

Army Builds Men? What About Camp Upton?

We Won't Die For **Boss Profits**

CHALLENG!

Let Bankers Fight Their Own Wars

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Monthly Organ of the Young People's Socialist League (Youth Section, Workers Party)

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Army Life Proves to Be No Bed of Roses

It's not taking the conscripts long to learn that life in the Army is no bed of roses. Uncle Sam's in such a confounded hurry to build himself an army he hasn't bothered about little things like adequate

equipment for the reasonable com-fort of the men. He has other things on his mind.

A newspaperman writing from Camp Upton in New York gave an indication of what it's like to be in the Army. "Most of the recruits who arrived yesterday (at the end of November) reported that they slept well despite the temperature which ranged from 16 to 18 degrees above zero. Their laundry stove, with which the tent is equipped, did the trick, they said, although they did have to tend them through the night." That's doing the trick, all right. "Newspapermen the trick, all right. "Newspapermen the trick, all right. "Newspapermen the trick, all right." It is a special to be in the Army. "Most of the recruits who arrived yesterday (at the end of November) reported that they slept well despite the temperature which ranged from 16 to 18 degrees above zero. Their laundry stove, with which the tent is equipped, and the trick, they said, although they did have to tend them through the night." That's doing the trick, all right. That's doing the trick all right. That's doing the trick all right. That's doing the trick all right. encamped with them fared not quite so well, although they had two captains and three privates ministering to their stoves which, all too often, were as cold as the newsapermen." The boys had no captains attending to them. We have a shivery feeling that they were

Up at Fort Dix, a few days later, they had the men sloshing around in the thawing snow and mud without overshoes. They're not included in the equipment issued to to the conscripts. At Camp Upton they had them doing the same. The quartermaster should have told the oys there was a plentiful supply of overshoes that weren't being is-sued to them. They would have liked that.

towns are swarming with 50,000 prostitutes. So says Major Bascom Johnson of the American So-

gravel yet. Everything's so make-shift. What with the mud and the fact that soldiers aren't allowed within the boundaries of the isolation camp, the men have dubbed it the "leper colony" and "skunk hollow." It's a great life, all right.

It seems like pre-historic days when everybody was hoping his number wouldn't be drawn. You'd "Too bad, buddy, too bad." find time to build men The local Chamber of Commerce the Kiwanis congratulate you. ey call out the brass band and ey con-grat-u-late you. You heard

light. Just where the building comes in on a battlefield where shrapnel is flying in all directions isn't made plain. But one thing is plain. Long before the bullets start flying many of America's youth are seriously wounded.

The army doctors had been pretty optimistic about rejection of drafes for service due to physical defects. They hadn't expected there would be many. They figured on something like a 2% rejection rate. Instead of two out of every hundred draftees being rejected on grounds of physical disability fifteen have been rejected. That came as a bit of a surprise. Actually, the rejections are even higher than that! The fifteen rejected by the army doctors are fifteen out of The boys may be cold. And they're boards doctors. Of those reporting too far away to have their love to for the first time some 60% are keep them warm. But the camp finally rejected. And this is the créam of America's youth.

Actually, there is nothing surprising in this. Only army doctors cial Hygiene Association. They're could be surprised. The youth who digging in for a long winter, it have been called up under the draft are the youth of the depres-It's a great life in the Army, all sion. They come, in good measure, right. If you get sick at Fort from the "one third of the nation" Dix, they've got about 650 tents in that is ill-fed, ill-clothed and illthe division isolation camp. They'll housed. It's not surprising if these have been raised in old and decrepit houses and poorly clothed-it's not surprising if they're not exactly Tarzans.

The Army made it plain when the draft went into effect that nobody would be excused from serv-ing Uncle Sam unless he really was in bad shape. "Minor" ailments when everybody was hoping his number wouldn't be drawn. You'd never know it though. Nowadays, when you're drafted, they don't much too busy building an army to

Cuban Students Strike

"Labor Must Sacrifice." "The 40 Hour Week Is Ruining the Country." "Unions in Defense Industry a Menace." "Labor Must Sacrifice." "Labor Must Sacrifice" . . .

These are the headlines you see more and more frequently in the yellow boss press, aren't they?

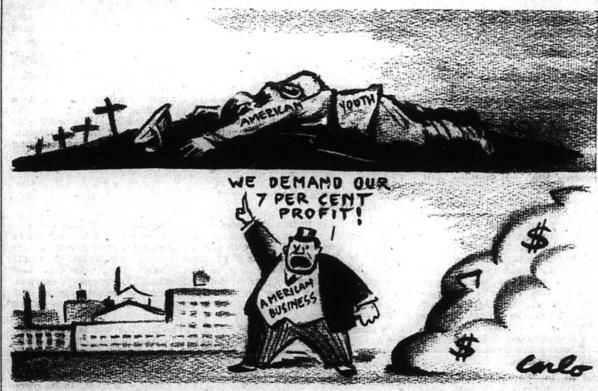
They tell the story of the greatest anti-labor, anti-union drive in recent American history—a drive sponsored by the most sinister figures of big business and Wall Street. Bawling "SACRIFICE for National Defense" at the top of their lungs (even though they are raking in millions in war profits) these labor-haters and war-mongers have begun a drive to smash union standards, to repeal the Walsh-Healy Act which sets a 40 hour week for work on government contracts, to smash the minimum wage and other gains of labor.

But where does American youth come in?

Here unfolds a tale of Wall Street intrigue as filthy as any in recent years. Listen:

Wall Streeters have made the union movement in defense industry the main object of their attack. They realize

The "National" Sacrifice



Rapp Coudert Committee-A take 4,000 men. But they're located youth who have not had proper in the muddlest spot in camp. The medical or dental care, who have company streets haven't even any suffered from malnutrition, who

State Legislature, investigating "sub-wersive" activities in the New York

A statement issued by the of several witnesses early this month. Several teachers who had been subpoenaed refused to appear before the committee and were cited for contempt of court.

The Rapp-Coudert committee is out to smear the educational systionaries in their attack upon civil tem in New York as "red." In this liberties and academic freedom . . . way, it hopes to pave the way for Nothing, absolutely nothing, can exeducational retrenchment. Its witchhunt, begun with an attack upon the Stalinists, will soon extend, if not successfully combatted, to oth-

lyn College faculty are members of Pointing out that the Stalinists by united action."

