

# SOCIALIST APPEAL

PUBLISHED WEEKLY AS THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY

Vol. II. - No. 3.

401

Saturday, January 15, 1938

5 Cents per Copy

## Hail the Socialist Workers Party!

### House Defeats Ludlow Amendment 209 to 188-

By the narrow vote of 209 to 188, the House of Representatives in Washington, under heavy pressure from President Roosevelt, and with the solid reactionary bloc casting its ballot for the majority, defeated the amendment of Representative Louis Ludlow providing for a national referendum to be taken before war can be declared against another country by the United States.

Carrying on a vicious chauvinistic campaign against the amendment for the past several weeks, were all the forces of reaction; all the war-mongers, patrioteers, ably seconded by the American section of the Stalinist Foreign Office—the Communist Party. The Browderites stood in a single camp not only with the Big-Army-and-Navy President, but with Stimson, Landon and the Old Guard of the Repub-

ican Party. Not a single labor organization in the country presented the point of view of the revolutionary working class on the Ludlow amendment. Those that did not support it outright, criticized it only from a reactionary, pro-war standpoint. We present below the Marxist view of the amendment, presented in the form of a revolutionary anti-war criticism by our comrade Albert Goldman.

By Albert Goldman

An old problem in a new form is raised for the revolutionary

### NEW FORMAT

We are glad to announce that beginning with the next issue, the Socialist Appeal will appear in a new format. This is the last of the tabloid size, and from now on we will print a full-size newspaper format.

Marxists and for the working class in general by the LaFollette-Ludlow proposed amendment to the constitution, which would make it necessary, before congress can declare war, to refer the question to a referendum, except in the case of actual invasion. It is only necessary to apply the accepted principles of revolutionary Marxism to solve the problem correctly.

### Pacifist Cure-All

Revolutionary Marxists, especially since Lenin's vigorous polemics against pacifism, have consistently taken the position that any policy which pretends to solve the problem of war independently of the class struggle creates illusions and is therefore

(Continued on page 2)

### Join the Struggle For Socialism!

The Chicago convention of the revolutionary socialists has established the American section of the Fourth International.

In forming the Socialist Workers Party of the United States, the convention shaped the indispensable weapon of the working class in its struggle against a powerful and merciless class enemy, the exploiter of labor and oppressor of the people. With only the trade unions at its disposal, the working class is but half-armed. With a revolutionary political party at its head, it is invincible.

### The Anti-Labor Drive

The Socialist Workers Party could not have been founded at a more crucial moment. The American working class is face to face with a heavy employers' onslaught upon its standard of living, already badly undermined by years of crisis and depression. The only solution that the wisest of the capitalist statesmen, Roosevelt, has been able to offer to the problem of hunger is to cut down the production of food. Now, with a new depression leading towards an even sharper crisis, the capitalists, whose rule Roosevelt has been bent on preserving, are proceeding to throw new hundreds of thousands out of work and to cut the wages of those whom they continue to employ. The most powerful capitalist nation of the earth has proved incapable of feeding, clothing and housing the masses of the population. The existing social system is bankrupt and awaits only the revolutionary action of the working class to be flung into the discard so as to make way for the socialist economy of abundance and equality.

Even more menacing than the crisis and the anti-labor drive, is the growing threat of war. The crisis condemns millions to hunger and slow starvation. The imperialist war condemns them to speedy death in muddy, blood-soaked trenches—victims of the imperialist lust for expansion and profit.

### Preparing the "War for Democracy"

Every capitalist country of the world is preparing feverishly for the day when the world war actually breaks out. And the United States is not behindhand in war preparations. Under the mask of the "defense of democracy", the Roosevelt administration is putting through the largest military and naval budget this country has ever had in peace-time. As the critical days come nearer, it is obvious that all the political parties, from the Republican and Democratic to the Communist, are supporters of the imperialist war. The Stalinists are, in fact, in the very forefront of the war-mongers.

Only the Socialist Workers Party, true to the great traditions and principles of revolutionary internationalism, stands consistently and firmly against the imperialist war-mongers and announces in advance its irreconcilable opposition to any war undertaken by the capitalist government of the United States. At its convention, it made it perfectly clear that if the war should finally break out, the party will seek to utilize the crisis of capitalism for the purpose of overturning the rotten social system, and thus putting an end to the war which is inherent in it.

### For the Class Struggle!

Unlike the impotent sect to which the Thomas-Tyler Socialist Party has been reduced, the Socialist Workers Party shows the seriousness of its position by its clear-cut break with all

(Continued on page 3)

### Diary of Ignace Reiss Reveals Criminal Methods of G.P.U.—Young Communists Die Shouting Defiantly: "Long Live Trotsky!"

Sensational revelations of the methods and aims pursued by the Stalinist G. P. U. in its murderous persecution of revolutionists in the Soviet Union and abroad, are contained in the diary of Ignace Reiss, just made public.

Comrade Reiss, who served the international revolutionary movement for years and was a trusted official of the Soviet secret service, was murdered by the G.P.U.

in Switzerland several months ago because of the announcement he had made breaking with the Stalin murder-machine and adhering to the Fourth International.

### Shows Stalin Methods

The diary appeared for the first time in the organ of the Russian Trotskyists, "Bulletin of the Opposition," the editors of which provided the following introduction:

"These notations jotted down to refresh his own memory were not intended for publication by

their author. This explains their sketchy and rather summary character, their terseness and, at times, unclarity. We did not deem it possible to amplify the diary in any way, or even to introduce editorial changes. All we have done is to delete entirely certain passages in the diary. Wherever possible we have provided the diary with notes, based upon oral statements of our deceased comrade.

"Apart from the extraordinary interest in the diary itself, it has become an historical document. The diary adduces isolated and seemingly disjointed facts, but in their aggregate they provide a graphic picture

of Stalinist methods and deeds."

The Reiss diary follows:

### The Diary of Ignace Reiss

July 24, 1937.

1. Judging by all indications, the Czech police was supplied with material which depicted the German political emigre, Grylewicz, as an agent of the Gestapo. The Czech police was apparently in no great hurry to proceed with the case. Very frequent phone calls from Stalin to Yezhov, wanting to know how the Grylewicz case was getting along. He (Stalin) would do anything for a Trotskyist trial in Europe

(Continued on page 7)