

WORKERS
OF THE
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UNITE

THE MILITANT



Weekly Organ of the Communist League of America [Opposition]

Published weekly by the Communist League of America (Opposition) at 126 East 16th Street, New York, N. Y. Entered as second class matter, November 28, 1928 at the Post Office at New York, N. Y. under the act of March 3, 1879.
VOLUME VII NO. 2 (WHOLE NO. 206) NEW YORK, SATURDAY, JANUARY 20, 1934 PRICE 2 CENTS

A Capitalist Budget of 10 Billion Dollars

Debt to Exceed World War Figures; America Pays High Price for World Dominion

President Roosevelt's message to the Seventy-Third Congress calls for a budget of ten billion dollars for the coming fiscal year. Four billion dollars are to meet maturing government obligations; six billion for the current expenditures. This means that the bankers of the country will be able to invest over one and a half billion dollars each month for the next six months in as sound a proposition as can be found under capitalism in its period of decline.

It is estimated that the public debt will rise to thirty billion again. If the President's budget is not chopped to pieces in the house and Senate. Those who support the President's financial program are inviting a comparison of the "recovery" deficit with the World War deficit. The "recovery" deficit is estimated to reach 16 1/2 billion dollars. The expenditures connected with the war, not considering war debts reached the total of 41 billion dollars.

The Price of World Hegemony

The above is just the vulgar economists' way of saying that the price America must pay for world hegemony is very high. It cost over 41 billion to obtain the dominating position in world economy. And now, as the first expenditure, which is by no means the last, it has cost over 16 billion, in the struggle against the other imperialists and the working class of America, to maintain the world position.

In addition to the public debt there are the private debts. The National Industrial Conference Board estimated that private debts for the first crisis year of 1929 reach the figures of a 12 1/2 billion dollars, with interest over 7 billion. The corporations alone had a principal indebtedness of 75 billion. This indebtedness is no problem in periods of prosperity. But when a crisis continues into the fifth year it becomes a major consideration of the whole capitalist class and calls for government "subsidies" through various forms to uphold the tottering economic structure. The vast expenditures through the R. F. C., and other agencies are designed to accomplish this end.

A Class Budget

The budget that calls for an outlay of ten billion this year and six billion next year is a class budget through and through. It is a form of capitalist subsidies, with crumbs for the working class, depending upon the pressure the working class can exert in demanding relief from low wages and unemployment. Instead of social and unemployment insurance, the capitalist government plans an extension of its present methods of handling the working class.

Sixteen billion dollars dumped into the internal market is a worthwhile stimulant for a capitalist breathing spell. At the same time it is an attempt to find a market for capital investment. The question of capital investment is the key problem of American imperialism.

OPEN FORUM

EUROPE AFTEN ONE YEAR OF HITLER

Recently returned from an extensive visit to Europe and Germany
Speaker: ARNE SWABECK
International Workers School
126 East 16th Street
SUNDAY, JANUARY 21st, 1934
8 P. M.

Speakers:
JAMES P. CANNON
JOSEPH CARTER
Editor of "Young Spartacus"

Fascism in America! PELLEY'S SILVER SHIRTS

(Ed. Note: This is the first of a series of articles devoted to a study and exposure of the budding fascist movement known as the Silver Shirts of America.)

There is a Fascist movement in America. It is small. It is inconspicuous. It lacks popular propaganda. It has no spokesmen in the accredited capitalist press. It is unknown to most American workers. It does not possess state power and is not represented in any governmental office. BUT IT IS GROWING AND IT DISPOSES OF FINANCES, FREELY GIVEN FROM SOME UNDIVULGED SOURCE.

Fascism in the U. S.

To our knowledge, the outstanding Fascist organization in the United States is the Silver Shirts of America with headquarters at Asheville, North Carolina. The literature and form of organization of this outfit, the men in the leadership and the people in back of it, give us the impression that the Silver Shirts are no fly-by-night gathering like the late but unlamented Khaki Shirts of Philadelphia. If not handled in time, and handled properly, they may become a gruesome menace to the labor and revolutionary movement, to the working class fortresses yet to come.

