

**Smash
Fascist
Gangs!**

ORGANIZE WORKERS
DEFENSE GUARDS!

THE CHALLENGE OF YOUTH

**Jobs,
Not
Guns!**

NOT ONE CENT TO DEFEND
WALL STREET PROFITS!

Vol. III, No. 13—OCTOBER 1, 1939

Twice-Monthly Organ of the Young Peoples Socialist League (Fourth International)

Price 2 cents

DON'T LET ROOSEVELT DRAG THE PEOPLE INTO THE NEW BOSS WAR!

The Youth Go First

CANNON FODDER WANTED . . . CANNON FODDER WANTED . . . CANNON FODDER WANTED . . . millions of boys sent to the battlefields . . . MAKE DE WOULD SAFE FOR DEMOCRACY, BUDDY . . . STOCKS JUMP 5 POINTS . . . Pick 'em young boys, Pick 'em young when they're still strong and healthy . . . The 2nd World War has started . . . AND THE YOUNG GO FIRST. . .

The First Casualty

Dispatches from the Ministry of Information of the English Government report the fact that the first casualty reported officially by the government is a member of the Royal Air Force, only 17 years of age. His death merited a tiny news item in the boss press, which on the same day, gave columns of space to a speech by Prime Minister Chamberlain in which he declared that England was fighting the war to preserve civilization.

It is a war for civilization say the scribblers who apologize for the bosses, it is war for Democracy, Truth, Justice, Nobility, Dignity . . . and it is a war for profits of the bosses, a war for death and destruction, a war of misery and starvation for the masses of the workers and students . . . and the youth? THE YOUNG GO FIRST. . .

A Voice of Hope

Writing in the "Letters to the Editor" Column of the New York Evening Post, a correspondent who signs himself, "Determined Youth," says that he is sick and tired of all the propaganda being spread in favor of America's entry into the war and says that he doesn't give two shakes of a lamb's tale which gang of cutthroats rules Europe. We American Youth refuse to die on European battlefields for profits, he says. Attaboy! we say. What about joining up with the YPSL and really fighting against war.

FAT AND SLEEK, they sit, clipping their coupons while the people are massacred on the battlefields. . . . They, the 60 Families, the Capitalist Class, the Bourgeoisie, the Profiteers, Wall Street, the Financial Oligarchy—whatever you want to call them—they who rule our destiny, THEY make the war. . . .

How Kind Of Him

Thomas J. Watson, president of International Business Machines Corporation, has just returned from Europe and declared that business would be helped considerably. However, he declared war means "the destruction of another generation of American youth." He declared that he had just constituted an international committee of prominent financiers for the sake of preserving economic peace. HAW HAW, HAW HAW, HAW HAW!

He's got such a slick smile, President Roosevelt, hasn't he? . . . one would never think that HE wants war . . . except for the fact that he prepares for it! . . . But it's all in the name of democracy and liberty. . . . DON'T YOU REMEMBER WILSON? . . . He said he'd keep us out of war. . . . BUT THE YOUNG WENT FIRST. . . .

Getting Ready, Boys

The Roosevelt administration has just announced that the Civilian Aeronautic Authority will train 11,000 student fliers this year in the colleges for the purpose of preparing them for military duty. They will receive 35 to 50 hours of air duty.

Oh, I didn't raise my boy to be a soldier, sang your mother and the mother of Johnny Jones who went to war last time. . . . But you can't be a slacker. . . . If you're a slacker, you're a rat and not a patriot, say the Chamber of Commerce boys. . . . Over there, Over there, you gotta get ready. . . . But I didn't raise my boy to be a soldier. . . .

The Plans Are All Set

The government of the United States has announced that plans for the drafting of American youth in case of war are ready. Plans indicate that: the first draft will consist of able bodied men from the age of 21 to 30; the second draft from 18 to 21; and the 3rd draft from 31 to 40. All males will have to register 3 days after the outbreak of war.

Already the war-mongers are whooping it. . . . Let's get into the war, they say. . . . They're in such a hurry that they can't even wait for the government to start. . . .

Over the Top

Colonel Sweeney, retired of the US Army, is recruiting an army in America to go over and fight for France. He says: "Apart from what the US Government may or may not do, provision should be made so that young Americans may have an opportunity to enlist. . . ."

THE WAR IS HERE. . . . The journey into the end of the night has begun . . . but at the end of the night comes the dawn . . . at the end of the capitalist night of murder and misery must come the Socialist dawn of freedom and peace. . . . YOU, the YOUTH who will go first, join with us now to fight against the war!

The eyes of America are riveted on Congress these days. The debates in the Senate and the House are no longer regarded as far-off, unimportant squabbles among the politicians. The man on the street wants to know what Borah said in answer to Roosevelt and what the Committee on Foreign Affairs is up to.

Particularly the youth want to know because they feel that their very lives are at stake.

They have no voice—the last session of Congress voted down the Ludlow Referendum which provided for a People's Vote before the country could go to war. But the people participate in every way they can. They write letters to the editors of newspapers and flood Washington with a mountain of mail.

Something "Phony"

The workingman and farmer of America knows that something "phony" is going on. He was led to believe that Congress had passed neutrality laws that would keep the country from getting involved as in 1917. But no sooner does war break out in Europe, then a special session of Congress is called by the President and an attempt is made to lift the embargo on the sale of munitions to countries at war.

The common man has a right to be suspicious. "What's this big hurry to sell munitions?" he asks. "Maybe the President is right when he says that the Embargo won't keep the country out of war. But repealing the Embargo doesn't exactly look like a move to keep out, either. On the contrary, it has all the earmarks of a move to line up on the side of England and France. I think the same about Hitler as the next man, but I'll be damned if I want to fight for the snobby ruling class of England."

But the big danger is that the man in the street will be fooled again, as he has been a thousand times in the past. It is not enough for the worker and the farmer to have the above sentiments. He must know what's going on behind the scenes.

And the very first lesson he must learn is that his fate can not be left in the hands of Congress. Neither camp—the "cash-and-carry" people nor the isolationists—will keep the country out of war. The dispute is not on the question of war or

peace. It is a dispute on WHEN to go to war.

Roosevelt is driving ahead with might and main to get the country into the war on the side of England and France as soon as possible. What's the meaning of his "state of limited emergency", if not to raise a war hysteria in America? What's the meaning of this hair-raising story of submarines of "unknown nationality" spotted off the coast of the U.S.A., if not to raise a war spirit?

What if there was a German submarine off Boston? Under the international law that Roosevelt so ardently defends as a safeguard of neutrality, a belligerent warship can come into Boston harbor itself to remain there for 24 hours.

Roosevelt, as the spokesman of big monopoly capital, wants to get the country into war before England and France make some new Munich "peace" with Hitler. For this war is seen by the American imperialists as the opportunity to place themselves in the Number One position in the world and to reduce the British Empire to the role of a junior partner.

