

## The Only War Worth Fighting For Is the War of the Workers Against the Bosses!

### MAY DAY MANIFESTO of the S.W.P.

Workers of America, join with us in celebrating May Day, the day dedicated to the international solidarity of the working class and to the struggle of the labor movement for a better world.

Join with us in pledging on this day that the workers in every country are our brothers, that whether they speak French or German or Italian or Russian or English the workers in all lands belong together in one united band against their oppressors. *Long live the international solidarity of Labor against all the bosses, "democratic" or fascist!*

Join with us in the firm resolve that, come what may, the American working class will not surrender to the war-mongers; that in the "peace-time" which is still left and in the wartime which the government and the bosses have already planned down to the last detail, we shall continue on every front the struggle of the working class against the bosses and their government. *No surrender of labor's rights and labor's just demands in the name of patriotism!*

Tens of millions of our brothers have been stuffed into uniforms and guns thrust into their hands—to shoot each other down. Let us dedicate ourselves this day to put an end to this slaughter of workers by workers. If many of us are doomed to die, then let us die in the one war worth fighting for—*the war of the international working class against the international capitalist class!*

There is no need to repeat this year the warnings which we have uttered on previous May Days—that the capitalist class, in its death agony, will pile upon the workers in addition to the prevailing hunger and unemployment the final horror of war. For the war is now here. Not only in Europe, Asia, Africa, Australia, but also in America.

Roosevelt no longer even makes a pretense of neutrality. The airplane factories of Los Angeles and Connecticut are as closely linked with the Allied war machine as those of Manchester and Montreal. The great daily press, Democratic and Republican alike, is openly taking sides in the war.

#### War-Like Acts of the Government

The government takes steps hitherto unthinkable before a declaration of war. Hull declares a virtual protectorate over the Dutch East Indies against Japan. Roosevelt "freezes" Danish-Norwegian holdings here, an act undreamed of by Wilson in the similar situation when Germany occupied Belgium in 1914. A "moral" embargo against the Soviet Union is already in full force. The Neutrality Act of 1939, whereby Roosevelt secured from Congress legalization of arms sales to the Allies in return for a provision barring all American ships from war zones, is cynically violated by government-approved "sales" of numerous ships to dummy foreign corporations. New Dealers and Old Dealers, Republicans and Democrats, the dominant section of the ruling class is moving deliberately toward entry into the war.

What for? To help England and France preserve democracy?

#### A War Between Slavemasters

For every "free" white Englishman, there are eleven black, brown or yellow slaves toiling within the British Empire; for every "free" Frenchman, two or three are openly held in bondage in the colonies. Some 560 millions—one quarter of the earth's population—live in the "democracies" colonies under conditions no less terrible than those in Germany. The Anglo-French alliance is fighting Hitler solely over the question who is to be the slavemaster—that's what the war is about. In waging this war the "democratic" imperialists progressively rob the workers at home of their few remaining liberties.

America's Sixty Families are driving toward war with no real thought of solidarity with the British and French ruling families. On the contrary, they are using the war to push their "allies" out of South American markets and to

complete the process of linking Canada to Wall Street in place of London. Washington and London's embassies in Tokyo are at swords' points as they cross and double-cross each other in maneuvers with Japan.

The United States profited by the first world war to emerge as the chief world power. Ruefully remembering that bear hug of Uncle Sam as ally, the Anglo-French imperialists despairingly calculate what the degree of subservience will be which American "aid" will leave them in this time.

America's Sixty Families go toward war solely for their own interests, to add still further to the gigantic share of the world's markets, sources of raw materials and manpower which they already control.

For this is the epoch of the death agony of world capitalism. The richest ruling class in the world is in no way exempt from the agony and decay. The capitalist system cannot even feed its wage-slaves in the richest country in the world. In its own vast markets it cannot sell its products or invest its capital. It is driven by its inner contradictions to find new fields of investment and markets. But the world is already divided, and re-division can only come by force of arms. That is what this war is about.

#### Hands Off the Soviet Union!

As the imperialists hungrily cast about for new infusions of blood for their drying veins, their eyes fall upon the Soviet Union. There one-sixth of the earth's surface was removed from imperialist exploitation by the Revolution of November, 1917. For 22 years the capitalist world has pressed from all sides upon the Soviet Union; their pressure has succeeded in producing a Stalin, the antithesis of all that the revolutionary government of Lenin and Trotsky stood for. Imperialist pressure has found in Stalin an ally and tool who serves now one imperialist group, now another, according to the pressure exerted upon him. But imperialist pressure has not yet succeeded in breaking down the nationalized property created by the Revolution; consequently it has not succeeded in bringing back into the orbit of imperialism the territories of the Soviet Union.

Despite the degeneration wrought by Stalin, the Soviet Union remains a workers' state, part of the international working class, to be defended not only against Stalin but also against all the imperialists. This duty devolves especially upon the American working class, for more than any other power, America's Sixty Families will determine the turn of the war against the Soviet Union. In the name of "democracy" America's rulers will seek to re-introduce capitalism—it can only be done under the most bestial form of fascism—into the Soviet Union.

