is highly sensitive to the War talk going on in several parts of the globe. The market for a few other War materials is strong. Glycolene, for example, is said to be in 'good demand'."

Atlas Powder Co. and Hercules Powder, two of the country's largest manufacturers of heavy explosives, have reported a scarcity of skilled workers for their plants and are forced to work overtime. Atlas Powder from a low of 1 1/2 in 1933 has advanced to more than 15 in 1934. Such old time "War favorites" as Bethlehem, U. S. Steel, National and Ludlow Steel have made big gains in expectation of swollen War profits.

Bethlehem controlled International Nickel, which controls the nickel output of the world, reached a high of 24 1/2 in April, although it paid a dividend of only ten cents a year—the first in several years.

The oil, a major commodity in a War period, have for the past several months hit highs that do not warrant their price if based on yield. War time speculators are buying oil again, remembering their high prices during the past War, although only paying a dis-

count of 11 a year, and barely earning it. Standard Oil of New Jersey has sold just the \$20 mark this year.

Copper stocks also have advanced with the rest of the list. Last year copper sold at an average of five cents a pound. This year it has reached nine cents, although there is an outstanding surplus supply of red metal above the ground. Howe-Tosco Co., a leading copper firm, has risen from a low of 2 1/2 to a high this year of \$52. The company also advanced its dividend rate from 1 1/2 to 2 1/2 per annum.

In the market reaction this year, public utilities and railroads (these stocks have had charges), have suffered setbacks, but, in a whole, the munition stocks have become the outstanding leaders in the gambling market. Ludlow Iron, one of the leading investment corporations, has dumped stocks with fixed charges. It is said, and is supported by its portfolio, stocks mentioned above. The same is true of holdings in J. P. Morgan and Co., Kuhn, Loeb and Co., etc.

But This Time . . .

The Stock Exchange has had been pickings since 1929, but the boys are whopping it up once more with a pre-War boom. War has taken on the lips of every gambler who has taken his eyes glued on the ticker tape. The spring boom in business has not materialized, and the only reason these stocks are at such high levels is due to the anticipation of War.

The big boys are croaky once more for huge War profits. They are eagerly looking forward to the time when Allied hits \$600 and Dupont \$200 a share. They reason, why not? It hit that figure in 1917!

This time, though, they will be fooled. The workers of the world are not going into the next imperialistic War to "have the world for democracy" and create huge profits for Wall Street speculators; they are going into the next War to destroy the Wall Streets of the world which provide imperialistic Wars for their own greed.

Poison Gas for Workers and Farmers

The biggest gains have been made in the chemical field. Dupont, Columbia Carbon,

SILVER

(Continued)

country method as a storage sidekick movement. He urged the President to "buy silver," which would "bring about a great deal of better writers, even during

His last move was a storage sidekick movement. He urged the President to "buy silver," which would "bring about a great deal of better writers, even during

They are less frequent grows more prosperous, but there still appears beginning "the only" "PEACE" with following remarks:

Out of the Pyrexia Antientia. If the World once to men, its pronouncement of the flesh and blood, but to look for another following."

The answer poor, Feller, and the "message" of a little book by the Silver Shill that "the old, that true clarvoisance future a 'crisis' being his name for the glorified ourselves who triumphed in 'Protestantism' is a spirit."

This will attach to the Silver Shill, alone. No Silver Movement for the people in this nation and violence. The eighteen years of the "most afraid of dollars" a year for the "remissible out" else they can aspirants to men

MARTIN ANDERSEN NEXO



Drawing by M. Paul Andersen with the Lord in the holy movement brotherhood—then the daughter is inspiring.

brotherhood with the Lord in the holy sacrament of the altar and make their own cause that of heaven—then the daughter is inspiring. Thus it was before Solferino and Gravello, before Meppen and the Balkan wars, and thus it will come this time. Listen, and you will hear the potatoes singing man. Before two days have gone by, Europe's rivers will be flowing with human blood.

"The coming, I'm coming! Shouldn't I call the other birds in the forest too?"

