

## AKRON-DETROIT-NEWARK The Workers Can Make Only One Answer!

Within less than two weeks, three events have occurred on the labor front in the United States which bring home an elementary lesson to any worker who has eyes to see with and a mind capable of thinking.

In Detroit, members of the C.I.O. and sympathizers, engaged in picketing the struck American Brass Company, were savagely attacked by strike-breaking police—not protected, but attacked. Tear gas, clubs and guns were their weapons. Result: more than 50 workers injured, several arrested, others sent to the hospital and the picket-line broken up.

### Assault In Akron

In Akron, more than a hundred rubber workers were injured when the police—in the service, as usual, of the bosses—made a brutal, armed sally against the picket-line surrounding the struck Goodyear Rubber Company plant. Once again, the picket-line was broken up to facilitate the work of the scabs.

A short time later, Norman Thomas, head of the Socialist Party, attempted to speak at a public meeting in Military Park, Newark. He had a permit from the local authorities. The police were on the scene, presumably to "protect" Thomas in the exercise of the right of free speech. A gang of reactionary hoodlums, who had no permit and never asked for one (the gangsters of capital don't need any!), attacked the meeting, assaulted Thomas, broke down the platform and, with the police right on the spot, dispersed the meeting and prevented Thomas from speaking.

### What "Free Speech" Means

In every case, the uniformed and civilian "defenders of law and order" were on the side of capitalism and reaction. In every case, they cynically trampled upon the "right of free speech and assembly" supposedly guaranteed to the people. The only "right" they recognize and are interested in maintaining, is the right of the capitalist class to rule, to exploit, to oppress. That right, they seek to maintain by every means in their power, above all by force.

How is labor to protect itself? How can it win the right to democratic liberties like free speech, free press, the right to organize, to strike and to picket?

By sending telegrams of protest to mayors under whose direction the police act? By sending telegrams of protest to governors who, as in Ohio, are ready to supplement the police terror with the terror of the National Guard? By sending telegrams of protest to the President, who has as the vice-chairman of the National Committee of his party the notorious Frank Hague?

### Labor Must Defend Itself

That's a waste of good money and of time unless it is backed up by something substantial. Nobody will defend labor and its rights unless labor does it by means of its own organized strength. And labor is more than strong enough to protect itself without asking its enemies to help.

The only way in which the workers can preserve themselves from attacks and massacres by the organized thugs of capital—be they in civilian clothes or in uniform—is by organizing their own ranks into *Labor Defense Guards!*

Surround every picket-line with a solid wall of Defense Guards and then let the hooligans try to break it up!

Surround every mass meeting with a determined, organized group of Defense Guards and then let the hopped-up mercenaries of the Hagues try to disperse it!

## German Trotskyists Get Long Prison Sentences

The slight recession in the wave of G.P.U. terror against Trotskyites and alleged Trotskyites in the Soviet Union has been made up for by a renewal of Gestapo terror against the German section of the Fourth International.

Reports from Germany inform us of the arrest and conviction of the leading comrades of the Magdeburg group of the Fourth Internationalists. Two trials were held of the arrested comrades in the Fascist courts at Berlin and Magdeburg.

In the Berlin trial, Comrades Joachim Wittschie and Gerwin Hinze were given 6 and 3 years imprisonment respectively. In the Magdeburg trial, Kurt Sliwy received four years, Oskar Kramer and Walter Ruhle, three years each, Walter Soder, two

and a half years, and Ullrich Wittschie, one year and nine months.

Fragmentary reports regarding the cases of the Solingen and Cologne comrades, who were tried some time ago, have also been received. The Solingen comrades were tried in the mass trial of the Gelsenkirchen group.

The 26 comrades involved, information is only available on Comrade Walsken, who received four years imprisonment, Paul de Grote, who received three and a half years, and Comrade X who received two and a half years.

The fate of the Cologne group is unknown beyond the information that sentences were passed and that Comrade Metz was one of those involved.

**Build The Socialist Appeal!**  
Forward To  
10,000  
Circulation!

### Weinstock Defeated By Own Local

NEW YORK—Louis Weinstock, leading Stalinist in the New York Painters' Union and secretary-treasurer of District Council 9, was eliminated as a candidate to succeed himself when members of his own local, 848, defeated him by a vote of 449 to 389 and named Louis J. Stevens as their candidate. Election rules of the painter's district council provide that a candidate must be named by his own local.

This defeat of the Stalinists is all the more significant in view of the fact that in the past Local 848 nominated Weinstock UNANIMOUSLY as its candidate for the major office in D.C. 9.

The defeat of Weinstock marks a major victory for the progressives in the New York Painters' Union, who have been carrying on a campaign against the disruptive practices of the Stalinist leadership in the field for the coming election. Next week's issue of the Socialist Appeal will carry a full story on the developments in the union.

### Labor Guard Must Answer Hague Menace

#### Thomas Meeting Broken Up By Mobsters In Newark

The black plague of Hague spread to neighboring Newark last Saturday when a Socialist Party rally in Military Park was broken up by mobsters masquerading as veterans in collusion with the Newark police.

Just before Norman Thomas was scheduled to speak, a procession of thugs and ward-heelers in Hague's service swung into the park behind a hired brass band and marched toward the center of the crowd. Shouting "We want Americanism, we don't want Reds," the storm-troopers, together with their confederates in the crowd, bombarded Thomas with eggs and vegetables, howled him down when he attempted to speak, and smashed his platform.

#### Police Aid Mobsters

Their attacks were aided and abetted by the Newark cops, who first plowed a pathway for Hague's troopers and then allowed them to disrupt the meeting and pummel the auditors as they pleased. Over a dozen people, Thomas included, were injured in the fight around the platform.

#### Workers' Meeting Banned

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#### Workers' Meeting Banned

The next day City Commissioner Joseph Byrne, a Hague stooge, announced that he would hereafter deny permission for open air meetings in Military, Washington, and Lincoln parks to all except fraternal and military organizations. "These parks are in the Newark business area," he declared, "and such meetings don't do the city's business any good."

Major Hague followed up his offensive by marshalling all his forces in tremendous rally on Monday evening in Journal Square. The rally was preceded by a parade led by Hague and his Goering, Colonel Hugh Kelly, head of the Veterans' Law and Order League. Behind these grand marshals, appropriately enough, came the board of directors of the Chamber of Commerce and two regiments of the New Jersey National Guard.

Behind the bosses and their military guards marched representatives of the Hudson County (Continued on page 3)

### THE FIGHT FOR RELIEF



Mayor LaGuardia, the "labor mayor," has had his police dish out brutality to the unemployed in ample portions—as the above photo of a recent demonstration shows—while doing his best to chisel away the meager appropriations for relief.

### City-Wide Relief Sit-In Called For N. Y.

### Alliance Progressive Group Demands Militant Program

#### Local Relief Appropriation Slash Forces Plan To Bring Pressure On Authorities

By GEORGE MILTON

NEW YORK.—In spite of steadily increasing unemployment in this richest city in the world, only \$9,022,450, was voted by the Board of Estimate for relief for the month of June, a decrease of \$121,550 from the appropriation for the month of May, and a saving of \$721,550 from the April figure.

