

## MARCH OF EVENTS

By JACK WEBER

State of the Union  
No More Cash Relief  
Imperialism and the Farmer

Roosevelt has sent his message to Congress on the state of the nation. And a sad state it is. Had there been in the past year a sharp upturn, a rapid rise in production, reemployment of many more millions of workers, Roosevelt would have taken credit for all this as the result of the New Deal. As it turns out all the hollowness of the demagoguery and ballyhoo of the NRA stand nakedly revealed. True, there has been some recovery of business; employment is above the lowest levels of the crisis; but the illusions created in the minds of many workers that the government would see to the return of prosperity and send them back to the factories in short order have evaporated into thin air. It must be clear to all by now that Roosevelt ganted on the ending of the depression and on the recovery of business in the normal course of things, and that his whole "program" so far as the working class was concerned, was intended to lull the masses into passivity during the worst phase of the crisis.

In his message of last year Roosevelt expressed the hope that the budget could be balanced in the next fiscal year—the year beginning in June 1935. That hope, too, goes by the board with the indication that a deficit of four billions of dollars will be piled up in the coming year, thereby bringing the total federal debt to a record high. With the failure of business to pick up sufficiently to permit balancing of the budget, with the government embarking on a new program of public spending to be financed by government borrowing, further inflation looms in the future as almost a certainty. Of course it is not Roosevelt's real intention to spend the entire appropriations supposedly made for relief through public works. But if he follows along the course outlined in his message, the treasury will be forced by the need for refunding previous loans (that fall due), and the demands for new funds for public works and other "emergency" measures, to borrow some eleven and a half billions of dollars. Such huge government borrowings will exert the most disturbing influence on the entire financial structure of the nation. That is why the government may be compelled to take over greater and greater control of the banking and credit system.

What is of the utmost importance to both the employed and the unemployed alike, is that part of Roosevelt's message dealing with relief. He intends to drop as much as possible cash relief and substitute what comes close to being

forced labor at low wages, lower than for similar work in private employment. And this is to be applied particularly in the field of construction. Thus the pre-arranged propaganda extending back for months now, blaming the failure of recovery in the building trades and the field of heavy construction on the refusal of the skilled workers to give up the wage levels and the conditions to which they were heretofore accustomed, is now bearing fruit. The government is stepping in to help beat down the standards of living of the building trades workers. Recovery of heavy industry is to take place by loading all the sacrifices on the backs of the working class. It can be said in advance that the workers will not submit to this program without the sharpest struggles and resistance. The government will find it necessary to use the methods of repression more and more.

## Secretary Wallace Gives the Key

To understand the real meaning of the moves being made by the government one must see them in their entirety as in accord with the historic aims and needs of the American finance capitalists. Such a view is given most clearly in the apparently "liberal" writings of Secretary of Agriculture Wallace. To him it is perfectly clear that America cannot turn to any scheme of autarchy, of a self-enclosed economy. Rather it must rearrange its entire internal economy so as to enable the closest economic ties to be made with the backward agricultural countries of South America and Asia. America, in short, must become more and more imperialistic. It must capture the major world markets for manufactured goods by its mass production methods in the factories. Competition with the other imperialists requires that the costs of production must be extremely low. Hence the drive on workers' living standards. At the same time, if these other countries are to buy in "our" market, they must be permitted to sell their agricultural products. Hence the program of crop control here, to eliminate those American farmers in competition with the potential buyers. Naturally with this vast program of imperialism goes a complete revision of the tariff system.

## BIG PROFITS IN TEXTILES

WASHINGTON—Big profits were made by the textile industry from Jan. 1, 1933, to Aug. 31, 1934, according to the first installment of the Federal Trade Commission's reports. Altogether the 765 companies studied made nearly \$100,000,000 profits in the whole period, so that the claimed loss of the companies of \$4,667,578 for the 2-month period just before the great textile strike had been well covered by the tremendous gains.

Dew of Death Rained From Sky  
Capitalist Weapon for Next War

By RUTH WILSON

In Japan school children are taught to use gas masks. In Paris, bomb-proof cellars, are built for the civilian population. In Italy, boys of eight are given military training.

In the United States, the government talks of taking the "excess" profits out of war—and continues to build battle ships and to carry on secret experiments with poison gases.

All over the world, the next war is in preparation. For the time being American capitalists, like the English, and all others for that matter, are talking peace—and preparing for the inevitable war.

