



# Socialist Call

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## REPUDIATE HAGUE AFL PRESIDENTS TELL BILL GREEN

NEW YORK—Three Presidents of International Unions affiliated with the American Federation of Labor urged William Green "to repudiate publicly Mayor Hague's efforts to get the support of the A. F. of L. and to denounce his anti-labor and anti-American activities" in a letter made public here yesterday by the Workers Defense League.

The letter was signed by Jerome Davis, President of the American Federation of Teachers; Isidore Laderman, President of the International Ladies Handbag, Pocketbook and Novelty Workers Union, and A. Philip Randolph, President of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters.

The signers also wrote as members of the National Committee of the Workers Defense League.

**Lip Service**  
Declaring that Hague is conducting "what is fundamentally an anti-labor drive," the letter warns that it "is as dangerous to the American Federation of Labor as it is to the Committee for Industrial Organization against whom it is ostensibly directed."

"Today Mayor Hague pays lip service to the A. F. of L.," the letter continues, "but whenever it serves his political purposes and the needs of his open shop backers, Mayor Hague will suppress the A. F. of L. as ruthlessly as he is fighting the C. I. O."

The three officials also urged President Green to take steps to have Hague's honorary membership in the A. F. of L. revoked.

## STIFLED



U. S. Rep. Louis Ludlow of Indiana, whose bill for a referendum on war was defeated by a vote of 209-188 after Roosevelt attacked the bill.

## Pennsylvania A. F. L. Favors Labor Unity

HARRISBURG, Pa.—The Pennsylvania Federation of Labor convention this week rejected William Green's demand that C. I. O. unions be expelled from the state federation.

Five hundred delegates representing 300,000 organized workers, almost unanimously voted to refer Green's edict back to the executive council of the A. F. of L. The convention also adopted a resolution demanding that the peace negotiations between the two groups be resumed full haste.

# Auto Workers Unanimously Vote For Militant Action Against War Preparations

## Roosevelt's War-Like Plans Seen In Pacific Maneuvers With British

By Ed. Adams

The announcement that three U. S. Navy cruisers, at present enroute to Australia, are to proceed to Singapore to participate in the opening of the British Naval Base is further definite evidence of the war-like trend of Roosevelt's foreign policy.

The official statement calls the visit merely a courtesy call to participate in the celebration of the completion of the Singapore base.

Behind the scenes and unofficially it is well known that the purpose of sending three cruisers is to make a demonstration of solidarity and support for the British. One cruiser would have been sufficient for a mere gesture of courtesy and one of the ships already in the Orient would have filled the bill. Sending three vessels on such a mission is obviously meant to be a show of force directed against Japan.

### Oil Deal

On top of such threatening actions comes the news that the Navy Department has entered into an arrangement with the

Standard Oil Company to subsidize the construction of twelve fast oil tankers. The usual commercial tanker has a speed of 12 knots. The Navy, in order to operate effectively at great distances must have fast tankers capable of accompanying the fleet. So the Navy Department will pay the difference in cost between a standard commercial tanker and a fast one capable of use in naval operations.

The proposed naval budget that is being pushed so vigorously by Roosevelt provides for a great increase in auxiliary vessels. The reason given for such expenditures is that it is necessary to increase the range of operations of our Navy.

### Offensive War Plans

All these moves can mean one thing and one thing only. The United States is being prepared for an offensive war against Japan. A navy along the lines proposed would be required only in terms of such a war. It is certainly not required for defense of our own waters. Meanwhile, the sending of a large force to Singapore shows that hand in hand with our naval building, our State Department is coming to some sort of a secret working arrangement with Britain.

It is a fallacy to believe that only Fascist nations seek war as a means of solving their internal difficulties. Confronted with an economic depression that cannot be removed by the usual jumbo incantations of "confidence," etc., it is not impossible that Roosevelt will turn to war as a solution. This is not merely a flight of fancy.

The patriotic breast beating in the handling of the Panay incident was a dress rehearsal for the mobilization of patriotic fervor that will accompany the real thing. The dress rehearsal was a success and even the Communists joined in the applause.

With increasing frequency we hear the statement that what this country needs is a nice little war to set us on our feet again. American capitalism is driving us to war not simply because of imperialist interests in the Orient, but as a temporary escape from the consequences of economic depression at home.

The working class by its united and militant action can prevent the carrying through of the plans now brewing. But the constant threat of war can be removed only by the removal of the capitalist system.

DETROIT, Mich.—The powerful United Automobile Workers of America through its International Executive Board voted unanimously this week for a militant program against war and war preparations.

Twenty-four members and officers of the board voted unanimously for the following program:

1. Support and endorsement of the Ludlow war referendum.
2. Withdrawal of U. S. military forces from China.
3. Endorsement of the consumers' boycott of Japanese goods.
4. Against Roosevelt's armament program.

The auto workers represent an organized force of 350,000 members and the categorical decision of the board was a significant victory for the mighty forces in American life which are energetically combatting Roosevelt's militarization program.

Action against war preparations by the U.A.W.A. is expected to greatly influence the decisions of the United Mine Workers of America International convention which meets at Washington, January 26.

**Workers Against War**  
The Steel Workers Organizing Committee, National Farmers' Union and other working class groups have already endorsed the program adopted by the auto workers.

Wyndham Mortimer, an international vice president of the auto workers, introduced a special resolution on fascism which embodied the "collective security" program, but the board, according to reports, treated the resolution lightly and a vote on Mortimer's proposition was not held. To Mortimer's credit it must also be admitted that he didn't have much pep in pushing his resolution which would have nullified the board's previous action against war.

Homer Martin, auto workers president, announced prior to the convening of the board conference that he would recommend abolition of administrators in Pontiac and Lansing local unions, and also the four man board setup at Flint. Although the board had not acted on Martin's recommendation as we go to press it was believed that the board would ratify the proposed change.

This action is considered a progressive step by left wingers in the auto union and will contribute much to solidify the inner ranks of the union.

The Socialist Party of the United States, through its National Secretary Roy Burt, sent Martin a letter congratulating the auto workers board for their commendable action in defense of working class interests.

# Need For Trade Union Unity Grows As Reactionary Forces Exploit Division In Labor

By Arthur G. McDowell  
Labor Secretary  
Socialist Party, U. S. A.

CHICAGO—The demand for renewal of unity negotiations between the officials of the A. F. of L. and the C. I. O. was front page news last week. The rather vigorous public utterances of C. I. O. leader David Dubinsky of the I. L. G. W. U. and President Howard of the Typo union, did not spare the C. I. O.

President David Dubinsky in the January issue of the union journal "Justice," and later in an address to several hundred officers of the union, went so far as to saddle the C. I. O. nationally with blame for actual breaking of negotiations with A. F. of L. He severely criticized the lack of democratic procedure and machinery in the national

councils of the C. I. O. and the failure of chairman Lewis to consult with his aides.

### Urge Unity

Howard released to the press advance copies of the Typographical "Journal" in which he stressed the intention of the Typos to stay in the A. F. of L. and called for unity negotiations.

Dubinsky carries more weight in as much as his union is part of the C. I. O. and a heavy financial contributor. Both utterances were exploited for anti-C. I. O. and anti-labor purposes as was inevitable however much it may be regretted. Nevertheless the forcing of the question of A. F. of L.—C. I. O. unity again to the fore was all to the good.

### Socialists Active

The Socialist Party and allied progressive trade union forces who have loyally supported the

fight for industrial unionism and organization of the unorganized, will renew the petition drive of unionists of both national groups known as the "Committee of a Million For Unity" which calls upon the officers of both C. I. O. and A. F. of L. to again get into conference and stay in conference until they can establish a united labor movement capable of organizing the still unorganized millions. The basis of such labor unity must be industrial unionism in the mass production industries and democratic unionism throughout.

The evil effects of recent division of the labor movement were seen in the very effective use which the reactionary press like the "Chicago Tribune" put the words of Dubinsky and Howard. Their words were portrayed gleefully, not as legitimate dispute,

(Continued on Page 3)

# Jap Imperialists Wage War Against Japanese Workers

By FENNER BROCKWAY  
In the "New Leader"

LONDON, Eng.—When the I. L. P. issued its first manifesto on the subject of the Japanese war on China, it referred to the "brave Socialists" in Japan who were opposing the war. It can now be confessed that the phrase was then written in faith. We had contact with Japanese Socialists and we trusted them, but we had no news at that time that they were actually resisting the war.

Later we received news, but it was of a confidential character and we did not want to endanger either the activities or lives of our Japanese comrades by publishing it.

One of the most resolute Japanese working-class leaders who was in Europe when the war broke out, visited our office and we planned the maintenance of contact and help both through the I. L. P. and the International Bureau. He and his wife were in physical stature the size of children, but they had the spirit of giants. I confess that I was deeply moved as I said farewell to them as they left for Japan.

Now it is possible to publish news because reports have come from Tokio that the Government has arrested 370 Socialist, Communist and pacifist representatives.

Among those in prison are two Labor M. P.'s, four university professors and many trade union and political leaders.

The charge against them is that they "spread anti-war talk instead of co-operating with the nation to support the Government's policy in China."

In the "Times" of December 23 we found the paragraph which we had been expecting:

"The Proletarian Party, which may be roughly described as a Japanese counterpart of the I. L. P., and another Left Wing group, the National Council of Labor Unions, were dissolved today by Home Office orders."

We greet our Japanese comrades with pride and in solidarity. At present they are behind prison walls. Some may be executed. But their work in life and death remains and its influence grows. A social revolution in Japan may yet be the end of the war.

## Business's Business Japs Tell Business

NEW YORK—Japanese business men, who support the present invasion of China, were reported to have approached American concerns for \$50,000,000 credit to purchase "machinery," it was learned in financial circles here January 15.

The Japanese were reported to have approached T. J. Watson, International Business Machines Corporation head, and president of the Chamber of Commerce, in regard to the proposed deal.

While Japan goads the Chinese people it is feeling a heavy drain on its financial resources and without blushing it asks the merchants of the United States to extend credits to further its military invasion in the far east.