NEW YORK, N.Y.—The Rapp- the Communist party. Grebanier Coudert committee of the New York who was subpoenaed by the com-

A statement issued by the Young school system, heard the testimony People's Socialist League (Youth Section of the Workers' Party) at Brooklyn College said, in part: "Professor Grebanier is a stool pigeon. Subpoenaed by the Rapp-Coudert committee, he has locked arms with its witch-hunting reac-

The statement pointed out that the Rapp-Coudert committee can-"You lucky fellow!" they say. ("Why don't you go, then, if I'm school in this country demanding better educational facilities. The strike at present seems air-tight; the students seem determined to stay out until they get decent educational facilities.

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"You lucky fellow!" they say. ("They say. ("Although the Communist party is an agent of Stalinists. "Although the Communist party is an agent of the labor movement. An attack evidence previously gathered by the committee purporting to show that certain members of the Brook-labor movement and civil liberties."

(Continued on page 2)

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(Continued on page 2) not aid the progressive foes of the the committee purporting to show that certain members of the Brook-

Announcement!

The Challenge of Youth has come through again. This time with a sensational subscription offer. We are offering a six month subscription to the Challenge for ten cents.

Ours is the only anti-war, antifascist youth newspaper published today. It contains stories about young people in every field of work throughout the United States. You can't afford to pa up our offer. Fill out the subscription blank on page 4.

have not hesitated to use slander. terror and even assassination, the YPSL refused to identify itself OUR with them. "The Stalinists attack ERS! Grebanier not because they are for democratic rights but because it is their democratic rights which are being violated. . . .

"The Rapp-Coudert committee is part of a nation-wide drive to still of the labor movement. An attack upon the Stalinists is only the first cluded, must "fight for its demo-

that this is the best way-from THEIR point of view-of beginning a drive against all of American labor: by playing on the patriotic prejudices of the American people. Thus, for example, they tried to utilize the recent strike in Vultee Aircraft to begin an anti-union drive. They also realize that a large majority of the workers in defense industries are youth ,who are usually the most militant unionists. So, figure these Wall Street Brain-Trusters, a way has got to be found to utilize the youth to smash the unions. And here it is:

The National Association of Manufacturers, the "union" of the boss has decided to oranize a youth company union. The name of this slimy outfit is "Metropolitan Junior Achievemnt." Controlled lock, stock and barrel by the big-shots of the NAM, this outfit serves to recruit young workers into its ranks to teach them "the point of view of capital." As its announcement states:

"What happens when misunderstandings with labor arise if you have such entrepre among your employes? They act as a leaven among those employes who have never had to meet a payroll.

They act like Junior Achievement graduates did when Meyer Shoe Box Company employes decided to call a strike. They got over capital and management's point of view to fellow union members, and there was no

Or in plain English, they serve as stool-pigeons and company spies for the bosses. Now, can you see how valuable a few of these Junior Finks would be, say, in a place like Vultee Aircraft when the young workers there decide to go out on strike-valuable from the BOSSES

The answer of the union movement must be plain: ORGANIZE UNORGANIZED YOUTH! SMASH THIS UNION-BUSTING OUTFIT! DEFEND YOUR UNIONS FROM BOSS ATTACK!

Youth must be in the front lines fighting for its unions. It must not allow itself to serve as the stooge of Wall Street against the unions. OUR PLACE IS WITH THE WORK.

"Metropolitan Junior Achieve ment" is only a small part of a larger picture. It is part of the or ganized and vicious attack against the labor movement which was begun by A.P. Sloan of General Motors more than a month ago and

which is now reaching a clima.
The National Association of Manifacturers, with the help of the

(Continued on page 4)

Movies

THE LONG VOYAGE HOME with Thomas Mitchell, Ian Hunter See "The Long Voyage Home and John Wayne. Directed by John Ford.

There have been stories of the a before. Ever since the very dawn of history men have told of the sea and its never ending fury. Few have told their tale with the power and truthfulness of John

The sailor's voyage never ends.

Once caught by the sea, he cannot extricate himself. The exception—and in the picture, John Wayne, as national intrigue things. This one

"red lead", the cramped and dirty head to plug the killer. Whatta ing scaling off aged and dented bulkheads. But he leaves the ship only to spend what he has earned on the voyage and get riotously drunk with some harbor slut. He returns to the ship for another trip. They "go down to the sea again" not because they like the look of the stars in mid-Atlantic but because their pockets are empty.

and sombre but he speaks the truth

with Bette Davis, James Stephenson and Herbert Marshall.

The steady readers of the "Chal lenge" are no doubt aware that it supports neither side in the present war. Nobody, therefore, can accuse us of anti-British bias. But if there Ford's triumph, "The Long Voyage is one thing we can't stand it's the confounded phlegm of the British . . . at least, of the movie kind.

and in the picture, John Wayne, as Ole, is such an exception—only serves to emphasize the rule. The and assassins while his little daughter is not caught by the "romance" of the sea; his trap is much more real.

The sailor hates the sea, its monotony and its harshness. He hates the rusty decks painted with dull next their darling daughter's little and States From the technically administration.

"The Letter" is full of the British. That is to say, there's not a scream to a climax. A man is killed; a lawyer risks his professional reputation and runs the risks of a prison term; a woman admits to her husband that she is an adultress; and nobody raises his voice above a whisper. 'Swonderful!

This is the season for melodrama "The Long Volage Home" is melo-drama. A ship laden with dynamite otic Oriental females . . . and evfeeling its way through a war zone. erything. But it's good melodrama, A mysterious seaman known as thanks to Bette Davis and James "Smitty" whom the men suspect of Stephenson. Herbert Marshall does being a German spy. A ship bombed his customary bit as the uncomby a plane in mid-ocean. But Ford fortable corner of a triangle; he can make melodrama seem like should be suing the studio any day the stuff of everyday existence. Wet now for making him wear the cuckcobblestones gleaming in the wet old's horns so often. If you don't and foggy night become a com-mentary on the tragedy of man's existence. Ford is melodramatic Letter." We did.

By KARL KRAMER Where Hitler and Churchill Meet

Despite their many disagreements, Hitler and the "democratie" imperialists do agree on one important thing. They both hate internationalism. Hitler makes long and frenzied speeches in which he denounces internationalism as the corruption of Judaism. The Allied diplomats, politicians and journalists view it as the propaganda of "fifth columnists," as a monster that threatens their very existence.

