

Speed Up the Campaign for the Twice Weekly Appeal!

See Page 2 for Scoreboard

All War
Funds To the
Unemployed!

Socialist Appeal

Official Weekly Organ of the Socialist Workers Party, Section of the Fourth International

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'LET US IN OR WE PERISH!'

The Main Enemy In Latin America

AN EDITORIAL

Who is the main enemy of the peoples of the Latin American nations?

The answer to this question is not to be found in the flowery rhetoric now issuing from the rostrum at the Lima Conference, nor in the elegant broadcasts through which the Conference was built up, nor in the shameless dispatches and editorials of the *Daily Worker*.

The answer is to be discovered in the hard, cold, sober statistics of investment and trade, and in the harsh facts of the political histories of the twenty Latin American countries.

And there is not the slightest doubt about the true answer: the main enemy of the peoples of the Latin American nations is the United States Government, its Yankee Imperialism.

It is Yankee Imperialism, guided by the gloved fists of "good neighbors" Roosevelt and Hull, that occupies the dominant position in Latin American trade. United States commerce with Latin America is more than twice the amount of its nearest competitor.

In spite of the difficulties in estimation caused by the fiscal chaos of the past decade, the figures prove that the United States capital investment in Latin America now totals far above that of any other power.

In the deep, stifling mines of Peru and Mexico, on the oil fields of Venezuela and Colombia, in the jungles of Central America, on the sugar plantations of Cuba and Puerto Rico, the starved and miserable people of Latin America sweat their life-blood away for the great Wall Street corporations: for the United Fruit Company, Cerro da Pasco, Anaconda Copper, Standard Fruit, American Sugar Refining, Standard Oil of New Jersey, the Texas Company.

After suitable bribes to the puppet officials of the local governments, governments made and unmade at will by these same corporations and the U. S. State Department—aided when necessary by the Marines and the Navy—the dishonored profits find their way back into the coffers of America's Sixty Families.

Yankee Imperialism, which has only since the War moved into first place among the brigands, is not of course without rivals for so juicy a prize. The two important contenders are: British imperialism and German imperialism; the other powers, including the much talked about Italy and Japan, are altogether minor factors.

In the total of capital investment, Britain is close behind the United States, and dominates several of the nations, especially the important Argentina. In volume of trade Great Britain and Germany have been running neck and neck during the past few years, with Germany now slightly ahead—the trade of both together totalling less than that of the United States alone.

Control of the Latin American market is absolutely essential to United States economy. Deprived of this outlet, the U. S. capital economy would collapse overnight. U. S. capitalist economy can continue in operation only on the backs of the Latin American peoples.

To keep control of this market, essential to its existence. U. S. imperialism is prepared to employ any means: diplomacy, graft, the creation and destruction of local governments, armed intervention, intensive propaganda, and, finally, war against any and all imperialist rivals.

This is the real background of the Lima Conference.

All the talk about "democracy," "the American system," "peace," is so much bellywash. What Yankee Imperialism cares about Democracy and peace is shown by the record: by the ravaging of Puerto Rico, the armed robbery of Panama from Colombia, the U. S. troops scouring Mexico for Villa and the Navy bombing Vera Cruz, the bloody Cuban governments of Machado and Batista directed by the U. S. ambassador, the marines pillaging Nicaragua in their campaign to exterminate Sandino.

What the native imperialist stewards, jockeying for the highest bids among the great powers, care about democracy and peace is shown with a grim enough irony by the fact that among the entire twenty nations, there are only two that approximate a democratic government and three others with a pitiful minimum of democratic rights; the remainder are bloody terrorizing dictatorships.

Yankee Imperialism, the main enemy of the Latin American peoples, is the same enemy that faces the workers of the United States in their struggle for a decent life. The Latin American peoples are the chief allies of the workers of the United States in the common struggle. The fate of the workers here is inseparably bound up with the struggle of the Latin American peoples for freedom, against the imperialist yoke.

We must expose relentlessly, day in and day out, the monstrous hypocrisy whereby Roosevelt and Hull, with the aid of their liberal and reformist and Stalinist allies, strive through such projects as the Lima Conference to enlist the Latin American peoples as pawns of Yankee Imperialism in its world contest with its imperialist challengers.

We must join forces with the Latin American peoples on the basis of the sole progressive perspective, the sole effective program: the struggle against the world imperialist system as a whole, and above all the struggle against United States imperialism, the main and direct enemy of the masses of the two Americas.

The "Democratic Front" In Latin America



The Pan-American Conference met at Lima last week in the richly decorated Peruvian Chamber of Deputies which "had not been used since that day in 1936 when President Benavides dissolved both the Senate and the Chamber of Deputies, ending parliamentary government in Peru." (New York Herald Tribune, Dec. 10.) And it was President Benavides who welcomed the delegates at their opening session and in his speech "emphasized the tradition of 'American international democracy' and the 'moral solidarity' of the New World." Across most of Latin America—the blackened and shaded portions shown in the map above—millions are ground under heel by brutal dictatorships while in an unused parliament building their rulers meet under the hollow slogan of "international democracy"! These are the realities behind the phrases at Lima!

Jobless Occupy Relief Bureaus; Demand Food for Children

WPA SLASHED-- FDR XMAS GIFT

By BILL MORGAN

More than 55,000 working class children in New York City will celebrate Christmas week by going without their only square meals—the lunches served by WPA workers. This branch of the WPA is being discontinued.

