Socialist Appeal

Official Weekly Organ of the Socialist Workers Party, Section of the Fourth International

We propose that the regular 1940 session of the Congress of the United States shall enact emergency legislation to put into immediate effect the following:

1. Appropriation of \$10,000,000,000 to provide, at once, jobs on housing and other public works projects for unemployed workers.

2. Amendment of the Wages and Hours Act to provide throughout private industry and public works a maximum work week of 30 hours and a minimum weekly pay of 30 dollars.

3. 30 dollar weekly old age and disability pensions.

4. Appropriation of \$3,000,000,000 to guarantee either maintenance at school or jobs for all youth.

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FIVE (5) CENTS

MINNEAPOLIS WPA INDICTMENTS QUASHED

FIGHT OPENS ON ANTI-LYNCH BILL

Unions Must Act To Put Heat On In Washington

through the Senate began at the hearing before a Senate subcommittee on February 6. Here the next attempt to kill the bill.

committee, was the leader of the ing, more attractive." seven-week filibuster that dea Senate appropriation to pay sible in order to make army pay apprehensive parents, farm lead-for the expenses of witnesses "more attractive." Roosevelt's ers are asking for the formation employer opponents.

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in particular will send a large contingent from the advancement of Colored People in particular will send a large contingent from the manufacture of the manufacture of military eligibles already on relief, are being enlistment. tingent from the native state of Conally (as well as of such other

This bill, however, will not be passed merely on the basis of facts. It is mass pressure, and only mass pressure, that can force the Northern capitalist-representatives to take a stand against their Southern classbrothers.

Act Now!

Write, and get your union and club to send resolutions, to Senator Frederick Van Nuys, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. in support of the bill. Van Nuys, with Wagner and Capper, is coauthor of the bill and is also chairman of the subcommittee hearing testimony on the bill.

NYA Seeks to Drive Youth into Army

Officials Turn Over NYA Lists To Army; Youth Asking Relief Told To Join The Army

years ago. He told the press some its government, to keep NYA ber of applicants. time ago that he would ask for wages and funds as low as pos- In response to demands from against the bill, but nothing more budget cut of NYA funds thus of special conservation projects has been heard about this. But serves as economic pressure up- apart from the CCC. They are be-

The National Youth Adminis- turned over to recruiting officers. tration announced Feb. 2 that it Where young relief applicants had instructed state NYA direct- refuse to join some branch of the pass the Anti-Lynching Bill ors to turn over to the Army Re- armed forces, they are being cruiting Service a list of all male urged to apply for CCC jobs. Reenrollees between 18 and 25. lief applications are often turned The order followed a sugges- down or held up for weeks in the tion by the Army Recruiting Ser- hope that applicants will join the plantation owners will make their vice that—in the words of the CCC. In the CCC camps, boys are A.P. dispatch reporting this- writing home that Army admin-"perhaps many young men now istrators are exerting pressure on Senator Tom Conally, who is receiving \$14 to \$21 a month them to join the Army after com-(if we except Neeley from the from the NYA would find the ar- pleting their CCC terms. In a border state of West Virginia) my's base pay of \$21 a month North Carolina camp two months the only Southerner on the sub- for a recruit, plus food and cloth- ago the boys conducted a demonstration against militarization. Thus it becomes very much to Growing fear of militarization of feated the bill in the Senate two the interests of the Army, and the CCC is cutting down the num-

Relief Applicants Pressured be started so long as CCC jobs

Southern gentlemen as Garner and Dies), and from such advance reports as are available their testimony will be so overwhelming as to embarrass even him. This bill, however, will not be

Viceroy Refuses Even To Promise New Status For India After the War; Gandhi Finds "Solution Impossible"

By SHERMAN STANLEY

After a two and a half hour discussion with the British Viceroy, Mahatma Gandhi was reluctantly forced to admit in a statement on Feb. 6 that, "A peaceful solution to the problem of India's freedom is apparently impossible."

