

The Fighting Worker

Workers of
The World
Unite!

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Hands Off The Italian Revolution Neither Badoglio, Amgot, Nor the Bloc of 5 Parties FOR A SOCIALIST SOVIET ITALY!

Another major act that will end the Imperialist War has begun—the Social Revolution in Italy. The capitalist structure, weakened in every pillar, has cracked in one of its weakest link, Italy. But the chain of events which brings forth the Revolution now in Italy, will soon cross the borders into France, the Balkans, Germany, and eventually the United States, Britain and Asia.

As predicted and as emphasized by the Revolutionary Workers League and the International Contact Commission all these years, the imperialist war and the proletarian Revolution are linked together. One or the other will survive the present cataclysm. Either the proletariat will destroy once and for all the system of class oppression with its wars, its bread lines, its hunger and its misery, and establish Workers Council Republics all over the world; OR Imperialism (both in its Fascist forms and in its Bourgeois forms and in its Bourgeois Democratic forms) will continue to murder off the flower of humanity in incessant and recurring bloodbaths for world market and colonies.

There are no other alternatives!

FIRST IMPORTANT BLOW

The Italian proletariat has delivered a telling blow. After 21 years under the yoke of Fascism, after 21 years of a devastating dictatorship which destroyed their Parties, their Unions, and their democratic rights, the workers of Milan, Turin, Rome, Naples have with one fell blow overthrown the rotten Fascist structure. It remains for them now merely to complete the task, to march forward until every vestige of capitalism is destroyed in Italy and a Soviet Republic set up in its place.

The Italian proletariat has given the lie to all those pessimists and fatalists who doubted that the proletariat would fight once again, who thought that Fascism was "permanent," who long ago lost hope in the cause of the Workers' Revolution. The Italian working class recovered with a resiliency that was truly heartening. One day after the fall of Mussolini workers in Milan demonstrated, according to the press, with slogans of "Long Live Socialism." After twenty years the Milan workers remembered to avenge the Fascist murder of Matteotti, the Socialist deputy. The murderer was given speedy justice by the demonstrators. After twenty-one years without Unions and without Parties, except small underground groups, the workers are beginning to seize the factories again, to organize factory committees, and without a doubt, in the next few days they will organize Workers Councils, if they are not already in existence now.

The Italian Revolution is today only in its first stages but it poses many problems and many possibilities. The working class everywhere must rise up to the defense of the workers of Milan, Turin and Rome. The lessons of the past twenty-six years must be absorbed and utilized so that the workers of Italy do not go down to another defeat, as did the workers of Spain, Germany, China, Britain, Austria and countless other sections of the world working class since 1917.

In a spirit of true international working class solidarity the International Contact Commission, with groups and organizations in Germany, the United States, Great Britain, Australia and elsewhere, wishes to pose the following problems:

MILITARY DICTATORSHIP

1—The Badoglio government is a reactionary military dictatorship, a capitalist dictatorship just like its predecessor the Mussolini regime. It had the blessings from the outset of the majority wing of the Fascist Grand Council, with whom Badoglio has cooperated for almost two dozen years. The Badoglio government can not bring a lasting peace; it can not establish a stable regime in Italy. It is an imperialist government that stands between a victorious allied army on the one hand and a marching proletariat on the other. Rather than permit the working class to overthrow capitalism, Badoglio like Pétain and Laval before him will call upon the imperialist armies of Great Britain and the United States to aid the Italian capitalists against the Proletarian Revolution.

2—The Badoglio government is merely a stopgap placed in power by the Milan and Rome bankers to check the working class. If it succeeds we can expect a new Fascist government in Italy.

BLOC OF FIVE PARTIES

3—The "block of five parties" in Milan—composed of liberal, Catholic, Socialist and Stalinist parties—is nothing more nor less than the Italian version of the Kerensky government of 1917, or the Scheideman-Independent government of 1918 in Germany, or the People's Fronts in France and Spain in 1936-38. Its only purpose will be to canalize the proletariat's energy, to tie them securely to the capitalist chariot and to confuse and demoralize the working class so that the bourgeoisie can finish the job of setting up a new Fascist regime, without Mussolini, but with all his principles and some additional brutality. A "democratic" regime in Italy today is impossible. With its present economic decay, the loss of the Italian colonies, the ravages and expenses of war, the Italian capi-

talists can grant absolutely no concessions whatsoever to the working masses. If nevertheless "democracy" is established for a few months (or a year) it will mean only that rather than have the proletariat destroy the whole capitalist system, rather than have the workers take over all the productive wealth of the nation and expropriate the capitalists—rather than this the Italian finance capitalists would install a "democratic" regime to still the storm, to demoralize the Revolution until the Italian Kornilov (or Hitler) can be found and prepared to once again smash the Revolutionary Movement. The reformist block of five Parties is a trap a hundred times more dangerous than the openly reactionary Badoglio government. And it will become still more dangerous because the centrists everywhere will undoubtedly give it support (with "criticism"). But there can be no choice in Italy—it must be either Fascism again or Communism. Any attempt at an intermediate regime—at a "democratic" government of the reformists, or a "workers and farmers government" of the centrist Trotskyites and Independent Labor Party—such attempts at intermediate regimes merely undermine the Revolution and pave the way for the restoration of Fascism.

Even if such a liberal government comes to power we will not support it in any way, whether it fights with Germany against the Allies or with the Allies against Germany. We are not defensists until we have a Soviet Socialist Republic.

