

25,000 NEGROES PROTEST JIM CROWISM

The Soviet-U.S.-British Pacts

By Felix Morrow

Stalin has agreed to join Anglo-American imperialism in imposing a second and worse Versailles Treaty on Germany and in crushing the post-war wave of revolution.

With extreme precision, the treaty provides first that the signatories may not enter "into any negotiations with the Hitlerite Government or any other government in Germany that does not clearly renounce all aggression intentions," and, second, may not "negotiate or conclude, except by mutual consent, any armistice or peace treaty with Germany."

That is, no matter what kind of government is established in Germany, the Red Army must continue hostilities against it until British imperialism agrees to a cessation of the war. If the workers of Germany rise and overthrow Hitler and his capitalist masters, they will find themselves still at war with the U. S.-British-Russian alliance.

The "democracies" and their Stalinist satellite will try to disarm the German revolution. As the treaty says, "they will after termination of hostilities take all measures in their power to render impossible the repetition of aggression and violation of peace by Germany."

Revising the 'Cordon Sanitaire' The reactionary role of victorious France after the last war as the master of continental Europe is now scheduled to be played by a British-Russian alliance.

In much the same brazen terms in which they hailed the Stalin-Hitler pact as the guarantee of an epoch of peace for mankind, so now Stalin's agents praise the U. S.-Russian agreement.

"These points (of the agreement) guarantee the peaceful and cooperative co-existence after the war of the world's two greatest powers, America and the Soviet Union. They point the way to a world in which national independence, security from aggression, and peaceful progress will be developed jointly by these two great countries in close collaboration with Britain, China, and other peoples and nations."

"These points, in short, open a new epoch in world history. They open the doors for 'the century of the common man.'"

This gibberish, we can predict with certainty, will shortly be supplemented with more concrete justifications of a second and worse Versailles and of a counter-revolutionary perspective for post-war Europe.

Tomorrow the Stalinists will argue that Anglo-American tutelage of Europe is necessary for post-war reconstruction. To talk of proletarian revolution amid starvation and devastation will be dubbed by Stalinism as "fifth column" work.

Up to now, the Stalinists justified support of the "democracies" for the sake of "defeating fascism." Now they call for support of the democracies after the defeat of fascism — for 20 years or for "a century of the common man."

Stalin Needed Little Urging

We can be sure that Stalin needed little urging to agree to the Roosevelt-Churchill conception of post-war Europe. As much as the imperialists, Stalin and the Kremlin bureaucracy fear the coming wave of revolution.

As Trotsky once put it in an unforgettable sentence: "When the horizons of the Soviet Union are ringed with red instead of brown, the masses of the first workers' state will themselves settle accounts with the usurpers in the Kremlin." Stalinism has maintained itself because of the fear of the Soviet workers and peasants that a struggle with the bureaucracy might leave the way open for an imperialist invasion.

But the calculations of Roosevelt-Churchill-Stalin against the proletarian revolution will prove as faulty as those of Wil-

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War Labor Board Orders Recruiting Of Strikebreakers

The United States Employment Service, acting at the direct orders of the War Labor Board, announced on June 15 that it is using "every resource possible" to recruit strikebreakers to replace 140 striking workers of the Arkwright Corporation's textile plant in Fall River, Massachusetts.

At the same time an official of the Selective Service threatened to invoke the "work or fight" order, declaring that "any man who willfully leaves his war job is subject to automatic reclassification by his local draft board."

The strike began last week when members of an independent union who were demanding action from the WLB for a \$3.50 a week pay increase became disgusted with further government stalling and finally struck.

The WLB threatened last Saturday that if the strikers did not return to work at once, they would be replaced by other workers. The strikers failed to yield to this threat.

William Davis, WLB chairman, then sent a telegram to the regional head of the U. S. Employment Service stating: "Fixers and changers at Arkwright Corp. have failed to end strike in accordance with National War Labor Board request. Under circumstances would you proceed at once to direct the manager of your Fall River, Mass., office to secure necessary replacements as previously arranged."

Women Workers Strike At Akron Rubber Plant

Sit Down In Protest Against New Speed-Up Piece-Work

AKRON, Ohio, June 10. — A militant sit-down strike of 375 women workers which began last Saturday at the Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co. plant here was ended late this afternoon under the combined pressure of the CIO United Rubber Workers national officials, the Goodyear local officers, the company and government conciliators.

The agreement to return to work was obtained after Paul Fuller, local U. S. Department of Labor conciliator, promised the strikers to open negotiations of their grievances as soon as production was resumed.

Principal immediate cause of the strike was the introduction by the company of a new piece work system which requires the women workers to double their output in order to increase their wages by 6%.

In introducing the new piece-work system, the company went over the heads of the local union. The department employing most of the striking women produces rubber life vests, assault and escape boats. For the past 18 months, the department had been paying day rates pending negotiations of piece-work rates. The piece work rate was slipped over without agreement with the union.

This is the fourth sit-down strike in Akron rubber plants in six weeks. They are being provoked by increased speed-up, regimentation, forced participation in war drives, and a variety of other grievances.

The militancy of the women strikers is indicated by their refusal to end their strike last night at the direct order of Sherman Dalrymple, URW international president, and C. V. Wheeler, president of the Goodyear local. A back-to-work movement attempted by the company this morning failed miserably.

This strike organized and led by rank and file women workers, most of them new in the plants, reflects a growing awareness by women workers of the special ex-

ploitation to which they are being subjected as a result of the war. Brought into industry to replace men sent into the army and to force down wages, the new industrial recruits from the kitchen will soon be taking a front rank in the struggles of organized labor.

Duke 'Calms' Nassau Workers After His Troops Kill Three

Blames Strike Against 80c-A-Day Wage On 'Outside Agitators'; Hands Out Free Meal

The strike and militant demonstrations of 2,000 native workers two weeks ago at the United States base in the British Bahamas seemed chiefly newsworthy to the American capitalist press because they compelled the Duke of Windsor to cancel his shopping tour and visit to Washington and hustle home to "calm" the strikers.

The ex-King of England's first step in "calming" the strikers and their sympathizers was to deliver a speech over the radio blaming the conflict on "outside agitators." He had already received a little preliminary assistance in his "calming" chore from British troops who shot three strikers to death, wounded scores and jailed over 40.

Now comes the further report that the Duke is "calming" the native workers by — giving them a free feed on the construction job. According to a June 9 AP dispatch from Nassau, Bahamas, "The Duke of Windsor saw today 2,000 laborers receive a free noon-day meal at a United States project from which they started a riot on June 1 over their pay of 80 cents a day."

We have no doubt that the workers needed this meal. But we wonder how — on 80 cents a day — they are going to feed their families and themselves for every succeeding day after the free meal.

The Duke promised the natives that he was going to see what he could do about getting the U. S. government to raise the native workers' pay. On his return to

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Redcaps' Union Votes Support For Eighteen

The Redcaps union, the United Transport Service Employees of America, has passed a strong resolution condemning the convictions in the Minneapolis "sedition" trial and protesting interference by the FBI in the democratic procedure of the labor movement.

This action was taken by the union at its recent national convention in Cincinnati. The convention also voted unanimously to affiliate to the CIO. Since then the CIO has accepted the application for affiliation, and the UTSEA is now a regular international chartered by the CIO.

Willard S. Townsend, president of the union, who has been elected to the National Executive Board of the CIO, introduced the resolution on behalf of the Minneapolis defendants.

The Civil Rights Defense Committee of 160 Fifth Ave., New York City, the official defense committee for the 18 workers convicted in Minneapolis, announced the passage of the resolution this week, and the receipt of a letter from John L. Yancey, secretary-treasurer of the union, asking how his organization could be of assistance.

The resolution adopted by the convention points out that the indictment against the leaders of Motor Transport and Allied Workers Industrial Union Local 544-CIO "were secured by AFL Teamsters President Daniel J. Tobin after Local 544 elected to disaffiliate from the AFL and join the CIO, and were welcomed into the CIO by President Murray."

DENOUNCE SMITH ACT

The resolution notes that "these are the first convictions under the Smith Act of 1940, sponsored as part of his union-busting campaign by Poll-Tax Representative

'We Want Democracy At Home' Is Demand Of Huge N.Y. Rally

March-On-Washington Movement Calls for Full Equality Now, Freedom for Waller

NEW YORK, June 17. — In the middle of the second war "to make the world safe for democracy," 25,000 militant Negro men and women jammed the huge Madison Square Garden here last night for five solid hours, to demand democracy at home for 13,000,000 black Americans. Such a demonstration has never before had its like in peace-time or war-time America.