"You are naive, child! Only the raven can stomach the flesh of the human animal. It would poison any other creature. Come... I... That's right, now. Alight on this branch for a moment first and preen your wings. We have a long journey before us. Smooth your tail feathers well and let your own be absolutely bald. You must trim your collar to rights, a little. Before tomorrow you are you may perhaps be burying it in the steaming entrails of a man."

"And if I should be shot down?"

"When once these men get going, they kill only each other. Their lead is too valuable for the likes of you. If they have any left over, they would rather use it on the old men, women, and children in the villages they pass through."

"Are they devil, then, Father War Ravin?"

"Yes, but only at the bottom of their souls. On the surface they are the most exalted beings in all creation. And if they murder

AUTHOR OF
"PELLE THE CONQUEROR,"
"DITTE," ETC., ETC.

was a letter barging under my neck. It was a letter from the soldier's wife and children, too! The bullet had gone right through the letter and had burnt a couple of scraps of the paper in his hand. It took me a whole day to get over that.

"So let's tear up and away! Ding, stroke, put all your strength into it! And sing with me, my boy—it helps fill the lungs."

We are the nurses,
Men's puritan spirits!
On spreading pillows
Southward we lie,
With the shadow of slaughter
Black on our wings!
Blacker our fathers
Than black night herself.

Our evening echoes
The terror of death—
Even of that death
That is being outlived!
In some spot favorable
Far from kind eyes
And from ferocious hands—
The death of steel in the heart!

Fly! Fly!

WHEELS OF WAR

By CHARLES MORDANT

WHEN the qualification "it" is no longer permissible, even at *Empire's* of London, and belts only a mere flicking his cigarette over a badly-covered keg of smokeless powder—when the next War got under way it will come on wheels, Wheels and Wheels. A colossal crimson juggernaut, loaded with destruction, with the tripod of Neptune to guide it on and beneath the water, perfected wing of Lewis to ensure them from the air—and wheel, wheels, wheels, which very name symbolizes not only progress and power but also ruin—and Revolution.

Arming Imperialist Japan
Consider this, within the past months there have been shipped to Japan from the United States alone the following:

2,000 7 1/2-ton trucks with 12 wheels (tractor models)	12,800 12-ton trucks with 12 wheels (tractor models)
60 electric locomotives	2,000 Pratt & Whitney airplane engines
35,000 fire cars, without rails, for railway transport.	

equipment which will be able to negotiate difficult terrain at a "maneuvering" speed of from 18 to 20 or more miles per hour.

It is noted that, since 1920, our aggregate expenditures for army motorization have been about \$2,000,000; this as an argument for the proposed item of \$20,000,000 for mechanization this coming year. General motorization adds another \$39,000,000, while motorization of the field artillery is estimated to cost a further \$35,000,000.

According to Army Ordnance (official organ of the Army Ordnance Association), with headquarters in Washington and eleven Regional Posts throughout the country) motorization plans have reached the following stage of maturity:

Murder on Wheels

7775 motor vehicles of approved type are being purchased for the Army, and provision has been made for the acquisition of some 2,000 traction devices to facilitate cross-country operations (what country?) for pneumatic-tired vehicles. The artillery's needs are being looked after by the purchase of 612 "adaptors" which will permit the early 15-ton generators to be carried at high-speed (the Marine-Perry Corporation, of York, Pa., is the owner of and exhibitor of several patents for this device—the manufacture of which in large quantities it openly recommends as "providing work for thousands of workmen—the goal of the National Recovery Administration"). A further item is 34 shunting yards for special trucks.



Thousands of Army Trucks were added this year to U. S. Army equipment.

POETS IN WAR TIME

By ISIDOR SCHNEIDER
Author of "The Front" and "The Temptation of Anthony and Other Poems"

Babbette Deutsch's article, *Poets and War*, in the last number of FIGHT, is very interesting and stimulating; but I think her portrait of the poet as a socially conscious individual was too flattering.

Poets have substantial reasons, along with other intellectuals, for opposing War. In times of peace, writers are listened to. Their work is discussed. They have a place in that sense in whose rays all ambitious men and women seek to back the attention of the public. In War time, however, writers are pushed aside unless they are willing to be useful in War propaganda. To some extent, literary opposition to War is due to terror over the fate of civilization with which literature is identified.