American Fascism, in the guise of the Silver Shirts, has borrowed its stock-in-trade of propaganda, vituperation, sulphur-and-brimstone damnation from the Fascism that goose-steps on German streets in Brown Shirts. Its creed is not a new one; rabidly anti-semitic, arch-reactionary Communist batters, violently nationalistic, they have been aptly termed "hill-billy Hitlerites."

The Silver Shirts claim to be a national organization. In *Liberation*, their weekly organ they publish an organization chart which divides the country into "nine incorporated units" and claim, pretend or boast to have tens of thousands of members. *Liberation* is a twelve page magazine printed on expensive paper. Beneath the masthead of the magazine is the ostentatious statement, printed in large type, "Edited by William Dudley Pelley."

"The Chief"

Hitler is known as *der Fuehrer*, Mussolini as *Il Duce* and our own William Dudley Pelley... the "Chief" The chief, who is the organizer, inspirer and leader, who is endowed, according to his own admission, with magical, psychical powers to communicate with the dead and the "beyond" by means of "clairvoyance" and "clairaudience", came to his present pre-eminence by a peculiar yet quite logical road. Up till May 1928, Pelley tells us, he was a "newspaperman", which is only a more euphemistic name for the paid agents of the kept

California Board Denies Parole to Warren Billings

The California State Board of Prison Terms and Paroles has denied the appeal of Warren K. Billings, railroaded with Tom Mooney in 1916 for the Preparedness Day parade bomb explosion and coparole with him for 17 years, for parole.

"Anti-Social Activities"

"Billings and the California Board, is a second-term prisoner and was active in anti-social activities." Previous statements, emanating from leading spokesmen of the boss class, point to the fact that "anti-social" activities refer to the militant organizational work carried on by Mooney and Billings in the California labor movement prior to America's entry into the war. This Parole Board statement is strikingly similar to remarks of capitalist sycophants to the effect that if Mooney and Billings "couldn't be convicted on the dynamite charges some other charges for indictment would have been found."

Tom Mooney, rejecting an offer for parole, has long ago placed his reliance on mass movement and mass pressure to force a new trial or an exonerating pardon. Billings, on the contrary, recently put his faith in legal action. This decision of the Parole Board has made it quite clear that legal scruples do not concern the American ruling class. He will not even receive a parole on the basis of juridical points.

A Deadly Parallel! Mooney and Billings rot away in the San Quentin and Folsom Bastille while "Sunny Jim" Bomstie piddle at lynchings.

Clear the Decks!

Clear the decks for the biggest subscription campaign we have ever conducted!

The circulation of the *Militant* has nearly doubled in recent months. Now we are going after new records with a special price inducement.

Here is the proposition:

25 cents for a six-month's sub in clubs of four!

Four prepaid sub-cards, each good for a six-month's sub, can be secured for one dollar.

Send in your dollar today and sell the cards later to your friend and fellow-workers.

Or, if you lack the dollar to advance, collect the four 25-cent subs and send them in all together with the dollar.

This is a special campaign to increase circulation quickly at the bare cost of producing the extra copies. We are counting on the enthusiastic cooperation of all the old *Militant* Builders and a host of new ones to make a success of the campaign. Before starting out, please note the following points:

1. No bookkeeping, no credit. Cash must accompany all orders.
2. Prepaid sub-cards. The special 25c prepaid subs are printed on postcards ready for mailing. All that is needed is to fill in the name of the subscriber and drop it in the mail box.
3. The special rate can be obtained only in clubs of four or more. The regular rate of \$1 per year and 50c for six months remains on all other subscriptions.
4. Every week the *Militant* will print the record of results. This campaign is especially designed to stir individual comrades into action. We want to establish direct contact with all who participate and hope to see the names of many new *Militant* Builders in the weekly report.
5. We want the active Builders to help in the promotion of the campaign by explaining how they work so that we can pass the experience on to others. The Builders Column during this campaign is to be collectively edited by the comrades in the field.