More than 1,500 workers on the Federal Arts Project are to be fired by January first. (Merry Xmas! from F.D.R.)

In New Jersey, workers are being fired because they are "too old to work" and told to apply for old age pensions. These "old timers" point out that the pensions are about one-third the present WPA wage. Furthermore, it takes nearly eight weeks before the application is accepted for a pension and then takes another nine or ten weeks before any action is taken. In the meantime these workers may be evicted or have their credit stopped in the grocery stores.

Several such cases already exist. Even the Governor of New Jersey is upset about it and has written a frantic but futile letter to the smiling F.D.R. begging for some assistance in order that the state may escape the responsibility for these old workers.

The Buck Is Passed

In New York City that famous "friend of labor"—Mayor LaGuardia—kicks the whole question (Continued on Page 2)

NEW YORK.—Two hundred working-class families, tired of the continual delay and red tape of the Home Relief Bureaus, have taken possession of two relief offices and are determined to remain on a sitdown strike until the necessary food and clothing for their children is provided.

The children are on strike with their parents, and all attempts by the Children's Protective Society and two hundred policemen under Captain Lobdell to evict them have been repulsed. Barricades built in the Bureaus and defense squads of workers on the outside have prevented the cops from moving a single worker from the bureaus.

"We are going to remain here until Christmas unless the proper shoes and coats are provided for our children. The sight of naked children would be a shocking picture for Santa Claus, wouldn't it?" declared Otto P. Povitch, President of the Jamaica Unemployed League.

The relief officials have turned the heat in the bureaus, locked the fire exits and wash rooms, and have refused to allow food to be sent into the strikers. A picket line has been thrown around both bureaus—in Jamaica, Long Island and on West 16th Street in New York City.

The parents have decided to turn their children over to the children's aid societies while they remain on strike, so that the children will get food. It costs the city \$1.50 a week to provide home relief for a child, but it costs the Society \$6.50 per week

to keep the child in a shelter run by the city.

A recent reduction of fifty cents on the coal allowance for each unemployed family is an indication of the policy to be pursued by the LaGuardia administration. In homes dependent upon coal for heat this will mean further misery for the jobless.

The formation of workers' committees of action and the creation of workers' defense guards and the broadest agitation on the direct issue of struggle for power, for the establishment of a workers' and peasants' government—this is the path urged by the revolutionaries of the Workers' Internationalist Party (Fourth International). And along this path alone lies the hope of defeating the Fascist offensive.

Meanwhile on the international scene Hitler is taking full advantage of the internal instability of France—whom he now considers neutralized by its weakness and by his strength. The drive to the east continues. The Nazis turned in one of their 99 percent votes in Memel—now held by Lithuania—and the familiar agitation for return to the Reich is now in full swing there.

A Fascist state in France will entirely transform the situation—but so will a Soviet France, the first in terms of new imperialist slaughter, the second in terms of renewed hopes for snatching the masses of Europe from the maw of the Fascist barbarians.

That is the political axis that concerns us all the most clearly and the most urgently.

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Speed Up the Twice-Weekly Appeal Drive

Fifty more days to go!

Let's swing into action! Let's wipe out the zeros! Don't hoard your collections. Send them in regularly so they reach us by Monday of each week for inclusion in the current Score Board.

FRIENDS, SYMPATHIZERS, READERS of the Socialist Appeal are not excluded from this campaign. A prize of an autographed copy of C.L.R. James' book "The Black Jacobins" will be given to the highest contributor. And to the branch making the best showing by January 15, considering locality, membership, etc., a beautiful red banner of the Fourth International measuring about four by six feet.

Keep an eye on the St. Paul branch, if you have your eye on the banner, because Jules Geller writes: "We are sending in the enclosed \$10 as our first leg in our Twice-a-week Appeal Fund quota. What is the exact size of the Red Banner being given as a

prize? We want to make room for it in our headquarters." The branches are falling into step as some of the following excerpts from letters testify.

From the deep South (for obvious reasons, the city cannot be mentioned) the secretary-organizer writes: "You will be glad to know that our unit has voted to expand special efforts to raise the assigned quota before January 1. You may yet have to send a red banner to the branch south of the Mason & Dixon line, though we realize that we don't and can't expect to rate with Minneapolis, California or New York City, but we will do our very best."

The quiet-working, result-getting Chester K. Johnson of Minneapolis, writes: "We want to see the barometer shoot up to the top as quickly as possible. . . . The Minneapolis Branch together with the St. Paul comrades is going ahead with arrangements for a big New Year's Jamboree, the proceeds of which are earmarked for the Appeal. We are confident that we will be able to meet our quota within the sixty-day period and perhaps exceed it." (That is encouraging news indeed, because if you know Chester, you know he makes no empty promises.)

Kansas: Comrade Whiteside writes: "Even lone dollars don't show up often around this wigwam, so I'm sending along the enclosed while I've got it. Kansas will go 'over the top' on its quota before the deadline, or we'll bust something trying." (And comrade Smith, also of Kansas, backs up this promise.)

Punta Gorda, Fla., Comrade S.: "I received the Appeal Campaign Bulletin. I am heartily agreed and enthusiastic about the twice-a-week. I accept my quota but regret that I cannot send it all in immediately. I have been unemployed and sick for several months. However, \$2 for first payment is enclosed."