Now, what's all the fuss about? Why should the leaders of

whole countries take fright at a duces costly and inferior ersats for single word? What is internationruling class.?

ed States. From the technically advanced countries come tractors and screwdrivers, pencils, typewriters, chewing gum, lipstick and turret lathes. Also from the advanced countries of Europe and North America comes the capital for the creation of new industries in the relatively backward countries.

Even under capitalism, with its restrictions of national borders, the labor of the world has been geographically divided. True, for nationalist reasons, this is not permitted to grow to its full extent. That is one of the reactionary fea-That is one of the reactionary fea-tures of capitalism. Germany pro-from Hitler's speeches but it isn't it. For the people of the world, it and of Hitler.

single word? What is internationalism and how does it threaten the erects tariff barriers against cheap Argentinian meat to protect its own cattle owners. And so it goes. Nevertheless, even under capitalism. each country tends to produce what it can produce best.

Now, you may say, what's wrong with that? Nothing at all. As a matter of fact, we're all for the international division of labor. What's wrong is that capitalism divides the world into separate and hostile national areas of imperialist countries and their colonies. These areas are the preferred and even the exclusive territories of the national ruling classes. The British Empire, for example, is forced to take goods made by English capitalists even if some other capitalist could, if tariff barriers were removed, sell the same thing more cheaply. Capitalism doesn't carry the international division of labor

but it's not internationalist. The fullest possible extent. More than that, for purposes of profit, to capture colonies and new markets for goods and for capital investment, the idea of "national proportions." the great countries go to war. They disrupt international production and trade; they destroy millions of lives and billions of dollars worth of property.

The revolutionary socialist opposes such wars because they are in the interests of the ruling class, not of the people. The workers of all countries should unite, regardless of nationality, in the struggle against the ruling class, in peace-time and in wartime. The nations of the world, its people, can and should live together in peace and cooperation. What stands in the way is the ruling class, its desire for profits and its national imperialist states.

Now we can see why the imperialists of all shades, fascist and "democratic", hate and fear internationalism. Internationalism means the collaboration of the workers of all countries against the rulers of all countries. It means opposition to the present imperialist war. It means peace and the cooperation of nations. It threatens the profits of the ruling class; that is why the the road the workers will take derulers of all countries denounce spite the fulminations of Churchill

really. Capitalism is international opens up the possibility of new but it's not internationalist. The growth, of a fuller, more democracountries of the world are linked tic civilization. Internationalism is together. But because the capitalists a great ideal but it is an ideal of each country strive for profit made possible by the growth of they are not linked together to the the economic system to interna-

The capitalists of the imperialist states enslave the workers with the idea of "national defense." But the idea of "national derense." But they don't give a tinker's damn for the nation. The nation is the peo-ple. The capitalist cares more about his profits than he does about the people. Take Marshal Petain, for example. He prefers Hitler to the French workers because under Hitler the French capitalists enjoy at least a part of their former profits. The Russian capitalists and landowners, after the Bolsheviks overthrew them in 1917, collaborated with the imperialist countries of the world—even with Germany, their World War imperialist enemy -rather than accept the rule of the Russian workers and peasants. For the capitalist, his profits always come before "national de-

The capitalists of all countries do not hesitate to unite against the workers of any country. The workers, in turn, must not fight against each other in defense of the capitalist states. They must be inter-nationalists. In such a course lies the solution for a world torn by war. Internationalism is the road to a new society, to socialism. It is

Books

By HAROLD ANDERSON

For Whom the Bells Toll -Hemingway and the Stalinists

Spanish Civil War is, from the point of murder and counter-revolution of view of style and technique, one the Stalinists, and Hemingway with of the finest we have read in a long them, called it all a "Trotskyist-time. It is an action story about fascist lie." At last, in 1940, Hem-Robert Jordan, a young American ingway has decided to "tell all". volunteer in the Loyalist Army. He describes Andre Marty, member Jordan is ordered to blow up a of the Central Committee of the bridge behind the lines of the fas- French Communist Party, a chiefcists. With this always in the back-ground, Hemingway skillfully tells a thrilling story about guerilla war-fare, the plight of the Spanish peo-specimens like Trotskyites. We learn ple and even a wistful love tale.

War the Stalinists worked to kill fort while the Spanish workers give their life's blood in the struggle ist People's Front government, with sip about the woman Stalinist leadtheir support, restored the land er, La Pas which the peasants had seized to the landlord owners. Many work-lectics" while the masses of Spain ers were killed in Barcelona in fought off Franco. May of 1936 when the government May of 1936 when the government and the Stalinists disarmed the Tolls," Hemingway makes his converse and repossessed the fac-

archists and other anti-Stalinists should be read.

Hemingway's novel about the told the truth about this campaign of the Stalinist hand in the murder The novel is important not only because it is well written. Its importance lies in the fact that it tells part of the truth about the role of the Stalinists in Spain. Hemingway is salving a very guilty conscience. Spanish

tories which were under workers him: "Why so late with your story? control. Scores of anti-Stalinists. Time was when the only stories you sent out of Spain were rehashes of some of them the best anti-fascist Stalinist policies with a literary fighters, were imprisoned and even touch added."

But the novel is here. Despite When the Trotskyists, the an-Hemingway's jumbled politics it

Will Avukah Support the War?

No Compromise With the War!

Among the few radical groups which have until now resisted the pressure of the imperialist war and have retained an anti-war position has been the organization of left-wing Zionist students, Avukah. While never expressing a rounded revolutionary point of view on the war question, Avukah has established a good record as one of the few campus forces which moved towards the socialist struggle against imperialist war—though on a narrow campus scale. But in periods of crisis, those who have not thought problems through to the end —like Avukah and taken an intransigeant clear-cut position usually find themselves moving closer towards the support of things as they are. The enemies of imperialism yesterday become its supporters—half-way and hesitant

Avukah illustrates the above process admirably. A number of its leading members have recently arrived at the opinion that their old position of condemning the war as imperialist on both sides and declaring that only socialism could really smash the fascist menace, is inadequate. It is necessary, they feel, to have a more "positive" position. As a result, they have drawn up a statement of position which will probably become the official point of view of the organization. It is worthy of comment, both because of the intrinsic importance of the organization and the fact that it symptomizes a more general trend among left-wing

MOST SIGNIFICANT FOR

Most striking in this statement is its omissions. No attempt is made, any serious programmatic document must, to indicate the nature of the war towards which we are to take an attitude. Whose interests does