To keep within these steadily decreasing appropriations, the local Welfare Department is barring from the relief roles needy single men, "deporting" dependent relief clients back to the states and countries where they came from, eliminating clothing allowances from the relief budgets, and attempting in every conceivable way to "chisel" the last possible penny from the starving unemployed.

#### Sit-In Planned

Forced to take action by the unrelenting pressure of progressive militants in the Workers' Alliance, and by the growing discontent and seething among

(Continued on page 2)

### SWP Rallies Held To Protest Slum Firetrap Menace

#### Meeting Held at Scene Of Fatal Blaze On Houston Street

NEW YORK.—The lower side branches of the Socialist Workers Party and Y.P.S.L. instituted a series of actions, beginning last Saturday night, on the increasingly pressing problems of slums and fire-trap dwellings.

The defense has been pushing a search for additional evidence ever since December 1936, when the Governor told his representatives to "bolster up your record and I'll consider the matter further." The prisoners are: W. B. Jones, secretary of the Evans local of the United Mine Workers of America; Al Benson, Jim Reynolds, and Chester Poore.

#### The Accusation

Benson was accused of shooting from a third-story window in the Smith-Kelly building, 1,700 feet away. The prosecution (Continued on page 3)

### "KEEPING AMERICA OUT OF WAR"

Just as the Stalinists seek to unite all their forces behind "peace and democracy" congresses whose purpose is to swing American imperialism behind a "collective security" program, so the recently constituted Lovestone-Thomas combination is seeking to unite all and sundry behind a program of imperialist isolationism. The first stage of its efforts has just culminated in the Washington "Keep America Out of War" Congress, at which, taking a leaf out of the strategy book of the Communist Party, the actual sponsors of the Congress kept in the discreet and modest background and shoved forward the by now customary assortment of retired generals, capitalist politicians, professional pacifists and nostrum-vendors, priests and rabbis. The exceptionally shy Lovestoneites, among the chief manipulators of the congress, did not even have their representatives listed in the roster of sponsors.

The assertion that the Washington Congress adopted the program of imperialist isolationism may appear, at first blush, to be at once exaggerated and contradictory. Yet, in point of cold fact, that is precisely the case. And it explains the otherwise perplexing fact that this self-styled "anti-war" movement could have among its sponsors such rankly reactionary Republicans as Senator Capper; Representative Hamilton Fish, red-baiter and purveyor of Nazi propaganda in the United States, against whose presence in the official committee the Socialist Party issued a mealy-mouthed protest in the columns of its Chicago paper, without having the courage to take up the question on the floor of the Congress itself, where it might mean something; and Representative William Lemke, late presidential candidate on the Union Party ticket of Father Coughlin, the illustrious warrior for democracy.

#### WHAT THE CONGRESS FAILED TO DO

Before considering what the congress did, it is perhaps even more important to learn what it failed to do. There was no expression of solidarity with the workers and peasants of Spain who are engaged in a life-and-death battle against fascism, although it would seem that a congress preoccupied with the question of war would take some notice of the event. Neither did the Lovestoneites and Thomasites dare to put before the Congress a resolution that the infamous Roosevelt embargo against Loyalist Spain be lifted. Neither of these steps was taken because of one simple consideration: the fear of antagonizing the swarm of petty bourgeois pacifists who were present;

so that the latter, who represented nothing but their own confusion and reactionary prejudices actually prevailed over the labor delegates, who at least represented some forces. To save their faces, the Lovestone-Thomas bloc had the so-called "labor group" adopt an anti-embargo resolution, with emphasis on the fact that this did not commit the congress as a whole. In other words, it delicately refrained from compelling the pacifist melange from taking a position on this crucial question.

With respect to the Soviet Union, the Congress acted even more shabbily. That is, it did not act at all. Neither the S.P. nor the Lovestoneites had a single word to say about the defense of the Soviet Union from imperialist attack, although this, too, is not among the least important problems of our time. The pressure of the pacifists and bourgeois politicians was enough in this case also to bring about the total capitulation and silence of the "radical wing" of the Congress.

#### IMPLY APPROVAL FOR "DEFENSIVE" WARS

Neither did the latter propose any revision of the Ludlow Amendment as at present formulated, a revision, that is, which would extend the referendum on war to cover also the so-called "wars of defense," which the present Amendment provides may be engaged in by the government without consulting the electorate and which, according to all indications, will be precisely the pretext upon which the U.S. will precipitate the masses into the coming imperialist war.

The key to the program of the congress is contained in the report of the commission on "Building a War-Less World," and the recommendations in its 3rd section, "How the American People Can Work for Peace." The very wording of that section indicates its decisive importance, for it is in the concrete steps proposed whereby the "people can work for peace" that the true measure of this and similar congresses can be taken.

The key sentences in the concrete proposals of section 3 are worth quoting:

"As a first measure of immunizing the American economy to the armament infection, a government reflecting the popular will for peace would deny the economic resources of the United States to all countries now dominated or in the process of being dominated by the armament system of economics.... As a second measure of American initiative in resisting the armament and war offensive we propose that the economic resources of the United States be offered to the armament powers only on (Continued on page 4)

FOR THE FOURTH  
INTERNATIONAL!

## U.S. Congress Reveals New Deal Futility

Capitalist Legislators Strip Wages and Hours Bill  
Of Progressive Features, Display Impotence  
In Face of Deepening Crisis

### UNITY SHOWN ON WAR PLANS

Completing a five months' record of unparalleled incompetence, confusion and sterility, the Third Congress of the New Deal this week plunged brokenly toward the close of its third and final session.

#### Wages and Hours Bill

The Wages and Hours Bill provided such an abysmally low wage level and was so hedged around with restrictions, modifications and exceptions that, even according to the Administration's own analysis, it could at most affect only a few hundred thousand workers. As a specific "recovery measure," it amounts to just about as much as a joint Congressional prayer lamenting the poverty of so many good christians, and imploring God, in his own good time, to make easier the lot of his children.

The skillfully-publicized pump-priming bill ended up with much the flavor of a stale joke. Far from being able to give a genuine stimulus to industry, the testimony of the Administration witnesses showed that the bill was utterly incapable even of beginning to handle the minimum problems of relief and unemployment. Under its provisions, a maximum of 3,000,000 can be put on W.P.A., against a total of at least 13,000,000 now unemployed. Its W.P.A. allowances might take care, at most, of a few hundred thousand more. The rest of the loans it envisages will go to bail out a few shaky banks and railroads.

#### New Deal Bubble Burst

These bills are the sole and entire answer of the New Deal to the sharpest economic crisis in the history of the United States!

The bubble of the New Deal bursts at the first touch. It required but one serious test for the whole New Deal structure to come tumbling down, and to lay bare what that structure has for five years tried so desperately to hide: the collapsed and hopelessly rotting foundations of American capitalism.

The shameful, futile record of the New Deal during this session of Congress is not, however, any particular comfort to the Republican-Southern Democratic coalition which opposed it. In these five months the score of the opposition was exactly zero. It neither accomplished nor proposed anything at all.

#### Roosevelt Still On Top

It is partly for this reason, combined with the control over vast sums granted him by the pump-priming bill, that Roosevelt, in spite of his defeat on the Reorganization Bill, comes out of the session in a still powerful parliamentary position. The hope of the opposing coalition that the collapse of the New Deal means a swing back to Hoover-Coolidge Republicanism is vain. A whole era has passed since the days of Coolidge. American capitalism has entered the stage of irreversible decline. Not all the ponderous generalities of the Lippmans and Glenn Franks will ever bring "normalcy" back again.

