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WORLD UNITE!

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U.S. Strikes At Mexican Labor

Twenty-One Years After

Twenty-one years ago last Autumn, Woodrow Wilson was re-elected President of the United States on the platform, "He kept us out of war."
Twenty-one years ago this week, the Congress of the United States, acting upon a message sent by President Woodrow Wilson, declared war upon the Central Powers.
This was the war, the President told the people of the United States, which was entered upon "to make the world safe for democracy," to guarantee the rights of small nations and racial minorities, to defeat autocracy and tyranny.

Lesson of History

This was the war, the people of the United States learned from history, which brought death to twenty million young men and women; immeasurable suffering to countless millions more; untold destruction of the world's goods produced by the labor and skill of the workers of the world; renewed and deepened injustice, tyranny, military dictatorship and Fascism.
These were lies that Wilson told us, these stories of democracy, the rights of minorities, and the need to defeat militarism. They were lies to cover the grasping hands of Morgan and Rockefeller and Mellon stretched out to protect their vast investments and swell their fabulous profits at the price of the blood of the workers. Fascism: that was the full, ripe fruit of the war for democracy.

Today, with the wounds of the old war still festering, with its sorrows still undimmed, its wounded still walking the streets, wasting in the hospitals or rotting in the gutters, its destruction still unredeemed, Wilson's successor prepares the new war.

Follows Path of Woodrow Wilson

More cunning, more brilliant, more ruthless than his spiritual father, Franklin Roosevelt makes ready. Seeing around him the ravages of the economic crisis, watching the tearing fabric of the social system which nourished him, knowing the frantic needs of American capital, he moves headlong toward the only solution which imperialism has to propose: toward war.

While twelve million unemployed, while tenant farmers and part-time workers, slowly starve, he pours hundreds of millions and billions of dollars into battleships and bombers and machine guns and poison gas.
His lieutenants in the War Department and in Congress draw up the bills for universal conscription and the full details of the military dictatorship which will grip the country from the first day of the war.

With his ringing phrases and his persuasive voice he launches the slogans designed to capture the minds of the people for the war. Again we are to fight for democracy, against tyranny, for the sanctity of treaties and international morality, for peace.

Roosevelt's Idealistic Camouflage

Franklin Roosevelt has learned his lessons well. Profits, fields for investment, rivalry for cheaper raw materials—the realities of war—become transformed through him into shining moral imperatives. In the name of all that is sacred he will lead the people of the United States into the massacre to save American finance-capital.

But there were other lessons also taught in the War of 1914-18, and other teachers than Woodrow Wilson. Liebknecht, Debs, Luxemburg, Lenin, Trotsky, taught another lesson.

We have learned the lesson which they taught us. Proceeding from their lesson, we say to Roosevelt, to Morgan and Rockefeller: We will not support your war! No words or acts of yours, or of your henchmen, no promises or bribes or threats will change us.

The Real Enemy—Imperialism

We have our own war to fight! In that war it is you who are the enemy. We fight that war today, tomorrow, and until it is forever won.

Our war is the struggle of the working class for the emancipation of mankind from the terrible and rusted chains of capitalist enslavement.

We will break those chains! We will cast them, and you, from our shoulders and go forward to a society of freedom, justice, and humanity.

The world socialist revolution! That is our reply to your war.

New York Jobless Protest La Guardia's Relief Slash

NEW YORK.—Several thousand members of the Workers Alliance picketed City Hall in a drizzling downpour of rain last Saturday. Shouting slogans "Stop the 10 per cent relief cuts," "Tax the rich and not the poor," "We want jobs," the pickets circled City Hall while a delegation vainly attempted to see the Mayor.

As the pickets gathered, Mayor La Guardia left through a side door for his home to spend the day with his well-fed and well-clad family. He did, however, leave a news release attacking Lehman and dealing largely with the question of taxation, a copy of which was given to the Alliance delegation by one of the Mayor's secretaries.