These Negro people weren't asking the white ruling class for their rights. They were telling the white bosses that they'd better not kick the Negro around any more. They weren't begging, they were demanding. They were willing to listen to words — the more militant, the better — but they were ready for and wanted action.

This vast outpouring of protest against Jim-Crow in all its forms came in response to the call of the Negro March-on-Washington Movement whose National Director is A. Philip Randolph, head of the AFL Pullman Porters. It is the first of a series of similar protest meetings to be held in Chicago, Washington, and other leading cities throughout the country.

KEYNOTE OF MEETING

While the speakers — mainly from the small, more privileged strata of the Negro people — dealt briefly with the war and acknowledged their support for it, neither they nor the audience devoted a great deal of attention and enthusiasm to it. The keynote of the meeting was protest — protest against discrimination in industry, in government, in the armed forces, in every walk of life.

Of major significance is the very fact of the meeting itself, the fighting spirit of the audience. They warned to every word

Howard Smith . . . The Smith Act is a dangerous weapon against labor's rights as shown by its use against the Minneapolis Teamsters, and must be tested for its constitutionality in this case. "Therefore be it resolved," the resolution continues, "that this union condemns the convictions in the Minneapolis labor case, and protests the interference of the FBI in the democratic procedure of the labor movement."

The jurisdiction of the UTSEA includes redcaps, pushers, station porters, attendants, Pullman service workers, laundry workers and other service employees. Although its membership is predominantly Negro, white workers are admitted on equal terms.

that spoke of determination and militancy, and above all that gave the hint of action.

But there was one thing lacking. For all the militant words of the speakers — they had to be militant to get any response from the audience — they failed to sound that clear call for action that the Negro people are expecting and awaiting. If this meeting showed anything at all, it showed that the Negro masses want to know what action they can take now to destroy Jim-Crow.

MEETING'S CHIEF ACTIONS. The three chief actions of the meeting were: 1. the adoption of an eight-point program demanding an immediate end to discrimination and segregation in every form, and advocating independence for the colored races and the colonial peoples throughout the world; 2. the approval of a petition requesting a stay of execution and freedom for Odell Waller; 3. the initiation of a petition to President Roosevelt calling for an immediate executive order to abolish Jim-Crow in the armed forces.

A disappointing aspect of the meeting for the audience was its poor organization. The efforts of the leadership to give a "respectable" tinge to the meeting induced them to load the program with too many speakers who had too little to say but insisted on saying it at great length. As a result, the meeting dragged out until the patient and enthusiastic audience became physically uncomfortable. What was to be the crowning feature of the meeting, the address of Randolph presenting the program of the March-on-Washington Movement, was crowded into a last few minutes.

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Stalinists Assassinate Labor Leader In Cuba

Killed by C. P.



SANDALIO JUNCO

HAVANA, Cuba (by Mail) May 23. — Cuban labor has been aroused to fever-pitch indignation at the Stalinist gun-squad assassination of Sandalio Junco, a well-known Negro labor leader and Trade Union Secretary of the Cuban Revolutionary Party (Partido Revolucionario Cubano).

After a vicious campaign of lynch incitement against Junco in the Stalinist press, he was murdered as he rose to address a big mass meeting in the municipality of Sancti-Spiritus, on May 8.

The municipality, whose functionaries and employees are members of various anti-imperialist parties, had voted to observe a formal holiday on May 8, the seventh anniversary of the murder of Antonio Gutierrez, the famous anti-imperialist fighter who was assassinated in 1935 by President Machado's gangsters. For the evening meeting the municipal council voted to invite Sandalio Junco as the principal speaker, since he had been an intimate comrade-in-arms of Gutierrez.

CP PREPARATIONS

When the municipality announced the meeting and the principal speaker, the Stalinist paper, Hoy, denounced him as a "fifth columnist," condemned the meeting and called on workers to oppose it. During the days preceding the meeting, every conceivable calumny was heaped on Junco — the typical GPU method of preparing the appropriate atmosphere for an assassination.

As Junco, sitting on the platform at the meeting, got up and

the Workers Revolutionary Party (Partido Obrero Revolucionario), Cuban section of the Fourth International.

Junco was one of the founders of the Communist Party of Cuba and played an important role in developing the Communist movement throughout Latin America. He was imprisoned by Machado and had to flee to escape assassination in 1925. In exile in Mexico he was soon threatened with being delivered by the Mexican authorities to Machado. In 1926 he went to the SU as a political refugee and became a friend of many of the Soviet leaders later murdered by Stalin.

Returning to political work in Latin America, he was the author of the thesis on the Negro question in Latin America at the Congress of Communist Parties of Latin America in Buenos Aires in 1930. By 1932 he had broken with Stalinism, and for a time was close to the Trotskyist movement. However, he then joined with Antonio Gutierrez in building the anti-imperialist movement, Young Cuba (Joven Cuba).

As the Trade Union Secretary of the Cuban Revolutionary Party, he belonged to its left wing, emphasizing the necessity for independent working class action. He was a bitter opponent of the Popular Front line of the Stalinists. He was for the defense of the Soviet Union, but opposed to support of the imperialists in the war. His last article, published a few days before his murder, was an attack on the capitulation to imperialism of the Stalinist leader, Blas Roca.

THE WALLER CASE

As We Go to Press

NEW YORK, June 17. — It appeared certain tonight that only a nation-wide flood of protest will keep Odell Waller, Negro sharecropper, from dying in an electric chair on June 19. With virtually all legal steps exhausted, and with the United States Supreme Court having twice refused to review the case, mass pressure must be exerted within the next two days to compel Virginia's Governor Darden and President Roosevelt to take steps to halt the execution.

The Workers Defense League, the official Waller defense organization is calling upon all labor and liberal groups and individuals to keep sending telegrams and letters to Governor Darden, Richmond, Va., up until Friday midnight asking him to postpone date of execution and to hold a mutation hearing.

The WDL also announced that several hundred prominent labor and civic spokesmen have already signed their names to an appeal to Roosevelt requesting him to establish a Presidential Commission of Inquiry into the Waller case, as Wilson did in the Tom Mooney and Joe Hill cases.

An almost automatic result of the establishment of such a Commission of Inquiry would be postponement of the execution by Governor Darden to give the Commission time to study the facts in the case.

If you are an opponent of the poll tax system which denied Waller trial by a jury of his peers; if you are an opponent of Jim Crowism and the vicious sharecropper system which is at bottom responsible for Waller's self-defense slaying of his white landlord — act at once:

Let Governor Darden in Richmond, Va., know that you want the execution held up and Waller freed!

Let President Roosevelt in Washington, D. C., know that you want him to establish a Commission of Inquiry!

Roosevelt Signs Bill Protecting Monopolies

Ballyhooed As Measure to Aid Small Firms, Bill Contains Rider to Strengthen Trusts

By WALTER FREEMAN

Quietly and with scarcely any notice in the capitalist press, President Roosevelt on June 11 signed one of the most important pieces of legislation passed by Congress since this country entered the war — a bill granting the monopolies virtual immunity from anti-trust prosecution during the war and after.

Introduced as a measure to aid small manufacturers get war orders, the bill contained a rider giving War Production Board head Donald Nelson the power to suspend the federal anti-trust laws and the rulings of the Federal Trade Commission in the issuance of war contracts.

This would permit the big trusts, which now have a monopoly of the war orders and which are chiefly engaged in war production, to violate the anti-trust laws with impunity. They are guaranteed against prosecution not only during but also after the war for violations committed during the war.

Thus the government itself is giving direct aid to the monopolies through the war program, strengthening their control over the basic resources and industries of the country and ensuring them of greater power in the post-war period.

The pro-monopoly rider was initiated by the administration itself, when Attorney-General Biddle, Under-Secretary of War Patterson and other administration spokesmen proposed such legislation several weeks ago before the Senate Judiciary Committee.

"NO SOLUTION EXISTS"

A couple of months ago there was a great fanfare when the bill to aid small business men was introduced in Congress. Thousands of small manufacturers have been forced to the wall through priorities and the war-

all workers return to work and accept the arbitration of the Federal Conciliation Service. The workers demanded to be represented by the CIO Electrical Union, and struck against the enforced jurisdiction in the plant of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, AFL.

Chrysler workers in the Tank assembly plant and the DeSoto anti-aircraft gun plant held a stoppage of work on June 10, backing up their demands for a dollar-a-day wage increase, and against company provocations in the plant. The company had reclassified a worker in violation of the union agreement.

In auto generally there has been great dissatisfaction with the wage rates, and with the red-tape delays by the War Labor Board on their dollar-a-day wage increase demands from Ford, General Motors and Chrysler.

accelerated operations of the laws of monopoly.

