

See Your Friends for the
Twice-a-Week Appeal

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FIVE (5) CENTS

ROOSEVELT IS STRAINING EVERY EFFORT TO STAMPEDE AMERICA INTO THE WAR

FDR's War Drive Makes Twice-Weekly Even More Urgent!

by ALBERT GOLDMAN
(Assistant National Secretary)

When one contemplates the tremendous tasks facing our party at the present moment, not even the publication of the Appeal twice a week is sufficient.

When Hitler decided to invade Holland and Belgium, and thus furnished the American ruling class with a better pretext for entering the conflict, he also made the twice a week Appeal an imperative necessity.

The masses from now on will be under tremendous pressure exerted by the rulers of this country in order to make them change their attitude to the war.

They are now against participation in the imperialist conflict. But their hatred and fear of fascism is great indeed and understandable. The task of Roosevelt and of all varieties of liberals and social-democrats is made a thousand times easier because they can play upon this fear of the masses of Hitler and everything that he represents.

Who will explain to the masses the only correct method of fighting fascism? The duty devolves on us.

And to do that we must strengthen our forces. To do that we must surely increase the power of our press.

The first step is to double the propaganda power of our main propaganda instrument, the Socialist Appeal.

Our members and our sympathizers have this primary task—to assure the publication of the Appeal twice a week by their financial support.

SCOREBOARD

Minneapolis, with a payment of \$200.00 on its pledge, showed the percentage of fulfillment of the whole drive up to 24%, a gain of 8% since last week. Minneapolis also, thereby moved up into second place, having paid 67% of its pledge.

New Haven sent in \$5.00 on its pledge. So did the maritime workers. Flint also sent in another \$5.00.

All in all, it was a good week only by virtue of the fact that Minneapolis came across. It is imperative that the other branches summon all their energies to begin making real payments. The time for the twice-a-week Appeal is not far off—July 1. We must get the money!

Branch	Pledged	Paid	%
Upstate New York	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	100
Minneapolis	300.00	200.00	67
Lynn	50.00	29.00	58
Chicago	100.00	50.00	50
Flint	105.00	55.00	50
Boston	170.00	70.00	41
St. Paul	200.00	83.00	41
East Chicago	25.00	10.00	40
New York City	950.00	327.00	34
Detroit	75.00	11.35	15
New Haven	55.00	5.00	9
National Office	550.00	41.00	7
Maritime Workers	780.00	5.00	6
San Francisco	100.00	0.00	0
Newark	100.00	0.00	0
Los Angeles	100.00	0.00	0
Toledo	40.00	0.00	0
Philadelphia	25.00	0.00	0
Omaha	25.00	0.00	0
Indianapolis	10.00	0.00	0
Seattle	15.00	0.00	0
Portland	10.00	0.00	0
Oakland	10.00	0.00	0
Akron	10.00	0.00	0
Buffalo	5.00	0.00	0
Total	\$3860.00	946.35	24.0

Behind the Lines

The Slave-Masters Scramble for Control of Dutch East Indies

by GEORGE STERN

Nothing is more ominous than the round-robin of "assurances" exchanged among and between the U.S., Japan, France, and Britain about maintaining the status quo of the Netherlands East Indies, richest prize of the southern Pacific.

In terms of modern imperialist politics, this means that each of those nations has served notice that it intends to sit in on the feast. Cordell Hull's latest warning to the Japanese was virtually an open threat of war.

The Japanese have professed "satisfaction" with the Dutch government's pledge that it would not seek or accept foreign "protection" for the Indies, but

the act of French and British troops in landing at Curacao and Aruba in the Dutch West Indies has brought the Japanese to the alert. And what's more, the Dutch government has already fled to London and is likely to be an addition shortly to the list of governments without countries. This will leave the issue of the Indies wide open.

The Japanese have already begun the process of inching toward action to secure possession. They have demanded not only the maintenance of the political status quo, but also of the economic. I.e., if Holland should divert to itself or to the Allies any of the rubber and (Continued on Page 2)

Dragging In Whole Hemisphere; Orders Fleet Kept Off Hawaii To Openly Threaten Japan

The first week of the war in the Low Countries has also been a week of *Blitzkrieg* in the United States. Roosevelt has thrust all caution aside in a series of lightning moves to mobilize the forces for war. It took him only five days to line up the governments of the Western Hemisphere for an official protest against Germany—a crucial step in making the record for committing the two continents to war. Even before the Germans had marched Roosevelt had ordered the navy not to return to its California bases but to stand by off Hawaii—a decision universally interpreted as preparation for a dash into the western Pacific against Japan. The U. S. Navy already functions, as Hugh Johnson bluntly put it, as if it were an integral unit directed by the Allied Supreme War Council. The airplane factories are working on 24-hour shifts for the Anglo-French bloc, the munitions plants are beginning to follow suit. And day after day, in speech after speech, one move after another, Roosevelt leads the war-mongers toward their goal.

