

# SOCIALIST APPEAL

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## Nyon Meet Aids British War Plans

### Japan Admits Long Fight Ahead To Conquer China But Rivals are Preoccupied In West, Soviet Stands Off

By Li Fu-jen

Japan's latest empire crusade in China is now well in its third month. Confounding all the optimistic expectations of the Tokyo military specialists, the Chinese armies in North China and at Shanghai have resisted the imperialist invader with remarkable tenacity and bravery. Japanese spokesmen are now obliged to admit the necessity of girding for a struggle which may last three or four years.

The Koumintang government, hurled into the struggle against its will (its entire record since the inauguration of Japan's continental policy in 1931 has shown its preference for compromise), is waging its defensive campaign on a purely military basis, hoping the while that Japan's imperialist rivals, first of all Britain and America, will step actively into the picture and save the day for China. Nanking also looks for possible aid from the Soviet Union.

China, largest single potential market and field of investment in the world outside of the Soviet Union, has been the scene of sharpest imperialist rivalry, especially since the end of the World War. Japan has, however, an indubitable advantage over her rivals and plans to oust them from China in order to make that country her own exclusive preserve. To achieve that aim, all organized Chinese resistance to Japan's continental policy would have to be stamped out and a government installed at Nanking which will unquestioningly do the bidding of Tokyo.

Opportune Moment

The Japanese imperialists could

### U. S. Marines Smash Strike Demonstration Of Chinese Workers

American intervention in the Sino-Japanese war at Shanghai has already become a grim reality according to a United Press dispatch from Shanghai dated September 14.

U. S. Marines, guarding "American lives and property," were reported to have gone into action to smash a demonstration of 1,000 Chinese flour mill workers on strike to enforce payment of a month's wages. Twenty-five of the strikers were taken to hospital suffering from scalp wounds and the effects of tear gas. The U. S. Marines, U. P. said, cooperated with British troops and the Shanghai Municipal Police in breaking up the demonstration.

We trust the Daily Worker is satisfied that its demand for imperialist intervention in China has produced such quick results.

scarcely have struck at a more propitious moment, shrewdly calculating that none of their rivals was in a position to obstruct the carrying through of their plans. Imperialist Britain, beset with the problem of maintaining its Mediterranean life-line to India against the attacks of the European fascist powers, is obliged to watch helplessly while Japan damages and wrecks the vast British properties and trade in China. An illuminating test of Britain's helplessness was afforded by the diplomatic exchange

(Continued on page 2)

### CIO Tested In Akron's Gum Mines

By Jack Wilson

AKRON, Ohio.—The recent success of the United Rubber Workers of America, CIO affiliate, in winning decisively the sole collective bargaining NLRB vote at Goodyear and Goodrich, and the huge primary vote that Labor's Non-Partisan League candidates for mayor on the Democratic ticket obtained, have turned national attention again to this rubber center of the world.

For Akron is rapidly becoming recognized as the testing laboratory of the labor movement, particularly of the CIO. And that is why Akron deserves close study.

### Sit-Down Began Here

Who will ever forget the brilliant wave of sit-downs that swept the country in 1936? Akron rubber workers developed that weapon. They staged over 100 successful sit-downs that year, before the French working class terrified the bourgeoisie of the world by the May sit-down strikes.

The 75,000 rubber workers of Akron of 1920 were permanently reduced to less than 45,000 by 1930 due to technological developments in the industry. Productivity per rubber worker more than doubled, wages remained stationary. The cost of 17 tire price wars in the virtually bankrupt industry was foisted on the rubber workers in the form of wage cuts.

### Role of A. F. of L.

The A. F. of L. craft unions existed only by the grace of the rubber barons and on condition that no effort would be made to organize the rubber industry, and the rubber workers were helpless until the summer of 1933, when the wave of unionization that swept the nation during the early days of the NRA reached Akron. Thousands of rubber workers flocked into A. F. of L. federal unions.

The A. F. of L. pursued its reactionary course: workers were divided into craft unions; unions were run autocratically; red-baiting against any form of opposition was the chief stock in trade of the A. F. of L. organizers; sell-outs were plentiful. The unions declined in membership from over 35,000 to less than 2,000.