On one and only one question did the President and Congress during this session display "statesmanship," force and decision. And on this question the opposition coalition dissolved. All hands, or nearly all, came on deck at the captain's call.

#### Unity For War

For this question—the war question—was not a matter for "party squabbles" or "divisions." Here all the pretenses of bourgeois parliamentarians drop overboard. Here the fate of American capitalism itself, and as a whole, is directly at stake. Before that challenge Republican, conservative Democratic and New Deal hearts beat at a common rhythm. With scarcely a murmur, (Continued on page 4)

## SWP Rallies Held To Protest Slum Firetrap Menace

(Continued from page 1)

so rapidly that 20 persons were trapped on the top floor of the building, the stairs having collapsed.

### More Than a Score Hurt

There were more than 60 persons living in the house, of whom over a score were injured. Those who escaped did so in their night clothes. All belongings, furniture, and clothing were lost in the fire.

The greatest tragedy occurred when the 46-year-old mother of two children, Mrs. Esther Cohen, died from suffocation. Her husband, and their two children were severely burned and taken to hospital. Next day, the 14-year-old boy died of the burns he had suffered in the fire.

Ironically enough, a family had moved into this house of death on Friday, the day before the fire. They had not yet had time to arrange their furniture properly when they lost everything in the flames. This is a result of the LaGuardia policy of closing some condemned tenements and forcing the tenants to move into other ramshackle fire-traps.

### Wave of Indignation

A great wave of sorrow and indignation swept through the working class of the East Side as a result of this tragedy. Hundreds stood around all day long watching the charred ruins. On the evening of the fire, the S.W.P. and the Y.P.S.L. branches distributed a leaflet calling for action and placing the blame where it belonged—at City Hall. A mass protest rally was held that night under S.W.P. auspices at the scene of the fire. A program of action and a series of demands were presented which were eagerly accepted by the hundreds of assembled workers. Liberal money contributions were made by the workers for the continuation of the campaign.

### Last Year's Sell-Out

It will be recalled that last year, a Stalinist strategy committee, after reaching a "compromise" with Mayor LaGuardia and his lackeys, called off a city-wide "sit-in" after less than 10 hours of occupation of the city's bureaus, contrary to the expressed sentiments voiced by the Alliance rank and file. A larger committee, with progressive militants on it, would perhaps scotch another such betrayal on the part of the Stalinist leadership.

### Militant Slogans Unwelcome

At a demonstration, a week ago, in front of 902 Broadway, central offices of the Welfare Department, more than 50 members of the Y.P.S.L. (4th International) shouted such militant slogans as: "All war funds to the unemployed," and "Schools, Not battlements." The Stalinist leadership of the W.A., which sponsored the demonstration, took exception to these slogans and even attempted violence on the Yipsels.

### In Spite of Attempts to Snatch

In spite of attempts to snatch signs away from the young militants, and push them, with the aid of the police, out of the picket-line, the Yipsels held their ranks. Many Stalinist rank and filers took up the militant slogans and shouted them along with the Yipsels, much to the chagrin of the Stalinist "cheer leaders."

### The Progressives Will Fight in This Sit-In

"All progressive Locals must rally their entire membership for the most effective action, when the sit-ins take place. It is during these sit-ins that the unemployed have an opportunity to learn at first hand the lessons of progressive policy and militant action as against those of collaboration with the city officials," Rhoda Pearson, secretary of the Progressive Group in the W.A., said, in urging the widest support for the coming city-wide "sit-in":

### Jobs for All Who Can Work

"At trade union wages," add Alliance militants;

Elimination of red-tape wherein clients are compelled to wait weeks and months on end while being "investigated" to starvation;

For 24 hours' service on emergency cases and 72 hours on regular cases;

For the setting up of an Appeals Board to "adjust" rejected relief applications; and

Adequate medical care for all who need it.

The W.A. has been rejecting applications on the grounds that they "will soon be getting Social Security, and can therefore hold out just a little longer." It compels young people who have been forced to break with their families, in desperate economic plight, to sue their parents in court for support.

### Militancy Alone Can Win

"This vicious treatment of the unemployed, both young and old, must be stopped immediately," a spokesman for the Progressive Group in the Alliance declared. "Every possible support must be given to the unemployed in these coming 'sit-ins.' All militant progressives in the labor movement must cooperate in turning this action into a victory for the politicians of all stripes, those on the inside and those who hover over the labor movement like vultures. No back-door double-dealing by the Stalinist leaders can eliminate these intolerable practices on the part of the Welfare Department. Only militant action on the part of the unemployed, together with their only genuine allies, the employed workers, will win any real concessions."

### ASK FOR THE APPEAL

AT YOUR NEWSSTAND

## Alliance Progressives Seek Militant Program

(Continued from page 1)

unemployed persons, one hundred and thirty men, women and children, conducted a "sit-in" at the Non-Settlement Bureau of the Welfare Department, at 376 Lafayette Street, last week.

While members of Local 4, of the W.A., picketed the Single Men's Bureau at 552 W. 53 St., demanding an end of the present policy of the Welfare Department in rejecting from the relief roles as many single men as they could get away with, Charles Morell, who, for two months desperately attempted to get on home relief, was carried away in an ambulance, a victim of "labor Mayor" LaGuardia's starvation policy.

"Give us adequate relief, not hospitalization," the pickets shouted as Messrs. LaBella and Backer, relief administrators at the 53 Street Bureau, and the police, whom they called in, looked on apathetically.

### Council Meeting

The decision for a city-wide "sit-in" at all relief bureaus against the present "chiseling" campaign of the Welfare Department and for a 40 per cent increase in relief, long overdue, came at a meeting of the W.A. Delegates Council, last week.

"Sit-ins" will be staged in nine bureaus on June 14, culminating in "sit-ins" at all bureaus by June 20, according to the plan of a strategy committee.

William Sherman, a leading progressive militant and delegate from Local 4, proposed a strategy committee of 15 in place of the Stalinist motion for a committee of 7. With the vote going into a 23-23 tie, with many Stalinist "fellow-travellers" voting for the Sherman substitute, Jerry Benton, Stalinist head of the Unemployed Division of the W.A. who presided, cast the deciding vote in favor of the smaller hand-picked committee.

### Attempts To Unite With W.A.A.

The F.W.S. is not a part of the Workers Alliance. Two attempts have been made here to unify the movement. In the winter of 1937, when the last attempt was made, David Lasser demanded as the price of admission to the Workers Alliance that the Federal Workers Section sever its relations with Local 544 and the Minneapolis union movement. On such terms unity was impossible, a step backward.

### Refuse To Accept Rule Barring 15 Steel Lodge Men

YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio.—The Mahoning County convention of Labor's Non-Partisan League etc. Many W.P.A. workers are constantly being reclassified into higher wage brackets by F.W.S. pressure, if they perform any tasks but common labor.

Whereas in many cities W.P.A. workers work 110 hours at 55c hourly, and in some instances receive less than \$60.50 monthly, in Minneapolis the W.P.A. workers work only 88 hours at 68c hourly for common labor.

