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**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 all jobs.
5. Thirty dollar weekly old-age and disability pension.
6. Expropriate the Sixty Families.
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 vigilantes and Fascist attacks.

**The Negro Question**

The Second Convention of the S.W.P. reached a high point on Monday afternoon when the Negro Question was discussed. During the years of its existence the Party has signally failed to address itself seriously to the Negro question and Negro work. With the turn of the Party towards mass work, the Negro question assumed full and urgent significance in the future development of the Party. An internal bulletin was issued containing material for discussion, resolutions were prepared, and so determined was the membership that the Negro question should be part of the deliberations of this Convention, that where doubt arose on Monday morning as to whether the Convention schedule would be completed in time, it was unanimously decided to place the Negro question on the agenda for Monday afternoon.

Discrimination against Negroes in the present stage of American society is basically economic. Some million and a half white families hold positions from which Negroes are excluded, superficially on account of their color. The only possible solution of their difficulties is a revolution in American society even more complete than that which took place in 1861—the socialist revolution.

A plan of work was outlined which would enable the Party to participate in the daily struggles of the Negroes. The Party was warned that it was necessary to take into consideration the historic suspicions of the whites prevalent among Negroes, and intensified by the treacherous role played by the C. P. during the last three years, when in its drive for support of American "democracy" it has been forced to adopt the discriminating attitude against Negroes characteristic of American capitalism.

The discussion showed great interest in the question of self-determination for Negroes. It was generally agreed that though the Party stood for the right of self-determination it would not itself raise the slogan, as this was essentially a matter for the masses of Negroes themselves to decide. The proposals for practical work were enthusiastically accepted. Comrades gave their experiences which showed that merely by the preparation and discussion preceding the Convention the Party has already attracted a number of Negroes.

There is no doubt that the session marked a most important stage, not only in the Convention but in the history of the Party. The whole temper and tenor of the discussion showed that in the field of Negro work, the Party recognizes its responsibilities to the American workers and farmers, and the great possibilities opened for the Party's future development.

**Loyal Subjects**

Having demonstrated in the past that it cannot fight for the real needs of the unemployed and W.P.A. workers, the Stalinist Workers Alliance has now called upon its countrywide locals to pledge allegiance to the constitution of the United States and to defend it against all enemies, foreign or domestic, so help them God.

Sent out as a communication from its Washington office to every local in the country, the W.A.A. letter reads, "As part of their effort to slander the Workers Alliance, the House Committee (Woodrum Committee) made much of two provisions which were included in the new relief bill. One would exclude from the benefits of the program any person who believes in or

belongs to an organization that advocates the overthrow of the government by force and violence. The other requires administrative employees (W.P.A. workers—ed.) to take an oath of allegiance to the United States Constitution."

Up in the air at this implied slander against the Workers Alliance, which Mr. Woodrum is foolish enough to think would undermine the United States Constitution, Dave Lasser and his crew make haste to state, "We know of no member of our organization and certainly no officer who believes in or advocates that our government shall be overthrown. We feel sure," continues Lasser, "that the members and officers of our organization are, if anything, more loyal, more patriotic and devoted Americans than many of the reactionary Congressmen who owe allegiance only to the economic royalists."

Gunning for Goliath's scalp, David crawls nearer to the point, stating, "The oath of allegiance does not apply to the majority of the members of the Workers Alliance, since few if any of our members are administrative employees. Nevertheless," squeals Dave, "we want to now take this opportunity to make our position perfectly clear. For this reason we are calling upon all officers and members of the Workers Alliance to voluntarily take that oath of allegiance."

Whereupon, with his hat held close to his heart and his fingers crossed in a smart salute, Lasser asks his membership to repeat after him, "I . . . . (your name, please) do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign or domestic; that I will bear true and faithful allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; so help me God."

Nor is this all. The dishonorable gentleman from New York, Mr. Dave Lasser, writes further, "We propose that all locals call special membership meetings on or about July 4, at which time a minister, rabbi, priest or public official will be present to administer the oath. The meetings carried on in connection with the ceremony should be devoted to the meaning of Americanism and democracy."

This scandalous action of the Workers Alliance is neither unexpected nor unique. As an agency of the relief slashing Roosevelt administration within the ranks of the unemployed, the Workers Alliance leaves no flag furled in its efforts to tie the unemployed workers more closely to the skirts of the President.

