

WORKERS
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UNITE

THE MILITANT



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America Intervenes in European Conflict

HITLER DANCES TO ROOSEVELT'S TUNE. ORGY OF "PEACE" TALK PREPARES NEW SLAUGHTER AND ATTACK ON U.S.S.R. MOBILIZE FOR DEFENSE OF THE WORKERS FATHERLAND!

The past week was marked by a hectic development of the political tension on the European continent and by whirlwind American intervention to ally it. The surprisingly easy and rapid consolidation of the Nazi power in Germany—while France and the rest of the entente had expected a prolonged period of internal strife to keep the German nationalists tied to their strings—led to increasing boldness on the part of Hitler on the foreign front and served as the cause of something which is being described by the universal press as a "war hysteria comparable to that of 1914."

As long as the fate of Germany was undecided, as long as it was not certain that the proletariat of that country would not rise against the Fascist monster and institute its own rule, the ruling classes of France, England, etc., not only had no objections to the Nazi Storm Troops but regarded them as warriors in the defense of "civilization."

But the moment when it became clear that class struggle in Germany had for the time being, decided by the passive submission of the workers—betrayed by the socialists and kept divided by the Stalinist bureaucracy—the allied capitalists immediately saw the menace of German "rearmaments" in these same Brown Shirt formations.

It had been the original intention of the Versailles victors to solve the German crisis by maintaining their stranglehold on Germany on a new plane—showing a Fascist Germany to the forefront of war for the extermination of Soviet Russia, where it could make gains only as an agent of all the powers of Western Europe and only to the degree to which they consented. Civil war in Germany would have left Hitler no other choice.

With the inexpensive triumph over his internal enemy, the Nazi chieftain naturally gained inspiration to drive for a much better bargain—for a place among the equals in the family of robber capitalist nations. Now, if he is to attack Soviet Russia, he wants to make sure that he will have the force behind him to dictate his own terms and to turn the balance in favor of Nazi Germany in any case. The lack of proletarian resistance within Germany itself facilitates his devilish game of flirtation with the U.S.S.R., which is a club in his hands for the purpose of shaking the positions of the Western powers.

Hitler's excursions into Austria, and growing Fascist strength there, only served to further alarm his Allied opponents, whose aim is, of course, to hold on to that balance of power which they have held so flimsily ever since Versailles. Therefore, lay the reasons for all the talk about "sanctions and preventative war" that so swiftly threw all of Europe into a frenzy last week.

It was at this point that Wall Street's "New Deal" president interferred. The heavy billions of American capital investments, of war debts and private contracts which constitute the economic basis of America's world hegemony were at stake. "Isolation" policy, which under the pressure of financial and economic intervention (Dawes Plan, Young Plan) had shrunk to the size of a flimsy formality, was definitely thrown overboard.

Retaining the traditional hypocrisy of imperialist U.S. "pacifism," President Roosevelt addressed himself to the nations of Europe with something that amounts to a political ultimatum. Money talkers and all the high and low politicians of Europe listened.

The Washington administration had been careful beforehand to make clear that it would definitely oppose all "sanctions" (the occupation of the Ruhr, etc.) but dropped a gentle hint to Berlin to bide its time. Roosevelt did, to be sure, tell the Nazis that he would not stand for German "rearmament." But at the same time, he just as categorically demanded French disarmament as a precondition for holding Germany in check.

Hitler's Reichstag Speech
The Roosevelt message was a bitter pill for the Western powers to swallow but they had no alternative. It takes finances to impose "sanctions" and to insure against possible consequences. Hitler's Reichstag speech, on the other hand, while indicating a turn to a slower tempo in the reestablishment of armed equality with the other powers, nevertheless showed that this was to be done only by bowing to Wall Street's wishes and not at all on the basis of French or British pressure.

America was to be considered as "guarantor of European peace," as a sort of super-arbiter. All in all, a handsome victory for United

States imperialism and another strong twist of the American noose around Europe's neck.