### Close Check Kept

The F.W.S. keeps up a constant pressure on the W.P.A. administration, the welfare boards, etc. Many W.P.A. workers are constantly being reclassified into higher wage brackets by F.W.S. pressure, if they perform any tasks but common labor.

Example: A W.P.A. worker is doing common labor. He is asked by this foreman to do some semi-skilled job. Through F.W.S. pressure on W.P.A., the worker either gets an increased hourly rate, or he refuses to work at the new job. In most cases, he gets the increased wage rate.

### Present Demands

Each W.P.A. project has a F.W.S. steward. The stewards meet every Wednesday night to discuss their problems and lay out plans for the future. General membership meetings are held the second Friday in each month. Special membership meetings are held at the convention.

This ruling, had it been accepted, would have disfranchised about 15 delegates from two steel lodges, and left the convention in the hands of the Stalinists, who had a considerable number of delegates from their paper organizations.

### Ruling Challenged

The delegates from the steel lodges challenged this ruling, but the chairman refused to recognize the challenge and thereupon these delegates walked out of the convention, asking all sincere delegates to do likewise. The convention adjourned at this point, but since the steel lodges intend to protest the action of the chairman to the state executive committee, it will probably reconvene as soon as a ruling is handed down.

The L.N.P.L. state constitution provides that affiliated organizations shall have one delegate at conventions, and an additional delegate for every one hundred members or major fraction, and that no delegate shall have more than one vote. The chairman ruled that this section meant that no organization could have more than five voting delegates, and in spite of all argument to the contrary refused to recognize the other voting delegates of the steel workers. All the Communist Party stooges supported him in this obviously ridiculous ruling.

This experience was certainly an object lesson in the kind of "democracy" that the Stalinists want, and when the convention reconvenes the C.P. will be shown up for the true bureaucrats and disrupters that they are. Rule or ruin is their policy.

The progressive labor movement in this area has been placed on guard and is determined to prevent any attempt to repeat this disgraceful farce.

## Local 544 Leads In Battling For Unemployed In Minneapolis

By CARL O'SHEA

MINNEAPOLIS—As the mounting economic decline throws new millions of unemployed into the streets, a new upsurge in organization of the jobless is seen in America. The progressive trade unions and the more militant unemployed organizations are probing for the best means of grappling with their problems. In their search, they tend to look to the labor leaders who are best handling the interests of the unemployed and of the union movement. Each day, in a growing stream, inquiries flow into the Federal Workers Section of General Drivers Union Local 544, Minneapolis, which has won a national reputation for its intelligent handling of the problems of the unemployed worker.

Origin of the F.W.S.

The Federal Workers Section was formed in 1935 out of the Minneapolis Central Council of Workers, the unemployed grouping that arose in the great drivers' strikes of 1934. The F.W.S. pioneered in linking up the unemployed to the trade union movement and the F.W.S. has been able to win fruitful victories, one day for the unemployed, another day for a striking union.

The F.W.S. has its own office in the Minneapolis Drivers Hall. It is represented on the board of Local 544. It is financially supported by many unions. It has permanent staff of organizers, grievance men, etc., working under centralized direction. It makes no distinction between W.P.A. workers and relief clients, embracing both categories. To the unions, it gives great aid in strikes by furnishing pickets and getting relief for strikers.

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Through this budget the living standards of W.P.A. workers are raised appreciably. Example: In a family of five, a W.P.A. worker is working on a \$60.50 job. His family will receive each month \$30.35 supplementary aid.

In the winter season, the ice allowance is replaced by an allowance for coal, ranging from \$9 to \$13.50 monthly.

Direct Relief

Direct relief in Minneapolis was about 8 to 10 per cent higher than direct relief in New York City before LaGuardia's 10 per cent cut last fall. The percentage in favor of Minneapolis is of course now higher. From New York's "labor mayor," the unemployed drew a cut. The F.W.S. is being brought to bear on the Farmer-Labor representatives in Congress; on the W.P.A. administration, etc.

The F.W.S. is also seeking to get for Minnesota some of the housing funds allotted by Congress.

Demands are being pressed on Governor Benson to call a special session of the state legislature to set up a State Housing Authority.

F.W.S. Effectiveness

A week ago a Minneapolis boss paper said editorially: "There is only one possible answer to complaints raised in communities like Chicago and Cleveland, now running into grave difficulties in taking care of relief clients, that we cannot keep on paying for relief."

That answer is, "You've got to keep on paying for relief..."

"What many people forget who bemoan the high cost of caring for the unemployed is that relief and W.P.A., among other things, are a form of insurance against first-class trouble on a wide scale... insurance against widespread disturbance aimed at the status quo.... The relief policy continues to be the country's best safeguard against subversive action against our form of society and government."

A Lesson For Labor

As the Northwest Organizer answered, also editorially: "It is by no means accidental that this unusually frank statement appeared in a Minneapolis paper. For in this city the unemployed have as their spokesman the Federal Workers Section of 544. Here unemployed and employed are closely knit together. The full power of organized labor is thrown into the fight for W.P.A. jobs and unemployment relief. As a result, relief standards are high and are kept high by the vigilant work of the F.W.S., backed by all labor..."

"And this fact points the road to securing W.P.A. jobs and relief for those who need it and are not getting it, and to securing still higher standards of living for W.P.A. and relief workers. More and better organization. More militancy and determination that the bosses owe us all a living."

housings. No tents, no mosquitos. Fare 80 cents to Red Rock. Inquire phone Bryant 9-7620 for train schedules. June rates, daily \$2.50, weekly \$15.00.

ATTENTION NEW YORK! Winners of the "Build the Socialist Appeal Contest" were Fred Larin, Edith Kirkman, and M. Leopold. Will these comrades please call at the City Office and see Abe Miller to collect their prizes.

YPSL ORGANIZERS MEETING

MEETING OF ALL YPSL CIRCLE and fraction organizers this Saturday at 1 p.m. sharp at District Office.

AFFAIR EXTRAORDINARY!

Supperette for our new headquarters in Williamsburg, Eat, sing, dance, and play, all for 99 cents. June 11 at Comrade Ruth Zeitlin's, 450 Gates Ave., Brooklyn. Eighth Avenue sub-way to Nostrand Avenue.

This experience was certainly an object lesson in the kind of "democracy" that the Stalinists want, and when the convention reconvenes the C.P. will be shown up for the true bureaucrats and disrupters that they are. Rule or ruin is their policy.

The progressive labor movement in this area has been placed on guard and is determined to prevent any attempt to repeat this disgraceful farce.

CAMP SEVEN OAKS, Eatontown, N. J. Excellent swimming pool and tennis court, Capacity 25. Good food and

## Workers Boo Employers' Plea For 'Cooperation'

Bridges Praised for Smashing Picket Lines At San Francisco Meeting; Audience Shows Distinct Class 'Bias'

### Relief in Minneapolis

F.W.S. leaders are convinced that the relief crises, the hunger and want existing in many large cities today, are due to the rotten People's Front line of the Workers Alliance. The Stalinist death-grip on the W.A.A. makes it impossible for unemployed to buckle down to the task of building strong and militant unemployed organizations capable of forcing the state and the authorities to concede relief. Instead,

energies of the unemployed are dissipated in perfectly useless parades to Washington, interminable conferences with "labor" mayors, etc.

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by depressions," his words were drowned in a spontaneous boo which the C.I.O. officials tried to hush.