Spring dried the mud of Flanders and cleared the skies—and the roads filled with motorized armies and the air with bombers. The art of warfare dictated the season for the campaign—six months of good weather ahead assured. On the one hand the Westwall and Maginot lines, on the other Europe's geography, dictated the place—the scene of Napoleon's defeat at Waterloo in 1818, the corridor of the Prussian advance on Paris in 1870 and 1914—the "classic battleground of Europe," it is called in military manuals. The simultaneous extension of the battleground to adjoining Holland was made possible, among other things, by the gigantic intensification of military power since 1918—motorization, mechanization, air force.

It is an incidental detail that the ruling class of Holland and Belgium have declared for the Anglo-French. The only choice that these lesser imperialist powers had was between the contending great powers—the third possibility, neutrality, was denied them by both. The Dutch and Belgian rulers chose the Allies, not at all because Germany had initiated the transformation of their countries into the battleground or because of the affinity of these rulers for "democracy." The possibility of Holland and Belgium choosing to align themselves with Germany was precluded by very material considerations—

namely that the primary sources of the wealth of the Dutch and Belgian bourgeoisie was not in Belgium or Holland but in the Congo and the West and East Indies, out of reach of Germany but quite easily in the grasp of the Anglo-French bloc with the aid of American imperialism.

They Join the "Democracies" To Keep Their Colonial Slaves

The Belgian Congo, the world's largest producer of radium, cobalt and industrial diamonds and one of the principal sources of copper and tin; the Dutch East Indies, the world's second largest producer of rubber and tin—these substantial considerations—which they got hold of by methods no less brutal than Hitler's and whose population, more numerous than the "mother" countries, are ruled with no less brutality than Hitler employs—dictated the participation of the rulers of the Low Countries on the side of the "democracies."

Similar substantial considerations in the last war dictated the Greek bourgeoisie alignment with France and England, although they had violated Greek neutrality; nor did that violation cause Belgium then to change sides! Who "began," who "first" "violated"—all this plays no part in imperialist war—except as poisonous propaganda to mislead the masses.

After seven months of feeling each other out, then, the great powers have come to grips. The long and pitiless war now really begins to unfold. Less than twenty-two years after they "settled" the first world war, the world's rulers perpetrate the second and even greater holocaust. The eight and a half million men killed in action and the 21 million wounded in the last war, the infinite desolation wrought among the peoples and the infinite riches expended in destruction—all that is to be repeated, but on a still more grandiose scale.

To the great masses who for seven months escaped the direct impact of the war, the first week of the latest stage has brought an inkling of what is now to come. And on both sides. Mothers and children have died from airplane bombs in France—and in Germany. Let us dismiss with the contempt it deserves the spurious indignation of the spokesmen of both sides about "wanton bombing of open towns." They are both guilty. The "democracies" no less than the fascists, as Chatfield

Taylor, chief European delegate of the American Red Cross, is constrained to report from Berlin, Sunday, after viewing the bombed open town of Freiburg. Stopping at nothing to wring riches out of the masses in peace-time, they stop at nothing in war-time. In the midst of all the pious hog-wash of the bourgeois press the retired chief of staff of the U.S. Navy, Rear Admiral Yates Stirling, introduces a refreshingly frank note: "The Allies must be utterly ruthless. . . . Mass air attacks upon Germany proper must be made if Herr Hitler is to be defeated." What he urges, the Anglo-French are attempting.

Perhaps even more heartrending than a picture of mute victims is one of tomorrow's victims frantically and vainly seeking to protect themselves. Mothers in London and Berlin are taking out of the cupboards the almost-forgotten gas masks they got last September and are surrendering their children again to be sent away from the cities. Wherever the armies motor in, on the other side of the road trudge in the opposite direction millions of men, women and children going—where? To safety? Where can that be, in this time of all-enveloping war? Neither in the battlefield or behind the lines. For the war is at everybody's doorstep.

The war is almost at our doorstep, too, and for the same reasons that brought the war to Europe. Not because the United States is menaced by Hitler, or because "our" feelings are outraged by Nazi terrorism or because "civilization" is endangered.

It is true that the American people are anti-fascist to the core, that they feel mortal enmity to Hitler and all he stands for, and that is to the credit of the people. Left to themselves, the great masses of America would find ways and means of combatting fascism here and abroad, of aiding the German workers to free themselves from the yoke of Hitler—ways and means very different from the present ones proposed of backing the French and English empires. Instead, however, the genuinely anti-fascist sentiments of the people are being systematically

manipulated to get them to support a war of the United States whose real purpose has nothing whatsoever to do with freeing the peoples of Europe from fascism.

The forces which are driving this country to war are not the ideals of democracy at all. The driving forces are the vast billions of capital which can find no place for profitable investment within the confines of the United States, the balance sheets of finance and trustified industry which dictate, if capitalism is to survive here, that new fields of expansion, new spheres of influence for investment, new markets, new sources of cheap raw materials, be made available for the insatiable jaws of America's Sixty Families. Look at the tottering business index, if you want to understand Roosevelt's speeches.

