

# Let the People Vote on War!

"Let the People Vote on War!" a new series of articles by James Burnham presenting the position of the Socialist Workers Party on the Ludlow Referendum and the fight against war will begin in the next issue of the Socialist Appeal.

Roosevelt, who is pouring billions of dollars into the war machine, pretends to be a democrat. Why then does he oppose a popular expression of opinion by those who will lose their lives when war comes? The Stalinists speak as "friends of peace." Why then do they, who support the administration's war moves, oppose a popular vote on war? Do you workers want to fight in a war for boss profits? Do you workers want an opportunity to vote on the war that U. S. imperialists are now preparing? Why shouldn't you, whose lives are at stake, have that right? Read "Let the People Vote on War!" Don't miss a single issue of the Appeal in which this vital series of articles will appear!

## Labor-Haters Pour Money into Growing Coughlin Movement

By JOSEPH HANSEN

That the increasing boldness of Father Coughlin's movement in attacking meetings of workers and wrecking their headquarters is bearing fruit with a large dollar sign is clearly shown by a number of significant occurrences.

Within the last month he has begun for the first time a daily radio program. He has contracted with a radio station in Detroit to appear five times daily with a program of organ music, prayer, an "inspirational" talk for "shut-ins," and a commentary on the news events of the day interpreted in the light of Father Coughlin's sixteen principles of so-called "social justice."

**Significant Expression**  
Father Coughlin himself comments in his personal magazine on the significance of this expansion. From one station he now hopes to increase his network of daily broadcasts across the entire country just as he increased his weekly "golden hour" from one station to a network of forty-eight.

The latest issue of Social Justice announces the winners of his \$16,000 prize contest for essays on war. The contestants are scattered over eighteen states, centering mainly around Royal Oak, Michigan, but extending as far as California.

With the announcement of the winners, Coughlin announces also that besides the prize money distributed in this contest he has already given out a total of \$27,460 in previous contests and that in the next issue of Social Justice he will open a new contest with prizes amounting to \$6,500 which may be doubled to \$13,000.

**Demagogic Propaganda**  
The subjects on which the contestants were permitted to

(Continued on Page 2)

## MPLS. DRIVERS WIN GAINS IN NEW CONTRACTS

200 Employers Sign Renewals as Local 544 Pushes Drive

(Special to the Socialist Appeal) MINNEAPOLIS—Despite last

November's election of Republican Governor Stassen and the recent re-election of Republican Mayor Leach, and working in the teeth of the vicious State Labor Law, General Drivers Union Local 544 is succeeding in its drive to renew working agreements that bring significant gains to thousands of its members. With the season for contract renewals now on, Local 544 has already secured agreements from about 200 employers, covering several thousand workers.

In almost every case gains either in wages, hours or working conditions are recorded. This is particularly significant since 544 contracts have been for several years models for teamsters locals elsewhere.

Renewals secured cover produce, printing, newspaper, drugs, coal, sausage, tent and awning sections, the big Gamble-Skogmo outfit, and others.

## Sailors Spike F.D.R. Order on Fink-Halls

Tie Up Two Ships on West Coast—Journal of Commerce Reveals Presidential Order

By C. THOMAS  
The Sailors Union of the Pacific has put the finger on the Little White Father at Washington, D. C. And thereon, my friends, hangs a tale.

Two U. S. Maritime Commission ships, the Sataritia and the Coldbrook, have been tied up in Seattle for a number of weeks because the Commission refused to hire crews from the union hiring hall. The Maritime Commission was appointed by Franklin D. Roosevelt and is responsible to the President.

The Chairman of the Commission, Admiral Land, was appointed over the objections of the seamen and of the organized labor movement. Recently, one of the commissioners, Truitt, a vigorous opponent of union hiring halls, was reappointed by the President, again over the strenuous objections of organized labor.

**President Ordered Finking**  
In a recent article in the

Journal of Commerce dealing with the dispute in Seattle, the following statement appeared: "The Commission, according to L. L. Bates, general manager of the Pacific Northwest Oriental Line, which has been engaged as managing agent for the new service, is acting under a presidential order . . . that employment of crews through the shipping commissioner is required by law." In other words, the Maritime Commission is acting under direct orders from Roosevelt to hire crews through fink-halls.

Meanwhile, the partisans of the "third term for Roosevelt" movement, among whom the Stalinists are the most vociferous, have been telling the seamen that Roosevelt was their friend. It was the Tories, the economic royalists, that were the main, nay, the only enemy. At the recent convention of the C.P.-controlled Maritime Fed-

(Continued on Page 3)