### Bridges Talks Left

A high-light in the discussion was the question of sympathy strike action in "violation" of contracts. In defending this right, Bridges put himself on record for the coming struggle in September when he declared that if the seamen were forced into strike action at any time the International Longshoremen and Warehousemen's Union would be forced to support them on the picket line. This declaration met with wild applause.

A few minutes later, however, as he was summing up in his best peace and light manner, Lapham while deplored this attitude, turned to Bridges and said: "In all fairness I must admit that Mr. Bridges did live up to his contract by going through the picket lines set up by the sailors recently." This reference to Bridges' attack on the picket lines set up by the Sailors Union of the Pacific to enforce their contract with the Shepard line, met with a cold response from the audience. Even the business men had the good sense to realize that applause would not be in very good taste when a boss has just congratulated one of his agents publicly for union-wrecking efforts.

### Call For Unity

A leaflet put out by the Socialist Workers Party exposing the real purpose of the "Town Meeting" and calling on the workers in both C.I.O. and A.F.L. unions to form a united front against the bosses and re-pudiate this united front between the latter and a section of the workers, was well received by the audience. The manner in which the workers conducted themselves at the meeting gave ample proof that they will take at face value Bridges' attacks on the bosses and will sooner or later reject his efforts to tie them to the apron strings of their exploiters.

## S.F. Warehouse Workers Vote To Quit C.I.O.

SAN FRANCISCO.—Confronted with the alternative of submitting to bureaucratic ultimatum or fighting for their democratic rights, the organized warehouse workers of San Francisco chose the latter, as last week they voted, 95 to 5, to leave the C.I.O. and affiliate with the A.F. of L.

This action came as the General Executive Committee of the United Office and Professional Workers of America acceded to the demands of Harry Bridges, West Coast C.I.O. director, that Local 34 be disbanded and placed under control of the International Longshoremen and Warehousemen's Union and the local C.I.O. Council.

The Warehouse Division, which under the order would be placed directly under Bridges' domination, is the real base of the union and is the only division that has obtained contracts for its members.

More important, from Bridges' point of view, it is from this section of the union that the progressives have obtained their support and have succeeded in throwing out of office the Stalinist officials.

## Appeal Army

## Railroad Union Leaders Move In Wage Cut Crisis Without Ranks

Unionist Points Need For Planning United Action To Combat Employers' Offensive And Forestall Sell-out Maneuvers

By RAILROAD UNIONIST

A proposed raid on the living standards of railroad workers is now before us, the railroads having served notice of a 15 per cent cut in wages to take effect July 1, just nine months after an increase of approximately six per cent became effective. According to the Association of American Railroads, the cut is necessary in order to "save the industry."

Railroad labor leaders counter this by pointing out that the wage bill is not the cause of the present difficulties of the roads; that if the railroad managements and those who control the financial policies of the roads would revise the topheavy financial structures with which they are burdened, there would be no need of asking the workers to sacrifice their living standards. Any one reasonably well informed on these matters must agree with the statement made by President Robertson of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Engineers, at the Washington conference on March 24, that if we could wipe out the railroad wage bill entirely, we could not save the industry.

### What Is To Be Done?

But notice has been served on the workers and the question now uppermost in the mind of every one of them is: What program and policies must we adopt to prevent this raid on our pay checks? The workers who will be affected by the outcome of this struggle should have something to say in determining the program and policies to be used. Yet up to the present, there is no indication from our officers that they will be consulted.

A statement issued by the union Executives on March 16 points out that the railroads can get relief without cutting wages, which is termed "as ineffective as cutting a corn to cure a tooth-ache." At the Washington conference on March 24 the Executives were unanimous in their position that a cut would not be accepted. Since that time several officers have been quoted to the effect that any attempt to reduce wages would be fought to the bitter end. But so far the union memberships have not been advised as to what preparations are being made for this "bitter end" struggle. Statements to the press are not enough. Something far more effective is needed: The mobilization of the workers behind a correct program of action that will have their united support. It should be evident, even to our present leadership, that such support can best be had after the workers have had the opportunity to discuss and approve the program to be adopted.

### Action Must Be Planned

We are aware that the Railway Labor Act prescribes a certain course to be followed in negotiations of this kind. But if we are to believe our leaders that this will be a fight to the bitter end, while at the same time the managements announce "no compromise," it should be plain that no agreement will be reached under that law. This being the case, it is high time preparations were made for the most effective use of the organized workers' main defense: their economic strength. But in spite of the limited time remaining, no proposed action has been submitted for membership discussion and approval. Why? Are the activities of the rank-and-file again to be limited to the formality of authorizing their officers to "negotiate to a conclusion?"

The results obtained in the wage movement of 1931-2 are too fresh in our minds for us to be convinced that such conferring of authority works out satisfactorily. Then as now, statements were issued to the press announcing our opposition to wage cut and informing the public that "labor cannot be called upon to pay a dime to idle capital." Nevertheless the cut was accepted "in the hope that our action may improve the health of our industry.... may stimulate a revival of business and advance the general welfare." The result was that the workers dropped approximately \$450,000,000 into the tin cup of the railroads between 1932-5. Are we again to be asked to confer unlimited authority on our leaders and take chances on another settlement based on "hope?"

### For United Action

I am sure all railroad workers will agree that in order to conduct an effective fight against a wage cut, united action by all figures of Uncle Sam, the Statue

## 900,000 Rail Workers Face Big Pay Slash

### Railway Labor Act Will Be Used To Bog Down Militant Action

Over 900,000 railroad workers are threatened by the recent decision of the carriers to reduce wages 15 per cent. The unions involved—of which there are 20 large ones—maintain that already some workers are receiving an hourly wage of only 20 cents and that more than 100,000 workers receive less than 40 cents. According to the best available statistics, the average monthly wage during 1937 was \$133.50, despite the fact that some highly skilled workers were able to average about \$175.

Unemployment in the railroad industry is at its peak. Today there are 6,023 fewer workers employed than in March, 1933. Since last July, 260,000 workers have been laid off and part time employment has been on the increase.

### Back to 1932!

The 15 per cent cut would save the carriers about \$250,000,000 a year and reduce wages below the 1932 level after the 10 per cent cut.

In compliance with the Railway Labor Act, the carriers have already given official notice that they intend to put the cut into effect on July 1. The unions have given their first answer in the form of a strike threat.

The Railway Labor Act is constructed to extinguish the militancy of the workers. According to its terms, the National Mediation Board may intervene in its own volition or be appealed to by either side. Once the board is called in, it can stall for months and bring uninterrupted pressure on the unions to accept the carriers' demands. If the unions hold firm the board may suggest another wearing down process: voluntary arbitration. If either side rejects voluntary arbitration, and the workers vote to strike, the board notifies the President of a threat to interstate commerce. The President then has the power to create a "fact-finding" board to "investigate" and report within 30 days. Until another 30 days have elapsed, neither side may act.

### Firm Stand Needed

The workers must thus be prepared to fight the government as well as the carriers. For the next four months or more they will have to remain firm in the face of government-carrier pressure and demand at the very outset, before any bargaining is entered into, the opening of the books. Should the debit side of the ledger be appreciable, the workers have no reason to resign themselves to a cut, but must demand nationalization of the railroads and workers' control; that is, the workers must strike for public ownership and their own committees to fix rates, wages, hours and capital investment.