Throughout the Spanish Civil where Stalin's agents lived in comfort while the Spanish workers give the Stalinists worked to kill fort while the Spanish workers give their life's blood in the struggle to organize maximum efforts to defeat Fascism." Of course! Everyone, the Spanish Revolution. The Loyal against fascism. There is even gosthe question is: what is the relation between this desire and the nature

> We say-and until recently Avukah did-that the war is imperialist. That is no mere abstraction to which the Avukah leaders can nod their heads and then pass on. That is decisive. By imperialist we mean that the basic motive springs of the war are those of a society which is reactionary. Capitalism, as a social system aiding in the development of man's power over nature and his ability to produce, is dead. In its place is capitalism in its imperialist phase, warring and destructive, in permanent crisis. As an international system it cannot provide a solution for any of the basic problems of society. Depression, war, unemployment, insecurity and cultural decline: these are the links in a growing chain of reaction. Hitler merely represents a few links further down on the chain than Churchill.

> All this is very concrete. It may be right or wrong. We think it is riht. So did Avukah. On that basis it determined its anti-war stand. Now its leaders propose to change its stand without in any way indicating their attitude towards these basic considerations which determined their previous stand. The reason is that they are incapable of showing 1) that the present war is not an imperialist war and 2) that it is somehow possible to "progressively" support a reactionary, imperialist war.

ROLE OF APPEASERS IN THE WAR

These Avukah leaders attempt to construct the following analysis: The "democratic" countries are divided into two camps, appeasers and those who want to fight a "total people's war against Fascism." The statement supports England whose people "at the 11th hour . . . awoke to the peril of appeasement." But who are the appeasers and how are they different from the Churchills? The appeasers are merely those capitalist spokesmen who, perceiving the military superiority of the Fascist foe, tried to gain time by making concessions. That was Chamberlain's role. The Churchills are those capitalist spokesmen who, either when forced to or when ready to fight, conduct the struggle of Britain for the maintenance of its imperialist domination of half the world. Sometimes, the same people play both roles. Chamberlain, the appeaser, became a supporter of Churchill's war. Unlike the Avukah leaders, he understood that the war was in the interests of his class and his class alone. Likewise in America, Roosevelt, the great anti-appeaser, may find it necessary tomorrow—if England is smashed—to appease Hitler in order to gain time to prepare the war of his imperialist class.

But both appeasers and non-appeasers represent the same reactionary social force. Neither can fight a war (or maintain a peace) which in any basic fashion helps the masses.

The statement continues with advocacy of a people's army to conduct the war against Fascism. It gives as an example of such an army the English "home defense guards." But this statement must be class fied as either confused or evasive. For we Trotskyists, who are against support of the imperialist war, are also for a People's Army. We are for a People's Army which will represent the struggle of the working class against its capitalist oppressors, at home and abroad. We say that only a People's Army, which would be the military adjunct of a Workers Government, could smash Fascism. Fascism is a product of capitalist decay. Fascism will sprout regardless of which side wins the war. In order to remove the fascist weed it is necessary to tear up the root. But the "people's army" to which the statement points, the "home defense guards," are, at present, merely a military adjunct of the imperialist government. There is a difference between these two kinds of People's Armies, is there not? And no verbal sleight of hand or sloppiness of formulation can remove that difference.

Another indication of the confusion in this statement is the demand for socialization of industry, definite war aims of a new social order, and freeing of colonies in order to really conduct a successful struggle against Hitler. Fine, fine, But if you are to socialize Britain's industries you have to expropriate its capitalists; if you are to declare for a new social order as the war aim you have to remove Churchill and his class who are fighting for the retention of the old social order; if you are to free the colonies you have to remove the imperialists. In brief, you have to conduct the class struggle. That is what we "impractical" Trotskyists ad-

But that means struggle against the very government whose war you propose to support. Do you think Churchill (or his Privy Seal, the labor betrayer Atlee) will socialize industry, or free the colonies? If, as you say, these policies are the only way to stop Hitlerism, then you merely buttress our contention that only a Socialist Government, replacing Churchill and overthrowing Churchill's class, can conduct a real, successful anti-Fascist war.

The leaders of Avukah must answer this question: Suppose some British workers decide to fight for socialization of industry and thereby have to begin a life-and-death struggle against Churchill's government —which will you support? If you support the workers you come into conflict with the government whose war you are supporting and thereby, to a degree, "sabotage" this war. If you support the government, you impede socialization of industry.*

FOR OR AGAINST IMPERIALIST OPPRESSION?

Again, you say you are for freeing the colonies. But that requires struggle—against the British Empire. Don't forget that Britain owns India, not Germany. On whose side do you stand: with the Indian nationalists who attack Britain's imperialist war or with their jailers, the Churchill government?

That is the issue. You cannot be both for and against imperialism. Either you support British "democratic" imperialism (Zionists should certainly have a vivid memory of how "democratic" Britain is towards its colonies) and, by the way, its Fascist allies like Greece or you stand on the side of the working class struggle against the imperialist war. for a Workers Government as the only realistic method of fighting Hitlerism.

Politics takes its strange twists. I remember only last July, before the Avukah conference, holding a discussion with one of its leaders who had been the outstanding defender of the anti-imperialist war position of the organization. He expressed his fears to me about the danger of a pro-war tendency arising in the organization. I told him that the only way to combat such a tendency was to continually educate in socialist principles on war and not to indulge in any tricks or maneuvers which would obscure the then anti-war position of Avukah. He could not see his way clear to conducting an open struggle against the pro-war Zion ists; he desired to straddle the fence, to retain the revolutionary Socialist ideas on war and to retain the friendship of the bourgeois Zionist officialdom . . . Today this leader is the inspirer of the drive to make Avukah a pro-imperialist war organization.

The lesson is a sad one, but important. The leadership and membership of Avukah still retain the opportunity to join in the great struggle ship of Avukah still retain the opportunity to join in the great struggle against the war and for a new world. They cannot compromise; they cannot dilly-dally. If they today adopt this position of half-support of imperialism, they will find themselves tomorrow to be full-blown chauvinists and war-mongers. If, on the other hand, they return to their old anti-war position and develop it to its full political and organizational conclusions, they can yet play a significant and honorable role in building up a youth movement for freedom and peace.

