CORNER ≡

SOCIALIST APPEAL

May 30, 1939

Vol. III, No. 37

Published twice a week by the SOCIALIST APPEAL PUBLISHING ASS'N. at 116 University Place, New York, N. Y. Telephone: ALgonquin 4-8547

Subscriptions: \$2.00 per year; \$1.00 for six months. For-eign: \$2.00 per year, \$1.50 for six months. Bundle orders. 2 cents per copy in the United States; 3 cents per copy in all foreign countries. Single copies; 3 cents. Bronx and Manhattan subscriptions are: \$1.50 for six

"Reentered as second class matter February 16, 1939, at the post office at New York, N.Y., under the Act of March 3, 1879."

MAX SHACHTMAN HAROLD ROBERTS Staff Members: JOSEPH HANSEN EMANUEL GARRETT

Business Manager:
S, STANLEY

FIGHT WITH THE SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY FOR:

- 1. A job and a decent living for every worker. 2. Open the idle factories-operate them under workers' control.
- 3. A Twenty-Billion dollar Federal public works and housing program.
- 4. Thirty-thirty! \$30-weekly minimum wage-30-hour weekly maximum for all workers on
- 5. Thirty dollar weekly old-age and disability pension.
- 6. Expropriate the Sixty Familles.
- 7. All war funds to the unemployed.
- 8. A people's referendum on any and all wars.
- 9. No secret diplomacy.
- 10. An independent Labor Party.
- 11. Workers' Defense Guards against vigilante and Fascist attacks.

Submarine Disaster

More than the explosion of a Navy Zeppelin or the crash of a pursuit plane, the sinking of a submarine catches the imagination of the people. They try to place themselves in the position of the men far below the surface, waiting inside a thin steel hull helpless at the ocean's bottom, waiting for the terrific pressure, the eternal silence and blackness and icy chill to close upon them.

The Squalus submarine disaster which has horrified the nation underlines once again the meaning of Roosevelt's war preparations.

The submarine is an instrument of war, designed for war, useful for nothing else but war -a death trap that belongs in the museum beside the dinosaur.

suffocate, strangle, or drown within its hull can be considered advance casualties of the coming

But a most curious fact is evident on studying the list of the men who were trapped undersea in the Squalus.

Not one was a Banker whose holdings the

Squalus was designed to protect. Not one was an Industrialist whose profits the Squalus was scheduled to defend with its tor-

Not one was a Stockholder whose ownership of the nation's industry the Squalus was intended to perpetuate.

Not one was a Congressman who voted for Fascist Italy. the appropriations that built the Squalus.

Not one was a Washington Statesman who agreed to the secret commitments that decided whom the Squalus would fight and where.

The men who were trapped at the bottom of the ocean were not members of that small handfull of imperialist families who have decided that the American people shall go to war and who ordered relief funds be seized to build the Squalus and all the death traps like it.

The Congressmen, the Bankers, the Industrialists, the Statesmen, the Stockholders were all safe on shore. It is not their duty to do the fighting, the dying in the coming war! That is up to the patriotic workers and farmers!

The Upper Class must preserve its hide for a sterner task, the most patriotic task of allraking in the profits when they start sinking all the sister ships of the Squalus with torpedoes, bombs, and high-explosive rifle shells.

Republic's Memorial

Only the Republic Steel Corporation could have thought up a memorial as fitting for its massacre of two years ago as the one which has been filling headlines in the newspapers.

Two years ago on Memorial Day it will be recalled, the Republic Steel Corporation in conjunction with the Chicago police shot down ten of its employes, placing the bullets-brave men that they are-in the backs of their unarmed

victims. This act of brutal violence culminated a long reign of terror and bloodshed conducted by the Republic Steel Corporation in which every vicious and illegal practise against labor conceivable to the minds of the stockholders and suckers while the smart boys who get their the thugs, detectives, and spies they hired was

perpetrated with complete ruthlessness. Now the company is filing a damage suit in

Steel strike committed "unlawful acts of force, intimidation, threats, violence, destruction of property, injury to persons and obstruction of commerce to and from the plants" - that is, every crime of which the corporation was actually proved ten times guilty!

Irony is speechless before hypocrisy as coldblooded, monstrous, and sordid as this.

It is high time that the leeches who bleed this section of the steel industry were pulled off the throats of the workers and allowed to digest their blood removed from the sight of decency.

