

THE FIGHTING WORKER

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Labor Donated

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Wall Street Cracks Whip For Draft Extension

USSR Defense Needs Workers Democracy

August 7 — After being held at bay for 3 weeks, the Nazi forces are again pushing forward.

Although the Germans have pierced the first main defenses, they have yet to overcome whole armies still within their lines, as well as widespread guerilla forces who are playing havoc with the Nazi transportation and com-

munication lines.

SERIOUS INTERNAL WEAKNESS

Despite the heroic resistance of the Russian Army, it would be fatal to overlook the Nazi advances being made, even though slowly and at great cost. These advances indicate internal weakness in the Red Army and the Soviet Union under Stalinism, a weakness previously witnessed in the Finnish campaign.

On the other hand, the Red Army is favored by the vast distances the German forces must cover, and by the fact that the greater part of the harvest is over.

The main theatre of the war is still in and around the first line of defense. Far to the east, at the foot of the Urals is still a second line of defense. If it comes to the

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Brass Hats Gag Soldiers' Protests

Cracking the whip of war hysteria, the New Deal-Wall Street Administration moves toward Congressional action to extend the draft for another 18 months.

Widespread opposition has for the moment forced FDR to withdraw his demand for open power to send the draftees, National Guardsmen and Reserves to any part of the earth. This step will undoubtedly follow, once the hurdle of the draft extension is gotten over. Even as Congress debates the question, Roosevelt drives forward on his program for open intervention.

FAKE OPPOSITION

The cynical promise that the draft was only for a year's training is now being exposed. The "isolationists," however, make use of the issue for their own reas-

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CLERKS SCORE NEW GAIN

August 8—Seven hundred Chicago retail clerks gave the American Federation of Labor a last chance to turn the clerks union back to the membership, at a meeting called by their Temporary Working Committee at the Midland Hotel on August 4th.

The Working Committee is composed of the elected representatives of 1,800 clerks who 8 weeks ago threw gangster Max Caldwell out of Local 1248, Retail Clerks International Protective Association. Caldwell "organized" the National Tea, Hillman and A&P bosses back in 1937, during the National Tea warehouse Strike. After signing contracts with the three companies he then informed the 5,000 clerks that they were now in the Union and must pay dues. Based on collections of \$2 a month dues and \$25 initiation fees Caldwell is alleged to have swindled the workers of \$910,000. Furthermore in all the four years of Local 1248, Caldwell never once negotiated a pay raise, although on dozens of oc-

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let the soldiers speak!

The guardhouse riot at Fort Knox, Kentucky, last week would probably still remain unknown had not the killing of one of the "prisoners", a 19 year old Indiana boy, forced the incident into the public press.

350 "prisoners", it is reported, stoned officers and guards, and were quelled only after the killing and the use of a fire hose.

(Riot, fire hose, killing — how like the boss press pictures of a strike scene! Only the tear gas is lacking!)

FOR A RANK AND FILE INVESTIGATION

What sort of conditions exist in the camp to call forth this stoning of officers and guards? Why so many "prisoners"? What is their version of the killing and the "riot"?

Have they too been taught how to break strikes — "riots"?

The labor movement should support the demand of the rank and file soldiers for a full investigation — their OWN investigation. The soldiers are our fellow workers, conscripted "for a year". **Let the soldiers speak!**

Negro Patriots Accept Jim Crow

The issuance of a presidential executive order for a "Fair Employment Committee" was enough to call off the protest march on Washington against Negro discrimination in the "offense" industries.

With hat in hand, the legalistic leaders of the march that never materialized, like true gentlemen tactfully avoided the embarrassment a militant protest might cause the gallant defender of the "four freedoms".

IMPERIALIST PATRIOTS

After all, singly and collectively these renegade Negro "leaders" are rabid interventionists. Randolph and Crosswaith, with touching devotion to their master class, have expounded on platform and in pamphlets why the Negro should die in defense of American lynch democracy. Mr. Crosswaith has quit the Socialist Party; it is too "left". Mr. Pickens, of the N.A.A.C.P., already has a nice berth in the War Department: to "integrate" Negroes in the National Offense, that is, to make them accept Jim Crow without too much noise. The head of the N.A.A.C.P., Mr. White, a \$4,000 a year man, is by some strange mental quirk a victim of the illusion that Negro inequality can be wiped out by laws.