Ruth Querio of Allentown, Pa.: "Now in our quota for the twice-a-week Appeal. Johnny Brucker is in charge of affairs, and a better guy couldn't be found anywhere. He has made up 12 sheets of paper representing the 12 hours of the clock, each sheet containing the 60 minutes. These minutes are being sold at so much per. When the minutes are all sold, a clock will be wound and sealed in a box. Then an affair of some kind will be given when the clock stops. The box will be opened at this affair, and the person who has the minute nearest the second the clock stopped at, wins a table lamp."

SCORE BOARD

The total this week is \$463.20. Speed up, comrades. We have only a short time to go.

Send money in WEEKLY. Wipe out the zeros. Shoot up the barometer.

What's the matter with Newark, Philadelphia, St. Louis, Ohio and other points East? And California—don't keep us waiting much longer.

	Quota	Paid	Percent
Toledo, Ohio	\$ 20.00	\$ 20.00	100
Marston Mills, Mass.	5.00	5.00	100
Punta Gorda, Fla.	5.00	2.00	40
Durham, N. H.	5.00	2.00	40
Boston	200.00	62.75	31
New York City	1,050.00	300.45	29
Astoria	\$ 5.00		
Williamsburg	30.00		
Bronx	33.00		
Downtown	36.00		
Lower East Side	36.50		
Needle Trades	33.00		
Upper West Side	13.25		
Balance through Dis- trict office			
Lynn, Mass.	50.00	14.00	28
Yellow Springs, Ohio	5.00	1.00	20
Fargo, N. D.	25.00	3.00	12
Kansas	10.00	1.00	10
St. Paul, Minn.	100.00	10.00	10
South Bend, Ind.	10.00	1.00	10
Chicago	250.00	20.00	8
Minneapolis	500.00	15.00	3
Cleveland	200.00	0	0
Los Angeles	200.00	0	0
Newark District	100.00	0	0
Akron, Ohio	75.00	0	0
St. Louis, Mo.	75.00	0	0
Philadelphia	50.00	0	0
San Francisco	50.00	0	0
Youngstown, Ohio	50.00	0	0
Allentown, Pa.	25.00	0	0
Austin, Minn.	25.00	0	0
Detroit	25.00	0	0
Rochester, N. Y.	25.00	0	0
New Haven	20.00	0	0
Washington, D. C.	20.00	0	0
Oakland, Cal.	15.00	0	0
Quakertown, Pa.	15.00	0	0
San Diego, Cal.	15.00	0	0
Baltimore, Md.	10.00	0	0
Denver, Colo.	10.00	0	0
East Chicago, Ind.	10.00	0	0
Gardner, Mass.	10.00	0	0
Indianapolis, Ind.	10.00	0	0
Joplin, Mo.	10.00	0	0
Kansas City, Mo.	10.00	0	0
Lexington, Ky.	10.00	0	0
Louisville, Ky.	10.00	0	0
Olivia, Minn.	10.00	0	0
Plentywood, Mont.	10.00	0	0
Reading, Pa.	10.00	0	0
Sacramento, Cal.	10.00	0	0
Seattle, Wash.	10.00	0	0
Worcester, Mass.	10.00	0	0
Evansville, Ind.	5.00	0	0
Fitchburg, Mass.	5.00	0	0
Flaxton, N. D.	5.00	0	0
Fresno, Cal.	5.00	0	0
Hartford, Conn.	5.00	0	0
Portland, Ore.	5.00	0	0
Thermopolis, Wyo.	5.00	0	0
Windsor, Conn.	5.00	0	0

BANKERS TURN OMAHA INTO A HARLAN COUNTY

(Continued from page 1)

brought in by the bosses.

The "great liberal," Senator George W. Norris of Nebraska, has viewed this regime in his own backyard, and no attempt to get him to speak out has pried his big mouth open.

Fortunately for the strikers, they are backed by the full power of the Teamsters International and the militant truckdrivers' movement of the Northwest.

A five-man committee, with Farrell Dobbs of Minneapolis as its secretary, represents the Teamsters International on the spot, with extraordinary powers. The same committee is cleaning up remaining spots in the area where negotiations have not yet been concluded, and the Nebraska bosses are ever more isolated in their desperate fight.

Teamsters' strategists are confident of the victorious conclusion of the Omaha strike and are already thinking of the task of expanding the 11-state agreement into a national uniform agreement for all highway drivers.

N.Y. CHECKERS WIN STRIKE

NEW YORK, N. Y.—The strong solidarity of the truck drivers, who walked out in sympathy with 1,500 platform men and checkers employed at the terminals and caused a virtual stoppage of all trucking to and from the city this week, resulted in a union victory.

The strike was called last Thursday by the Motor Bus and Terminal Checkers, Platform and Office Workers, Local 21510, A.F. of L after union officials had repeatedly failed to reach an agreement with the bosses Highway Transport Association.

With shipping completely tied up, the bosses were forced to sign a contract providing a \$5.50 daily minimum instead of the \$4.40 a day rate they had previously received. The agreement also provided that the pay rate was to again increase to \$6.50 a day minimum after 10 and one-half months.

Although no strike of truck drivers was called, members of locals 807 and 816 of the Teamsters Union refused to cross picket lines into the terminals, thus demonstrating their sympathy with the strikers.

Major La Guardia, in his attempt to break the solidarity of the drivers with the striking terminal men, read the "riot act" to the truckmen with the hope that he could frighten them back to work.