The British authorities, rejecting completely even the conservative demand of Gandhi for a promise of Dominion Status for India after the war, have slammed the door in the face of

the Congress Party once more. Gandhi has admitted that resumption of the long-drawn out utive Council, the convention negotiations is uscless. Mean- adopted a resolution urging the while, the left-wing forces within government "to withhold the the Nationalist Congress have lending of any money, or the parthe Congress from top to bottom rectly in the wars now going on of America. if Gandhi should sign any agree- in Europe and Asia." ment with the British, or attempt any sell-out of India's demand made numerous militant speeches

"England's difficulty is India's opportunity"—this was the clam- seething discontent that prevails peasants, students and middle class people of India when the

(Continued on Page 3)

5,000 workers were present at this, one of the mass meetings held by the WPA strikers at the

Minneapolis Parade Grounds last summer. They stayed together after the strike, too, and with the

backing of the organized labor movement of the organized labor movement of the city, state and

One of the Minneapolis Strike Meetings

the money to defeat this bill will on needy youth to enlist in the ing told by government spokes-not be withheld by its landlord-Army. MINERS' CONFAB WPA Workers Ask Supporters Mobilizing The supporters of the bill are applying for relief are being asked by administrators why they also preparing to send their withnesses. The Texas branch of the National Association and the send their withnesses. The Texas branch of the National Association and the send their withnesses. The Texas branch of the National Association and the send their withnesses. The Texas branch of the National Association and the send their withnesses. The Texas branch of the National Association and the send their withnesses. The Texas branch of the National Association and the send th

nation, forced the government to call a halt to the WPA strike trials.

30-Hour Week Is Raised For Miners As Jobless Aid

istration "that labor wants no designed to give a real answer to O'Connor and Torkelson for acwar . . . and will hold to strict the problem of unemployment. accountability any statesman who The program reads as follows: departs from this policy."

workers of America are opposed for the millions of unemployed of to war and that under no circum- America we demand the followstances will labor support a poling: icy of killing off young men on

tion taken by the current quarterly meeting of the AFL Exec- per week.

Lewis and all of his lieutenants throughout the convention. This UNEMPLOYED, to finance the is explained by the fact that all above program. of them are keenly aware of the (Continued on Page 2)

FLINT, Mich., Feb. 3-Con-| PLENTYWOOD, Mont.-At a denining Roosevelt's slash of meeting of Federal Labor Union The historic 36th constitution- WPA and relief funds, WPA Lo- No. 21760, AFL, held here Jan. al convention of the United Mine cal No. 12 of the United Auto 28, the following resolution was Workers concluded its sessions on Workers, CIO, voted unanimously unanimously adopted and ordered Thursday, February 1, by sharp- at their last meeting to fight for forwarded to Senators Wheeler ly warning the Roosevelt admin- an aggressive 6-point program and Murray and Congressmen

Lewis stated in his final ad- ployment and relief crisis and val and the so-called assimilation confession of defeat for the govdress to the convention "that the provide jobs and a decent living of millions of workers into indus-

Funds for Unemployed

Jobless in Flint, Michigan, and Montana

Adopt Militant Resolutions; Ask War

Works Program for America's and In direct contrast to the posi- 10,000,000 unemployed citizens. 30 hours a week at \$30 pay

5. Adequate relief for all those unable to work.

ALL WAR FUNDS TO THE

Fight Local Ruling

looks like a maneuver to divert and attention from the real issues which face the workers. The the Senators and the Congress-

New Crisis Coming

n one month or a little more the

WPA crisis. Relief allocations are now already inadequate to meeet the need. Another thousand on the Local 21760 forward the follow- was felt that this lesson had been rolls would mean a situation sim- ing proposals: ilar to what happened in Cleve-

The WPA union is making careful plans to stage a real fight to prevent such a crisis occurring. The union is growing by leaps and bounds, and a general real- housing program on a trade ization of the imminent crisis has undoubtedly result.

ing propaganda of business revi- dictments would be too bald a main fire on General Drivers Untry, a conservative estimate Rogge, therefore, presented a list model militant organization reshows that upwards of ten mil- of forty men among the 130 ceived the heaviest sentences to-1. A \$10,000,000,000 Public in the United States of America dere—no defense. The defense each got eight months. Leslie

3. A WPA job for every able- a slash of one-third be made in the five plead guilty to conspiracy months; William Riley and bodied person who is unemployed. public relief funds, amounting to were also unavailing. 4. An adequate program to a cut of one-half billion dollars openly stated that they will split ticipation either directly or indiwar machine, and . . .