ROBBER'S PEACE

4—The Allied Imperialists will enforce upon Italy a robber's peace, a "peace" of indemnities, of stolen territory, of class oppression. The Allied Imperialists today as in 1918 (and probably more so) will aid and act as the vanguard of the Italian counter-revolution. As the I.C.C. and the Revolutionary Workers League have long pointed out, the Allies have chosen the moment of social uprising for their "second front." They have indicated that they understand much better than Stalin and the reformists and centrists how closely the Imperialist War and the Revolution are interlinked. Churchill and Roosevelt choose to take care of major problems first—and their major task is the liquidation of the proletarian revolution. The revolutionary workers of Great Britain and the United States condemn in advance the robbers' peace that will be imposed upon Italy. We demand that not a soldier, not a penny be used by the Allies for the counter-revolution in Italy. We demand the evacuation of Sicily, Libya, Tunisia, and all the other occupied lands

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Is This A People's War?

Sometime ago Mr. Wallace, the Vice-President of the United States, said that the present mass slaughter is a "people's revolution"—"the beginning of a new era for the common man." He gave his assurance that every Hottentot would get a quart of milk each day. This quart of milk was cut to a pint by the wife of the Soviet ambassador. This, of course, is only an expression of Russian pessimism.

Now, if there is anybody in the world that needs a quart of milk outside of the Hottentots, it is the 6 million Bantus of South Africa. Their lives under the benevolent civilizing influence of the whites of South Africa have made them a little lean and susceptible to such civilized niceties as rickets; pellagra; dysentery; and syphilis. You can be sure that if any Bantu heard Mr. Wallace's speech, which of course was

judiciously kept from him, he would hasten to the poll and cast a vote for Mr. Wallace, that is, if he were allowed to vote.

SHOULD GET SOMETHING

When a "people's revolution" is being fought the general idea is that the people will gain something from it. And the basic gains are received at the beginning of the revolution. For example, when the French people (that is the French bourgeoisie) fought their revolution in 1789 they gained tangible demands immediately, such as: a constitution, no imprisonment without trial, the right of trial by jury, and the right to elect their own government.

Well, the Bantus aren't as smart as Mr. Wallace or any of the other "leaders" of this "people's revolution," but somehow they heard about a war going on in Europe against Hitler and a lot of talk

about freedom and the rights of oppressed peoples. Things had not been going so well in South Africa. Their meager wages were no longer sufficient to buy the barest necessities of life. So with all this talk going on among the white folks about freedom and the war for liberation the Bantus decided to organize a trade union in Pretoria and ask for higher wages.

The local white leaders of the "people's revolution" in Pretoria did not see eye to eye with the Bantus on this matter of a wage increase. But the Bantus insisted. Then the local "people's revolutionaries" called out the troops which they had wisely kept at home (instead of sending them to the European battlefield to fight Hitler) prepared for just such an emergency. The troops carried out their orders and fired

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United Front Formed To Defend Richmond Negro

SAMUEL KELLY DEFENSE COMMITTEE—705 N. 5th ST. RICHMOND, VA.

PRESS RELEASE

Special to FIGHTING WORKER

On the night of July 20 over a hundred organizations federated in the Richmond Civic Council endorsed the case of Samuel Kelly and voted unanimously to send delegates to a united front conference called by the Labor Defense Congress, which is handling Kelly's case.

On July 22 this conference met, set up a machinery, made further preparations for legal steps in the case, and prepared to acquaint the public to widest possible extent with the facts in the case. To this end a first mass meeting was arranged to be held the night of August 2, at 8:30 P.M. at the Fifth St. Baptist Church, 705 N. 5th St.,

Richmond, Va. Dr. C. C. Scott, pastor of that church is to preside. Among the speakers are to be Mr. Kelly's original attorney (and one of his present attorneys), Mr. E. A. Norrell, Thomas H. Stone, national counsel of the Labor Defense Congress and another of Kelly's attorneys, Dr. W. L. Ransome, president of the Richmond Civic Council, Dr. Leon Reid, Dr. J. W. Tinsley of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and Mr. E. W. Steele, active in the Kelly defense from the very start. At this mass meeting the facts of the case will be presented, along with resolutions on the case.

The united front conference selected as its officers, Dr. C. C. Scott as president, Miss Dorothy Thomason as secretary, and Mr. C. O. Dean as treasurer.

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3 QUESTIONS

A reader of the FIGHTING WORKER has asked us to answer three questions. We gladly comply.

QUESTION: WAS THE BOLSHEVIK REVOLUTION A "SOCIALIST" REVOLUTION? A CERTAIN "RADICAL" PARTY CALLED THE "WORKERS SOCIALIST PARTY" SAYS IT WAS A CAPITALIST REVOLUTION.

ANSWER: The Russian workers in November 1917 expropriated the capitalists, set up workers control of production, took over the banks, the railroads, the mines, factories and all other means of production. The Capitalist State of Kerensky was completely liquidated and in its place a government of Workers Councils was erected—with delegates from the factories, barracks and rural communities. It is true that Russia in 1917 was a very backward country. Many so-called Marxists maintained that it was impossible for a Socialist Revolution to take place in Russia because the Capitalist Revolution had not yet taken place. But Lenin and Trotsky both showed that modern society is highly integrated and that the very tasks of the capitalist revolution are impossible of achievement except through a Workers Republic. That is precisely what was set up. Unfortunately the failure of the German workers (and others) to extend the Revolution in Russia to other nations, permitted a middle class tendency—after Lenin's death—to take over the helm of the state and to warp the Russian Revolution. That does not, however, change the basic character of the October Revolution.

QUESTION—WHAT PART DID LENIN PLAY IN THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION? WHAT WOULD THE REVOLUTION HAVE BEEN WITHOUT LENIN?

