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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 vigilante and Fascist attacks.

Labor's Road After Roosevelt's Statement

Not the least of the privileges of the President of the United States is his control of the way in which his utterances are reported in the daily press. The President can say what he pleases in his press conferences, but when the reporters prepare to write their stories they must adhere to the limitations dictated to them either by the President or by his aides during the press conferences.

Almost never does the President permit the press to quote him verbatim. He is never directly quoted in the press except by his explicit permission.

It is in the light of these privileges of the President that one must understand the statement made by Roosevelt last Friday against the W.P.A. strike. The day before, Attorney General Murphy had issued a denunciation of the W.P.A. strike. Roosevelt's chief of the W.P.A., Col. Harrington, was punishing the strikers with pink slips severing them from the employment rolls of the W.P.A., and the administration officials, nationally and locally, were declaring they would give no direct relief to the W.P.A. strikers. The reporters asked Roosevelt whether he was in accord with the actions taken by Murphy, Harrington & Co.

Roosevelt backed his subordinates to the hilt, and to underline that fact, made the rare exception: he permitted the reporters to quote him directly:

"You cannot strike against the government."

We are, of course, no more impressed when Roosevelt says it than when Murphy says it. As we made clear in our last issue, these gentlemen are just popping off; there is no law that gives them the authority to deny the right to strike on any job, public or private. We don't have to explain that again. The best answer to Roosevelt and Murphy is the fact that the strikers are going right ahead with their strike.

The War Deal

But Roosevelt's statement puts a final end to the New Deal myth. Whatever the New Deal may have been—we never put any stock in it—it has now beyond all question of doubt become the War Deal and the Raw Deal. "The President is now definitely aligned against Labor"—these weighty words of the Minnesota Union Advocate, organ of the St. Paul Trades and Labor Assembly of the A.F.L., express what millions of workers have only come to realize this week.

The Roosevelt Administration has made its choice. It wants war appropriations and not W.P.A. and P.W.A. appropriations. It is preparing for military adventures abroad and for this purpose slashes all other appropriations. It literally steals from the unemployed, starves the unemployed, in order to build more battleships and airplanes.

From the first the aim of the Roosevelt administration was to save the profits of the Sixty Families. At first it tried to save those profits by "priming the pump," giving funds to part of the unemployed, it hoped, would upon being spent start industry up again. That didn't work. Roosevelt now pursues his original aim of saving the profit system, now by military conquest.

Tens of millions are to be condemned to death, now by the slow starvation of hunger and un-

employment, shortly by death on the battlefield, so that profits shall continue to flow into the coffers of the Sixty Families. That's what Roosevelt stands for. That's why he is fighting so viciously to break the W.P.A. strike.

What now for Labor?

First and most immediately, to continue and win the W.P.A. strike, and to gird its loins for strike struggles throughout industry, for the bosses will undoubtedly be encouraged by the government's strikebreaking to try some wage-cutting on their own.

Simultaneously, however, Labor must prepare for struggle on the political field. And that can only mean INDEPENDENT action, the launching of a—

Labor Party

clear of all entangling alliances with capitalist parties.

There is no other possible course. Any labor leader who insists on supporting the War Deal in the face of the Roosevelt actions ought to have his head examined or get his spine re-boned. And any labor leader who tells the workers to go back to the Republicans ought to be voted out of the trade unions.

The workingmen and women of this country, with their husbands and wives, fathers and mothers, sons and daughters, together with the agricultural workers and poor farmers, constitute the overwhelming majority of the population of this country. If democracy meant anything, they would rule the country. They CAN rule the country.

Break with the capitalist parties!

Build a PARTY OF LABOR for INDEPENDENT POLITICAL STRUGGLE AGAINST THE BOSS CLASS!

The Bridges Case

The attempt to deport Harry Bridges from the United States should be food for thought to all those who continue to regard Roosevelt and his Administration as progressive.

What difference there is between the Roosevelt-Perkins persecution of Bridges and the record of the infamous A. Mitchell Palmer of "Red raid" notoriety in 1919-1920, is not visible to the naked eye.

The Roosevelt Administration wants Bridges deported on the grounds of his alleged membership in an organization standing for the violent overthrow of the government—the Communist Party. Apart from the fact that the Communist Party is anything but a revolutionary organization, that it is, in fact, one of the fiercest defenders of the prevailing capitalist "democracy" and private property—the charge against Bridges is, in its very nature, a reflection of a reactionary, anti-labor standpoint.

We don't care a tinker's dam where Bridges was born—we know that the deportation threat has always been a measure applied to weaken the labor movement. That is so also in the present case.

Militants in the labor movement, and we among them, have their irreconcilable differences with Bridges. But they aim to settle scores with him and his colleagues in their own way and at their own time. They continue to believe that differences and disputes in the ranks of labor must and will be settled by labor itself.

