

WORKERS OF THE
WORLD UNITE!

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AKRON-DETROIT-NEWARK The Workers Can Make Only One Answer!

Within less than two weeks, three events have occurred on the labor front in the United States which bring home an elementary lesson to any worker who has eyes to see with and a mind capable of thinking.

In Detroit, members of the C.I.O. and sympathizers, engaged in picketing the struck American Brass Company, were savagely attacked by strike-breaking police—not protected, but attacked. Tear gas, clubs and guns were their weapons. Result: more than 50 workers injured, several arrested, others sent to the hospital and the picket-line broken up.

Assault In Akron

In Akron, more than a hundred rubber workers were injured when the police—in the service, as usual, of the bosses—made a brutal, armed sally against the picket-line surrounding the struck Goodyear Rubber Company plant. Once again, the picket-line was broken up to facilitate the work of the scabs.

A short time later, Norman Thomas, head of the Socialist Party, attempted to speak at a public meeting in Military Park, Newark. He had a permit from the local authorities. The police were on the scene, presumably to "protect" Thomas in the exercise of the right of free speech. A gang of reactionary hoodlums, who had no permit and never asked for one (the gangsters of capital don't need any!), attacked the meeting, assaulted Thomas, broke down the platform and, with the police right on the spot, dispersed the meeting and prevented Thomas from speaking.

What "Free Speech" Means

In every case, the uniformed and civilian "defenders of law and order" were on the side of capitalism and reaction. In every case, they cynically trampled upon the "right of free speech and assembly" supposedly guaranteed to the people. The only "right" they recognize and are interested in maintaining, is the right of the capitalist class to rule, to exploit, to oppress. That right, they seek to maintain by every means in their power, above all by force.

How is labor to protect itself? How can it win the right to democratic liberties like free speech, free press, the right to organize, to strike and to picket?

By sending telegrams of protest to mayors under whose direction the police act? By sending telegrams of protest to governors who, as in Ohio, are ready to supplement the police terror with the terror of the National Guard? By sending telegrams of protest to the President, who has as the vice-chairman of the National Committee of his party the notorious Frank Hague?

Labor Must Defend Itself

That's a waste of good money and of time unless it is backed up by something substantial. Nobody will defend labor and its rights unless labor does it by means of its own organized strength. And labor is more than strong enough to protect itself without asking its enemies to help.

The only way in which the workers can preserve themselves from attacks and massacres by the organized thugs of capital—be they in civilian clothes or in uniform—is by organizing their own ranks into *Labor Defense Guards!*

Surround every picket-line with a solid wall of Defense Guards and then let the hooligans try to break it up!

Surround every mass meeting with a determined, organized group of Defense Guards and then let the hopped-up mercenaries of the Hagues try to disperse it!

German Trotskyists Get Long Prison Sentences

The slight recession in the wave of G.P.U. terror against Trotskyites and alleged Trotskyites in the Soviet Union has been made up for by a renewal of Gestapo terror against the German section of the Fourth International.

Reports from Germany inform us of the arrest and conviction of the leading comrades of the Magdeburg group of the Fourth Internationalists. Two trials were held of the arrested comrades in the Fascist courts at Berlin and Magdeburg.

In the Berlin trial, Comrades Joachim Wittschiede and Gerwin Hinz were given 6 and 3 years imprisonment respectively. In the Magdeburg trial, Kurt Sliewsky received four years, Oskar Kramer and Walter Ruhle, three years each, Walter Soder, two

and a half years, and Ullrich Wittschiede, one year and nine months.

Fragmentary reports regarding the cases of the Solingen and Cologne comrades, who were tried some time ago, have also been received. The Solingen comrades were tried in the mass trial of the Gelsenkirchen group. Of the 26 comrades involved, information is only available on Comrade Walsken, who received four years imprisonment, Paul de Grote, who received three and a half years, and Comrade X who received two and a half years.

The fate of the Cologne group is unknown beyond the information that sentences were passed and that Comrade Metz was one of those involved.