ANSWER— Lenin's role as an individual in the Revolution was very great. More than any other comrade he clearly understood the aims and needs of the Revolution. But the Russian Revolution was the results of OBJECTIVE events; war, hunger, death, oppression of minorities, etc., which came to a head in Russia before other countries. Without these objective events—this revolutionary situation—the greatest revolutionary of

our times could not possibly have led a successful Revolution. Given these objective events the role of the Bolsheviks and their leaders played an important and decisive role. Without the Bolsheviks victory would have been impossible. Whether the Bolsheviks could have adhered to a Revolutionary Marxian line without Lenin's leadership is one of those hypothetical questions that can not be answered. The best that can be said is that the role of individuals—no matter how "great" they may be—is circumscribed by objective events.

QUESTION—DO THE WORKERS NEED LEADERSHIP (A PARTY) AND WHY?

ANSWER— This question has been answered in scores of Marxian books. We can only deal with it briefly. Capitalist rule is exceedingly complicated. It has its government, its army, its police, its radio, newspapers, churches and a hundred other "head-fixing" instruments. It has hundreds of thousands of individuals whose only job is to keep the masses enslaved. It has thousands of labor-fakers in the Unions to confuse workers. To destroy capitalism it is necessary not just to hate it, but to scientifically understand it, and fight it. For that we must have a trained vanguard, versed in Marxism, to GUIDE the proletariat in action. Facts show that every Revolution in history needed a conscious vanguard to give it guidance. The French Revolution had its Jacobins; the American Revolution, its Committees of Correspondence, etc. Facts show, too, that over two dozen Proletarian Revolutions have been defeated since 1917 mainly because they lacked a Revolutionary Marxian leadership to guide the masses against the pitfalls of the capitalists and their agents. Workers need leadership to guide them against the traps of the reformists (Socialists, Stalinists), and the centrists (Trotskyites in America). Otherwise the Capitalists put these misleaders into power for a short period, demoralize and confuse the workers until they give up all independent workers action, and then finally place the Fascist rule or military dictatorship over the masses. Without a Revolutionary Marxian Party there will be many Revolutions, but no VICTORIOUS Revolutions.

Scottish Shop Steward Movement Gaining

The quarterly Stewards meetings became a faction fight between the right and the left. A strike resolution recently was lost by the left by only 13 votes, out of 281.

NEW GROUP FORMED

But the militants have regrouped themselves and many Stalinists have left the Party. Under the chairmanship of an outstanding militant, a Clyde Workers Committee was formed a few months ago and has been instrumental now in amalgamating with groups in other factories and cities.

The level of the trade Union movement in Great Britain is quite a bit higher than in the United States. The Clyde Workers Committee calls for:

Workers control of industry

A national left wing movement

Every shop a closed shop

Annulment of anti-working class legislation

And other progressive demands.

After a long period of dissolution, the Shop Steward committees in Great Britain, particularly in Scotland are now coming into their own again.

Shop Stewards Committees were formed at the Clyde yards, traditionally the most militant section of the British working class, at the very outset of the war. At that time the Stalinists considered it an "imperialist" war and were represented on the Committee.

But the pressure of the bureaucrats forced the Committee to dissolve, although the individual stewards functioned on a militant program.

With the entry of the Soviet Union into the war the Stalinists began to pursue a more notorious class-collaboration policy and in the Locomotive Workers strike towards the end of 1942 they played an open strike-breaking role, even attempting to get the militant strikers fired.

Willis Walks Out Of Ghetto Into Jail

Special to the Fighting Worker

The arrest of Allen Willis, by the corrupt "keepers of law and order" in vice ridden Chicago shows how strong the need is for an effective workingclass Labor Defense organization. Recent history is full of the unjust incarcerations of workers. Last week it was Allen Willis. Last month it was the Central Pattern and Foundry Workers. Tomorrow it will be you or yours.

The Labor Defense Congress, Chicago Branch, has organized a protest meeting on the Willis case. The local N.A.A.C.P. has evinced interest and is pursuing action to prevent recurrence of such situations. But that isn't enough. Join up with your local Labor Defense Congress and see that a strong militant workingclass organization stands on guard, ready and able to protect the members of its class against the oppression and persecution of the boss class rule. Write for information about the Labor Defense Congress to: 815 E. Franklin St., Room 206, Richmond, Va.

NEIGHBORHOOD'S EXCLUSIVE-NESS SAFEGUARDED

I was arrested Friday between 10:00 and 10:30 P.M., August 6 as I left the apartment building where a friend of mine resides on Lake Park Avenue. The policeman, officer MacKeon said he followed me from Ellis Avenue through a connecting alley to Lake Park Avenue. Altho the alley was lit at both ends and I immediately went into the building and rang the bell and came right out again, (as no one was home); that was sufficient evidence to the officer that I was "out for no good" since there had been several alleged complaints of robbery in this neighborhood.

I was not drunk or in any way "disorderly" and have frequently visited this friend at the same hour and even later as he works on the "swing" shift.

At eleven O'clock or so I was locked up at the Stanton Avenue station with no charges being placed against me. From the time I was arrested until the time I was locked in a cell the arresting officer continually indulged in verbal abuse, accused me of being a pocketbook snatcher, a robber, and that I had probably done something to some poor women. In answer to my denial of these charges I was called a... liar. I told the officer the only reason he was arresting me was because I was a Negro walking along a "white" neighborhood. He replied: "Some of my best friends are Negroes."

INCOMMUNICADO WEEK END

I lived the next 44½ hours incommunicado in the bedbug and lice ridden cell block of the Stanton Avenue station. On Saturday night, 24 hours after I was taken into custody I was able to smuggle a message out to friends. When they called the Station the Officer in charge denied I was there but persistent calling and visiting forced the police to admit that I was being held there for "suspicion of robbery," and the charges against me might include anything "from murder, rape and robbery" to "no charge at all."

Sunday night at 8:30, after I had suffered the humiliating experience of the line-up at the Central Police Station where I was accused of robbery, I was finally booked on a charge of "disorderly conduct" and was immediately bailed out by my friends.