"There is no truck strike and there should be none," the Mayor said. "The trucks are not involved."

But the truck drivers held firm, and the trucks were involved enough to assure the union victory.

500 Protest WPA Cuts in St. Paul

ST. PAUL, Minn., Dec. 10—500 W.P.A. and relief workers protested Roosevelt's W.P.A. lay-offs and demanded that every worker be given a job at decent wages, at a mass meeting held here at the State Capitol, under the sponsorship of the Workers Benefit Association.

Not content with a mere protest against W.P.A. lay-offs, the workers passed a resolution in support of the Mahoney Bill which has as its aim the setting up of state owned industries and the putting to work of all able-bodied workers in every kind of necessary industry.

Voicing their condemnation of Roosevelt's huge armaments campaign, the mass meeting of Workers Benefit Association members and interested trade unionists demanded that war funds be turned over to the unemployed so that every man, woman and child can be guaranteed a living.

The meeting also passed a resolution demanding the raising of relief standards all along the line.

Speakers at the meeting included William Mahoney, originator of the State Industries Bill, Oscar Votaw, of the Machinists Union, A.F.L., Charlotte Ross, Educational Director of the Workers Benefit Association, and Oscar Kohler, Youth Secretary of the Federal Workers Section 544.

The Workers Benefit Association, closely allied to the St. Paul trade union movement, was formed originally over a year ago by progressive workers who were forced out of the Stalinist controlled Workers Alliance. It has been growing rapidly in recent months.

To All Readers of Socialist Appeal!

Before long, the SOCIALIST APPEAL will appear as a twice-weekly paper. The editors of the paper hope that this change will increase the effectiveness of the paper not only in frequency of appearance but in new stream-lined agitation and propaganda. We have dozens of plans to accomplish this end—popular features, columns, timely labor reporting, etc., etc.—which will be put into effect as soon as the twice-weekly gets under way. We are positive that the readers of the APPEAL, through their activities in the unions and the class struggle, can give us innumerable valuable suggestions and criticisms. But these ideas are no good if you keep them to yourself or just tell them to your friends. They ought to be in the hands of the APPEAL editors—and before the twice-weekly begins. We urge you to send any suggestions and criticisms (as stiff as you like) to the APPEAL office.

WPA SLASHED-- FDR XMAS GIFT FOR JOBLESS

(Continued from page 1)

tion of layoffs and relief reductions into the lap of another "friend of the people"—Governor Lehman, who, in turn, kicks it right back to his pal the Mayor.

The city officials are all very sorry about the poor unemployed. The state officials are also very, very upset about the unemployed. The liberal newspapers howl with pain. Even the Stalinists are touched. But not one of these fakers dares point to the source of the order to cut relief rolls and fire WPA workers.

No Time to Criticize!

President ("I hate war") Roosevelt must not be bothered with the problem of 15,000 unemployed workers while he is spending \$420,000,000 on battleships! The "good-neighbor" policy in South America depends upon an increased army and more battleships!

Who dares criticize at a time like this?

The Democrats? But Roosevelt is a Democrat.

The Republicans? They have always been in favor of doing away with WPA and relief and they have always been for a big navy.

The Communist Party? They are yelling louder than all the others for a big army and navy. They sabotage the fight against the layoffs. They refuse to do more than write a post card, as usual, to some stooge Congressmen. (Many workers are getting writers' cramp as a result of these never-ending post-card campaigns, but little else.)

Fingerprinting New Scheme

In order to further the firings and reductions of relief, the WPA officials have brought forward a new idea—fingerprinting all the unemployed and WPA workers!

This latest order, the C.I.O. News of December 12 points out, is extremely dangerous. Fingerprinting workers means a blacklist of all militant union members. The trade unions and all unemployed organizations should immediately take up the fight against this new Roosevelt policy.

The C.I.O. has begun a campaign to prevent layoffs and stop discrimination against union men by WPA officials. In New York City the Unemployed and Project Workers Union is fighting tooth and nail to increase the allowances for coal, clothing and food for the unemployed and to prevent layoffs of WPA workers.

Interest in Mahoney Bill Spreads

ST. PAUL, Minn.—The Trades and Labor assembly here, after several preliminary discussions on several preliminary discussions on the Mahoney States' Industries Bill, has approved a plan to conduct a series of open discussions on the bill, in order to have a thorough educational campaign around the bill's main points, and to acquaint the entire labor movement with its objectives.

The Trades and Labor committee, in charge of the arrangements for the discussion, has announced that the first open meeting will be held December 17, and twice monthly meetings will be held thereafter, for a period of several weeks.

Labor leaders and others will be invited to speak on the bill, and all who attend the meetings will be given an opportunity to state their opinion. Full publicity is being given the educational campaign by the Trades and Labor Assembly.

The workers in these cafeterias—where no minimum wages were established—had virtually no contact with the union because of a deliberate policy on the part of the administration to prevent the holding of membership meetings. Thus while the opposition was prevented from bringing administration mismanagement before these workers, the officials called "private" meetings to instruct these workers in fighting—not the bosses—but the Progressives.

Another factor in the victory of the Stalinists was their ability to wield economic pressure against the workers. This included framing workers out of their jobs, usually with the assistance of the Bosses' Association, in clique control over the Labor Chief's office and discriminatory distribution of work to the union's unemployed members.