It is not strange that the capitalist press in this country was welcomed Hitler's kowtowing to Washington. It is not strange that it now goes into peens of praise for Hitler, the pacifist. It is only somewhat ludicrous, part of the general comedy of armed pacifism.

That France and England will disarm is hardly likely. That Hitler will, therefore, continue equipping German military forces up to France's level—gradually, to be sure, and on the "MacDonald plan"—is just as sure. The tension has only been temporarily allayed. The race of armaments will go on as fiercely as before. The final word will, however, rest with Washington.

Hitler and the Mussolini Pact

Significantly also, Hitler reiterated his determination to stand by the Four Power Pact of Mussolini. The direction of this pact—against the Soviet Union—has been made clear before this. The danger of war against the workers' fatherland is just as imminent as before. Only the preponderance in this looming attack against the fortress of the world revolution remains to be decided.

No amount of pacifist talk, no amount of flirtation with the USSR—by Hitler or by Roosevelt—can cover up that danger. To gloat—as the Stalinist Daily Worker does—over the fact that Litvinoff's definition of "aggressor nation" has been accepted by Geneva, can only have one meaning: To support all

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Two Expelled by Stalinists from Y. C. L.

The Young Communist League three weeks ago expelled two more of its members on the charge of "Trotskyism." Herman Gladstone, member of the Y. C. L. for two years, and Perry Mayers, member of the Y. C. L. for six months, were the victims this time of Stalinist "party democracy."

The basis for both the expulsions was laid at a recent district membership meeting held by the Y. C. L. on the German situation and the line of the Communist party in Germany. C. A. Hathaway, the district organizer of the party expounded the united front policy in true Stalinist fashion.

At the conclusion of Hathaway's speech, one of the expelled members got up on a point of order and asked that there be a thorough discussion among the members themselves, so they would have an opportunity to express their opinions and hear those of the other rank and file. After a period of organized heckling among the leaders, Hathaway got up and pointed out that "the hour was late and to continue the meeting with an open discussion would mean to remain overnight." (Before this Hathaway had spoken for 4

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Heroic Sacrifices Mark P. M. A. Resistance to Operators' Onslaught

Pickets beaten, blinded and murdered! Peaceful miners shot down at their homes or on the streets! Relief headquarters smashed! Women—wives and mothers of miners beaten and jailed! Local union and mass meetings broken up! All these are regular features of the struggle of the miners of Illinois to organize and function within a union of their own choice—the Progressive Miners of America.

The list of murders and outrages grows as Lewis gangsters, coal company thugs, deputy sheriff gorillas and National guardsmen with machine gun, bayonet, bomb and blackjack carry on the fight of the Peabody Coal Co. to force starvation wages, slave conditions and a gangster union on the miners of Illinois.

The casualty lists of dead and wounded as published regularly in the **Progressive Miner** are eloquent proof of how the "King Kongs" of Capitalism treat starving and struggling workers in the era of "new deal" and under the beneficent reign of the winning, democratic "dictator" in Washington.

An incomplete list of recent casualties follows:

Murdered
Mrs. Emma Cumerlato—shot by a sniper in her own doorway.
Joe Colbert—shot by gangsters in his own home.

5,000 Walk Out In Philadelphia Dress Strike

Philadelphia, Pa.—On Tuesday, May 9, the dressmakers rose in rebellion against sweatshop conditions and starvation pay in Philadelphia. That day 5,000 waist and dressmakers, 95 percent of the trade, went out on a general strike call in their industry. Their working conditions, never good, had been worsened in the past several years that it could no longer be tolerated. Wages of \$8 to \$15 and even lower are now current. Regulations as to hours, etc., which the state government had in past years been forced to concede, were withdrawn. Work had to be taken home. It was a spirit of resentment against such slave conditions which brought on this upheaval.

The extent of the strike and its depth, can be further judged by the fact that for about half of those out it is their first strike—a novel experience. All categories—operators, cutters, finishers, etc., have struck. This so successful walkout was in response to two strike calls that were issued, one by the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, the other by the United Front Committee of Dress and Waistmakers and the Needle Trades Workers Industrial Union. The part played by the Left wing NTWU is a sorry one. The response was overwhelmingly to the right wing ILGWU of Dubinsky and Reisberg. But both unions were taken by surprise at the turn-out of the workers. So little did the officialdom understand.

