

THE FIGHTING WORKER

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Organ of the Revolutionary Workers League of the U. S.

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Workers Answer to Boss Conscription

ABOLISH THE ARMY! BUILD ARMED WORKERS DEFENSE CORPS!

Despite all the millions of words of capitalist propaganda the bulk of the American working class is still hostile to conscription or anything else that savors of war preparation. The misfortune of this opposition however is that it is being led by a group of bourgeois isolationists, who are tail-ended by a few pacifists. Such a leadership paves the way for conscription.

We wish to pose and answer a number of pertinent problems confronting every worker.

HOW TO FIGHT

1—On what basis shall conscription be fought?

The "isolationists" are not opposed to imperialist war. Their differences are only as to WHERE, WHEN, and AGAINST WHOM this war shall be fought. They favor the building of the armed forces to as large a size as possible, but since they represent groups of American capitalists whose primary investments are on this hemisphere, they are opposed to the program of other capitalist groups who wish to conquer new spheres of influence in Asia and the Near East. The difference is thus a difference in TEMPO—WHEN to conscript, not WHETHER to conscript. On this both the interventionists and the isolationists are agreed.

The pacifists (whose number by the way is dwindling) oppose conscription on the ground that they are against any and all wars, ESPECIALLY the war of the working class against capitalism. Faced by a choice these gentlemen always will support conscription and counter-revolution, rather than working class emancipation.

The workers' opposition to war stems from our opposition to the system of wage slavery, capitalism, which breeds war. The capitalist army is being built to defend the right of American capitalists to rob and exploit millions of Chinese and Asiatics, together with the dozens of millions of Americans who are now exploited in American industry. We workers not only have no quarrel with workers or peasants anywhere on earth, but we have the same interests as they—opposition to the capitalist system of hunger and MASS MURDER, war.

The working class is not only against conscription. But it is also against the capitalist army, which defends capitalist, and only capitalist, interests. As opposed to the cry for conscription we put forth the cry:

FOR THE COMPLETE DEMILITARIZATION OF ALL ARMED FORCES OF THE CAPITALIST GOVERNMENT.

FOR ARMING OF THE PEOPLE.

The workers and oppressed masses must fight for the right to bear arms, and have the control of all large scale military weapons in the hands of committees elected by the workers and oppressed masses.

The thugs, and gunmen of the exploiters, the fascist element and other anti-labor forces will obtain arms through legal and extra legal methods of the exploiters and their government. By calling for the arming of the people the interests of the workers is expressed and aids the process of disintegrating the EXPLOITERS' CON-

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DRAFT ISSUE COVERS UP FIGHT OVER WAR LINE-UPS

Holt Exposes Secret Meetings

On August 6th the senator from Virginia, Rush Holt, rose in the Senate and gave names of the capitalist agents who on May 22nd and on June 3rd met in the exclusive Harvard club in New York to decide on conscription. Mr. Holt, of course, failed to give the names of capitalist agents with whom he is working (people like Lindbergh, Hearst, Glass, etc.)

But that is really not important. Mr. Holt has confirmed factually what the FIGHTING WORKER stated on June 15th only theoretically.

WAR BLOC OF CAPITALISTS

We said then, in the article entitled: "Defense Board Unites Rival U. S. Capitalists for War Profits", that "It is wrong to say as Earl Browder does, that Roosevelt is selling out to Morgan. Roosevelt has always represented one group of American imperialists. Now there is a temporary bloc between the two dominant groups of American imperialists, the Morgan and Rockefeller groups".

Furthermore we pointed out that the temporary bloc will "in no way stop the intense fight within the country for a dominating position".

Mr. Holt now exposes the details of two of the meetings of representatives of Morgan, Rockefeller, DuPont and others. Attending these meetings were such people as:

Lewis W. Douglas, a former budget director in the Roosevelt government; Henry L. Stimson, the present Secretary of War; Elihu Root, Jr., of the big Wall Street law firm; the head of the New York Times; leading representatives of the aviation industry, the Baldwin Locomotive Works, a British insurance company; a Brigadier General, General O'Ryan, an outstanding reactionary, an assistant in the department of war, and others.

PROPAGANDA FOR WAR

According to Holt the group decided to raise a quarter of a million dollars to "drive a conscription bill through".