What Happened?

Did poets protest much against the World War? Miss Deutsch mentions Willard Owen but passes over Robert Browke, she quotes some random lines by Ezra Pound and Robert Frost, but were there two poets and others who were influential then and immediately after the War very vocal in opposition to War? Hardly. The individualism that is economic matters led to anarchy, led to anarchy in the arts. Robinson and Frost and Eliot and Pound remained individuals; they virtually deserted the social organism of which they were a part; the first two lived and still live like hermits; the latter two left America to live abroad, on the contention that America was uncivilized. Their flight was a futile gesture and they had to make a flight in time as well as in space. Eliot went back to the surburbs of the seventeenth century, to aristocracy and religion. Pound went back to the

ancient Greeks and the thirteenth century. Now he is firing with Maudslayi. They are still there with their heads stuck in the sands of time.

In the so-called Poetry Renaissance, poets took a public-banned attitude toward literature. They tinkered with language as if it were not a social instrument, but a private possession. In this they, in their field, demonstrated the disintegration of capitalist society, and the almost total collapse of the sense of social responsibility.

The Return of the Poet

To make any realistic attack on imperialistic War poets must return to the masses. Their peculiar selection from the bourgeois social system, a revolution in vacuum, must be replaced by a return to the workers who can give them the only responsive audience, and the only growing audience they can hope or wish to find.

It is significant that the "new" magazines arising in our times, are no longer the old types of literary magazines, dedicated to obscure literary experimentation which were supposedly understandable only by the elite. It contributed to a smothering of small circles and usually the magazine drew its support from a rich clientele. Some good work was done in these magazines, but on the whole their effect was to promote a general intellectual decadence. The movement had such little vital reserves that it was one of the first casualties of the depression. Its death was an eloquent proof of the decay of bourgeois culture. The new magazine of today are workers' magazines. They are the organs of the working class whose lines support them better than the subsidies of the rich. And in them revolutionary writers are reaching the rising power of the working class.

The Only Way Out

By its very nature, poetry must be a social expression and the most powerful theme the poet can hope to find is the struggle of the masses. With their movement the poet can identify his, and it is only in their revolution that his own can be consummated. And it is only in the world movement of the workers and farmers which looks forward to a united humanity that mankind can hope to find the way to world War.

I quote Miss Deutsch, "Poets cannot stop War. Only the workers who do the fighting and who make the munitions with which they kill each other can stop it." It is true, only the workers can stop it. The small but increasing body of revolutionized workers realize it, and through the strike and risk of strikes, through facing factory gunmen, deputy sheriffs, vigilantes, and soldiers on the jobber's bench, they are fighting War by fighting the system that breeds War. The poets can do nothing more effective in fighting War, than to join them as revolutionary poets, consciously and continuously, until they learn once again to speak to the masses, drill them by writing poems relevant to their needs, their work, their hope.

NEGRO in the CIVIL WAR

By EUGENE GORDON

This article is the second in a series of four (the first appeared in the January FIGHT) on the Negro Soldier. The first article was devoted to the Revolutionary War. Future issues of FIGHT will continue this series with articles on the Negro in the World War as well as on his present status in the armed forces of the U. S. A. The writer of these articles has contributed to various national publications, including "Annals American Authors" and "Social Science," "Scribner's Magazine," "Nation," "American Mercury," etc., etc.

A great deal has been written about the Negro's participation in the Civil War on the side of the North; little has been said about his fighting aims, in the Confederate armies. Why this elusiveness on the one side and this silence on the other? The reason is clear. Negro members of Negro history to date, have been those members of the colored middle class who stand for middle-class nationalism. That is, they are such Negro historians as feel, along with the leaders of the class to which

the Negro masses are pushed "too hard," they may become "discontented" (!) that they may even turn "red."