A minor victory was scored by the Progressives in the exclusion of Harry Lieben, Stalinist thug and Business Agent, from the "rank and file" (administration slate). Lieben's exploits in framing and slugging workers in his territory have been mentioned in previous issues of the Appeal.

ASK FOR THE APPEAL
AT YOUR NEWSSTAND

APPEAL ARMY

HANDLING THE SEMI-WEEKLY APPEAL:

We print below the excellent article by Ruth Querio of Allentown describing how she and the other comrades of her branch intend to solve the distribution problems raised by the twice-weekly Appeal.

The most important thing to be noticed is that Ruth intends to see to it that the members of her branch—one and all alike—shall become more active than ever before in distributing the voice of revolutionary socialism. Likewise, Ruth has hit the nail right on the head when she emphasizes the necessity of regularity. Concentration upon a good spot; regular appearance at that spot—that's the secret for successful selling of the Appeal.

We urge all literature agents, members of literature committees, etc., to carefully read and put into practice the wisdom of Ruth's article. In the near future we will print articles by Abe Miller of New York and Karl Shier of Chicago. Meanwhile, comments and brief articles along similar lines are welcomed by the Appeal staff.

CONCENTRATE ON SUBSCRIPTIONS:

We are happy to report that our subscription drive (both national and local) has been showing splendid results. A report has just been drawn up for last month (November) showing that more subs—both new and renewals—were obtained during that month than at any other time since the Appeal began

Refugee Campaign—Tasks for All

1. Circulate for signatures the petitions, calling on Congress to open the doors of America to the refugees. Any number of petitions can be obtained upon request from the American Fund for Political Prisoners and Refugees, 100 Fifth Avenue, New York City.

2. Provide aid for the refugees by selling American Fund stamps. Every dollar counts! Arrange affairs, house-parties, etc., for the benefit of the refugees.

3. Introduce into your trade union, fraternal organization, club, etc., the model resolution (published in the December 3rd APPEAL) calling on Congress to open the doors. Send news of any action to the SOCIALIST APPEAL.

4. Arrange meetings on the subject of how to help the refugees and fight anti-Semitism. Expose Stalinist sabotage of the refugee campaign.

300,000 Refugees Seek Entry Here; Storm Consulates

(Continued from page 1)

ers Union Local 544 of Minneapolis, the Teachers Union of New York, Local 10 of the International Ladies Garment Workers, the Harris County (Houston), Texas, C.I.O. Council, the Headquarters Branch of the West Coast Marine Firemen, the Lehigh County Unemployed League, and the Essex County Workers Alliance.

Dewey, La Follette Join

In addition to action by unions, fraternal and other organizations, a nationwide campaign has been launched for securing signatures to a petition directed to Congress.

As militant labor and other proponents of aiding the refugees prepare for the fight to secure Congressional action, the various capitalist groups prepare to keep the refugees in Hitler's prison-house.

Reactionary Legion Stand

Using the Dies Committee as a sounding-board, Stephen F. Chadwick, National Commander of the Legion, declared to that House committee:

“Much as we, as Americans, sympathize with persecuted minorities in other nations, it is the considered thought of the American Legion that proposals to make this country an asylum for any or all political and religious refugees throughout the world are inimical to the welfare of the United States.”

The American Legion, which adopted a vicious anti-labor program at its last convention, is being raised by sale of 10, 25 and 50 cent stamps issued by the American Fund in a Christmas Campaign.

Mass Meetings Scheduled

Plans for mass meetings on the refugee issue from coast to coast are getting under way. First reports included:

Chicago: Two outdoor mass meetings, attended by several hundred, on the University of Chicago campus.

New Haven: A mass meeting at Fraternal Hall in New Haven on Monday night, under the auspices of the local branch of the American Fund, with Dwight MacDonald, editor of Partisan Review, Frank Trainor, C.I.O. steel organizer, and Jacob Bellford, New Haven attorney, as speakers.

Toledo: C.I.O. Industrial Union Council, composed of 35 unions, call on Roosevelt and the State Department to lift all restrictions and quota limitations to enable refugees to come in. The resolution was introduced by the delegates from Local 29, United Office, and Professional Workers of America, which had previously adopted it.

Boston: A membership meeting of the C.I.O. United Office and Professional Workers Union this week unanimously passed a resolution for abrogation of all restrictions on refugee immigration, after Stalinist attempt to table the motion was defeated.

Plentywood, Montana: Federal Labor Union No. 21760 directed a resolution to Montana congressmen, declaring the “steps so far taken by political representatives are nothing more than pious protestations,” and “that we demand of our representatives in Congress that they remove all immigration restrictions and open the doors of this country to the victims of Hitler’s atrocities.”

Cleveland: A mass meeting on December 9th at the Workmen’s Center, auspices of Local Cleveland of the Socialist Workers Party, around the slogan: “Enough Pious Tears! Admit the Refugees!”

Bronx, N. Y.: Parents Association of Public School 25, meeting last week, telegraphed Roosevelt, calling “upon the President and Congress of the United States to restore the right of asylum and to permit the entry of the persecuted and oppressed into this country by the immediate lifting of all restrictions and quota limitations.”