Obviously this was only one of dozens of such meetings of leading puppets of the big capitalists who unite temporarily to make cannon-fodder of American youth.

That even more important figures in the capitalist world—figures like Morgan, DuPont, Rockefeller, Aldrich—met before these alleged meetings to lay down the whole broad plan which

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A WORD FROM A GERMAN REFUGEE

The following speaks for itself: "Dear Comrades:

"I want to tell you that after nine months of absolute isolation in a French concentration camp I was very delighted and excited about the clear, correct, and outspoken revolutionary language of your paper".

L. F.

LEAGUE MARKS GAINS AT 4TH CONVENTION

With enthusiasm and spirit higher than in any previous convention, the Fourth National Convention of the Revolutionary Workers League concluded its sessions in Chicago on August 4th.

The first convention of the League was spent in ironing out the political program of the organization and consolidating our forces after the split from the Trotskyites. The second convention was consumed primarily in the splitting fight of Stamm and company. The third convention, although it showed greater unity than ever before, was hampered in its work by a small clique which maintained an unprincipled opposition.

The victory of the League at the second and third conventions consists in the fact that the Marxian program was upheld against the revisionists. The second convention approved the work in Spain, while the third convention adopted the draft program, which laid the theoretical basis for our international work and our work against the imperialist war.

PRINCIPLED AGREEMENT

But now for the first time in the organization's history, we were confronted with a convention that had no principled disputes and could devote its major time to the all-important organizational problems confronting the League.

The two major political reports on the International Question, and "Towards Mass Work" were unanimously approved. A sub-report on the Russian question was also endorsed without dissenting vote.

The organization report noted consistent progress since the last convention in four major fields:

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Those Against Draft Not Against War

The speech of Col. Charles A. Lindbergh in Chicago on August 4th was a prepared statement of line by a growing group of capitalists who use Lindbergh as their stooge. Although they parade under the name of "Keep America out of War" they merely are opposed to the present war alliance of the U. S.—the proposed parallel action with Great Britain—and are in favor of a different imperialist alliance.

In this group belong such capitalist spokesmen as Senator Pat McCarran of the Nevada mine owners, William Randolph Hearst, and very likely Henry Ford and Col. Robert McCormick—although each of them has his minor differences with the others.

"CO-OPERATE" WITH EUROPE

In short, the line of this group—as expressed in the important talk by Lindbergh—is the following:

"In the future we may have to deal with a Europe dominated by Germany". "It is only by cooperation... between Europe and America... that we can maintain the supremacy of our western civilization... and the right of our commerce to proceed unmolested throughout the world".

"Let us offer Europe a plan for the progress and protection of the western civilization of which they and we form a part"

In political language what Mr. Lindbergh is presenting is the proposal:

1—Come to an understanding with a victorious Germany.

2—Let us then work against Communism and the "yellow peril".

In other words, a strong Germany which will take over all of Europe and a strong REARMED United States, which will take over all of the Western Hemisphere will then take parallel action under this plan—to keep "law and order" in the world, and to divide up Asia at the expense of Japan and Russia.

A ROBBER PACT

The peace treaty they speak of "should incorporate terms of mutual advantage". The mutual advantage for these two robbers after plundering the defeated British Empire and the allies' power, is to see that Asia still remains the "white man's burden".

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WORKERS ANSWER TO BOSS CONSCRIPTION

ABOLISH THE BOSS ARMY! BUILD ARMED WORKERS DEFENSE CORPS!

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TROL of the armed forces.

MILITARY TRAINING

2—Are we, then, against military training?

No, nothing of the sort. As against the capitalist army which defends, capitalist interests in all corners of the globe, we are for the establishment — NOT BY THE GOVERNMENT OR THE TRADE UNION LEADERS, BUT BY RANK AND FILE CONTROL; BY THE WORKERS THEMSELVES — of fully equipped WORKERS DEFENSE CORPS to defend workers rights and workers interests.

The main enemy of the American working class is not in Germany or in England, or anywhere else. The main enemy is right here at home, the Morgans, Rockefellers, DuPonts, and others who are (through their puppets in Washington) depriving the working class of hard-won rights, eliminating slowly but surely all civil liberties, lowering the standards of living and condemning millions to unemployment.