Chemical warfare is a thing of such horror that the mind reels at the thought of it. Propagandists, lulling us into a feeling of safety, declare that no country would dare use the chemicals and laboratories have prepared in their laboratories, because of the fear of reprisals by its enemy.

## No Limits

Let us forget—gas warfare was "outlawed" before the World War; but both sides used it just the same. In the next war, with a pre-knowledge of the possibilities of demoralizing civilian populations by a quick paralyzing stroke, and with the new horrors made available by the laboratories of the world since the World War, there will and can be no rules and no limits.

What are these horrors of chemical warfare? We don't hear much about them, mostly rumors. There is good reason for that: If the workers of the world could learn what is actually being prepared for them by the governments of Europe and America, then they might rise in protest.

A little book, prepared by the Chemical Workers' Union of England, gives some idea of what the next war will mean. These chemists know what they are talking about.

## Mustard Gas

They tell of Mustard Gas, whose victims in the World War suffered and died for years after 1918. This gas, which can be prepared more easily now than at the time of the last war, vaporizes slowly at ordinary temperatures. Thus it may be carried on clothing into a warm room, where it becomes effective. It contaminates anything with which it comes in contact—food, clothing, ground. It has the added horror that it takes some time for it to show its results, so that the victim may not know he has been affected until hours later.

Then, with increasing intensity, the gas causes smarting of the eyes, nausea and vomiting, a rash that develops into blisters and festering sores, and blindness. This agony may last for several days, ending in death.

Those who have seen gas victims of the last war know that even a non-fatal "dose" of Mustard Gas leaves the victim weakened for life. Perhaps most potent of all gases is Lewisite—discovered by the United States Chemical Warfare Service. To this gas is given the poetic name of "Dew of Death," and it has an odor not unlike that of geraniums. It is one of the most deadly gases ever discovered.

There are many others—Chlorine, which causes death by choking the lungs; Phosgene, which kills 81 percent of its victims within 24 hours, after the most horrible agony; and the "irritants," which are not fatal in themselves but are designed to cause their victims to tear off their gas masks and thus expose themselves to the deadlier gases.

## "Civilized" Weapons

These are a few of the weapons that experts are preparing for the next war. And not only the experts of Europe. The English Chemical Workers' booklet tells of a huge poison gas plant at "Edgewood" in the United States, built at a cost of \$45,000,000, with 218 manufacturing buildings, 1,400 tons of poison gases in stock, and a plant capacity said to be 800 tons of poison gas per day. This would mean that in two months this plant could produce more poison gas than the Germans used throughout the last war.

There is no adequate defense against chemical warfare—the experts agree to that. It would take years to make enough gas masks to protect civilians—even if little children and old people could be trained to keep on these uncomfortable masks. Shelters deep underground may be built to comfort people and prepare them for the idea of war; but to build enough shelters for even one large city—even if they could be built deep enough to keep the gases from seeping down—is a virtual impossibility.

## Soothing Syrup

The governments know this. So they devote their propaganda to soothing the people. Sir Samuel Hoare, in a speech in the British Parliament, discussed the possibility of a pre-war treaty under which the centers of cities would not be bombed until the workers had gone home!

But workers, knowing that to paralyze industry will be one of the chief points of attack in the next war, will remember that 31 nations signed the Geneva Protocol forbidding the use of poison gas in the World War—and will not put their faith in the politeness of nations at war.

Equally soothing, a chemist for the Imperial Chemical Industries Company in England made the statement that all that was neces-

sary to protect oneself in a poison gas attack was to get into a hot bath and smile. That will surely be a comfort to those families with enough baths for every member—through the millions of workers without even one bath may find it harder to smile.

Another expert, an authority on air warfare, said, "People must get used to the idea that the next war cannot be fought in the trenches."

His statement, designed to prepare the civilians for their part in the war, must serve as a warning. The next war will be fought, as all wars are fought, by workers, and by their families. Nor can American workers feel secure in their isolation; no one can foretell the quick development of tomorrow's horrors that can span an ocean. There is little comfort in that thought that the United States, in its secret laboratories, is preparing weapons to use against the workers of other nations.

There is only one way to put an end to war and the danger of war. That is by overthrowing the capitalist system which breeds it. The only road to peace is through the revolutionary war against capitalism.

How NUL Convention  
Nipped Fascist AttackPart Three of the history of  
the National Unemployed League.