Build The Socialist Appeal!
Forward To
10,000
Circulation!

Weinstock Defeated By Own Local

NEW YORK—Louis Weinstock, leading Stalinist in the New York Painters' Union and secretary-treasurer of District Council 9, was eliminated as a candidate to succeed himself when members of his own local, 848, defeated him by a vote of 449 to 389 and named Louis J. Stevens as their candidate. Election rules of the painter's district council provide that a candidate must be named by his own local.

This defeat of the Stalinists is all the more significant in view of the fact that in the past Local 848 nominated Weinstock UNANIMOUSLY as its candidate for the major office in D.C. 9.

The defeat of Weinstock marks a major victory for the progressives in the New York Painters' Union, who have been carrying on a campaign against the disruptive practices of the Stalinist leadership in the field for the coming election. Next week's issue of the Socialist Appeal will carry a full story on the developments in the union.

Labor Guard Must Answer Hague Menace

Thomas Meeting Broken
Up By Mobsters
In Newark

The black plague of Hagueism spread to neighboring Newark last Saturday when a Socialist Party rally in Military Park was broken up by mobsters masquerading as veterans in collusion with the Newark police.

Just before Norman Thomas was scheduled to speak, a procession of thugs and ward-healers in Hague's service swung into the park behind a hired brass band and marched toward the center of the crowd. Shouting "We want Americanism, we don't want Reds," the storm-troopers, together with their confederates in the crowd, bombarded Thomas with eggs and vegetables, howled him down when he attempted to speak, and smashed his platform.

Police Aid Mobsters

Their attacks were aided and abetted by the Newark cops, who first plowed a pathway for Hague's troopers and then allowed them to disrupt the meeting and pummel the auditors as they pleaded. Over a dozen people, Thomas included, were injured in the fight around the platform.

When David Clendennin of the Workers' Defense League protested to a police captain that he had been slugged by a cop, he was told that he might also have been arrested. After the rally had been smashed and it appeared that the Hague mobsters, who had armed themselves with clubs from the wrecked speaker's stand, were getting a bit beyond control, the Deputy Police Chief finished the job by ordering the crowd to disband, restoring "law and order," and taking Thomas to Socialist headquarters.

Workers' Meeting Banned

The next day City Commissioner Joseph Byrne, a Hague stooge, announced that he would hereafter deny permission for open air meetings in Military, Washington, and Lincoln parks to all except fraternal and military organizations. "These parks are in the Newark business area," he declared, "and such meetings don't do the city's business any good."

Mayor Hague followed up his offensive by marshalling all his forces in a tremendous rally on Monday evening in Journal Square. The rally was preceded by a parade led by Hague and his Goering, Colonel Hugh Kelly, head of the Veterans' Law and Order League. Behind these grand marshals, appropriately enough, came the board of directors of the Chamber of Commerce and two regiments of the New Jersey National Guard.

Behind the bosses and their military guards marched representatives of the Hudson County

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THE FIGHT FOR RELIEF



Mayor LaGuardia, the "labor mayor," has had his police dish out brutality to the unemployed in ample portions—as the above photo of a recent demonstration shows—while doing his best to chisel away the meager appropriations for relief.

City-Wide Relief Sit-In Called For N. Y.

Alliance Progressive Group
Demands Militant Program

Local Relief Appropriation Slash Forces Plan
To Bring Pressure On Authorities

By GEORGE MILTON

NEW YORK.—In spite of steadily increasing unemployment in this richest city in the world, only \$9,022,450, was voted by the Board of Estimate for relief for the month of June, a decrease of \$121,550 from the appropriation for the month of May, and a saving of \$721,550 from the April figure.

To keep within these steadily decreasing appropriations, the local Welfare Department is barring from the relief roles needy single men, "deporting" dependent relief clients back to the states and countries where they came from, eliminating clothing allowances from the relief budgets, and attempting in every conceivable way to "chisel" the last possible penny from the starving unemployed.