Especially at the present time, when the number of unemployed has swelled to its highest point in seven years, the Workers Alliance, sweetheart of the administration, bends every muscle to head off mass discontent. Mass discontent is dangerous to an administration girding the nation for war. And so, while with one hand Roosevelt and his W.A.A. satellites sabotage the needs of the workers for jobs, food and housing, with the other hand they shove oaths of allegiance to capitalism into the hungry mouths of the unemployed.

**A Tax on Teachers**

Having whipped up public indignation over the fate of the kindergartens, the New York City Board of Superintendents has finally pulled its real plan out of its hat—a plan to cut teachers' salaries.

Admitting that this is what they intended all along, the board submitted to Albany a bill that will enable the city school system to absorb the \$5,300,000 cut in state aid by taking it out of the teachers' hides.

In other words, the teachers have been taken for a ride. In response to the howls of the real estate interests and the bankers, the huge sum of \$9,700,000 was cut from school funds throughout the state. Heedful of their masters' voice, the Democrats as well as the Republicans made no real effort and are making no real effort to fight the cut. The revised budget now being drawn up at Albany will apparently contain the cuts intact.

It is at this juncture that the New York Board of Superintendents has come forward with its salary cut plan. It means that the teachers are being singled out to pay a special tax, ranging from 4.3 to 6.3 percent of their salaries to absorb a cut in school funds dictated by the bankers and real estate owners.

Thus without waging any real fight to keep the school funds intact, the board has succeeded in making the issue appear as one between the teachers' interests and the children's interests—instead of an issue between the schools as a whole and the bosses who want to quit laying out so much cash to school girls and boys for whom the capitalist system no longer has any place.

The teachers must rally the broadest united front of their own organizations, of labor unions and parents' associations and the public generally, to fight this back-handed attack on the school system. Against any cut in school funds! Against any discriminatory tax on the teachers! This is the fight they have to wage and this time against Gov. Lehman, the Republicans, Mayor LaGuardia, and the politicians in the school boards, all of whom are directly responsible.

**Weakness of the Labor Campaign In Minneapolis--a Balance Sheet**

As the Socialist Workers Party Pointed Out in its Campaign Material, a Clear Anti-War Stand and Concentration on the Trade Unions Would Have Won the Elections

By KARL O'SHEA  
 Despite the great vote rolled up for the labor candidates in the Minneapolis municipal campaign, important administrative posts were lost by less than two hundred votes in some wards, and the boss candidate for Mayor, George Leach, nosed out T. A. Elde by 7,000 ballots. Why couldn't the labor vote go over the top and clean the entire field of boss candidates?

Dozens of answers have been given; some of them hit the nail on the head; others emphasize matters of secondary importance. It is certainly true, as leaders of the union campaign committee have stated, that the Farmer-Labor label was a handicap in the election. To thousands of workers, this label has come in recent years to stand for Stalinist skulduggery, Bensonite stupidity, splitting the trade union movement, and worst of all, deals with the two boss parties and particularly with the New Deal. The F.L.P. had no advantages to offer the labor campaign, to offset this handicap.

**SABOTAGE IN HENNING COUNTY**

The Hennepin County F.L. Association certainly did no work to round up the votes for Elde and the union slate. Their record in sabotaging the campaign is an open scandal in the movement.

Now after the election they whine that they "were deliberately pushed out of the picture with the result that the regular Farmer-Labor forces were not properly mobilized to take part in the campaign." This is sheer rot. The Hennepin County F.L. central executive committee had 12 members on the F.L. and Trade Union Campaign Committee of 26. If they had wished to work for the election of the union slate, they would have done so, and they wouldn't have waited to be asked.

Selma Seestrom, C.P. stooge, came around blubbering the day after the defeat, saying she wanted to do campaign work, but "wasn't asked." As though conscious people claiming to represent the cause of the workers have "to be asked" to jump into the struggle. You never saw an honest militant worker waiting "to be asked" to join a picket line, and you never saw an honest Farmer-Laborite who had to be asked to join in an election struggle against the candidates of the Associated Industries.

"We would have been a hundred times better off if we had campaigned as a straight trade union ticket, and disregarded the F.L.P.," was the

sentiment expressed at campaign headquarters, even before the elections. This is 100 percent correct.

**STALINISTS WORKED FOR ELDE DEFEAT**

The Stalinist-controlled Hennepin County F.L. Association not only didn't want Elde and the rest of the union slate elected, it consciously worked for his defeat. That is the truth and no amount of high-pitched hypocritical screams will alter this fact. The Stalinists wanted the defeat of the union slate because they feared a huge labor vote would be a powerful incentive to the workers to go over to independent labor political action, to challenge both the Tory Republican machine and the war-mongering, relief-slashing New Deal machine of Roosevelt.