Meanwhile other American concerns are making profitable business selling Japan war materials. Scrap iron is a best seller, exporters report.

## Co-operatives Grow

MANCHESTER, Eng.—Membership in co-operative associations throughout the world grew from 20,000,000 in 1917 to 70,500,000 in 1937, according to the People's Year Book for 1938, just published by the Co-operative Wholesale Society in Manchester.

## U. S. Arms For Fascist Foe!

WASHINGTON — China and Japan were the two largest purchasers of arms in this country during the last month of 1937, according to a tabulation prepared by the State department. Both bought nearly equal amounts of munitions and military equipment.

Chinese purchases totaled \$290,632, the bulk of which went for grenades, bombs, torpedoes and machine guns. A smaller amount went for aircraft parts.

Japanese purchases amounted to \$250,282, of which \$250,000 was spent for aircraft. The balance was made up of revolvers and automatic pistols.

The smallest purchase of the month was made in Pitcairn Island, inhabited by descendants of those who mutinied on the British warship, the Bounty, many years ago. An export license for \$4.00 worth of ammunition was issued for the island.

## Boudoir Cabinet Leads Rumanian Fascist State

BUCHAREST.—"It is my government," King Carol of Rumania, European playboy monarch, has declared of his new fascist cabinet, headed by Premier Octavian Goga. The king, while retaining his Jewish mistress, has officially placed his approval on the dictatorial and anti-Semitic program that is now being launched by the government.

The new fascist victory on the continent has stirred grave fears throughout Europe and within the confines of Rumania. Czechoslovakia, which has remained an island of capitalist democracy in the midst of the rising tide of fascism in Europe, has received assurances of friendship from the Rumanian foreign minister, but is increasingly doubtful of the future.

It is common knowledge that Hitler has been eyeing the little country as a logical road for the German expansion and the new developments in this Rumanian capital are hardly reassuring.

Meanwhile anti-Semitic violence seems to be the immediate danger in domestic affairs. Premier Goga has already announced that he plans to expel half a million Jews from a country in which the King's boudoir cabinet is headed by a Jewess.

Resistance to the first step in the fascist program has already gotten under way. The premier's order, addressed to the Bar Association, to disbar some 1,500 Jewish lawyers, has met with defiance on the part of the attorney's executive committee.

An economic royalist is one who thinks that, 120,000,000 can't be right.—John Paine.

## SEIZED



Kanju Kato, proletarian member of the Japanese cabinet, one of 370 persons prominent in pacifist and radical groups imprisoned after series of raids throughout Japan on suspicion of aiding to create a general revolution.

## Great Britain Reroutes Trade Lines To Asia

LONDON — Great Britain is pushing its rearmament and fortification program with full speed.

The latest projects in connection with Britain's war plans are fortifications in eastern, southern and western Africa. This indicates that the British Empire fears its trade routes through the Mediterranean will be cut off in the early stages of a world war.

Fortifications are to be constructed at Freetown, Sierra Leone and Capetown. The Capetown fortifications are to cost \$75,000,000 alone.

Diplomatic conferences this week between the navy offices of France and Great Britain resulted in an agreement that the two countries would combine their fleets in the far east. Joint naval forces will patrol "danger zones," it was reported.

## War Pamphlet Published

"America Arms the Schools" is the title of a pamphlet by Robin Myers which has just been published by the Young Peoples Socialist League and may be ordered at 549 Randolph street, Chicago, Ill.

## LOYALISTS REHABILITATION



Two soldiers of the loyalist army defending Teruel, Spain, assist an aged man to safety after completing house-to-house search for insurgent snipers.

# American Capital Supports Fascists In South America

Columbia is the last capitalist government in South America which makes any pretensions of being democratic. The rise of open fascism in Brazil under the aegis of Italian and German imperialism has had profound repercussions in the United States. But actual fascism existed in South American countries long before Brazil decided to label itself properly.

## French Deputies Ask Two Billions For War Ships

PARIS—Two new 42,000 ton battleships is French imperialism's answer to world peace.

When two sets of colonial oppressors fall out, as in the case of Italy and France, the merchants of death always have the answer cut and dried. Therefore, France is building a stronger navy because Italy has emerged as a first class sea power.

France's two giant warships will exceed anything afloat, save the Titanic Hood which is listed as a 42,100 ton battle cruiser.

Mussolini announced January 7 that Italy would construct two new 35,000 ton battle ships—the Roma and Impero—as fascism's latest move for supremacy in the Mediterranean.

While France grappled to meet a serious internal situation pertaining to the workers' standard of living, the navy committee of the Chamber of Deputies announced that it would ask for an additional appropriation of two billion francs to cover the increased rearmament program.

## Canadian Radio Censors Unionist

OTTAWA, Ont., Canada.—The Canadian Broadcasting Co. censored the radio speech of R. J. Tallon, general secretary of the Trade and Labor Congress of Canada, refusing to let him call capitalism anarchistic or say that "churches have declined where they have given ear to the oppressor."

Tallon's speech accused Premier Duplessis of Quebec of trying to strip unions of their functions so that vested interests may dictate.

American imperialism fosters military dictatorships in Bolivia, Costa Rica, Dominica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Paraguay, and Peru, but American workers did not hear about this as thoroughly as they heard the story of fascism in Brazil.

The reason is simple enough. The Standard Oil Co., United Fruit Co., the Electric Bond and Share, and other U. S. corporations, have been exploiting the people and resources in South America, since the era of finance capitalism or imperialism began.

American commercial interest financed and continue to finance military dictatorships in the above mentioned countries. But when Brazil decides that the grass is greener in the Rome-Berlin-Tokio pasture then its military dictatorship becomes fascism, according to capitalist propaganda.

## A Social Disease

American workers have good reasons to be indignant over the suppression of civil liberties in Brazil. To the American working class fascism and military dictatorships in neighbor countries constitutes a serious social disease which is contagious. But American workers shouldn't be fooled by imperialist propaganda in this country. What is good for the goose is good for the gander. If American imperialism opposes fascism in Brazil why doesn't it oppose another kind of fascism in countries where it milks the cream produced by the hard work of peasants and workers?

## World Imperialism

World imperialism is divided between two axes. Rome-Tokio-Berlin versus Washington-London-Paris. The political struggles which vary in intensity in various parts of the world at the moment are struggles over world markets—struggles between the imperialist haves and imperialist have-nots.

In between stand the workers of all countries. The pawn of imperialism is the surplus value extracted from the labor of workers. But that isn't enough. Imperialism uses the flesh, bones and blood of workers the world over to fight their battles. Fatherland, "democracy", patriotism and collective security are labels used to delude the masses from their more immediate enemy—the imperialists themselves.

## Workers Should Act

Workers of America have every right to express serious grief at the state of the world and on the basis of their organized power they should act to make world society a really social world.

But when American imperialists in their kept press rave about the injustices in other lands it is well for American workers to remember the rapacity of our government in Nicaragua; its financial policy in Cuba; its steadfast refusal to subscribe to the necessities of the people of Venezuela; its exploitation of the Mexican masses, and its generally reactionary role in world affairs.

## EXPLOITATION

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.—Wages for an average 10-hour day, six-day week range from \$7.50 for beginners and children to \$15 for women and men on Connecticut tobacco plantations, according to the New England Labor Research Association.

# National Negro Congress Flays Borah's Attack

NEW YORK CITY.—The National Negro Congress took sharp issue with Sen. William Borah in his opposition to the Anti-Lynching bill and charged him with "constitutional hair-splitting" in a statement released this week by A. Phillip Randolph, Socialist, trade union leader and president of the congress.

"Senator Borah," Randolph said, "does not raise fine spun technicalities against federal legislation in behalf of relief, although it may be contended that each state has the right and obligation to secure own inhabitants from starvation.

"Maintaining order by the federal government in the interest of preventing Negroes from being lynched, mobbed and burned alive is certainly the concern of the federal government, especially when states not only display their lack of ability but also their lack of intent to curb mob law."

### Borah Refuses Debate

(Readers of the CALL will remember that last week the National Office of the Socialist Party challenged Sen. Borah to debate Norman Thomas on the Anti-Lynching bill. Sen. Borah refused to meet Thomas in a debate.

In his reply Borah said: "I am of the opinion that here in Senate will be more effective in defeating this measure."

Roy Burd, National Secretary of the Socialist Party, replied: "Senator Borah prefers to hide behind the cloak of Southern reactionaries rather than meet a workers' spokesman in public debate. Sen. Borah by this action surrenders any claim to being included among liberals and progressives and definitely identifies himself with the most reactionary forces in America today."

Randolph also announced that the Negro Congress is supporting the minimum wage and hour bill with the proviso that the measure be broadened to include agricultural and domestic workers.

## Trade Union Unity Needed

(Continued from Page 1)

but as a sign of the disintegration of organized labor in general and the C. I. O. in particular.

### Endangers Labor Gains

The continuance of the bitter conflict will not only give fuel to these capitalist propaganda sheets but is preparing the way for the destruction of all benefits labor has won by its proper use of the National Labor Relations Act.

### The Wisconsin Case

As related last week in the SOCIALIST CALL a recent court decision in Wisconsin under the State labor relations act giving the employer the right to pick the union over the will of his employees, was at first hailed with applause by the fat fee fed attorney for the State Federation of Labor and by President Henry Ohl.

It was only the vigorous rallying of all progressive forces in the Wisconsin Federation of Labor by Socialist leadership which brought first the personal representative of President William Green and then the executive board of the State Federation of Labor to repudiate this interpretation of the act and promise not to take advantage of it.

With the reactionary employers of America engaged in a furious agitation to kill or maim the national labor relations act, unity becomes imperative in the trade union movement.

### Must Push Unity

The active expression of the universal rank and file sentiment for unity thru some such agency as the petition of the "Committee of a Million for Unity" will help to break the undemocratic policy of the A. F. of L. Executive Council in refusing to accept many of the C. I. O. unionists as first class citizens and will keep any vested interests in new jurisdictions from slowing down C. I. O. acceptance of a trade union peace. Let every progressive trade u-

\$561,311



A. F. Sloan, Jr., General Motors chairman, who topped the capitalist salary list with more than a half million dollars, or enough to take care of 2,500 working people for one year.