The workers who have been so basely slandered, terrorized, and violently attacked by the stockholders of this corporation are more than capable of running all the mills under their own control and management in such a manner that Republic Steel and its similars will no longer constitute a perpetual menace to the masses.

Behind the Scenes

A faint allusion to the extensiveness of the international network of spies organized by the Roosevelt government was given by Secretary Hull in an electrically transcribed radio talk in the "Cabinet Series" of the National Emergency Council.

In an attempt to defend the secrecy of the Roosevelt government over its war alliances and its exact knowledge concerning the behind-thestage agreements to carve up the world among the various capitalist nations in advance of the war, Hull stated:

"If we were to make public everything that is reported to us we would . . . have half the nations of the world not speaking to us within thirty days."

The governments of the capitalists organize intricate international networks of spies to penetrate the secrets of their allies and opponents in order to "maintain peace," as Hull puts it, "and other legitimate objectives of foreign policy." The capitalists of the United States are

Only by putting a government of the workers and farmers in power in Washington can the people hope to rip away forever the dark cloak of secrecy which masks Roosevelt's foreign com-

An end to spies, to secret treaties, and secret diplomacy! The people have a right to know what goes on behind the scenes!

Whenever a submarine sinks, the men who Bayonets and Votes

By a vote of 241 to 140 on May 16 the House of Commons in Great Britain turned down a proposal that 20-year-old youths called up for compulsory military service should receive the right to vote in parliamentary elections.

On the same day, these well-fed gentlemen turned down two more proposals-one to guarantee that militiamen will have the right to continue their membership in trade unions.

Another milestone is thus passed in Great Britain's headlong plunge toward a dictatorship not one whit different in murderous barbarism from that now existing in Nazi Germany or

The capitalist agents who sit in the House of Commons are as shrewd in their maneuvers to obtain maximum benefit for their class out of the coming war as a pack of timber wolves cutting into a flock of sheep.

The SUCKER game they are working is

(1) The capitalists sit at home, run the voting machines through the control exercised by their government, and rake in the profits.

(2) The working class and farmer youths go ahead at the command of the capitalists and thrust their bayonets into the stomachs of youths like themselves and are bayoneted in the stomach in turn. (The stomach has no bones in which the bayonet might stick, making it difficult to wrench free.)

(3) If sentiment at home becomes too outraged at the capitalists and their profiteering. the militiamen stamp out this sentiment by bayoneting their rebellious fathers and brothers. And no trade union membership must hinder this laudable end!

This merry process of getting the workers and farmers to bayonet their fellow men is called by the capitalists "defending democracy."

Not a single capitalist believes that the boys who are drafted are intelligent enough to VOTE on the question of their bayoneting each other. No, not even President Roosevelt, self-professed guardian of democracy, thinks that anyone outside the Wall Street wolves is intelligent enough

to vote on this question. They might vote against it!

But without a single exception all the capitalists are UNANIMOUS in believing that no one can bayonet, bleed, and die more intelligently in "defense of democracy" than these same spending money by clipping coupons sit comfortably at home raking in the profits of the slaughter.

court against its victims for \$7,500,000. It claims that the workers who joined the Little Y.P.S.L. Fights Education Budget Cuts in Jobs-for-Youth Campaign

While the New Dealers Suggest Additional Schooling as Their Solution for America's "Locked-Out Generation" They Continue to Restrict Educational Opportunities

By MARTIN EDEN

slash instituted by the La pletely discontinued. Guardia New York City administration. The League recognizes that the fight for the right to an education is part of its national Jobs-for-Youth campaign.

The Roosevelt administration cannot and will not provide jobs for the nation's total of seven million unemployed youth. The sole solution it proposes is that the period of education be extended so that the schools will not pour youth so rapidly onto glutted labor markets.

This is intended to place Roosevelt in the favorable youth's problems and of exwrought speeches, however, are the legislative steps which

War Deal Slashes

In New York, the city and state budgets call for various slashes in educational appropriations. The city appropriation for 1939 contains a cut of \$3,600,000 from last year's figure. The state budget cuts \$9,710,000 from last year's allotment-\$5,000,000 of it from New York City's share. Effect on Teachers

The budget slash means the immediate elimination of 6,819 teaching positions in the city. One thousand of those to be dropped have been teaching for five years. Any illusion about the security of the profession tion centers are to be aban- a chance to live.

is thus dispelled. The institu- doned completely. Meager as The Young People's Socialist tion of "teachers-in-training"- they have been, they afforded beague is organizing a strug-essential to youth seeking to youth some social and recreagle against the educational become teachers—is to be com-tional life. Gyms, pools, social

Impossible to Learn

Extend the period of education, says Roosevelt in his speeches. But the War Deal slashes make a farce out of education. The proposed allotment means that New York to a staggering total of youth City will have a minimum of who will be denied basic edu-56 students in each class-over- cational facilities. The thousized classes in rooms made sands of youth who are affectfire-hazards by stuffing the ed by the cuts must be mobiland learn something in such which have engineered the classes!

