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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.

Who Has All the Milk and Honey?

AN EDITORIAL

The 1938 income tax figures, just released by the government, constitute a grim commentary on the nature of American "democracy".

Fifty-five individuals had an income for the year of over a million dollars each. The year's income admitted to by those 55 people amounted to \$107,724,000!

Another 115 individuals reported incomes of a bit less than a million dollars each—

Still another 207 individuals reported incomes of between \$300,000 and \$500,000.

So that 377 individuals had a year's income amounting to something like THREE HUNDRED MILLION DOLLARS!

At the other end of the scale in this country are 76,000,000 people who, by officially-admitted government figures, are living below or barely on the level of subsistence. These consist of eight million families "without any means of existence", and eleven million families "fighting poverty", living on less than \$1,000 annual family income.

What's democratic about such a set-up? The haughtiest princes, dukes and lords of the European kingdoms were never so far above their serfs as America's moneyed "citizens" are above the vast majority of the American people.

More than half the nation is condemned to a starvation existence while a handful of bloated parasites wallow in riches undreamed of by the feudal aristocracy.

Do YOU—you who belong to the 76 millions who have no means of existence or are fighting poverty—want to give your lives, or the lives of your husbands, sons or brothers, to defend this kind of democracy?

The main enemy is at home! The enemy is the boss class who condemn us, so long as we let them, to this kind of existence.

N. Y. Judge Issues Jim Crow Ruling

A restaurant owner doesn't have to serve Negroes if they are sitting with white friends—that's the Hillerite ruling handed down last week by Judge Marks of Municipal Court, Manhattan.

Two Negroes, Conrad Lynn and Elsie Jackson, went to the Marianna Restaurant on West 118th Street, Manhattan, last November, to eat with two white friends. The proprietor wouldn't serve them.

In court, the proprietor testified that he would have served the Negroes if they had sat apart by themselves, but would not serve them with their friends in a "mixed party."

Under the State Civil Rights Law, penalties are provided against restaurant owners who refuse to serve Negroes.

Judge Marks ruled, however, that a restaurant owner may rightfully refuse to serve Negroes whenever they are in the company of white friends! As long as the owner is willing to serve the Negroes at their own segregated corner of his place, Judge Marks

ruled, he is within the law.

American Labor Aid Acts If Judge Marks' ruling is permitted to stand, it virtually annuls the provisions of the Civil Rights Law ostensibly protecting Negroes from discrimination. For it authorizes restaurant proprietors to establish a Jim Crow section in their establishments.

At the request of the complainants, therefore, the American Labor Aid is undertaking to appeal Judge Marks' decision to the higher courts.

Behind the Lines

By GEORGE STERN

The Japanese have finally admitted that they are up against it in China.

To be sure, in accordance with the double-talk of modern wartime politics, this admission comes in the form of a summons to Chiang Kai-shek to surrender.

On Feb. 15, the Japanese High Command in China announced that it had won "sufficient areas in China for establishment of the new order in East Asia." Further resistance, the proclamation went on, was "futile," especially because of the latest Japanese "victories" in Kwangsi. The Japanese army, therefore, "will not expand our operations but will await your offensive."

They did not have long to wait. The "victory" in Kwangsi turned into one of those "strategic withdrawals." Chinese pressure forced a wholesale retreat from the area north of Nanning, the Kwangsi capital, and at this writing, despite Japanese denials, the Chinese forces appear to be on Nanning's outskirts.

Diet politicians have grown increasingly bold in challenging the army on its course on the continent. The recent "power holidays"—wholesale shutting off of power for all but the most essential war-industry plants—dramatized the sharpness of the pinch, which is putting the bare necessities of life beyond the reach of most of the Japanese population.

Calculating on the transformation of American pressure into an actual embargo, the Japanese have to cast around for possible new combinations before deciding upon a capitulation to the U. S. or an open challenge for supremacy in the Pacific.

One such outlet would be a new Japanese deal with Great Britain. Just as in South America the British are actually engaged in tooth-and-nail rivalry with the U. S. for the markets left open by the involuntary default of the Germans, so in the Far East they are no more willing to permit Yankee imperialism to take advantage of the European war. It goes without saying that the Japanese will do their utmost to exploit this Anglo-American rivalry. The ease with which the Asama Maru incident was settled, the ready compliance of the Japanese with British demands, suggests that the atmosphere is already being prepared for another typical imperialist double-cross.