## Socialist Trade Unionists Hold League Conference

WORCESTER, Mass.—Active Socialist trade unionists in the Massachusetts area last week organized a regional Socialist League to further Socialist propaganda among organized workers and the movement for independent labor political action which is gathering strength within the Labor's Non-Partisan League.

There were present representative Socialists from the trade union field, ranging all the way from the American Federation of Teachers and the United Office and Professional Workers in the white collar field to the Painters, Steel and Textile Workers Organizing Committee locals and the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers.

Alice Dodge of Worcester was chairman of the gathering and Helen James of Boston secretary. Clare Pineo, state organizer, and Leo Vornon, represented the state executive committee and Charles R. Hill the National Labor Committee of the Socialist Party. Good luck to Massachusetts in their drive to build the Socialist Party among the workers.

unionist whatever their affiliation get out with a petition and talk union unity.

Committee of a Million for Unity petitions may be secured either from the "Kenosha Labor," Schwartz Building, Kenosha, Wisconsin, or by writing the SOCIALIST CALL.

## Working Class Philosophy Haves Against Havenots

By Joseph M. Coldwell

Howdy, comrades! This department of the SOCIALIST CALL is not intended for the highbrows or those who split hairs on dogmatic theories. What we need are more socialists of the job, men and women who believe in socialism not only because it is a beautiful philosophy and a scientific plan of government, but men and women who really see the need of a different economic system than the present so-called capitalist system.

When we understand that there is such a condition as the class struggle and realize our part in that struggle, then and not till then, will we have a real bonafide working class movement in this country.

The first lesson for the class in Soap Box Philosophy, in the University of Hard Knocks, will be a plain description of the principal phase of the class struggle. As our space and time is limited we will for the present lesson divide society into two classes.

A working definition of the word society is "organized humanity." The more intelligent we become the more perfect will be the form of our organized society.

### Wage Labor

So for the purpose of this lesson we are divided into two groups. The wage workers and the employers. The wage workers have labor power to sell and the employers are the buyers of labor power. The workers in order to live must sell their labor power for wages, hence they are called wage workers. The employers need labor power and usually pay for it in the form of wages. We use the words labor power in this lesson to make it distinctive from mechanical power.

We now go out to sell our labor power. Our power is part and parcel of ourselves, and we can only sell it minute by minute, hour by hour, and day by day. We cannot store it up and sell last week's power next week. We must sell it to be used now, and we want to sell it on the best possible terms. So when we go out looking for a job, we really go out to sell our labor power, and we want to use our labor power where the work is easy, the hours are few, and the pay good. If you are an intelligent person you must admit that those are the conditions you look for when you seek a job, easy work, short hours, and good pay.

### Hand and Brain

Now we will look into the employers side of the class struggle, when they are in the market for labor power. Labor power may be mental as well as physical, so we classify all workers of hand and brain who must sell their labor power as wage workers. We are all in the same class as far as the employer is

concerned, office worker, janitor, or machine operator, white-collar or overalls. There are three conditions upon which the employer desires to hire his labor power. These conditions are just the opposite of what the wage worker want, they are hard work, long hours, and low pay.

To maintain long hours, speed up or hard work, and low wages, is the purpose of the various employers associations, Chambers of Commerce, Boards of Trade, and other groups of self-styled Christian gentlemen. Any effort made to bring about a change between the relations of the employer and the employee for the benefit of the employees, are usually characterized as unChristian, and unConstitutional.

### Divine "Rights"

The master class have always maintained that they have a divine right to exploit the lower class, when that divine right theory was exploded, they then claimed that they have a legal right to pay any wages a person was willing to accept.

The wage workers organized labor unions to better their working conditions, shorten the hours of work and get higher wages to increase their buying or consuming power. It is this conflict of interests that makes the class struggle between the wage worker and the employer so intense. That is why we have strikes, and lock-outs, boycotts and black lists. There are other phases of the class struggle, other forms of exploitation, but for the present we will continue to discuss the problems of the wage worker. Just mull this over in your mind, talk it over with your shop mate; and the next time some intellectual prostitute tries to tell you that the interests of the employer and the worker are identical, just tell him to go and scratch himself with a broken bottle. So long, I'll be with you next week.

Author Helps Folk School  
NEW YORK CITY.—Erskine Caldwell, author of "Tobacco Road," will write the commentary for a film on Highlander Folk School, Monteagle, Tenn., the shooting of which has just been completed by Ralph Steiner of Frontier Films.

### SPECIAL NOTICE!

All persons holding prepaid sub cards are asked to return them to the CALL office, 549 W. Randolph Street, Chicago, Ill. at once! New cards are being issued and will be sent in exchange for those returned. After February 1; only those issued from Chicago will be honored. So return your old cards at once!

# LENIN'S ROLE AGAINST IMPERIALIST WAR

By AL HAMILTON

Secretary  
Young People's Socialist League

Twelve year ago this January a great working class leader died. He is marked in history as the leader of the Russian revolution. But his greatness rests also on his leadership of the world working class in the struggle against the war of 1914. Thus is Lenin known to the workers.

"Peace, Bread and Land," were the slogans under which Lenin led the workers to victory in the revolution of 1917. But to the ears of the workers of Europe and America the greatest of these words was peace.

War-weary and disgusted, socialist workers in the closing months of the war, remembered the resolutions their leaders had forgotten.

"Should war nonetheless break out, their duty is to in-

tervene to bring it promptly to an end, and with all their energies to strive to utilize the economic and political crisis created by the war in order to arouse the masses and thereby to hasten the overthrow of capitalist class rule."

Prepared by Lenin for the International Socialist Congress at Stuttgart, Germany, in 1907, this resolution served to guide Lenin's actions during the war. The essence of his revolutionary Socialism was that, just as in 1871, the Franco-Prussian war brought the Paris Commune, and that just as the Russo-Japanese war had brought the Russian uprising of 1905, so would a new war bring the beginnings of world revolution. The role of Socialist leaders' was to aid this revolutionary process.

Lenin's part in this period of history is significant because he believed in this position and through the practical application

of his belief was able to lead the Russian workers and peasants toward the first worker's state.

Socialists and revolutionaries who, regardless of anything else about Lenin or Lenin's policies, commemorate Lenin's service and leadership of the fight against imperialist war, do not do so with a light heart these twelve years after his death. There is tragedy connected with any memorial to Lenin's work, this 1938.

That tragedy is the manner in which whole sections of the working class movement are, in this pre-war period turning from the very practical anti-war policies of Lenin, to support of another world war.

The most tragic and most important desertion from the ranks of the anti-war forces today is that of the "official" inheritors of Lenin's brilliant anti-war tradition, the Communist Party. Lenin who once said, "The

League of Nations is nothing but insurance policy by which the victors mutually guarantee each other their prey," would repudiate those who claim to be his followers today, as they loudly demand that the United States join the dominant imperialist nations of the world, England and France in their manipulation of the League for their ends.

It is hard to recognize the Communist movement of today under the leadership of Stalin as the same movement that, through the mouth of the same Stalin declared in 1926. "The League of Nations is an organization designed to mask preparations for war."

What would Lenin, of 1917, who said, "Socialists must explain to the masses there is no salvation for them outside of a revolutionary overthrow of their own governments," say about Browder's recent statement that, "The progressive program is not

revolutionary . . . It can ALL be achieved under capitalism." — Lenin's remark about Kautsky, could well apply today to the Communist movement: "... they purge Marxism of its revolutionary living soul."

To the Communist stand of today those who commemorate Lenin's anti-war leadership must say: "You have betrayed the struggle against war". With that accusation will go the reply, that revolutionists seek to build an anti-war movement which will "... strive to utilize the economic and political crisis created by the war in order to arouse the masses and thereby hasten the overthrow of capitalist class rule."

Today this commemoration of Lenin starts at home with the struggle against Roosevelt's militarization of "America and Communist mobilization of working class support for Roosevelt's war program.

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## Japanese Heroes

A report that 370 courageous Japanese Socialists and trade unionists have been arrested by the imperial police because of their resolute struggle against war at a time and place when such action requires more fortitude than words has been received.

The charge against them is that they "spread anti-war talk instead of co-operating with the nation to support the Government's policy in China."

The death penalty will undoubtedly be applied to many of the heroic anti-imperialist fighters. This is the policy of all war-makers and it couldn't be anything different because imperialist invasions are merely a higher phase of the class struggle carried into the field of international politics. Therefore, war against the semi-colonial peoples is coupled with war against the working class in Japan.

Will it be any different in America if the American imperialists have their way in leading us into war? You can bet your next week's grocery order that it won't. Imagine our Tom Girdlers, DuPonts, Weirs and Graeses in a war situation. As in the last war they will be "dollar-a-year men", who made millions at the expense of the toil, blood and suffering of American soldiers and workers. Girdler and his crowd shoot down workers because they want a simple trade union. What will he and his kind do in a desperate international conflict? The answer smacks you in the face.

Prepare for a war for "peace and democracy" is the fake slogan of deceitful people within the labor movement who know better. War will bring instantaneous Fascism—it will automatically suspend democracy with the ease with which President Roosevelt suspends the emasculated neutrality act.

The workers of America don't want war!

The American workers don't want fascism!

The steel workers, farmers, auto workers, coal miners, sections of middle class and millions of people are becoming aroused at Roosevelt's policies which inevitably will lead us to war.

Peace and freedom—the real stuff, not the damaged goods of Monsieur Browder—are always worth fighting for. We call upon our comrades everywhere, upon our fellow workers of the shops, mills, mines, the seas and fields, the workers of hand and brain, to unite in a militant movement that will accomplish everlasting peace for the present and establish a social order by and of the boilers that will remove uncertainty and insecurity for all times.

We salute our brave comrades of Japan. The suffering they now endure for the cause of the common folks of the whole world will not go unnoticed. By their example we draw inspiration. By their anti-imperialist work our fight for peace attains the power of a fortress that cannot be budged or diverted by the sinister forces of war preparation in America.