To the doubtful "credit" of the ILGWU must be added an effort to prevent a walkout. At the general strike meetings on Wednesday, Pres. Dubinsky admitted that the International's office considered conditions inauspicious for a struggle. "We restrained, we cautioned . . . but you wanted it." The Left wing, desirous of struggle but lacking forces and a foothold among the workers, was as a matter of course unable to call a strike. It was too late in the season. At the time of the walkout, the ILGWU had registered 1200 workers. Its leaders expected only an additional 600 to come out.

This strike proves the general Communist position, that strike struggle can be successfully waged now, despite a severe unemployment situation. The strike has many

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Broad United Front to Preserve Rivera Murals

A broad united front protest movement of working class organizations against the threatened destruction of Diego Rivera's mural paintings at Radio City by the Rockefeller interests culminated Wednesday in an open-air mass meeting at Columbus Circle and in mass picketing at Radio City and later at the home of Rockefeller. Throughout the whole protest campaign the active and often leading role of the Left Opposition, with which Rivera openly showed his political sympathy, was evident.

At the first meeting of the provisional united front committee, on Friday, May 12, representatives of the cultural and educational organizations of the Left Opposition, the official party (John Reed Club, Workers School, National Students

Help Pull The Militant Thru

Our appeal to solve the contradiction between the political advance of the League and the financial situation of the MILITANT have met with an excellent response. Since last week's report the following returns have been made by our comrades and friends: Comrade Konikow in Boston paid another note on the linotype machine; the Chicago Militant Workers Club shot in nine dollars; comrade Duell in New Haven sent in one dollar; comrade Koehler in Youngstown, five dollars; Dr. E., two dollars; a friend in Los Angeles one dollar; comrade Kaplan in New York, three dollars; comrade Vomvas of Pittsburgh, one and a half dollars.

In addition the Chicago, Newark, Pittsburgh, Minneapolis, Toronto, Montreal and Boston branches all sent in various contributions. But best of all has been the response of the Kansas City and New York branches which by their efforts have steered the MILITANT through the worst of the breakers. Final figures of the exact results of the respective efforts of these two branches are not yet available. Next week we will give a full and detailed report.

Clear water is ahead at last. There remains one more line of breakers. If we clear this we can say that the response of our entire movement has pulled the MILITANT through the worst crisis it has ever faced. In that case we will have taken a long step forward on the road to the solution of the contradiction between the political advances of the League and the financial situation of the MILITANT.

Our belief is that the response of the past three weeks will not slacken but will continue.

Despite the excellent response of the past week the MILITANT appears late this week. That is due to the financial situation which set us back. If all our comrades and friends will continue to make their response prompt, next week's MILITANT can appear earlier.

Organize Fight Against Mass Evictions

BULLETIN

As we go to press we learn from the evening papers of the savage assault made by the N. Y. Police upon demonstrations in New York at the Home Relief Bureaus where unemployed workers protested the slashing of relief and the cessation of rent payments by the city. The thugs in uniform brutally slugged the workers. Many were taken to the hospital for treatment.

The working masses of New York are getting their first dose of the Roosevelt "New Deal." Tammany Hall, "the friend of the people," has ordered the wholesale eviction of the New York unemployed from their homes. Working in cooperation with their election backers, the landlords and the bankers, the McCooys, the Currys, the O'Briens and the rest of the honest men in control of the City government have cut off all payment of rents for the unemployed. This is no small matter. It cuts into the lives of more than 1,000,000 unemployed, their wives and children. Tammany's brutal eviction order tells the jobless masses of this city to pack their belongings and to rent a sleeping place for themselves on the park benches, the subway or a flophouse—if they can get into one.