Army Conditions

(Continued on page 2)

the village undertaker measures your height from a distance with a shrewd and calculating look.)
"You are doing your bit for the defense of democracy." ("Then why don't they ask me if I want to go?")
Uncle Sam is recruiting a conscript army for the defense of his profits abroad. But he doesn't seem to have much concern for the welfare of the cannon fodder that will go the fighting. Why should he? He of the cannon fodder that the fighting. Why should he? He he fighting bout that cannon the care about nen it's in the factory or unemployed. The soldier same worker even if he orm. Uncle Sam remembrass hats remember. And at Joe Conscript's got to

The CHALLENGE OF YOUTH

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YOUNG PEOPLES SOCIALIST LEAGUE YOUTH SECTION, WORKERS PARTY 114 W. 14th St. (3rd Floor) New York, N. Y.

Editor: Bernard Past Bus. Manager: Edith Carlton

A PROGRAM FOR YOUTH IN THE CIO

- 1. A minimum wage of \$24 for a forty hour
- The machine facilities in the shops shall be available to the union after working hours for the instruction of the Youth in skilled trades.

Young Metal

Workers Can't

In spite of the so-called boom in

employment in the metal trades

young workers in these factorie

are as poorly paid as ever. Their

wages range from \$14 to \$18. They have little chance to learn a skilled

The Everlast Aluminum shop is

an example. Johnny Williams was

hired there in May, at the begin-ning of the season. Everlast is a

union shop, signed up with the CIO Electrical, Radio and Machine

Workers of America, Local 1225,

Johnny started at \$14 per week.

After six weeks he was raised to

\$16 by the terms of the union con-

tracts. In a week or two the sea-

son ends and he will be laid off.

Johnny is a Brillo boy; he does

unskilled monotonous work. There

are several lathes and milling ma-

a chance to operate these machines

who have had a few months of

training as machinists or sheet metal

workers are getting jobs at \$20 per

The demands of the Johnnies in

shops like Everlast all over the

country could become the program

for recruiting millions of youth into the CIO:

1. A minimum wage of \$24 for a forty hour week.

2. A few hours of training on

week so that they can learn

week in non-union shops.

All around him, young fellows

in Johnny's shop, run by

Learn Trade

Organize the Young Workers Big Job for American Labor

By EUGENE VICTOR

The fellow under twenty-five with a wise crock at the tip of his tongue and his fists in his pockets made the CIO unions the mass unions they are today. He did the fighting For Decent Conditions and the talking; he whistled in the dark and cheered when he saw light.

Of the eleven million youth employed in American shops, factories and farms, fewer than twenty per cent are organized in the CIO. Yes up to and including its recent convention the union has not taken sufficient recognition of that fact. Of course, the AFL, because At this time it is particularly bad for the unemployed whose chances of its policy of catering to the skilled workers, cannot be a great factor in organizing the

Young workers in the CIO are concentrated in a few of the mass industries. The United Further aggravating and disquieting is the discriminating manner in

Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America embraces the hundreds of thousands of unskilled and semi-skilled production workers in the radio, electrical and metal factories.

The United Paper, Novelty and Toy Workers' International Union covers the thousands of small toy and novelty fac- Not To Learn A Trade tories where so many girls and fellows learn the monotony of operating a foot press.

The United Retail and Wholesale Employees of America organizes the shipping clerks and warehouse workers of various kinds.

The New aircraft industry which is being organized by the United Automobile Workers of America employs mainly youth under twenty-five. skilled men. But Johnny never gets

The salaries of the unskilled youth working under union contracts range from fourteen to twenty dollars per week, most of them working for sixteen or eighteen. Only in semiskilled jobs on the assembly line in aircraft or auto do their wages exceed twenty-dollars.

They are not a little envious of the skilled workers, the mechanics who earn almost twice as much and more. They all feel that, given a chance they could develop some skill and command a higher wage.

These are problems that the CIO Convention did not discuss to any great extent. Two resolutions were passed in Atthe machinery in their own shops lantic City dealing with the problems of the youth. One concerns itself with the unemployed and advocates passage of the very inadequate American Youth Act.

> A resolution was carried dealing with the question of Apprenticeship which resolves "that this Convention urge upon those unions affiliated with the CIO their cooperation in the establishment of apprenticeship systems in industries where necessary under the joint control of organized labor and management."

Most of the manufacturing and jobbing bosses have taken advantage in some way of the fat profits to be gained by war orders, directly or indirectly, from the small machine shop with twenty employees which sub-contract for aircraft motor parts to the fly-by-night jewelry novelty shops making regimental badges for army uniforms the manufacturers are in glove with the "democratic" Britgetting theirs."

Youth in these factories, as well as the shipping clerks who are handling these products on their way to the army feel Stalinists raised the slogan of an saying to Roosevelt that if Russia alliance of China, Russia and the United States should find that they have a right to ask something of their bosses. But newly signed contracts are still being negotiated for sixteen dollars a week. And while machinists are in demand everywhere the average young worker can't get training on a lathe.

For years the Electrical and Radio Workers Union has discussed the problem of a uniform minimum wage in the industry. Until now very little has been done to provide for one. Now is the time for such a drive.

Members of the Young Peoples Socialist League who are members of these unions are loyal and faithful union brothers. As such they propose the following two demands of the young workers as a basis for clauses in each contract negotiated from

- 1. A minimum wage of \$24 for a forty hour week with graduations for the semi-skilled and skilled workers and holi-
- 2. The machine facilities in the shops shall be available to the union after, working hours for the instruction of young workers in the shop in skilled trades.

The Young People's Socialist League proposes a national drive in the following unions for these two demands: United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America; United Paper, Novelty and Toy Workers' International Union; and United Retail and Wholesale Employees of America.

in the metal trades. The unions know that there is no real struction. shortage of skilled mechanics. The reason for the expenditure of huge sums of money is the prospective shortage. By flood- negotiated or renewed in 1941.

Food Workers Fight

By A. ROBINSON

The situation that exists in the food industry is far from perfect. of getting jobs are even slimmer due to the addition of former World's Fair food workers. Hundreds of men and women flood the union hall each day from 6 in the morning to 3 in the afternoon. Of these, a sizable

which slips are distributed. Men and women who have been known to oppose the viewpoint of the Labor Chief and his associates have been literally "sat on the bench" for months. To offset this reaction, some locals, for example 302, have formed unemployed committees consisting of the most discriminated against, and most militant of workshop is a project administered it is not uncommon to find rows of their number. The committee's power is small, but its agitational force is greater-for it is through committees like these, that the existing order of corruption is brought to

> Desperately in need of money, countermen, who earned from \$22 to \$30 a week, are compelled to take jobs of a lower caliber: busboy, porter, dishwasher, or vegetable-man, all of which pay only \$16 a week. And of course men who have held these miscellaneous jobs for years, stand little chance for advancement.