But what about Borah and the isolationist bloc? Aren't they doing everything possible to keep the country out of war? Yes, but only to command all the more confidence when they think the proper time has come to get involved.

American Imperialism

Workers must understand that both camps represent the bankers and industrialists of the country. American capitalism is tied to world imperialism with a million threads. The interests of these capitalists are greatly affected by what happens in the European situation. These people cannot be "neutral". They might have differences of opinion as to when and how to participate but they are all agreed that their interests must be safeguarded and furthered.

Look at who stands in back of the two camps. On one side we have J. P. Morgan and the other Wall Street sharks supporting Roosevelt. On the other side we have Girdler, responsible for the massacre of the steel workers in 1937, Weir, the arch-enemy of organized labor, Henry Ford, and other union busters.

We ask the worker: in which camp would you feel at home? In neither one. Right! Because

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Embargo Repeal Is War Step

WASHINGTON, D. C.— Moving like a relentless steamroller set on reaching its object, the Roosevelt administration—acting in the service of America's ruling 60 Families—is driving closer and closer to entering the imperialist war now raging in Europe.

While there have been many preliminary indications of Roosevelt's intention to involve the people of this country on the side of French and British imperialism—such as the spy scares, the credit grants by the Export-Import Bank to the Allies, the promise to defend Canada if she were attacked, despite the fact that she is a belligerent—the first major step which the President has taken in this direction is his speech to Congress calling for the repeal of the arms embargo.

The repeal of the arms embargo would make American industry the armory of the Allied war machine and would thus give the American bosses an even more direct stake in the French-English cause.

At the present time, the neutrality law states that no arms may be shipped to any nation which is at war. As a result, the President has been forced to clamp an embargo on England, France, Germany, etc.

Seek Profits

But the American bosses are hungry for profits, which the embargo tends to hinder somewhat. And more important, the interests of American finance capitalism are so closely interwoven with British and French finance that they cannot afford to see Britain and France lose.

Therefore the American 60 Families have had to find a way to aid their British and French partners. And this plan is the

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Negro Youth Rights

STRUTHERS, Ohio — A group of Negro youth recently applied for entrance into the new city pool. Even though they were willing to pay the entrance fee of 25 cents they were not admitted. When a group of the more militant Negro youth forced the gate they found that they had the pool to themselves and proceeded to take a good swim.

SHACHTMAN FOR COUNCILMAN— YPSL SLOGAN

NEW YORK — Throwing its shoulder behind the political wheel of the Socialist Workers Party campaign to elect 2 Councilmen in the coming elections, the New York Peoples Socialist League (Fourth International) is now helping the S.W.P. in the final mopping up drive to get sufficient signatures to place the candidates on the ballot. The two candidates are George Lyman Paine for Manhattan and Max Shachtman for the Bronx.

The Bronx Y.P.S.L., in line with plans to conduct the most intensive campaign drive in that borough, is planning a number of specific youth activities in the Shachtman drive. Among these are special drives in the schools and the publication of a pamphlet on "Why Youth Should Support Shachtman."

Stalinist Youth Change "Line" Again Because of Stalin-Hitler Pact

Earl Browder and his youthful stooges who head the Young Communist League are at it again. This time it is another, sharp turn in political line which the Stalinist leaders are trying to put over on their members and sympathizers.

The local big-shots at the top of the YCL—Green, Starobin, etc.—have had a difficult time of it. Emergency meetings have been held by many YCL branches at which the leaders have squirmed and twisted, trying to explain the Hitler-Stalin pact, the invasion of Poland by Stalin, and the resultant shift in policy by the American Stalinist movement to "neutrality."

EMBARRASING

We feel rather sorry for the unfortunate lad who has the ill luck to be editor of *Komsomolskaya Pravda* which is the organ of the Young Communist League of Russia. About 2 weeks ago, on the very same day that the Berlin-Soviet pact was announced, this paper carried the following item: "All anti-Fascists demand an agreement among Britain, France and the Soviet Union."

When Stalin was flirting with the "democratic" capitalist countries, England and France, all the Stalinist parties and youth leagues were calling for a holy war for "democracy." This was the policy of collective security. For this policy, Stalin betrayed and surrendered the revolutionary movements in England, France, Spain, etc. with the policy of Peoples Frontism which meant support of the bosses and the Fourth Internationalists opposed that policy.

Suddenly, when Stalin found that the object of his flirtations,

(Continued from Page 2)

War Profiteers Chisel on Food Prices

The chiseling Coupon Clippers and profiteering 60 Families who run this country are beginning to extort war profits from the American consumers even before there is a war here. Like the cheap rats they are, they are nibbling away at the pocketbooks of the workers, which are slim enough already, in the hope of chiseling some more profits.

Prices are going up. And without any good reason, either. As soon as the war broke out in Europe, the American business shysters saw their chance to reap some big profits. So the big shoes started raising prices. And the small fry chimed in. The farmers thought they were getting a break. But they didn't see yet—that Big Business would take it out of them in increased prices when they went to market.

Price Jumps

In many parts of the country, potatoes rose from 22 cents a peck to 29. Butter jumped from 25 cents to 29. Corn took a tremendous jump from 17 cents a bushel to 60 cents. Canned salmon jumped 2 cents a can. Lentils up 2 cents a pound. Prunes, lima beans and dried peas up 1 cent a pound. Pork went up 25% in price.

But the most important jump was in sugar. This went up from 5 to 6 cents a pound, that is 20 per cent.

President Roosevelt came out with a mealy-mouthed statement attacking the price rise; but did nothing! He killed the movement for legislation in the coming session of Congress to put a price limit on. Instead, he suggested that "business itself have the right to control the upward trend of prices. . . ."

Why upward? There's no reason for price increase. We say: **DOWN WITH THE WAR-PROFITEERS! DOWN WITH THE HIGH COST OF LIVING!**

STALINIST YOUTH—

(Continued from Page 1)
democratic capitalism, was "not willing," he turned his eyes in a new direction—Hitler. The result was the Hitler-Stalin pact, which meant that Stalin was now lined up with Germany against England and France. Stalin was thus a great help to Hitler in his invasion of Poland since the pact removed a potential enemy of Hitler. And then Stalin helped Hitler even more concretely by invading Poland and "mopping up" (these are words of the German communique) for Hitler.

In Tough Spot

In America, the Stalinists found themselves in a pretty pickle. American capitalism is completely bound up with British and French finance, they realize. Since it is utopian to expect America to enter the war on the side of Hitler (and Stalin), they can at least try to stop America from entering on the side of Hitler's (and Stalin's) enemies: England and France. That is why they have suddenly become such warm advocates of "neutrality."

But it is obvious that this has nothing in common with a real revolutionary opposition to war. The opposition of Earl Browder to the war is of the same character as the opposition of Fritz Kuhn to the war.