The labor campaign would have been stronger if it had dissociated itself completely from the Stalinist-controlled F.L.P., and it would have brought out thousands of more workers if it accentuated its direction towards independent labor political action, not only on a city but on a state and national scale.

**ANTI-WAR STAND COULD HAVE WON ELECTION**

Long before the primaries the Socialist Workers Party pointed out in its campaign leaflet that "the most glaring deficiency in the April 8 platform is its failure to mention the very real threat of the SECOND WORLD WAR 'TO SAVE DEMOCRACY.' It fails to speak out unmistakably against that war, and the Roosevelts, Landons and Browners who are combining to lead the workers into a war that can only be another imperialist struggle to increase the profits of the bosses. Though repudiating the war-mongering line forced on the late Farmer-Labor Party by the Stalinists, the labor-liberal conference has failed to take a clear stand of opposition to any war conducted by a bosses' government."

Had the trade union campaign committee come out boldly against the war that Roosevelt and the Sixty Families are preparing to shove down the throats of the people, the labor candidates could really have aroused the workers and led them in a veritable crusade against the war. Instead of losing by 7,000 votes, the union ticket would have smothered the jingo, Leach, by a majority of 30,000 or 40,000 votes.

Tens of thousands of people would have backed an anti-war campaign who did not even come to the polls. All the working class mothers whose hearts are filled with anguish

standards, the red apples, instead of leading the chorus of approval, have begun to kick like Texas steers.

Recently the dynamo branch of auto workers in Flint brought a new member into the S.W.P. A full-blooded American Indian from the Chippewa tribe. Now that he is a revolutionary "red," he is anxiously waiting for some ardent reactionary to tell him "to go back to where he came from." On the way here with Kermit Johnson, their car and baggage burned. They made the rest of the trip by thumb.

Oscar Coover, Max Goldman, Ted Dostal, Charlie Williams, drove in from the Twin-Cities. They refused to believe that they should have had at least one interesting adventure on the way in.

Reuben Plaskett, militant Negro fighter from Newark, almost missed the convention because of an attack on the Negro population after the Joe Louis victory over Tony Galento. "The streets were filled with real vigilante mobs after Louis beat Galento. They were all whipped to fever pitch by the fight," said Plaskett. "A mob of Italians came down the block I live on, throwing bricks through windows and beating up any Negro who they came across. The cops stood around, with their big mitts in their pockets, and making sure to look the other way when they jumped a defenseless Negro. I protested and the cop, acting like a real protector of democratic liberties in Roosevelt's America, arrested me for disorderly conduct. The hoodlums got away scot-free."

**Convention Sidelights**

**Delegates Tell Tales Tall and Otherwise**

(Continued from Page 1)  
 would sound like an awful blow-hard if I told you all the facts," Dick modestly said.

Marie Schimmel, Ray Sharon, Glen Trimble and Pete Hesser, from Frisco, mourn the passing of the good old days of hitch-hiking. It took them 11 days to get to Chicago—a world record, according to their story. Unlike Fraser, these comrades have weird and breath-taking stories to relate. Trimble swears that while lost on a lonely Nevada desert waiting for a hitch he miraculously escaped death by sunstroke.

Nevada gave the comrades a taste of all the elements. Scorching heat in the desert, and, a tale for mystics and crystal gazers, a rip-snorting snowstorm on the windy plateaus. And to cap the climax of this tale told by the California delegates under the influence of Jules Verne; a beautiful mirage rose up in their path in the shape of Ely, Nevada, a small mining community organized under the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers Union, where the wages are good, and the grievances of one waitress in the town's beanery could pull the entire working population out on strike.

Genora Johnson, militant leader of the fighting women of Flint, shows us again that it is only a matter of how you look at things. Asked by this provincial, lopsided New Yorker whether Flint wasn't outside of Detroit, she answered politely but firmly: "No, comrade. It's Detroit that's outside of Flint!"

Comrades Ferguson, Lear, Fielding and Martell drove in from Akron. They see the effects of capitalism very clearly in industrial Akron. The rubber companies are rationalizing the industry to the tune of \$2,000,000 worth of labor-saving machinery. The fly-by-night Technocrats are moving into town to capitalize on the layoffs that this will mean. In the last few weeks, under the impact of the New Deal's open transformation into a War machine, reactionary groups with fascist and semi-fascist programs of salvation for the masses are experiencing a mushroom growth.