Harlem Is Hungry For Food & Justice

Rioting and looting broke out in Harlem, New York's large congested Negro area this month. Six people were killed, 195 injured and 1500 arrested. As usual, those killed, wounded and arrested are all Negroes excepting for about 40 policemen who were injured in the course of the battle there.

According to the news reports the riot was precipitated by a fight between a Negro soldier and a white policeman when the latter attempted to arrest a Negro woman for disorderly conduct, and shot the soldier for intervening.

Mayor La Guardia has charged the riot to Harlem's hoodlum element. This simple explanation ignores and hides the social and political causes that have made Harlem a center of hunger, and unrest for years.

HARLEM IS STILL HUNGRY

Most of the clashes occurred around the looting of the local food and clothing stores. Harlem has been hungry and ragged for years and the war "boom" has done very little in the way of taking the wrinkles out of its stomach. Job discrimination, poor housing and low pay for the colored people continue as usual.

The first act of the city administration was to assign police to protect the merchandise of the store keepers and place armed guards on all food trucks entering Harlem. This is indeed a significant fact in a period of 'boom and prosperity' and danger of 'inflation.' Well fed people usually don't loot for food.

NEW YORK POLICE... HATED COSSACKS

The N.Y. police force is noted for its anti-Negro attitude, confirmed daily by their brutal overbearing actions, insults and oppressive acts without any justification toward the Harlem residents. When the New York papers played up and created a "mugging wave" these cops showed what mettle they were made of. Indiscriminate beatings, arrests and persecutions, even of school children were on the order of the day. Their brutalities continued until the raised ire of every decent white and colored citizen forced them to stop or be responsible for their actions.

Mayor LaGuarda has often posed as the friend of the Negro. He has been pictured by Negro leaders as the "Negro's white hope," his speeches for equality have been long and pious but yet, in spite of this Negroes rioted in N.Y. against his police and he himself was booed when he attempted to address a crowd from a Harlem Police Station. There is something very rotten in New York as in every other American city.

NEGATIVE CLASS STRUGGLE

Negro workers in Harlem, as elsewhere, are enraged over the brutal murders of Negroes in the armed forces. They are angered over the fact that with the government clamoring for workers, Negroes are still kept out of thousands of plants, and where they are hired they get the worst paying jobs.

The riots of Harlem merely express this resentment. Unfortunately without a class struggle leadership the Negroes reacted negatively. Instead of class action they resorted to individual and mob action. But the "riots" were not accidental and they were not the result of "base instincts." The riots were purely and simply a negative expression of the class struggle.

NEGRO STILL DOUBLY OPPRESSED

There has been no basic change in the Negro's status, he is still the underfed, the oppressed, the persecuted. The war has only aggravated this condition. Capitalism can not change this status without destroying itself. The Negro's position—as a doubly exploited section of America—is just as vital in the maintenance of the status quo—as the suppression of the miner's strike. When the question of Negro equality—social, political and economic—is acted upon, it threatens the war effort, capitalist profit, and the State itself.

NEGRO AND WHITE, ORGANIZE WORKER'S DEFENSE GUARDS NOW.

PROTECT THE RIGHTS OF MINORITY GROUPS.

EXTEND THE RIGHTS OF THE WORKING CLASS.

NO EVIDENCE AGAINST KELLY

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NO EVIDENCE AGAINST KELLY

It will be remembered that Samuel Kelly was convicted in Hustings Court on March 15, 1942 of the larceny of some six hundred dollars worth of clothing from the A and B Clothing store of Richmond. It was the contention of the defense at the time that no case had been shown against Kelly, that there was no evidence identifying the clothing found in Mr. Kelly's shop, with clothing alleged to have been taken from the A & B Clothing Store, and that in fact there was no evidence that any clothing had ever been stolen from the A & B Clothing Store.

On this basis the case was taken to the Supreme Court of Appeal of Virginia. On June 8, 1943, the Supreme Court of Virginia affirmed the decision of the lower court. On June 30, the Labor Defense Congress having in the meantime entered the case at the request of Kelly, a petition for rehearing, assigning also constitutional grounds, was filed. In the meantime, while his petition was still pending Kelly has been denied bail and transferred to the penitentiary. It is anticipated that Kelly's attorneys will seek a writ of habeas corpus within the next few days.

When interviewed at Jail Kelly said; "I am entirely innocent of the charge against me. The reason I am here is because I have always fought for the rights of Negroes and working people. I urge all my friends on the outside to do all they can to secure my release."

At no time was I permitted to call an attorney or notify interested parties of my whereabouts; despite repeated requests.

CASE DISMISSED IN COURT

At the 48th street Court, Monday morning my lawyer talked with the officer who made the arrest in an attempt to clarify the situation. The officer became very belligerent and stated publicly that he would arrest me every time he saw me on his beat, and that the next time he got me in a cell he would teach me a lesson that I would remember. However, before Judge Sullivan, he stated

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Editorials

Roosevelt and Congress

Congress will soon be back in the Capitol to begin anew its struggle with President Roosevelt. To many it will seem self-contradictory that the bourgeois legislative arm should be so violently in opposition to the bourgeois executive branch. Such people jump to the quick conclusion that Congress represents "big business," while Roosevelt represents the "common man."

Nothing could be further from the truth, however. It is a fact that a bloc is being consolidated between certain sections of Wall Street and the small business and farm sectors. The right wing Democratic and Republicans "unity" in Congress represents precisely this class picture. But behind Roosevelt, too, there stands a considerable—although probably an ever decreasing—group of finance capitalists.