Bourgeois Nationalism

Reminding ourselves of these facts, we begin to understand why nothing much has been said by Negro historians about the part played by Negroes in the ranks of the Confederate army. We see that these "patriotic" gentlemen, trying to build up a Negro bourgeois nationalism, have decided to show that there were Negroes who fought to keep themselves enslaved through trying to check the advance of Northern civilization into the South. Most Negro historians about the Negro troops who fought in the Confederate ranks simply as "traitors to their race," without examining the causes and the consequences.

Slaves were impressed into service as laborers in the South from the very beginning of the War. These men were used to build and to repair fortifications, while the white troops fought to keep Negro slaves. Numerous Negroes were killed between the lines during the course of this work, some of them while performing such acts as rescuing their masters



A Negro Regiment on the march—later to be Jan. '62 and Lynchburg.

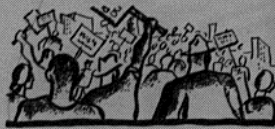
from perilous positions, bearing messages, and their masters having been killed or wounded, assuming their masters' places in the ranks.

False Promises and Hopes

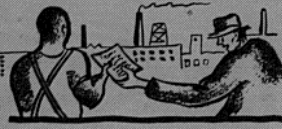
The cause of the slave, wilderness thus exposes themselves to death was that they hoped, after the War, to be given their freedom. Their reasons for slaving for their owners even under fire was similar to the reasons of hundreds of free Negroes in the South bound to be allowed to enter the Confederate army. They hoped thereby to win freedom for all the Negroes. As a matter of fact, the ruling class of the South was as eager to have these Negroes fight to preserve slavery as the Negroes were, apparently, eager to fight. There is the distinction between the points of view of the slave owners and of the Negroes: The slave owners hoped that, with the help of the Negroes, slavery would be preserved, while the Negroes hoped that, if slavery was preserved, they would get a "mere deal" after the War. The reward of freedom was held out as the lure to attract slave Negroes into the

Confederate ranks. The Charleston Mercury of January 3, 1861, spoke enthusiastically of the "100,000-buffed free colored men" of that town who had "offered their services gratuitously to the Government to hasten forward the important work of throwing up defenses along the coast." The same sheet was just as jubilant in reporting, three months later, that free colored men at Lynchburg and Petersburg, Virginia, had offered themselves in an organized body to the Governor of that State. Members of the ruling class spoke glibly of "our patriotic free men of color, of the City of Memphis," who had volunteered there to form a company for "our common defense." On November 20, 1861, 1,000 free colored men, among 25,000 white Confederate troops, paraded through the streets of New Orleans. A month or two later, following another such review, the New Orleans *Paymaster* felt that it "must pay a deserved compliment to the patriotism of free colored men, all well drilled and comfortably uniformed."

Millions who were made free by the treaty with France in 1803, were enlisted in 1862 in defense of New Orleans. Next year they were taken into the Confederate service as heavy artillerymen. Two years later the Confederate Congress authorized that all male free Negroes (with certain exceptions) between the ages of 15 and 60 be held liable to perform "such duties in the army or in connection with the military defenses of the country in the way of work upon the fortifications, or in government work, etc., as the Secretary of War might from time to time prescribe." This act provided also that the Secretary of War was to employ 20,000 male Negro slaves for similar work. However, when it came to the question of arming Negroes to fight for the "honor" of the South, there was invariably much shuffling. For instance, in February, 1865, Julia F. Benjamin, the Confederate's Secretary of State, introduced a bill into the Confederate House directing that each State immediately arm its slaves, if it wished. The bill was defeated. A continuation introduced into the Congress (as noted on page twelve)



BUILDING the LEAGUE



By IDA DAILES
Assistant Secretary

The Baltimore Section of the League has been concentrating on very important waterfront plants of that city. Here are located chemical plants, scrap iron, ordnance and ship-building depots. Leaflets were distributed to these workers announcing an anti-War outdoor meeting April 6th. When the speakers arrived more than five hundred workers were waiting for them and by the time the meeting was in full swing, 1500 Negro and white workers were in attendance from these basic War industries. The meeting was addressed by marine and steel workers, and the response was good. Another meeting will be held in the same place when committees and branches of the League will be set up. A similar meeting at another point on the waterfront was attended by six hundred seamen, steel workers and longshoremen, with equally good response from the audience. Committees of the League have been set up on five ships. A benefit performance of the motion picture, *Forgotten Men*, is being given by the Baltimore Section, with an anti-War part replacing the patriotic ending of the film.