> Women, unlike men, are less discriminated against by the Labor Chief, but are more exploited by the bosses. Counter-girls have been forced to do countermen's work without any increase in wages When this is brought to the attention of the corrupt businessagent, in many cases nothing is done. Bus-girls perform a menial drudgery that is mentally drugging and physically killing, accompanied by the bickering of the slavedriving manager. She has the least seniority, the least pay—six days a week for \$14. The use of trays should be eliminated and substituted by carts. The women should not work more than seven hours a day.

> In Local 42 the Progressive Group has ousted the leadership of President Flores henchmen whose reactionary policies they have fought for some time. The election in Local 42 has set the example for their union brothers in Local 302. The task of the workers in this local is housecleaning-and a thorough one at that.

The New York Division of the

Young Peoples Socialist League

in Irving Plaza Hall (located on

The meeting will culminate an

Plans for the meeting are very

NYA WORKSHOP - - Or How

NEW YORK, N.Y.—The Astoria the boys learning cabinet making, through the National Youth Ad- boys doing nothing but sandpaperministration. The avowed purpose ing chairs and desks until they are of this government institution is to but shadows of their former selves. help America's destitute youth learn

Several thousand young people who are employed in the factory all. In this department, half the consider this little more than a boys are busy greasing the superfarce: The only trade the instructors are teaching the boys is how to aimlessly looking over some brokstay out of trouble, that is to say like ancestors of the Model "T" 'don't bother the machines and don't bother me."

Administration at Fault

The responsibility is not to be literally no work for the majority of the student-workers—there is not to the machine shop. enough machinery and the stud-ents are given little to do. In the sheet metal department, for example, the work done could easily be put out by ten men. Nevertheless, there are already close to one hundred boys in the shop with more coming every day.

cabinet making department. Here, where one would expect to find learn the trade.

The only two shops of any value, namely machine shop and welding are closed to applicants. Workers placed on the instructors, for in in other departments are forced to almost every department there is sign certificates stating that they will make no requests for transfer

Another case is that of the auto-

mobile mechanics' class. This class

is perhaps the biggest farce of them

visors' cars while the other half is

en down engines which look more

Ford than modern auto engines.

The Astoria workship is typical of the insincerity and the inefficiency of America's boss class. The boys in this project must demand that the government provide them with the means for learning a trade They must demand more and better factories equipped with the Another example is that of the proper machinery and with enough practical work to enable them to

Hitler's Ally, Stalin, Goes Window Shopping

their hat. The "collective security" could file that for reference if the days when Russia was working hand arrangement with Hitler should evish and French imperialists are gone. But the Stalinists have not changed their colors since the sign-United States.

Molotov Visits Berlin

Then Molotov went to Berlin where he had a little talk with Hitler. He stopped off at the home of Rudolph Hess, leader of the Nazi Storm Troops, to bring him the best wishes of the "Communist" Party of the Soviet Union. Then he had his little talk. After the boys had straightened out some of their dif-'peace" alliance.

The slogan was a way of showing that Russia is not completely de-

themselves once more acting to against Hitler, Browder gether stands ready to discover that the English are not really fighting a (Youth Section, Workers Party) anwar for profits. The Stalinists will nounces an anti-war mass meeting discover all over again that Eng- on the occasion of the annual Lenland is fighting a war for democ- in-Luxemburg-Liebknecht commemracy. They will support Roosevelt oration, to be held on January 17 when he goes to war.

support among the New York Stalin's foe of the moment. young workers in support of its

The Stalinists cannot fight against position of struggle against imper-

elaborate and indicate a rousing, colorful meeting. The committee in charge announces that the main of the Workers Party, and Bernard Paston, editor of the Challenge of Youth.

The meeting will also feature a dramatic presentation which will present in visual form the struggle of American youth against war. It will utilize the fascinating scree technique which made such a hit at the LLL meeting 2 years ago.

The price of admission is de signed to fit all prockets: 10¢.

Only a short while ago the Stal- Department and the President inists pulled a new trick out of would take to the suggestion. Stalin

Ready to Repeat Whether or not one takes the ing of the Hitler-Stalin pact. The slogan seriously, the Stalinists were N.Y. League To

The Stalinists are still ready to Irving Place and 15th Street.) serve Roosevelt if the Kremlin says so. They're sold, body and soul, to ficulties, the Stalinists forgot the whatever partner Stalin may have intensive drive on the part of our Chungking - Moscow - Washington at a particular moment. They are New York organization to rally not against the war but against

pendent upon Germany; that she the war. The only real fight against stands ready to go elsewhere if war is the fight against both sides, somebody will offer her more loot for the victory of the workers and than Hitler. Secondly, it was a feel-colonial peoples over both camps er to see how the American State of imperialist oppressors.

days and vacations with pay. They soon discovered that there

The unions must be wide awake to the reason for the

ing the labor market with young second class and "helper speakers of the evening will be type" metal workers the government hopes to drive down the Nathan Gould, New York organizer wages of skilled men. A drive at this time would catch up the newly trained youth and make them part of the organized labor movement. The demand for a minimum of 60c per hour is self-

explanatory. Almost every shop under contract with the UERMWA and the UPNTWIU has one or more lathes, drill Emergency National Defense Training Program for mechanics presses and other machine tools which are available for in-

Let us see these two clauses a part of every union contract

Shipping Clerks in **Tough Spot**

The shipping clerk's job, once a good beginning for a Horatio Alger career, is today the beginning of years of drudgery for thousands of young fellows in New York. Local of the Wholesale and Retail iployees' Union has organized ese youth into an industrial union which should be able to go places. Yet the union has been marking

union shipping clerk is his wage, \$14 to \$18 per week. A sert time ago one of the union business agents pulled a trick which happens too often. He promised a shop of thirty young fellows a raise to \$18 per ek when they came up to join the union. He signed a contract with the boss for \$16.

There were no youth from the on the committee which neted this contract. The business ent himself was the sole mem of the committee. The fellows that they had been sold out, lved to put "one of their own uys" on any future negotiating ommittee and began attending on meetings to see what could e done about a higher scale.