The "opposition" group, however, can today talk turkey to the small businessman and farmer because these economic groups are suffering greatly under pressure. In the state of Illinois alone, for instance, 10,000 retail firms have been forced out of business in the last year out of a total of 70,000—one out of seven. These groups are looking for an "out." They are longing for the good old "free competition," for removing "government interference." The anti-Roosevelt block of financiers is capitalizing on this sentiment. By clever demagoguery it is lining up the middle classes behind it and constantly narrowing the base of the Roosevelt administration.

There is nothing strange about this at all. Similar things happened in Germany to the Bruening regime and in France to the Blum government. At certain stages in the development of capitalism, finance looks to a reformist (soft) administration, to tame the working class. Roosevelt was just such an agent of Wall Street. Today, however, capitalism can no longer afford the luxury of granting reforms to the working class; it must become hard if it intends to collect back in taxes and through sweat the hundreds of billions going into the war machine.

Unfortunately Mr. Roosevelt still is subject to the same pressure groups he has always been subject to. Even though he moves to the right he must still concede here and there to the labor lieutenants of capital (Murray, Green, et al) whom he has been working with all these years. The tempo of Roosevelt's shift to a "harder" method of dealing with the working class is too slow to suit the bigger section of the American capitalists.

They are preparing for a "hard" man—like MacArthur, or Taft, or Dewey, or Jesse Jones. American equivalents of Von Papen or Daladier. Possibly class events may change this resolution of Wall Street. A large wave of strikes, an upsurge amongst the working class, may make it necessary again (for a relatively short period) to introduce a "soft" President. At the moment, however, just the opposite seems to be the perspective.

The big fight in Congress, looked at realistically, is thus a struggle over methods of controlling the working class. There is no class difference between Roosevelt and Congress, anymore than there is a class difference between bourgeois democracy, bonapartism, and fascism. The only difference is over some important tactics.

The working class should react to this Capitol Tempest with the proverbial position: "A plague on both their houses."

AMGOT - IRON FIST OF IMPERIALISM

Lord Rennell of Rodd, the head of the Allied Military Government in Occupied Territories for Sicily is a big British Banker, with the usual Oxford degree, and a very close friend of many notorious Fascists. His views have always been considered as quite sympathetic to the Italian regime, particularly since he numbered many friends amongst them.

Now Lord Rennell is in charge of bringing "democracy" to the Sicilians.

Obviously the "Four Freedoms" are easily brushed aside in the face of "economic opportunity." Lord Rennell, together with his American aids, is in Sicily to milk the country dry of its wealth—in the interests of London and, to a lesser extent, Wall Street. We can expect that there will be widespread expropriations of factories and property belonging to real or fancied Fascists and that British and American "guardians" will be found for

this booty. We can expect too that the "take" from the occupation currency being circulated by the AMGOT will run into a sizeable sum.

Significantly no workers are represented in this first noble experiment of AMGOT. The thing is too openly imperialist.

AMGOT bears watching. With its petty bribes of food and trinkets it attempts to keep the conquered masses in check; and on the other hand it will despoil the economy of the conquered areas very much as all other imperialists have done in Europe from time immemorial.

AMGOT is the living refutation of the fact that the war is NOT being fought to grant people the "Four Freedoms." AMGOT is a MILITARY DICTATORSHIP. It recognizes no democratic rights or principles, except the "democratic" right of the exploiters and imperialists.

Manifesto On Italy

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of all the Imperialists—both by the Axis crowd and the Allied crowd—and the right of these people to determine their own fate. If the Allied imperialists and the German masters again try to intervene against the Revolution as they jointly did in 1917, then the workers everywhere by strikes and demonstrations must intervene on the side of the Italian working class.

DARLAN AGAIN

5—The Allied Imperialists, like the German Imperialists, do not want and will not support—except as a temporary expedient—any "democratic" government in Italy. Unlike the Stalinists, who have learned little or nothing, the Allies understand that "democracy" has outlived its usefulness, that only a military dictatorship can keep things "stable" in the occupied countries. Darlan was no accident. Giraud is a devout sympathizer of "National Socialism" (Nazism), as he himself stated recently in Canada. And Badoglio (or Graziani, or some other reactionary) will undoubtedly be the choice of the Allies to tame and control with force of arms the natural aspiration of the Italian workers' for bread and peace. Should the temper of the masses burst all bounds then the Allies may choose either to permit a "democratic" regime temporarily or openly to use Allied force against the proletariat. The American and British workers thus become major pivots in the defense of the Italian Revolution. They must shout "hands off" to their own masters, and they must give aid to the Italian Revolution by attempting to spread the movement to the Allied countries as well. Our main enemy today, as yesterday, is our OWN Imperialist power. The fight against Imperialism at home will be the greatest help we can give to the Italian comrades.

RED ARMY WILL AID WORKERS

6—The role of the Soviet Union and the Red Army will be monumental in the present events. Despite Stalinism and its reactionary position of support of the War, the Stalinists can not and will not support the type of government the Allies wish to impose upon Italy. In order to keep their influence with the working class and in order to maintain some prestige within the Red Army, Stalinism must demand a "liberal" capitalist government. In that it will come into conflict with the Allies. But Stalinism will continue to act as a hangman of Revolution. It will aid imperialism by trying to smash the Italian Revolution.

7—The Red Army soon will face its most historic test. The Revolution in Italy, and soon in the Balkans and France will vitally affect the Red Army. The first contact of the Workers State in Russia with the Revolutions elsewhere will create sharp repercussions within the Red Army, and cause a crisis for Stalinism. The workers in the Soviet Armed Forces will undoubtedly rise to the immediate defense of the European Revolution and attempt to give armed aid against the counter-revolutions. Unlike the imperialist armies which disintegrate at the first touch of Social Revolution, the Russian Red Army will consolidate. In the process the open bourgeois agents within Russia (including and particularly Stalinism) will show their rotten hands. In league with the oppressed workers of Europe the Red Army and the workers behind the line in Russia will either have to re-establish Soviet Democracy or face the victory of the counter-revolution within Russia as well as elsewhere.