M. Sapir, Secretary of the New Haven Section, reports that, after speaking before the Central Trades Council of the American Federation of Labor, he received authorization to appear before all local unions in New Haven to appeal for affiliation. At the present time thirty-three organizations are affiliated, including some A. F. of L. Unions, and more are expected in the next few weeks. Sale of FIGHT before munitions plants is continuing and workers now ask for the magazine when League supporters come to the plants to distribute leaflets. Competition between League supporters in selling FIGHT stimulates the growing circulation of the magazine. Y.M.C.A. clubs are supporting the New Haven Section, which now meets in the "Y". A successful meeting was held on the seventeenth anniversary of the U. S. entrance to the World War, with a large demonstration now being planned for the central green, on April 13th.

Inquiries have come in from Wilkes Barre, Pa., Sioux City, Iowa, Aberdeen, S. D., Pueblo, Colo., Menasha, Wis., Hatfield, Ark., and other points throughout the country requesting information on how to organize sections of the League. Information and material have been sent and we expect to hear of results from these places in the near future.

Over six thousand workers, students and professional people came to the first city-wide demonstration against War and Fascism on April 6th, organized by the recently formed New York City Central Committee. The high point of the demonstration came when Norman H. Tallentire, General Secretary of the City Committee, appealed for new members for the League and 2,000 people rose to their feet. Dr. Harry F. Ward, National Chairman of the League was the main speaker of the evening.

The New York City Committee reports: (a) branches and neighborhood committees are being organized; (b) preparations are under way for a city-wide demonstration and mass meeting on August 1st, the 20th anniversary of the outbreak of the World War; (c) a class for speakers meets every Monday evening; (d) a research bureau has been organized to provide material for speakers and pamphlets.

A section has just been established in Bridgeport, Conn., another center of the munitions industry. A protest demonstration against a Nazi meeting was organized by this new section of the League. An open forum is scheduled for April 22nd.

The April 6th meeting of the Rochester Section aroused the super-patriots of that city. The meeting was denounced as an attack on the Mayor's Army Day proclamation. Every newspaper in town carried news items, statements, and editorials. The Rochester Committee received a tremendous impetus from this publicity and is proceeding in its work with increased vigor.

The members of the band and field corps at the Hebrew Orphan Asylum in New York were informed to prepare for the Army Day parade of April 7. Indignant at being forced to "participate in a militaristic demonstration" the boys got up a petition signed by 33 of the 75 involved and presented it to the administrator of the institution. Col. Simmonds threatened to attack one of the alumni who has been guiding the children and finally succeeded in bulldozing the signers of the petition into marching, against their will.

The Youth Section has sent a letter of congratulations to the children, pledging its support. A delegation to protest the repression of the anti-War sentiment of the boys and girls is being sent to see Simmonds.

YOUTH SPARKS

One of the largest Y.M.H.A.'s in the country, 32nd St. and Lexington Ave., N. Y., held an anti-War conference on April 8, at which affiliation with the Youth Section, American League Against War and Fascism, was voted. There were credentials of 394 delegates, each representing 5 people. A permanent committee has been set up. Other cities are invited to follow suit.

From Baltimore we get word that two anti-War committees have been organized on ships leaving that port. On one of these ships a pledge was signed by 29 of the seamen to strike against imperialist War on May 1. This is part of the activity being developed in Baltimore, leading up to the conference to be held there on April 29.

Another good sign is the setting up of an anti-War committee in a large New York metal shop. Two days after the group was organized, the committee was able to sell 20 copies of FIGHT.

A New York provisional meeting held during the month set up an executive committee. May 13 was selected as the date for a huge city-wide conference which will have as one of its chief purposes the development of a demonstration on National Youth Day, May 30.