Hitler Demands Ransom

This preliminary trickle of activity must grow into a torrent if the refugees are to be saved. On Tuesday afternoon, the capitalist press gave eight column banners to a story, “Hitler Modifies Drive Against Jews,” but upon examination it merely turns out to be a further move by Hitler to force American Jews to pay ransom for German Jewry. So long as the doors of America remain shut to the refugees, little can be done

How Shall We Fight Anti-Semitism -- By Felix Morrow

BLIND ALLEYS FOR THE JEWISH PEOPLE

II

THE END OF THE ASSIMILATIONIST ROAD

The meaning of assimilation, of identification with the bourgeois state, is clear. If bourgeois German Jewry were not bestially persecuted by Hitler, it would have to join him, however reluctantly and squeamishly, in his bestial persecution of the German labor movement. Until yesterday anti-Semitism was not part of the fascist apparatus of Italy; and until yesterday Jewish diplomats, generals, financiers and industrialists, were members of the Fascist party of Italy; a Jewish general led one of Mussolini’s armies against Loyalist Spain! In British South Africa, Jews are part of the white community which exploits the black natives and in innumerable humiliating ways maintains a system of racial superiority. As a matter of fact, one need go no further than the American South to see the same phenomenon of Jews Jim-crowed Negroes.

Quite apart from anti-Semitism, therefore, the Jew must take his place: either with the persecutors or join with the persecuted in the struggle for liberation. There is no third category in modern capitalist society, whether fascist or democratic! Such is the structure of rotting capitalist society.

THE ROAD OF ZIONISM

Theodore Herzl, founder of Zionism, typifies the leadership of that movement: disappointed assimilationists seeking their own (bourgeois) nation at a time when the productive forces of the world are strangling within the confining national boundaries.

But we, as revolutionary socialists, stand for the unconditional freedom of every people. If only a small segment of Jewry, if only a million Jews, desired a Jewish Homeland, they would have the right to establish it. But under what conditions and by what methods can a Jewish Homeland be established? We declare categorically that it is only possible in a Socialist world.

For the Jews are not only dispersed and have no national state; the same is, in essence, true of the Irish, for every Irish nationalist knows that the government of “Eire” is a puppet of British imperialism. But the inhabitants of Ireland are Irish, while the inhabitants of Palestine are predominantly Arabs.

Under what conditions, then, can one envisage a Jewish Palestine? Obviously only two: (1) By agreement with the Arabs, who inhabit not only Palestine but the Near East; or (2) by driving the Arabs out of Palestine with fire and sword. There is no third real alternative. An ostensible third alternative, the proposal that Jews enter Palestine in such numbers that they will constitute the majority in the country, is merely a variation of either (1) or (2) for it means Jewish domination of Palestine.

The actual course followed by the Zionists has been a futile attempt to avoid these plain alternatives. The leaders of the Histadruth (Federation of Trade Unions) understood quite well in the early post-war years that to reach an agreement with the Arabs meant to unite the Arab peasants and workers with the Jewish agricultural and industrial workers against their oppressors, the Jewish and Arab bourgeoisie and landlords and the British overlords, the “mandate power.” But the Jewish Agency and the Jewish National Fund were dominated by the Jewish capitalists, especially the American-Jewish capitalists—incidentally, dominated by the non-Zionist Jewish capitalists and financiers, who looked upon Palestine as merely one form of Jewish charity. The Histadruth adopted regulations providing for Arab-Jewish labor unions; but it remained a platonic gesture, for the Zionist leadership feared to antagonize those who held the purse strings. They

feared, too, a collision with the mandate power, Great Britain, which of course would have understood that Arab-Jewish labor unions would be a revolutionary force endangering imperialist hegemony in the Near East. They took the road of opportunism: class-collaboration with their own capitalists and with Britain.

While the Irish nationalists denounce collaboration with Britain as treason to Irish freedom, Ben-Gurion, head of the Histadruth, denounces opposition to collaboration with Britain as treason to Zionism. The result? Britain has been enabled to pit Jew and Arab against each other. The British have been helped in this by Zionists of every hue, including the “Socialists.” It is enough to recall the shameful slogan, “Conquer Jewish Work,” i.e., get the jobs for the Jews, which has thrown the Arab workers and peasants into the arms of their bourgeois-feudal leaders who, for their own reasons, are irreconcilably opposed to Jewish expansion in Palestine. The Jewish Fascists, Jabotinsky’s Revisionists, are at least realistic when they draw the conclusion that the way to establish a Jewish state is to demonstrate their usefulness and indispensability to British imperialism and thereby secure a free hand to drive the Arabs out by armed force. Without British bayonets, the Jews today would be driven out of Palestine by the Arabs. Jewish colonization in Palestine continues only thanks to British imperialism.

THE PRICE WE PAY FOR ZIONISM

This is understood, and resented, by the other nations oppressed by British might. When Mahatma Ghandi, after solidarizing himself with the Jewish victims of Nazi persecution, goes on to speak bitterly of the Jews being imposed on the Arabs, he is undoubtedly expressing the feelings of the Hindu people. Leaders of the black peoples oppressed by Britain have expressed themselves similarly. When these people, the natural allies of the Jews—and who moreover understand their common cause with the Jews—speak out against Zionism in Palestine, every Jew should take heed.