8—The Soviet Union as a whole will soon face another test. World Imperialist Intervention, which was defeated in 1921, will soon rise again. The growing Social Revolution and the rôle of the Red Army will bring on the day when the Allies will double-cross the Soviet Union (as we have so long predicted) and will march again against the warped Workers' State.

SAME OLD CAPITALISM

9—The Revolution in Italy gives the lie to those "theoreticians" who have discovered in Fascism a "new" form of society. It reaffirms the correctness of our basic theory that Fascism and "democracy" are only two sides of the same coin, capitalism. The same capitalists who placed Mussolini in power in 1922 replaced him in 1943 with the equally capitalist regime of Marshall Badoglio. Now shorn of the Fascist Party and the "Corporations," the Capitalist Italian State continues the same as before to oppress and rob the proletariat. Nothing has changed but the form.

FOR WORKERS COUNCILS

10—The immediate tasks of the Italian proletariat are the establishment of democratic Workers Councils of delegates from the factories and the soldiers barracks; the arming of the working class and the organization of Red Guards; the disarming of the military and civil police; and workers' control of production through the soviets and the factory committees. The total aim of the proletariat of Italy must be absolute and unconditional seizure of power by the only Revolutionary Class in Society, the Working Class; and the destruction of the Bourgeois State in all its forms (Fascist, Badoglio military dictatorship, or liberal "democracy.") Against the Dictatorship of the Bourgeoisie, the Revolutionary Marxists will counterpose the Dictatorship of the Proletariat.

11—The Italian Revolution will enormously speed the Revolution elsewhere, particularly in France, and the Balkans. But it will soon affect all countries. Spain must be watched very closely; the Franco regime will soon be fighting for its life. The Italian Revolution will be felt in Germany, in the United States and in Britain (and in India and China). It will give heart to the workers everywhere, as did the Revolution of 1917. The Revolutionary Marxists everywhere must be equal to their tasks.

BUILD A NEW PARTY

12—And finally—last but by far most important—the workers of Italy, with the aid of workers elsewhere must immediately establish a new Revolutionary Marxian Party, based on the principles of Marx and Lenin, to give guidance and leadership, to avoid pitfalls and traps of the "democrats" and nationalists. Without such a Party—section of a New Fourth (Communist) International—the Revolution will grow but will be eventually defeated. A new Party is necessary particularly to struggle against the reformist agents of capitalism and their centrist tail. The biggest immediate danger in Italy is not Fascism but Bourgeois Democracy with its demagoguery and its snares. All the Revolutions since 1917 have proven that without such a Party victory is impossible. In this history moment the Party is indispensable.

LONG LIVE THE PROLETARIAN REVOLUTION IN ITALY.

DOWN WITH IMPERIALISM OF ALL STRIPES AND BRANDS.

DOWN WITH CAPITALISM IN ALL ITS FORMS.
 FOR A SOCIALIST SOVIET REPUBLIC IN ITALY.
 FOR A UNION OF SOCIALIST SOVIET REPUBLICS OF EUROPE.

FOR A WORLD SOCIALIST ORDER.
 FOR A NEW WORLD PARTY OF MARXISM, THE
 FOURTH COMMUNIST INTERNATIONAL.

DEFEND THE SOVIET UNION FROM IMPERIALISM AND THE COUNTER-REVOLUTION.

International Contact Commission

Red Front of Greater Germany
 Revolutionary Workers League, U. S.
 Leninist League, Great Britain
 Revolutionary Communists of Germany
 Militant Workers League, Australia

MAY FIGHTING WORKER BANNED

Notice has just been received from the Chicago Postal Authorities that the May 1943 issue of the "Fighting Worker" has been banned from the mails. No reason has been stated. As soon as our Lawyer completes investigation and finds out the

"reason" for the ban we will undertake a campaign to revoke this ruling.

The May "Fighting Worker" contained as its main article the "Manifesto to the working class" and carried other large articles on: Wages Frozen As

Price Ceilings Melt, Rationing Perpetuates Depression Living Standards, Winning The War With Child Labor, Job and Wage Freezing—Steps Toward Dictatorship, and editorials on: America's Secret Weapon — Food To Quell Revolution, An-

glo American Antagonism, Erlich and Alter, and several short articles of current interest.

If you have finished reading your May "Fighting Worker" pass it on to your friends. Organize a group to write protests to the Postal Authorities

on the ban and if possible hold public meetings on this question of "Freedom of the Press." And please send in all funds you can to help us continue our publications and to ever increase our circulation.

Mr. Churchill-Answer This!

REPRINT OF A LETTER

Following are excerpts from a letter by a British "flight-Sergeant" to his Prime Minister, Winston Churchill, as published by the I.L.P. of Great Britain:

"Mr. Churchill — what am I fighting for? I have listened attentively to all your speeches, but I have not found in one of them an answer to this question. I realize—probably better than you—that Hitler, and all he represents, menaces the future of mankind and must be destroyed. But I also realize that all you represent must also be destroyed, for just as fascism is a menace to the future of mankind, so is imperialism.

"Capitalism in Germany had to expand, but it could only do so at the expense of Capitalism in Britain and other countries. Hitler wants some of the wealth of the British Empire, and the people who own this wealth naturally do not want to lose it; so they call upon the workers in the name of 'freedom and democracy' to fight in order to help them to retain it.

"WE OWN NOTHING"

"The owners of wealth share the profits among themselves. The workers have no share. For 25 years our possessions were unemployment, disease and squalor. If, therefore, it is true that we are being asked to fight in order to retain this system, the fight is not worth the life of one worker.