IT IS AGAINST THESE FORCES AND THESE FORCES ONLY THAT THE WORKERS MUST DEFEND THEMSELVES!

HOW TO ORGANIZE

3—How shall these Workers Defense Corps be organized?

The Marxists call upon the workers in each factory, mine, mill, etc. to immediately organize a full shop stewards system democratically elected by the workers in each department, with the shop stewards to either constitute themselves or to elect from their number plant and factory committees.

Both the Stewards and the Factory Committees must be elected by ALL the workers in every plant, whether union or non-union, AFL or CIO or independent union, no matter what race or creed or POLITICAL group.

One of the duties of the Factory Committee shall be to train the workers in the factory (and to arm them) against the inevitable vigilante and other forces who are striving even now to lower wages, eliminate the right to strike, and make the working class cannon-fodder to protect capitalist interests abroad.

Furthermore we call upon the Factory Committees to coordinate their activity through the election of representatives in each area to Workers Councils, which shall centralize and organize the broad aspects of the work.

The arming of the workers defense corps is one important step against the bosses conscription and our fight against militarism and the imperialist war today. At the same time it is only a first step toward the development of other organs as the class struggle develops. The Workers Militia and later the Red Army will develop in the United States as it has in other countries.

VIOLATE OWN CONSTITUTION

4—Is the arming of the people, thus proposed, illegal?

No, not at all. The Bill of Rights (first ten amendments to the Constitution) gives the people of the United States the right to bear arms. The refusal of the capitalist government to permit the working class to democratically arm itself, to organize defense corps during strikes, etc., is a gross violation of their own constitution. It is another one of the thousands of examples where the capitalists refuse to enforce even their own laws when such laws can be utilized by the working class.

But the workers must take these rights, must fight for them. And just as in the past they will not and cannot win these workers rights in the capitalist Congress or through any dependence on capitalist politicians. The American bosses, like those everywhere else, will grant rights to their oppressed wage slaves only when the slaves, through independent working class action, FIGHT for those rights.

NO PEACE UNDER CAPITALISM

5—Is it true as Roosevelt and others claim that "peace" is possible only through the government conscription and war plans?

On the contrary peace — real peace and security — is possible only through the victorious revolution of the working class against capitalism. Without a world-wide proletarian revolution we can be assured that a short period after the present war to "save democracy" we shall be faced with new wars, again to save the right of the capitalist masters to oppress the downtrodden.

Only a government of Workers Councils, with Workers Militia, can assure peace through the elimination of PRODUCTION FOR PROFIT and the substitution of PRODUCTION FOR USE UNDER WORKERS CONTROL. Eliminate the lust for profit — capitalism — and you eliminate war.

THE QUESTION OF REALISM

To many people of course this program is "unrealistic". Where, they ask, are the workers who are willing to organize Workers Defense Corps? To most people the "realistic" choice is one between either the "interventionists", "isolationists", or "pacifists". All the reformists and centrists throw in their lot with either of the 2 latter forces. But such politics is not only not realistic but positively aids the cause of imperialism and conscription.

It is senseless folly to oppose conscription, and at the same time — as both Norman Thomas and the Chicago Tribune do — call for "adequate defense". If you are for "defense" by the capitalist government, of capitalist needs, through its capitalist army, then eventually you must also be (please note the case of the "socialist" Clement Atlee in England) for ONE OF THE TACTICS in that defense, conscription.

And it is criminal lightmindedness or treachery — or both — to oppose conscription and at the same time call for the government to train and arm workers through their trade unions. Such a plan is well within the realm of possibility; the government would have nothing to fear, for instance, if it entrusted Sidney Hillman with the job of arming and training the Amalgamated Clothing Workers. This would be merely another FORM of conscription.

"EUROPEANIZATION" OF U. S.

The "Europeanization" of the American workers since 1929 has been proceeding rapidly. Now with conscription being pushed through and the other steps of militarization, this process is reaching its highest level. Roosevelt reveals this when, in his acceptance speech, he informs the people that the "private life of all citizens is now cancelled".

The change in the objective scene — the Europeanization of America — will inevitably be followed by the Europeanization of the American workers as well, by the development of class and socialist consciousness.