There are no prizes offered in this special campaign and no goal is set at present. The special offer will hold good for only a limited time and we do not want to guess what the result will be. We intend to set a goal, however, and to reach it. The mark we set will be determined in the next week or two on the basis of the response to this appeal and the votes of the active Builders. With your first batch of subs at the special rate send in your proposal for the goal of the campaign.

Various methods can be used in piling up the subs. The one that seems most feasible to us, however, is for individual comrades to put a dollar or more into a revolving fund during the drive. Invest the money in prepaid sub cards, sell them at 25c each and buy another bunch. Keep the dollar working till we bring the new campaign to a successful conclusion.

press. In that year and month in the state of California—take note of the state—he made two discoveries which he makes known to us in the December 1930-March 1931 number of his magazine the *New Liberator*, the forerunner of *Liberation* and incidentally published by the same institution.

Truly "Miraculous"

Under the headline, "The Dead are Alive and Organized", he recounts his "miraculous" discoveries:

"First, I have become convinced by my own investigations and experiences that there is no such thing as Death—that life once created cannot die to extinction, that there is one continuous stream of consciousness using many lives for expression, of which physical bodies in a mortal world are the lowest and clumsiest.

"Second, I have become convinced through the training of my psychical faculties, confirmed by messages received by other psychical persons and steadfastly proven by current events, that the outstanding master-brains of the ages—the leaders in religion, statecraft, science and art who have ennobled human society by living in it—have not ceased contact with this earthly sphere.... More than this, they have banded themselves together in a vast sublime Lodge of Supernatural Wisdom for a concrete and benevolent earthly purpose. Under the dynamic generalship of Christ, they are contributing their massed intelligence toward the early establishment of an entirely new social order, that shall permanently abolish Ignorance, Depression, Poverty and War." (Pelley's emphasis).

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As can be seen from this superstitious clap-trap, refurbished from the childish idiosyncrasy of the dark ages, Mr. Pelley was no ordinary sky-pilot. At one blow Pelley became a pope in his own right, the direct agent of God and the intermediary

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Teachers of Green Urges N.Y. in Protest Nazi Boycott

About a thousand teachers responded to the call of the Teachers Union of New York City to demonstrate at City Hall against La Guardia's one-month furlough plan for all city employees which means an 8 and 1/2 per cent wage cut. The demonstration took place on Monday, January 15. It marks a new step in the leftward trend of the policy of the conservative union administration which hitherto frowned on such action.

A delegation of three went inside to see the "little Napoleon". After some time they came out and re-

War Sparks Fly in Far East; Powers Arm

Wall Street Plays Its Own Game in Recognition and Prepares for Coming War in Pacific

Speaking before the Soviet Congress on December the 29th, Litvinoff said: "Inasmuch as she herself is deeply interested in the preservation of peace, America has become by contact with our union one of the most powerful factors for peace and is cooperating with us to

Kerensky Minister Reveals Jap War Aims

That the Japanese militarists are making large-scale, feverish preparations for an attack on the Workers Fatherland, the Soviet Union, and are awaiting the proper moment to strike the blow which will start war, is predicted by Major-General A. Yakhontoff, chief of operations, during the World War, of the Tenth Imperial Russian Army and Secretary of War in the Kerensky cabinet, now in Tucson, Arizona.

He characterizes the huge military budget of the Japanese Cabinet as the "laying of the gallow's trap that will catapult the nations eventually into another world conflagration."

"This is Japan's answer to American Recognition of Russia. All that the Far East needs now is another Serbian assassination to fan the smoldering tinder into a roaring cauldron.

"Japan's munition factories are operating at full speed. Plans are being rushed for the building of several new warships. The size of the army will be increased. The militarists are doing everything in their power to arm the country and to train it for war.

"Russia is doing the same. Even the United States will finally be forced to enter into this race for more armaments. And then it will be only a matter of time."

Teachers of Green Urges N.Y. in Protest Nazi Boycott

Tracing the steps of the German Nazis in taking over the trade unions, William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, in a recent statement called for an intensification of the boycott of German goods and services. While condemning the suppression of the free trade unions, the social democracy and the persecution of the German Jews, Green had not a word to say about the reign of terror against the Communists or the recent Reichstag fire frame-up. Even the exposure by the capitalist press of this infamous trial finds no reflection in Green's statement.