The complaints of some 160,000 small firms denied war orders was answered by a bill to set up a government small war plants corporation, with a \$150,000,000 fund. The claims of electioneering Congressmen that this bill has "solved" the insoluble problem of small business in the era of monopoly are disputed by the WPB itself. The N. Y. Times, June 12, reports: "At the WPB the feeling is strong that the measure is far from a solution of the problem, and, in fact, that no solution actually exists."

Within the past few weeks, the administration has given the monopolies ample evidence of its friendly intentions toward them. President Roosevelt publicly endorsed a recommendation of the War, Navy and Justice Departments giving the War and Navy Secretaries power to halt anti-trust prosecutions which might "interfere with war production."

THE GOVERNMENT'S FRIENDLY ATTITUDE

On June 11, the day Roosevelt signed the small war plants bill, the Justice Department announced that the prosecution of the international dyestuffs cartel conspiracy is being postponed at the direct request of Secretary of War Stimson. The chief defendant in the case is America's giant chemical and munitions trust, E. I. duPont de Nemours and Co. The duPont interests are charged with conspiring with the Nazi I. G. Farbenindustrie to obtain world control of dyestuffs and other chemicals, many of them important for war purposes, and curtailing their production.

Stimson, on May 25, wrote Biddle a letter asking postponement of the case because it would "seriously interfere with the war effort by consuming the time of executives and key production employees."

While the administration's policy has been clearly demonstrated by these actions, the big corporations wanted to take no risks that the policy might be changed in the future. The bill just signed by Roosevelt gives the monopolies what they wanted — the formal written guarantee against anti-trust prosecutions.

'Go Thru Picket Lines,' Tobin Tells Teamsters

Threatens Expulsion for Those Who Refuse To Fink: Militant Workers to be Hounded

By JACK RANGER

MINNEAPOLIS — "GO THROUGH THOSE PICKET LINES!" is the title of the leading article in the AFL International Teamster magazine for June 1942, an article signed by President Daniel J. Tobin, exhorting and threatening all AFL union drivers in the United States to smash picket lines or suffer expulsion, loss of job or victimization by the FBI.

The June article is an extension of Tobin's long campaign against labor solidarity and union principles. It reveals also that his strike-breaking orders to AFL Teamsters locals are not being accepted by many local unions.

"No matter what I say through the columns of this Journal, or what I say in private letters addressed to local unions, I still find a number of local unions that refuse to obey the orders they receive from the International office relative to sympathetic strikes and the crossing of picket lines," complains Tobin. "SOMETIMES WE ARE INCLINED TO THINK THAT MANY OF OUR MEMBERS HAVEN'T THE BACKBONE TO CROSS WHAT WE RECOGNIZE AS ILLEGAL PICKET LINES." (Tobin interprets every picket line today as illegal.)

In circumstances where local unions have contracts protecting them from the odium of strike-breaking, by stipulating that drivers can refuse to deliver goods where there is labor trouble, Tobin orders his members to "set aside that clause during the period of the war."

Like Roosevelt in his plea to the shipbuilding unions to set aside their union contracts, Tobin urges the teamsters to violate their own contracts.

"If you can't comply with our International orders, which are founded on necessity, AND ON ORDERS FROM OUR GOVERNMENT, then the best thing to do is to notify the International Union. Then we will protect ourselves. We know how," threatens Tobin ominously.

CALLS PICKETING A RACKET

"The so-called picket line, since the passage of the Wagner Act," continues Tobin, "in many instances can be honestly called an organizing racket that isn't founded on legitimate trade unionism. Business agents who are not strong enough to tell their members to go through — and make them go through — should get out of the union. Members who refuse to obey orders should be suspended or expelled."

"The International Union, in my judgment, will be called upon within the very near future, to forward to the Federal authorities a list of the officers in any district who cause a stoppage of work without having the sanction of the International Union. In other words the Federal Government may demand of the International organization information as to what is going on in each district and why a stoppage of work has occurred and who is responsible. AND I MIGHT ADD FOR YOUR INFORMATION THAT THE OFFICIALS OF Y O U R INTERNATIONAL UNION WILL NOT REFUSE TO COMPLY WITH THE ORDERS OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT."

If anyone ever had any doubts about the real reasons why Tobin, aided by the administration, launched his dictatorial drive against the militant leaders of Minneapolis Local 544 who wanted to defend and extend the gains made by labor, then this article by Tobin should settle all doubts for all time.

The New Soviet Pacts

(Continued from page 1)

son-Lloyd George-Clemenceau. The imperialists and their labor lieutenants inevitably must plan to destroy the workers' revolutions. But nothing that the imperialists can throw into the scales can outweigh the elemental power of the workers and peasants in revolt.

Before the last war ended, the "democracies" were busy planning how to crush the October 1917 revolution in Russia. They sent armies and navies into Murmansk and Archangel, Vladivostok and Odessa; they opened their treasuries to the Russian White Guards; the key question at the Paris Peace Conference was not the Versailles Treaty but how to crush the young Soviet republic. And the imperialist world seemed to come perilously close to its aim of burying Lenin and Trotsky in the ruins of the revolution. The imperialists appeared to have inexhaustible resources against the impoverished revolution. But the revolution survived in spite of everything.

While Clemenceau screamed for ever more action against the Soviets in Russia, Soviets (Workers Councils) sprang up in Germany, Austria and Hungary. The Allied Supreme War Council aided the Social-Democrats in strangling the revolution in Western Europe. Meanwhile, however, great revolutionary movements sprang up in France and Britain and their Empires, vying Clemenceau and Lloyd George more than enough trouble at home to make it impossible for them to carry out their designs against the Soviets of Russia. Against the hostility of the whole capitalist world, but a hostility which could not do what it wanted, the October Revolution survived.

And when revolution flames again in Western Europe — this time enveloping France and, we believe, England — Stalin will put his hands in those flames at his peril, as Clemenceau and Lloyd George before him.

New Self-Confidence of Soviet Masses

The passivity of the Soviet masses, product first of the exhaustion of the seven years of war and civil war (1914-1921) and then of Stalinist repressions, began to lift the day that Hitler invaded the Soviet Union a year ago. The needs of the war, in spite of the heavy hand of the bureaucracy, have impelled the masses to assume more and more initiative at the front and in production. Their heroic resistance, their fearless endeavors, have won back for the Soviet masses their self-confidence. They will never go back, at the end of the war, to the humiliating subordinate station assigned to them by the totalitarian bureaucracy. Their unprecedented morale during the war, product of their knowledge that in defending the Soviet Union they were defending the nationalized property created by the October revolution, will become with peace a mortal danger to the bureaucracy. They achieved miracles against fascist Germany. They will do no less against their oppressors at home.

And the revolution in Western Europe and the resurgence of the Soviet masses will find a way to come together in a single stream of revolutionary power, to create the Socialist United States of Europe.

Stalin's road has always been a road of mortal peril for the Soviet Union. No less so is it today with the pacts with Britain and the United States. Isolated in a post-war world at the mercy of the victorious "democracies," the Soviet Union would be in as great danger as in a Europe dominated by Hitler. The fundamental antagonism between the nationalized property of the Soviet Union and the private property of capitalism can never be overcome; one or the other system of production must prevail in the world. The Kremlin's counter-revolutionary policy, if it prevailed, would in the end lead to the doom of the Soviet Union.

That policy will not, however, prevail; neither in the Soviet Union nor in the capitalist world. The coming European revolution — and Europe will be but the beginning — will blow out of its path the elaborate but essentially puny plans of Roosevelt-Churchill-Stalin. The second Allied Supreme War Council, like the first, will meet under the shadow of the European revolution. The embers which the first Versailles Treaty could not stamp out will consume the second Versailles. What the Third International began in 1917-1923, will be carried to a conclusion by its successor, the Fourth International.

4 Factions Fight Over Socialist Party Remains

Thomas Group Turns to Support of War; Clement-Symes Remain Faithful Opposition

By C. CHARLES

The national convention of the Socialist Party held in Milwaukee on Decoration Day weekend was the scene of a struggle for the remains of that organization.

Four groups were represented at the convention. There were: 1. a pacifist group under the leadership of Winston Dancis; 2. a group led by Irving Barshop;

3. a group led by Norman Thomas who advocated that the party should act as if the war did not rage all over the world — ignore the war, — was Barshop's sage advice; 4. the forces of Norman Thomas who now takes a pro-war position; and 5. the Clement group which took a weak anti-war position.

There were about 130 delegates. The pacifists, who polled about a dozen votes, and the followers of Barshop were quickly eliminated as the convention progressed, leaving Clement and Thomas as the two major contenders for control of the party.

Thomas, who in January, 1942, stated there is today "no practical political alternative to the war as a means of stopping the worldwide triumph of fascist totalitarianism," fought for this position at the convention.