Our critics — those who speak of our lack of realism — put the question upside down. It is precisely because the workers in the last eight years have NOT followed a class struggle line, part of which is the building of armed Workers Defense Corps, that we now face the danger of conscription and becoming cannon-fodder. Until the working class adopts class struggle tactics, shows irreconcilable opposition to the Capitalist Congress and labor fakery, workers will continue to be conscripted and to die in the interests of their oppressors.

Straightforward or circumspect, the roads of all tendencies today lead to capitalist mass murder. Only the road of the Marxists, even though not many workers follow that line today, CAN lead in the opposite direction.

BOSS GROUPS FORMING ON HOW, WHEN TO PREPARE & WAGE WAR

(Continued from page 1)

Mr. Roosevelt and Mr. Willkie will follow out, is beyond question. In the old days the Morgan mansion in New York was the real King's Palace in the United States, the place where big industrialists and bankers met with Morgan in the greatest of secrecy to determine policy for their Grants, McKinleys, Tafts and others in the White House.

Both American political parties today are united in their effort to place the United States in the war; both are war parties taking their orders from different groups of Wall Street, who temporarily have a bloc.

Isn't it stupid folly for a worker to vote for either of the candidates of these parties, candidates who take their orders from men who meet in the exclusive clubs of New York millionaires? To make a choice between the candidates of Wall Street, Roosevelt and Willkie, is to choose between death by poison or the electric chair.

WORKERS VOTE

Any worker who really understands his own interests will reject either choice, will vote in this election campaign for the only program and only candidates

that pose a solution to war, the Workers' Vote ticket of C. B. Cowan for President and Allen Willis for Vice-President.

If you want to make your vote count write in the names of this national unemployed leader and this Negro youth on your ballot.

Under the pressure of events sharp divisions are developing amongst the American capitalists. It can safely be predicted that this development will not abate but intensify and that in the near future a more open right wing will emerge in American politics, to supplement the present bourgeois democratic groups.

Lindy Spokesman Of Those Against Draft But Not War

(Continued from page 1)

Again we see a section of far-sighted exploiters preparing now for the inevitable proletarian revolutions which they fear. There is a growing number of American imperialists who are of the opinion

The Main Enemy Is At Home

ion that bourgeois democracy cannot hold its own against Communism and that a military dictatorship must be established here and cooperation with Fascist Germany abroad. Together they would attempt to divide up the Soviet Union and place a puppet government under their hegemony to do their biddings.

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Economics, Not Stalinism, Determines The Role of the S.U.

The politics of opportunism is filled with contradictions. Those who cannot adhere to a Marxian program are beset by the most amazing theoretical zig-zags. Nothing has brought this out more clearly than the recent incorporation of Latvia, Esthonia and Lithuania into the Soviet Union.

Less than a year ago the RWL and Leon Trotsky engaged in a printed polemic over the question of the Ukraine. Trotsky maintained that the workers in Soviet Ukraine should actively fight for separation from Stalinist Russia. The RWL opposed separation and called for a UNITED STRUGGLE of both the Ukrainian and other Soviet workers to overthrow Stalinism.

But Trotsky's memory is very short. In the July 27 issue of "Socialist Appeal", his U. S. organ, we read that the "Sovietization of the Baltic" is a "step forward". Rather than an immediate struggle for separation as advocated for the Ukraine and other areas, the Trotskyites call for the workers in these three small countries "together with their class brothers in the Soviet Union" to continue "the struggle against the Stalinist bureaucracy". Instead of separation, the Trotskyites now call for pushing deeper into the Soviet Union. Life itself—and the Shachtman faction fight — has exposed the error of their position, although as usual they make the change — a la Stalin — without so much as a tiny admission of error. Both positions will continue to be presented in this centrist organization.

On the other hand Shachtman (and his ideological tail, Stamm,) who only last year spoke THEORETICALLY of the nationalization of industry and the expropriation of the capitalists as "progressive", now maintain that the incorporation of these small countries into the Workers State is not only "reactionary" but they sometimes even call it "counter-revolutionary".

People who thus fail to understand the course of history can obviously play no role in changing that course.

COMPELLING FORCE OF ECONOMICS

The incorporation of Latvia, Esthonia and Lithuania into the Soviet Union and the consequent nationalization of industry, again reveals the compelling force of economics.