Where could such a leadership lead the Negro masses? To be blunt, the Negro masses were sold out by a pro-war, pro-New Deal leadership.

EXECUTIVE ORDER A JOKE

It is now obvious to all that the executive order is the big joke of the day. The Committee appointed by the President has less power to fight discrimination than the German Reichstag to make peace. It can **suggest!** It can even criticize(!) Mr. Glen Martin, whose airplane plant in Baltimore has large government contracts, and who has stated flatly that he will not employ Negroes, President's order or no order!

Who are on this committee? William Green, with his Jim Crow locals; Chicago Negro alderman Dickerson, a good machine man; the president of the Radio Corporation of America; Phillip Murray of the CIO. Such a committee offers no breath-taking prospects to the Negro workers.

Neither their false leaders nor Roosevelt will help the Negro people. The fight against Jim Crow is the job of the Negro and white workers themselves, in cooperation with the progressive and intelligent forces that are growing up in the labor movement as a whole.

BUILD THE WEEKLY FIGHTING WORKER

With this issue the FIGHTING WORKER changes its format. Our smaller size will enable us to appear weekly instead of monthly, to reach new readers, and thereby to double and treble our circulation.

We ask our readers and friends to renew their old subs and send in new ones. However, we wish to point out that subs cost more in handling, cutting, folding, and mailing than the amount of the sub. We want subs for obvious reasons, as many as we can get. But what we need to put the paper over, both financially and in terms of circulation, are BUNDLE ORDERS.

You can help by ordering a **regular bundle** (from 5 to 500 copies), and distributing it among your friends. You can help by making a special or regular contribution, and getting your friends to do the same.

SUPPORT THE FIGHTING WORKER FUND.

I am enclosing \$..... for a sub..... bundle order contribution..... to the **Fighting Worker**.

Name
Address
City

PEOPLE IN "GLASS" HOUSES...

Carter Glass, "Democratic" Senator from Virginia, is honorary chairman of the "Fight for Freedom, Inc." This outfit is screaming for U. S. participation in the war now, if not sooner,— to secure freedom in Europe and elsewhere. How about the poll tax, Jim Crow, and the case of share-cropper Odell Waller in YOUR OWN STATE, Senator?

SOVIET UNION

(continued from page 1)

worst, providing the Red Army can carry out a successful retreat, a long drawn out war can exhaust the enemy in the depths of this hostile territory. Barring extraordinary Stalinist blunders, German imperialism is far from completing the Eastern campaign.

The turn of the Stalinists to support of the American and British imperialists, to "force" them to intensify their struggle on Hitler's western front, retards the growth of revolutionary forces in Europe and America. For the promises of aid by the democratic imperialists, Stalinism surrenders the masses to the Churchills and Roosevelts. For the perspective of a Socialist United States of Europe it substitutes the perspective of an Anglo-American dominated Europe of military dictatorships.

This can only help to prolong the passivity of the European masses while Hitler continues his intervention, and the "democratic" powers use the Soviet Union as a pawn in their imperialist struggle. And far worse, it covers up the plans of the Anglo-American imperialists for counter-revolution in the Soviet Union under THEIR hegemony, after they have used Stalinism to the full.

The defense of the Soviet Union demands a struggle against the imperialist war. Take what aid the imperialists may offer for their own reasons, but give them NO SUPPORT. The way to weaken Hitler is to arouse the masses in his rear, in Germany, and all the conquered countries. This alone can nullify all Hitler's victories, regardless of what he wins in the period before the workers of Europe arise.

The Fighting Worker

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**PACKINGHOUSE
 LETTER**

August 2,
 Kansas City.

Fellow Worker Editor:

We are about due for an explosion in packinghouse here. In Cudahy's all the men are worked up with the way the company is stalling over grievances and conditions. Finally, when the boys threatened to shut down the plant, the Co. fired the manager and the super and agreed to talk contract. The Armour men voted over 1,200 to 95 last night in support of their and our demands.