Trade Schools Hamstrung The vocational schools - a

light of seriously considering ployed youth, and youth in Republican, liberal and Tory tending educational facilities learn a trade-bear their share through the Republican-confor youth. Belying his finely of the slash. The fact that the trolled state legislature, Demohis supporters take against the pacity, that they need addi- city, the Fusion-War Deal forcvery solution he ostensibly pro- tional funds to continue func- es were as vigorous as Tamtirely eliminated.

> curtailed. College is to become as anyone.' a vast lecture hall where no teacher-student relationship is every school, the Y.P.S.L. calls at all possible. Evening ses- for the formation of protest sions are cut down severely.

these funds will be exhausted, demonstration. there will be no classes.

No Recreation Centers

halls, already built, are to reto stay on the corners, the pool rooms, and in the alley of their slum tenements.

The institutions curtailed by the budget-slashing mount up aisles with extra seats. Try ized to fight against the forces

The budget was slashed, city fundamental need for unem- and state, by Democrat and "dead-end" jobs who want to alike. When the cut went existing trade schools are al- cratic Governor Lehman said ready taxed beyond their ca- not one word in protest. In the tioning at all, is disregarded many in planning the cut. R. K. by the budget makers. Eve- Straus, Fusion member of the ning trade schools are to be en- City Council and La Guardia's friend, said, "The Mayor is as The colleges are similarly interested in cutting the budget

In every neighborhood, in committees, the issuance of Summer schools are not even youth petitions to swamp the mentioned in the budget. This City Council. The Young Peosummer they are to be run ple's Socialist League proposes with reserve finances of the to rally the neighborhood schools. Next summer, when forces in a sweeping city-wide

The fight is a vital link in the struggle for jobs-the fight of The community and recrea- the "locked-out generation" for

main idle. Youth will be forced

Who Did It

Moscow frame-ups.

Britain Offers the Jews a Haven Unfit for Agriculture or Industry

By DOROTHY WILLIAMS

When Chamberlain so kindly offered the interior of British Guiana for resettlement by Jewish refugees, he could not have been unaware of the fact that he was offering them a gold-brick. The whole of the ans know little about it." (The diate possibilities of settlement interior of British Guiana sounded like something solid at last. A haven for Jewish refugees, however limited, was in sight. The well-known humanitarianism of the British Gov-

ernment had been vindicated. But what is the character of this huge territory which the British Government has kindly put at the disposal of poor in quality and a very heavy would . . . afford only a parthe Jews? Examining the documents of the League of Nations, we find that the British Government, once before, tried prices at present obtainable on by Dr. Giglioli from the point to give it away for the resettlement of another people, the Assyrians of Iraq. But no Assyrians ever settled in British attempt to establish the Assy-Guiana. Why?

At its meeting on September 26, 1934, the Council of the League of Nations listened to British note declared that was extensive, its possibilities "while the area appears to area, its agricultural potentialtested and much further exin the rainy season.")

CATTLE RAISING

WITHOUT CATTLE to appoint a commission to explore the area and make a survey, and appointed Brig. General J. Gilbert Browne, an Eng- FOUND UNCERTAIN lishman, and Dr. Guido Renzo Giglioli, member of the Royal Colonial Institute of Agriculture in Florence, Italy, to pro-League of Nations C-211.M.110 1935. VII).

be desired, it would appear. but the commission decided it would be impractical for the Assyrians to undertake it for two reasons: 1) "The Assyri-Assyrians are a pastoral people and have been raising sheep little about raising cattle, how much less must the Jews know therefore concluded that any rians as cattle ranchers in the Rupununi under existing condi-