No Youth Scale

scale for youth in industry workers are hired at all of low wages because of their y to get almost any kind of ust to be able to be a little undent of their families. ith fat contracts coming in from

drive to achieve a minimum for the shipping clerks. And more than other young worker shipping clerks feel the lack portunity to learn a trade

Young Peoples offers a program of action ath of Local 65 (see arwhere on this page) for drive to raise wages.

HEROIC NEGRO SEAMEN LEA N FIGHT AGAINST JIM-GR

Fight to Free Odell Waller - -Victim of Southern Lynch Justice!

Odell Waller, 23 year old Negro, returned to his Virginia home from Baltimore where he had gone to look for work. He returned to find his wife and mother evicted from the little plot of land they held as tenants. The one-fourth of the crop to which his contract with the landlord entitled him was being withheld.

Waller went to see the landlord Davis. Cursing, Davis

refused to give the young Negro his share of the crop. He cut short the interview by reaching for his gun. Waller, fearful, killed Davis in self-defense. The Virginia law allows a man to carry a gun if he feels his life is in danger. When Waller went to see Davis he was

Hunted by armed lynch mobs and cogs, Waller was caught and tried by an all-white jury made tried by an all-white jury made. up of ten landlords, a carpenter and a business man. He didn't have

Waller wasn't tried by a jury of his own "peers." Sharecroppers, who are the majority of the county's residents, were excluded from jury because they cannot pay the \$1.50 Virginia poll tax. The tax adds up over the years. The poor can never catch up.

of Colored People of 69 Fifth Avenue, both in New York City, called for funds to appeal the Waller case to the Supreme Court. "The crime for which Odell Waller stands conmned," it said, "is the outgrowth of unbearable conditions facing Ne-

The Waller case is one more inof the horror of America's Black Ghetto. Funds are needed for young Waller's defense. Send your above-mentioned organizations or through the "Challenge of Youth." Defend Odell Waller!

Chicago Negro Youth Discuss

CHICAGO, Ill.—"Better housing" and "lower rents" were the demands of tenants as they picketed their building at 4320-22 Forrest-ville Avenue. This is only one of a series of protests that indicate that the fight against high rents and bad housing has been started in earnest.

The conditions that brought An appeal issued jointly by the Workers Defense League of 112 in this neighborhood. The tenants are required to pay as high as 437.50 for two run-down rooms and 112 light and gas hills over \$2 about this action are an old story are required to pay as high as \$37.50 for two run-down rooms and all light and gas bills over \$2.

The first action taken by the tenants to protest against their condi-tions was to place signs in their windows. It is said that three policemen, Allen, Miller and Curtis of the 48th Precinct, broke into one gro and white sharecroppers and of the apartments without a war-migrant workers in the South." rant and arrested Bennie Forest, a tenant.

Subsequently, a mass meeting was held at which all tenants were present and plans were drawn up for contribution today, either to the fighting their cause. It was an nounced that the picketing would continue until the tenants had gained their demands.

On this page are printed two stories of the plight of the American Negro. One is the story of Odell Waller, a Negro sharecropper who would not let his white landlord cheat him out of what was due him; the other, of the heroic Negro seamen who have thrown a challenge to the officer caste of Uncle Sam's Navy.

LYNCH JUSTICE

"Keep a nigger in 'is place!" Whole states of our "democracy' live by that motto.

"Ya gotta keep a nigger in 'is place!" Gaunt bodies sway in the breeze, tortured black bodies hanging from the limbs of a thousand trees throughout the South. Shotguns shatter the stillness of the Negro discrimination which perme-Southern night. That's "keepin' the nigger in 'is place."

An invisible wall surrounds America's Black Chetto. The wall today is just as unbearable as it ensued. The officers, in a typically encircles the cramped tenements of New York's Harlem, the dingy shacks of rural Arkansas, the monotonous white-stooped red brick houses of East Baltimore . . . "keepin' the nigger in 'is place."

The Negro is no longer a slave. But he is condemned to the existence of a lackey. The more skilled and better paid jobs are, for the most part, closed to him. Reserved for the Negro are the porters' jobs, the attendants' and the lackeys' jobs. The Negro is America's servant, America's doormat. Everywhere, North and South, he is made to kowtow to the white. Everywhere he is humiliated. Everywhere he is treated like an outcast, "kept in his place."

The bosses alone stand to gain from the division between black and white. Yet there are millions of workers, of both races, prejudiced against each other. The bosses stand to gain because they can always play white against black, black against white. The AFL craft unions would not permit the Negroes to join. In many cases, when the unions went on strike, the Negro workers scabbed. Who gained from that? Black and white workers must stick together!

DEFEND UNIONS-

(Continued from page 1)

the Wages and Hours Act, and the National Labor Relations Act, or plies there are many many mounting war hysteria to spread take a contract subject to the malicious propaganda against labor. Walsh-Healy Act." malicious propaganda against labor. big business is feverishly working to deprive labor of its most precious weapon, the right to strike. Its representatives in Congress wax hysterical about the "shamefulness" of labor's freedom to "sabotage" national defense.

They talk about sabotaging national defense and endangering the democratic way of life. What they want is clear-to outlaw strikes and pay, the bosses will profit. crush the labor movement now, at the beginning of the war, so that

by Senator Dies and his investigating committee, they hope to establish that strikes are caused by fifth columnists and saboteurs, that they are Communist and fascist-inspired plots to wreck the war machine.

The bosses know what they want and they know how to get it. During the summer they sabotaged the maments program quite openly they knew what percentage of profit was assured. They want labor to do all the sacrificing. They want to be sure beforehand that it pays. They're pulling the same stunt

again. Business is refusing to bid army and navy, is putting on ter- for government contracts until it rific pressure to strip labor of the the breaking of the labor movement.

Under the cloak of "national de-fense" the bosses hope to repeal very bluntly: the Walsh-Healy Act at least "amend" them. Using the facturers who will not bid and

> Congressional bills to outlaw strikes and union activities are introduced.

At the same time, the press is heavy on the sacrificing refrain: "Sacrifice, sacrifice, sacrifice" chiefly for the workers. "Just as workers will be asked to work long-er hours, so manufacturers will be asked to forge some profits-" says Secretary Stimson. But we know what that means:-the workers will

Labor's answer to its enemies both from within and from with out must be a vigorous and lusty their profits will rise unchallenged. refusal to surrender an inch of the Through the notoriety achieved ground it has gained, and a fierce determination to carry on the strug-gle. Labor's answer must be that of the Vultee strikers.