Stalinists In Usual Role

While the picketing was going on, sections of the pickets, incensed by the 10 per cent cut, shouted "Down with 10 per cent La Guardia," Stalinist leaders of the Alliance immediately got busy trying to quench the militancy of the gathering and to halt any

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Fresh Wave Of Strikes Hits France

Workers Open Offensive
Despite Treachery Of
Popular Front

By ARGUS

French labor is again on the march, driven to renewed militant action by the rising cost of living and the refusal of the employers to grant compensatory wage increases. More than 30,000 workers, including those at the Citroen automobile works, are already on strike, with added thousands threatening to quit work.

The French Communist Party

Prop of Capital



LEON BLUM

is toying with the idea of a "nationwide general strike." With what aim in view? "As the best means of backing the Popular Front government's fight for life." (New York Times, Mar. 26.)

Lesson Forgotten

Forgotten is the lesson that the general strike poses immediately the life and death question of the workers' direct struggle for power. The Stalinists are backing the government of Leon Blum. What matter, then, if they use the sharpest weapon of the working class struggle light-mindedly and for aims which have nothing in common with the workers' interests? They certainly have no intention of leading the workers in a struggle for power, now or in the future.

Who threatens Blum's government? The Right parties in the Senate who are blocking Blum's arms expenditure proposals. They want a government of National

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"The Church Militant"

"Within their confines, a people decrees, and righteously and correctly so, that, though blood flow, property should be safely protected, lives of citizens put out of peril or danger, the sovereignty of the State made inviolate and remain unbroken."

"This is war, but this war we must have, under penalty of social chaos, of wreck and ruin to the most sacred interests. There must be rulers, and they must hold the sword in hand."

Who uttered this rabid declaration? It was Mgr. Aloysius C. Dineen, pastor of Holy Innocents Church, in the course of a St. Patrick's Day sermon delivered by him in St. Patrick's Cathedral, New York City, on March 17, 1938, at a service conducted by Cardinal Hayes.

Could anything illumine more clearly the role of the church as an arm of the capitalist state, a protector of capitalist property, an instrument of imperialist war?

Stalinists Try To Oust Martin From UAW Post

Groom Frankenstein For Presidency With View
To Pushing "Collective Security" Fakery

DETROIT.—The Communist Party has initiated its most elaborate and ambitious undertaking in the auto union in a carefully planned, nation-wide campaign to crucify and oust Homer Martin for his opposition to "collective security," to capture control of the United Automobile Workers—or to wreck it.

These incontestable facts came to light at a convention of the Unity Group held on Saturday, March 19, at the Fort Wayne Hotel, Detroit. Delegates representing Unity Group caucuses came from locals spread over a wide area. Wyndham Mortimer, Ed Hall, Nat Ganley and John Anderson, Stalinist stalwarts, were in command, with Walter Reuther and George Edwards of the Socialist Party trailing behind.

The Latest Maneuver

The current Stalinist maneuver consists in shifting the head-on attack on Martin for his anti-war stand to an ostensibly militant union program exhorting Martin for "bureaucracy," financial extravagance and even malfeasance. The demagogic and seemingly progressive character of this program gives the campaign a most insidious and dangerous character.

The apparent failure of the slander campaign, in which the Communist Party issued thousands of leaflets headed "Disruption or Unity—where is Homer Martin Going," reprinting a Daily Worker editorial which accused Martin of everything from being a "Trotskyite-Lovestonite - Japanese Agent" to speaking like "Henry Ford's propaganda department," has caused the Stalinist tops to tack along a new course.

If the powerful anti-war sentiment among the auto workers is to be overcome, and if the U.A. W.A. is to be lined up with the Roosevelt war machine, other means must be devised. The desperate ravings of the Daily Worker have proved more of an obstacle than a help to the sinister aims of the Stalinists.

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STALIN PURGE EXTENDED TO POLAR HEROES

Nineteen More Are Shot
After An Alleged
Secret Trial

Extension of Stalin's blood purge to the Northern Sea Route Administration headed by Dr. Otto Schmidt, was heralded this week by the issuance in Moscow of an official denunciation of this branch of the Soviet government. As was only to be expected, "criminal anti-Soviet wrecking activity" was discovered in the administration, which, it seems, is being held responsible "for the perilous position of Soviet icebreakers and ships drifting helplessly in the Arctic Sea."

On His Way Out

It is clear: Schmidt, who directed last summer's polar flights to America and the polar weather observations by the Papanin expedition, is on his way out.