## The Coal Diggers' Convention

Greetings to the thirty-fifth consecutive international convention of the United Mine Workers of America.

Several thousand local unions in the far-flung coal towns of the North American continent have delegated the cream of the rank and file to represent them at Washington, January 25. From the weary, damp depths of the mines coal diggers assemble to hear a report of their officers, to review the progress accomplished during the past two years, and to chart the course their union is to follow in the future.

The mine workers are in forefront of the fight to organize America's unorganized millions into strong industrial unions. They and their brother unions of the CIO have already written a remarkable page in labor history by organizing 3,000,000 workers who have never before enjoyed the fruits of unionism. Everywhere the working class took to action for economic justice in recent years the coal miners' representatives were on the firing line, encouraging, raising and donating funds, molding organization, developing leadership and infusing the ranks with the experience of the mighty host of 600,000 miners who are organized in a stronger and more united organization than ever before.

Battle-scarred, rich from the standpoint of experience and militant fighters to the core, the coal diggers have learned to concern themselves with domestic political and economic problems of a general character. Burning national issues confront the mine workers convention but no less important is the international danger of a war and the course which the American government has chosen to meet this situation.

Coal miners are instinctively and intellectually anti-militarists. At first hand they have felt the oppressive functions of military forces which futilely sought to smash the development of a strong miners' union as we know the United Mine Workers today.

More than 80,000 U. M. W. members were conscripted in the last world slaughter. Invalid victims of that war dot the coal

## JITTERS ON SNOOT STREET



"Unlax, J. P., Ludlow's amendment has been defeated".

## THE OLD MINE

By GEORGE B. REID  
A Coal Miner

Sometimes it seems to me the soul of the old mine must ache  
With the vast loneliness its great heart knows,  
Shrouded with the black dust of the earth's bowels,  
A silent sentinel she stands,  
Lost in the empty spaces in the dark  
Of desolite nights unpierced by any star,  
And nothing to shield her from life's eternal storms.

Who knows but for all the voiceless dead  
She has grasped and hidden in her bosom,  
She must now pay and stand forgotten in silent sorrow,  
To be clothed in funeral black to match her open throat.  
Perhaps, colossal sinner of the work-place of men,  
The buzzards and ravens that sing round your head,  
Is your chant of despair, your dirge of the dead.

## News Reel

General Motors Corporation throws 30,000 workers out of jobs and seven General Motors officials pull down \$2,590,424 in salaries for 1936; a man gets caught getting relief illegally, is stricken from the rolls, lectured by a judge and sent to jail and government welcomes corporations who borrowed relief funds illegally to return for more.

camps of America and testify to the price the coal miners paid along with their fellow workers of the shops, mills, factories and the soil.

## The World War

The cannons of the last imperialist war and their wasteful extermination of human, social and economic resources still ring in our ears. The last war didn't settle anything, as we all tragically learned. "War for Democracy" was a fake. Workers of America and most of the world still pay in the form of taxation on the initial installment of 10,000,000 lives that were spent as a down-payment for world imperialism—American, British, French, Prussian and otherwise.

As friends and fellow fighters in the common struggle for social and economic freedom, we urge the coal miner delegates and their officers to definitely align themselves with the steel workers, auto workers, the National Farmers' Union and the many other organizations which have taken a positive stand against war and war preparations.

## Must Oppose War

Endorsement of the Ludlow amendment, opposition to Roosevelt's tremendous expenditure for implements of war, and approval of the consumers' boycott movement of Japanese goods are immediate, practical measures the miners can subscribe to in the struggle against America's participation in imperialist adventures.

Resolutions have poured into national headquarters of the UMWA by the thousands. This speaks well for the tremendous energy and vitality of the workers of the mines. These resolutions will be subjects for debate and no one is better able to decide miners' affairs than the miners themselves.

With admiration and fraternal felicitations we greet the miners' conclave. We wish the delegates and their officers success in their deliberations. In the present battles to make America responsive to the needs and welfare of the underprivileged masses, we pledge our solidarity.

## SQUIBS

BY GENE LOMAN

### WHAT, NO BANKERS?

STATEVILLE, famous prison at Joliet, Ill., has just taken a census of its inmates and discovered that practically every occupation known is represented among the boys in the big house. While engineers, brokers and magicians were listed among those present there was one significant omission. Stateville houses not one banker!

WHICH reminds us of the crack by O'Henry: "No use to take up a life of crime when there are so many legal ways to be dishonest."

### FISH STORY

AND now comes a story about a fishing trip Leon Trotsky took near his Mexican home. While he was casting up and down a swift little stream the famous revolutionist chanced across a peasant, likewise casting.

"How's fishing?" asked the peasant.

"Well," T. replied slowly, as if giving the matter much thought, "It's rather like the international situation—unstable."

The peasant's eyes bugged out. "H-m-m," he mused. "Here's a guy that's been around."

They continued talking until finally the peasant said: "Did you know that Leon Trotsky was dead?"

"I'm sorry," said T. "But he isn't . . ."

"How do you know?"

"Well, if Trotsky were dead he wouldn't be fishing in this little stream."

This rather bowled the peasant over. He looked up and down each bank, then said:

"Well, maybe I got it wrong. It's Stalin—Stalin's dead."

"Oh, no he isn't," replied T. emphatically.

"How do you know?" the peasant inquired.

"If Stalin were dead, I wouldn't be fishing in this little stream."

The peasant jerked his head to look at Trotsky.

"All right," he said. "Trotsky and Stalin are both alive—and so is Lenin." He looked at T. as if to say, "Now answer that one." And Trotsky did.

"Oh, no, Lenin isn't alive."

"How do you know?" inquired the peasant rather belligerently.

"Because if Lenin were alive, he too would be fishing in this little stream."

### WORLD AFFAIRS

When the Chautemps cabinet fell the Popular Front went "Blum! Blum!"

GERMANY has an acute butter shortage but Hitler has plenty of oil to pour on the troubled waters—banana oil.

### THUNDER ON THE LEFT

"Do you know that you're a direct agent of British imperialism?" the Trotskyite asked the Socialist, prodding him with an accusing finger.

"How's that?" asked the worried Socialist.

"You're a member of the Socialist Party of the U. S. A. Right?"

"Right."

"And the Socialist Party of America is affiliated with the Labor and Socialist International. Right?"

"Yes."

"And the Second International is affiliated with the International Labor Office."

"Right."

"And the International Labor Office is affiliated with the League of Nations."

"Yes."

"And everybody knows," said the Trotskyite, emphasizing his climax by spreading a patronizing arm, "that the League of Nations is the tool of British imperialism."



# AT THE FRONT

WITH  
Norman Thomas

Once more President Roosevelt has shown himself a remarkable clever and successful politician. He has not shown himself a statesman, still less the intelligent friend of the masses.

It was his personal intervention which prevented even democratic consideration of the important Ludlow amendment on the floor of the House. He put Farley with all his patronage into the conflict. He wrote Congress an insincere letter about the amendment imperilling representative government! He, or somebody, even got an outspoken progressive like Maury Maverick to vote against democratic consideration of the right of the people to vote whether or not their sons must die. Don't forget it isn't Congressmen who do the dying in war!

The same Roosevelt rather successfully diverted public attention from the failure of his administration to make capitalism work—no administration can do that—by continuing an attack on monopoly on which he has not even advanced a program. Long before Roosevelt said anything we Socialists were showing up in detail the holding companies in the public utility field, but we never said, because it's not true, that big holding companies make depressions.

Electric rates in America should be lower but they are not the cause of depression. A great many more millions should be invested in the development of the power industry, but those millions won't be invested simply by breaking up holding companies. They would be invested and wisely invested under a proper social ownership of the electric power industry. This Roosevelt does not say. He denounces the minority of big business and then sits down in conference with its representatives.

### A DANGEROUS SIGN

And all the while he asks for more and more power for himself, and that's a dangerous sign, in connection, above all, with our foreign policy.

Here at home he keeps profoundly silent about Frank "I Am the Law" Hague, although Hague is the vice-chairman in good standing of the Democratic national committee. That reminds me that the President has never once spoken out in vigorous fashion concerning the Shoemaker case or any other of the great civil liberty cases. He has endorsed the anti-lynching bill, but he has never put the full weight of his power behind it or used the influence to stop the filibuster that he used to defeat a discussion of the Ludlow amendment. Few things are clearer than that it is no invasion of any legitimate state right to have a Federal government do what it can to guarantee the right of its citizens not to be lynched. No one proposes any new carpet-bag invasions of the South when they propose to let Federal grand-juries and juries act after it has been demonstrated that they can deal with certain kinds of crime, particularly lynching, better than local bodies. Why does not the President speak out in ringing tones on this and against the waste of time in which his Southern Senators are now indulging? But again I am reminded that the President as a good Democrat feels obliged to keep in line the Bourbon South as well as the Kelly-Nash machine in Chicago and the Pendergast machine in Kansas City, and the rest of the municipal machines. How long is it going to take the workers to wake up that it is not in that kind of party that they can get adequate political expression for their needs?

### THE FRENCH SITUATION

It's a rather hard job writing this column so many days in advance of its appearance. One hesitates to comment on sudden news, such, for instance, as the news just before me, as I write, of the break-up of the Popular Front government in France. Tentatively let me say this: that break-up, it seems to me, was inherent in the nature of Popular Front governments and is another argument for that kind of organization of workers with hand and brain that is based on a positive program and not a mere defense against fascism.

### ON-WAR SITUATION

Much experience in various parts of the country convinces me that we Socialists have got to present a somewhat detailed program on how to keep the country out of war in language that will appeal to our fellow citizens. That's my reason for giving the rest of this column to a summary of a speech I made recently in New York which sets forth the kind of program I think we should be pushing.

The United States today is giving an illustration, according to a familiar pattern, of the way in which a nation stumbles and blunders into war which few people consciously desire and fewer will admit that they desire. As things are now going if we are not involved in war it will be more by good luck than by reason of intelligent planning. Not that any important section of our people is warlike. They are not. Yet the continuance of the depression at least subconsciously will reduce resistance to war because war gives a dreadful but immediately stimulating shot in the arm to business and farm prices and, of course, to employment.