Travers Clement and Lillian Symes, who have a consistent history of first posing a "radical" point of view and then capitulating to Thomas, maintained their sorry tradition.

This group's resolution at the convention declared: "We cannot support politically, any war conducted for imperialist aims." They correctly point out that Thomas' position leads inevitably to support of all the capitalist measures required to win the war on the part of the American capitalist class and government. Yet they are in the same party with Thomas, lift up their hands and voices in unison with him and will remain in that party until Norman Thomas either decides to leave the party or forces them out.

FINAL RESOLUTION

The final compromise resolution on the war that issued from the convention was as rotten as the groups which concocted it. As neither Thomas' nor Clement's position received a clear majority, the following agreement was reached:

The Clement analysis was used as the basis for the document, but the sentence calling for no political support of the war which this resolution contained was eliminated. In its place was substituted the phrase: "The Socialist Party does not give its blessing to this war — or any war — as the proper method of attaining social objectives, national or international." This sentence comes

from the Thomas resolution. Some very concrete results flow from Thomas' point of view. One cannot look to the present war as the only practical method to defeat fascism without supporting the military, fiscal, economic and social measures needed by the government to conduct the war. Thus Thomas is drawn inevitably toward support of Roosevelt, in spite of his protests.

"Finis" is written to the period of the Thomas so-called anti-war activity. Before Pearl Harbor, Thomas and the Socialist Party could be found active in various Congresses and Committees Against War, cheek-to-jowl with many capitalist isolationists.

At that time the Socialist Workers Party predicted that these forces would be found, after the outbreak of the war, lined up with the pro-war forces at whom they had previously thundered. This is always the case with pacifism. And the prediction of the Socialist Workers Party was proven true.

CLASS COLLABORATION

Norman Thomas does not take a class position. In his opposition to the war he was lined up with a section of the capitalist class and in his support of the war he is lined up with the capitalist class. Using the struggle against fascism as an excuse he is spreading boss propaganda among the workers. For him now the struggle against fascism, as was the case with his opposition to war, requires not the methods of struggle against the capitalists but collaboration with this or that group of "good" capitalists.

The lessons of the Popular Front in France and Spain as well as what happened in Germany when Hitler came to power all prove that to abandon the class struggle as the only method of fighting fascism leads inevitably to the victory of fascism over the workers.

These teachings are beyond the grasp of Norman Thomas, the incurable organic class collaborator, who tries to convince the workers that to defeat fascism they should put their faith and confidence, not in their own power and organizations, but in this or that section of the capitalist class. The capitalist class in none of

its sections can effectively fight fascism and reaction. Fascism is called forth by the capitalist class, is nurtured and financed by them, as a means of keeping down the workers when other methods have failed. The capitalists may use anti-fascist phrases in order to mislead the workers — in which task they have the assistance of Thomas — but in the final analysis capitalism admires and requires fascism.

Travers Clement and Lillian Symes represent the most dangerous and nauseating tendency inside the Socialist Party. They are dangerous because they pose as militants and may in this way fool some sincere socialists and nauseating because in the final checkup they are to be found in some vile deal with Norman Thomas.

FUTURE OF S.P.

Things will go on as before. Those members of the Socialist Party who are pacifists will quote the resolution as supporting their point of view; those who support the war will base themselves on it; while the forces of Clement and Symes will claim that the resolution adopted by the convention takes an anti-war position. One section of the party will advocate one thing; another an opposite point of view.

In the Socialist Party we find one of the less important casualties of the six months since Pearl Harbor.

HudsonAuto Local Stands Firm On Overtime Issue

DETROIT, Mich., June 15.

At special meetings on June 14 the members of Hudson Local 471 of the CIO United Auto Workers voted unanimously to reject the proposal that they give up double-time pay for Sundays and holidays. This was the third attempt made by the union officials to get the Hudson workers to swallow this change in their contract with the company.

The action of the aroused Hudson workers constituted an unmistakable repudiation of the policies of unconditional surrender advocated by the International leadership. All the top officials of the UAW were mobilized at the meeting of the day shift to sell the "equality of sacrifice program" to the Hudson local. President R. J. Thomas, Secretary Treasurer Adde, Regional Director Melvin Bishop, R. J. Frankenstein and others were on the platform.

The mood of the Hudson workers was evidenced by their approval of a motion to limit speeches to ten minutes. When President Thomas passed the ten-minute limit, he was called to order by the thousand or more workers. They booed Frankenstein and would not let him speak. After a short, sharp discussion, the members unanimously passed a motion to retain the present shift arrangements and overtime pay provisions. The third shift at the midnight meeting unanimously ratified the same motion.

To a question from the floor asking what the International officers were going to do in the face of the Hudson local's rejection of their recommendation, Germaine, Local 471 President, replied that he had discussed the matter with Thomas following the meeting and that Thomas told him the International Executive Board would discuss the question.

The revolt of the Hudson workers against the International leadership and its policies is especially noteworthy since Hudson has always been among the conservative UAW locals in Detroit and has hitherto been regarded as a Reuther local. It indicates that the resolution passed under pressure of the war-machine at the recent UAW conference by no means settled the question of double-time pay in the auto unions. At the forthcoming UAW convention at Chicago in August there is every likelihood that a sizeable section of the delegates will demand an accounting on this and other matters.

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The Negro Struggle

"LABOR WITH A WHITE SKIN CANNOT EMANCIPATE ITSELF WHERE LABOR WITH A BLACK SKIN IS BRANDED" — KARL MARX

By Albert Parker

SOME SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Reports from Washington have it that a few weeks ago Roosevelt's cabinet was called together to discuss the problem of Negro demands for equal treatment. Nobody in the Cabinet proposed, of course, that the Negro people be granted equality. The discussion, at what has been described as "a very stormy session," revolved around the question of what to do about Negro complaints, not how to satisfy them.

The problem, as the Cabinet saw it, was an organizational problem; what they felt was needed was some kind of governmental bureau to which all Negro complaints would be sent, and in which all Negro problems would be centralized, so that other departments need not be bothered by them.

Various proposals came under consideration: a plan to set up a Bureau of Negro Affairs, something like the Bureau of Indian Affairs; the appointment of a Negro as a White House executive secretary, to advise the president; the expansion of the Fair Employment Practices Committee, the establishment of regional offices for this committee, greater powers for it, etc.

In the end, most of the proposals were thrown out. But the administration is still reported to be considering the necessity for some new set-up.

Mary McLeod Bethune, official of the National Youth Administration, has from the beginning been one of the most enthusiastic supporters of the war program in the circle of Negro government "advisers" and officials. All the more significant are her observations on Negro public opinion today, made in the June 13 issue of *The People's Voice*:

"For the past few weeks I have been asking questions, making inquiries, looking people in the eye. I asked my questions, made my inquiries, and looked into the eyes of Negroes. 'What I have found has caused me concern...'

"I received answers and statements and looks of doubt and question when I talked to and questioned and looked into the eyes of Negroes recently." Mrs. Bethune explains the sources of the "questioning" as follows: "Soldiers in uniform denied food for 22 hours because no restaurant would serve them — a government worker beaten over the head because he attempted to enter a cafeteria that a guard felt should be reserved exclusively for white workers — unarmed soldiers shot on little or no provocation by civil and military police — one group of draftees being examined and inducted in the boiler room, while other draftees are, at the same time, examined and inducted in the immaculately clean and white clinic rooms of the induction center —

"All the victim Negroes — none of the perpetrators of these insults and crimes punished!" And then Mrs. Bethune concludes on a note of near panic: "Some courageous, unprecedented steps toward the elimination of discrimination are imperative — NOW!"

Last winter a move was started to kick William Pickens out of his job as director of branches for the National Association

for the Advancement of Colored People, because he had praised the Jim Crow air corps set up at Tuskegee. The NAACP leadership was greatly annoyed, but there were a lot of protests, and the move fell through.

Last week, on June 8, the far-from-radical NAACP board of directors voted unanimously to kick Pickens out by refusing to continue his leave of absence to work for the Treasury Department as salesman of war bonds and stamps. This time the complaint against Pickens was that he had commended the Richmond, Va., *Times-Dispatch* on an editorial accusing the NAACP, its magazine *The Crisis*, the *Pittsburgh Courier* and the *Amsterdam Star-News* of stirring up trouble, creating "interracial tension" and conducting activities in time of war that bordered on "treason."

The full meaning of this act will be understood only by those who know that Pickens is one of the old guard of the NAACP and one who, by virtue of his past organizational work and his opportunist political course, enjoys a good deal of prestige among the older Negroes and the "respectable" elements who claim that "gradually" and "peacefully" the Negro people are going to get "more and more rights."