By LOUIS BRIER

The first session of the national convention in Columbus was called to order on July 3, 1933. Eight hundred delegates were present from thirteen states. The largest delegation to the convention was from the Ohio Unemployed League, which had met in convention only a few days previously. This was an important factor in the events that followed. The O.U.L. was by far the largest league in its territory and a good portion of its territory had been little time for that weeding out process that follows the establishment of a new league and eventually eliminates the shady elements and the wardheelers. They were present in force.

The session opened peacefully enough. Bill Truax, president of the Ohio league, made the initial speech in which he welcomed the delegates and pointed to the main task—building the N.U.L. During the course of his speech Truax made several characteristic statements on the condition of the country in which the government and the interests that control it were roundly and hilariously spanked.

This was the cue for the spies and provocateurs. They scurried about the vast fairground show-ring that served as the meeting hall—and the whispering began. This increased during succeeding speeches and when Arnold Johnson, secretary of the Ohio league, and subsequently of the N.U.L., arose to outline the tasks facing the unemployed, we will drive the money-changers from the temple and lift up the underprivileged to an abundant life.

The government began new surveys. Committees and fact-finding bodies produced new volumes of facts and figures. And the facts and figures added to the already voluminous evidence that every man, woman and child could have plenty of all the necessary things of life—food, clothes, homes, a high standard of living.

But again the months passed and there was no visible improvement. In 1933 there was a brief upturn and their conditions got worse than ever. The President continued to speak of the "abundant life."

But facts and figures are hard witnesses. Less food was sold in 1934 than in 1933. New homes are still out of the question; there is none; and the old ones do not improve with age. It is true that new millions in profits were reported by the corporations and banks in 1934, but the government has just reported an all time high of 19,000,000 people on the relief rolls. The living standard instead of being doubled is sinking lower.

In his message to Congress, which has just opened, Roosevelt admitted that "despite all our talk" the New Deal has failed to lift the underprivileged. But in the same breath he defended the "profit motive," said the government "must and will quit this relief business" and recommended that 3,500,000 of the jobless be put to work on government projects "which do not conflict with private business" at low wages.

The working masses do not yet realize who Roosevelt is. That he is a member of the capitalist class, trying to apply a capitalist remedy, is little known. But little by little the idea that WE COULD HAVE PLENTY is growing. And this is the dynamite that will blast capitalist poverty and the whole capitalist "profit motive" system sky high.

JOIN THE WORKERS PARTY.

## Letter From Spain

## New International

## Cuban Volcano

## SPANISH SOCIALIST YOUTH

## CALLS FOR NEW INTERNA-

(Ed. Note: An expression of the tremendous ferment in the ranks of the Young Socialists of Europe is to be seen in the call issued by the Socialist Youth of Spain for unity with the Young Communist League and the Communist Left Youth ("Trotskyites") and the formation of a new revolutionary youth International and he "return to Marx and Lenin". The call issued by the Spanish Socialist Youth is reprinted herewith.)

## Call of Spanish Socialist Youth

To the Socialist and Communist Youth:

To the working Youth:

Comrades:

Following the revolutionary movement and because of the need for strengthening the proletarian defense against the fascist offensive the Executive Committee of the Socialist Youth considers that

the unity of the youth forces can no longer be postponed. The proletarian youth is faced with the problem of organic unity. Realizing this to be so, we have addressed the following proposal to the Y.C.L., the Communist Left Youth (International Communists) and the youth organizations of the Iberian Communist Party (Maurin group):

"The Socialist Youth of Spain feel the unpostponable need of achieving the organic unity of the revolutionary proletarian youth which has already been united in struggle. During the October revolution we have struggled together against fascism in a single block and for a common purpose. Why should this not continue to be so? Why continue separately if our line is the same? The Socialist Youth have broken definitely with the Social-Democratic reformism and intend, together with the Socialist Youth of France, Belgium, Switzerland, Czechoslovakia, England, and Austria, to initiate the reconstruction of the youth movement on the purest basis of revolutionary Marxism. The international leadership necessary to reach victory is non-existent. The Second and Third Internationals have lost this leading position. Following Hitler's victory, a new movement has gotten under way. We believe it necessary, urgent, to push this movement to its destination.

"Let us return to Marx and Lenin. Let us unite the proletarian youth in an International that has broken with the errors of the past.

"Therefore, we invite the Y.C.L., the Communist Left Youth, and the Youth of the Iberian Communist Party, to enter, as such, en masse into the Socialist Youth of Spain. We invite the revolutionary proletarian youth to rally under our banner for the reconstruction of the international proletarian movement.