The chief trouble is that the people have no thought out program and that the administration has none except an ominously growing demand from the President that he be given all power and that we trust him—a demand reminiscent of the days when we were to trust Wilson. Nobody possibly can make consistency out of the administration's program in international affairs from the day when Roosevelt torpedoed the London economic conference which first he blessed down to the day when he refuses to enforce a neutrality law which he signed, makes his Chicago speech which he does not carry out, and personally intervenes to defeat a referendum before war, which he as a delegate to the Democratic national convention of 1924 had helped unanimously to endorse.

### COLLECTIVE SECURITY MEANS WAR

Meanwhile Communists shout for a "collective security", which their leaders know means war, in the hope that the United States will defeat Japan in behalf of Stalin. A great many well meaning liberals endorse the same collective security believing that it will not mean war although they steadfastly refuse to say how they expect to get collective security, what detailed plans they have for it, and what reason there is to believe that Japan or any other aggressor nation will yield before it without war.

## TIGHTWAD



Henry Ford, who has a lot to say about the future but nothing to say about the present welfare of his speeded-up workers. The bouquet Hank holds didn't come from his workers.

In these circumstances it becomes the duty of responsible men and responsible parties to advance a program for the hour. Our program as Socialists is conditioned on the sure knowledge that the one certainty in the event of America's entry into war is such misery, suffering, brutality and denial of democracy as we have never seen. It means the equivalent of fascism at home while abroad it gives less than no guarantee that American militarism will change

the system which produces one aggressor after another. The primary hope of the end of Japanese imperialism does not lie in capitalist America but in the Chinese and Japanese masses, with such friendly aid as the workers and peace lovers of other lands can extend them. As a Socialist I believe now, as always, in the utmost possible cooperation with other nations in what will make for peace but in the maximum possible isolation from war. To keep out of war is difficult, but there is no inevitable fate apart from wrong decisions by the government which will put America into war.

We have lost too many opportunities to construct an ideal program of peace, but peace organizations, labor and peace loving citizens might well unite on the following minimum program:

### ANTI-WAR PROGRAM

1. Give the people who have to fight the war a chance to vote on it. Let us be at least as democratic as we are in the matter of bond issues. It is the people not the Congressmen who will be conscripted. They may make mistakes; they may possibly be stampeded; they may be unable to stop a war which the previous executive policy has made almost certain. Nevertheless the highly undemocratic methods used to defeat the Ludlow amendment and the arguments of its opponents clearly show that the administration and its supporters from the Communist left to Alf Landon's right, are renouncing democracy in the one thing that matters most to the people. They argue that the government cannot carry on a successful diplomacy unless the nations believe that the President can put the nation into war at will. Logically this sort of argument is not only false in point of fact but would apply against letting Congress have power to declare war. There are no insuperable difficulties to a rapid referendum in modern times. It should be made constitutional and the campaign for the amendment should go on.

2. Neither in the name of defense nor of spending to bring back prosperity should there be the increase in the navy and naval appropriations which the President plans. All that that increase will mean is militarism, and militarism is one of the roots of fascism. Honest military men will admit that we don't need a bigger navy to defend our own shores from the Japanese or any other navy, and this increase will not give us a navy able to conquer Japan in Japanese waters. It will merely spend taxpayers' money which would be better spent on housing and increase militarism.

3. Recall American gunboats and marines from China. We

(Continued on Page 6)

# French Imperialism An Oppressor Of Colonial Peoples

By GUS TYLER

France is the second great "democratic" power, next to Great Britain, to which the war-for-democracy forces look for salvation. What is the record of the French republic in the post-war years?

Part of the post-war settlement placed the three million inhabitants of Syria under French mandate, thereby converting this vast territory into a colony for the exploitation by French capital.

The noble and gentle French Republic, which was later to look with scorn upon the rape of Ethiopia and the plunder of China, took Syria by sheer force.

Thus they created, by fiat, Lebanon, Latakia, Alexandretta, Jebel Druze, and the State of Syria furnishing each with a different flag, budget, administration.

The Syrians objected to this stupid and ruthless partition of their country. Separate riots begin to take on the nature of a mass upheaval.

### JAILED DRUSE LEADERS

In 1925, the traditionally subtle France very unsubtly invited Druze leaders to a conference in Damascus, and unceremoniously clapped them into jail. (There's a trick Mussolini should have tried!)

There was a general uprising of Druses together with Damascenes. The French retaliated by a forty-eight hour constant bombardment of Damascus.

The conscience of the world was outraged ten years ago by this rape of Syria, and by so "civilized" a nation, too.

As an international gesture, the French republic decided to give Syria a degree of autonomy. There would be a constituent assembly and then an Organic Law, defining the relations of France to Syria. When the assembly met in 1926, it just refused to listen to the French proposal for the Organic Law. France stalled until 1938, when it finally summoned up enough courage to submit its draft to a packed chamber. There were 53 moderates present (pro-French) and only 27 nationalists. But even this body had to turn down the French proposals: France demanded that the partitioning remain and that the French Republic have the right to station military forces wherever and however it pleased.

### FEARED COLONIAL REVOLTS

It is any wonder that Pierre Laval, head of the French Government, feared any Italian set-backs in Ethiopia? A successful war of Abyssinia against Italy might have been the signal for an uprising of the colonial world against imperialism.

The election of the Popular Front Government in France has not seriously changed the situation for the better. The government of Blum, like the government of Ramsay MacDonald in Britain, did not liberate the colonies. All that the Popular Front program promised was the appointment of a commission to investigate conditions. Such magnanimity!

The current popularity of the French Republic as a "force for peace and democracy" rests largely upon its having concluded the Franco-Soviet pact.

On the surface, such a pact seems to indicate an agreement between France and the USSR to pursue a common international policy, with the object of advancing the interests of the masses. As a matter of fact and practice, the Franco-Soviet Pact was conceived by Laval to advance French imperialist interests; and where the agreement failed to serve French interests, the Quai D'Orsay just forgot about its alliance with the Soviet Union.

The pact was first conceived as a means of encircling Germany. Post-pact history reveals that Hitler found no difficulty in smashing through the circle and proceeding to encircle the Soviet Union.

### FRANCE GAVE LITTLE

The second object of the pact was to establish an axis around which the lesser powers in the Balkans could revolve. This aim the pact has not gained. Rumania and Yugoslavia have swung out of the French orbit into the Rome-Berlin system.

The third object of the pact, as the Soviet Union saw it, was to strengthen the defenses of Russia. Yet even a casual examination of the document reveals that France drove a hard bargain, taking much and giving little.

The Franco-Soviet Pact declares that there will be mutual aid in the event that the European boundary of either country is invaded.

Moreover, aid need be given only after an aggressor has been established as in accord with the covenant of the League of Nations. But plainly: this means that if France and England are not anxious to aid Russia, they just spend months in "investigation."

Furthermore, aid need only be given if the League fails to take "adequate" action. And who is to judge what is "adequate"?

Finally, with all its weaknesses, the pact has been further weakened by virtue of the fact that France has constantly violated the spirit of the agreement, if not its letter.

### BRITAIN THE LEADER

In every important international diplomatic crisis of the last two years, France—under the Popular Front government—has pursued the line of Britain, generally as different from or even contrary to that of the Soviet Union.

When England demanded non-intervention in Spain, France went along—leaving the Soviet Union out on a limb.

When Russia accused Italy of submarine piracy, France, together with England, disregarded the charge and appointed Italy one of the police patrol to guard against piracy.

While Britain conducts talks with Hitler about a Four Power Pact—Germany, Italy, England, and France—excluding the Soviet Union, Yvon Delbos, French Foreign Minister tours Eastern and Central Europe to sound out sentiment and probably to create sentiment for such a deal.

French imperialism stands alongside of British imperialism, before the judgment of the world, condemned for its suppression of helpless people, for its hypocritical poses to win popularity for its imperialist schemes, for its flirtation with the dictatorships, for its readiness to crush the Soviet Union should a more profitable imperialist deal result therefrom.

Life in Capitalist America

# A WORKER'S CHILD

By GUS TYLER

A baby died of starvation this Tuesday in the richest city of the richest country in the world.

There was no famine in the land. The crop was plentiful.

The child had not been deserted. Her parents stood devotedly over her bedside, helpless, watching their child gasp her final feeble breath.

The infant—three months old—did not perish on some far away island. It was a Brooklyn assistant medical examiner who bent over the crib and said: "This baby died of starvation."

Nor had the family been neglected by the relief agencies. No, indeed, they had not been forgotten. Two weeks ago, the family had received a check of \$13.66 to provide clothing, food and warmth for Mr. and Mrs. Danielson, for the infant, Barbara, for Diana, one, and Caroline, three.

Barbara lived on milk and water—only. The three rooms were heated with a single tiny kerosene stove—when there was kerosene. Finally the money gave out, for \$13.66 can't go a long way even if one is willing to be content with house furnishing consisting of two beds, one chair and one table.

On Saturday the police kept life fluttering in the frail body of Barbara with three bottles of milk and some food.

**Check Didn't Arrive**

Had the long-awaited relief check for \$20 arrived then, life would have continued to stir in the living corpse of the infant. But the check did not arrive. It had been mailed to the old home—from which the Danielson's had been evicted; and the authorities could not extricate the few dollars from the red tape. Baby Barbara and her two baby sisters would have to wait. Barbara waited until Monday! And then she departed to a happier world.

Barbara's passing was noted in several newspapers. It's good copy: swell human-interest stuff.

Barbara's fate will be mourned. There will be some who will even be indignant. They will cry out against the tangle of red tape that strangled Barbara to death.

There will be a flurry of futile fulmination, a few tears, a few angry words. And then—

And then tens of thousands of infants in America will be permitted to escape the fate of Barbara. They will be permitted to live. Their bodies will not perish. They will be saved from the cold, calm grip of death—that their thin bones may rattle in dingy cribs. They will be the lucky ones whose relief checks arrive on time, whose daddies are fortunate enough to be employed at sixteen or twenty or twenty-two dollars a week.