Kuhn objects to the war because it is being fought against his boss: Hitler. And Browder's real objection to the war is that it is being fought against Hitler, who is the ally of his boss: Stalin.

But the revolutionary youth object to the war because it is a bosses war for profits. We didn't need a Hitler-Stalin pact to show us that. We are not the fawning stooges of the Kremlin dictator who change our position every time he changes his diplomatic manoeuvres. We fight against war wherever capitalism exists. Our allies are neither Germany, nor England and France, but the workers everywhere. We fight for the independent interests of the workers.

PLIGHT OF FARM YOUTH SEEN AS HOPELESS IN CAPITALISM

By HENRY LEWIS

Most of the statistics we know about youth, pertain to youth in the city. Little has been said of rural youth. Recently a survey made by the government showed that most of the youth in rural areas were farming on sub-marginal soil and didn't have a chance in a million.

Woofter and Winston in their book entitled "Seven Lean years," have a chapter devoted to the problem of youth in rural areas entitled "Perplexed Youth."

The first paragraph of this chapter ends by saying that, "Nothing short of a sharp expansion in industrial and agricultural employment will absorb the steady increase of new workers who are unemployed. Lacking an expanding economy, American youth will no longer be stimulated by the ambition to strive boldly."

In short, they tell youth, that both industry and the farm are closed to youth because in America, as all over the world, the society under which we live is getting into a worse mess each year rather than getting out of it.

The term "Go west young man, go west," very aptly describes the era of capitalism prior to the 1900's. However, the era of expansion has ceased to exist. There is no "west," there are no farms youth can buy, and what is more there is not the money to buy them. The only way you can be a landowner is by inheritance—just as in industry the possibilities of owning a plant like Ford's can only be in the realm of dreams. There are few jobs, and the bitter existence of the tenant farmer, so adequately described in such books as "Grapes of Wrath," and publications of the Tenant Farmer's Union tell the rest of the sad tale.

Youth as a result cannot live

an independent existence and must remain in the status of a dependent and do the home farm chores, not because they are needed at home, but because they must stay at home for their shelter and food. They wait and wait—wait for something to turn up. "By and large it is wasted man power," say Woofter and Winston.

And they add further "how cheaply (this labor power) is held is indicated by an advertisement in a farm paper in April, 1937, when the agricultural situation was improving, which offered a white youth (emphasis ours) as payment for farm work, his room, board, and laundry, and \$2.50 per week." One can imagine what the farm barons pay Negro youth.

They also point out that this "is an economic dilemma of first magnitude—rural farm boys increasing at the rate of about two hundred thousand per year in excess of the number necessary to replace deaths and retirement among the workers above 18 years of age. At the threshold of productive life this generation is confronted with restricted industrial opportunity and contracting agricultural opportunity."

The first reaction of youth to this tremendous problem was to take to the road. We all remember how at the beginning of the depression America was shocked by the fact that "at least two-fifths and in some months almost one-half of the unattached transients were between sixteen and twenty-four years of age."

"That the majority of the youth stayed at home, however, is indicated by the large number of rural youth in the relief population. Some two million of the persons in relief households during the depression were from 16 through 24. . . . Only 13% were recorded as the economic heads of their families. The other 87% were dependent members of

families whose heads could not support their households."

What is the solution of Woofter and Winston, and the other New Dealers?

"Let the youth stay in school longer." Rural youth do not have adequate education. The schools are bad. Illiteracy is a problem. About one out of every 20 rural farm youth in the United States were unable to read and write according to a census in 1930. This is even higher among Negro and Mexican youth. Vocational training is very slight. The national government has made almost negligible efforts in that direction. All of this they admit, and more. They have pointed out that 87% of the youth are part of households that could not support them. Surveys on rural youth point out that because rural youth cannot attend school, for the above reasons, NYA has failed to reach them.

Yes, youth who so desire should have the right to stay in school longer, to complete their education and to get further training. But let the government aid them to do this.

Let them inaugurate a student aid program for rural youth with assistance to all needy students without discrimination.

Let them institute trade schools in rural areas, so that youth may train and prepare for jobs.

And above all—let them transfer the two billion dollar war budget to finance "Youth WPA Projects," at union wages. This last point is a very vital part of a program for all unemployed youth—because they legitimately must ask these people who advocate staying in school longer—**WHAT WILL WE DO WHEN WE COME OUT OF SCHOOL?** The problem will still face them of finding a job for "the lack of expanding economy" have all contrived to keep youth jobless.

Editorial on War---

(Continued from Page 1)

this debate in Congress is a debate between two factions of the same class of exploiters and labor-haters. It is a debate on how best to serve the interests of American capitalism or the interests of their own particular industry.

As far as it is clear that Roosevelt is the most insistent war-monger of them all, that his move to lift the Embargo reveals his haste to get into war, we support the fight against lifting the Embargo.

But we must say, "No confidence in the isolationists, no confidence in the various neutrality schemes they put forth as a means to keep out of war.

"For us, the youth of America, there is a third

camp, the camp of uncompromising working class opposition to war.

"We demand that the people be given the right to vote before the country can go to war.

"We refuse to establish any 'national unity' with the exploiters and profiteers. On the contrary, we propose to fight for better living conditions for the worker and farmer by means of strikes and other mass struggles. For us, the main enemy has always been, and will always be, the class of parasites and exploiters in our own country.

"Our unity is neither with Borah nor Roosevelt, but with the workers of all countries. Permanent peace will come when the workers of all warring countries join hands and turn upon their own rulers who have sent them to the slaughter."

ASU Inner Fight On Hitler Pact

All is not quiet on the Stalinist youth front. Especially among the youth fellow travelers.

According to information received by the *Challenge of Youth*, the recent meeting of the national committee of the American Student Union, a Stalinist stooge group, witnessed a severe dispute between the official Browder stooges and the fellow-travelers. Joseph P. Lash, the A.S.U. National Secretary, sharply attacked the Stalin-Hitler alliance and declared that he was unable to support any endorsement of it.

It should be clear, of course, that the opposition of Lash and his cohorts to the Stalinists is not based on any revolutionary opposition to the imperialist war. They merely object to the pro-German orientation of Stalin. Lash still remains faithful to the British-French bloc.

OUR READERS TAKE THE FLOOR

Dear Editor:

I have been reading your paper for several months and I think it is an excellent anti-war paper. I agree, on the whole, with your estimate of the war situation. But there is one matter that I think you are neglecting that is very important. From what I can see, you Fourth Internationalists have almost the same political line on the question of war as the Socialist Party of Norman Thomas. In view of the numerical weakness of both groups, don't you think it would be advisable to try to unify the two, so as to have a stronger anti-war force?