Our officers have a plan of action, by all means let us have it. July 1 is not far off. Why are not union meetings being called for discussion of a program to be adopted? Nothing of the kind is being done, and evidently nothing will be done unless the workers insist on it. It is our duty to make the best preparations possible for our defense. Are we railroad workers to be satisfied with leaving such preparations entirely in the hands of the union officers without the opportunity of making our own wishes known? If not, we must take the following action:

### An Immediate Program

1. Attend our local lodge meetings and demand that general chairmen arrange for joint union meetings where the workers may be given all available information and where they may propose, discuss and take joint action on what the majority decides is the best program.

2. Demand that united action of all workers in the industry be made a reality in this fight and that craft interests be not allowed to jeopardize such unity. In the event of a strike vote, it must be a joint ballot of all organizations, with action authorized by majority vote of the members of all crafts.

3. Authorize our officers to negotiate, but not to a conclusion. The workers who will be affected

by the agreement must have the final say, by referendum vote, as to approval or rejection. If union democracy is anything but a name, this is union democracy in action.

4. The opening of the books may, however, show the unreasonable nature of the carriers' demand for a 15 per cent cut. Whether the railroads are bankrupt or not, the workers must prepare themselves for a long struggle with the possibility of the National Guard and the army being called out. The success of the struggle for public ownership and workers' control, or even for the prevention of this and future pay cuts, depends on immediate preparation for workers' defense groups.

## N.Y. Auto Builders Strike In 35 Shops

NEW YORK.—Seven hundred members of the United Automobile Workers, Local 259, walked out on strike from 35 auto body building shops June 2. The strike was called after all attempts to renew existing agreements with the employers' association had failed.

The agreement with the association expired on May 28. The union refused to concede to the open shop demanded by the association and interprets this demand as an attempt to destroy the union and go back to open shop conditions.

Already, of the 28 association shops, 10 have signed agreements up to June 2, including the chairman of the association committee, the Colonial Body Company.

Albert Fischer, Chairman of the Union's negotiations committee, in a statement to the shop stewards, expressed belief that within a few days the majority of workers would go back to work under signed agreements.

## Akron Teachers Demand Release For Fred Beal

### Anti-War Resolution Is Also Passed; Active Year Comes To End

At a recent meeting the Akron Federation of Teachers passed an anti-war resolution similar to that passed by the Minnesota Central Labor Union.

At the same time a resolution demanding the release of Fred Beal was passed. Both resolutions are to be submitted to the state convention of the Ohio State Federation of Teachers for action.

The federation is ending its most active year. Recent struggles of the federation have centered around the placing of the first grade on half-time, which necessitated the laying off of 38 teachers; the unnecessary cutting of the school year three days at the behest of the chamber of commerce agents on the school board; and the projected discrimination of religious and racial groups in the teachers' college of the local university.

### Teachers in Lead

The federation was the only teachers' organization opposing these reactionary measures. As a result of its progressive policies the federation has earned the enmity of school officials, who have retaliated by attempting to fire the progressive financial secretary of the organization.

The federation is being fought with the support of the organized labor movement of Akron.

At its last meeting the federation rejoined the Trades and Labor Assembly, from which it was expelled several months ago, when the C.I.O. locals and other progressives were thrown out.

Once more the federation will act as a polarizing force for the progressive and militant rank-and-file who still compose a majority of the body despite their domination by a crew of building trades fakers.

### New Constitution

A new constitution was adopted which virtually puts the Union in the pockets of the Stalinists.

Local autonomy has been eliminated for a highly centralized, top leadership organization in the best Stalinist tradition.

The constitution empowers the General Executive Board to revoke charters, redistribute Local members, and control Local

finance and functional machinery

without the formality of consulting the local people involved.

Minorities, however substantial

their numbers, are consistently denied representation in the leading bodies of the union.

Every obstacle is placed in the path of a minority member seeking participation in the organizational

and general life of the union.

Nevertheless beneath the sur-

face of complete Stalinist domi-

nation, important opposition

forces are developing. The revolt

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To smash Hagueism the masses

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The C.I.O. unions should

postpone action no longer. If

they are not to be overwhelmed

## Office Union Session Sterile Under Gag Rule

### Stalinist Leadership Concentrates On Keeping Opposition Silenced At Washington Office Workers' Session

The Stalinist controlled United Office and Professional Workers Union, C.I.O., held its second national convention at Washington, D. C., May 18 to 22. The Stalinists made it plain beforehand that they intended to achieve "unity" at the convention. It developed that "unity" was to be achieved by the systematic exclusion of anyone who might take exception to their reactionary program.

This aim was carried out so effectively, and the meeting became so sterile and devoid of dissent, that President Merrill found it necessary to persuade the delegates to comment on the various canned proposals. Taking him at his word, some of the delegates took the floor. But when they naively dared to raise objections they found themselves caustically rebuked by the same Merrill. One proposal after another went through with record speed. Sporadically, however, the embarrassing quietude would be broken by some hardy soul—in correction of a typographical or grammatical error. The chairman repeatedly slurred through requests of negative votes, knowing it was a waste of breath.

Opposition Baited

Presaging the happenings at the convention, a campaign to raid, to silence and to destroy any opposition was carried on. Nevertheless several delegates who were opposed by the Administration were elected and duly accredited by their locals. But when these delegates arrived at the convention, they found that mere election was not sufficient. It seemed that certain technicalities had been overlooked by their locals. Per capita taxes were not paid up, reports were not properly drawn, copies of receipts had not been submitted, etc. The delegates were not seated on one or the other of these grounds. Some aura of credence might have surrounded these if dozens of delegates representing locals derelict in the same way or to a greater extent had not been seated.

Local 34, San Francisco, sent Ernest Norback as its delegate. After traveling 3,000 miles to participate in the convention, Norback was promptly refused a seat on the pretext that per capita was not paid. Previously Merrill, International president, had offered to accept a note in payment of back per capita. An appeal to him at the convention to accept such a note and seat Norback resulted in a flat refusal. Local 24 had refused to be appealed to Stalinism. Easton, regularly elected delegate of the St. Louis local, met the same fate on the ground that the financial secretary of his local had failed to fill out her report properly.

Opposition Baited

The Nat. Progressive League has representation in locals throughout the country, including Chicago, St. Louis, Boston, Cincinnati, Toledo, Pittsburgh, Baltimore and San Francisco. The N.P.L. program was submitted to the Resolutions Committee which refused to present it on the floor of the convention. A request for the floor by Ernest Norback so that he could present the facts of the outrageous San Francisco situation was denied.

Kranis Opposed

The first and last sign of opposition to the steam-roller occurred in connection with the nomination of Jack Kranis as a vice-president and member of the General Executive Board. Kranis is a member of Industrial Insurance Agents Local 30, New York. Six of the ten delegates from this local opposed the election of Kranis on the ground that he was practically unknown in either the Local or International. They proposed the election of Charles Caplan who has taken a leading part in the organization of the Local. Nonetheless Kranis was elected, doubtless on the one qualification that really mattered, i.e., membership in the Communist Party.

The tragic rubber stamp character of the convention once more confirmed the aims of the Stalinists in the U.O.P.W.A. and in every union cursed with the blight of their control. Minorities, however substantial

their numbers, are consistently denied representation in the leading bodies of the union. Every obstacle is placed in the path of a minority member seeking participation in the organizational

and general life of the union.