Also reflecting the new trends among the Negro masses is the line that the capitalist press and the capitalist aspirants for office feel it necessary to follow in this period. Editorials in the *N. Y. Times* and *N. Y. Herald-Tribune*, expressing sympathy for Odell Waller, the Virginia sharecropper, and urging postponement of his execution, do not mean that these spokesmen for big business have suddenly become friends of the Negro people; they mean that even these conservative newspapers are aware of what is going on in the minds of the Negro people.

The fact that politicians like Dewey and Bennett, aspirants for governor of New York, both hasten to advocate "just" treatment for the Negro people does not mean that they have really become advocates of equality for the Negroes; it testifies only to the understanding by the politicians of the new spirit among the Negro masses.

Add up all these signs of the times, and we can draw the following conclusions:

Propaganda, mountains of it, has failed to convince the Negro people that they should give up the fight to improve their conditions. Today, more than ever, they are ready to organize a militant mass movement to crush all forms of Jim Crowism.

The government is aware of this; so are the politicians and the capitalist press; so are the leaders of most Negro organizations. That is why they are acting and talking as they do.

Let those who really want to end Jim Crowism become equally aware of this development; let them apply themselves to the creation of such a movement with the same vigor and determination that are used by the government, politicians, press and Negro misleaders to prevent or delay its creation!

How The Stalin-Hitler Pact Disarmed The Soviet People

Stalin Feared To Warn Them Of Coming Nazi Attack

By ART PREIS

One year after Hitler invaded the Soviet Union, a third of the European territories of the USSR remain in Nazi hands. The most developed industrial and agricultural areas are occupied by German imperialism or lie devastated. Some 50,000,000 to 60,000,000 Soviet workers and peasants are now hostages of Hitler or have been uprooted and forced to flee from their homes. The toll of heroic Red Army soldiers dead, wounded and captured is in the millions. Was the might of Hitler's army alone responsible for this catastrophic destruction and blood-letting?

How were the Soviet masses prepared for the inevitable struggle? Did Stalin arouse them and warn them in advance? Did the Red Army generals, the hand-picked satellites of Stalin, have the Red Army mobilized and ready?

The contrary was the case. Stalin's entire course prior to the invasion served to lull the Soviet people. By Stalin's own repeated admission, the Red Army was caught unprepared for Hitler's assault.

In August 1939, Stalin had translated his fear of a Nazi invasion into the Stalin-Hitler non-aggression pact. To sell this pact to the Soviet masses, and to justify it, the Kremlin made two basic claims:

1. That the pact guaranteed a long peace between the Soviet Union and Nazi Germany, narrowed the base of the imperialist war, and thereby safeguarded the first workers' state.
2. That Hitler's attack on Poland was the fruit of Anglo-French imperialist policy; Hitler wanted peace, and Anglo-French-American imperialism alone was responsible for the continuation of the war.

What They Claimed Before June 22

Here is a typical example of how the Communist Party press, repeating like a phonograph record the line of the Kremlin, deceived the workers about the pact:

"The German-Soviet pact shows that the vital interests of the German people can definitely be protected by peaceful treaties, provided that the German working people (!) decide foreign policy and have the power to guarantee such treaties.

"The Soviet Union's pacts with Germany rescued the German people from the worst of counter-revolutionary wars and ditched the predatory plans of the Allied warmakers against both the Soviet and German peoples.

"Brushing aside the legalistic 'origins' of the present war, the Communists point to the real provocations of the war in the systematic efforts of the Anglo-French imperialists to bring the Soviet Union and Germany into a head-on collision. With this goal in view, the British imperialists supported an entire series of German fascist aggressions... The Soviet Union effectively scotched these plots by its pacts with Germany." (Sunday Worker, Feb. 25, 1940.)

These words, which today sound like the ravings of delirium, merely reiterated those that emanated from the very founts of Stalinist "wisdom." Thus Molotov — who last week seized the banner headlines of the nation for concluding some new pacts — told in his speech of October 31, 1939, of Anglo-French imperialism's "fear of losing world supremacy that dictates to the ruling circles of Great Britain and France the policy of fomenting war with Germany..."

The Stalin-Hitler pact, said Molotov, was "bound to have its effect on the entire international situation..." Here development

has proceeded along the line of strengthening our friendly relations, extending our practical cooperation and rendering Germany political support in her efforts for peace."

Hitler shared no real guilt in the war, claimed the Kremlin. Hitler — didn't he say so himself! — wanted only peace.

From this, Molotov could proceed to cynically boast, "One swift blow to Poland, first by the German Army and then by the Red Army, and nothing was left of this ugly offspring of the Versailles treaty." According to Stalin's spokesman, there was genuine merit in Hitler's invasion of Poland.

"Cemented In Blood," Said Stalin

And from this, he finally concluded "that a strong Germany is an indispensable condition for a durable peace in Europe." Fear Hitler? No, said Molotov, a "strong Germany" — Hitler's Germany — is "indispensable" for peace in Europe, that is, for the security of the USSR.

It remained only for Stalin himself to say the final word on the pact. In his message to Von Ribbentrop, he proclaimed to the Soviet masses and the workers of the world:

"The friendship of the peoples of Germany and the Soviet Union, cemented in blood, has all grounds to be prolonged and stable."

Is it any wonder that if the Soviet workers, peasants and soldiers had any doubts about the Stalin-Hitler pact, they shoved them to the back of their minds? Stalin himself had spoken!

Perhaps Stalin made a mistake. But what did he do up to the very moment of the invasion, when it had been bruted about the world that Hitler's army was mobilizing on the Soviet borders?

There is no cause for alarm, Stalin assured the Soviet people.

"MOSCOW, June 13. — The Soviet Government said in an official statement tonight that Germany is moving troops from the Balkans to her eastern and northeastern frontiers but that these military movements must be regarded as 'having no bearing on Soviet-German relations.'

"The statement, issued by the official Tass Agency, sharply denounced rumors abroad of German-Soviet tension as 'clumsily concocted propaganda of forces hostile to the USSR and Germany' (the Anglo-American imperialist governments.)

"According to information at the disposal of the USSR Germany abides by the provisions of the Soviet-German Pact of Non-Aggression as unswervingly as the Soviet Union... the rumors of Germany's intention to disrupt the pact and undertake an attack on the USSR are devoid of any grounds..." (Daily Worker, June 14, 1941.)

Stalin's Explanations After June 22

After the event, after Hitler's army was unleashed on an unprepared and unforwarned Soviet people, Stalin was compelled to "explain" Hitler's initial successes by complaining that he had been "surprised" by the "sudden treachery" of the Nazis. In his radio address of July 3, 1941, Stalin claimed that Hitler's army had been "only awaiting the signal to move into action, whereas Soviet troops had little time to effect mobilization and move up to the frontiers..." Fascist Germany suddenly and unexpectedly violated the non-aggression pact."

On Feb. 22, 1942, after the German army

had been halted before Moscow and Leningrad, Stalin's Order of the Day stated: "This circumstance should be noted: No sooner had the German arsenal lost the weapon of suddenness than the German Army was confronted with catastrophe."

It is impossible after the event to state categorically that had the Soviet people and the Red Army been forewarned and prepared, they might have stemmed the German army from the start, or held it to much smaller gains and at less loss to the Soviet masses. But it is reasonable to assume that this would have been so — and even Stalin affirms this.

It can therefore also be stated that Stalin either stupidly or deliberately deceived the Soviet people. He did so when he laid the full responsibility for the war on the shoulders of Anglo-French-American imperialism alone and proclaimed the peaceful intentions of German imperialism.

An Eyewitness Account

One confirmation of the fact that Hitler's attack was "sudden and unexpected" only to the deceived Soviet people and not the Kremlin, is the report of Louis P. Lochner, Associated Press correspondent in Germany who recently returned to this country in an exchange of hostages. Writing in the *N. Y. Times*, June 6, Lochner states:

"... It seems to me as if virtually everybody I encountered knew the war was coming — that is, everybody except the Russian correspondents accredited to Berlin, and even they may have been pretending.

"Late in May (the invasion began June 22, 1941) one of my informants whose information had always proved true came to tell me that at 3 A. M. on the fourth Sunday in June (June 22) the Germans would march into Russia. I checked with our United States military attaches, who said all reports indicated that tremendous army concentrations were in progress on the German-Russian front and that it looked like a 'blow-up' soon.

"From time to time I made contact with my Russian colleagues. They insisted — and I know they inquired of their own embassy about it — that I was all wrong, that relations with Germany were quite normal and that Soviet Russia was supplying all the raw materials that Germany had asked for."