Joe Kaner
New York

(Editor's Reply—The difference between the two positions on war is merely the difference between revolutionary opposition to the war as practised by the Fourth International and a melange of confused, half-baked pacifist and isolationist verbiage as dished out by the

Thomas crew. To offer only one bit of evidence that the Thomasites don't have the slightest inkling of what a revolutionary position on war is, we need but refer you to their manifesto on war printed in one of the recent, if infrequent, issues of their paper, where there is a specific apology for the pro-war position of their European "comrades" of the Second International who support the war. When you apologize for those who support the imperialist war, then you are but a step away from supporting it yourself.)

Hold Anti-War Meeting

NEW YORK—Over 1,000 workers gathered in Tompkins Square, in the heart of the upper East Side neighborhood of New York to listen to speakers of the Young Peoples Socialist League (4th Int.) denounce the 2nd Imperialist World War.



Notice — In the last issue's column we issued a call to all members and sympathizers of the Y.P.S.L. to increase our Anti-War fight NOW. The response to this call has been excellently received and carried into action. We have increased our agitation. Every League member has through action and sacrifice once more proved that OUR organization is composed of the REAL anti-war fighters. Together with the Socialist Workers Party, we have brought our message to increasing numbers of people who have been shown who the war makers are and how to fight them. They have read our papers, they have listened to us and they are starting to join us. **ANTI-WAR FUND** . . . We must continue our work with greater vigour. But for its continuation we need more weapons of agitation—papers, leaflets, pamphlets, stickers and organizers. For these purposes we have initiated a drive for an ANTI-WAR FUND. In response to our appeal printed in this column, we have already received \$204.65 in donations. Below we publish the quotas for each Division of the League in our \$1,000 Anti-War Fund Drive.

Division or Territory	Quota	Ach'v'd
Mass.	\$40 00	\$7 50
New York	400 00	79 50
Newark	70 00	—
Eastern Penn.	50 00	9 50
Up-State N.Y.	5 00	—
Ohio	100 00	35 00
Mich.-Toledo	5 00	—
Ill.-Wis.-Ind.	175 00	32 15
Twin Cities	35 00	—
South. Calif.	70 00	18 00
North. Calif.	50 00	23 00
Totals	\$1,000 00	\$204 65

LET'S GET HALF BY OCT. 15.

Our first project is already ready for the press. A pamphlet on YOUTH FIGHTS WAR. We ask all Divisions and Territories not to drag out the drive for the Anti-War Fund. Complete your quotas in as short a time as possible. Some of the sections are already out in front. Let's be able to report at least half the quota achieved by the next issue of the CHALLENGE.

WELCOME NEW UNITS . . .

Welcome the new unit in Oakland, California. We have great hopes for this unit of 9 excellent new members. This unit was built by the diligent efforts of the Berkeley comrades during the summer period.

We also welcome the fact that the growth in the Philadelphia League enables the comrades there to divide into two units, both of which have excellent possibilities for growth and work.



time like this agitation for should be unnecessary. Sad that 500 Challenge Sales over which we are certain we can obtain by Oct. 1st." That is the way to build circulation.

SUBSCRIPTIONS . . . increasingly important as the one means of stabilizing the circulation of the paper during the difficult months to come have fallen to a miserable low of 17 during the last two weeks:

Chicago	11
Akron	3
New York	3
Philadelphia	1
Los Angeles	1
	17

With the approach of colder weather it becomes necessary to develop methods of circulation in the high schools so that the winter months will not hinder the progress of our bundle circulation. From Chicago come the first reports of such attempts. "We are passing out all of the back copies to the high schools with a leaflet enclosed." No better way could be found to clean the shelves of old issues. Every unit should seriously consider such a build-up. Then follow up with CHALLENGE sales and appeals for subscriptions. On to a circulation increase with each issue.

BUNDLE ORDERS . . . The following bundle increases were received in time for the Sept. 15th issue: Akron 100 to 150; Berkeley 50 to 60; Los Angeles 250 to 400; Newark 225 to 275; San Diego 12 to 15. **FLASH . . .** Last minute request . . . "Would you please send to the newly-formed Yipsel unit in Oakland, a bundle order of 50 Challenges." **GREETINGS to Comrade Smith,** literature agent of the new unit. May you soon have a bundle order of 100. From Los Angeles in addition to its splendid increase comes a challenge. In the words of Comrade Harry Thompson, Challenge Director of the Los Angeles territory: "We are challenging the

CHALLENGE OF YOUTH

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YOUTH EXPOSES SPY RACKET IN CHAIN STORES

By **ARLENE WILLIAMS**
NEW YORK, N. Y.—A large group of young workers, ranging in age from 18 to 22, are being victimized by one of the most contemptible and vicious means utilized by the bosses to protect every last penny of their profits—the labor spy racket. The young workers are employees of a large and popular chain of luncheonettes and soda fountains, the _____ chain, which I cannot name because I am afraid of losing my job, but which I can prove employ labor spies. The fink outfit that supplies these labor spies to "my" employers is the Wilmart System, whose business it is to supply labor spies or "spotters."

Most of these spies work from the outside, that is, they pose as customers. The "spotter" goes over to a luncheonette counter and "tests" out the employee to see if she will violate the ruling against accepting tips. Sometimes the "spotter" forces the worker to accept the tip and then he sees if the worker tries to pocket the tip through some devious method—a tough job because all uniform pockets are sewn—or if he deposits it in the cash register. If the worker manages to keep the tip, the "spotter" reports her to the boss and the worker is either fired or suspended for 2 months.

Spotters' Tests

An even more obnoxious practice is the "test" which the "spotters" give a new worker on patience. The following story was told to me by one of the girls who works near me: When she first got her job, a supposed "drunk" came over to her counter and asked for a cup of coffee. When he got the coffee he demanded to know why he had not gotten the cream. He sent her scurrying around like that for a few minutes. Then he asked her for a date and when she refused he abused her with filthy language. The girl became infuriated and retorted in similar fashion. A report was immediately filed with the boss. The girl was "suspended" for 2 months.

Another example: A group of 6 "spotters" will sit down near the counter of one of the girls. One ordered coffee and the other five ordered—water! It was right during the busy lunch hour, too. The counter girl is supposed to smile pleasantly and after serving water 2 of 3 times is supposed to clean up the table of all cigarette butts, matches, napkins, etc. If by then the girl still acts politely, she is not reported. These kind of vicious practices—the very lowest in existence—have got to be stopped. And the workers in this chain are learning that there's only one way to do that—unionize!

A MOMENT FOR REMEMBRANCE. . .

