

"One Third of the Nation..."

Workers Of The World Unite!

Socialist Appeal

OFFICIAL WEEKLY ORGAN OF THE SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY

LATE FLASH!
G.P.U. Plot on Trotsky's Life Exposed!
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WAR CRISIS IN 11th HOUR

When election time rolls around again, politicians of the New Deal and Old Deal variety will once more be making their usual impassioned defense of the "American Standard of Living." Nobody—at least of all the politicians—ever knew precisely what these grand words signified. But millions of people did know that permanent poverty and insecurity was their share of the American Standard of Living.

Now, a committee appointed by President Roosevelt himself and consisting of such luminaries as the Secretary of War, the Secretary of Agriculture, etc., has verified by detailed figures and official data the grinding misery suffered by millions that passes under the name of an American Standard of Living.

Fully one-third of America's 39,458,300 families received an average income equal to \$471 per year. Compare this figure with the \$2,500 annual income estimated by the U. S. Children's Bureau as requisite to keep a family of five in minimum comfort and decent conditions. Then you will understand why death from pellagra, malnutrition, tuberculosis takes such a large toll from workers and their children.

Eighty-seven per cent of the nation's families received an annual income less than \$2,500. In other words, practically the entire working-class population is struggling to keep its head above water, and a good section of it has already been pushed under. Yet horrible as this appears, there seems to be no bottom to this pit.

Fully 2,000,000 families and individuals earned less than \$250 per year.

Negro family income in the South is one-third of that of the white family; and in the North, one-half.

Four million families and single individuals are entirely dependent on relief. Life for them will end with the dole.

Thus by open admission of its government spokesmen, capitalism is sending its millions of wealth-producing workers to slow death by starvation. The working class is being sapped of its strength by undernourishment, bad housing and shoddy clothing. But on its back sits a tiny oligarchy, and it "neither toils nor spins" but it concentrates in its few hands the natural resources, the fabricating and extracting industries and the nation's commerce and takes for itself the largest single proportion in annual income.

Between the kings and serfs of olden times, there was almost a common standard when compared with the monstrous inequality between the wage-slave and industrial magnate of today.

Eighty-seven families and individuals garnered in more than \$1,000,000 per year each.

One per cent (1) enjoyed an annual income that was almost equal to the combined total of the lowest 42 per cent in the income brackets of the population.

"Neither do they toil nor spin," but their combined annual income amounted to \$6,240,000,000 or 13 per cent of the 48 billion total.

The truth unfolds irresistibly: there is not one but two American Standards of Living. One for the masses and one for the masters. The one for the masses rapidly sliding far under the subsistence level. The one for the masters, high enough to keep their dogs and pets in the same regal style they themselves enjoy, and more to spare.

Plea for Liberalism Is Roosevelt Hoax

Drop 'Principles' in California Primaries; Pension Hit

By JAMES BURNHAM
The tremendous popular support of Franklin Roosevelt has been, and is, based upon the feeling that he is the Great Liberal, the champion of the masses and their needs and hopes against the machinations of the Tories.

From the 1932 election campaign onward, therefore, Roosevelt has been compelled to nourish this feeling, to find suitable gestures in order to keep it alive and breathing. To accomplish this task while at the same time carrying out firmly his fundamental job of preserving U. S. capitalism against the blows of the crisis: this is the heart of the remarkable, and up to now successful, Roosevelt demagoguery, the key to the unique value of his services to the bourgeoisie.

Purpose of "Purge"
The chief purpose of Roosevelt's current "purge" is to bolster up his standing as a Great Liberal and champion of the masses. The mechanism of the purge shows that this purpose is paramount over the secondary object of strengthening the hold of the Roosevelt faction on the Democratic Party machinery.

Against the advice of the leading machine politicians, Roosevelt was compelled to undertake the purge: compelled not by the desire for "unlimited personal power"—the stock public explanation of his bourgeois opponents, nor by lofty adherence to abstract principles—the explanation which he and his sycophants would like to have believed, but because only such a gesture as the purge could re-consolidate the popular faith in New Dealism, shaken by the depression of the past year.