Up to the last moment, in other words, when every "man on the street" in Germany, as Lochner put it, knew that Hitler was readying his assault on the Soviet Union, the Stalin regime — informed and warned — let it be known that it was continuing to give Hitler war materials — which he would be using against the Soviet workers and peasants.

In striking the balance sheet of the Soviet-Nazi war, let it be recorded that the tremendous losses of the Red Army, the devastation of the most developed areas of the USSR, the fact that the fascist imperialist dagger remains today pointed at the very heart of the first workers' state, are due in large measure to the treachery of Stalin and his pact with Hitler.

Of all his monstrous crimes, this will stand among Stalin's greatest.

Professor Laski and A People's Peace

By M. MORRISON

The trade union leaders of the British Labor Party undoubtedly consider themselves very fortunate in having a "left-wing" professor to act as their mouth-piece whenever questions of high policy or theory have to be discussed. They feel themselves exceedingly competent to deal with the practical questions of the day but, with the usual insight of merely practical men, understand that it is better to have someone with a reputation in the intellectual world discuss more general and abstract problems.

Thus to give the masses hope for the morrow so that they can better bear the burdens of today the labor leaders, at the convention of the British Labor Party held recently in London, chose Harold Laski, Professor of Political Science at the University of London, to present the resolution "For a Planned Economic Democracy."

Pointing out that the Churchill government had not hesitated to set up a high degree of control over private industry and to plan the economic life of the nation for war purposes, the resolution stated that the same measures for mobilizing the resources of the nation "are no less necessary for securing their best use in peace and must therefore be maintained after final victory is won."

Another important point made by Mr. Laski was the necessity of ending this war with a "people's peace." He plaintively complained that Mr. Churchill has thus far evaded this important question although the Prime Minister "agreed that this is a people's war" he has been strangely silent about pledging a people's peace and Mr. Laski beseeched him to end his silence and join in the movement for such a peace. "Because Mr. Churchill has given so much I ask him to give more."

We have here a return to the utopian socialism of Robert Owen who thought he could appeal to the generous nature of the owners of industry to induce them to surrender their wealth and usher in socialism. In this particular case we have an appeal to the leader and spokesman of the most influential section of the British ruling class.

That the resources of all nations at war have been mobilized, that the freedom of the capitalists has been restricted and that a certain amount of planning has been introduced into the economic life of all nations is undeniable. But it must never be forgotten that the capitalists are permitting interference with their normal activities only because they are confronted with a war situation. It is of course true that the big capitalists are making huge profits out of the war but even omitting this factor from consideration it still remains true that whatever planning there is, exists simply to make the war effort more effective and thus guard the interests of the capitalist class. The mobilization of all resources and the planning are not in the interests of the masses.

THE ONLY GOOD EFFECT

From a certain viewpoint the huge expenditures of money and the economic planning demanded by the war will have a good effect. But only because it will help teach the workers that if economic planning is good for war it certainly ought to be good for peace. As far as the capitalists are concerned, they will try their best to go back to the old system of "freedom" and exploitation. It is hardly likely that they will be able to do so. But the fact remains

that unless the workers assume control of production, there will be no planning for their benefit. If the capitalists surrender any of their freedom in peace time it will be only to the fascists who will protect them against expropriation by the workers.

Nor is Mr. Laski's hope that he will achieve a people's peace with the aid of Churchill or Roosevelt based on any more solid foundation. We presume that by a "people's peace" the professor means one that will give all nations the right of self-determination, that will do away with capitalist exploitation, capitalist rivalries and state boundaries. In other words, a socialist peace.

Since Laski is not thinking of a social change that will put the workers in power it is obvious that it will be Mr. Churchill and Mr. Roosevelt or their representatives who will sit at the peace table. What in Mr. Churchill's record can justify the conclusion that he will insist on a people's peace? And should he by some mysterious force be moved to accept Mr. Laski's socialism, would the Conservative Party whose creature he is stand by without a murmur and permit Mr. Churchill to dispose of their wealth and power?

NOT ONE CONCESSION

But has not Mr. Churchill admitted that this is a people's war? Of course he has! Does it require any sacrifice on the part of the class he represents to call it a people's war? Not a single vital concession need be made by the ruling group in England to have this war christened a "people's war." On the contrary, Churchill, by doing so, gains the acclamation of Mr. Laski and, unfortunately, of the masses. How else could he gain the support of the masses? Imagine what support he would get if he were to proclaim that this war is fought in the interests of the British ruling class!

Churchill will, if compelled to, make promises about a people's peace. As Laski charges, he evades the question; he evades it because a clever capitalist politician avoids making definite promises, even general ones, unless he is forced to do so to gain support from the masses. But even if Churchill makes any promises on that score it is absolutely safe to discount those promises by one hundred percent.

HUGE VOTE AGAINST

That a large section of the masses supporting the British Labor Party do not accept Churchill's promises was indicated by the huge vote rolled up at the Labor Party convention by the opponents of the election treaty. The British masses are undoubtedly supporting the war but at the same time they do not trust the present government either in the conduct of the war or in the conclusion of the peace. They do not possess the education of Mr. Laski but they understand that so long as the Conservative Party is in power and controls the war it will also control the peace and that will be a peace which will bring the same wretched existence to the masses that they had prior to the "people's war."

In effect the masses are saying: "We support the war but we want our own party to take charge of its conduct and of the peace to follow. That is why we want no election treaty. To give the party of British capitalism charge of the war and of the peace means that our sacrifices will be in vain." With reference to the last proposition, the masses are a thousand times more correct than the educated Mr. Laski.

ER." And the climax of the meeting was reached when Waller's mother, a tiny, aged, work-worn woman, stood proudly and erect before that giant crowd, and pleaded for the life of her boy. The entire audience rose to its feet to express its sympathy and support.

Despite the shortcomings of the leaders, their failure to enunciate a clear-cut program of action, the meeting in itself was profoundly important. It was a powerful demonstration of the Negro people's determination to fight for and win equality and democracy for themselves at home. They aren't begging for a few minor concessions and a couple of condescending pats on the back from Washington. They are organizing and demanding nothing less than immediate full and unconditional equality from top to bottom. This is a significant sign for the future. The American Negro is taking his right-

ful place in the front ranks of the fighters against oppression in every form, both in America and throughout the world.

WHY we Defend The Soviet Union

By ALBERT GOLDMAN

Pioneer Publishers
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25,000 NEGROES PROTEST AGAINST JIM CROW

(Continued from page 1) utes, with Randolph able to speak only very briefly.

PROGRAM OF DEMANDS

In general, the eight-point program of demands, which was unanimously adopted with great applause, truly reflected the aspirations of the Negro masses. These demands include:

The abrogation of every law which makes a distinction in treatment between persons based on religion, creed, color or national origin; legislation to enforce the 5th and 14th Amendments so that no persons may be deprived of life, liberty and property without due process of law; enforcement of the 14th and 15th Amendments and passage of an anti-Poll Tax bill; abolition of segregation and discrimination in all branches of the armed forces. An end to all discrimination in jobs and job training; the withdrawal of federal funds from any agency practicing discrimination in the use of those funds; representation for Negro and minority groups on all governmental administrative agencies and on missions, political and technical, at any post-war peace conferences.

This last point was related to freedom for the colonial peoples, as was indicated in the remarks of several of the speakers. Every reference to India, China, the

West Indies, Africa which expressed support for the immediate liberation of the colonial peoples received a tremendous ovation.

LEADERS FAIL TO SOUND CALL TO MASS ACTION

But though the meeting was called by the March-on-Washington Movement, and though passing reference was made by a few of the speakers to such an action, the only concrete proposal for achieving the demands of the movement was — another committee of Negro leaders to visit Washington and talk to Roosevelt.

This is the same kind of "action" which was substituted for the originally-scheduled march on Washington last year when it was called off at the last minute. Then a conference was held with Roosevelt, who made all kinds of promises and issued an executive order, without any teeth, against discrimination in war industries. Today, the March-on-Washington Movement has had to be revived, because, in the words of most of the speakers, "conditions for the Negro are as bad as ever."

Randolph himself, the leading figure of the movement, confined himself in his few brief words to telling the people who wanted to know what mass action they

could take that he and a few other leaders hoped to get a hearing before Roosevelt. And that was all he proposed.

"FROM GRAND CENTRAL THROUGH TO GEORGIA"

But the thing that brought out the real sentiments of the audience, that showed that they had little faith in mere conferences between a handful of top Negro leaders and Roosevelt, that what they believe in is a nation-wide organized campaign of mass action, was the cheering, stamping ovation given to a play which dramatized the plight of the Negro and stressed the call for a Negro mass march on Washington.