The actual role of the German trade union leaders is well illustrated by a quotation from the May 29th Reports of the International Labour Office (Page 272):

"The Leiparts and the Grassmanns may hypocritically declare their devotion to Hitler as much as they like, but it is better that they should be in prison.

"Those are the actual works of Dr. Ley" (the head of Hitler's trade union organization).

Green quotes these words without comment.

Green's statement should be utilized as a starting point of a movement in the trade unions against Hitlerism. Not a boycott of German goods—but a complete economic and industrial boycott of Nazis Germany, should be the slogan of the militants.

The demand for free, non-Fascist, non-government trade unions should be supplemented by the demand for the freedom of all workers organizations, social democratic as well as revolutionary. Above all at the present time it is urgent to raise the demand for the immediate release of Torgler, Dimitroff, Tanev and Popoff and their safe conduct across the German border.

(that end". Further on in his report he added: "It must not be thought that all capitalist governments are aiming at war. For many of them, that is far from being the case, which is why we who earnestly desire peace are eager and ready to cooperate with genuinely pacifist countries—and sections of public opinion in any country, where we find them." (*New York Times*, December 30th). Among Litvinoff's "genuinely pacifist countries" the United States is apparently to be counted.

Just the day before this report was given President Roosevelt proclaimed at the dinner of the Woodrow Wilson Foundation: "It therefore has seemed clear to me as president that the time has come to supplement and to implement the declaration of President Wilson by the further declaration that the definite policy of the United States from now on is one opposed to armed intervention."

Pacifism to Screen War Aims

Both statements, if taken at face value, are of the kind which can serve only to deceive the working masses. But they should not be taken at face value because neither statement is true.

For President Roosevelt the purpose of his declaration is clear. It is meant to shield the actual preparations now being made for the coming furious imperialist conflicts in which the United States will set out for definite conquests on a large scale.

Coming from Litvinoff the declarations quoted carry a devastating disorientation to the revolutionists who have not yet learned to distinguish between the politics of the Stalin regime and those of Lenin's leadership. We need recall only one paragraph of the resolution adopted at the Bolshevik party Congress on May 9, 1917: "Our party will explain to the people with patience and preciseness the truth that war is always bound up indissolubly with the policies of certain definite classes, that this war may only be terminated by a democratic peace if the government powers of at least some of the belligerent countries are handed over to the class of the proletariat and of semi-proletariat who are really capable of putting an end to the bondage of capitalism."

U. S. Imperialist Designs

Notwithstanding Litvinoff's de-

(Continued on page 4)

Big Meetings in Hotel Union Drive

New York.—Weekly mass meetings of record breaking proportions are packing the vast auditorium of the Amalgamated Food Workers Union to hear speakers reaffirm the necessity for a general strike as the most effective means of struggle to improve their conditions. In addition to officials and shop delegates of the union the meetings are regularly addressed by Ben Gitlow, J. P. Cannon, Louis Budenz and other prominent militants.

While an overwhelming proportion of workers in other branches of the industry still remain unorganized, a successful organizational drive is going on in the big hotels where the kitchen and dining room departments report 70 to 95 percent unionization. With thousands of workers already enrolled a steady stream of new members pours into the union.

In some of the larger restaurants the workers were forced to join Local 16 of the A. F. of L. at the threat of losing their jobs. At the Casino de Paree, an exclusive Broadway night club, 60 waiters were locked out when they defied the bosses by joining the Amalgamated. The officials of Local 16 attempted to send waiters from the other Broadway Clubs to the Casino de Paree. The waiters, aroused by the treachery of the A. F. of L. bureaucrats, refused to scab as many left Local 16 to join the Amalgamated. The locked out waiters are picketing the Casino de Paree.

LENIN, LIEBKNECHT, LUXEMBERG MEMORIAL MEETING

Friday, January 26, 1934, 8 P.M.
IRVING PLAZA HALL
Irving Place and 15th Street
ADMISSION 15c