FED UP WITH BIG SHOTS

Also the men are fed up with Shady Lewis, John L. Lewis and the whole outfit of the PWOC big shots who play ball with the Co. Enough of sell-outs! Here in district 4, and particularly in K. C., the boys paid the per capita tax only under the National Office threat to take the charters up and notify the Co. not to bargain with us. We paid, but we're not through with Shady Lewis and his gang. What we want is a democratic, rank and file controlled union, that will fight in the interests of the men, and if necessary we'll negotiate our own contract.

Yours for real unionism,
 J.

CHANGE of ADDRESS

We call to the attention of our readers and friends our new address. In the future please send all mail for the **Fighting Worker, International News, or Revolutionary Workers League** to the address of our publishers:

DEMOS PRESS
 708 N. Clark St.
 Chicago, Ill.

JAPAN FACES WAR DECISION

August 7—Japan's occupation of strategic military bases in Indo-China has put her in easy striking range of the tin mines and rubber plantations of British Malaya and Burma, within an hour's flight from Bangkok, and gives her air control over the ship routes of the China Sea.

It is an important gain for Japan against the Anglo-American bloc; moreover, a gain obtained by military pressure but without resort to war. Japan is playing her cards carefully.

Vichy consented to Japan's demands, altho she turned down the British demand of several weeks ago for similar "rights" in Iraq. This reveals at least a Hitler consent, if not a Hitler move to woo Japan into preparations for bigger things to come against the Anglo-American bloc in the Pacific.

ECONOMIC WAR A PRELIMINARY.

Roosevelt's reply, seconded by the British, opens a higher stage of **economic** warfare, but in no way settles the issue, nor will it stop Japan. Unless the U. S. and British follow up with military action Japan will take even further steps, such as the pressure on Siam, short of an open showdown with the Anglo-American bloc. It is unlikely, however, that she will accede to Nazi desires for such a showdown at this time. Much more probable is a Japanese move against the Soviet Union, as soon as the Red Army seems sufficiently weakened.

Japan faces the most critical stage of her imperialist history, since an involvement with Russia will surely be used by the U. S. Imperialists to strike for their own interests.

**Clerks Give Green
 24 Hour Notice**

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 casions he permitted wage reductions.

PART OF POLITICAL MACHINE

All attempts by the members to get an accounting of the funds or to get honest sick and death benefits were refused by gangster Caldwell, who is a member of the Nitti-Humphreys gang in Chicago which in turn is closely allied with the Kelly-Nash machine.

Since the ouster of Caldwell the rank and file have been given dozens of promises but no action from the A.F.L. The protests of the Temporary Working Committee and the dozens of leaflets put out finally brought results. Daniel Carmell, Teamsters lawyer in Chicago and office boy for Victor Olander, Secretary of the Illinois Federation of Labor, was put in charge of the whole mess. An agreement in writing which guarantees the Temporary Working Committee control of the reorgan-

ization of the Local was entered into and a new charter, Local 1530,, was issued by the International.

OLANDER SEEKS CONTROL

But now there developed new obstacles. Olander stepped into the scene and insisted that every organizer, every penny spent, every act must have his OK before any action be taken. The charter was to remain in Olander's possession until he saw fit. It was against the attempts of Olander to impose himself on the membership from above that the August 4th meeting resolved to give William Green 24 hours to start carrying out the agreement reached with the rank and file.

CHICAGO MEETINGS

Hugo Oehler:
 Dialectical Materialism
 (A reply to Eastman and Hook)
Saturday, August 16th.
Social Science Forum:
 708 North Clark Street

LABOR MUST UNITE AGAINST SEDI- TIOUS CONSPIRACY FRAME-UP

The indictment of the leaders of the Teamsters Union in Minneapolis and a number of Trotskyite leaders on the framed-up charges of "seditious conspiracy" to overthrow the government by armed force is a part of the general campaign of the Roosevelt Administration to break the spirit of labor and stifle every voice that speaks out against the war drive. It is a cynical payment by Roosevelt of his political debt to Dan Tobin, president of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters.