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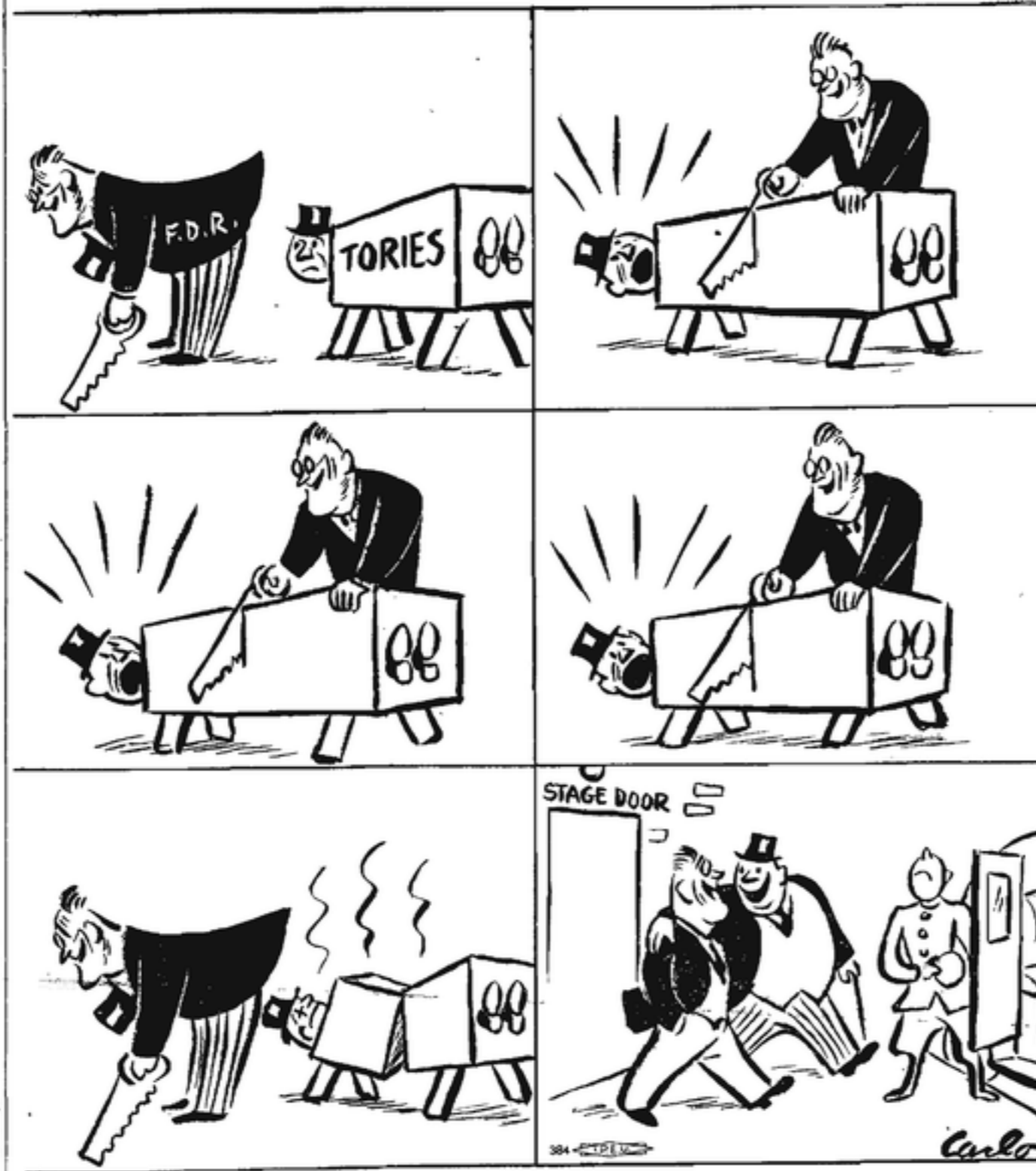
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167

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# W.P.A. Construction Strike Will Force Congress to Change Law!

It's a "Trick"!



## A.F.L. Raps New Deal Strike Stand

Meany Issues Sharp Attack on Threat by N. Y. Welfare Head

Within a few hours of New York City Welfare Commissioner William Hodson's threat to refuse home relief to W.P.A. strikers, organized labor gave Hodson more than he bargained for.

Hodson's threat appeared in the press Monday morning. By afternoon the A.F.L. Publicity Bureau had issued the text of a letter from George Meany, president of the New York State Federation of Labor.

"Unspeakingly Contemptible" The letter was undoubtedly the sharpest attack ever issued against a New Dealer by the official labor movement. "Unspeakingly contemptible"—that was the State Federation's description of the action of Mayor La Guardia's lieutenant.

The Building and Construction Trades Council of Greater New York, Long Island and vicinity, in the meeting in which they voted to stop all work on W.P.A. projects by their members, also seconded the State Federation letter to Hodson.

President Meany sardonically told Hodson that "if you had taken a little more time to consider this matter, you could have also fluently quoted to these good Americans the municipal regulations against public begging."

**Hodson Gets It**  
Then President Meany gave Hodson the works:

"Your speedy action in telling these men that they can either take the monstrous scab wages now offered to them or else take themselves and their children away to some quiet place to starve is unspeakably contemptible.