Sit-In Planned

Forced to take action by the unrelenting pressure of progressive militants in the Workers Alliance, and by the growing discontent and seething among

the unemployed, both organized and unorganized, the Stalinist leadership of the W.A. has decided on a city-wide "sit-in" at relief bureaus.

Protesting the "deportation" of (Continued on page 2)

SWP Rallies Held
To Protest Slum
Firetrap Menace

Meeting Held at Scene
Of Fatal Blaze On
Houston Street

NEW YORK.—The lower east side branches of the Socialist Workers Party and Y.P.S.L. instituted a series of actions, beginning last Saturday night, on the increasingly pressing problems of slums and fire-trap dwellings.

On Saturday, June 4, at four o'clock in the morning, a fire broke out in a long-condemned "old law" tenement at 302 Houston Street in the heart of the working class section of New York's East Side.

The firemen took no more than a few minutes to reach the scene, but by the time they arrived the entire structure was blazing like a matchbox. The flames spread (Continued on page 2)

U.S. Congress Reveals New Deal Futility

Capitalist Legislators Strip Wages and Hours Bill
Of Progressive Features, Display Impotence
In Face of Deepening Crisis

UNITY SHOWN ON WAR PLANS

Completing a five months' record of unparalleled incompetence, confusion and sterility, the Third Congress of the New Deal this week plunged brokenly toward the close of its third and final session.

With all congressional eyes turned toward election day, the concluding business of the session—the Wages and Hours and the "pump-priming" bills—was being stripped in conference committees to vote-getting es-

sentials; and the two measures were emerging, shorn of all constructive content, and designed only as demagogic talking points in the fall elections.

Wages and Hours Bill

The Wages and Hours Bill provided such an abysmally low wage level and was so hedged around with restrictions, modifications and exceptions that, even according to the Administration's own analysis, it could at most affect only a few hundred thousand workers. As a specific "recovery measure," it amounts to just about as much as a joint Congressional prayer lamenting the poverty of so many good christians, and imploring God, in his own good time, to make easier the lot of his children.

The skillfully-publicized pump-priming bill ended up with much the flavor of a stale joke. Far from being able to give a genuine stimulus to industry, the testimony of the Administration witnesses showed that the bill was utterly incapable even of beginning to handle the minimum problems of relief and unemployment. Under its provisions, a maximum of 3,000,000 can be put on W.P.A., against a total of at least 13,000,000 now unemployed. Its W. P. A. allowances might take care, at most, of a few hundred thousand more. The rest of the loans it envisages will go to bail out a few shaky banks and railroads.

New Deal Bubble Burst

These bills are the sole and entire answer of the New Deal to the sharpest economic crisis in the history of the United States! The bubble of the New Deal bursts at the first touch. It required but one serious test for the whole New Deal structure to come tumbling down, and to lay bare what that structure has for five years tried so desperately to hide: the collapsed and hopelessly rotting foundations of American capitalism.

The shameful, futile record of the New Deal during this session of Congress is not, however, any particular comfort to the Republican-Southern Democratic coalition which opposed it. In these five months the score of the opposition was exactly zero. It neither accomplished nor proposed anything at all.

Roosevelt Still On Top

It is partly for this reason, combined with the control over vast sums granted him by the pump-priming bill, that Roosevelt, in spite of his defeat on the Reorganization Bill, comes out of the session in a still powerful parliamentary position. The hope of the opposing coalition that the collapse of the New Deal means a swing back to Hoover-Coolidge Republicanism is vain. A whole era has passed since the days of Coolidge. American capitalism has entered the stage of irrevocable decline. Not all the ponderous generalities of the Lippmans and Glenn Franks will ever bring "normalcy" back again.

On one and only one question did the President and Congress during this session display "statesmanship," force and decision. And on this question the opposition coalition dissolved. All hands, or nearly all, came on deck at the captain's call.