**Workers' Children**

These, the children of the men who pump the warming oil from the ground, who build strong houses against the winter winds, who bake the breads, who sew the clothes, these children will not all starve when they are three months old. Barbara was an exception, you see. A mishap pushed her over the brink of death.

The other little children will stand at the brink of death all their lives. They will suffer from pellagra and rickets, from consumption and silicosis; they will go insane from worry and weariness; their stomachs will be raw with hunger and their feet raw from walking cold, wet streets. But, they will not all go to an infant death.

They will be driven to crime; they will be given licenses to beg; they will be doled out bread and even warm soup on long lines. They will be given meaningless work; and then they will be made the butt of many jokes about lazy people who do meaningless work. But they will not be surrendered to an infant death.

They will be tortured to see the splendor about them, and the ugliness that is theirs. They will, in their humorless way, fail to understand this little joke of capitalism. They may even ask "why?" And then they will be told that such questions are "un-American."

**A Murderous System**

That too, these infants, who live, won't understand. They won't understand why tens of thousands of dollars of rewards go to capture one criminal who kidnaps one baby, and why no one gives a penny reward for the capture of a monstrous criminal system that kills off thousands of their unfortunate little brothers and sisters.

They won't understand why Public Enemy No. 1 is the gunman who slays a couple of kids, and why a man named Knudsen is invited to Washington to advise Senate on why it is desirable and necessary for him to starve tens of thousands of kids to death.

They won't understand, these infants who live. They will want to know. They will want an accounting. They will want the warmth, the food, the clothes, the luxury which they have produced, which they can produce in plenty for all mankind.

They will want the factories they threw up. And they will want the goods that pours from these factories. They will want freedom. And they will want the knowledge to make an intelligent servant of this freedom.

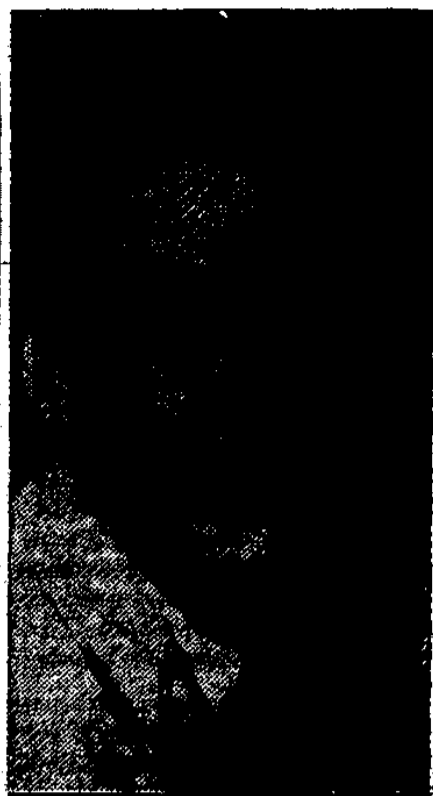
**New Life**

They will answer their own questions—for the men of wealth and wisdom, the spokesmen in high places, will give no answer. And in this stormy answer there will be intermingled, with the rich cry of a new life, the sad moan of those infants who perished.

They will be told that they are breaking up the home—by men who threw them out onto frozen streets. They will be told that they are murderers—by men who slew their three-month-old sisters. They will be told that they have no regard for God—by men who dragged millions to the sewers of Hell!

All this will be. And then, to the generations of the future, the sad line: "This baby died of starvation" will sound like the faded syllables of some ancient tongue.

## Heads Actors



Burgess Meredith, recently elected president of Actors Equity, A. F. of L. international with which various entertainers' groups are affiliated.

## AT THE FRONT

(Continued from Page 5)

never had any business to patrol the Yangtze River. The navy has had plenty of time to evacuate American citizens and the government has no right to invite new Panay incidents by escorting Standard Oil tankers in belligerent zones. Our whole trade in the Far East is not worth one day's war, nor does national "honor" require the wholesale murder of our sons in war.

4. Improve and enforce neutrality, not because that is a perfect panacea but because it is the best way to keep a capitalist nation out of war. If the President had enforced the neutrality which he signed, trade figures make it appear that it would have made little difference to China, but a great deal to Japan, which might have been stopped on a basis which would not provoke her to war from selling gold to our treasury and getting bombers and war supplies in America. It requires some definite economic planning in America to make neutrality a success.

5. Put continuing pressure on the government to further those trade arrangements and other economic agreements which will lessen the sense of insecurity among the nations in the House of Have Not. Perfectly to do this task requires a new social and economic order, a federation of cooperative commonwealths, and this is the supreme Socialist goal. To get it we must begin at home.

### Dance For Spain Program Jan. 28

NEW YORK—America's leading dance artists will be seen in a joint recital during the "Dance for Spain" program on Friday evening, January 28, at the Hippodrome. The program will present Martha Graham, Anna Sokolow, Hanya Holm and Tamiris, all with their groups; and the Ballet Caravan, Paul Draper and Arthur Mahoney.

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## A Short Story—

# JULY 4th, 1942

By AARON LEVENSTEIN

Bill Hone sat on his little wooden stand, shouting his newspapers at the pedestrians hurrying to see the Fourth of July parade. Bill would never be able to hurry again because both his legs had been shot off in the battle of Nanking during the last war, and now he could only get around by pushing himself on the four-wheeled little plank on which he sat. "Selling papers isn't much of a business these days," he told himself. "It ain't like old times before the war when there was something to read in them instead of the same stuff every day that the government editors put in."

For a while he stopped hawking his wares and watched the ankles of the girls. He could get a much better view now, he thought bitterly, but what good was it? For a while his mind played with memories of the girls in China when he was "over there," but his heart felt heavy now as he realized that such things were no longer for him. Oh, it had been fun alright—enlisting in 1939 to fight the fascists and make the world safe for democracy. He remembered the pictures that used to be in the newspapers then, the Chinese girls smiling gaily and throwing kisses to the American soldiers as they marched in to save them from the Japs and their German and Italian allies.

Bill's memories were halted by an interruption. "Let me have a paper," said a man's voice. Bill didn't bother to look up. "What paper do you want?" he asked.

"Doesn't matter," said the man. "They're all the same now. Even the jokes come from the Bureau of Propaganda."

Well, the parade had started. You could hear the band playing that new-fangled national anthem. Bill remembered how surprised he was when he got back to the U. S. A. to find they had dropped the Star-Spangled Banner because it said something about "the land of the free and the home of the brave." He remembered how all the patriots used to sing it at the top of their lungs, but now they put you in a concentration camp if you even whispered about freedom. "It's a funny thing," he said to himself. "Those same guys who used to take off their hats and stand up when it was played were even kidding us about that."


He remembered all the talk about democracy in those days. When he got back from the war two months ago, how different the country looked. A lot of people he had known were in jail. Nobody cracked any jokes any more about congressmen because Congress wasn't meeting any more. As soon as war has been declared, the President had said it was unpatriotic to criticize the government and the Attorney General arrested a Senator and two Congressmen for voting against the war. So Congress decided to shut its mouth, and go home.

"What says we were?" Bill mumbled to himself. "While we went off to save democracy for China, they were locking up people at home saying what they thought. And the Government bust up the trade unions, said it was unpatriotic to strike for better wages, and now a man can't get decent pay at anything."

"Well, a man hasn't got the time to be thinking these things. He'd better look at his papers and yell a headline that might drum up business. Bill glanced over the bold type. He cursed as he read: "U. S. Exports to China Jump 67 Per Cent Since War." Yes, that was what he lost his legs for, he thought.

A policeman stopped near him. He was wearing the new G-man uniform of the federal government. "How are things going, buddy?" the cop asked.

"Fine, fine!" Bill answered, and remembered to raise his arm in the salute and add: "Hail, America!"



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# BUILDING SOCIALISM

By ROY BURT  
Nat'l Sec. Socialist Party, U.S.A.

## MASSACHUSETTS

A very effective conference of Socialist trade unionists was held recently. The agenda included the following topics which were given careful consideration:

"Methods of Socialist Activities in the Trade Unions."

"The Coming Labor Party."  
"Possibilities of Unity Between the A. F. of L. and the C.I.O."

There was a good attendance of comrades who have places of responsibility in the trade union movement.

Another conference is being planned for the early spring. The comrades have been active throughout the state in organizing Japanese boycott committees. Comrade Irene O'Connor Lane in Greater Boston, Comrade M. J. Barker T. Hartshorn of Springfield, Comrades Connor and Shulman in New Bedford and Comrades Pineo and Walsh in Easthampton are some of the comrades who have given active leadership in this work.

In Holyoke the newly organized local is actively pushing the Japanese boycott.

On Sunday, January 16, a very important gathering of Socialists representing many activities of the movement was held at Northampton.

The Western Massachusetts Confederation of Socialist locals, the Y.P.S.L. Circles and the State Executive Committee met together at the home of Comrade Emily Dickson.

The work of the Young Peoples Socialist League is going ahead in a fine way in this state. Easthampton, West Farms, Springfield, and Holyoke all report worthwhile activities and a growing movement.

Comrade Claire Pineo is full time organizer for the Y.P.S.L. and the Party and for the present is assigned to Western Massachusetts.

## LOUISIANA

### New Orleans

From this southern city, center of vacation and political corruption, comes the report of continued activities of a group of very loyal Socialists.

Comrade Henry Hermes who has been active in the struggle against capitalism and has been rewarded by arrests and brutal slugging is still carrying on. Every effort is being made to bring his case to trial. His arrest aroused nation-wide interest recently.

In the meantime Comrade Hermes has been active in the organization of the auto workers. The following officers have

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### MANHATTAN

VILLAGE BRANCH meets every Thursday night at 107 MacDougal St. Ellen Loeb, Sec'y, 345 West 13th St. Open meeting every Thursday.

GERMAN BRANCH meets second Tuesday of each month, Yorkville Labor Temple, 243 E. 84th St. G. Hoffman, Organizer.