The temper of rubber workers is excellently portrayed in this story told by comrade Lear. In Akron, workers who swooge for the boss are known as "red apples." In recent months whenever the boss got the workers together to tell them of some new measure designed to slash at their living

**Their Government**  
 By James Burnham

The new army appropriation bill which went into effect July 1 provides for the expansion of the regular army by 112,000 men. During the past two months the War Department has been formulating its plans for getting its hands on these 112,000.

There are already several hundred recruiting stations established in the continental United States including a major station at each of the army posts. You would perhaps think that this would be almost enough to solve the War Department's problem. The problem, it seems, is more difficult than it looks.

**Super-Ballyhoo for War**

According to the program already announced, 387 new recruiting stations are to be opened up. In addition there will be 18 traveling stations, each including a big sound truck and a substantial staff. The War Department has itself explained that all the most modern devices of big business advertising are to be used: posters, speeches, the radio, magazine articles, and high pressure publicity releases.

What is the trouble here? There are approximately 135,000,000 people in this country. 112,000 are wanted for the army. This comes to considerably less than 1/10 of 1%. Among the 135,000,000 are 15,000,000 or so unemployed including at least 7,000,000 youth. The unemployed with or without relief jobs live at a minimum subsistence level.

Now, war mongers from Roosevelt to Browder to Anthony Eden tell us daily that the war ahead, the mighty crusade against Hitler's Germany, is the most popular war in history. Everybody would and will support it, they say, because it will be the liberating war for people and freedom and democracy.

**The Lie of a Popular War**

If the war ahead is so wonderfully popular, why all this trouble for the War Department in the recruiting campaign? You would certainly think that the young workers and farmers of the country should be flocking to the colors at the mere announcement that the rolls are open. You would especially think so in the case of the unemployed who can at least get a certain kind of security and enough food in the army. But the fact is that for this miserable handful of 112,000 all of the biggest publicity guns in the arsenal have to be trotted out. In this circumstance, the truth becomes abundantly clear: it is a vicious, and deliberate lie that the war ahead is a popular war. The masses of the people here and in every country fear the war and hate the war.

It is exactly the same in Great Britain. And the big pressure campaign for recruiting began immediately after the Munich crisis. All the dispatches in the newspapers kept telling us that they didn't have enough application blanks for the thousands of young men who wanted to join, but the truth came out when Chamberlain introduced and drove through his conscription bill. Why conscription, for this so marvelously popular war? And even in the new European crisis over Czechoslovakia, all they wanted was a mere 200,000. They could not find even a fraction of 200,000 so they have to drive them with police guns and bayonets.

The war mongers find it very necessary to try to make their war appear popular. They think that in this way they will discourage the opponents of war by making them feel that nearly everyone is for it, and so what is the use of keeping up isolated resistance. That is why, every other day, the headlines declare that "England Is Ready," "France Is United to Resist Hitler." But these are lies, just as it is a lie when the papers tell us that the people of this country are ready to fight the war of the Sixty Families. The facts prove them to be lies.

If his war is popular, why does Roosevelt fear the war referendum? Why does he, the democrat of Democrats, fear to let the people vote on war?

**Labor Looks Through The Press**  
 By Arthur Hopkins

Horror Item: John W. Rudin, president-treasurer of Dowds-Rubin department store, declares that there is an immediate need in the government of more real statesmen of the Andrew Mellon type. He favors a program of balancing the budget, encouraging private capital (give the bosses a bigger whip), stop wasteful public spending (to hell with the relievers), eliminate government subsidies (except to "struggling" businesses) and government competition with private business (except where the business is plainly an unprofitable one), avoid price-fixing and price-slashing (let the bosses do this), increase purchasing power through stimulation of private initiative (more yacht buying and the like), and the return of the relief problem to local communities (let the poor feed their own like they did in the "good old days of Hoover, and before.")

Says the Chicago "labor" paper, the Wrecker, alias the Midwest Daily Record: "It is not too late to drum the fascist General Moseley out of the army he has discredited" (for his vicious blasts against workers and his general all around ratishness.) Once upon a time the Communist Party, whose paper this is, would have told us that the general is but the rotten ripe fruit of militarism, the watch dog of capitalism.

Says W. B. Ragsdale: "History does not afford an instance wholly comparable to the situation in which stand the relations between Roosevelt and Garner. The two are personal friends yet differ widely on questions of national policy." That is to say, just what is the best way to keep a firm seat on the backs of the American workers?

How we love you, J. P. Morgan!—"Love is the only cement strong enough to unite into a nation the poor and the rich, the strong and the weak, the employer and the employe."—Alexis Carrel, "Married Loye," Readers Digest.