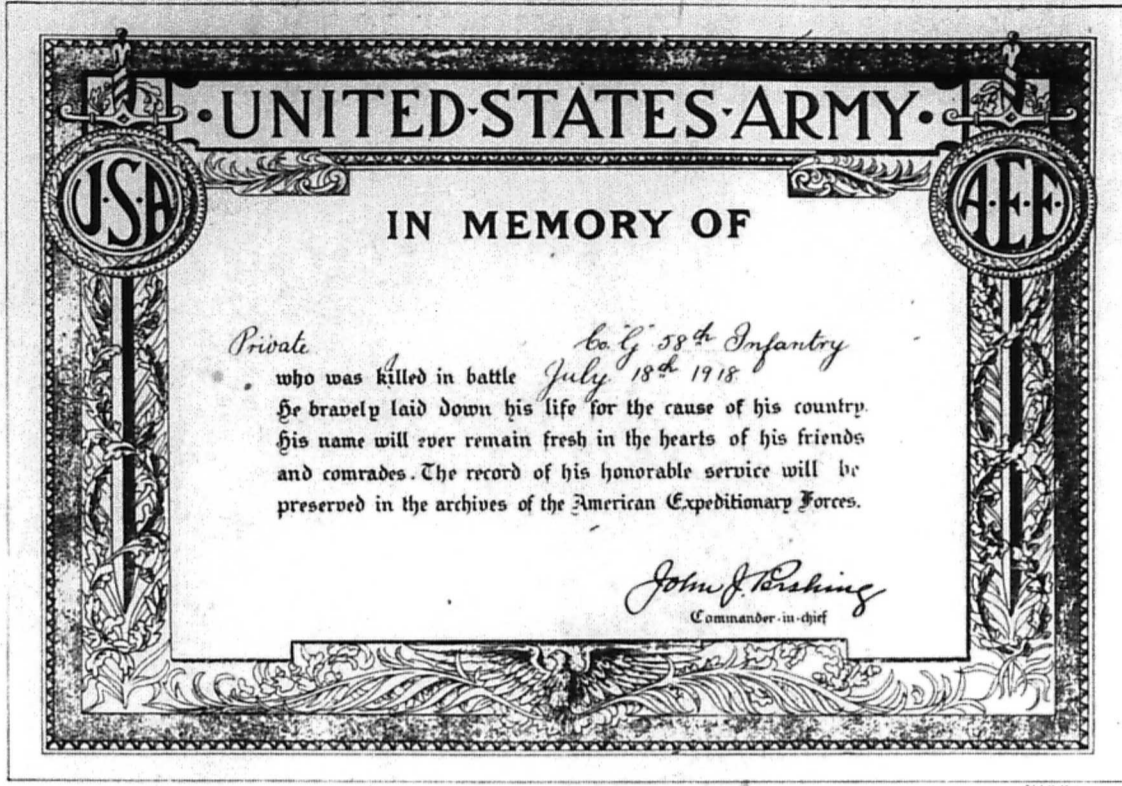
One year ago, in the Challenge of Youth, we were forced to take sad notice of the murder of two great youth figures of the Fourth International: Leon Sedoff and Rudolf Klement. Both of them had been front line fighters in the army of the Fourth International that was struggling for human liberation and both had been victims of the Stalinist GPU terror. Sedoff was the son of Leon Trotsky, who despite his youth had already shown many of the talents of his brilliant father, and Klement was the youthful secretary of the Fourth International.

Now it is a year since their murder at the hands of Stalin's Mafia. We live today in a time of the blackest reaction—a stark tragedy for humanity. The bloody imperialist war reaches out to grab us all in its tentacles. And our movement, small and weak it is true, is still engaged in a struggle to the death with this brutal and dying capitalism.

Yet we must pause from our struggle, if but for a moment, to again pay our sad respects to Sedoff and Klement. They were of our generation, the first great contribution of the Fourth International youth to the adult movement. They were our comrades.

A year ago we wrote: "We shall remember. Their names will be emblazoned forever on the banners which the Fourth International youth will carry to victory."
 And so it shall be.

Do You Want This Kind of A Diploma?



"Democracies" Responsible For Rise of Hitlerism in Europe

By **ISABEL HOWARD**

For every war that breaks out, there are millions of lies spread to justify that war. One of the most gross lies spread to justify this war—the 2nd World Imperialist War—is that England and France are fighting this war to end Hitlerism.

What are the facts?

The facts are that:

- 1. England and France are themselves responsible for the rise of Hitler in Germany.
- 2. A victory for England and France would NOT mean the end of Hitlerism in Europe.

You want proof, you say? Here it is:

Germany Beaten

When the last war ended, Germany had been decisively beaten. The struggle between the two gangs of robbers for the division of the world had ended with the victory of the English gangs.

And Germany paid a heavy price. The Treaty of Versailles, which England and France imposed on Germany as their revenge for the war, bled Germany white. This was what the German people paid as the price of the war between their bosses and the English bosses as exacted by the Treaty of Versailles:

1,700,000 killed in battle, 4,200,000 wounded, 1,150,000 missing.

Alsace-Lorraine, most of Posen and West Prussia, all her colonies, other territorial possessions lost.

18,000,000 of her population, over 1,000,000 square miles of her territory, 45% of her coal, 65% of her iron ore, 15% of her arable lands, 10% of her factories and 5,100,000 tons of her merchant fleet.

To France she agreed to deliver 105,000 tons of coal tar, 90,000 tons of sulfate of ammonia, 500 stallions, 30,000 mares,

2,000 bulls, 90,000 cows, 100,000 rams, 100,000 sheep and she agreed to pay the astronomical sum of \$5,000,000,000 by May, 1921.

Robbers' Victory

As you see, the victorious robbers showed no mercy for the losing robbers. But it was the people in the land of the losing robbers, Germany, who paid through the nose.

Defeated, exhausted, blockaded, Germany passed through a staggering cycle of panics, finan-

ZOO PARADISE

Many millions of European youth must now be wishing that they were monkeys or giraffes, or some other kind of animal that is kept in a zoo. For, while millions of youth in every country are being sent to the trenches, the belligerents are taking special precautions to safeguard the existence of the inmates of their zoos.

The English government has announced that it will ship the London zoo to a particularly safe and secret place so that it will not be bombed. It is also taking steps to insure a steady and adequate food supply. This is considerably more solicitude than is shown for the people.

The German government has announced that it will ship its zoo to Russia in order to safeguard the animals. Exactly what the monkeys think about this is not known.

cial debacles, government upheavals—and revolutionary upheavals which were frustrated by the counter-revolutionary policies of the Social-Democrats.

The final great blow came in 1923 when French troops marched into the Ruhr region and seized 80% of Germany's coal.

The people of Germany were getting desperate. They didn't know where to turn. The Social-Democrats and Stal-

inists didn't offer a revolutionary path. In sheer desperation, the people began to turn to Hitlerism.

Hitler offered them some hopes, they thought. To the workers he promised higher wages. To the small storekeepers he promised to break up the great department stores. To the farmers he promised to break up the large estates.

But in reality he represented Big Business—the Krupps and Thyssens.

The truth of the matter is that THE RISE OF HITLER WAS HELPED AND MADE POSSIBLE BY THE ENGLISH AND FRENCH CAPITALISM WHICH SQUEEZED GERMANY SO MUCH THAT THE PEOPLE TURNED TO HITLER IN DESPERATION

And now these phony war-mongers come around and tell us that these same English and French governments can stop Hitlerism. Why, even if they beat Germany again, they might kick Hitler the individual out, but they would retain the system of Hitlerism and set up a new Treaty of Versailles. The proof of that was when Winston Churchill, strong man of the English government, said: "This is not a war against Hitlerism. . . ."