This is why it is not at all necessary for Roosevelt to win out in most of his purge attempts. He knows that Smith would win the nomination in South Carolina; he had himself predicted so. But the glamorous popular effect of his opposition to Smith was as great, perhaps even greater, in spite of Smith's victory. So also in the cases of George Tydings and O'Connor—though, it is true, he has more at stake in actually defeating the latter two.

The real nature of the purge comes out most sharply in what it omits—Hague, for example, is not touched by it—and in the California contest.

Left Defeats F.D.R.
The California Primary campaign was entirely different from all others. There Roosevelt supported the conservative and doddering old William McAdoo; and the opponent was not in the least a "disguised Republican" or a Tory, but the "radical" Sheridan Downey, champion of the California Pension Plan. And on the issue of the Pension Plan, Roosevelt was for the first time defeated from the left: Downey carried the Senatorial nomination by more than 100,000 votes.

The California Pension Plan, whatever its utopianism and unworkable as it unquestionably would be in practice, represents in its aims legitimate aspirations of the people, in particular of the middle classes. It is analogous in many respects to the Ludlow Amendment, which expressed the hope and need of the people for peace.

Cracks Down on Masses
In one case as in the other, when confronted with concrete demands, for peace or for decent pensions, the Great Liberal cracked down with the full force of his machine. In spite of overwhelming majority support for the Ludlow Amendment, revealed in accurate unofficial polls, Roosevelt was able to smash it in Congress. The California Primaries, however, permitted popular

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King, Ramsay and Connor in Appeal

SAN FRANCISCO.—Oral argument in the appeal from the life imprisonment imposed on King, Ramsay and Connor, now in prison on a frame-up charge will be heard on Sept. 7 by the First Appellate Court at San Francisco.

The three men, members of the Marine Firemen, were convicted of murdering George Alberts, chief engineer on the steamer Point Lobos, in a campaign to discredit the marine unions. Earl Warren, Alameda County District Attorney who prepared the frame-up six months after Alberts' death is now running for Attorney General of California.

W.P.A. LOCAL IN SPLIT FROM W.A.

New York Union Hits Communist Party Misleadership

By GEORGE MILTON
NEW YORK.—What may be the beginning of a national split in the Workers' Alliance was started here last week when Henry Rourke, president and organizer of the W.P.A. Chauffeurs and Mechanics' Local, announced its withdrawal from the Stalinist-controlled Alliance.

The action to break with the W.A. came at a meeting of the membership of both locals, when a resolution was adopted denouncing the Stalinists for "using the Alliance for purposes of Communist Party recruiting and propaganda and throwing overboard the legitimate aims of the unemployed and W.P.A. workers."

Last of W.P.A. Strength
With these two powerful W.P.A. locals goes the only substantial section of the organization's W.P.A. Division, which today remains a mere skeleton of the once strong and influential City Projects Council. The last membership meeting, called by the W.P.A. Division, was attended by less than 300 members.

The direct cause for the split arose over the issue of the Rourke Locals being allowed to picket.

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CLEANERS GAIN IN SYRACUSE; JAIL 2

SYRACUSE, N. Y.—A week's strike at the dry cleaning plant of Wilkins, Castle, Wilkins resulted in gains for the union and was a step toward the organization of the entire dry cleaning industry of Syracuse. The strike, called by Local 88 of the International Association of Cleaning and Dye House Workers, was preceded by the firing of two workers for union activity.

The company, paying wages as low as 15 and 20 cents an hour, attempted to break the strike by applying for a sweeping injunction on the basis that a company union contract plus some yellow dog contracts had been violated. Backed by the Syracuse labor movement, the union was able to stop the granting of the injunction and succeeded in having the dispute referred to the State Labor Relations Board. In the meantime, the strikers have returned to their jobs, which had been occupied by strike-breakers, pending decision by the board.

Further organization of the plant, largest and most strategic in the city's dry cleaning industry, is thus made possible.

Two young militant strikers, Herbert Lewin and Bob Johnson, were arrested during the course of the strike, and are being charged with "malicious conduct." A hearing has been set for September 5.