As for the Roosevelt government—or any other capitalist institution—

Hands off the labor movement!

Stop the deportation of Bridges by a mass solidarity protest.

Stalinist Worries

The Stalinists have again gone into action on the Coughlinite problem.

They have flooded the New York needle trades market with thousands of leaflets.

Are the leaflets a call to action, an appeal to the workers to mobilize for their defense against the Coughlinite gangsters?

Are the leaflets a warning cry against falling asleep at the switch while the fascist mobs increase their aggressiveness and their aggressions?

Nothing of the sort!

They are aimed at "the Trotskyist provocateur Milton, of Local 66, I.L.G.W.U. (who) tried to frame up the union. He plotted to have the union organize a so-called 'anti-fascist guard'."

Terrible, isn't it? A sinister plot, isn't it?

With the Coughlinite and, in general, the fascist danger mounting in the United States, all the Stalinists can think of doing is to try to incite workers against those militants who call for action AGAINST fascism.

Direct your blows against fascism? No, cry the Stalinists. Direct them at the anti-fascists instead!

Do these scoundrels hope to repeat the Spanish tragedy here?

News From W.P.A. Strike Fronts Shows Picket Lines Hold Solid

St. Paul

(Continued from Page 1)
 and snoop, threatened and questioned workers, attempting to throw fear into the militant fighters on the picket lines. Such are the ways of the boss class.

The local police, too, are loyal to their masters. They pick up W.P.A. workers who are collecting food and funds for the strike commissary. The cops, with the cooperation of the G-Men, then parade the arrested workers before the police force and warn them to stay away from strike headquarters. Those arrested are then charged with begging.

Mrs. Chester Watson, wife of the president of the Minnesota Workers Alliance and employed on a handicraft project here which the Alliance claimed to be organized by it 100%, remained on the job until Friday, July 14, when pickets from the Workers Benefit Association bannered the job.

Streator

By BEN MARTIN
 (Special to the Socialist Appeal)

STREATOR, Ill., July 17—As the strike enters its seventh day, the Streator W.P.A. workers continue determinedly to stay out until their demands are met. Daily flying squads from Streator continue to rally W.P.A. workers in other sections of the country to the Federal Workers League and to strike in solidarity with Streator.

Today in LaSalle County, out of 1,700 W.P.A. workers over a thousand are out on strike and hourly the strike movement grows stronger. F.W.L. officials declare that by Monday or Tuesday, the strike in LaSalle county will become 100 per cent effective.

The LaSalle County C.I.O. has endorsed the strike and is giving material aid. The A.F.L. Trades and Labor Assembly of Streator, has also endorsed the strike and numbers of locals are furnishing aid. The strike headquarters is in the office of the Streator Labor News, whose latest issue is mainly devoted to news of the strike. An interesting sidelight is the fact that the Mayor and City Council of Streator have officially endorsed the strike and have sent telegrams of protest to the President and

Congress. Fearing to face the wrath of the workers of Streator, the local politicians have decided it would be healthier to play ball with the strikers.

Last Thursday, a countywide mass meeting was held in Ottawa which, radio commentators announced, was attended by 2,000. Among the speakers were Lydia Beidel, popular Chicago labor leader, Peter Vidmar, County C.I.O. leader, Gus Mandula, F.W.L. chairman, Frank Bates of Peru, and Joe Tonell of Marseilles.

Rochester

(Continued from page 1)

program and have decided that anything is better than continuing in the old rut down, down, down hill.

The trade unions have thrown their moral support behind the strike, but except for words they have given no other kind of assistance. Both the A.F.L. and C.I.O. central bodies have protested the new W.P.A. setup, and the former voted at its meeting last Thursday to go on the air to explain to the public the reasons for the strike. The Socialist Workers Party has been active in distributing leaflets explaining the relationship between the Roosevelt War Deal and the Woodrum bill and calling upon the workers to continue their militant protest.

East St. Louis

(Special to the Socialist Appeal)

EAST ST. LOUIS, Ill., July 15—Mass picket lines of W.P.A. strikers yesterday effectively stopped car loads of scabs at Scott Field, Belleville, and halted all work on the projects normally employing 1,750 workers. From 500 to 600 W.P.A. workers also joined the strikers in their struggle against wage cuts.

The C.I.O. Industrial Union Council of St. Louis today called off the one-day stoppage planned for Monday. This was the response of the Council leaders to President Roosevelt's statement that "You cannot strike against the Government." The cowardly and reactionary decision will further divide the unskilled workers on the projects from the skilled A.F.L. construction workers who are continuing their strike.