The only force that can really stop Hitlerism is the united strength of the German, French and English workers, which will overthrow all forms of boss rule.

YOUNGSTOWN YPSL MEETING

The Youngstown unit of the Y.P.S.L. commemorated International Youth Day with a large mass meeting which was addressed by Burr McCloskey, Ohio organizer of the Y.P.S.L. He dramatically presented the case of American youth against the war plans of the American government and called for giving the youth the right to vote at 18 on the question of war.

The meeting was attended by over 60 youth who enthusiastically endorsed this program.

Our Readers Take The Floor

Mr. Editor:

Some friends of mine have been sending me copies of your filthy sheet. Will you please be kind enough not to send me any more?

I simply cannot tolerate any more of your Red propaganda against democracy. Any subversive group like yours which sabotages the fight of the democracies against the dictatorships and which is so unpatriotic as to attack the American government for wanting to aid those democracies—and if need be, with arms and men—has no

place in my house.

P.T.J.
 (Editor's Reply—We don't mind your disagreeing with us. Nor do we mind your desire to get your head blown off. We doubt if it would be a great loss for humanity. But we are thoroughly annoyed at your lack of accuracy. If you're going to die, you might as well be accurate and say: "I am ready to die for Morgan, Rockefeller, DuPont and the rest of the 60 Families." Then go right ahead, but count us out, please.)

FDR Follows Wilson in Steps To Drag Youth into War

By **PHIL SHERMAN**

Roosevelt is preparing today to drag us into the war. Such a statement may be hard to take for those who have taken his pretty speeches seriously. But it's the truth, and we've got to understand it.

Because Roosevelt is a demagogue: he is using his silver tongue to cover up his lies. He claims to hate war: but he takes all the necessary steps for shipping millions of youth abroad to die for the profits of Rockefeller and Morgan.

How do we know? We have only to compare the records of two men of the same stripe: Roosevelt and Wilson. We all know that Wilson lied when he promised to keep America out of the First World War. Let's look at his record.

Fine, peace-loving phrases? Plenty. When the first World War began, Wilson said (August 18th, 1914): "the effect of the war upon the U.S. will depend upon what the American citizens say and do. Every man who really loves America will act and speak in the true spirit of impartiality and fairness and friendliness to all concerned."

Wilson "Acts"
 But the years have shown a lot about the last war which was not known at the time. We say that the last war, like this one, was a war for profits. And Wilson knew it too. He was right in the middle of the whole mess. During the war the big bankers in America, particularly J. P. Morgan and Co. were getting tied closer and closer to the interests of the Allies. They had loaned 1½ billion dollars to England and France. The bankers had backed the Allies' purchases in America amounting to some \$10,000,000 a day. In this way it came about that the American ruling class could not afford to see the Allies lose the war. So when the going got tough for them, this is what Walter Hines Page, American Ambassador to London, said in a confidential telegram to Wilson, that great "peace-loving" president:

I think that the pressure of this approaching crisis has gone beyond the ability of the Morgan financial agency for the British and French Gov-

ernments. The need is becoming too great and urgent for any private agency to meet, for every such agency has to encounter jealousies of rivals. . . . If we should go to war with Germany, the greatest help we could give the Allies would be such a credit. In that case our government could, if it would, make a large investment in a Franco-British loan or might guarantee such a loan. . . . Unless we go to war with Germany our government, of course, cannot make such a direct grant of credit. . . .

So! If things get bad for the bankers' investments the government has to step in. Within four weeks after he received this letter, President Wilson asked Congress for a declaration of war. . . .

Wise To It All

Did Wilson know what he was doing? Of course he did. In a speech in St. Louis in 1919, he said:

"Why, my fellow citizens, is there any man or woman here, let me say, is there any child here, who does not know that the seed of war in the modern world is industrial and commercial rivalry? The real reason that the war we have just finished took place was that Germany was afraid her commercial rivals were going to get the better of her. . . ."

Without batting an eyelash, this political faker says that great "war to end wars" was fought to fill the coffers of the money bags!

And Roosevelt is following the same road. He is traveling full steam ahead. Not 3 years after, but at the beginning of the war he says that we have "plenty of money" to loan the allies (if not feed the unemployed). And what's more, says the Export-Import Bank (a U.S. Government agency) we'll loan only to the Allies. (For further information on Roosevelt War moves see P. 1.) These gentlemen have already chosen sides.

Roosevelt and Wilson: tweedle-dee and tweedle-dum. Both of them agents of the Sixty Families; both of them ready to drive the U.S. into war. We must beware of them and fight them. For they are our enemies.

WAR MOVES IN CONGRESS—

(Continued from Page 1)

proposal of President Roosevelt to lift the embargo on arms shipments.

Now, on paper you might think that this would give both warring camps an "equal chance." But in view of the supremacy of the British navy, it would be virtually impossible for Germany to purchase arms in America. The result would be that America would become the virtual ally of England-France in the war. And the economic ally of today is the military ally of tomorrow. All our experience in the last war proves that.

That Roosevelt's proposal means the abandonment of neutrality can be seen from the statement of the leading journalist in this city, Arthur Krock, who is very close to Roosevelt, who writes in the N.Y. Times: "Repeal of the arms embargo will unquestionably assist England and France in conducting the war in Europe." It is plain that America cannot expect to become the armory of one nation without becoming the target of the other.

Pro-War Steps

Originally, tPresident Roosevelt admitted in his message to Congress, he wanted to drop all restrictions on trade with belligerents by returning to the "principles of international law." But this was such a crass pro-war step that even he had to abandon it and declare that he would accept a "cash and carry" plan by which a warring nation would have to pay cash for munitions and other products, then transport these products itself on its

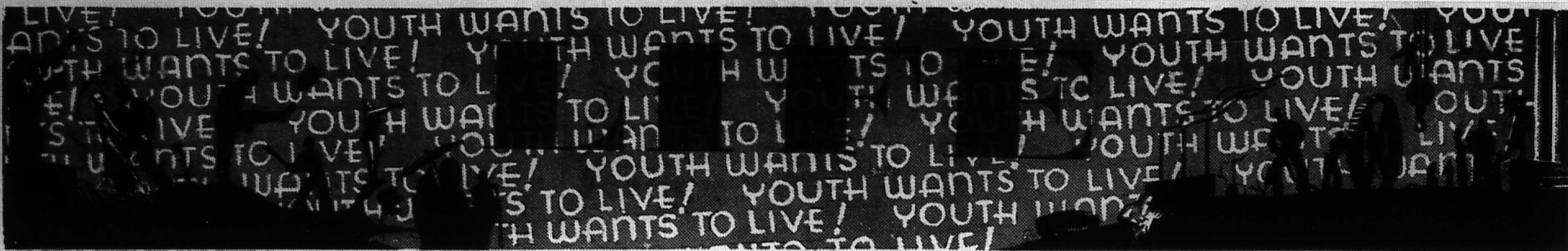
own boats, and take responsibility for that transport. But this is as much a pro-war step as a return to "international law" since it also aids England, which is master of the seven seas, and it makes American ports a possible sphere of conflict between the two warring imperialist camps.