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Labor Alone Can Prevent Spain's Doom

Popular Front Crumbles
Before Franco's Big
Catalan Drive

The desperate struggle to save Spain from the doom of a Fascist victory last week entered its most acute stage.

Tragic events have had to happen to make it plain once more that the victory of the struggle against Fascism rests upon the independent struggle of Spanish and world labor in its own interests.

All the "democratic" allies who were going to help defeat Franco's rebels—the "democratic" governments of Britain and France, and the "democratic" capitalist politicians, Negrin & Co., to whom power was surrendered—have contrived only to bring about defeats for the Spanish workers' cause.

Preceded By Political Defeats

The political defeats suffered by the workers during the last two years, culminating in the bloody repression of the May days in Barcelona in 1937, are now being followed as a direct result by heavy military defeats for the Loyalist cause.

Driving relentlessly forward with the help of German and Italian planes, men, and artillery, General Franco's rebel armies have advanced into Catalonia. A battered, weakened Loyalist army has had to give way steadily. Franco's men were less than 35 miles from the sea and less than 100 miles from Barcelona, the Loyalist capital. Their advance threatened to amputate the Catalan head from the shrunken body of Loyalist Spain.

Central Issue

In Barcelona the People's Front government which has known only how to be the organizer of defeats, was calling upon the population—the masses of the people—to make heroic sacrifices to prevent Franco from making his victory final.

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Silver Move Made To Aid Oil Robbers

Action Seen As First Step In Sharp Struggle
Which May End In Imperialist Intervention
Through Mexican Fascist Bands

Jingo Campaign Is Unleashed

Acting under pressure of the powerful Rockefeller oil interests, the "peace-loving" and "democratic" government of President Roosevelt has commenced a vicious economic war directed against the terribly-exploited people of Mexico.

This economic war, undertaken in retaliation for the expropriation of American oil properties in Mexico, starts with the suspension of United States silver purchases from Mexico. But it may well develop into imperialist intervention, either through secret aid to reactionary organizations in Mexico, which would be encouraged to overthrow the Cardenas government, or through the sending of American military forces to Mexico, or both.

Jingo Campaign On

The reactionary press of this country, repeating its tactics of 22 years ago, when the United States last intervened in Mexican affairs, has unleashed a jingo campaign which verges on open calls for military intervention.

Outdistancing all its rivals, the New York Daily News "wonders" whether Leon Trotsky hasn't had something to do with Cardenas' action in expropriating the foreign oil holdings.... "wherever Trotsky goes things soon begin to ferment." Lombardo Toledano and his Stalinist mentors in Mexico, on the other hand, accuse Trotsky of being an agent of the fascists and the oil companies. They and the Daily News have one thing in common, however: they are both enemies of the struggling Mexican toilers.

The decision of the Roosevelt government to suspend purchases of Mexican silver (next to the oil taxes the principal source of

income of the Cardenas government) was preceded by an intensive press campaign for the defense of "the legally-acquired interests of great value" of American business south of the Rio Grande. Leading the agitation that liberal patron, the New York Times. Where pocket-books are endangered, all the high ideals of democracy are quickly discarded.

Defend Fantastic Profits

To be sure, the Times itself must recognize "the right of the Mexican government to expropriate property, whether owned by its citizens or by foreigners." To be sure, it must admit that Cardenas offered to recompense the companies with oil produced under Mexican administration, an offer which the British and American companies flatly rejected as "unacceptable." For what they want, above all, is not reimbursement for their property but the maintenance of the fantastic profits which they amass through plundering Mexico's natural riches under their own administration.

The cessation of the silver purchases, however, is only the beginning of Yankee reprisals. It is a signal to American private capital to join the economic boycott. The plan is to precipitate in this way the collapse of Mexican currency, in order to arouse the agrarian and urban population against the Cardenas government. Thus Mexico will be crudely presented with the alternative: capitulation or civil war.

Spurred onward by the Spanish struggles, Mexican reaction has long kept itself in readiness to spring. The "impoverished" landowners and business men long for the flesh-pots of Porfirio Diaz' regime. Calles conspires from his American asylum. In Mexico itself, the reactionary peasant-general Cedillo, until recently a minister in Cardenas' government, provides his private army in northern Mexico with arms and airplanes from the United States.