Role of Stalinism in the Recent Minneapolis Labor Campaign

By CARL O'SHEA
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 MINNEAPOLIS — The Communist Party is not only a bitter opponent of the tendency towards independent labor political action, but will consciously utilize the worst Tammany methods to stop the labor party movement, even if it means the election of the blackest reactionaries. This is what is proved by the record of Stalinism in the recent Minneapolis political campaign, and workers in other cities, in the American Labor Party movement in New York and elsewhere, can learn a trick or two about the Browderites by studying the Minneapolis campaign.

On April 8 a citywide conference of delegates from the trade unions, unemployed organizations and Farmer-Labor Ward Clubs held a conference in Minneapolis, adopted a progressive labor platform and nominated union men and women as candidates for office. Because the conference refused with good reason to align itself with the discredited New Deal, the Communist Party carried out its first dirty maneuver.

While still pretending to go along with the labor campaign, the Communist Party prevailed upon Kleva Flakne, a lawyer with no connections with organized labor, to file for mayor against T. A. Elde, the labor candidate.

The Stalinist-controlled Hennepin County Farmer-Labor executive committee was forced to pledge financial and moral support to the labor campaign in the primaries. Here again they rattled, and gave not one penny to the primary campaign nor contributed anything in the way of rallying votes for Elde and the rest of the labor slate.

Following the sensational showing of the labor slate in the primaries, the Stalinists through the Hennepin County FL machine tried to cover themselves by making a small donation to the labor campaign.

But their main aim was to defeat Elde and the labor slate. They continued their sabotage of the campaign. After the June 12 defeat, they whined that "nobody asked us to work."

STALINIST "SUPPORT" A BODY BLOW
 As the campaign neared its end, the trade unionists in charge of the Trade Union Volunteer Campaign Committee, remembering the Stalinist tricks of other campaigns, exacted a pledge from the Communist Party in Minneapolis that it would not issue any literature "supporting" the labor slate.

Of course it was naive to believe that a Stalinist bureau-

crat would keep a promise.

In the final week of the campaign the opponents of the labor slate became alarmed at the political resurgence of the union movement. Two days before the final vote, the Stalinists distributed tens of thousands of leaflets "supporting" Elde.

The leaflet and its distribution merit two comments:

1. The leaflet distorted the labor campaign by making it appear to be in support of the New Deal status quo. Such a leaflet could only turn a unionist or unemployed against the labor slate.

2. The leaflet was distributed precisely where it would do the most harm to the labor slate—in the middle class wards and in the Catholic parishes. The leaflet did two things: to alienate the workers from Elde by its New Deal talk, and to alienate the middle class from Elde by tagging him with support from the Communist Party.

On June 24 the Hennepin County Council of the Communist Party circulated a post-election statement to a selected list of people, stating "what was wrong" with the labor campaign.

The very first point it makes is that "the objectives of the New Deal (such as government housing, increased aid to jobless, opportunities for youth, clean government, curbing monopolies, etc.) were not championed in a sufficiently clear-cut manner by the united front candidates or campaign leadership."

NEW DEAL SMELLS TO HIGH HEAVEN

The truth is that the success that was achieved by the labor campaign was due in large measure to the fact that the labor candidates didn't touch the New Deal with a ten-foot pole. The average worker in Minneapolis would laugh you off the platform if you tried to tell him that the "objectives" of the New Deal were better housing, increased aid to the jobless, opportunities for youth, etc. The objective of the New Deal is imperialist war for the benefit of America's Sixty Families, and to this end they have long since sacrificed whatever progressive aims they might have once proclaimed. And don't think that the Minneapolis workers don't feel this.

The campaign was confined almost exclusively to Farmer-Labor and trade union ranks, falling actively to involve liberal church groups, small business men, professionals and other progressive middle class groups." This is the second point of the Stalinist document.

All the virtues of the Minneapolis labor campaign are

Greater confusion could hardly exist. It was precisely because Stassen was the only anti-New Deal candidate in 1938 that he was elected. Had Benson and the Farmer-Labor Party refused to tail the New Deal in 1938, the Farmer-Laborites would have won a smashing victory. If the people of Minneapolis and Minnesota said anything at all in 1938, they said they were deathly sick of the New Deal and would bury anyone who tried to sell them the shabby promises of Roosevelt again.

Finally, the Stalinists indicate the theory behind their sabotage of the Elde campaign:

"The record of the Trotskyites clearly reveals what would be the character of the so-called 'Labor' Party which they propose to substitute for the Farmer-Labor Association. It would be an instrument to fight against the New Deal. . . . This is what the Communist Party really fears—that the labor movement will really forge a political party that will reject both Democratic and Republican machines, and will fight for an independent labor line. Yes, the Trotskyites jealously guarded the independence of the developing labor party movement in Minneapolis. In our concluding article next week we will indicate how this movement can be preserved and extended.

