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Britain Joins Hitler Against Soviet Union

Smashes Versailles Pact by Treaty with Germany

Great Britain's open support of German rearmament, as marked by the recent Anglo-German naval agreement, has strengthened the hand of reaction in Europe. New realignments of imperialist powers in preparation for an impending war is taking place. Peace in Europe has been maintained in the last few years due to Hitler's failure to obtain a strong ally on the continent and the collaboration of England and France. Both conditions now appear to be destroyed.

England's new policy, a culmination of years of hardly-concealed material support to Hitler's rearmament, has a two-fold purpose: first, to disrupt the Franco-Soviet pact, if possible to win France to an open anti-Soviet policy and second, to collaborate with Hitler so as to insure itself against possible Nazi military adventures at England's expense, for example in Austria.

England has held the balance of power in Europe for the last few years. Now it has openly thrown itself to the side of Hitler in Europe. Its agreement with Germany sanctions an increase in the latter's navy to 35 percent of Britain's or a "maximum" of 429,000 tons as compared to France's 650,000 tons. In addition an air agreement between the two countries is now contemplated.

Blow at France

France is bitter over the agreement. Not only does it strengthen Germany, but the fact that it was arrived at without the sanction of the French government makes the French imperialists uneasy. The British, at first, refused to divulge Hitler's naval program to Paris. A few days ago, however, Hitler, under advice of London, informed the French government that his naval program for the next eighteen months calls for the construction of new ships totalling 107,000 tons, inclusive of two battleships of 25,000 tons each.

The first breach in Anglo-French collaboration over the Italian-Ethiopian dispute, immediately followed the signing of the Anglo-German naval agreement. Until then, despite the friendly relations established between France and Italy last January, Paris and London acted concertedly in relation to Italy.

Mussolini now has a free hand in Abyssinia. He has rejected the offer of Anthony Eden, British Minister for League of Nations Affairs to settle the Italo-Ethiopian dispute by giving Ethiopia a strip of British Somaliland to compensate the Africans for concessions to Italy. All correspondents agree that Italy will go to war with Ethiopia in October.

Fear for Colonies

The reaction of the French government to the offer of Eden is not provoked solely by its bitterness over the Anglo-German agreement. France has its own imperialist interests in Africa.

As a Paris dispatch to the New York Times of July 2 states:

"Loyal as France may be to the principles and text of the League of Nations covenant, the leaders and citizens are far from approving the British suggestion to placate Italy and Ethiopia by handing over to the latter the port of Zella, which might become a direct rival of the French port of Djibuti. If Mr. Mussolini had accepted the suggestion, says the Temps, it would have been to the detriment of France and an open violation of Article IX of the treaty of 1906 by which Britain and Italy undertook to refrain from competing with Djibuti."

However, the realignment of the imperialist powers is far from fixed. Diplomats are making hurried trips from one leading capital of Europe to another. There are rumors of tentative Franco-German parleys which if confirmed may mean a disruption of Franco-Soviet relations.

Workers' Russia cannot be defended by imperialist France. Peace cannot be maintained by the "thieves kitchen," the League of Nations. The defense of the Soviet Union depends upon its Red Army, the Soviet workers and peasants, and above all on the international working class.

Protest Stalin Jailings in N.Y.

NEW YORK, June 30.—Over 300 workers attended the Irving Plaza Hall to protest the recent persecutions in the Soviet Union, the latest evidence of which was the imprisonment of Sergei Trotsky and others. Max Shachtman, editor of the New Internationalist, and A. J. Muste, National Secretary of the W. P. were the speakers.

The cases in history of persecutions by the Stalinist bureaucracy were ably presented by comrade Shachtman. Comrade Muste concluded the meeting by stating the position of the Party on events in the Soviet Union and their relation to the movement in this country.

By a unanimous vote the following resolution was adopted by the workers present:

We, the workers assembled at a meeting in Irving Plaza Hall, Sunday, June 30, on the call of the Workers Party, protest most vigorously the new wave of persecution against Bolshevik-Leninists and worker revolutionists in the Soviet Union.