Unity For War

For this question—the war question—was not a matter for "party squabbles" or "divisions." Here all the pretenses of bourgeois parliamentarism drop overboard. Here the fate of American capitalism itself, and as whole, is directly at stake. Before that challenge Republican, conservative Democratic and New Deal hearts beat at a common rhythm. With scarcely a murmur, "reg-

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"KEEPING AMERICA OUT OF WAR"

Just as the Stalinists seek to unite all their forces behind "peace and democracy" congresses whose purpose is to swing American imperialism behind a "collective security" program, so the recently constituted Lovestone-Thomas combination is seeking to unite all and sundry behind a program of imperialist isolationism. The first stage of its efforts has just culminated in the Washington "Keep America Out of War" Congress, at which, taking a leaf out of the strategy book of the Communist Party, the actual sponsors of the Congress kept in the discreet and modest background and shoved forward the by now customary assortment of retired generals, capitalist politicians, professional pacifists and nostrum-vendors, priests and rabbis. The exceptionally shy Lovestonesites, among the chief manipulators of the congress, did not even have their representatives listed in the roster of sponsors.

The assertion that the Washington Congress adopted the program of imperialist isolationism may appear, at first blush, to be at once exaggerated and contradictory. Yet, in point of cold fact, that is precisely the case. And it explains the otherwise perplexing fact that this self-styled "anti-war" movement could have among its sponsors such rankly reactionary Republicans as Senator Capper; Representative Hamilton Fish, red-baiter and purveyor of Nazi propaganda in the United States, against whose presence in the official committee the Socialist Party issued a mealy-mouthed protest in the columns of its Chicago paper, without having the courage to take up the question on the floor of the Congress itself, where it might mean something; and Representative William Lemke, late presidential candidate on the Union Party ticket of Father Coughlin, the illustrious warrior for democracy.

WHAT THE CONGRESS FAILED TO DO

Before considering what the congress did, it is perhaps even more important to learn what it failed to do. There was no expression of solidarity with the workers and peasants of Spain who are engaged in a life-and-death battle against fascism, although it would seem that a congress preoccupied with the question of war would take some notice of the event. Neither did the Lovestonesites and Thomasites dare to put before the Congress a resolution that the infamous Roosevelt embargo against Loyalist Spain be lifted. Neither of these steps was taken because of one simple consideration: the fear of antagonizing the swarm of petty bourgeois pacifists who were present;

so that the latter, who represented nothing but their own confusion and reactionary prejudices actually prevailed over the labor delegates, who at least represented some forces. To save their faces, the Lovestone-Thomas bloc had the so-called "labor group" adopt an anti-embargo resolution, with emphasis on the fact that this did not commit the congress as a whole. In other words, it delicately refrained from compelling the pacifist melange from taking a position on this crucial question.

With respect to the Soviet Union, the Congress acted even more shabbily. That is, it did not act at all. Neither the S.P. nor the Lovestonesites had a single word to say about the defense of the Soviet Union from imperialist attack, although this, too, is not among the least important problems of our time. The pressure of the pacifists and bourgeois politicians was enough in this case also to bring about the total capitulation and silence of the "radical wing" of the Congress.

IMPLY APPROVAL FOR "DEFENSIVE" WARS

Neither did the latter propose any revision of the Ludlow Amendment as at present formulated, a revision, that is, which would extend the referendum on war to cover also the so-called "wars of defense," which the present Amendment provides may be engaged in by the government without consulting the electorate and which, according to all indications, will be precisely the pretext upon which the U.S. will precipitate the masses into the coming imperialist war.

The key to the program of the congress is contained in the report of the commission on "Building a War-Less World," and the recommendations in its 3rd section, "How the American People Can Work for Peace." The very wording of that section indicates its decisive importance, for it is in the concrete steps proposed whereby the "people can work for peace" that the true measure of this and similar congresses can be taken.

The key sentences in the concrete proposals of section 3 are worth quoting:

"As a first measure of immunizing the American economy to the armament infection, a government reflecting the popular will for peace would deny the economic resources of the United States to all countries now dominated or in the process of being dominated by the armament system of economics.... As a second measure of American initiative in resisting the armament and war offensive we propose that the economic resources of the United States be offered to the arming powers only on

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