PACT COVERING 250,000 DRIVERS NETS BIG GAINS

Drivers Win Union Conditions for Huge Area

CHICAGO.—Employers of 70 per cent of the drivers in the 11-state North Central Area last week unanimously voted to sign the agreement reached a week ago by committees representing the unions and the operators, thus ratifying a pact that embraces more than 250,000 workers and brings union conditions and wages to a vast number of hitherto unorganized workers.

Only three hours was needed for the employers, meeting in Chicago's Merchandise Mart and observed by representatives of the major trucking concerns of the whole nation, to decide to accept the terms reached after nearly a year's negotiations on the part of the union representatives. The unions, represented at the meeting by the North Central Area Negotiating Committee and General Secretary-Treasurer Thomas L. Hughes of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, met this week in Indianapolis to hear a report on contract.

Basic Hourly Rate
The contract establishes the rate of pay for drivers on through runs at 2 1/2 cents per mile operated based on official mileage, plus 75 cents per hour for time lost in pickups, deliveries, etc., a minimum guarantee of six hours pay at 75 cents per hour, compensation for breakdowns, deadheadings, layovers and impassable highways, and seniority rights.

The contract lays the foundation for other area agreements and ultimately a nation-wide contract. At the Chicago meeting observers from both unions, Buffalo and Tulsa and Oklahoma City listened carefully to the proceedings. One of the first tasks of the Area Committee set-up under the agreement will be to secure application of the identical agreement to New York State, Western Pennsylvania and the territory contiguous to Highway 66 to Oklahoma City.

The present contract has guaranteed in advance the immediate and substantial growth of the international union, laying the basis for Teamsters Brotherhood to become by far the largest union in the U. S.

Represents Wage Gains
The contract's wage provisions win substantial improvements for the great majority of the drivers, while also safeguarding the higher wages and better conditions previously secured by locals in some sections. It establishes a series of minimum wages and working conditions which constitute a degree of uniformity that completely changes in a healthy direction the whole problem of further improvement of working conditions anywhere in the area.

The workers who secured better conditions previously no longer form isolated garrisons in unorganized or poorly paid areas, but the army of drivers working under good conditions now extends in unbroken ranks throughout the area.

Seniority rights, comparable to those operating in the best organized cities, are established for the whole area. Furthermore, men now in the industry will have first preference if their employer's business is absorbed by another company.

A section of the agreement provides that employers shall not require drivers to pass through any picket line, leaving the unions in a position to give complete cooperation to unions on strike.

Area Committee Set up
The establishment of a permanent Area Committee will enable an experienced and able group of union men to settle many minor disputes and to handle grievances with the full weight of the area union behind them. It also means that when an operator really gets out of line, it can be guaranteed in advance that the operator's entire system will be closed down.

The whole agreement shows the work of union men, familiar with the problems and abuses common in the industry, and concerned primarily with protecting the interests of the union membership

LAGUARDIA "BEFRIENDS" JOBLESS YOUTH



Young New York unemployed workers being led out of relief bureau into jail after merciless slugging by Mayor LaGuardia's "finest." They wanted relief for one of their members of the Workers Alliance.

N.Y. POLICE CLUB RELIEF SEEKERS; 16 YOUTH JAILED

Face Jail Terms on Framed Charges; Bail High

NEW YORK.—A relief bureau in Brooklyn was turned into a battleground last week as police ousted members and sympathizers of Local 17 of the Workers Alliance who demanded the immediate granting of emergency relief to William Luben, unemployed youth who had just been evicted from his home. Sixteen were arrested, and apparently the LaGuardia administration seeks long prison terms for four, charged with felonious assault.

Led by members of the Progressive Group of the Alliance in Local 17, a mass delegation entered the Bureau and sent a joint committee from Locals 17 and 19 to demand the immediate reopening of the Luben case and emergency rent and food checks. Miss Shirley Buxbaum, a supervisor of Bureau 79, refused to recognize or deal with the committee in any manner whatsoever. She stated that Luben's case was closed, that his eviction from his home did not concern her in the slightest and ordered Luben, who had been serving as one of the spokesmen for the committee, arrested on the spot.

Police Seize Luben
Luben was seized by the police and handled roughly. He was gripped in a vise-like headlock and his eye-glasses thrown on the floor. The workers in the delegation organized a sit-in strike. Six patrol cars and two emergency squads were summoned to drive the sit-in strikers out of the bureau.