CHELSEA BRANCH meets every Wednesday, at 301 W. 29th St. Victoria Hikim, Sec'y.

### BRONX

5TH A.D. Meets every Wednesday, 7 West Burnside Ave. Harold Reiman, Sec'y.

### DETROIT

BRANCH ONE meets every Wednesday, 8 P. M., 1410 West Warren.

### CHICAGO

CENTRAL BRANCH, Chicago and Cook county; Open meeting first Thursday of each month; business meeting second Thursday at 549 Randolph St., 4th fl.  
CHICAGO WEST SIDE YPSL Circle—Tuesday at 8:30, 3108 Douglas Blvd. Marxism classes same place Sundays at 11:30 a. m.

been elected by Local New Orleans:

Executive Secretary, Henry Hermes; Literature Agent and Financial Secretary, Isabelle Leddy; Executive Board, Mary B. Allen, Angeline Prior, Joseph W. Lovett, Anita Witte, Ernest Siegal, and Ed. Spellman.

## OHIO

### Greene County

Greene County is sponsoring a recital of labor songs by Elizabeth Morgan, to be held at Antioch College on February 16.

They recently held a public meeting at the college on Jan. 11, for a discussion on legislation pending in Congress. Paul Jones led the discussion on the war referendum resolution. Professor Carlson on the Wage and Hours Bill, and Comrade Klemm on Current Proposals for amending the Neutrality Act.

## CALIFORNIA

### Los Angeles

The Socialist Party of California has located its state office in new quarters, in Room 517, Lissner Bldg., 524 S. Spring St. This office will also serve as headquarters for the Los Angeles Central Branch, which will meet there every Thursday night.

The California State Executive Committee met in Los Angeles in a two day session Jan. 8 and 9, at which time plans were made for party activity for the coming year. The regular state convention of the party will be held in Los Angeles Feb. 26 and 27. Party objectives which the S.E.C. set up are mobilization of anti-war opinion among organized workers, student groups and liberals; mobilization of labor and unemployed forces to fight against the conduct of capitalist forces as the depression deepens; and mobilization of labor forces for an independent political campaign.

California has accepted its quota of \$50 in the current drive for funds for the CALL. It was the only state to reach its quota in the 1937 CALL drive for \$10,000, and expects to lead the states in the drive which is now being conducted.

The success of the meeting held under auspices of the Los Angeles local for Comrade Angelica Balabanoff, which attracted nearly 300 person with only 7 days active preparation, indicates that there is great latent Socialist sentiment in California.

## NEW YORK

We are publishing an anti-war leaflet in conjunction with picketing by branches for the Japanese boycott and orders are being taken. Copies are available from Local New York at \$1.50 per thousand postpaid.

## MAINE

### Bangor

The local has opened headquarters in a splendid location downtown.

Study groups are held on Monday and Friday each week.

## Norman Thomas

### Heads L. I. D. Series

NEW YORK—Norman Thomas, Socialist leader, author and lecturer will discuss "Avoiding the Next War" on January 21, 1938 in the first of a series of twelve forums to be presented by the Friday Evening Forum of the League for Industrial Democracy. The forums will be held at the Menora Masonic Temple, 50th street and 14th avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y.

The succeeding lectures in this series will feature Dr. Harry W. Laidler, who will discuss "The Ideals of Modern Socialism"; Ludwig Lore, columnist of the New York Post; and Professor Otto Nathan of the New York University, among others.



## COMING EVENTS

### NEW YORK CITY

All events at 8:30 p. m. unless otherwise noted.

Fri., Jan. 14.—Norman Thomas, at P. S. 50, 43rd Ave. and 40th St. Sunnyside. "Do We Want War or Peace for America?"

Wed., Jan. 19.—"What Happened to Civil Liberties in 1937." (Speaker to be announced) at headquarters of 8th A. D., 7 W. Burnside Ave., Rm. 20. Shalom Aleichem Houses Womens Club, 3451 Giles Pl., Julius Uman-sky, representing Socialist viewpoint against American League for Peace and Democracy representatives on "What Shall We Do About the War Danger?"

Thurs., Jan. 20.—"Development of Proletarian Culture" (speaker to be announced) at 267 Schenectady Ave., headquarters of E. Flatbush branch.

Sat. Jan. 22.—New Year Party sponsored by the Queens County S. P. at Workmen's Circle Hall, Room 307, Bus Terminal Building, Flushing.

Mon., Jan. 24.—W. A. Local 28—Sigmund Golstein, on "Storm Center of the World," at their regular meeting place, 626 Sutter Ave., 1 flight up.

Tues. Jan. 25.—Brighton Beach—"What Happened to Civil Liberties in 1937." (Speaker to be announced.)

Thurs., Jan. 27.—Norman Thomas, for the Socialist Party, with representatives of the War Resisters League and The League of Nations Association, at Elamere Hall, 170th St. and College Avenue, Auspices 2nd A. D. Bronx.

Fri. Feb. 4.—Norman Thomas opens 1938 Winter Forum at Labor Center, 167 Tompkins Ave. Subject to be announced. 6th A. D. Kings.

Fri. Feb. 4.—Norman Thomas and Brendon Sexton. Subject and place to be announced. Auspices 1st A. D. Bronx. District Council 3 Kgs. Sam Baron "Spain Today". Mass meeting (place to be announced.)

Sun. Feb. 6.—"Boycott Japan" Conference for the organization of a "Boycott Japan" group, initiated by D. C., 3 Kgs., at the Brownsville Labor Lyceum, 219 Sackman Street, 2:30 p. m.

Sat. Feb. 12.—Lincoln's Birthday—District Council 3 Kgs. Satke and card party, 15c admission at 267 Schenectady Ave.

Sun. Feb. 13.—Brownsville Labor Lyceum Annual Ball, 219 Sackman St. Cooperation voted by the Socialist Party. Secure tickets (50c) from D. C. 3 Kgs.

Mon. Feb. 21st.—(Eve of Washington's Birthday). The affair within everyone's means at the place within everyone's reach.—First Annual Ball, at Rebel Arts, 6 E. 17th St., auspices: Brighton Branch. A beautiful banner to the Socialist, labor or social group best represented.

## L. I. D. SERIES

NEW YORK—Readers of the SOCIALIST CALL will be interested to learn that the League for Industrial Democracy is conducting its valuable lecture series this year again in a score of cities in the East, South and Middle West. The series in its seventh year is entitled "The Citizen Looks at His World."

The lectures are being held during January and February in the following cities:

Akron, Ohio; Austin, Texas; Cleveland, Ohio; Columbus, Ohio; Dallas, Texas; Detroit, Mich.; Elmira, New York; Flint, Mich.; Grand Rapids, Mich.; Houston Texas; Lansing, Mich.; Louisville, Ky.; Meadville, Pa.; Pittsburgh, Pa.; Pontiac, Mich.; Syracuse, New York; Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

The speakers include Norman Thomas, John Bosch, Harry W. Laidler, Jesse Holmes, Edward Israel, Goodwin Watson, Allen Knight Chalmers, Chao-Ting Chi, Gerhart Seger and Roger Baldwin.

SOCIALIST CALL readers will obtain further information by writing directly to the League for Industrial Democracy, 112 East 19th Street, New York City.—Mary Fox, Executive Sec'y.

Stick to your bunch, otherwise you'll get skinned.—I.L.G.W.U poster.

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If the CALL is to serve the cause of Socialism we must increase the number of readers. That means more subscriptions. The party organization and membership are the active field agents for the CALL.

We Want TEN THOUSAND additional subscriptions to the CALL. We can get ten thousand additional subscriptions and more if each one accepts his responsibility and goes to work at once.

Until April the first the price of a year's subscription has been placed at \$1.00 per year.

Let us have your response at once! Go after your friends, neighbors and fellow workers for their subscriptions.

## WATCH THIS SPACE NEXT WEEK!

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

THE  
DOG  
HOUSE

Next week this space will carry the names of the five states that make the best showing in CALL subscriptions.

Special mention will be given to branches and individuals that help put their state in the top list.

## WATCH THIS SPACE NEXT WEEK!

In the corner above we are building a Dog House for those who fail to get in this drive.

We'll go ahead and build it, but we hope we have to put a "For Rent" sign on it!

The following states have re-

mitted the following amounts on their quota to date:	Nebraska	5.00
Illinois	25.55	
Indiana	1.50	
Massachusetts	56.30	
New York	115.00	
Ohio	8.00	
Pennsylvania	25.00	
Rhode Island	20.00	
Texas	3.00	
Total	\$254.35	

The following are quotas assigned to state organizations by the National Office to raise \$2,000 to build and expand the SOCIALIST CALL:

State	Quota
Alabama	5.00
Arizona	5.00
Arkansas	5.00
California	50.00
Colorado	25.00
Connecticut	50.00
Delaware	5.00
Washington D. C.	15.00
Florida	5.00
Idaho	5.00
Illinois	150.00
Indiana	40.00
Iowa	5.00
Kansas	25.00
Kentucky	10.00
Louisiana	5.00
Maine	10.00
Maryland	52.00
Massachusetts	150.00
Michigan	150.00
Minnesota	10.00
Missouri	50.00
Montana	5.00

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**SOCIALIST REVIEW**  
301 W. 29th St., New York City

# FARMERS' UNION DEFENDS GOTHAM MILK CONSUMERS

By a Special Correspondent

NOEWICH, N. Y.—Leaders of the Dairy Farmers' Union today indignantly denied allegations on the part of the Metropolitan Bargaining Agency that the union had been cutting wholesale price of milk, or that it was selling to chisellers in New York.

"The Dairy Farmers' Union, consisting of 10,593 members in New York state, was formed to give the dairymen a chance to try to get a living price for their labor and expense in producing milk for the consumption of the New York consumer. It has never been their thought or aim to bring the handicaps due to the increased price of milk onto the consumers. The union members feel that the increased price of milk to the people of New York City has been absolutely unfair and unnecessary," the secretary of the Chenango county unit of the union, stated.