"Expand or Die" Is The Law of All Capitalist States!

"Expand or die," Hitler has said. It applies with especial sharpness to Germany which, unified only in 1870, came to the world arena after the richest booty had already been divided, and when it sought in 1914 to force a re-division was defeated and driven back into still narrower confines. But Hitler is merely expressing what is true of all capitalist states: expand or die. Even the richest and most powerful of the capitalist powers must now expand or die—within its present confines the capitalist class of the United States cannot keep its slaves employed or feed them, as twelve million unemployed—at least a fifth of the families of America—attest. That law of capitalism, suitably disguised for the gullible, is what is expressed by the actions of official Washington during the last week.

America's rulers seek to expand primarily in the Far East and in South America. That means collision with all the other imperialist powers, both "friend" and foe. While allied to Britain during the last war, American imperialism dealt blows to British interests both in China and South America which the Bri-

(Continued on Page 4, editorial columns)

CIO LAUNCHES 'RED' PURGE IN TOLEDO COUNCIL

Osthimer, Stalinist, Is Expelled After Bitter Fight

by DOYLE CLARK

TOLEDO, Ohio, May 10—Kenneth Osthimer was expelled last night from the Toledo CIO council. The motion to expel Osthimer, which also included "all other delegates who say they are Communists," was made at the last meeting of the council, April 25. Last night, after a bitter and futile opposition, the motion passed. This is launched the official red purge which has been brewing for many months and which only needed the pressure of wartime "patriotism" to touch it off.

A fevered wrangle lasted until midnight. Opponents of the motion denounced the action as "red-baiting" and an attack on fundamental union democracy. Militants and progressives of all shades pointed out how time and again similar campaigns and (Continued on Page 3)

Flint Auto Unions Back 30-Hour Drive

FLINT, Mich., May 12—Local unions of the UAW-CIO representing approximately 30,000 Flint auto workers have rallied behind the militant campaign, inaugurated by Fisher Body Local 581, demanding that the negotiating committee meeting with GM fight for the 30-hour week at 40-hours pay as an immediate demand.

Fisher Body Local 581 on May 4 passed a fighting resolution calling upon officers of the UAW-CIO to take up in earnest the 30-hour week, 40-hour pay demand as the most serious and pressing necessity of the auto workers. The resolution points out that the greatest problem of the industry is unemployment and insecurity and that this problem must be answered with a fight for a shorter work week with no reduction in pay.

Losing no time in joining ranks with the militant Fisher Body Local, the Buick Local 599 Executive Board at a meeting Saturday, May 11, passed the resolution sent to all locals by Local 581. On the same day a general membership meeting of Chevrolet Local 659, after a discussion which proved that the 30-hour week with 40-hours pay was a foremost demand of the rank and file, passed the resolution by unanimous vote. No reports as to the reception given the Fisher Body resolution in other locals than those reported above are as yet available. But with the solid strength of the Flint auto workers already behind the 30-hour week, 40-hour pay demand, it is expected that in all areas UAW locals will give their support to the fight for this basic demand.

GM Negotiations Stalled While the traditionally militant workers of Flint were once more boldly taking the lead in the auto workers long battle against the auto barons, reports from the GM (Continued on Page 3)

Amalgamated Clothing Workers Union Opens 13th Biennial Convention

The Silver Jubilee convention of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America opened its sessions in New York, Monday, May 13, scheduled to last until May 25.

The convention opened under the shadow of Roosevelt's war drive and the accompanying drive against the unions. A sister union in the needle trades and the CIO—the Fur Workers International—had just had its leadership convicted under the "anti-trust" formula of Thurman Arnold. Suffering the ills of unemployment more deeply than most trades—the industry is sick unto death—the clothing workers have been particularly hard-hit by the government's slashing of WPA.

None of these grim facts, however, broke through the complacent speeches of President Sidney Hillman and the other leaders of the union. Hillman made the opening session of the convention at Madison Square Garden the occasion for calling for a third term for Roosevelt. Roosevelt reciprocated with a telegram to Hillman: "With you I take pride in the constructive achievements of the Amalgamated . . . in contributing

the progressive forces of the nation to bring them about."

But what has happened to WPA, the wiping out of PWA, the virtual extinction of the housing program, the failure to enforce the Wages and Hours law, etc.—all this Hillman said nothing about.

Hillman and others reminisced a great deal about the 25 years of the Amalgamated. But the real tradition of the Amalgamated they perverted and distorted. Hillman, for example, said: "It has been seven years since labor awoke to the realization that it must participate actively in the political affairs of the nation. Again, oldtimers, this was something that we knew twenty-five years ago when we met in Webster Hall." Hillman omits one little thing (Continued on Page 4)