But for that it has to clear its heels from the Chinese bog—and that it is not finding it so easy to do. Wang Ching-wei's puppet government is now scheduled for inauguration in March. But even in Tokyo there is little optimism over the ability of this new and ill-fated government to sustain the weight of Japanese control and make it palatable.

U. S. SHIPS TO SAIL WAR ZONES UNDER FAKE FOREIGN REGISTRIES

Chrysler Workers! Just Figure Out What These Figures Mean

Remember how Chrysler's mouthpieces cried, during the 54-day strike, about how the corporation just couldn't afford to pay what the union was demanding? Well! Chrysler corporation has just issued, as required by law, the figures for its earnings for 1939.

In spite of the 54-day strike, which took place in the crucial last quarter of the year, Chrysler made a net profit for the year of \$36,879,829—nearly twice as many millions as the company made in 1938.

Just figure out how many unemployed auto workers could have been given full-time jobs for those 37 millions of dollars, establishing the 30-hour week at 40 hours' pay!

UNIONS WARNED OF FRAMEUP IN MINNEAPOLIS

Judge Turns Books of Local 544 Over to Employers' Agents

MINNEAPOLIS, Feb. 15—Now that its fight against the federal government's WPA trials is over, Minneapolis labor is turning its attention to what may become an even more serious assault against this embattled trade union movement.

By order of District Judge Carroll, General Drivers Union, Local 544 has had to bring its books and records into the courtroom where attorneys and accountants for five firms are leisurely examining them in hopes of cooking up a case against this militant trade union.

Under an ancient statute permitting members of an unincorporated association to examine the records of the organization prior to trial, a group of agents of the employers have been given access to the union's records. The court's decision came after three weeks of testimony by union men, who testified that the plaintiffs were members or organizers of an "independent union" set up to fight the drivers' union.

The suit has dragged through the courts for two years, the plaintiffs—though ostensibly without funds—being represented by high-priced anti-labor attorneys. Who put up the money for this fight?

The five plaintiffs joined the Independent Truck Owners Section of Local 544 and stayed just long enough to establish their membership. Then they filed their suit, on Feb. 16, 1938. Militant Unionism a "Crime" Among the "crimes" they charged the union leadership with was expending funds on maintenance of the Federal Workers Section, the Minneapolis unemployed and WPA organization whose leaders bore the brunt of the federal prosecution of the WPA strikers; "extorting" more funds for relief purposes; "illegally picketing" and maintenance of closed-shop contracts, etc. Their sink mentality was revealed in the very text of the complaint. And to these charges they tacked on a petition to the court for an examination of the union's books and records.

While the suit was pending, the plaintiffs turned up as organizers and members of an "independent union" local, affiliated to the "Associated Independent Unions." At a citywide labor rally on April 8, 1938, Roy Weir, organizer for the Central Labor Union, revealed that a Mr. Gallaway of the National Manufacturers Association had just been in

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Powers Gird For Spring Crisis

Altmark Affair Ushers In New Phase

By GEORGE STERN

The Altmark incident was the first real harbinger of Spring, the first critical Spring of the Second World War.

It came as a sharp warning to all the neutrals. "It means," said the Paris newspaper *l'Intransigeant* on Feb. 19, "that neutrality as it has hitherto been practised cannot last any longer."

Norway, caught fast between the two conflicting powers, stands as a fateful symbol for all the small states of Europe that are still trying to keep their balance on the narrowing zone still left for neutrals to tread.

Fearful of offending Germany, the Norwegians blinked their eyes to the fact that the Altmark, when it passed Bergen, was actually an auxiliary warship and had some 300 British prisoners aboard. The British then deliberately ordered its warship to violate Norway's neutral waters and to rescue the prisoners.

Out of the diplomatic and press barrage laid down around the incident emerged the belief that the British were testing their way for eventual occupation of Norway's coast, with or without Norwegian consent, for the double

Paris Trotskyists Reported Seized By French Police

Sixteen Trotskyists have been arrested in the Paris district for "anti-militarist and revolutionary propaganda," according to a wireless dispatch in the New York Times, Feb. 19.

Some of them, the dispatch states, were employed in the postal service, and all had "formerly belonged to the official Communist party." They were arrested at "their clandestine headquarters."

This dispatch in the capitalist press is the only information we have on the arrests. Communist action with our French comrades is slow and difficult, in view of the systematic persecution they are subjected to by the "democratic" government of France.

le purpose of increasing the effectiveness of the blockade and facilitating direct intervention in the Soviet-Finnish conflict. Whether this is actually the intention of the British war lords it remains for the coming weeks to tell, for it is now universally agreed that the Spring will witness some new major turn in the war, the extension of the war fronts and the launching of an offensive on one sector or another in a first real test of the strength of the opposing forces.