We consider the arrest and imprisonment of Sergei Trotsky, who it is known has not participated in any political activity, as an act of brutal vengeance on the part of Stalin against Leon Trotsky. We endorse the call of Nathalia I. Trotsky for a commission of Andre Gide, Roland and G. B. Shaw to investigate the matter. We are particularly alarmed by this new wave of terror against revolutionists since it can only weaken the revolutionary forces inside the Soviet Union and undermine the prestige of the S. U. in the eyes of the advanced workers in the capitalist countries. These persecutions are particularly criminal in view of the acute danger of war against the Soviet Union.

We delegate the comrades A. J. Muste and Max Shachtman to bring our protest to the attention of the Soviet embassy in this country.

TOLEDO, Ohio (FP).—Averting a strike of the Mechanics Educational Society of America, the Rathbun-Jones Engineering Co. of Toledo has granted a new agreement providing pay boosts from 3 to 5 cents an hour and maintenance of the 40-hour week.

NEW YORK (FP).—Tom Mooney has won what may well be the battle that is the turning point in his long fight for freedom. The California supreme court has reversed its 18-year-old attitude and has granted Mooney's lawyers a writ of habeas corpus, which means that the state must answer the great volume of evidence of perjury committed during Mooney's trial or release the famous labor prisoner.

New York Pledges \$1000 in Drive for 8-Page New Militant

One of the first responses to our campaign for the eight-page weekly came from S. Harrison, New York City (\$5.00 contribution listed in last issue) and carried this message: "Read about the eight-page New Militant while in Philadelphia last week. It truly gladdened my heart to hear the good news. There are great perspectives ahead of us—the enlarged issue may well contribute a whole lot in the case. . . . Wishing you once more all the success required for such an undertaking."

This is encouraging, and we agree, there are great perspectives ahead of us. We have undertaken a big job as behooves a revolutionary movement, but we set out with the conviction that we can carry it through.

It has never been easy to produce the New Militant week by week. Funds have never yet been plentiful. As a matter of fact we have managed on a shoestring basis. To produce the New Militant today requires an outlay of \$162.00 per issue, all expenses included. At least that is the amount we should have. The truth is that we did not get it and we were compelled to make up in some other way, most often by reducing the economic ratings for all the comrades who carried the burden of the active work.

The New 'Magna Charta' for Labor

As soon as Senator Wagner can get to Washington to participate personally in the ballyhoo connected with the attachment of Roosevelt's signature, the much touted Wagner Labor Disputes Bill will have become law. Thus, according to Green, Hillman and the other A.F. of L. bureaucrats who "look to the President" to save labor, another Magna Charta, Charter of liberties, for labor will have been established. What will happen then?

The steel barons and other employers who do regard this bill, which (on paper) "outlaws" company unions and directs employers to bargain collectively with a union which gets the vote of a majority of their employees, as an outrageous concession to labor, have given notice that they will carry the issue of its constitutionality to the Supreme Court. The workers have had bitter experience with such delays over section 7a of NRA which was also a Magna Charta of labor according to Green et al.

Under this bill a National Labor Relations Board is to be set up to "enforce" collective bargaining, etc. Thus the way is paved for eventual greater control of government over the unions. Apart from that, bitter experience has taught the workers how slowly the machinery of these Boards operates even when "friends of unionism" sit on them, and that the employers have numerous devices for evading their decisions or crippling their operations. Besides, under a capitalist government, which necessarily is concerned about keeping the wheels of industry (i.e. capitalist industry) running smoothly, the basic concern of these government agencies is never that of enforcing the rights of the workers, but that of maintaining "industrial peace," in other words, preventing strikes or if they break out somehow, "settling" them, getting the workers back to work as quickly as possible.

Thus these government boards become in

effect strike-breaking agencies even under the best conditions.

The workers will not get salvation from the Wagner bill. They must now as ever fight the entire system for which it stands. They will get nothing except that which they can take by their organized strength and militancy. They must prepare more rigorously and thoroughly than ever, not for an easy way to improved conditions via labor boards, etc. but for a battle to the death against the employer drive against unionism, against the rising cost of living and the accompanying lowering of the standards of living.