Nevertheless beneath the surface of complete Stalinist domination, important opposition forces are developing. The revolt in the Insurance Agents, largest section of the International, presages important developments in the future. The formation of the National Progressive League with its paper gives the Progressives an opportunity to crystallize

the opposition that exists in the ranks of the union and rally to

its support all those elements working for the building of a

healthy progressive office workers union.

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MAX SHACHTMAN  
Editor.HAROLD ROBERTS FRANK GRAVES  
Associate Editors.  
S. STANLEY  
Business Manager.**Jobs or Relief!**

The somber plight of the unemployed is again headline news. Chicago, second largest city in the country, has closed its relief bureaus. In Cleveland, where one in every three depends on direct relief or W.P.A., relief has broken down since the end of April and spontaneous sit-downs have occurred. Drives against the workers' living standards and *very lives* are being conducted all over the country.

In order to live, the workers must have wages, must have purchasing power. This is obtainable only from two sources: either private industry or the government. But capitalism is in a new period, the period of its dotage, of its decline, of its bankruptcy. It cannot profitably give more wages and a better life. It can only give more unemployment and slow death.

This is fully realized in Wall Street. Months before the current depression set in, J. G. Frederick, outstanding financial writer, warned: "Industry will not be able to absorb them (the unemployed)... despite valiant promises. The problem is beyond industry; it is—and will remain—a social, governmental problem."

And what is the government doing to solve the problem? What work and wages does it give the unemployed? Little, very little. Barely enough to *keep them quiet*. With fifteen million unemployed, Hopkins announced that the W.P.A. will first give three million jobs in the winter. At the most, only one out of five will get a W.P.A. job. And those who do get jobs—at what wages will they get them? In the South, the monthly wage is as low as \$20 a month. In New York City, most of the workers get \$55.78 a month. No man can support his family decently on such wages. Whether down South or up North, they mean slow starvation even for those who do get a W.P.A. job.

These conditions are intolerable. Private industry and the capitalist system of profits cannot furnish jobs. We must prepare to throw this system into the discard and replace it with a system that will give jobs and a decent life to all. We must fight for and establish socialism.

Meanwhile the unemployed need help NOW. We must demand of the government: JOBS AT TRADE UNION WAGES — OR RELIEF — FOR ALL THE UNEMPLOYED!

Those who do not get jobs must get PROMPT relief—within 72 hours. In emergency cases—within 24 hours. And the relief budget must not be the starvation budget which it is now!

The unemployed can never get relief by keeping quiet. Militant action—nationwide sit-ins, mass picket lines, and vast demonstrations that end in marches on the centers of government, now the city hall, then the state capitol, and, when necessary, on the national capitol itself—is needed.

Actions such as these will show the bosses and their government that the unemployed victims of their system mean business.

**"Aiding" the Loyalists**

England, France and the United States—the great "democracies" presented to us by the Communist Party as the friends of the Spanish people—have dug more than one dagger into the back of the Loyalist forces since the beginning of the civil war. One of the latest thrusts is the Chamberlain plan to "evacuate foreign fighters" in Spain in such a manner as is obviously to the disadvantage of the Loyalist side.

Supported by England and the French "Popular Front" government, it was at first denounced by the Stalinist press as equivalent to aiding the fascists. The same press pointed proudly to the fact that Stalin's diplomatic representative in London would have no part of such a dirty deal.

On Wednesday, June 1, the *Daily Worker* put it this way:

"The Soviet Union today again balked a British Tory plan to aid the fascist armies in Spain under the guise of 'non-intervention'."

"S. B. Cahan, Soviet Embassy Counsellor, informed the international 'Non Intervention' Committee that the Soviet Government refused to contribute to the cost of the unequal evacuation of foreign fighters in Spain."

"Moscow has held out single-handed against the other members of the chairman's Sub-Committee of Nine in opposing the entire plan as a 'deliberate attempt' to aid the fascist troops to win a rapid victory, in line with the Chamberlain-Mussolini pact of friendship."

So far, so good.

But on June 3, a mere 48 hours later, the same paper prints a new dispatch from London, after Cahan-Stalin have capitulated completely to the "Chamberlain-Mussolini pact," to the "deliberate attempt to aid the fascist troops"—and with a perfectly straight face presents this capitulation as a... Soviet-Loyalist triumph!

The British plan will be acceptable to the Soviet Government, Cahan announced, only on condition that international observers be stationed permanently in Spanish ports to control and check unloading of cargoes.

"Other points in the British draft of methods of counting foreign troops, division of their forces into four main categories, and control provisions, are acceptable to the U.S.S.R. Cahan said."

In other words, the "Chamberlain-Mussolini plan," the "deliberate attempt to aid the fascist troops to win a rapid victory," is perfectly acceptable now to Stalin if only... it is properly enforced!

And by the way, now that the Kremlin bureaucracy is committed to such an "absolute" embargo on Spain, is it not exceptionally hypocritical for the Browderites to continue shouting in New York and Washington for a lifting of the American embargo on Spain?

We are absolutely in favor of direct and ample aid by the American workers to the workers of Spain. We are just as firmly opposed to the vicious embargo of Mr. Browder's Roosevelt which prevents the Spanish workers from getting arms but facilitates the armament of Franco through Germany. And we are no less firmly opposed to the aid which Mr. Browder's Stalin now proposes to give to the "Chamberlain-Mussolini plan"—those are the *Daily Worker's words!*—for a fascist victory in Spain.

**Socialist Party and the A.L.P.**

After weeks of the most careful negotiation, from which was excluded any representative of the Socialist Party who has or once had the label of a "left winger," the executive committee of the American Labor Party has turned down the appeal for admission into its ranks made by the Thomas Party.

The rejection is interesting from the standpoint of both organizations.

The real leaders of the Socialist Party shell, Thomas and Laidler, offered their organization to the A.L.P. bureaucracy at a pretty cheap price. Playing in with the Dubinsky-Jewish Forward-Social Democratic Federation group, which would like to see the Thomasites in the A.L.P. as a counter-weight to growing Stalinist penetration, the S.P. negotiators debased themselves to the point where they offered to dissolve as a political party once they were admitted. The party which not so long ago spoke about its "masses" and "mass influence" was and is prepared to liquidate itself into a piddling little "educational society," giving lectures on Laidlerian socialism to the A.L.P., in the hope that some day it will work itself down to the level of the Fabian Society in the British Labour Party.

The A.L.P. bureaucracy, which controls the party as a board of directors, controls a closed corporation, nevertheless turned down this generous, if abject, offer. More exactly, the Hillman-Stalinist combination turned it down. The statement by executive secretary Alex Rose is a model of arrogance and bureaucratic self-contentment:

"If the S. P. wants to join the A.L.P. because of an honest change of heart, and in the feeling that our methods in political education have been more successful and because they, too, want to make their contribution toward this newly-adopted method, they are welcome. But if they want to come into our party to reform our party in the direction of 'more orthodox' methods, then we are better off apart."