> nothing more than a widespread against all 130. preparation to force an imperialist war on the already crushed workers of the nation who have

"Whereas, the President and union is not allowing itself to get men cannot be ignorant of a fact sidetracked on this issue by giv- which every undernourished child ing it undue consideration, mere- knows, viz, that one-third of the he stated, "feels that the 32 most gent people of their sort should ly doing what is possible to com- American people are ill-housed, culpable persons have already not be consorting with the low most of them living in vermininfested, unhealthy ramshackles noted that such dismissal is made cording this fact to the detriment

young people now out of school tice Murphy retired (as Attorney only to show the sharp class char-City of Flint will be faced with are left to wander aimlessly General), the President discussed acter of the sentencing. wholesale closing down of WPA about the country without suffi- the matter of these cases with projects, throwing several hun- cient funds to keep body and him. The President felt the duty Max Geldman, FWS organizer, ired men out of work, and flood- soul together and are often forced of the WPA workers had been he literally brimmed with hatred, to depend for their sustenance on made clear; that while they may standering him with the usual When this happens, there will the "kindly" influence which is organize like others on the govbe a simultaneous relief and offered by alley garbage cans, ernment pay roll, they have no agitator who, like all agitators,

1. All war funds be turned over to the maintenance of the unemployed.

2. That the Federal Government immediately launch a ten billion dollar public works and

'Conspiracy' Charge Against 130 Dropped

Five Plead on Minor Charge; 17 of 32 Already Convicted Get Sentences From 30 Days to Eight Months

By CARL O'SHEA

MINNEAPOLIS, Feb. 3-The expanding pressure of the city, state and national trade union movement upon the Roosevelt administration finally cracked the WPA strike prosecutions wide open this week, as organized labor's magnificent defense of the unemployed victims brought the Department of Justice to terms.

In return for a face-saving plea of nolo contendere (no defense) on a minor charge by five of the accused jobless workers, the government dropped entirely its "conspiracy" and other indictments against all 130 remaining defendants.

O. J. Rogge, head of the criminal division of the Department of Justice, arrived here last Monday with orders to get out of this fight with the unions as gracefully as possible. Of the 162 indicted for "conspiracy" and overt acts for par-

ticipating in last summer's out the labor movement was cord with Roosevelt and Murphy developing nation-wide pro- strikers had no right to strike portions. Each trial was a ma- against the government." for-engagement between the government and 'the WPA Defense Committee set up by the Central Labor Union.

Rogge arrived and opened ne- in a burst of invective against the gotiations with the defense

committee for termination of cowardly, etc. He warned them the prosecutions.

FDR's Pound of Flesh

The Roosevelt administration wanted its pound of flesh, of further aggravated the situation to 6, finally to 5. Attempts of the months' sentence. by his proposal to Congress that Department of Justice to have

half billion dollars to feed his pet tion of Rogge, indictments were ard Connell, 90 days; Ralph Gore, dismissed against the other 125. 60 days; Charles Connors, 30 "Whereas, this procedure is Conspiracy charges were dropped days; Ben Palmer and Oscar

Hypocritical Statement

In a prepared statement read to the court, Rogge sought to invelt's amiable intercession, and that such intercession had not the remotest connection with organized labor's pressure.

right to conduct a strike or en- was not found in the melce but "Therefore be it resolved that gage in acts of violence. . . . It sent others into the danger zone. duly learned and that the object

Mask Slips Off face today, when he sentenced and placed him on probation for seventeen men convicted in the two years on the conspiracy three trials. The enormous weight mobilized by organized labor respread through the ranks of the 3. That Congress appropriate sulted in limiting his sen- the judge's attention to the fact workers. A militant struggle will three billion dollars for youth tences; but the judge was as vin- that Riley had been tried only dictive as he could be.

sought had been attained. . . ."

The judge opened with a ten-WPA strike here, 32 had minute speech in praise of Amerbeen convicted in three trials. ican citizenship; attacked the effrontery of the WPA strikers; The resultant outcry through- declared himself completely in acin their statements that "the

> Tom Davis, defense counsel pointed out the trials born a faint resemblance to political persecution and pled for moderate sen-

Then the judge went to work, working class militants, whom he called cruel, heartless, ruthless, that next time they would receive much heavier sentences.