#### Roosevelt Persecutes Trade Unions

A war for democracy? America's Sixty Families are preparing the way by the most vicious and systematic hounding of the trade unions that has ever taken place in this country. Already over 500 union officers are under criminal indictment by the Department of Justice, thousands of others are slated for indictment, the first trials are taking place. In a tricky move to divide and conquer, the government at first proceeded with indictments against AFL unions, but now the first CIO union, the Fur Workers International, has fallen victim to this "trust busting" campaign, its officers speedily convicted. Other CIO unions will soon follow.

And all this is only the beginning. It is an open secret that the government's M-Day plans provide for an outright dictatorship over the unions, imprisonment for strike leaders, etc. The Dies Committee is merely an advance scout for the heavy artillery which is being brought up by the government.

The outlawing and smashing of last summer's WPA strike, the imprisonment of the WPA strike leaders in Minneapolis—that is the harbinger of the future which Roosevelt plans for

all organized labor. That is how he prepares his war for "democracy."

PWA has been wiped out, WPA is cut to the bone. Why? To find additional funds for the army and navy, and to put the unemployed in such misery that occupation as soldiers may appear preferable. M-Day plans provide that the unemployed, the worst victims of capitalism, shall be the first to be used for cannon fodder. All in the name of "democracy."

Despite all the lying propaganda of government and press, radio and pulpit and movies, much of the real truth is clear to the American masses. That is why every poll of sentiment shows majorities opposed to American participation in the war.

But it is not enough to be against the war. The American workers must also know how to fight effectively against the war. That is why illusory notions about preventing war under capitalism, such as pacifism and isolationism, are so dangerous. Those who tell the workers that the present, capitalist United States can stay out of a warring world are deluding the workers. Those who preach pacifism are saying that the workers should not join in the just war of the working class against their oppressors at home. Isolationists and pacifists are thus in reality enemies of the real struggle against imperialist war.

We are not pacifists or isolationists. We believe in really putting up a fight against the war. The only reliable fighters against the war are those who are grimly prepared to fight against war not only in peace-time—when it's easy and safe enough—but AFTER the United States enters the war. We believe in fighting against war not only when the bosses still concede us that legal right, but also when they try to take away that right.

#### It Is the Fight Against Capitalism

Join with us this May Day in resolving to fight against the war in peace-time and in war-time.

Once you clearly understand this much, the rest follows. The struggle against war is not, as the pacifists and isolationists describe it, a separate task. No, the struggle against war is the struggle against capitalism in all its concrete forms. It is the fight for labor's rights and demands. It is the fight for A JOB AND A DECENT LIVING FOR EVERY WORKER!

**Open the idle factories and operate them under workers' control!**

**A TWENTY BILLION DOLLAR Federal public works and housing program.**

**For the 30-hour week as a maximum and \$30 pay as a minimum for all workers on all jobs!**

**Thirty dollar weekly old-age and disability pensions!**

**All war funds to the unemployed!**

**A people's referendum on any and all wars! The right to vote to all 18 or over. Old enough to fight—old enough to vote!**

**No secret diplomacy! Open up the State Department's archives. Let the truth be known!**

**Build Workers Defense Guards, the only weapon which can defend the workers and their unions and parties from the vigilante and fascist gangs!**

**For an Independent Labor Party! An end to all deals with boss parties—for a party of the workers, based on the trade unions!**

**Is there enough money to give everybody a job and a decent living? Sure there is! Wall Street is full of money: EXPROPRIATE THE 60 FAMILIES!**



The fight against war, we have said, is the fight for all the demands, all the needs, of the workers, in war-time as in peace-time. But that fight requires that all the various demands be unified around a central thought: THE WORLD SOCIALIST REVOLUTION.

The war has demonstrated, if we needed it proved again, that this world is an indivisible whole which must be dealt with as a whole. No country can solve its problem alone, and no working class can do it alone. The workers require a PARTY OF THE WORLD SOCIALIST REVOLUTION.

The party that the workers need is NOT the American sections of the Labor and Socialist (Second) International. There is no basic difference between the Judas Goats of the Second International in Europe, such as Leon Blum and Major Atlee, and their American brothers, such as Green and Lewis, and the patriotic poodle dogs of the Social Democratic Federation.

Nor can the American workers for a moment imagine that the real fight against war can be led by the American section of the "Communist" International of Stalin. The revolutionary struggle against war cannot be waged, it can only be compromised and betrayed, by those who are under the blood-stained banner of the Kremlin.

The American workers need a genuinely revolutionary program and a stainless banner. That is the program and the banner of

the PARTY OF THE WORLD SOCIALIST REVOLUTION, THE FOURTH INTERNATIONAL, whose American section is the SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY OF THE UNITED STATES.

Given, by the accident of history, a little longer time to work in, we owe in return a special responsibility to our comrades in the rest of the world—to the anti-war fighters in Reynaud's dungeons, to those Bolshevik-Leninists who have miraculously escaped with their lives in the concentration camp of Stalin, to our comrades struck down by suppression in the British and French colonies, to the heroic German internationalists hounded by the Gestapo. Whatever time is still left here must be utilized to the utmost.

That means, above all, to appeal directly to you, the workers of America, to steel and harden yourselves for the struggles that lie ahead. We know that if you remain true to your own class interests, if you defend the rights of the working class and fight for its needs, you will conclude by joining with us and our comrades throughout the world—to put an end to this world of war and hunger and insecurity and build a new world of peace, security and freedom—the new world of Socialism!