The bloody tyrant Napoleon, who rose on the dead bodies of the really great men of France, the real lovers of liberty and equality, and who had far more in common with the Czars and tyrants of the rest of Europe, was nevertheless forced with each new conquest to destroy the feudal system of his fellow-tyrants and to introduce capitalist property relations. When in the island of San Domingo Napoleon tried to re-establish the power of the old feudal owners, he nevertheless had to put into effect new forms of property relations.

For a time Stalin permitted capitalist property relations in the Baltic countries. But he learned soon that effective military action in these areas by a RED Army was possible only if the property relations were changed. Despite Stalin, then the intrinsic force of the October Revolution could still be felt after 16 years of political degeneration of the Workers State under the present bureaucracy.

Just as the Nazis must organize capitalism on a totalitarian basis wherever they go in order to get the most effective military action, so the Stalinists must organize nationalized property relations and eliminate completely the capitalists if they are to adequately defend their clique privileges.

"SOCIAL - FASCISM" AGAIN

When Stamm speaks of "counter-revolution" he is in reality referring to class collaboration, to the failure of the Stalinists to organize independent working class action anywhere. To confuse reformism with counter-revolution is just as fatal a mistake today as when the Stalinists made the same error themselves in 1933 by calling the Socialists "social-fascist". Reformist quite frequently become openly counter-revolutionary — precisely in periods of revolution; but that does not eliminate a very important difference between the two.

The reformist, try though he may, is subject to working class pressure upon which he persists. The counter-revolutionist, on the other hand, is relatively independent of working class pressure and in constant opposition to it. John L. Lewis and Il Duce serve the same class interests, in the last analysis, but Lewis is still forced under workers pressure to give sanction to strikes.

Stalinism cannot free itself from the social forces that exist in the Soviet Union. Despite its capitulation to world imperialism, its aid to the Nazi butchers, its treacherous role in world politics — it still must heed the compelling force of economics.

So long as the Soviet Union and its socialist property relations exist, they remain in fundamental opposition to the capitalist system everywhere else. In the last analysis the two systems cannot live side by side — each must strive to extend itself or perish. In this struggle Stalinism severely cripples the effectiveness of the Soviet Union, but despite the worldly wisdom of Messrs. Shachtman, Stamm, Lovestone and Brockway, it cannot obliterate the basic strength of the October Revolution.

Despite Nazi Gains, Basis For Workers' Uprising Is Forming

The triumphs of the Nazi legions have given them such an air of invincibility that many so-called revolutionists are now "certain" that the struggle against Fascism is hopeless. Just as these people yesterday were "certain" that the war would be a "peaceful" war of position, so now they feel that the status-quo of classes is inevitable.

But underneath the surface of present events, the objective situation marches with seven-league boots towards the most gigantic revolutionary situation of all history. The war is using up more materials in a day than any previous war used in a week, or even in a month. The impending famines, epidemics, etc., that are certain in the next period, plus the unbearable lengthening of hours, restrictions of every worker's right, and strain on the nerves of the working masses will inexorably lay the base for revolt.

Even though on the surface there are few signs of revolt, its outbreak is as assured as the sunrise.

FIGHT FASCISM BY FIGHTING CAPITALISM!**DEFEND ONLY THE WORKERS RIGHTS AND INTERESTS!****TURN THE WAR FOR PROFITS INTO A WAR AGAINST THE PROFIT SYSTEM!****UNITE WITH WORKERS EVERYWHERE FOR THE DEFEAT OF ALL CAPITALIST ARMIES AND THE CAPITALIST SYSTEM ITSELF!**

LEAGUE MARKS GAINS AT 4TH CONVENTION

(Continued from Page 1)

1—International, with the formation of the International Contact Commission and close political relations with a number of other groups and individual comrades.

2—Theoretical, with continued adherence to correct scientific principles while all centrist and reformist tendencies continued their shift to the right. Especially can progress be noted in the further elaboration of our position on the war and Russian questions.

3—Propaganda and press, with the publication regularly of a twice a month "Fighting Worker" and distribution of the printed monthly organ of the I. C. C., the "International News" as well as publication of 6 or 8 popular printed pamphlets.

4—Organization, with a slight increase in membership since the last convention.

The organization report was also unanimously accepted.