"In your Mansion House speech you stated that you are fighting to retain that which you have. But I have none of it, so where do I, as a worker, come in? Bluntly, Mr. Churchill, my question is: Where do we, the workers, come into the quarrel—and where do we cash in?....

"You ask ME to fight for MY country, you appeal to my patriotism as an Englishman, to my love of MY country. That seems fair enough; I am patriotic, I am willing to fight to my last breath, on black bread and water, with no pay, for MY country. But, Mr. Churchill, I have no country, and how do you expect ME to fight for something that I do not possess?

"I HAVE NO COUNTRY"

"I am not a German agent, or even a pacifist. I am writing to ask you to give ME a country to fight for. I will then defend it against attack with every ounce of my strength.

"Candidly, I am rather worried.

You have given me an order: 'Defend YOUR country'—and I have no country to defend. Maybe, Mr. Churchill, I have misinterpreted your order. Do you want ME to fight for MY country, or do you really mean fight for YOUR country?

"YOU abuse the slogan 'Freedom and Democracy.' You have used it dozen of times during the last three years, but rarely before, except for four years during the last war. YOU have made it a war time slogan to cajole US to fight for YOUR country in the false belief that only YOU can give 'freedom and democracy' to us.

WHAT MINORITY?

"You have said that this war is being fought for the 'minorities' I agree: for the minority owning class in each country, and especially for the British minority. This minority possessing class, who own THEIR country, are composed of very rich men, who direct and control the affairs and lives of the majority living in THEIR country and reap huge profits and dividends. The big financiers, bankers, industrialists and press lords are the men who really own THEIR country. Therefore, it does not seem patriotic, or noble, or worthy of personal sacrifice for ME to die for THEIR country. This seems particularly the case when I see that I am expected to make all the sacrifice and THEY none....

"I realize that the workers of Britain have more freedom than the workers of Germany, but that in itself does not seem to me to be a very special gift for which we should thank God and die. In the beginning the earth was given to all men to share equally. The fact that today the majority have no share proves that the minority have robbed the majority of something they should all possess. YOUR policemen do not protect private property against a robber, but protect stolen property against those robbed. I am not grateful for the little YOU allow US to possess over and above that which Hitler allows the German worker to possess.

TELL US THE TRUTH

"Until WE have a country to fight for, until WE collectively own the land, mines, docks, railways, factories, etc., YOU have no right to appeal to US to fight for 'freedom and democracy' and YOU have no right to tell the world that YOU will fight Hitlerism and

HAVE YOU SEEN THESE COPIES OF THE INTERNATIONAL NEWS?

JUNE ISSUE: Militarism and the Worker - Soldier

JULY ISSUE: Is Dialectical Materialism a Philosophy? National Liberation and the Proletarian Revolution Stalintern Dissolved.

AUGUST ISSUE: The Class Struggle in the Army.

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present to build a plant in Canada. all it stands for to the last, i.e. to the last worker.

"Mr. Churchill, why don't YOU be honest and tell US that YOU are fighting for YOUR country, and then see how many workers you can buy. At least WE would know where OUR interests lie. Tell US the truth, that WE are fighting, not for OUR country but for the maintenance of the present economic system. YOU dare not do this, because YOU know that it is only by fooling the workers that YOU can get their support....

SOLDIERS BECOMING REDS

"The Service, Mr. Churchill, has made me see life from a different angle, an angle to which I was blind before I joined up. More and more of my comrades in the Service are waking from the stupor they have been in to reality. This time we shall not go back into the stupor. WE mean to take YOU at YOUR word, literally, to take OUR country and to see that WE own it—and fight for it if need be—just as the Russian workers did in 1917, when YOU tried to stop them. They were then fighting for the freedom which YOU say they possess today, and YOU very nearly stopped them from succeeding. We know that you will also try to stop us, but you will not succeed.

"One cannot serve in the ranks of the British Army for long without becoming 'Red.' Frankenstein created a Monster and the Monster turned to destroy him. Mr. Churchill the Monster is growing up. This war will not last forever."

The Government has just started suit (whitewash) of the Curtiss Wright Company after the Truman committee discovered that the Columbus, Ohio plant has failed to produce a single plane "which the navy considers to be usable as a combat airplane." All the planes are defective. The worst that can happen is that some of the boys will pay a petty fine.

Anaconda Copper Company officials escape without a prison sentence and with only \$31,000 in fines for swindling the government out of about five million bucks worth of defective wire. No one goes to jail.

But,

Wendel Skelton, a WORKER, was sent to jail for a year and a day for injury a small machine during some kidding on Christmas eve.

And Frank Russo, a WORKER, who got five years for damaging a machine that it took only 2 hours to repair.

And George Steele, a WORKER, who got 18 months for defective welding even though it was proven that he was mentally nuts.

What a difference a few million dollars make! It's a People's War for the Millionaire People exclusively. The rest get taxes, higher prices, abuse, death on the battlefields, and jail.

U. S. Gov't Grabs Widow's Mite

WASHINGTON, D. C. — If you're hired at 78 cents an hour; draw 78 cents an hour; your boss thinks you are earning 78 cents an hour; and you continue to draw 78 cents an hour—and, at war-time Washington prices, spend it all as fast as you receive it, of course—for eight months; and then you are suddenly told that your wages are not 78 cents an hour at all, but only 65—and that hereafter you will receive only \$15.60 instead of \$18.72 for your four-hour, six-day week (minus, of course, withholding tax, retirement, bonds, etc.)—well that's bad enough, in all conscience. But when you are further told that you must refund the 13 cents per hour that you have already drawn—somewhere between eighty and one hundred dollars, depending on the amount of overtime you worked—well, that's just a little too much, to make a perfect understatement.