It was this play, presented by a top-notch cast of professional actors, which truly voiced the feelings of the Negro masses and sounded the call they wanted to hear. In scene after scene — sketching the experiences of the Negro trying to get into the Navy, being called before the draft board, seeking to get a job in a public hospital, asking for membership in a lily-white craft union — was expressed the fighting determination of the average Negro to beat down Jim-Crowism. And each scene was summed up in the final defiant challenge, "I'm marching!"

Then the audience truly came alive. The rafters rang with their applause, their cheers.

The single line of that play which stood out and brought the house down, was the statement of the actor Canada Lee as a youth called before a draft board and told he was being inducted. When the white board agent noticed his lack of enthusiasm for fighting in the "war for democracy," and heatedly questioned him, the reply was: "Go on! Put me in the army. I ain't no conscientious objector. But I'm starting the fight for democracy beginning at Grand Central Station and right straight on through to Georgia."

STALINIST SABOTAGE

A fact of prime political importance was the noticeable absence of Stalinism in this meeting. The Stalinist program of unconditional support for the war while burying the Negro struggle "for the duration" would have met a very cold response if the Communist Party had been able to introduce its line at the meeting.

The Stalinists gave the meeting no support and, in fact, tried to sabotage it. Prior to the meeting, the Stalinist press attacked the meeting and charged its leaders with being "appeasers" of the

Axis. (Just a year ago, before Hitler attacked the Soviet Union, the *Daily Worker* denounced Randolph as a "war-monger.")

The press release issued by Randolph last night, containing the address which he was unable to give because of lack of time, sharply answered the Stalinists in words which almost every Negro would endorse:

"The Communists of all shades and wings (he should have said: of one shade, the Stalinist betrayers of Communism) who have sought to sabotage this meeting say the time and money and effort put into this meeting should be put into helping to win the war. We reject this advice. Our reply is that not only are we staging this meeting, but one in Chicago and Washington also, and if the President does not issue a war proclamation to abolish Jim-Crow in Washington, the District of Columbia and all Government departments and the armed forces, Negroes are going to MARCH and we don't give a damn what happens."

"SAVE ODELL WALLER" Over the entire meeting — epitomizing the kind of deal the Negro has been handed in America — was the shadow of the impending execution in Virginia this Friday of Odell Waller. The only banners that greeted the audience were three, all with the same words: "SAVE ODELL WALL-

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JOIN US IN FIGHTING FOR:

1. Military training of workers, financed by the government, but under control of the trade unions. Special officers' training camps, financed by the government but controlled by the trade unions, to train workers to become officers.
2. Trade union wages for all workers drafted into the army.
3. Full equality for Negroes in the armed forces and the war industries—Down with Jim Crowism everywhere.
4. Confiscation of all war profits. Expropriation of all war industries and their operation under workers' control.
5. For a rising scale of wages to meet the rising cost of living.
6. Workers Defense Guards against vigilante and fascist attacks.
7. An Independent Labor Party based on the Trade Unions.
8. A Workers' and Farmers' Government.

Masses Themselves Will Avenge Lidice

Fascism's innate bestiality is epitomized by the action of the Nazis in wiping out the Czecho-Slovak mining town of Lidice, executing all its male inhabitants, herding its children to "appropriate educational institutions" and its women into concentration camps.

This abomination was committed because the population of the town allegedly "gave shelter to and assisted" the persons who killed the Gestapo leader, Hangman Reinhard Heydrich.

Hitler's recourse to such monstrous measures speaks the difficulties he is experiencing in securing a welcome for his "new order" in occupied Europe.

These savage acts of fascism — the dictatorship of capitalism in its most degenerate stage — will not subdue the masses under the heel of German imperialism. On the contrary, those who hated fascism before will hate it all the more now. Such acts are a guarantee that the spirit of resistance will flame and spread in the Nazi-conquered lands. They point the way to but one end for Hitler and his system: a revolutionary explosion that will blast fascism and all its works from the face of the world.

Such bloody crimes of German imperialism as the Lidice massacre are, naturally, grist for the mill of the bourgeois democratic propagandists. They do not hesitate to exploit for their own ends the horror of the masses at these fascist atrocities. The outcries of the bourgeois democrats are motivated, however, solely by their desire to capitalize on the resistance of the people in occupied Europe for the benefit of Allied imperialism.

The atrocity committed at Lidice, and the thousands of other Nazi crimes, will be avenged. But it is the workers and peasants of occupied Europe, Germany and the world, who will strike the avenging blows.

Not the armies of capitalism, but the revolutionary hosts of the masses themselves will exact full vengeance for the outrages of fascism. It is the duty of the international revolutionary socialists to make clear to the proletariat of the world the means for achieving that task. Fascism will be destroyed when capitalism, the very root and seed of the fascist system, has been eliminated and replaced by the real new order, the Socialist United States of Europe and the World.

U. S. Court Spikes Wage-Hour Law

President Roosevelt's hand-picked "New Deal" Supreme Court last week dealt the employing class another four-ace hand from the bottom of the deck. A 5 to 4 decision in the A. H. Belo Co. case now permits employers, if they can get away with it, to sneak around the wage-hour law through the use of virtual "yellow dog" contracts.

According to the law, time-and-a-half wage rates are to be paid for all work over 40 hours a week, based on the regular hourly scales. But the Belo

Co., a Texas publishing outfit, had a smart slyster figure an angle for evading the clear intent of the law.

The employees of this company were being paid a weekly wage. They were called in, after the wage-hour law went into effect, and made to sign individual contracts stating that they accepted as a minimum hourly wage a rate which would require them to work 54½ hours a week to get the same weekly pay as before. On the regular 40-hour week basis they would be taking a sizeable wage slash.

Thus, by arbitrarily computing the hourly pay rate at a below-standard level, the company did not have to pay any actual overtime wages until the employees had put in more than 54 hours of work.

The Supreme Court majority admitted that "it was no doubt true that the purpose of respondent's arrangements with its employees was to permit as far as possible the payment of the same total weekly wage after the Act as before."

Then the Court proceeded to rule that this practice was legal.

This decision paves the way for every non-union firm in the country to pull the same cheap trick on its workers. No less than a million and a half workers, lacking the benefits of union contracts, can be affected by the decision. Only those workers fortunate enough to have a strong union and an iron-clad union contract will be able to maintain the benefits of the wage-hour law.

Thus the "liberal" Supreme Court, with one slash of its juridical knife, has done to the 40-hour week what a corporation-dominated Congress has not yet dared to do through legislation.

This decision is not accidental. It follows a whole series of reactionary interpretations of laws affecting workers' living standards, union rights and civil liberties. It is of a piece with the ruling that a strike of seamen aboard ship in any but the home port is "mutiny"; the decision upholding a local ordinance requiring the payment of a fee and a license for selling literature, aimed at suppressing the dissemination of minority ideas; the Court's refusal on two occasions to review the Waller case.

When Roosevelt was conducting his unsuccessful fight for "reorganization" of the Supreme Court, many workers were deluded into believing that getting a majority of Roosevelt "liberals" on the court would somehow change its ruling class character. They can now see otherwise.

The tide of reaction which is mounting in the wake of the "war for democracy" encompasses the judicial instruments of capitalist rule, as well as all its other agencies. The Supreme Court remains what it has always been — the most powerful single means for legalizing capitalist reaction.

Problem Of India Far From 'Settled'

The 400,000,000 subject workers and peasants of India are far from resigning themselves passively to the fate the British ruling class has reserved for them. They have no intentions, if they can help it, of being ground between the war machines of two contending imperialist powers. We see a pale reflection of their mood in statements now emanating from the pacifist bourgeois nationalist leaders in India.

Last week the leaders of the All-India Congress Party proposed a mass "quit India" campaign, directed at both the British and American forces. Nehru announced that the "Axis powers are India's enemies. But the British Government also is our enemy. We will fight the British Government until India is free and we will resist aggression if our enemies invade India."

And he respectfully added: "Americans are our friends, but we would not like an American Army overrunning India." We like you — but get out!

These are not the words of Nehru and Gandhi. They are the words which the Indian masses have put into their mouths. Today as yesterday, the native capitalists and landlords of India and their political representatives are ready to come to terms with imperialism. But the most they dare to do under present conditions is attempt to head off the impending revolutionary storm by urging a bare-handed and futile "non-cooperative, non-violent" resistance.

But we can take their words as a sign of what is stirring in the vast depths of India, even if the American capitalist press has "settled" the India problem by consigning it to tiny occasional items on inside pages.

For the ruling class would have the American people believe that everything is calm and peaceful in India once more. No longer do the metropolitan dailies editorialize about the "faded trappings of British imperialism." When the Indian people rejected the Churchill-Cripps promissory note for after-the-war "freedom," the American press berated them for their "stupidity" and "ingratitude" and returned once again to the theme of the "white man's burden."