RED FRONT GREETINGS

War conditions made it impossible to receive on time greetings from many organizations abroad but the convention was cheered by the warm greetings of the German Red Front which read in part:

"In the name of the Foreign Bureau of the Red Front and together with the whole German Red Front, we wish you comrades and brothers that soon after your Fourth Convention the day will come in which you and we together will lead the working class in the struggle against the imperialist war and will put an end to the entire capitalist system of hunger".

The organizational results of the convention included appointment of an active trade union director who will be constantly on tour; plans for a number of campaigns including the anti-war campaign, elections, the case of a Negro cropper who killed his landlord, proposed reopening of the struggle to free the Scottsboro boys, plans to further the unemployed work of comrades in many cities, a tenants union in Chicago and many other points.

The convention endorsed the proposal of the Contact Commission to aid in the regular publication of a German supplement of International News.

The morale and solidarity of the delegates point to increasing activity and progress by the RWL in the months to come.

HAVE YOU READ?

FIGHT AGAINST THE ROOSEVELT WAR PLANS**THE WORKERS ANSWER TO ROSS WAR****WHERE SHALL THE JEWISH MASSES TURN?****THE SOCIAL SECURITY MEASURES****UNCLE SAM'S STAKE IN THE WAR****NEGRO SLAVERY — THEN AND NOW****ORDER YOUR COPIES NOW**

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Workers Vote Candidate Arrested In Lima, Ohio

The notorious railroad bulls of Lima, Ohio, the ill-famed Erie Railroad stronghold, threw C. B. Cowan, R. W. L. candidate for the presidency of the United States on the Workers' Vote ticket, into the city's filthy jail on July 28th. With comrade Cowan were two other workers, J. Mochan and Stanley Mackneish.

Comrade Cowan, known to the workers of Ohio for his militant leadership of the Cleveland Association of Unemployed, has been arrested and held incommunicado twice within a month. The first occasion was in Bloomington, Illinois, where American Legionnaires had the state police arrest him as a former leader of the Bonus Marches to Washington in 1932 and 1933.

After the comrades spent five days in jail, the R. W. L. took special action to effect their release, since it was necessary for Cowan to attend the Fourth National Convention of the R. W. L.

The technical charge against the three was "train riding". The original charge of "trespassing" was dropped by the authorities after Cowan demanded a jury trial. Comrade Cowan was not on a train when he was arrested — in fact he was on one of the city's main highways. He, of course, pleaded not guilty.

FBI INTERVENES

After the three were fingerprinted, the Federal Bureau of Investigation was called and grilled comrade Cowan for four hours.

Cowan and MacKneish were released due to the generous contributions of comrades in Chicago and Cleveland. Attorney Francis Heisler was engaged to help in effecting the release. Mochan was forced to remain in jail to serve a ten day sentence for "contempt of court".

Telling the Truth About the Draft

There is at least one man who does not lie about conscription.

Here is what General John F. O'Ryan says:

"The first thing that must be done is to destroy all initiative, and that, with the training, fits men to be soldiers. The recruit does not know how to obey orders. His mental state differs from that of the trained soldier, who obeys mechanically. We must get our men so that they are machines".

Yes, that is what the bosses want: to destroy all initiative and intelligent action on the part of the workers and make them robots of destruction, for bosses profit.

And that is why all serious workers want MORE INITIATIVE, MORE INDEPENDENT WORKING CLASS ACTION against the militarist plans of the bosses.

JUST OUT

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Stamp Plan Will Cause Evictions of Chicago Jobless

Chicago, August 1 — The orange and blue stamp plan was introduced to Chicago on August 1st after it had met with "successful operation", according to Secretary of Agriculture Wallace, in other sections of the country. It replaced the direct cash allotment the relief worker previously received for food.

The plan, according to the U. S. Department of Agriculture, helps the farmer to dispose of his products at a profit, helps business by increasing the purchasing power of the needy, and helps the worker on relief towards a better food budget. Nothing is further from the truth as far as the worker on relief is concerned.

The allowance for the Chicago worker on relief has already been cut to the bone. He only receives 80% of the budget. In other words if he pays \$12 a month for rent, the relief authorities allow him only \$9.60 a month for that purpose. But under the previous

Penny Bosses Strike at Workers

Philadelphia — With their profits rising to ever greater heights, the bosses of this city and the state are scrambling for "inside" positions, while they unitedly launch the most vicious drive in years against the working class.