I AM INTERESTED

in receiving more information

City

FOR DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS

Right now, it is the black seamen who have shown the way in the battle for democratic rights in the armed forces of the United States. The same officers who have thrown the Negro seamen into the brig for telling the truth about discrimination are the ones who make it impossible for an enlisted white man to rise in the service.

The officers are the oppressors of both black and white. Black and truth about discrimination are the ones who make it impossible for an enlisted white man to rise in the service.

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The officers are the oppressors of both black and white. Black and truth about discrimination are the ones who make it impossible for an enlisted white man to rise in the service. white must stick together in the fight against the dandies of West for example, has on its application are to be found every-Point and Annapolis.

The Southern landowners, whose latest victim is Odell Waller, want to keep the Negro in his present place. But there is a better place for the Negro. His place is with the white worker, fighting shoulder to shoulder, for the socialist victory of both. White and black must fight unitedly. For in that unity they will find the strength to overthrow the oppressors of both!

Serve onicers would be. Recording to the statement, "Negro reserve of the statement, "N

South Side Tenants Fight Against High Re

held at the Committee's headquarhousing campaign of the Council. tivities. The South Side Action Committee ganization.

tional Association for the Advance- expressed the opinion that witnessment of Colored People and the ing the work of the Action Com-South Side Action Committee was mittee was a great incentive to members of the Youth Council who ters at 3248 Cottage Grove Avenue. were present and would surely The meeting was held as part of the spur them on in their housing ac-

is a militant fighting housing or- on his re-election as chairman of the Council. His encouragement of At the close of the meeting Mr. democratic procedure and the involvement of the Council in work-Barton, chairman of the Action ing class struggles has distinguished him as a militant leader.

Fifteen Negro mess attendants on the U.S.S. Philadelphia decided that it was time to let the outside world in on a few facts concerning the treatment afforded America's

They hadn't thought that there was discrimination in the Navy. They were wrong, and they wanted the world to know it. A letter signed by 15 colored mess attendants was sent to and printed in the Pittsburgh Courier. It revealed several startling facts about the life on the Negro in Uncle Sam's Navy.

After completion of their training period, the sailors, both black and white, entered the service of the U.S. Navy. But there was one difference upon entering the Navy. The

General Jim -

Crow Still U.S.

Jim Crow in the United States

ated the entire American army dur-

ing the last war has not been eased.

With all the talk about national

defense one might imagine that the

my. But, the heritage and tradi-tion of the American officers caste

prevents giving Negroes in the mili-

tary service an equal footing with

NO NEGROES IN AIR CORPS

Recently a young Negro suc-

ceeded in getting into the army air

corps. Not long after his applica-

tion was accepted this Negro sta-tioned at Fort Pinkston, Tennessee

"Due to most unfortunate cir-

M. West, Jr., First Lieutenant, Air

This boy's case was not an ex-

blank, "No applicants of the Negro

NO BLACK OFFICERS

are but two in the entire U.S.

But the insulting manner of the U.S. Government towards its dark-

TAKE ADVANTAGE

of your special subscription

Send me your paper for 6

I WANT TO

Enclosed find 10é.

race will be accepted."

received the following letter.

Army Boss

was twenty years ago.

lot in civil life.

white sailor automatically received a pay raise from 21 to 36 dollars a month. The colored sailors on the other hand, after completing a year's training were forced to take a competitive examination. Only a few of those who came out on the top of the list were given their

But that wasn't all. It wasn't even the worst thing that happened to the Negro sailor. While the white sailors were given normal ship duty, is not dead. He has merely changed the naval activity of the black sailclothes. Not only does he wear or was confined to shining officers civilian apparel but has adorned boots, making their beds and waithimself with the uniform of the ing on white sailors at the table; U.S. army. Facts show that antigroes passed the same mental physical examination as the whites Fights and quarrels between the democratic manner, invariably ar-rested the black sailor. In a few months, 9 of the ships colored per-American government would wel-come the Negroes into the U.S. ar- the ship's prison brig, fed on bread the ship's prison brig, fed on bread and water.

No sooner had the news of the Neroes' protests reached the ears of the officers, than immediate disthe white soldiers. On the contrary ciplinary steps were taken. Two the Negro has to suffer all and more of the indignities that are his and Byron Johnson, were thrown and Byron Johnson, were thrown into prison where they now face a court martial. The other thirte men were placed under arrest and interned on ship. Since then, little information has been received on the case. But already thousands are championing the cause of the brave Negro lads.

Solidarizing themselves with the men of the U.S.S. Philadelphia, cumstances, your application was al- Negro mess attendants of the U.S.S. lowed to be completed because of Samson and the U.S.S. Davis have our ignorance of your race. At the published signed letters similar to present time the U.S. Army is not the letter of the fifteen. Jim Crow training any except members of the armed froces is being given the white race for duty as pilots of military aircraft."

The letter was signed by Herbert

skinned officers is nothing compared with the conditions of the Negro ceptional one, for the records show that up to date not one Negro is that up to date not one Negro is "The Crisis", published by the Nabeing trained as a pilot in the Army tional Association for the Advancein the army. Segregation, and diswhere. In the War Department the ater, for instance, the Negro regiment of three hundred has a row of NO BLACK OFFICERS

fifteen seats asigned "reserved for colored," and a Negro cannot sit in White House recently, revealing any other section.
what the status of the Negro re-

Another example of discriminaserve officers would be. According tion is the fact that in the army about the units composed of black troops and officered by white personnel? The Negro reserve officers, according to Washington, should be There are no educational facilities excluded. They will only be al-for the Negroes and as for learn-lowed in the units which already ing a trade, it is nothing more than have colored officers, of which there a dream.

NATIONAL UNITY?

"National Unity"-What does a slogan, inscribed on the banner of every chauvinist politician mean for the Negro? What does national unity mean to a human be is subjected to the worst discr ation and degradation of any section of the nation?

For the Negro, more than any ther group, national unity national submission.

But America's fourteen million Negroes in both military and civil life are becoming more and m conscious of their rights and their ability to fight for them.

ents					
chairma	n of	the	You	th C	oun-

CHICAGO, Ill.—A joint meeting Quin, chairman of the Youth Council of the Na- cil, to say a few words. Mr. Quin Mr. Quin is to be congratulated