Their Government
 By James Burnham

The attempt to abolish the prevailing wage system on the W.P.A. projects, and to substitute for it what the administration so sweetly calls the "security wage," is neither the beginning nor the end of the drive against the unemployed.

This drive began on the day following last November's elections. It was initiated directly and exclusively by Franklin D. Roosevelt, at a time when Congress was not even in session. Its first stage was carried through during November and December, when, at Roosevelt's orders, 300,000 men were dropped from the W.P.A. rolls.

The second stage consisted in the reorganization of the administrative personnel of the W.P.A. Harry Hopkins, who was associated with the New Deal epoch, which was being buried, was shifted to the Department of Commerce. At the head of W.P.A. was placed F. C. Harrington. Harrington was and is a Colonel in the regular Army. He neither resigned nor took a leave of absence from the Army when he entered the W.P.A. He continues on the Army payroll. His W.P.A. job is a military assignment ordered by his commander-in-chief.

The shift from Hopkins to Harrington is thus an open symbol of the transformation of the New Deal into the War Deal.

Links in the Chain

The next step in the drive against the unemployed was the dropping, again at Roosevelt's exclusive orders, of 50,000 non-citizens from the W.P.A. rolls. The fourth, undertaken jointly by Roosevelt and Congress, was the cutting of the rolls by an additional 400,000 to 500,000 during April, May and June.

The fifth great step was the W.P.A. appropriation proposed for the fiscal year beginning July 1. The figure of \$1,477,000,000 was again set on the sole and exclusive responsibility of Franklin D. Roosevelt. No Congressman proposed less; indeed, no Congressman would have dared to propose so little.

The total money appropriated is far and away the major factor in the relief situation. Roosevelt's figure, \$800,000,000 lower than last year, compels the adoption of harsh new regulations whether these are invented by himself or by Congress.

The sixth step was the substitution of the security wage for the prevailing wage. Who is responsible for this phase of the savage attack on the wage and living standard of the American workers? Once more, the record gives the unmistakable answer.

As far back as 1935, in one of his press conferences, Roosevelt declared his opposition to the prevailing wage and his perspective of eliminating it from relief projects. He has never swerved in his intention.

During the hearings on the current relief bill, the demand for the abolition of the prevailing wage did not come in the first instance from Congressmen. It was put forward from the witness stand by Roosevelt's appointee and military subordinate, Colonel Harrington. Like all military men, Harrington acts under the orders and discipline of his commander.

Any doubts about the origin have been removed during the past week by Roosevelt himself, who has backed Harrington to the limit, and taken the public and avowed lead in the effort to smash the strike.

Preparations for Things to Come

The seventh step was the announcement that those away from jobs for five days would be dropped from the rolls; the eighth, that striking W.P.A. workers are not eligible for home relief; the ninth, Roosevelt's proclamation that "You can't strike against the government."

These three steps—all of them taken by decree and not by parliamentary law—are closely bound together. On the one side, they amount in effect to the institution of forced labor at the government's terms.

On the other side, they are a forecast of the method of organization not merely for relief work but for all industry in wartime. Since, during war, all industry will be part of the government's war machine, the principles now being enunciated will compel all persons to work at the tasks, wages and conditions assigned to them, and will prohibit all protests and strikes against these tasks, wages and conditions.

Not for nothing is a military officer now running W.P.A.

The tenth and eleventh and twelfth steps are now nearly ready to be taken. Under the "eighteen months provisions," all W.P.A. employees who have been on the rolls for a continuous period of eighteen months or longer must be dropped. This means concretely that on July 31 and August 31, Harrington plans to cut off a minimum of 650,000. In theory, these 650,000 will be eligible for re-employment after a month of patriotic starvation. However, the eleventh step demands that the total on the rolls be cut to a maximum of 2,000,000—around 600,000 less than on July 1.

The twelfth step is ingenious. It is called a readjustment of geographical wage differentials. At present, W.P.A. wage rates in the South are comparable to India or China—in many instances about \$3.50 per week. Under the hypocritical pretense of making wage differentials equal no more than variations in the cost of living, Roosevelt plans to slash WPA wages in the North and all industrial areas. He hopes that a minute rise in the Southern wage will buy off Southern workers from solidarity with their northern brothers, just as, in the case of the prevailing wage, he adjusts his blow to try to divide the skilled from the unskilled workers.

And I have been criticized, even by Marxists, for noting that the New Deal is dead. . . .

Senator Borah (Rep. Idaho) opposes the Wagner-Rogers bill to permit entry to this country of 20,000 Jewish child refugees from Germany. Declaring that he sees a "touch of politics" in the proposal, he adds that he does not know how the United States can justify limiting humanitarianism to 20,000 . . . when suffering is just as great and humanitarian demands just as clear in other parts of the world." Don't these bosses' stooges have the noblest reasons for the foul things they do?