In the interests of "patriotism", the various opposing groups have toned down their open blast at each other and resort more to behind-the-scenes moves for control.

BOSSSES ATTACK

But it is against the masses that the bosses of all factions and parties release their most brutal attacks. The openly reactionary legislation instituted by Governor James in 1939 (harsher labor-relief laws, work-or-starve act, etc.), which the Democrats and trade union bureaucrats, as well as Stalinist social-reformists charged was the result of voting for "Tory Republicans", is now being implemented by the political boss of Guffey-Harr-Stern-Greenfield and Co., namely Mr. Roosevelt.

The Dies raid on the local Stalinist party headquarters not long ago had the complete, though silent, approval of the Democrats. So also does the Republicans' attempt to drive the C. P. off the ballot by checking signatures on Stalinist petitions. (As if the Republicans in the state, one of the most corrupt machines anywhere in the country, had not been engaged in vote-stealing and other fraudulent practices for years!)

UNEMPLOYMENT MISERY ACUTE

After being in control almost a year-and-a-half, the Republicans, who charged the tremendous unemployed army in the state was due to the bureaucratic and inefficient "Little New Deal" of former Governor Earle, now practically admit that they can do nothing. Despite a shrinkage of 35% since a year ago, which was due to the tremendous war boom, 167,000 cases remain on the relief rolls. Moreover, in this city alone, 90,000 who are NOT on relief rolls are unemployed. And with a meager relief appropriation sufficient only till this winter, a serious crisis of untold misery is looming up.

plan where all payments were made in cash (except for some surplus food commodities given free) he could at least cut his food bill, or economize otherwise, and at least keep a roof over his head.

IMPOSSIBLE TO PAY RENT

Now it will be absolutely impossible to pay rent, since all the relief client receives is 80% of his rent. How is he going to pay this rent and his electric and gas? Thousands of workers are asking this question. Unless they "rob" a bank they can do no more than pay rent four months out of every five — if they're lucky.

The plan works thus: All the money, with the exception of 80% of the rent, gas and electric, plus one dollar per person for household necessities, is subtracted from the monthly allowance, and stamps are given in return. You MUST take these stamps; there is no other alternative.

For every dollar worth of orange stamps thus received, the relief client is given fifty cents in blue stamps "free", and those free stamps are supposed to provide an opportunity for a better diet for the needy!

BUYING RESTRICTED

What a mockery! The fact remains, that when the worker on relief received his full amount in direct cash, he also was entitled to "surplus commodities". Now he is told what he can buy for the orange stamps and what for the blue, but he can only buy things providing he prepares the food at home. If he has been searching the streets for work, he is not even permitted to buy a sandwich so that he can continue his search for work without an empty stomach.

But what good is the food if no money is provided for ice to keep the butter, milk and other perishables? What sense is there in buying food if you can't pay for gas to cook it, especially single people who get no allowance for gas at all?

The food stamp plan is merely a new method of giving the large storekeepers a subsidy, at least 20% more business from the relief clients. For the workers it does not provide any opportunity to buy the most and best for their money.

ORGANIZATION NEEDED

Furthermore the storekeepers are reaping a harvest right now by the petty swindles of poor housewives who are completely confused by the stamp plan and don't know their rights.

Greater starvation, hardships, and especially evictions now face the worker on relief. The stamp plan will place thousands of needy on the streets this winter, or force them into the capitalist army, unless a new militant unemployment organization is immediately set up to fight this vicious step.

Governor James' only answer to these conditions is the hope that the war will "solve" the problem! In other words the governor tells the unemployed he hopes they will either find work making munitions to blow up other workers or be drafted and blown up themselves!

In the face of such conditions, there has been little protest, except for a small group of pro-Stalinist liberals. But a strong protest must be made by all workers, since the above attacks and vicious laws are actually against the democratic rights of all workers.

SCHOOL-BOYS, NEGROES FOR DIRTY WORK UNDER DRAFT LAW

August 4, 1940.