At the time of writing, there is talk in Congress of allowing a 90 day credit for products purchased via "cash and carry." This will make things even easier for England and France, and hence will tend to make relations between America and Germany more strained, which means more possibility of war.

Capitalist Unity

The unity of the capitalist class on basic issues may be seen by the fact that most Congressmen of both parties are supporting Roosevelt's steps toward war. Only a small group of "isolationists," who are "licked in advance," oppose Roosevelt's plan.

The insignificant character of the isolationist opposition to Roosevelt's plans—headed by Borah, LaFollette, and Nye—can be seen readily by the fact that the smaller sections of the capitalist class whose main investments and interests are in either America of the Western Hemisphere—unlike the big finance capitalists who have investments in Europe and Asia. This group of small capitalists is incapable of putting up any real opposition to Roosevelt because they themselves agree with most of Roosevelt's major proposals—huge armaments, aid to the profiteering 60 Families, etc.



ACTION-CAMERA! • BY MARTIN EDEN •

The "Beast of Berlin" rides again!
(It is rumored from sources which are usually reliable that among the "war babies" which have skyrocketed on Wall Street is the international waxed-moustache cartel. The waxed-moustaches are selling, of course, like wildfire in Hollywood. And monocles, too, have taken hold. The monocles and moustaches are understood to be in demand by the Hollywood villains who expect a period of unprecedented employment. Their expectations are based upon the deluge of flag-waving thrillers which flooded the country during the First World War.)

The "Beast of Berlin" was the super-special production which highlighted the propaganda during the last war. It was an epic about mean old Kaiser Willie. Hollywood understood its role during the last war and intends to do even better this time. Their slogan being—since the show must go on we must "repeat our performance"—scenario by J. P. Morgan.

PROPAGANDA WEAPON

The movies are a splendid means of propaganda. Everyone goes to them. And they deal most efficiently with emotions. The technique is simple. The hero is the secret service agent or Bengal Lancer, the heroine is the simpering Red Cross Nurse, who is threatened in successive scenes, by insult, and then—horrors!—by death or dishonor. The villain is the changing factor. First the menace is inspired by a "Foreign Power." As the war tempo increases that power is identified by his uniform. And when the final stages of war spirit has been whipped up the villain is revealed as the bemonocled, heel-clicking Enemy.

This was the pattern of the last jingo wave. The performance will be repeated. Have no doubts. The straws are in the wind. As every agency of boss society, Hollywood will fall in line with the march to war. Warner Brothers set the pace with "The Confessions of A Nazi Spy," and the other studios will not lag behind.

On the nation's screens at present the change can be clearly seen. There are always patriotic films, glorifying colonial empires. The number of this "typical" jingo type has been increased and the propaganda is deepening in viciousness.

"Beau Geste" and "Four Feathers" were the usual baloney. The first featured the heroic Foreign Legion as it spread civilization with machine gun and bayonet. "Four Feathers" was the old tea-time-in-the-Sahara blather about the brave English Territorial.

Goldwyn has beatified the American forces who mopped up in the Philippines. Gary Cooper, who starred in "Beau Geste," also plays in this new one, "The Real Glory." Incidentally, the producers have made a happy choice in Cooper as the rush-into-the-fray hero. That "I don't know where I'm going but I'm going" expression he bears so manfully fits the role very well.

GARY GETS 'EM

This picture dwells upon the democracy that was established on the island for the Filipinos. Gary mows 'em down. The natives, who do not seem to understand the bliss that the American soldiers were bringing are a gory mess when Gary is through. But these are only the bad natives. The good ones all got jobs polishing the General's boots or as President of the Phillipines.

LOU COOPER SAYS....

There are a lot of rats in this country helping Roosevelt pull us young people into the war.

The other day I decided to interview a couple of youth leaders as to how they feel about being pulled into the war. Here are some typical answers.

J. P. Morgan—"I'll take my chance in the draft."

Abraham Cahan—youthful editor of the Jewish Daily Forward—"Me too."

The Story of the Socialist Youth Movement During the Last War

By WILLI MUENZENBERG

A few weeks after our return from Germany, our group was gathered in the People's House following a hike over the Zurich mountain, when newspaper extras brought us the news of the assassination of the Austrian Archduke in Sarajevo. We immediately found ourselves in an intensive discussion on the consequences of this act. Though we all realized that it would lead to severe conflicts between Serbia and Austria, no one at that time really believed that it would lead to a war. The international ties of capitalism seemed to be too extensive and firm to permit this. On the other side we saw the Social - Democratic Parties and labor organizations who only a few years before, at the Basle Congress of the Second International, had sworn to struggle against war with all forces at their disposal.

War Begins

But events developed at a whirlwind tempo. Austria sent its ultimatum to Serbia. The danger of war arose. The great chauvinist waves unleashed in Vienna and Berlin had their effect even in Switzerland. Various nationalist German societies arose in the German speaking sections of Switzerland and carried a lively pro-German agitation in meetings and street demonstrations. The ultimatum to Serbia was followed by the declaration of war. Hundreds of Austrian citizens had to leave Switzerland to answer the summons to serve in the military forces. The departure of every group was utilized by the German and Austrian supporters as an occasion for a new patriotic demonstration. The street that ran from the shores of Lake Zurich to the railroad station became the scene of daily demonstrations of hundreds of war-inspired people, who waved the black, white and red flag of Germany and sang patriotic songs.

These demonstrations caused feelings of greatest anger among our youth comrades. We called our members to a counter-demonstration. But our group was too weak to effectively silence the growing chauvinist insanity. Though we were the sworn enemies of the police we couldn't restrain ourselves when the Zurich police sought to quell particularly noisy pro-German demonstrations and waded in along side of them to plant our fist upon many an open mouth that was howling for war. One evening we took over the railroad station during the departure of a train load of cannon-fodder for Vienna. The duped recruits and reservists sang at the top of their voices, "God Save Franz, our King." While we sought with all the power of our lungs with the singing of the "International" and the shouting with "Down With the War" —"Up With the Revolution!"

Reformist Fakers

The Central Labor Union called a meeting to take a position on the war. The meeting was packed. An overflow crowd could not find space and were turned away. The first reporter was the Social Democratic reformist, Johann Sigg. He wept many tears over the terrible misfortune. But the idea of a struggle against the war—that was impossible. All one could do was to wish for the reconstruction of the socialist and labor movement after the war was over.