What of the agricultural posthe offer of British Guiana sibilities of the district? "The made by the British Govern- prospects of agricultural close ment on behalf of the Assy- settlement were difficult to esrians. In making the offer, the timate. Though the territory

were found to be seriously have possibilities of further de- restricted, partly by wide velopment as a stock-raising flooding in the wet season and partly by the fact that the soil ities have not yet been properly possesses a limited fertility which would involve a frequent amination will be necessary change of patches of cultivawith particular regard to con- tion in forest areas (read junsiderations of health and cli. gles) and in the savannahs and mate and to pastoral and agri- the adoption by the Assyrians cultural conditions before the of the local system of rotation district can definitely be pro- of crops in cattle corrals. (How nounced as suitable for Assy can the settlers have cattle rian settlement." (Note-in the corrals if they cannot raise catsame report they admitted that | tle?) . . . It was clear at all the lower areas flood to a events that an individual famdepth of from one to four feet | ily would require far more land than had been anticipated and that this factor would greatly complicate the ques-The League Council decided tion of village settlement, besides affecting that of the total

HEALTH CONDITIONS

In regard to conditions of health in the district the commission had the following to say: "The mission considered sary to make this recommendation when offering the area

The principal occupation of ties of settlement of the inthe district is cattle-raising, terior of British Guiana are more graphic however, in their hints as to real conditions. "Generally speaking, the mission concluded that the immewere very limited and that the eventual prospects depended for generations. If they know upon the improvement of agricultural conditions, of marketing conditions and above all of when for centuries they have the cattle situation. For these known nothing but city life?); reasons colonization could take and 2) "The present cattle six- place only gradually, but even uation is not satisfactory, be- under the most favorable concause the breeds are mixed, ditions the territory available death roll for reasons not es- tial solution . . . its ultimate tablished was reported particu- capacity after successful prelarly in 1933-34. Moreover the liminary trials being estimated the coast are scarcely remu- of view of agricultural econom-The mission ics at not more than 1,000 families (5,000 persons)." Assyrian resettlement plans were made on a basis of 10,000 persons to be resettled. In its proposal to hand over the area to the Jews. the British Government declared that 10,000 would be resettled within a year.

ADMIT SETTLEMENT

IS POSSIBLE

To continue with the com mission's conclusions: "For period of years at least it was impossible to expect the settlement of more than a few hundred Assyrians in British Guiana and it was equally evident that the territory suggested was even then unlikely to be capable of maintaining in prosperity more than a fraction of those for whom it is the Committee's wish to find a home.

As a result of this survey made by Brig. General Browne and Dr. Giglioli, the League Committee for the Resettlement of the Assyrians of Iraq "came to the reluctant conclusion that it was impossible for it to accept the responsibility for embarking upon a scheme of settlement, which was clearly of so speculative a nature in itself and which even under the best conditions could not be regarded as offering a solution of the large and urgent problem (the resettlement of 10,000 Assyrians) which the League has been asked to assist in solving."

berlain and the British Government feel no such responsibility in embarking on a plan

By Max Shachtman What was first considered a funny story circulated by a town wit has finally been confirmed in proad daylight as the sobering truth: Heywood Broun has joined the Catholic Church. To the reader who may think that this is a dull joke and retort, "Hasn't he been a Stalinist all along?" we reply, it isn't a joke at all. Heywood Broun renounced the devil and all his works and all his pomps, and after an appropriate preliminary period during which he was indoctrinated by Monsignor Sheen, he has finally been accepted into the arms of the Church of Rome.

At first blush, the latest conversion of Heywood Broun may appear to be just a bit unexpected. A little reflection will reveal, however, that the sudden jump from dilletante radicalism to Roman Catholicism is not entirely in conflict with the natural order of things.

Parotted Stalinist Line

For the last few years, Broun has consistently parotted every slogan, idea and war-cry of the Stalinists. Nothing was too outrageous, nothing too fantastic in the activities of the Communist Party, either here or in the Soviet Union, for Broun to swallow. His weekly column in the New Republic became a veritable repository of Stalinist agitation on any and all subjects. The Stalinists in the trade unions were a boon to labor. The Stalinists in the Soviet Union were as innocent and benevolent as one of Broun's present saints. It goes without saying that the "Trotskyists" were like mud under his feet. They weren't radical enough for him; or else they were too damned radical; or else they were simply agents of Hitler and Franco.

The man who made such a stirring defense of Sacco and Vanzetti, who denounced the frame-up in Massachusetts in such bitter terms twelve years ago, sank, under the pressure of his Stalinist friends, to revolting depths in his at once frivolous and vicious attacks upon the victims of Stalin's

Now he is himself the unwitting victim of the Stalinists. At least, that hypothesis about his apparently sudden conversion is as sound as any we have heard.