Some Notes on the Forthcoming Peace-time Draft:

Following on the heels of the Democratic nominating convention in Chicago, where the delegates and leaders from top to bottom ignored the issue of peace-time conscription, the Senate Committee on Military Affairs, controlled by New Deal Democrats, favorably reported out the amended Burke-Wadsworth bill for a peace-time draft. In essence the bill provides for the registration of all male citizens between 21 and 31 for "selective service" in the armed forces of the nation, for a minimum period of one year. The rate of pay will be the gigantic sum of \$21 per month.

Right on the heels of this insidious proposition for forced military labor for all the youth of the country comes Roosevelt with his demand for the immediate mobilization of the National Guard. America is to be turned into an armed camp. Needless to say this will mean the beginning of an open war dictatorship — under the guise of combatting dictatorship!

WANTS SCHOOL BOYS TOO

New York City's great friend of labor, Mayor La Guardia, has this to say about the draft bill in response to a question whether he thought conscription would lead America into war: "I say with all the earnestness of my soul that this is the only hope of keeping us out of war". Thus the means of keeping U. S. out of war "narrows" down from passing "Neutrality Acts" to peace-time drafts. La Guardia is saying in reality that there is no hope of keeping out of war. And as far as he is concerned he is in favor of preparing for the inevitable. At whose expense?

The mayor is quoted by the New York Post: "La Guardia suggested that the House Military Affairs Committee emphasize training youth, starting with boys just out of school... He suggested that up to \$16 a month be provided for dependents of all those conscripted... La Guardia urged that no exemptions be permitted, not even for conscientious reasons or to persons with physical defects". This is the "democracy" that the American Labor Party's most famous member broadcasts each hour from his radio station in New York! There seems to be no end to democratic hypocrisy, and the "liberals" seem to outdo all others.

NEGROES FOR DIRTY WORK

For the Negroes that will be drafted for another slaughter to protect the democratic institution of Southern lynching, Prof. D. B. Bill, a distinguished research scientist in charge of the unique Fatigue Laboratory at Harvard University, has a very promising task. After extended research, he suggests Negro tank troops and Negro submarine crews, as his experiments have convinced him they can endure such hot, humid and quite generally hellish interiors better than the white men! Truly a remarkable suggestion! Negro slaves to aid the "war for democracy"!

Retired army officer Captain Brown proposes a preliminary training period for all those 21 to 30 under ex-army officers and veterans in the communities in which they live. While his plan is not very important, Captain Brown's motivations are: "As for

its popular appeal, the captain contends that proceeding in this manner would not only save a billion dollars; it would make entry into the great compulsory training venture a vastly easier thing and a much more pleasant 'pill' for the masses to swallow". (Brooklyn Eagle, July 23). Precisely. The task of the political agents of the bosses in Washington is to devise devious means of fooling the masses and forcing them to swallow this bitter pill under one form or another. A fitting response of America's masses and of its doubly oppressed youth will come when these politicians and their masters will come face to face with the ARMED might of the American workers' revolution.

HAVE YOU READ?

UNCLE SAM'S STAKE IN THE WAR

WHY COMMUNISM

CAPITALIST DECAY AND UNEMPLOYMENT

TRADE UNIONISM TODAY

WORKERS RIGHTS OR DEMOCRACY

STALIN-HITLER PACT AND THE IMPERIALIST WAR

SHALL WORKERS SUPPORT A LABOR PARTY?

Fear of Communism Haunts Bullitt and Cudahy

One of the most revealing aspects of the defeat of France is the eagerness of bourgeois democracy to capitulate to Fascism, rather than face the threat of Communism. We have stated time and again that bourgeois democracy will always make such a choice, but to have it confirmed now by such leading bourgeois figures as Ambassador Cudahy and Bullitt should be a lesson for the American workers.

Mr. Bullitt has asked that Mr. Roosevelt recognize the Petain government on the ground that Petain, Laval and Weygand "have saved their country from Communism".

Ambassador Cudahy of Belgium stunned many American Anglophiles by advocating shipment of food to the occupied countries under German imperialism, even against British consent, in order to prevent "starvation".

What these gentlemen realize is that the war breakdown is laying the basis for proletarian revolutions, and despite any plans for parallel action with Britain, it is necessary to help stave off proletarian revolution in the mainland of Europe.

Just as the war has "cancelled the private lives of all citizens" in America (to use Mr. Roosevelt's language), so the threat of revolution "cancels" inner-imperialist antagonism under certain circumstances.