### Set Milk Price

A meeting of the union set the price of milk for the coming month at \$2.20 for three per cent milk—an increase of ten cents per cwt.

It was pointed out that the Metropolitan Agency had just cut the price 23 cents for 3.5 milk, and that this increase would put the two organizations on a parity. Union members claimed that even with equal prices the honest cream test given by dealers under union contract would mean an actual greater return to the union dairymen.

Union officials also pointed to the report of Attorney General Bennett, issued last week, which showed the profits of the milk trust to run from 12 to 27 per cent for class 1 milk, and as high as 108 per cent for milk by-products.

# Houston Workers Form Council To Protect Negroes

HOUSTON, Tex.—Delegates from a score of Negro organizations and organizations having some Negro membership participated in a city-wide Negro congress here, under the chairmanship of J. H. Harmon, secretary of the National Association for Advancement of the Colored People. More than 100 Negro and white persons took part in the discussions and voted to set up a permanent council to advance the interests of the city's Negro population.

Resolutions were passed calling for a Federal housing project for Negroes; establishment of vocational training for Negroes; contact with labor and other organizations to secure adequate relief and help solve the unemployment problem, and the creation of a Negro workers' council.

During discussion of labor problems, some Negro leaders proposed independent Negro unions as a means of organization. This was vigorously opposed by trades unionists who plan to fight any effort toward this direction, which can only mean a splitting and weakening of the general labor movement and the establishment of "Negro unions" which will be tools of the bosses.

# MOONEY DEFENDERS



Shown are two of Mooney's counsel: Frank P. Walsh (left) and John Finerty who are preparing Mooney's latest appeal to the Supreme Court. Mooney seeks freedom after 21 years imprisonment. The new "liberal" majority on the high court will have an opportunity to show what "young men" can do.

# Machines Should Labor Schools Be Owned By All, Enroll 100,000, Senators Advised Says Mark Starr

AKRON, Ohio—Social control of labor-saving machines, together with a curb on speed-up in the rubber shops, was advocated as a remedy for technological unemployment by President S. H. Dalrymple of the United Rubber Workers in a letter to Chairman Byrne of the Senate Committee to investigate unemployment and relief.

The senator had asked Dalrymple to give a picture of displacement of labor in the rubber industry by machines and to suggest methods to correct the evil. Dalrymple said the evil "lies not in the machine itself but in the fact that society as a whole has not benefited from improvements in technology."

The union president cited U. S. Department of Labor figures showing that between 1929 and 1936 tire and tube production rose more than 10 per cent while employment declined nearly 26 per cent.

Dalrymple urged a program providing for (1) reduction of hours of labor throughout the country, (2) curb on speed-up, (3) higher wages to compensate for shorter hours and heightened efficiency, (4) lower prices to stimulate mass purchasing.

# Illinois Judge's Decision Upholds Coal Corporation

By A Special Correspondent

EAST ST. LOUIS, Ill.—Another link in the chain of recent anti-labor decisions was forged in a decision handed down by Judge Wham of the Federal Court in East St. Louis, Ill. The decision orders the Progressive Miners of America to pay damages of \$117,000 to the United Electric Coal Company for losses sustained when the P. M. A. forced the closing down of the Red Ray mine near Belleville.

Judge Wham based his decision on the claim that the Progressive had used outside pickets to enforce the strike and that this constituted a conspiracy to injure the corporation by means of illegal actions.

Although this decision reaffirmed the right to strike, the effect of the establishment of such precedents is to cripple the efforts of a union to make a strike effective. Although the legislatures have been forced to pass laws favorable to labor, the courts are still in the hands of capitalist lawyers and will continue to nullify the spirit of these laws.

CHICAGO.—Workers' education is definitely on the upgrade in the United States.

So much so, says Mark Starr, workers' education director of the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union, that the number of worker-students increased by nearly 1,000 per cent in the last six or seven years.

"If we use the liberal estimation of 10,000 as the number of worker-students in 1929, it is safe to assume that there are around 100,000 workers actively interested in workers' education today," Starr reported to a group of teachers interested and devoted to the cause of workers' education at Chicago recently.

The labor educator also drew the teachers' attention to the recent Panay incident and the role of moving pictures in molding public opinion. He contrasted the intensive campaign in advertising and showing of the Panay film with the suppression of the Chicago Memorial Day massacre films.

### Role of Movies

"It was only when a militant section of the American people protested against the suppression of the Chicago film that a half-hearted distribution was made," Starr said. "Yet, the purpose of the Panay pictures is obvious: American opinion, according to certain people, must be molded towards war."

Starr emphasized the role of workers' education in giving attention to the burning issues of the present as well as in building for the future. In reference to the Japanese imperialist war on China, Starr said:

"Even though some of us may not know much about geography, we do know that the way to get out of China was not by going up the river. We might not all be sailors but surely we know that down the river is usually the way out!"

A short movie showing the evolution of garments from Adam and Eve's fig leaves to modern habiliments was shown by Starr after his lecture.

The ILGWU has attracted wide interest by its outstanding contributions to the workers' cultural movement. Some 25,000 of the union's members are enrolled in classes, learning economics, drama, health, history, literature, strike strategy and dancing.

# Black Legion Killer Dies

JACKSON, Mich.—The Black Legion "thrill" killer, James Roy Lorraine, died in state prison at Jackson while serving a life sentence which began less than a year ago.

# Peonage Stalks Louisiana Sugar Cane Plantations

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Charges that indentured labor if not actual slavery has been revived recently in Louisiana by collusion between state W. P. A. administrators and Bourbon plantation owners were presented to W. P. A. officials here this week by Douglas Brown, secretary of the Louisiana Workers Alliance.

# Commission Aims Ford Company's Interest Racket

DETROIT—The Ford Motor Company advertised a phony 6% interest plan on time payments on its cars and then quit advertising the gyp when the federal trade commission got after it. But it won't sign a paper promising not to do it again.

This is the nub of the legal fight which commenced in Detroit this week before a trial examiner of the commission, with Ford as defendant. Hearings were to start in Chicago a week later.

The Ford legal staff is fighting very inch of the way defending the company's refusal to admit shady practices which it once employed but has now discontinued. Almost every answer made by witnesses is challenged and in many cases the examiner sustains Ford.

### Misleading Ads

It developed that the misleading advertising by motor finance subsidiaries was started by General Motors, the company that likes to lecture the United Automobile Workers about lawlessness. But Chrysler and Ford were close seconds, according to the government attorney.

The essence of the gyp was that the companies advertised in big display type a "6% plan" which made customers think they would be charged 6% simple interest on unpaid balance. The balance had to be reduced every month but the interest remained at the full original figure. In this way the customer, instead of paying 6%, was actually paying 144% interest in the final month under the usual plan. The average interest paid was just about double 6%, being over 11.5%.

All the motor companies have laid off of this fraud at the request of the commission. All but two have signed papers promising to gyp no more. Ford and General Motors are the hold-outs.

# Roosevelt Puts Ceiling On WPA

MILWAUKEE—Early reports reaching the Workers Alliance that the WPA had ordered unlimited hiring of unemployed in large centers like Milwaukee, Chicago, Detroit, St. Paul, etc., were exploded this week when large scale hiring was cut off in mid-career in Milwaukee with hundreds of unemployed industrial workers in the act of applying for work. The reason given was that the Milwaukee quota of 16,000 had been exhausted, 8,000 having been added since December 15 in Wisconsin.

The fact then, is that in spite of attempts of friends of Roosevelt administration even in the Alliance to conceal it, the New Deal has put a low ceiling on WPA employment for use at the same time that Roosevelt is making the sky the limit on naval building for his war game in the far east. The fight against Roosevelt's militarization program must be taken up by the Alliance in order to further its unemployment relief program.

The charges, which grew out of the "emergency mobilization" of workers to save the sugarcane crop imperilled by a premature freeze in mid-November, accused the New Deal agency of coercing W. P. A. workers under threat of dismissal from relief roles into working in the sugar fields for as little as 75 cents to \$1 a day for a work week of 100 hours.

Sen. Ellender of Louisiana was said, in the charges, to have arranged the mobilization and as owner of the largest plantation to have received the first and most adequate labor supply.

### Murder Negro

One Negro W. P. A. worker was "shot dead by a policeman as a further means of intimidating those forced to take these jobs," Brown said.

"More than 2,000 Negro W. P. A. laborers were lined up by foremen at the conclusion of the day's work on November 24 and threatened with dismissal from their only means of livelihood if they did not go to the sugar fields," Brown asserted.

"These workers were promised compensation at \$1.50 a day plus food and shelter," he said. "Instead, large numbers of them received as little as 75 cents to \$1 a day and were forced to purchase necessities from commissaries set up on the plantations and to pay for such necessities two and three times the normal price. They were furthermore forced to work 14 and 15 hours a day in rain and without adequate shelter and clothing."

### Workers Punished

W. P. A. workers who refused such employment or who were unable to report because of illness were fined 15 days W. P. A. employment by the W. P. A. administration, Brown asserted.

"For two weeks," Brown testified, "the workers were driven by gun-toting straw bosses 100 hours and more a week in the rain and with no time to cook, only time to buy a five cent can of beans for 15 cents or a five cent loaf of bread for eight cents, and wolf them in a 15 minute rest period. A lot of the men quit and the rest all got back to New Orleans with the flu."

### Alliance Demands

In presenting the charges the Workers Alliance asked for "compensation for 120 workers laid off for a 5 day period for refusal to report for the Bourbon 'mobilization,' the resignation of W. P. A. Labor Relations Director William Oakes who refused to provide hearings or investigation of the workers' grievances, investigation of relations between the state W. P. A. administration and the sugar plantation owners, and action insuring against repetition of 'slavery mobilizations.'"

An immediate and comprehensive investigation of the charges was promised by W. P. A. officials.

# Quebec Catholics Bar "Life of Emile Zola"

MONTREAL, Quebec—America's outstanding film of the year—"The Life of Emile Zola"—has been barred from the dominion of Quebec by authorities.

ment relief program. War funds for unemployment relief is the only practical slogan for the organized unemployed.