Along with the swallows, what else is this Spring likely to bring? The possible answers, in tabular form, come somewhat as follows:

1. In Northern Europe: France and Britain intervene in force in the Soviet-Finnish war, compelling

Extension Of War Fronts Nears

ing Norway and Sweden to become belligerents. Germany sends forces to fight the Allies, probably on Swedish soil, in an effort to protect its crucial Swedish sources of iron ore and other metals. Acting in concert with Germany, the Soviet Union completes its conquest of Finland and sends the Red Army into Sweden.

2. In Western Europe: Germany begins offensive on the Western front, across Holland and Belgium and/or Switzerland. The war in the air begins.

3. In Southeastern Europe: German-Soviet pressure increases on Rumania to assure the flow of Rumanian oil and grain into Germany. Rumania may possibly capitulate to avoid becoming a battlefield. If it does not, part of the Allied Near Eastern forces will be sent to its aid and an Allied fleet will steam through the Dardanelles to attack the Soviet Black Sea coast. Italy will enter the war on the side of the Allies but heading an "independent" bloc including Yugoslavia and Hungary.

4. In the Near and Middle East: Allied attack on the Soviet Union begins through the Caucasus and possibly from Iran and Afghanistan. Main objective: Caucasian oilfields.

5. Far East: The U.S. keeps its embargo club poised over Japan's head, increasing its pressure to force Japanese entry into (or cooperation with) the Allied bloc, offering a compromise at China's expense if Japan will engage the Soviet Union on the Far Eastern front.

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Business Still Going Down the Toboggan

Where are those jobs that Roosevelt promised in his budget speech, as justification for slashing WPA?

For the sixth consecutive week, the New York Times business index went down last Sunday. The drop for the week was from 101.5 to 98.6.

New York banks, despairing of any more profitable investments, sunk another \$18,000,000 into low-yield government bonds.

Bethlehem Steel, showing that Steel has no immediate use for money for expansion or operations, announced it would pay off an \$18,000,000 preferred stock issue.

All signs point to still further declines in the coming weeks.

SWP CANDIDATE ON BALLOT FOR ST. PAUL MAYOR

Rutchick Files When No Labor Candidate Is Nominated

ST. PAUL, Minn.—Henry Rutchick will be the Socialist Workers Party's candidate for mayor in the forthcoming city elections. Rutchick was designated to file his candidacy after the Labor Progressive Association had endorsed for mayor a leader of one of the capitalist parties.

"The labor movement in St. Paul responded enthusiastically to the call of the Labor-Progressive Association to back a labor political campaign," the S.W.P. pointed out. "The Socialist Workers Party hailed the renewed interest of the St. Paul trade union movement on the political field, as indicating that unionists are becoming conscious of the severe political blows being received daily by organized labor."

"It is unfortunate that by their choice of candidates, the Labor Progressives have not broken with the boss political machines in this critical period before the war. Disregarding the warning of our party, presented in a leaflet to the January 20 convention, the Association has endorsed for mayor a member and leader of one of the old capitalist parties, John McDonough.

"This year, as two years ago, the Socialist Workers Party will oppose McDonough's candidacy for mayor with a candidate of its own. We call upon all workers to vote for Henry Rutchick, anti-war candidate for mayor."

St. Paul election laws dictate "non-partisan" candidates without party designation on the ballot, but the S.W.P. is making clear the issues through a pamphlet and leaflets calling for votes for Rutchick as votes for the party's program in the elections.

"Labor's independent voice in politics is necessary not only for strictly local issues," the party points out, "but for the major problems facing the working class of the United States—war, unemployment, and the protection of workers' rights."

While running its own mayoralty candidate, the S.W.P. is supporting the rest of the Labor Progressive Association's slate, with the exception of city commissioner Axel Peterson, running for election, who when offered the Association endorsement made clear he was accepting no responsibility to the labor movement for his conduct in office.

The text of the St. Paul election program of the S.W.P., received too late for reprinting, will be published in next week's Appeal.

FDR CONNIVES IN LOOPHOLING NEUTRALITY ACT

United States Lines Sells to Belgian "Dummy" Buyer

With the connivance of federal authorities, the United States Lines has finally put over a scheme to continue to run its ships into the war zones, in violation of the explicit provisions of the Neutrality Act.

It has "sold" eight vessels to a "recently formed" Belgian corporation, for which the United States Lines will act as American "agent." The ships will continue to use the Chelsea piers as in the past, sail the usual runs and, in short, continue business on the old basis, just as if the Neutrality Act never existed.