"For the organic unity of the proletarian youth! For a Marxist International! For the banner of Marx and Lenin!"

Concerning this proposal, discussions have been held with the Y.C.L. which has refused our proposal in a sectarian manner. We have not, however, lost confidence.

Young Communists: bring pressure on your leadership to achieve organic unity.

Young workers: The Socialist Youth of Spain calls on you to unite.

Long live the October revolution! Long live organic unity!

—Socialist Youth of Spain.

## Situation Tense In Cuba

Once again, Cuba finds itself on the brink of a volcano. The fate of the Mendieta-Batista regime, puppet of American imperialism, hangs in the balance. Opposition groups of both the right and the left are organizing the struggle for its overthrow.

The mass base of the present government has been progressively shrinking for many months to the point where it now rests almost entirely on the army with the support of Wall Street interests. The development of the strike movement and the tremendous wave of terrorism—bombings and assassinations—have shown the impotence of the government to dominate the situation. Serious disaffection is evident in the army, a number of officers having been detained for subversive activities, and others "retired from the service". Numerous arrests of Communists, ABC members, and alleged terrorists, have been made in the last few days.

There can be no doubt that the Cuban revolution is entering a new phase. Both of the working class parties — Bolshevik-Leninist and Stalinist, all of the petty bourgeois revolutionary groups—Cuban Revolutionary Party, Young Cuba, National Agrarian Party—as well as the would-be Fascist ABC, openly proclaim the renewal of hostilities. Upon the events of the next few weeks may depend the future of the Cuban revolution for many years to come. Organized labor of the United States should be prepared to forcefully demand that American imperialists keep their hands off of Cuba in the struggles that are approaching.

## 7,400,000 CHILDREN

WASHINGTON—Some 7,400,000 children under 16 are on the country's relief rolls, says Assistant Administrator Aubrey Williams of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration.

shook the walls. The N.U.L. was launched. The spies and fascists were decisively beaten—how decisively was apparent at the meetings following the convention and at the second national convention which showed clearly the tremendous progress in political understanding and class-consciousness that these workers, who only a year before waved the flag and dangled the club, had made under the tutelage and leadership of the C.P.L.A. Ramuglis and Johnson, elected president and secretary without opposition, could prepare their plan for extended organization.

(To be continued)

## The Party Fund

A circular letter, addressed to all our readers, friends and sympathizers, and containing the PROGRAM OF ACTION, is going into the mails today.

This Program consists of eleven definite tasks the Workers Party set itself for immediate achievement. Six of these points are already in process of fulfillment.

To start work AT ONCE on the remaining points in the Program of Action and to successfully accomplish it in full, FUNDS ARE URGENT.

For this purpose, the PARTY FOUNDATION CAMPAIGN was initiated by our National Committee.

SEND YOUR PROMPT ANSWER TO THIS CALL.

SEND YOUR CONTRIBUTION. COLLECT FROM FRIENDS AND SHOPMATES. PAY YOUR MEMBERSHIP TAX. DON'T DELAY!

Forward to a powerful mass Workers Party of the U. S.

## BRANCH REPORTS

New York City: Hard at work fulfilling the \$1,500 quota. Planning a special city-wide affair, the proceeds of which will go for the Foundation Fund.

Waukegan, Ill.: "There is no doubt we shall be able to meet our quota."

Youngstown, Ohio: "The national office notified us that our quota for the PARTY FOUNDATION FUND was \$25. We have pledged \$40 and will make it easily. Every member is digging deep into his pocket and out visiting friends in order to get contributions.

"The pledges of the employed members of the branch are as follows: Cheloff, \$5; Slavin, \$4; Conrad, \$5.50; London, \$3 or more. At least 50 percent of these pledges will be paid by February 1 and the balance by March 1. All unemployed members have pledged to

meet their 25c assessment quickly."

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## SOME RECENT IMPORTATIONS

ASPECTS OF DIALECTICAL MATERIALISM—a symposium by H. Levy, Joan Macmurray, R. L. Fox, E. F. Carr, et al. THE OUTLOOK OF SCIENCE, by R. F. Wexell

Reviewed in the December issue of the New International Condition of the Working Class in 1844, by F. Engels. SELECTED ESSAYS, by Karl Marx.

On the Jewish Question; a criticism of Hegelian philosophy, etc.

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