Buttons for National Youth Day are ready. They are to be sold to City Committees at 2 cents a piece. We've got a staff waiting for orders, so let's go!

As we go to press, National Student Anti-War Week, April 6-13, received remarkable response throughout the country, and in a great number of places the call of the American League Against War and Fascism was received warmly and enthusiastically.

Connecticut State College for Women is to be shut down entirely on April 13 in accordance with the decision to have strikes on that day. U. of S. California, U. of California, Los Angeles Junior College, John Hopkins University, City College of New York, Columbia University, Brooklyn College all report intensive strike preparations. At Johns Hopkins a meeting of 1,500 was held on April 6.

The Social Problems Club of University of Missouri is holding a state-wide anti-War conference in April. The same time will also see a conference at Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

—J. L.

MAY DAY

MAY DAY is here. And with the coming of May Day (*International Labor Day*) millions of workers throughout the world pledge their allegiance in the militant struggle for a world without poverty, for a world where capitalism will be only a page in the history of mankind.

IN THE year 1934, workers, farmers, housewives, teachers, unemployed, ex-servicemen, young people, writers, students, etc., are preoccupied with the War danger and the rise of Fascism. This spring and summer, as the struggle will intensify, what will be your share in this work?

PERHAPS you still have some doubt about the possibility of Fascism coming to the U. S. A.? Remember what the average German thought only three years ago. Remember that only five years ago they said in Germany that Hitler was a maniac (and he is) without any chance of his rise to power.

THE War danger and Fascism are a reality—as real as spring and summer and May Day itself. FIGHT is leading in the struggle against imperialist War and Fascism. FIGHT is already reaching thousands upon thousands of people in every state of the Union. But this is not enough.

TO BE effective in our struggle we must reach thousands of people in every city and town of this country. Will you help? We are asking you for one simple thing. Secure two subscriptions to FIGHT. As the price of the magazine is only 50 cents a year, this request, you will agree, is within reason.

WE ARE depending upon you, Readers of FIGHT. This is your magazine, owned, managed and edited by your organization, the American League Against War and Fascism. We have priced the magazine within your reach. Will you help build the circulation of FIGHT? Will you mail us two subscriptions within the next two weeks?

FIGHT Against War and Fascism, 112 East 19th Street, New York, N. Y.

Subscription 50c a year	Subscription 50c a year	BUNDLE ORDERS Bundle Order Rate 3 cents per copy
Name.....	Name.....	Send me until further notice..... copies each month.
Address.....	Address.....	I enclose \$..... in payment of first order.
City.....	City.....	Name.....
State.....	State.....	Address.....
		City..... State.....

CLEVELAND, ARE YOU THERE?

OVER 100 cities and towns throughout the U. S. A. order monthly bundles of FIGHT. These 100 odd cities and towns are doing their bit in helping in the struggle against War and Fascism. FIGHT is their medium in building the American League Against War and Fascism.

CLEVELAND, the sixth largest city in the country is not on the job. (We are going to be frank on this point.) Where cities smaller than Cleveland sell from 500 to 1,000 copies a month, this large industrial center has been ordering 25 magazines a month.

WHERE are the trade unionists of Cleveland? Where are the students and professional groups? Where are the Socialists and Communists? Where are the militant workers? Is Cleveland with a population of one million satisfied with a sale of 25 copies of FIGHT? Is there no struggle against War and Fascism in Cleveland?

THE fight against War and Fascism is a serious matter. The business of organizing a City Committee of the American League Against War and Fascism is a serious undertaking, leading to militant struggle. Every city and town in the United States must build this real united front against War and Fascism.

WE CALL upon you, workers, farmers and middle class groups everywhere to ask of your organizations—trade unions, churches, farmers' associations, political parties, student bodies, youth leagues, fraternal orders, ex-servicemen's groups—to get on the job and form a section of the American League.

WE CALL upon you in Cleveland and elsewhere to order bundles of FIGHT. Go to your organizations and point out to them the path they are to take in fighting War and Fascism. The magazine sells in bundle orders of ten or more at 3c a copy. Place your order to-day. Organize the struggle against War and Fascism!