British imperialism had offered everything to the Indian masses but to get off their backs. It had demanded that they support British arms in the defense of "four freedoms" they have never known, and called on them to resist Japanese invasion while continuing to send them to prison for carrying so much as a pocket-knife.

But so far as the people of India are concerned — and it is their opinion and actions which are decisive in the matter — the question of their national independence is far from settled. Mighty forces are stirring in that oppressed land. No dim-out of news from India can conceal the lightnings of the approaching storm.

Anti-Fascist Federal Employes Terrorized

Fascist-Minded, Anti-Labor G Men Hound, Victimize Hundreds Suspected of Liberalism

The federal government agencies are in the throes of an extensive witch-hunt, with the Army and Navy Intelligence, the FBI, Secret Service and Civil Service investigators combing the ranks of government employes and giving the axe to every person suspected of having even the remotest connection, past or present, with liberal, labor or radical organizations and ideas.

Already up to 200 individuals are known to have been dismissed. Most of them have not even been told why although they have strong suspicions. All they know is that they are called in for questioning by some government sleuth, and asked a lot of questions about whether they belong to a labor union, ever went to a meeting in support of Loyalist Spain, whether their uncle or mother or brother-in-law ever did, etc. The next thing they know they are off the government payroll.

The liberal New York newspaper PM, which aspires to the role of chief counsel for the defense of American liberals, last week carried considerable material on this witch-hunt. Among this material is a list of questions which the government investigating agents ask their prospective purge victims.

- TYPICAL QUESTIONS**
- Here are a few:
- "Have you any reason to suspect Mr. X of being un-American?"
 - "Which wing of the American Labor Party are you for?"
 - "Is Mr. . . . an atheist?"
 - "Did you ever belong to the League Against War and Fascism, the American Civil Liberties Union, the American Peace Mobilization?"
 - "Did you ever work for Loyalist Spain?"
 - "Do you consider Nazism and Fascism a greater menace to the country than Communism?"

How Bridges Fights Against Biddle's Deportation Order

As was reported immediately after Attorney-General Biddle issued his reactionary deportation order, Harry Bridges has not changed his course. If anything, he is more determined than ever to show that he is a faithful supporter of the administration and the war program and that he can be depended on to go to the limit in strangling the militancy of the labor movement.

His most recent activities follow three general lines:

1. Playing down the Biddle order, distorting its significance, keeping the workers from becoming too aroused by it.
2. Currying favor with big business and the reactionaries, intensifying the speedup drive among the workers, attempting to persuade them that the defense of union standards and rights is "secondary."
3. Acting as finger-man for Biddle, slandering the union militants, attacking the labor press which refuses to follow the Stalinist line.

BRIDGES' PROGRAM
 Speaking at a membership meeting of Local 1-10 of the International Longshoremen and Warehousemen Union in San Francisco, Bridges told the workers:

"We are not going to be side-tracked in any way by Biddle's decision. The main fight is to win the war. . . . Men and ships will win the war. Keep them moving. To hell with the Bridges' case. If we win the war, we'll win our case."

On May 31, at a state-wide CIO conference on political action, Bridges stated substantially the same thing:

"While you are fighting (Biddle's order), don't worry about what happens to Bridges. He'll win, too, when this war is won the right way. . . ."

"My position is that I'm still going to ask everyone I can to support the national administration of America and the war."

"My main concern is to work as hard as I can to stop any damage being done to the war effort by this decision."

At the same CIO conference Bridges took the floor when a number of delegates expressed opposition to endorsing a resolution on the farm labor problem which had been passed by the Associated Farmers. In defense of the Associated Farmers, the most vicious anti-labor outfit on the West Coast, Bridges said:

MAKES PEACE WITH ASSOCIATED FARMERS
 "The only group we can't make peace with are the leaders of the Axis. As to the others, we can and will and that includes the Associated Farmers. The Associated Farmers have common sense. They know that the dough they

Vitamin B1 And Workers' 'Morale'
 By GRACE CARLSON

Hitler's "secret weapon" may be the taking away of Vitamin B1 or thiamin from the conquered countries, says Dr. Russell M. Wilder of the Mayo Clinic, Chairman of the National Research Council's nutrition committee. Recent studies reported by Dr. Wilder show that a long-continued deficiency of vitamin B1 in the diet causes serious nerve disorders, exhaustion and feelings of inferiority. For these reasons, B1 has been called the "morale" vitamin.

Deliberate thiamin-starvation is being utilized by the Nazis to reduce the peoples of occupied Europe to a state of depression, mental weakness and despair in order to make it easier to hold them in subjection, Dr. Wilder charges.

That Hitler has added this further piece of barbarism to his already long list of crimes against the working masses of Europe is easy to believe. What is more difficult to understand is why the well-informed Dr. Wilder has not charged the capitalist rulers of the United States with keeping substantial sections of the American working class in a "state of depression, mental weakness and despair" by withholding from them the wages which would enable them to buy food rich enough in vitamin B1 to satisfy their needs.

Not only Dr. Wilder, but other eminent nutritionists have pointed out time and time again that considerably more than half of the American people do not get enough vitamin B1 in their diets and are suffering from a variety of nerve ailments as a result of this lack. Dr. Wilder has even suggested that some of the country's "labor unrest" can be attributed to a B1 deficiency in the diet of workers. But any trade unionist could tell this learned scientist that the so-called "labor unrest" is based on the desire of the organized workers to obtain the high wages which will purchase for them and their families the vitamin-rich food which Dr. Wilder has been urging upon them.

It Is An Economic Problem

The reason why millions of American workers live on diets which are deficient in the "morale" vitamin, as well as in other essential vitamins and minerals, is primarily an economic one. This was strikingly demonstrated by a U. S. Department of Agriculture survey of the diets of employed workers made in 4 geographical regions in the United States in 1935-36. No diets of the workers earning less than \$1000 per year were considered "good"; 25% were called "fair"; 75% "poor." Of the workers surveyed 43% earned from \$1000-\$2000 per year; 25% of their diets were rated "good"; 65% "fair"; 5% "poor."

The "fair" diets were unsafe diets, however, in that the amount of vitamin B1 contained in them was barely sufficient to prevent beri-beri. (Beri-beri is one of the most debilitating and crippling diseases of the Orient where masses of people live on inadequate diets of fish and polished rice. It is characterized by an extremely painful inflammation of the nerves, gradual loss of use of the muscles, heart trouble and drowsy. The Singhalese aptly named this weakening disease beri-beri, which means "I cannot.")

Of the small percentage of administrative employees covered in the survey who earned \$5000 per year or more, 65% of the diets were called "good"; 30% "fair," and only 5% "poor." Not ignorance, but low income deprives workers of the necessary body-building foods.

Chiefly significant as a chemical tool, thiamin plays a role in the body's fundamental process of burning sugar. Experiment has shown that a diet even a little short in B1 will cause stomach distress after meals, headaches, backaches, inefficiency, bad tempers and other mild nervous disorders.

Amount Average Adult Needs

"Approximately 2 milligrams of B1 per day is required by the average adult, although the extremely active individual should increase his intake to 2.5 or 3 milligrams per day. The committee on foods of the American Medical Association has prepared the following table of the B1 content of ordinary foods:

	Milligrams
Pint milk	.26
4 ozs. lean meat	.50
4 ozs. whole wheat bread	.34
4 ozs. enriched bread	.44
4 ozs. ordinary white bread	.056
1 egg	.07
4 ozs. potatoes	.15
" oranges	.11
" tomatoes	.12
" other vegetables	.20
" other fruits	.056
" cereal	.40

Although the policy of enriching bread with thiamin is highly desirable — at present, less than one-half of the nation's bread and flour supply is being enriched — it should be noted from this table that if one were to obtain his B1 supply exclusively from enriched bread, it would be necessary to eat almost a loaf and a half per day.

Plenty of meat, milk, eggs, fresh fruits and vegetables along with enriched bread and cereals in a balanced diet will protect workers against vitamin B1 deficiency. Attempts of individuals to make up for diet deficiency by "doctoring" themselves with vitamin pills is frowned upon by medical men.

U. S. Surgeon-General Thomas Parran warned recently, "The solution of malnourishment for the population as a whole is not that we become a nation of drug-takers, but that there be readily available an adequate supply of all the foods we need at the prices we can pay. . . . Occasionally, they (synthetic vitamins) are necessary when acute illness develops and years of faulty feeding must be made up by a few weeks or months of addition to the diet of specific minerals and synthetic vitamins. This is a problem of medical care."

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