WORKERS DEFENSE SQUADS

The Trotskyites are charged with controlling Local 544 of the AFL Teamsters, which on June 9 went CIO when it became impossible to maintain the union under Tobin's gangster rule. They are charged further with organizing "armed" Workers Defense Squads, strikes, etc.

Significantly enough, Roosevelt sees nothing wrong in Tobin's suit to tie up union funds, or in the fact that Tobin has imported hundreds of armed thugs to slug and intimidate the truck drivers into rejoining the AFL. But workers' defense squads — that is "armed revolution"!

The campaign for the defense and vindication of the indicted 29 deserves the cooperation and support of all workers and their organizations, regardless of whether or not they agree with the Trotskyites. Since all the union members deny membership in the Socialist Workers Party, it is possible that their cases may be handled separately from those of the SWP members. But in any case the whole frame-up is an attack against 544 through the SWP.

R.W.L. OFFERS COOPERATION

The Revolutionary Workers League has written to the SWP

—o—
**League Speakers every Saturday
night at 8 P. M.**

Plebian Forum:

**34 South Peoria
Chicago, Illinois**

and offered its full support in this struggle. We believe the defense can be made most effective by the establishment of a broad united front whose main task will be to mobilize the aggressive support of the broad masses in the unions, and which will win to its aid the working class political organizations, fraternal societies, and the like. In addition, liberal sentiment can be mobilized as a part of this general united front campaign.

It would be a serious blow, tending to dissipate the entire campaign, if these working class forces were not so approached, or if the defense is permitted to degenerate into little more than a committee of prominent individuals set up to secure funds and conduct a legalistic defense.

Wheeler's Isolationism

Senator Wheeler, arch-isolationist, announces his approval of Roosevelt's action in freezing Japanese credits in this country and in enforcing sanctions against Japanese commerce.

For months Wheeler has campaigned up and down the country denouncing the war-mongers in the White House. Now, it appears, Wheeler is not at all opposed to imperialist war. He opposes the "undeclared war" with Germany, but favors the same undeclared war with Japan. The "isolationism", the hypocritical talk of "peace" by the America Firsters, stands exposed as a fraud and a deceit.

LIGHTNING ROD

Wheeler and his tribe deserve the highest awards of Wall Street. As self-appointed leaders of the American masses' opposition to the war drive, they have served as lightning rods to divert this opposition from real expression. They have corrupted the healthy working class sentiment against the war; and have made of this sentiment a tool in the inter-capitalist fights for position and profit.

DRAFT EXTENSION

(continued from page 1)

ons, to win for various groups of capitalists greater concessions, from the government (tax concessions, less war-time regulation, etc.) But that the "isolationists" are in agreement with the "interventionists" on the need of U.S. Imperialism for a large armed force as a long range perspective, was revealed by Democratic Senator Clark, of Missouri, who called for armed occupation and establishment of open puppet governments in Latin America.

But the soldiers in the camps demand that the one year promise be kept. They seize on every opportunity, and every possible method, to express themselves. By letters to relatives, friends and sometime newspapers, and once or twice in resolutions to Congress, and by word of mouth when they are on furlough, they state their view.

BRASS HATS CRY TREASON

The brass hats are furious. While the high army and navy officials, profiting from the war program through their connections with various corporations, beat the drums for draft extension, they raise the cry of "near-treason" and threaten court-martial at every attempt of the rank and file soldiers to express THEIR opinions.

Against the drive of the capitalists to silence the workers in uniform, the labor movement, in self defense, must raise the demand for the right of expression for the soldiers.

The bosses and their officers in the army are preparing the soldiers for large strike-breaking actions; the labor movement must oppose this, and must fight for better food and better conditions for the soldiers in the camps, for their right to read labor papers, for higher wages, improved hospital and recreation facilities, and above all, against the draft extension. In this way will worker-soldier unity be forged.

—o—
**Our Main Enemy Is At Home —
Our Own Boss Class**