This is the fourth year of the economic crisis. The masses have watched the degradation of their standards of life with little or no resistance. So long as they were able to "get by" on the handouts of the relief institutions they remained dormant and passive. The Communists warned that even these pitiful doles would be retracted if the workers did not fight for their maintenance and for the granting of the only half-way substantial form of relief under capitalism—unemployment insurance. These warnings have now become a sinister fact. Relief has either been reduced or eliminated in various parts of the country. New York is now falling in line with new dole to be dispensed to the American workers—the dole of starvation and evictions.

The capitalist class is determined to carry out its cynical hunger program. Listen to what a capitalist information agency, the Kiplinger Washington letter has to say and draw your own conclusions:

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Chicago Meet Unifies Jobless Movement

NATIONAL FEDERATION FORMED. SOCIALISTS FORCED TO INCLUDE ALL COMMUNIST TENDENCIES IN CONFERENCE. LEFT WING CARRIES PROGRAM AFTER HARD STRUGGLE.

Chicago, Ill.—The Chicago Unemployed Conference held at Lincoln Center on May 13, 14, 15, ended by forming the National Federation of Unemployed Workers Leagues of America, with the national office in Chicago, and the election of a National Committee of 15.

Wide Representation
Three national organizations, two others in the process of forming national, state, sectional and city organizations, represented 40 organizations with 826 branches, from 16 states and 25 cities with 96 delegates from all parts of the United States. The Workers' Committees, Workers Leagues and Unemployed Councils were represented. The Ohio Independence meeting, to be called by the CPLA and the Industrial Workers Unions, both in the process of forming national unemployed organizations, were also represented. Fraternal delegates from political organizations were also present, Al Glotzer representing the Left Opposition.

Political tendencies from the extreme right to the extreme left attended the conference which was the high mark up to the present in the united front of workers' organizations. The following political tendencies were represented through different unemployed organizations: Republicans, Democrats, Agrarian reformers, progressives, Borders' group, socialists, Right wing socialists, militant socialists, Left wing socialists, anarchists, Industrial Workers of the World, Mustelites, Stalinists, Lovestonites, Right-center Communists, ultra-Left communists and the Left Opposition. The different political tendencies

Move to Unify Unemployed in Ohio

Youngstown, O.—All the organizations in the Mahoning Valley that claim to represent the interests of the working class will be given the opportunity to prove how seriously they recognize the need of general working class unity in the immediate future. At the suggestion of a Left Oppositionist, the Youngstown Fourth Ward Unemployed League has appointed a committee of three to meet with similar committees from the Austintown Unemployed League, Fourth Ward Unemployed Council and the central branch of the Youngstown Unemployed Council for the purpose of drawing up a united front program and issuing an appeal for unity to all labor organizations in the Mahoning Valley.

This is going to be a test primarily for two national movements that are at present contending for leadership of the local workers. I refer to the Unemployed Council movement inaugurated and to this day dominated by the Communist party, and the Unemployed Leagues which have been built up by the Conference for Progressive Labor Action and which still generally follow the CPLA leadership. Both the CP and the CPLA do a lot of

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Cannon Meetings Are Big Factor in Reviving Movement in Kansas City

Kansas City, Mo.—The local branch of the Left Opposition increased its membership by almost half when four comrades were accepted into the group. In addition to that the members and sympathizers pledged \$800—\$125 spot cash. In response to the appeal of comrade Cannon for the upkeep of the Militant and continuance of work in the coal fields. Also the group set a goal of 30 new subs in the Militant drive. Comrade Caplan of the sub-drive, warns all those in the race for the prize—the three volumes of Comrade Trotsky's "History of the Russian Revolution"—that they must increase their efforts or else he is a sure winner!

Last but not least, a Young Spartacus group, with a membership of nine, was organized by comrade Duff.

The K. C. Branch feels that the Left Opposition should recognize that the perseverance and patience of comrades "Shorty" Buehler and Kassen have borne fruit. It is they who have received torrents of abuse from the Stalinists since the formation of the Left Opposition in K. C., and, now that headway is being made all credit to them!

—C. D.

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