And to what end do the Zionists thus endanger the friendship of the colonial peoples of Asia and Africa for the Jews? Is it not clear that no matter how servile the Zionist movement will be to Britain it will not receive in return the right of unrestricted immigration into Palestine? That is excluded in advance. British imperialism weighs in the balance: 400,000 Jews in Palestine, backed by some part of the 16 million Jews of the world—against 50 million Arab-speaking Moslems backed by the whole Moslem world! Lest the Arabs seek freedom from Britain, the British ruling class diverts them from that path by preoccupying the Arabs with the Jewish problem. The Jew thus serves Britain as scapegoat in the Near East, as he serves Hitler and Mussolini and the Polish and Rumanian gangster-rulers as scapegoat in Europe. But in return for the collaboration of the most powerful Arab landlords and capitalists, Britain keeps a sharp rein on the influx of Jews into Palestine and never, under British imperialism, will the Jews be freed from that rein. In return for this mess of pottage, shall world Jewry lose the friendship and potential alliance with the peoples of Asia and Africa, the colonial peoples everywhere, the oppressed of the earth? No, it is too high a price to pay when the only result is perpetual civil-war in Palestine in which a small segment of Jewry faces the Arab masses.

In any event, it is abundantly clear, the salvation of most of the sixteen million Jews of the world cannot be sought in Palestine. Not even the Zionists contend that Palestine under the British Empire can absorb more than a small part of Jewry. We must look elsewhere than in Zionism for the solution.

Yezhov Following Yagoda To G.P.U. Resting Place

Nikolai I. Yezhov, the blood-stained head of Stalin’s G.P.U., has been liquidated by his boss.

More exactly, the first big step in his liquidation has been taken. He has been removed from his post at the head of the Secret Police and allowed for the time being to retain the minor position of Commissar of Water Transport.

In accordance with the system developed in the endless series of Stalinist purges, the removal is equivalent to pronouncing the death sentence upon Yezhov—the same death sentence which he himself pronounced against thousands of Stalin’s real and alleged, actual and potential adversaries.

Whereas, wherever decency, democratic practices and humanitarian feelings still remain alive in the world, civilized peoples cry out against these abominations and call for all possible aid and asylum for these hounded and starving refugees of Fascism;

Whereas, the United States of America has ever been the traditional place of haven for the oppressed and tyrannized of the earth and numbers among its population over a majority of citizens whose forbears came to this country since the Civil War;

Whereas, this is the wealthiest nation on earth, whose boast is that we are the true preservers of democracy and humanitarian ideals;

Therefore be it resolved, that the Toledo Industrial Union Council goes on record calling upon the President of the United States of America and the State Department to immediately offer asylum in the United States by lifting of all restrictions and quota limitations to the refugee victims of Fascism and to use all possible influence upon the British, Russian and French Governments to open up their vast territories as haven for these oppressed peoples, and to initiate a public drive to raise funds to aid the homeless and starving Fascist victims.

BROOKLYN, N. Y.—29 workers of the Wess Mfg. Corp. a dress factory here, signed a petition calling upon the federal government to open the doors of the United States to refugee victims of Nazi terror.

It is a dead certainty that the purge. He is too dangerous a man to have around. That is

why he must be disposed of. In Yagoda’s Footsteps

He is doomed just as surely as was his predecessor, Henry Yagoda. Yagoda’s removal from the post of G.P.U. chief was also surrounded, at first, with an air of importance. Then, all of a sudden, it was learned that the man who had framed-up and sent to their deaths hundreds of revolutionaries and other victims of the Stalinist purge, was himself an “enemy of the people,” an embezzler, a swinish liver, and a poisoner.

Out of a clear blue sky the Daily Worker announces casually that “Trotskyist spies attempted to poison” Yezhov. Who? When? How? Where? We hear of it for the first time. But do not worry. This will not prevent the Daily Worker and all the other Stalinist rags from writing, a few weeks or months from now, that the real criminal was Yezhov himself, and that he tried to cover up his counter-revolutionary Trotskyist activities by spreading the false report about an attempt to poison him, whereas the truth of the matter was that it was he who had attempted to poison . . . Stalin!

Why He Must Go

Yezhov is doomed, like Yagoda before him, because Stalin is compelled to operate on the traditional pirate axiom: Dead men tell no tales. Yagoda knew too much about the hideous frame-ups and purges, about the extorted fraudulent confessions; and he had to be done away with. Yezhov knows even more than Yagoda knew. It was during his incumbency in the G.P.U. that the terrible purges spread to the entire Soviet Union.

Almost every important Commissar in the government of Russia, the Ukraine, White Russia, Siberia, Georgia, and Transcaucasia, etc., etc., was removed, imprisoned or “legally” assassinated upon his orders. Literally thousands of Red Army and Navy officers were wiped out under his regime. He knows too well the whys and wherefores of the purge. He is too dangerous a

man to have around. That is

CANNON, JAMES SPEAK ON FRANCE

NEW YORK—Before a capacity audience in Irving Plaza last Friday night, C. L. R. James, noted British writer, and James P. Cannon, Nat’l Secretary of the Socialist Workers Party, spoke on the recent events in France and gave a brilliant analysis of the political conflicts underlying them.

Cannon outlined the ebb and flow of the struggle between the militant workers of France and the Fascist reaction since the days of the street fighting of February, 1934. Clearly, unanswerably he showed that at all times the militancy of the workers has been ready to break out into open conflict against the bosses. It has been held in check only through the traitorous policies of the Popular Front, through the class-collaboration methods of the trade-union leadership and the open social-patriotic line of the French Communist Party.