Something He Ate No Doubt We do not know how religiously Broun now reads Scriptures, but it is generally known that he read the Daily Worker and other Stalinist literature with an appetite that baffled dieticians.

One of the ideas that he must have absorbed from this literature, especially in recent times. was that of the "outstretched hand to the Catholics." By this the Stalinists did not mean the hand of comradeship and common struggle to the Catholic proletariat and peasantry throughout the world-a common struggle also against the reactionary Catholic hierarchy which collaborates so amicably, and as in the case of Spain, so aggressively, with fascist barbarism. No, the Stalinists offered, as they continue to do, an "outstretched

hand" primarily to the Catholic hierarchy itself. There was the famous, history-making open letter of I. Amter to the late Pope Pius XI, pointing out all the advantages the Vatican would obtain from an alliance with the Kremlin in Moscow and Browder in the United States. Unfortunately, no answer was ever received by Amter from Pius XI, and as for his successor, he apparently never got around to it because of his activities in helping

Franco win the civil war against the infidel Reds. Then there was the famous Message to Garcia of Twentieth Century Americanism-brought to the United States by Robert Minor. It was the answer of the Pope to the propaganda of the "outstretched hand" given through Cardinal Verdier of France. In effect, it merely said that if any of the erring souls in the Stalinist movement are ready to give up their pagan ways and seek the consolation of the Church, the Vatican is not averse to smoothing the road for the converted sinners. This rather stereotyped formula was hailed by Minor and other high-priests of the Stalinist church with such frenzied enthusiasm, that it could not but have made a profound impression

on the highly impressionable Mr. Broun. Again, the Daily Worker would print such suggestive items as the information that such renowned pillars of the Communist party as Max Bedacht was an altar boy in his youth-a fact, if it is one, which Bedacht must have tried to keep quiet for years and which was joyously rediscov-

ered by the Stalinists a short time ago. Stretched a Little Too Far

Now Broun must already have assimilated what he considered the outstanding contribution of communist tactics-boring from within. All he did was to combine this tactic with the propaganda of the "outstretched hand." Or else, being a man who rarely does things by halves, he must have stretched his hand out so far that he lost his equilibrium and landed right into the arms of the Church.

We are not sure that he will have more success in winning the College of Cardinals, to saying nothing of His Holiness Himself, to the Popular Front, by working from within, than Browder and Co. have had by groveling from without, Privately we are inclined to be skeptical about the prospect.

But then, we are not convinced that Broun will make too many efforts in that direction. He is a man who goes the whole hog, and never stops at his first drink, so to speak. His motley political record shows it. A Stalinist, he tried to outdo his associates. A Catholic, he will probably soon be more Papist than the Pope. The Daily Worker which used to reprint his picture and his wise sayings with clock-work regularity, may soon be pleading with him to stop his violent denunciations of Marxist infidels and join it in a common Holy War for Democracy. A man like Broun, or any other Stalinist, is, after all, capable of the most amazing transformations.

Stephen Chadwick, national commander of the American Legion, said that the Ludlow amendment providing for a national referendum before war could be declared, would destroy national unity in emergencies. Such unity is essential in preserving the nation through a crisis, he said Whose crisis? we ask.

To prove that western students are superior "gulpers" to eastern and mid-western scholars, navigate owing to rapids and pearance of malaria in the gesture of humanitarianism, Hubert Fraker, University of Oklahoma journal ism student, made his own news by tearing up ? football and swallowing it. Some college students can swallow anything-and do.

capacity of the region.

ceed to British Guiana and it essential that a medical cenmake the necessary survey, tre should be established in the The result of their survey was area before the arrival of the communicated to the League Assyrians. (The British Gov-Council on May 18, 1935 (see ernment thought it unneces-"The mission travelled 2,000 for Jewish settlement.) It rec- of "so speculative a nature" in miles, of which 1,000 were ac- ommended also a prior enquiry resettling the Jews in British complished in the saddle or on into reports which had reached Guiana. After all, what are foot. Of the remainder some it of respiratory diseases the lives of a few thousand were covered in small among the Indians and into refugees against the fact of boats, on rivers difficult to the comparatively recent ap- having made so grandiose a

fallen trees." The excellence country and its rapid spread." particularly when British presof transportation facilities in. The general conclusions of tige has fallen on such evil British Guiana leaves little to Brig. General Browne and days!