### Progressives Learn

A new factor appeared on the scene in the fall of 1934. A progressive workers school, agitating for industrial unionism and class struggle policies, was formed under the influence of the Com-

(Continued on page 2)

### Trade Union Leaders Repeat 1914 Betrayal

By James Burnham

Events of the past ten days again serve to bring out sharply the unprecedented depth of the developing world crisis. Outstanding in their symptomatic importance were the hastily summoned Nyon Conference and the British Trades Union Congress. Both represent substantial victories for the delicate strategy

### Chautemps' Rule Shaky Prices Rise

By Frank L. Demby

In the economic sphere the French Peoples Front has above all tried to emulate Roosevelt's New Deal. Given, however, the far weaker financial structure of France, all the contradictions of a declining capitalism are accentuated and little has been done, as compared with the United States, in the way of granting concessions to the working class. Moreover, such concessions as the workers have obtained—the 40-hour week, two weeks vacation with pay, etc.—are obviously the result of the direct class-struggle action of the workers; for, where the workers have not been well organized, the Matignon agreements (which settled the strikes of June, 1936) have been violated with impunity by the bosses.

It was under the Blum government that compulsory arbitration was made the law of the land, that the first devaluation was decreed, that the "pause" in social reforms was proclaimed. Thus, already under a so-called "Socialist" government, the French bourgeoisie—badly frightened during June of last year—had been able to reorganize itself and start a smashing offensive which leaves the workers in many cases worse off than before the Matignon agreement, and which has as its objective the wiping out of all the gains made by the workers and the corruption and eventual dissolution of all their organizations. With the virtual abolition of trade union life due to the omnipotence of the CGT bureaucracy (chiefly Stalinist-controlled now,) the workers have found it almost impossible to fight against the employers. But, as the rising cost of living pinches them more and more, they react. This explains the number of recent strikes in a country where strikes are now illegal.

The accumulated discontent of the workers is, indeed, ready to

(Continued on page 3)

of British imperialism.

The policy of the British Government is based upon the central aim of preserving for exploitation by British capital the Empire's colonial possessions and dominions, as against threats from rival imperialist powers or from colonial revolt. The British statesmen are well aware that success in this aim rests in the last analysis on armed force. Such force has been liberally used during the past twenty years in the suppression of colonial uprisings; but the exhaustion of the rival powers following the last War enabled Great Britain to maintain its position against these powers, up to the present, by juridical means and without resort to armed international conflict.

### Juridical Solution

#### Inadequate

Italy's invasion of Ethiopia demonstrated, however, that juridical solutions were becoming inadequate. The structure of international "legality", crowned under the Versailles system by the League of Nations, was swept away by Mussolini's legions in Africa and Hitler's new army in the Rhineland. The first phase of the open struggle for the re-division of the world had begun. Henceforth the immediate and determining factor in the policies of all of the great powers was the concrete preparation for war on an international scale.

For Great Britain this meant the belated undertaking of a major rearmament program, a program not yet by any means completed. Meanwhile, Great Britain is confronted by the tasks: (a) of delaying the outbreak of war on a world scale at least until her rearmament program is well along; and (b) of jockeying for the most favorable position in the maze of alliances and counter-alliances.

### Tactic to Delay

In pursuit of the first end, Great Britain first tries to delay as long as possible each new conflict, and then to localize it when it breaks out, as in the cases of Manchuria and Ethiopia, and now in Spain and China. She tries to do this not merely geographically, by keeping the area of the fighting to a minimum, but also diplomatically, by try-

(Continued on page 3)

### NEWS FLASH!

Harry Milton arrived from Spain on Tuesday evening. He will appear at the Revolutionary Socialist Rally, Friday, 8 P.M., September 17, at Irving Plaza, Irving Place and Fifteenth Street.

Comrade Milton will be the main speaker at a mass meeting next week. Details will appear in the next issue of the Appeal.

### Convention Call Initiated By Ohio State and Chicago

The Ohio and Chicago organizations of the Socialist Party this week initiated a movement for a rank and file convention to oust the Altman-Thomas-Tyler faction for selling out to La Guardia and expelling the left wing.

By unanimous decision, the Ohio State Executive Committee, at its regular September meeting, decided to join with other responsible party organizations and the National Executive Committee of the Young Peoples Socialist League in calling the convention.

The Executive Committee of Cook County (Chicago) adopted

a similar resolution. Both bodies authorized the City Central Committee of Local New York (Left Wing Branches) to act as the organizing committee on convention arrangements.

The Ohio and Chicago organizations were the first party bodies before whom the proposal for the convention was brought. Their speedy action in favor of the left wing is a harbinger of the general action of the basic units of the party and the rank and file membership. The so-called "National Executive Committee" has proposed; but the rank will be the final arbiter.