Swinging their black-jacks, the police plunged into action. Men, women and children were pulled out of the bureau by their hair, kicked in the ribs, thrown over benches and chairs, pounded on the head, arms, and body with clubs. Two young women were punched in the mouth. Sixteen were arrested, their arms twisted in chains, and flung head first into the patrol car. Many had to receive medical treatment.

More than a thousand workers gathered to witness this brutal assault. Some pushed through the police lines and succeeded in preventing a number of arrests. Mass meetings and picket lines organized on the day of the assault and after were jammed by sympathizers from the neighborhood.

Join in Frame-Up
The police, the relief bureau, and the courts are now collaborating in an attempt to put over a vicious frame-up trial. Long prison terms will be demanded for Luben, Enrico Torlone, Ben Herman and Mildred Gardiner who are charged with felonious assault. They were among the 16 arrested and were held incommunicado for over 24 hours during which time they were fingerprinted, photographed and questioned by the alien squad. Attempts to intimidate and demoralize them in order to force them to give information that could be used in the trials and against the Alliance failed. They spent two days in jail before being released on bail.

The total bail for the 16 defendants was set at close to \$5,000. Twelve of the 16 who were arraigned on charges of disorderly conduct were released on bail

STEVEDORES ON WEST COAST HIT BY BOSSES' DRIVE

Only Agreement Not Renewed by Water-Front Employers

SAN FRANCISCO.—Nearly 50,000 workers paraded up Market Street last Monday in San Francisco's annual display of labor's strength on Labor Day. With nearly 3,000 warehouse workers locked out, and employers threatening to force two other unions to resort to strikes, the marching unions created a powerful impression on the watching crowd.

The parade itself pictured the critical situation in labor's ranks, with American Federation of Labor and Committee for Industrial Organization unions marching in separate groups. A year ago most of the unions marched in one united parade, with only the teamsters refusing to march with the C.I.O. unions. Since then the splitting tactics of Harry Bridges, West Coast C.I.O. director, have resulted in isolating the International Longshoremen and Warehousemen's Union, only major San Francisco organization in the C.I.O.

Splitting Tactics Felt
Already the effects of the disastrous policy of the Stalinists in control of the local C.I.O. movement.

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Armies on Frontiers As Europe Mobilizes

Diplomats Jockey for Position But Only United Workers' Might Can Beat Down War Danger

AGAINST THE WAR MAKERS!

Diplomats, politicians, and generals of the great powers played a ghastly poker game across the chancellery tables of Europe last week. A jittery world sick with fearful anticipation waited from moment to moment for the flashes that will announce the outbreak of a new world war, a new catastrophe, a new doomed generation of youth.

Around the issue of Germany's demands on Czechoslovakia the broader issue of a forced showdown among the powers began to take material form.

ARMIES MOVE TO FRONTIERS

Huge armies and formidable equipment moved into position along the frontiers. Hitler mobilized one million men and demonstratively rushed them into the half-finished "Siegfried line" of fortifications along the Rhine. To Nuremberg came a million Nazis for the annual party congress where the Führer was to make his final statement of policy on the Czechoslovak issue.

Ready to match display for display, France and Britain moved in turn toward the great military demonstrations behind which, by grace of a short fuse, a tiny incident, lies the ghastly reality of war itself.

France called the class of 1918—the "armistice babies"—into service. The thousands of youths who came into the world the year the last holocaust came to its close were moved into the Maginot line where they will be the first to go in the new war when it breaks out.

The day that Hitler arrived in Nuremberg amid the blaring pagantry which is his stock and trade France announced that the Maginot fortifications were garrisoned at full strength, that all army leaves had been cancelled, and that classes of specialists had been called to the colors to meet the crisis.

FLEETS IN BATTLE ARRAY

Simultaneously the British Home Fleet, more than 40 men o'war, steamed out of naval bases into the North Sea for "maneuvers"—actually into fighting positions. Only a few miles across the same body of water the newly-built German war fleet also appeared for "maneuvers."