Tried Twice Before The shipowners didn't waste much ingenuity in working out this means to circumvent the Neutrality Act. It's the same scheme that the United States Lines tried twice before but failed to put over.

The first time, just after passage of the Neutrality Act, under which the Roosevelt administration committed itself to keeping American ships out of war zones—without this provision in the law Congress would never have adopted it, as everyone admitted at the time—the line got the consent of the Maritime Commission to transfer the ships to Panamanian registry through a dummy corporation down there.

The Maritime Commission could have closed its eyes to the plain violation of the law involved, only with direct and prior approval of Roosevelt. But the ensuing outcry caused Roosevelt to veto the commission's O.K.—until the outcry would have died down.

Norwegians Balked A few weeks ago the United States Lines tried again. It got up a Norwegian dummy corporation, got the consent of the Maritime Commission, announced the sale, and prepared to sail the ships. But then the Norwegian government balked at the prospect of being in the middle when the ships, carrying contraband of war to Britain and French ports, would run into German submarines.

And now the United States Lines has found the Belgian government, which is speedily preparing for participation in the war on the side of the Allies, a willing front in this deliberate violation of the Neutrality Act.

While in this way the United States Lines will be enabled to make blood money out of the traffic with the warring countries, the provisions of the Neutrality Act relating to the seagoing personnel will be strictly enforced. Under the law American seamen cannot ship into the war zones. Crews for these ships will be imported from Europe.

American When Submarine As long as the ships carry contraband safely between America and the Allied ports, the ships will pass as "Belgian." We can be sure, however, that the minute one of them gets nicked by a German submarine a howl for vengeance will go up from the kept press because an American ship has been touched.

This cynical subterfuge of sailing these ships into the war zones despite the plain letter of the Neutrality Act is a good index to Roosevelt's war plans. "Neutrality" is, for him, merely a hypocritical formula under which to prepare for war.

Jamaica Jobless Aid Relief Sitdowners

American Labor Aid Providing Defense For 13 Arrested Workers; Trial Postponed; Allowances Are Assured

The thirteen workmen and women who were arrested in the Jamaica Relief Bureau on Van Wyck Avenue a week ago Thursday for a sit-down strike came to the Flushing Second Magistrate's Court, on February 15, prepared to denounce the Relief Bureau authorities for their inhuman treatment of emergency relief cases.

Among the defendants, all of them members of the Unemployed and Relief Workers League, 151-06 Beaver Road, were Natale Bruno and his wife, parents of a family of 6 children, DiBernardo, head of a destitute family of 14 children, Gul'seppe Pace, 63-year-old unemployed shoemaker, and Richard Hicks, a 64-year-old unemployed worker. Charges against Mrs. Bruno's six children, also taken into custody at the Bureau, were not pressed.

American Labor Aid Helps Aid had come to the unemployed and relief workers from the American Labor Aid, with headquarters at 125 W. 33rd St., New York City. As soon as the case came to the attention of the American Labor Aid, it immediately sent a representative to Jamaica to investigate the situation. Upon learning the facts in the case, the American Labor Aid provided free legal assistance to the workers and a lawyer from the American Labor Aid came to court on Thursday to defend the workers.

The Relief Bureau authorities managed to have the case postponed a week. The workers decided to accept and immediately began a public campaign to

arouse sympathy for their case. Several thousand leaflets were distributed in South Jamaica and the Relief Bureau, calling all workers and unemployed to a mass meeting at the Jamaica Labor Center, 151-06 Beaver Road next Tuesday night to protest the arrests and the inhuman Relief Bureau attitude. At this meeting Arthur Burch, representative of the American Labor Aid, and Otto Popovich, militant leader of the Queens County unemployed in many demonstrations, will speak.

Action Gets Results

As soon as the Relief Bureau saw the determination of the workers, the Bureau's attitude changed noticeably. The day after the court postponement an investigator appeared at the Bruno home. He returned the next day with a money allowance of \$13.85 and promised regular relief checks. It took mass action by the workers to cause the Bureau to pay any attention whatsoever to this emergency case. The lesson has not been lost upon the workers of Jamaica.

So desperate was the need of these cases that the Unemployed and Relief Workers League was forced to take up a collection among its own poverty-stricken members on their behalf last Thursday. Some \$15 was raised as a stop-gap until the Bureau took some action. With victory in the Bruno case, the Unemployed and Relief Workers League intends to keep fighting until justice is done and relief is given to all the needy in this neighborhood.