In other words, the program, methods, and leadership of the A.L.P. are sacrosanct and unalterable in perpetuity, and short shrift will be given anybody who, lacking faith in A.L.P. infallibility, proposes to change ("reform") the party's course. By this statement, Mr. Rose

# Hague Will Be Ousted By Workers Offensive

By JAMES RALEIGH

Mayor Hague's control over Jersey City is so complete that most liberal observers expect liberation from his domination only after Nature or some other agency sends him to the limbo of departed souls. These onlookers consider futile any fight to remove him. What these blind souls do not see is that Hague is already grooming his nephew as his equally vicious successor. Three or four years are all that are needed for this job. In that time the numerous political deals and appointments will be delegated by Hague to the young man to follow him. A personal obligation to this new figure instead of to Hague will be felt by every political beneficiary—every judge, prosecutor, tax collector, policeman, street cleaner and W.P.A. worker, every building contractor, supply man, garbage collection company and road-builder.

Hague's nephew will inherit the throne by his own right. Then our well-meaning but do-nothing liberals will have the job of wishing for the death of the new king. The death of an individual solves no vital political problems.

**Hopeless Courses**

Any attempt to effect Hague's removal, or his successor's removal, by resort to the traditional political parties is equally hopeless. Hague, a Democrat, has insinuated himself into the Republican Party and by patronage has tamed all potential opposition from that source. The Hague-Hoffman, Democratic-Republican alliance in the last governorship term was an open scandal. In addition, the constant rivalry and dissension among the "honest" Republicans is so pronounced that this opposition is reduced to a farce.

As to a rebellion against Hague by a fusion party or by a group within his own party, this is impossible so long as Hague has control over the election apparatus. In tabulating the votes, whether Republican, Democratic or otherwise, Hague employs his own unique method of counting. Any effort to verify it in terms of our own numerical system is wasted, as witness the futile efforts of the Young Investigation of the last gubernatorial election to get the registry books in Jersey City in order to determine the actual duly qualified vote for Hague's governor, A. Harry Moore. By manipulating totals in Jersey City and in the remainder of Hudson County, really one continuous city, Hague arranges for a vote big enough to carry the whole state, normally Republican.

Why Hague and the A.F. of L. are so vigilant in "protecting" Jersey City from the "radical" C.I.O. is a question of great importance. To begin with, the rank-and-file as well as the leadership of the A.F. of L. have been in years past victimized and intimidated. Now they are completely regimented by Hague.

**Receivership Weapon**

This was accomplished chiefly through receivership suits against a number of union locals. First, the vicious patronage system was extended to the trade unions by the appointment of Hague receivers and attorneys whose large fees liquidated the unions' funds. Second, the unions were rendered

## Congress Reveals Utter Bankruptcy Of New Deal

(Continued from page 1)

"ulular" army and navy appropriations of more than a billion dollars swept through both houses of Congress and across the president's desk. With only the feeblest, most apologetic and impotent objections, the special Naval Bill triumphantly authorized another billion and a quarter. There is much here from which to learn. Indeed, this session of Congress by its own actions clearly and unmistakably symbolized the insoluble dilemma of American and of world capitalism. The bankruptcy of capitalist economy leaves normal capitalist politics likewise bankrupt. Neither Republican nor Democrat, neither Old Deal nor New Deal, has any answer to give. They

join the distinguished company of the bosses of the Catholic Church and the Communist Party.

Bureaucratism and hypocrisy are Siamese twins in politics. Hence it is not surprising to see that in justifying their adverse stand on the S.P.'s application, such members of the A.L.P. executive committee as Louis Weinstock and Michael Quill piously declared that if the S.P. members want to join the A.L.P., they must disaffiliate completely from the S.P. and dissolve the latter.

So far as anybody knows, neither Weinstock nor Quill have disaffiliated from the Communist Party of which they are members, nor have they made such a demand on the hundreds (if not thousands) of Stalinists who have been shipped into the A.L.P. in droves.

Of the two partners to the unconsummated bargain, the professional "democrats" of the A.L.P. executive proved to be as alien to democratic procedure as the Socialist Party leaders are to the principles of socialism.

# "Keeping Out of War"

(Continued from page 1)

condition that they shall not be used for armament purposes.... If these 'poor nations' (the Fascist nations—M. S.) abandon armament economics and gear the production of their industries to the consumption of their people, they can secure American raw materials. A government expressing the popular will for peace would declare that, on condition and in the measure that armaments production is reduced, the United States will take its part (while protecting American labor standards) along with other nations in lowering tariff barriers, in extending raw materials credits, in setting up agencies for economic world cooperation to relieve distress and to make an economic alternative to war possible."

If we refrain for a moment from the side-splitting laughter evoked by the mental picture of the fascist (or any other capitalist) nations "gearing the production of their industries to the consumption of their people" (this double-barreled driveline was put out by a commission whose secretary was the noted Marxian scholar, Lewis Corey....), we see stated in the smoothest possible terms the classic position of American imperialist isolationism.

**ADOPT CLASSIC POSITION OF U. S. IMPERIALISM**

It is true, of course, that American "isolationism"—like Nazi autocracy—is only a myth, a utopia, a deception; that it is the "typical American" method of preparing for imperialist expansion and aggression and for Wall St. domination of the entire world. But that only serves to emphasize the thoroughly reactionary, imperialist nature of American isolationism.

One administration after another—Roosevelt's included—has cleverly put forward the very same ideas formulated by the "Keep America Out of War Congress." They have enabled the American ruling class to pose as enemies of war, of armament races, as a "government expressing the popular will".... and at the same time enabled it to justify its own war preparations, its own armaments program, and to advance towards the imperialist conquest of the world.

**Why? How?**

...Wealthiest, most highly industrialized power in the world today, the United States since the end of the last World War has constantly sought to blackmail its imperialist rivals into reducing their armaments by holding over their heads the threat of its own economic and financial power. "If you disarm, we'll give you loans." "If you spend less money on cannon and airplanes, and pay us back the billions we loaned you during and after the war, we will help you economically." "If you disarm, we'll cut down our own armaments proportionately".

A very cunning policy of tails I win and heads you lose. For the shrewd American "isolationists" and "disarmers" are perfectly aware of the fact that if every capitalist power in the world, the U.S. included, were to disarm 100 per cent tomorrow, the United States would be in the decisively dominant position when the next war broke out. Its industrial and financial superiority would enable it to turn out more arms and munitions per minute than its rivals could produce per hour.

**COVER FOR ROOSEVELT WAR PREPARATIONS**

And when its rivals, who are just as well aware of the strata-gem, refuse to fall for it, and continue (as imperialism everywhere must) to pile up their armaments strength, the United States wins again! Then Roosevelt, like his predecessors, says with feigned resignation and sorrow: "You see, we offered them a reasonable proposition. In the words of the 'Keep America Out of War Congress,' we offered our economic resources 'on condition that they shall not be used for armament purposes.' But they turned us down. They are arming at a furious pace. We regret it terribly, but we have no alternative but to arm ourselves in turn, not, God forbid! for aggression, but only for further organize labor.

But

this

does

not

mean

that

the

workers

cannot

be

unionized.

On

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contrary,

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field

is

most

fertile

for

an

intelligent

and

energetic

campaign.

Jersey

City's

liberation

from

Hague

depends

on

understanding,

hard-working

and

honest

leaders

who

must

persistently

and

consistently

not

cheaply

and

dramatically

organize

both

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workers

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unemployed.

A

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C.I.O.