He pointed out that the last general strike was forced on the “leaders” by the rank and file just as had been the magnificent sit-down strikes of June, 1936 and the Clichy demonstration of 2,000,000 workers that same summer.

This time, only even more strongly than before, the action was resisted by the trade-union leadership and sabotaged by the Communist Party, which was as anxious as Daladier not to “endanger the defense of France” by a slowing down of production in the factories.

Solidarity for France

“It is the privilege and the duty of every class-conscious worker, of every anti-fascist to give all possible support to the fighting French workers,” Cannon declared following James. “The battle against Fascism is taking place today in France. In America, as everywhere else, the fate of the working class is bound up inseparably with the course of the struggle now being begun in France. We must rally to the side of our valiant comrades abroad around the slogan ‘Workers’ Committees of Action in Every Factory, Town and Industry—On to the Workers’ and Peasants’ Government.’ A workers’ victory in France is the best safeguard against Fascism in America!”

Word has just been received from the State Department in Washington that Russell Negrete Blackwell, American anti-fascist militant, jailed in Loyalist Spain, will be brought to trial soon.

Previous reports from the American Charge d’Affaires in Spain have indicated that the Minister of State was disposed to favor the immediate release of Blackwell without trial. According to the State Department, it now appears that such action has met with the opposition of the judicial authorities.

The State Department’s communication asserts that Minister of Justice Pena informed them that when the sentence is known, consideration will be given to the possibility of releasing Blackwell in care of the American consular representatives. This statement appears to assume a conviction before trial.

The exact charges on which he

will be brought to trial are not yet known. The State Depart-

Why Does Stalin Keep Jews Out of Soviet Union?

“Stalin On Anti-Semitism.” Such is the title over the editorial column in the Daily Worker of December 12. At last Stalin speaks out—but it turns out that, instead of a statement by Stalin on the present onslaught against German Jewry, there is palmed off on us a statement by Stalin made on January 12, 1931!

It would be screamingly ludicrous, if it were not so unutterably tragic, that the leader of the Soviet Union has to be quoted on this burning question by reference to a statement nearly eight years old. Why does Stalin not provide his world-wide press with a statement made directly with reference to the present situation? Why not a word about today’s persecution of Jewry in Germany, and particularly why no word offering asylum to the refugees?

Stalin remains silent as the tomb. To cover up his silence, V. J. Jerome and Harry Gannes have sought to provide alibis in the Daily Worker. Jerome’s lame explanations have already been dealt with in the Socialist Appeal of December 3. Gannes’ apology deserves separate comment.

Gannes’ Version
In his column in the Daily Worker of November 18th, Gannes offered a series of explanations that are in reality effective accusations against the Soviet bureaucracy. According to Gannes, the fault for the failure of the Soviet Union to speak out lies primarily with the British Tories. Why and how? Because they were responsible for not inviting the Soviet Union to the Evian conference last summer and will prevent an invitation to future conferences dealing with the problem of the refugees, thus barring the U.S.S.R. from making its enormous contribution to the consideration of the refugee question.

And What Then?
Exactly how, however, the mere inclusion of the Soviet Union in any conference would be able to solve the problem is not made clear by the apologist for the Soviet bureaucrats. Can it be that Stalin has a plan which he is ready to spring at a conference? Why wait for an invitation to a conference? The world press will certainly print any plan offered by Stalin through Litvinov. And if that plan includes an offer of the Soviet Union to assume responsibility for a proportionate share of the refugees, why is it necessary to have it presented only at a conference? Will Gannes rise to explain?

How simple it would be to show up the hypocrisy of the capitalist world by presenting a feasible plan and actually offering to assume responsibility for carrying it out!

Alibi Ike
Valiantly Gannes proceeds to explain why the Soviet Union is unable to act alone and why it must therefore wait for an invitation to a conference. Reason number one: To have the Soviet Union “isolatedly attempt to grant asylum to the Jewish victims of Nazi barbarism” would be to prove Hitler’s contention that the Jewish people are Communists. To save the Jews from such a horrible accusation the Soviet leaders are willing to let them suffer the tortures of hell in Nazi Germany. Incidentally, that reason could also apply to the capitalist democracies since in the eyes of Hitler these also are controlled by Jews.

Since when must leaders of the working class fail to do that which is correct and necessary because the enemy will make accusations? Or must the Jews be saved from becoming Communists in order to prove that Hitler is a liar?

Gannes continues. The Soviet Union is not in a position by itself “successfully to undertake so gigantic a problem as that of the

Blackwell Coming To Trial, State Dep’t Is Informed
Word has just been received from the State Department in Washington that Russell Negrete Blackwell, American anti-fascist militant, jailed in Loyalist Spain, will be brought to trial soon.

They were informed by the Military Investigation Service in Spain that Blackwell was formerly secretary to Leon Trotsky and an American spy. The Stalinist press has, at various times, accused him of being a Franco, German, and Italian espionage agent.

The fact that Blackwell’s name was mentioned in the recent trial of P.O.U.M. leaders which resulted in convictions of eleven and fifteen years indicates the seriousness of his case. The Russell Negrete Blackwell Defense Committee, which has been working to secure his release, is planning a series of actions to guarantee him a fair trial and mobilize working class support in his behalf.

His preliminary trial in Spain had been previously informed that Blackwell was being held as “a dangerous revolutionary.” However, the C.N.T. (Spanish anarchist union federation),