Leaders Get Worst

All through the grand jury procourse, to settle the fight. Simply ceedings and the trials, the gov-"Whereas, despite the mislead- to quash the remaining 130 in- ernment had concentrated its lions of workers and their fam- from whom the government was day. Ed Palmquist and Max Geldilies are at present unemployed demanding pleas of nolo conten- man, chairman and organizer, committee put its foot down, and Wachter, FWS steward, was the "Whereas, President Roosevelt the list was pared to 21, to 11, only other to receive an eight-

> Charles Grider received seven George Toteno, six months; Mil-On Wednesday, Feb. 1, the five ton McLean, four months; Eddie Schoenfeld received suspended sentences and were placed on probation for 18 months, and Carl Pemble received a suspended sen-

The judge gave suspended sentences to the ex-preacher the student and the graduate chemist, the intellectuals among the vic-"The Department of Justice," tims, lecturing them that intellibeen convicted. . . . It should be riff-raff. I am not, of course, refor the purpose of clearing the of the three; all of whom are reb-More important is the fact that "Whereas, several millions of docket. Shortly before Mr. Jus- els to one degree or another, but

When the judge came to little bourgeois lie that here was an

Judge "Corrects" Error

The dignity of the court was somewhat ruffled when, after lec-This hypocritical mask of good turing Riley, he sentenced him to will slipped off Judge Joyce's six months on a substantive count

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Behind the Lines

"Most of Finland's remarkably capable army officers have had very little contact with democratic traditions," writes

This is why newsmen "have rarely encountered greater obstacles to procuring information" and why the war in Finland "from a journalistic standpoint is the toughest proposition that they have ever en-

countered."

"The real censorship," he continues, "seems to come while you are in contact-a careful control of what you shall be allowed to learn-long before you sit down to write."

"If reports from Finland are often confusing and contradictory, it is largely because circumstances compel us to report all important military engagements either at second hand or after the event. We are probably the only alleged war correspondents of this century who have had to try to report two months of fierce and fluctuating hostilities without getting within hearing distance of gunfire more than two or three times at the most."

Leland Stowe of the Chicago | This does not modify, of course, Daily News writes rather frankly certain obvious general facts of the plight of newsmen sent to about the military situation on Finland. He even goes so far as the Finnish fronts. It does not to say that the dearth of news lessen the impression of criminal about little democratic Finland clumsiness, faulty staff work, is due largely to the fact that poor communications, and generthis alleged fight for democracy al ineptitude which Stalin's genis being conducted by a band of eral staff has given in this mis-"autocratic generals" led by Man- erable adventure. But it is a class people of India, when the labor movement has been on relief clients owning cars, and it warning not to swallow wholesale all the pap that is being fed to us, all the vicious propaganda whose real purpose is not to support a non-existent "democracy" in Finland (ruled by the "autocratic generals", remember) but

to whip up anti-Soviet feeling in

this country and to prepare it for

entry into the war. An example, incidentally, of what the handling of "news" can do was afforded last week by the meeting of the Balkan Entente. Here was a meeting of small states divided into groups that are already definitely linked to this or that great power or else are the scenes of conflict among them. Yugoslavia is in Italy's orbit and Turkey and Greece in that of the Allies, while Rumania remains ticklishly balanced between the Anglo-French bloc and the Reich. The conference took place and of course decided nothing, and from every capital representing violently conflicting interests, came "expres-

sions of satisfaction" over the

outcome. You pays your money

and you takes your choice.

For Red Sundays!

Red Sundays will work, if the branches will only give it a fair

Here's the first report of a party local that tried the Red Sunday plan and made good. Writes the Boston literature agent: "The Boston branch has APPEAL house-to-house sales twice a week, on Tuesday or Thursday, and a Red Sunday. This has been very successful as we get into the hands of workers about 40 APPEALS each day we go out. This is only with three or four crews of two comrades to a crew, one girl comrade and a male comrade if possible. We are going to have a complete mobilization of the branch and will be able to get rid of more Appeals. THE COMRADES ENJOY THIS VERY MUCH. They meet new contacts and discuss the war question, unemployment, etc. Through this we will be able to build neighborhood discussion groups and build a neighborhood APPEAL route, as well as make new contacts. . .'

Good work, Boston! That makes at least two branches, Boston and Detroit, we know definitely are actively putting over the Red Sunday plan. How about it Chicago, Los Angeles, San Francisco and the rest of you throughout the country? One more word for the hesitant comrades: the Boston letter

says, "at first comrades were of the opinion that it was foolish to

try it (Red Sundays)...." But once it got under way, distribution went like a house afire. Give the plan a chance! Its the only way to stabilize the Appeal and increase the circulation.