It is possible that the initial psychological effect of the passage of the Wagner bill on some sections of the workers will be similar to that which occurred when the NRA was first proclaimed—to create the impression, namely, that unionization will get government support and so to stimulate organizing campaigns and strikes. It is a fact that capitalism in the U. S. does not yet have to resort to the most extreme repression. A "liberal" administration can seek to allay labor unrest and to buy off trade union leaders by concessions, by preventing the most reactionary employers from carrying out immediately their most extreme plans. Militants will take advantage of the situation, and especially of any organization sentiment which may develop among the workers, not in order to strengthen the mistaken impression they may have of friendly government support, but precisely in order that in the struggle to get what the government purports to give them, they may learn the true nature and function of all capitalist governments. Police, militia, soldiers, with clubs, tear gas and guns, will meet the workers who strike for the rights "granted" under the Wagner bill, as they met workers who struck for similar rights under the now defunct NRA. And the lesson will sink in deeper and deeper.

Akron C.L.U. Head Backs Green Red Drive in the Unions

By JACK WILSON

AKRON, Ohio, July 1.—Joining hands with William Green and other A. F. of L. bureaucrats in their latest "anti-red" drive, Frank Patino, president of the Central Labor Union here declared he not only supported Green's move to split labor through mass expulsions but also began a campaign to oust local militants.

Patino, backed by the Summit County Labor News, announced his policy the day after the monthly meeting of the C.L.U. thus preventing an immediate reply by militants to his disruptive tactics.

It was the first open admission of Patino that he is with the A. F. of L. bureaucracy, although his previous actions in strikes had branded him as a hopeless, petty bureaucrat. His statement, widely featured in the labor paper, came three weeks after Coleman C. Claherty, rubber organizer, dragged the red herring across rubber workers' union meetings in an attempt to scare progressives.

Italy Prepares Ethiopia Rape, Mussolini Says

Dynamite in Situation May Explode in New World War

By MARTIN A. GLEE

From official sources, writes the London correspondent of the New York Times, it has been learned that Mussolini has told the British envoy, Sir Anthony Eden, that "nothing could prevent Italy from going to war with Ethiopia in October." Arnaldo Cortesi, writing from Rome, says: "If there was any doubt that hostilities (against Ethiopia) would begin in a couple of months there is none now."

The war against Ethiopia may well turn out to be the precursor of the next world massacre. Let us recall once again that it was the Italo-Turkish war of 1911 which was the precursive signal of the last world war. Italy's designs on Ethiopia are pregnant with dire consequences for the world working class. For it is they who will be called upon to suffer a thousand tortures in a thousand different sections of the globe—when the next world war starts.

To understand more clearly the designs of western imperialism on this primitive kingdom in Africa, it is necessary to go back a bit; to establish the position of Ethiopia on the dark continent and to focus attention on the imperialist powers having a "direct interest" in the matter by virtue of boundaries—Italy, France and England.

In eastern Africa lies the kingdom of Ethiopia, popularly but erroneously referred to as Abyssinia. (Of the many tribes that set out to make up the empire of Haile Selassie I, the Abyssinians are the most centrally compact, unified and politically and socially advanced. Hence the usual reference to Abyssinia when one is in reality speaking of all of Ethiopia.) It has a population of about 11,000,000 in an area approximating 350,000 square miles. The chief industry is agriculture with breeding taking second place. The exports, the chief articles of which are wax, ivory and animal skins, do not amount to very much. Imports which amount to about 10,000,000 dollars yearly are

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100 Companies Grab 1/4 of Nation's Wealth

Invent Electric Jolt for Strikes

NEW YORK (FP).—Police can follow orders now and handle strikers with gloves—"electric gloves."

Construction Supt. Cirilo H. Diaz of Frederick Snare Co., Havana, Cuba, has invented an electric glove which, he guarantees, will paralyze strike pickets temporarily.

In his office in the heart of the Wall Street district, the ingenious Diaz demonstrated his invention to a Federated Press reporter.

Diaz explained that the battery supplying power to the glove is hung on the policeman's belt. An electric cord, cleverly hidden inside the coat sleeve, runs from the battery to the glove, from which electricity is sent through the striker's body by means of four contact points.

The patent, as issued by the U. S. Patent Office, claims the glove is intended for use by police against drunken and insane people, often hard to handle peacefully.