GOV'T ERRS, CHARWOMEN PAY!

Yet that is exactly what happened to about 80 charwomen, employees of the Bureau of Printing and Engraving here. No one is quite certain how it all happened. No one's fault, of course, "just a little misunderstanding." Certainly not the fault of the women, whoever else was to blame. But the women, and their families, are the ones who will pay. Why should the United States Government be required to pay for its own mistakes—why, oh why?

The United Federal Workers of America, CIO (Treasury Local 11) to which about two thirds of the women belong—has taken up the matter, and has the following plan: 1. To urge the Treasury

Department to take no action to collect the "overpayment" from the women until after Congress has re-convened and had an opportunity to act; and 2. To bring pressure to bear on Congress to pass an emergency relief bill to relieve the women from making the refund.

Unless this, or some similar action, is successful, the money will be taken from the women's current pay-checks, in the following manner: The amount "overpaid" in November, to be deducted from the August check; the December "overpayment" from the September checks, and so on until the entire amount has been repaid. This first step has been won, it was announced August 5. The second and most important part of the fight is now to be waged.

Mr. Morgenthau is very sorry; Mr. Roosevelt is very sorry; Mr. Wilson is very sorry; all of Washington, official and unofficial, is very, very sorry. But perhaps the ones who are TRULY sorry are:

The woman who is putting a boy through Howard University on her char-woman's wages, meanwhile also supporting two younger children; the woman who is supporting a daughter eighteen years old, blind since she was four; the widow with six small children, and no other income than her charwoman's wages; and twenty-seven others, each with an individual, critical economic problem.

STOP THIS LEGAL ROBBERY

The Union's plan is good, as far as it goes. But the plan does not even begin to go far enough. The bill from Congress should not only relieve the women from repayment, but give them the 13 cent an hour raise which they, in all good faith, believed they had, making it retroactive to the time at which the "overpayment" began.

Protest meetings should be called, and protest telegrams, cards and letters should flood in to Congress.

The Union points out that even private industry, rotten as it is, couldn't get away with this sort of "murder." The women would have an opportunity then at least to sue in open court and present their side of the case. Readers of the Fighting Worker who are familiar with the case of Howard Carwile will recall that we have repeatedly pointed out the crass injustice of the doctrine that "The King can do no wrong," and that the government cannot be called to account by its own citizens.

Our readers are urged to bring up this "incident" in their local unions, to publicize it among their friends and fellow-workers; to have resolutions of protest passed, and to send a veritable flood of protest to Congress.

of the food, depending upon the amount of money in the prisoner's possession. In order to see a visitor who brought me some food the turnkey asked me how much it was worth to me. I offered him a dollar which he accepted.

Friends who spoke to the day Seargent were advised by him not to get a lawyer unless they knew one who knew the right people, and that it would be better to talk to the arresting officer. If they understood how this business works, I could be out of jail that day, by the good graces of the policemen who made the arrest, however, if they didn't understand how to get along, they were told, it might be a matter of weeks before I could be released.

Allen Willis

WILLIS CASE DISMISSED IN COURT

Continued from page 3

that the police had nothing against me and that he had arrested me because of complaints in the neighborhood of robbery. These complaints were checked by the attorney and were not verified by the detective bureau.

The charge of disorderly conduct was dismissed.

CONDITION AND CORRUPTION INSIDE JAIL

In conclusion I'd like to say a few words in relation to the conditions that exist in the Stanton Avenue station.

To call that station the south side's 'black hole of Calcutta' is no exaggeration. There are four filthy dark cells, littered with the refuse of previous occupants. The cells were built to hold two persons but on Saturday night from six to eight men are crowded into one cell. The two benches that run parallel with the sides of the cell are used at night for "beds." They are filled with extremely prosperous and fat bed bugs. The prisoner in the next cell complained of being overrun with lice. There is no soap or towels. For drinking purposes there are some rusty slimy tin dippers to be used in common by all.

We were fed three bologna sandwiches a day, one for each meal, no drink of any kind. The bologna is so sour and smelly and of such an inferior nature that most of the prisoners simply threw it away excepting those who were desperately hungry. To get any edible food one depended upon relatives to bring it in or had to pay the turnkey from fifty to seventy-five percent more than the actual cost

The "People's" Warriors

Continued from Page 1

on the naive striking Bantus and killed 17 and wounded over 100. Those that were not killed face three years in jail or a \$2,500 fine!

* * *

To help Mr. Wallace carry on this 'people's revolution' there is a fellow by the name of General Giraud. He is a HERO! He escaped from a German concentration camp after the collapse of France, made his way to French North Africa, and there took charge of the "people's revolution" against both Hitler and Vichy. Not only is the General a hero because of this feat but Mr. Roosevelt and the State Department said so too.

Several weeks ago, Mr. Roosevelt invited the heroic General over to talk about Lend-Lease. They talked for several days and Mr. Roosevelt decided to let the General in on the Lend-Lease. The General then went to Canada and there made a brilliant speech in defense of "the People's Revolution." Quoth he, to the as-

sembled news reporters: "German Nationalism (Nazism) has made some magnificent accomplishments.... not all is bad in the National Socialist System... what spoils everything is the grip that the party has on the people." This statement, of course, is not to be interpreted as in any way reflecting upon his ability to be one of the "leaders" of this "people's revolution."

* * *

On the home front the "people's revolution" is proceeding along nicely,—for some people. The following facts gives a general idea of line of march of the "people's revolution":

Standard Oil swindles the Government out of millions of dollars in the fabulously rich Elk Hills reservation. Secretary of Navy Knox defends the Standard Oil robbers. No one goes to jail.

Aluminum Corporation (Mellon's plaything) with the help of Jesse Jones, Secretary of Commerce, has been given a neat little sixty-eight million dollar