Roosevelt Collaborates

To defend the profits of the American financial oligarchy, the "anti-feudalist" Roosevelt collaborates willingly with the absolute tyrants of Brazil, Cuba, etc. He will not act otherwise in Mexico. Over bleeding Mexico threatening clouds of civil war are again gathering. The barons of "liquid gold" will again, if necessary, as they did in the past, furnish the enemies of the Mexican people with money and arms, in order to perpetuate their dictatorship over the workers and peasants.

Externally Washington would, in that event, retain its mask of "neutrality." But only so long as it hopes to win through economic

They Understand

The Japanese imperialists have no doubts that the war will be

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Minneapolis Takes the Lead! UNIONS DECLARE ANTI-WAR STAND

In the following resolution, adopted on March 23, the Central Labor Union of Minneapolis, representing 50,000 trade unionists, went on record with a policy of class-struggle opposition to all imperialist wars:

WHEREAS organized labor is aware of the cruel deception practised upon it in the last "War to Make the World Safe for Democracy"; and

WHEREAS the world is threatened with another such war, in which the workers and farmers will once more be called to lay down their lives to protect and expand the imperialist interests of the big bosses; and

WHEREAS the employers' press is engaged in a systematic campaign to create a jingoistic war spirit, and the radio and motion pictures are being utilized to whip us up to accept war; and

WHEREAS war preparations are being rushed in this country at a frenzied pace, as is so clearly revealed by the actions of the National Administration in launching a gigantic program of naval and military expansion, including over a billion dollars for arms in the regular budget, twelve hundred millions additional for new warships in the Vinson Bill just passed by the House of Representatives, and other military bills now being drafted at the direction of the Administration; and

WHEREAS the government's preparations for war are a mortal danger to organized labor, as is revealed by the plans for a military dictatorship in war-time prepared by the War Department and embodied in the Sheppard-May Bill, with its provisions for compulsory conscription, arbitrary fixing of wages, prohibition of strikes, punitive discipline of unions and labor leaders, and governmental control of press and radio; and

WHEREAS the National Administration has already engaged on a course of throttling opponents of war, as was revealed by the lynch spirit organized against the Farmer-Labor congressmen and others who supported the Ludlow Amendment requiring a popular referendum before Congress can declare war; and

WHEREAS the purely pacifist, non-working class opposition to war has already collapsed in Congress, as witness the speed and the three-to-one vote by which the Administration pushed through the House the Naval Expansion Bill; therefore be it resolved:

1. That the Central Labor Union of Minneapolis, voicing the determination of fifty thousand trade unionists, declares its firm opposition to any war launched by the Government;

2. That we demand that all the funds now proposed for the military budget and naval expansion be transferred immediately to the relief of the unemployed;

3. That we demand the immediate withdrawal of any and all armed forces of the United States from the Far East, since it is only Big Business and not Labor that has any interests there to protect;

4. That we assert militant labor's determination to support the workers and peasants of Spain against the Fascist hordes who seek to crush them, and to support the brave Chinese people in their fight for independence against the Japanese invaders and all other foreign exploiters;

5. That we shall join with all other forces in the labor movement who share our views for the purpose of consolidating the strongest possible movement of resistance to war and to the war-mongers.

Navy Maneuvers Proceed Under Close Secrecy

Internment Camps Being
Prepared in Hawaii
For Japanese

The Pacific war games of the United States Navy, second series within a period of twelve months, are now well under way, but details of the exercises, in which are participating 150 fighting ships, plus 500 modern aircraft, manned by 3,600 officers and 55,000 men, are being kept a closely-guarded secret. So strict is the censorship that efforts in official Washington to attribute to the war games a purely "routine" character encounter universal disbelief. They may well be the actual prelude to the war which very plainly is being prepared, with full consciousness and determination, by the imperialist government at Washington—a war which, in the first place, will in all probability be fought against Japan.

Taken in conjunction with the huge arms program of the Roosevelt administration, involving expenditures running into billions of dollars, the navy games, which are taking place along a 5,000 mile line from Alaska to Samoa by way of Hawaii, leave no doubt that actual war is in preparation.

They Understand

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