"The wage now given to labor by a breadline Congress is only one step removed from

(Continued on Page 3)

## New York Set for 'Strike to Finish'

Strike Move by Building and Construction Trades Council Is Labor's Answer to the Roosevelt-Woodrum Starvation Bill

By TONY CHAPMAN

"Strike to the finish"—the words are those of Thomas Murray, President of the Building and Construction Trades Council of greater New York, Long Island and vicinity—that's the answer of organized labor to the Roosevelt-Woodrum W.P.A. Starvation Law which, enacted by Congress and signed by President Roosevelt, became a law on June 30 and began to be enforced on the W.P.A. projects Wednesday morning.

Labor's answer was speedily demonstrated. Hundreds of thousands of construction workers throughout the country refused to report for work on Wednesday morning. Few

local unions in the country had as yet acted officially—the national A.F.L. leadership hadn't even put up a fight against the bill when it was up in Congress—but the overwhelming sentiment of the labor movement was already clear when, Wednesday, the W.P.A. officials had to admit that project after project was closing down.

But Wednesday only began it. Thursday the unions began officially to move into the struggle. The major development was the strike action taken by the powerful building trades council in New York, representing some 130,000 skilled workers in 45 crafts and 135 A.F.L. locals.

After the two-hour session of the council on Thursday afternoon had authorized the strike

—covering 32,000 men, most of them already out—Thomas Murray, president of the Council told the press in his office: "This will be a strike to the finish."

The official authorization of strike was particularly significant since, a few hours before the strike decision, Col. F. C. Harrington, national W.P.A. administrator, had wired to New York that all men absent five days from projects would be dropped from the rolls and William Hodson, city welfare commissioner, had declared that the strikers would be refused home relief. In the face of the action by Harrington and

(Continued on Page 4)

**Circulate Petitions Against Reactionary Mass. Election Law**  
WORCESTER, Mass. — Approximately two months ago the Massachusetts State Legislature passed a law requiring any candidate for governor other than those of the two major parties to collect 50,000 signatures before his name will be placed on the ballot. Petitions are now being circulated to get signatures in protest against the law. If 15,000 signatures are secured within three months of the passing of the law, the question is automatically placed on the ballot for a referendum and does not become law unless voted so on the referendum. The petitions are being circulated by the Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts, the Communist Party, the Socialist Party and the Socialist Workers Party. The Worcester C.I.O. Council has passed a motion endorsing the petitions which are now being circulated in the unions.

## THE STATE OF THE NATION

The Worcester, Mass., Trade School has room for 80 new students in its mechanical department for its coming fall term. 900 applications were filed.

In New York, 6,500 men applied for city jobs as auto enginemen paying \$1,200 to \$1,500. Several hundred men spent all night outside the office of the Municipal Civil Service Commission. 58 will get appointments.

## Anti-War Convention Ends Spirited Sessions

NEW YORK—Winding up the Anti-War Convention of the Socialist Workers Party with a burst of enthusiasm, 76 delegates and 34 alternate delegates Wednesday morning headed for home in 33 different cities to put into action the many decisions of the convention.

Concluding four days of convention session, the delegates late Tuesday reached the final point on the agenda, the election of the new National Committee.

Envisaging the major task of the party as preparation for the coming war, the delegates tied up each of various issues

(Continued on Page 2)

## Convention Adopts Program of Expansion In Organization Drive to Build the S. W. P.

The full text of the Program of Expansion adopted by the Socialist Workers Party convention is as follows:

A party of the Leninist type, such as we aspire to build, is distinguished from reformist organizations and propaganda sects in its organization methods as well as in its political principles.

The Leninist party is a combat organization that aims at the conquest of power. It conducts its activity on the campaign principle. It is democratic in its internal life and centralized in action. It coordinates organization work with the work of literary propaganda and agitation and implements political decisions by organizational measures. It constructs a strong apparatus, and it relies on the leadership of a staff of professional revolutionists in the center and in the field.

Proceeding from this Leninist concept of organization, and aiming at an expansion of our activities by a forced march in the next period, as projected in the political resolution, the convention sets before the party the following program of expansion:

### 1. Press:

- On the proposal to publish the Socialist Appeal three times a week: authority is given to the National Committee to decide the frequency of issue.
- Pamphlets: The publication of at least six cheap, popular pamphlets on the following topics:
  - "Let the People Vote on War" (already prepared)
  - "Build Workers Defense Guards"
  - "A Job for Every Worker"

- "Thirty-thirty"
- "Expropriate the Sixty Families"
- "Labor and the 1940 Elections"

- Periodic issuing of four-page leaflets on key slogans for mass distribution nationally.

### 2. Staff:

- Increase the staff by the assignment of twenty more full time organizers for field work and in the center.
- The object of extending the departmentalization of national work, under full-time direction as the National Committee finds feasible.
- Full-time functionary for the direction of national trade union work.

### 3. Conferences:

- Active workers conferences in Far West, Middle West, Ohio-Michigan, East.

### 4. Tours:

National and regional tours at intervals of not more than two months.

### 5. Recruitment:

A systematically organized and centrally directed recruiting campaign.

### 6. Finances:

Raise an Organization-Press Fund for \$10,000 within three months to be equally divided between the organization work and the Socialist Appeal. One-third of the \$10,000 Fund is to be raised by the National Office. Two-thirds to be raised by quotas accepted by the Convention delegations.