Diaz himself exploded this idea when he told this reporter: "Police can use my glove against radicals and strikers."

Diaz claims the glove can't kill anyone, although the current can be stepped up to 5,000 volts, enough to shock or paralyze any person, and to cause the more jumpy to lose consciousness.

A complete outfit sells for \$10 and New York police officials have already praised the weapons and asked for reduced prices on quantity orders. Police in other cities and states, as well as companies which hire their own private guards to break strikes and stop unionization, are expected to buy huge quantities of these electric gloves. They will supplement clubs, guns, horses, tear gas and vomit gas in dispersing strikers.

This invention may bring fame and fortune to Diaz; it means only a new kind of hell to American workers. But it may galvanize the American workers into abrupt action unforeseen by the inventor, or police and thug users of the gloves.

BET WORKERS ORGANIZE

FINDLAY, Ohio (FP).—Sugar beet field workers in the Findlay area have organized a local of the Agricultural Workers Union.

The newly-elected officers have been instructed to confer with growers for a wage agreement.

Beet workers are offered a contract giving them \$10 an acre for blocking, thinning and hoeing beets, and \$0c a ton for harvesting. They demand \$19 an acre flat guarantee—the rate given in the Blissfield, Mich., area. Both areas are controlled by the Great Lakes Sugar Co.

WASHINGTON (FP).—A New York banker, Vice-Pres. J. L. O'Neill of the Guaranty Trust Co., has been given charge of the skeleton NRA, now little more than a research agency. O'Neill was formerly associated for 22 years with Carnegie Steel.

Roosevelt Throws Youth a Bone But Slams Labor at Same Time

Roosevelt has dished out a new sop (slop), this time to the youth of the United States. "I have determined," said the President, "that we shall do something for the nation's unemployed youth because we can ill afford to lose the skill and energy of these young men and women. . . . The yield on this investment should be high." The new project proposes, in one of its four points, to provide jobs for about 150,000 youths at \$15 a month, "limited to unemployed youths in families that are certified for relief."

A second, and perhaps more obnoxious feature of the project, proposes to "find employment in private industry for employed youth." Employers will be urged to accept youths as apprentices during which a "minimum allowance should be given." In other words, employers, who will probably require little urging, are offered labor at cheaper than full-scale adult wages. Thus, while the first proposal establishes a miserable standard for youth la-

bor, the second is designed to tear down the wage standards of the adult workers.

Other proposals include job-training, and assistance for high-school students whose families are eligible for relief at "\$6 per month average," and for college students up to 12 percent of the college enrollment, by providing jobs at \$15 a month. The latter proposal is a continuation of the FEPA system which has now operated for a year, transferring supervision from college hands to government authority.

Only One-Sixth "Benefits"

All told, the project is estimated to cost about \$50,000,000. This sum is to be administered by the National Youth Administration, over which will preside Josephine Roche, Colorado mine owner and Asst. Secretary of the Treasury. In addition the president is to appoint a National Advisory Committee, "to consist of representatives of labor, business, agriculture and youth."

Some 500,000 youth are expected

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Fewer and Fewer Hands

Taking statistics on 100 large industrial corporations, the study shows that the percentage of the industrial wealth of the country controlled by them rose from 23.5 percent in 1929 to 26.0 percent in 1932. "There is every reason for believing that 1933 figures, when available, will show a continuation of this tendency," the report states.

In regard to the record-breaking number of business failures in 1931 and 1932, the report points out that these were mostly small firms.

"How many others were forced to the wall, no one knows," it declares. "The passing of small businessmen did not ripple the pages of the financial press, and went unrecorded."

But while small and medium-sized corporations perished by the thousands, the leading corporations as a group came through virtually unharmed. With some exceptions the relative position of the large corporations was "strengthened because of the holocaust of lesser competitors during 1931-32. Four hundred and eighteen industrial corporations tabulated by Standard Statistics had more cash and United States government securities at the bottom of the depression than they had in 1927."

These 418 corporations controlled 36.5 percent of the cash and equivalent held by 300,000 general industrial corporations in 1927. In 1929 this percentage had increased to 43.7 percent.

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