This issue of the CHALLENGE OF YOUTH begins publication of extracts from Willi Muenzenberg's autobiographical and historical account of the Socialist Youth movement from the early 1900's to the post-war period. The material was published as a book in Germany in 1929 under the title of "Die Dritte Front" (The Third Front). The extracts to appear in our columns will mark the first appearance of this material in English. Militant young opponents of war will find the account of the Socialist Youth movement during the last war of great interest in these critical days.

Willi Muenzenberg first entered the Socialist Youth movement in Germany in 1906 as a young factory worker. He later transferred his activities to Switzerland. The outbreak of the war in 1914 found him one of the leading members of the Swiss Socialist Youth movement.

Muenzenberg later became a leader of the German Communist Party. With the advent of the Stalin regime in the Communist International he degenerated into one of its typical bureaucrats. He recently left the Stalinist movement to join those other disillusioned bureaucrats who now lump Stalinism and Bolshevism into one sack and seek to lead the workers' movement to a spiritual rebirth through a search for some abstract moral concepts that have no relation to the material conditions of existence.

Despite the revolting climax of Muenzenberg's career in the workingclass movement, his earlier work and his writings on that period are of importance to every young opponent of imperialist war.

It was too much for me. I jumped up to the rostrum and began speaking as the first discussion speaker. I sharply condemned the capitulation of the Socialist parties to the war and demanded the sharpest struggle on the part of the Social Democratic parties and the working masses, particularly in the form of general strikes in Germany and France to prevent the spread of the war and to stop the Habsburg adventure in Serbia. I closed with the statement that we, the youth, had no intentions of fighting in this war, that we would struggle for the cause of socialism to the very end, but would never give our lives for a capitalist war.

Attack Muenzenberg

My speech provoked Hermann Gruelich, the old Social Democratic "Pope," to take the floor in order to, in the words of the report in the bourgeois press, "pour a little water into the wine of the rebellious youth." Gruelich granted the best intentions on my part, but declared that there were no means with which to stop the war, that we were too weak, and the individual could not oppose himself to the mighty military machine. It was with this concept that Gruelich and Sigg led the Swiss Social Democracy during the war.

A few days after this meeting the declaration of war by Germany against Serbia took place and the Austro-Serbian conflict became a World War. The German declaration of war against France called forth a new chauvinist wave among the German residents of Switzerland. In a few days all the German reservists living in Switzerland were on their way home to answer mobilization calls. Not a single member of the German Social Democratic Society in Switzerland stayed behind. Many of the Social Democratic workers marched back with the German National Anthem on their lips and dressed up as though it were May Day.

Fakers Live

Only a few, not more than a half dozen of the German Socialist Youth and a few Syndicalists and Anarchists remained in Switzerland, despite the attempts of Hauth, the social patriotic editor of the "Volksrecht," to

frighten us with notices in his paper. It disgusted him to know that there were some Social Democrats who were not prepared to follow the example of the Social Democratic editor in Chemnitz, Germany, who declared, after the outbreak of war, "I go with Hindenburg." Hauth printed false statements in "Volksrecht" to the effect that the Swiss government had decided to deport to their own countries all deserters and draft dodgers. Hauth, however, stayed calmly in peaceful Zurich and only later went to Germany to enlist as a "Home Guard," with the chief function of agitating for continued support of the war in the columns of the Stuttgart "Tagwacht."

The war tore great gaps in our organization. Many a member was swept along by the pro-war current and joined the army of one of the belligerent countries. The position of the party assisted this in the most direct sense. But still greater numbers of our members and functionaries were mobilized in the Swiss army. The Swiss government had declared a mobilization a few days before the outbreak of the war to defend its borders and hundreds of our members were involved.

(Continued in the next issue)

CCC Boys Want Food

BOISE, Idaho—A series of sit-down strikes have marked life in the local CCC camp this summer. The commander of the camp, who proved himself to be a 14 carat rat, was more interested in promoting himself in the graces of the local Chamber of Commerce than in helping the CCC boys. As a result, the Chamber of Commerce potbellies were given royal meals when they came out to visit the camp, while the boys got pretty lousy stuff.

As a result, the boys held a sit-down strike in the fields. At the hearing held immediately afterwards, the leaders were fined 8 hours extra pay and 3 dollars each.

The following morning breakfast consisted of scrambled eggs, half bad and half good. In this way, money can be saved and the eggs taste a bit better.



An obscure news item from Paris reports that Jean Giono, a novelist who has attained a certain fame based on his book, "The Peasants," has been imprisoned by the French government because he objected to the war.

That—and that alone, as far as we know—is the sole opposition which the intellectuals of Europe have offered to the war. A weak, hopeless gesture by a relatively unknown novelist is the only remainder of the once eloquent and fiery anti-war sentiment which raged among the writers of Europe some years ago. The whole rotten crew of them—Rolland, Romain, Mann, Wells, Remarque, Zweig, etc. etc.—are yelping for death—in the pay of the Allied imperialisms.

THE DEATH BLOW

But the culture, in whose name they urge the youth of England and France to go to war, has just received its final death blow at the hands of the very same war. For though the war is but a few weeks old, it is already obvious that no genuine and free literature or art—or any kind of intellectual activity—can exist in such an atmosphere. With the desperate plunge of world capitalism into a war which it hopes will give it a new lease on life, but which in reality is its final death agony, it can no longer afford even a remnant of its previous culture—a luxury of its "better" days.

That Fascism means the literal extinction of culture every one has long known. It was Goebels, Hitler's mouthpiece, who declared: "When someone mentions culture, I reach for a gun."

But today the situation is not one whit better in the "democratic" countries, which are about as "democratic" as Germany and Italy. The censorship in France and England is, if anything, even stricter than in Germany. Only the paid scribblers and volunteer pen-prostitutes, who glorify their capitalist governments of butchery and death, can legally gain the public ear.

SOCIALISM IS HOPE

Today the only hope for those many intellectual youth in America, to whom the culture of the past remains a precious heritage, is to fight for Socialism. I do not say this with any degree of exaggeration. It is a statement literally true.

In the past, capitalism was very boastful of its culture. And if we look at it from the point of view of capitalism in its robust youth, then we must admit that it has the right to be boastful. But today capitalism is sick and dying; it is armed not with a book, but a bayonet.

The only way to preserve the culture of the past, and the only way to nurture a new, finer, freer culture of the future is through the unceasing struggle against the imperialist war and for Socialism. The Beethovens and Goethes of both yesterday and tomorrow march with us.

And if that struggle involves opposition to the present "intellectual leaders" of the world, that is very unfortunate. It is an ironic sidelight on the horror of the whole situation under capitalism that the only way to safeguard and rekindle the culture of yesterday is to fight against the exponents of that culture today.

I Am Interested—

Please send me more information on the aims and activities of the

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Name

Address

City