In and out of foreign offices across Europe in the capitals of the smaller states, who form satellites in one or the other of the main constellations of the Powers, scurried ambassadors and ministers seeking or giving last-minute assurances of support or acting fearfully coy while hoping the blow would not fall.

Meanwhile the United States, our own fair peace-loving government with its peace-loving ("I Hate War") President Roosevelt, was by no means out of the picture. Roosevelt's belligerent speech in Canada a few weeks ago has been supplemented by far more concrete exchanges of a strictly private nature between Washington and London and Paris.

Last week the British government directly sounded out Washington's attitude toward the probable outbreak of war, the help that can be expected in the coming struggle. This query, nor the answer to it, was not made public in Washington but in France on Saturday, appropriately dedicating a monument to America's entry into the last war. Ambassador William Bullitt, Roosevelt's close confidant, all too openly pledged America's readiness to come to the side of its "brothers" overseas once more in their time of trial.

Imperialists Promise Aid

Both Roosevelt and Hull have been dinnning into the ears of the American people that they cannot expect to stand aloof if Europe is plunged again into war. And this, strictly speaking, is true. They cannot. The question is: Will the masses of the American working people intervene just as cannon fodder or will they, together with the workers of France, Britain, Germany, Czechoslovakia, and the rest of the world know how, in the end, to step in and impose a peace of their own making?

That is the question to which we have to find the answer and which we have to help answer.

Press Aid War-Makers
From the press one gets the impression of paralyzed helplessness, of peoples and nations incapable of lifting a finger to avert the catastrophe that now hangs so closely above them. But that is precisely the illusion that the war-makers desire to foster so that it shall be all the more easily to lead men at each others throats when the interests of agonizing, dying capitalism require it.

In every union in this country and in Europe, in every working class organization the most resolute stand must be taken now AGAINST THE WAR MAKERS! We have already had a clear les-

Rivera Says Trade Union Congress Staged by C.P. Handpicked Delegates Will Extend Sway of Stalinists, Boom Toledano for Mexican Presidency

SAN ANGELO, D. F., Mexico, August 27.—Diego Rivera, world-famous revolutionary artist, today branded the forthcoming Pan-American Trade-Union Congress in Mexico as a show dominated completely by the G.P.U. He predicted that insofar as its professed aims are concerned—uniting the workers of the American continent and preventing war—it would end in a fiasco.

Rivera declared that the delegates to the Congress have been handpicked by the G.P.U. in order to carry out a program entirely different from the ostensible one before the Congress. Moscow aims to complete another stage in the process of conquering the North American Labor movement for Joseph Stalin. Not least of the real objectives of the Congress is the furtherance of G.P.U. henchman Lombardo Toledano's presidential aspirations. The success of these aims, said Rivera, would be a "catastrophe for the American working class and for American culture."

The complete statement of Diego Rivera is as follows:
Question: What is your opinion upon the coming International Workers Congress which will be celebrated in this capital?

Answer: The closest unification of the workers of the American continent is a vital necessity. Only such unity can assure the influence of the workers of each of the American countries on international as well as on foreign policy. In particular only a firm and decisive policy of the united proletariat can prevent America's being involved in a war. Will the forthcoming congress accomplish this aim? I doubt it.

Question: What in your opinion is the real aim of this congress?

What is the real aim of this congress?

Answer: In the convocation of the Pan-American workers' congress different elements pursue different aims. The working class masses semi-instinctively strive for unification and independent policy. Some of the leaders pursue entirely different aims. In the name of the Mexican proletariat appears, as stage manager, Mr. Lombardo Toledano. He is a "pure" politician, foreign to the working class and pursuing his own personal aims. Toledano's ambition is to climb to the Mexican presidency on the backs of the workers. In pursuit of this aim, Toledano has closely intertwined his fate with the fate of the Kremlin oligarchy. From there he receives instructions and all kinds of aid. Moscow subjected the Mexican communists to Mr. Toledano, that is to his struggle for power. Toledano's recent trip to the United States and to Europe as well as the forthcoming congresses in September have as one of their aims to provide a springboard for Toledano. In this field Toledano works completely hand in hand with Moscow. One need not doubt that at the forthcoming congresses in Mexico all international agents of Moscow,

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