In the

By B. J. WIDICK

Major concentration point of house industry.

This was emphasized last week by John L. Lewis, speaking in Chicago, home of the "Big Foor" packers, Armour, Swift, Wilson and Cudahy.

There is a twofold aim in the C.I.O. concen ration on this industry. One is organizational; the C.I.O. wants a real base in listened to the speakers. Chicago and this industry. The other is political; the C.I.O. wants a powerful weapon to assist it in winning the farmers' C.I.O.

Terrible Conditions

Few industries in America have the notorious reputation for terrible working conditions as the packing houses, especially in the Chicago area. Many years ago Upton Sinclair achieved international fame with his devastating expose of these conditions in his novel, "The Jungle.". They haven't changed much.

A basis for unionism was always present because of the rotten conditions. The A.F.L. didn't succeed in the past, and the C.I.O. muffed its big opportunity two years ago because the Stalinists were in complete charge of the packing house campaign.

One must add, however, that in certain sections of the country, where the A.F.L. has progressive leaders, they do have good and strong unions in packing houses. In Ohio, for exam-

Recently, the C.I.O. had a resurgence in the packing industry. Top C.I.O. leaders have been directing the work. A national convention of the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee was held in Chica-

Delegates from 94 local unions attended, and the P.W. C.C. claimed 78,000 out of the 129.000 directly employed in this industry.

In 14 Armour plants, the P.W. O.C. has been certified by the Labor National Relations Board as sole collective bargaining agent. In most of the Chicago plants, there is a dispute between the C.I.O. and the A.F.L. on the question of representation. National Labor Relations Board elections probably will be used to settle this question.

Principal Demands

The principal C.I.O. demands in the proposal for a signed contract include full recognition of the union, reduction in the speedup, establishment of a proper seniority system, and the elimination of health hazards, as well as wage adjust-

In his speech, Lewis indicated a realization of the need of working with the farmers in connection with the packing house drive. Just as milk companies try to play off the truck drivers and the dairy producers, the meat packers seek to divide those who work on the farm and those who toil in the packing houses.

It will be a real job to offset this device of the "Big Four"

Calling on Roosevelt to force the big companies to sign agreements indicates that Lewis, urged on by the Stalinists, still has many illusions

It seems almost incredible that in Chicago, where the steel workers were massacred be cause of Roosevelt's doublecross, the C.I.O. is prepared to bank on this same man for as-

sistance. Unless the C.I.O. adopts more realistic plans, there is a possibility that another "Little Steel" tragedy can occur. Depending on local or state officials is just as fatal. The same old gang that sent the Chicago killer cops against the steel workers remains in power.

INFORMAL HOUSE Box 245 Kerhonkson, N. Y. (Near Ellenville)

420 acres of greenland in the Catskills. 40 acres of pine for sunbathing; handball, ping pong, archery; swimming and horse-back riding nearby; dancing. UNUSUALLY LOW RATES \$18 Weekly \$6 Weekend

> Busses met at station Tel. Kerhonkson 118 R

Join the Socialist **Workers Party**

Anti-Fascists Arrested At New Haven Meeting Stalinist Trick

Despite Police Persecution S.W.P. Branch Continues Fight Against Coughlin Fascism

pers were examined carefully. the fascists could immediately Bridges deportation hearings. Friends put up the extrava- be seen by the enthusiastic rethe C.I.O. organization work in gant bail asked by the police sponse. Large numbers of the San Francisco membership the next period is the packing- and the well-known labor law- Anti-Coughlin pamphlet were meeting a resolution to have ver James Belford, offered his sold. And the embryo of Work- the union go on record for sus-

Workers Turn Out

support to the aims of the mean to fight to keep them. fense Guards. The Socialist Workers Party is The Coughlin movement is ingoing forward with its fight vading the city, recently open- 13, after they had voted down clean-up and scavenging labor up with Labor's Nonpartisan

spite any and all attacks."

ed for the first time on the streets of New Haven when The peorle wh; ttended the young workers gave spontane-

' also might meeting and ous assistance to the meeting, were we nesses to the police in- guarding it against hoodlum at- beating your wife? Answer yes rierence with free speech, tacks and maintaining order in or no! ame again the next night and the audience so that the police would not have a pretext for "We are not intimidated or breaking up the rally. Many of secretary-treasurer of the Sailafraid," said the chairman at these young workers have allors Union of the Pacific, anthe start of the meeting. "We ready turned in their names for swered this slimy trick with the are aware of our rights, and we the first corps of Workers De- following statement which the

against Coughlin fascism de- ing up a big headquarters in the Stalinist resolution: the center of the town and car-Workers Defense Guards rying on the regular sales of The need for the formation of their literature (without a li- both to the membership and the keynote of all speeches. The streets.

Let the People

The Referendum and the Fight Against War

The basic reason why the great majority of the people are in favor of the war referendum is because they are afraid a war is coming and they do not want a war. The bulk of the people-the workers and farmers and teachers and professionals and small shop-keepers-know that they have nothing to gain and everything, from their lives to all of their liberties, to lose from a war. They are looking for some way to stop the war, or at least put a big obstacle in its path. They believe that the popular referendum is the way in which the war can be stopped, since everyone knows that if the people had a free chance to decide, they would vote against participation in any war which is now or is likely to be on the horizon of the United States.

A Democratic Demand

Revolutionary socialists, and their party, the Socialist Workers Party, do not think that a popular referendum can, in and by itself, stop war. We believe that modern wars spring from causes which are deep within the present capitalist system of society; and that to get rid of war permanently we shall have to remove those causes by overthrowing capitalism and building in its place a free socialist

The Sixty Families and their agents who administer the government for them will go to war whatever laws are on the statute books. In an article attacking the Ludlow bill, Walter Lippman once gave this cynically 'away: "If an American President," Ite wrote, "wants to go to war, he can go no matter what the Ludlow amendment says."

Nevertheless, we, as revolutionary socialists, fully and firmly support the demand for a popular referendum on war. We stand with the great majority of the people against the war-mongers and the war-makers. The proposal for a war referendum is truly democratic, and revolutionary socialists favor every genuinely democratic process. The question of the war must be brought into the light of day! The people, in endorsing the war referendum, give expression to their hatred of the war and their wish to struggle against it. We share that hatred, and take our place in that struggle.

The fight for the war referendum, whatever its limitations, is unquestionably one powerful means of fighting against the war. This is shown plainly by the nature of the opposition to the referendum. The movement for the referendum finds itself at every stage in the sharpest conflict with the war-mongers. If there is still disagreement about the best means for fighting war, we can learn from the experience of common struggle.

Upon Whom Shall We Rely?

One lesson can already be drawn from the experiences of the movement for the war referendum. That lesson is that the "official" leaders of the movement, the Ludlows and LaFollettes, cannot be relied upon. They give lip service in speeches and at election time, but they have already shown in practice that they cannot be counted on to carry the struggle through.

In the first place, they have not rallied the people behind them in a great popular wave that would sweep over the heads of the opposition. They jockey around in the offices or committee rooms of Washington, and permit the war-mongers to file their bills away in dusty pigeon-holes. For such a cause as the war referendum, there is no hope in legalistic by-play at the top; strength can come only from

the surging voice of the people. In the second place, they have tacked so many modifications onto the simple, clear demand for the referendum that they have warped it beyond recognition. With all of Latin America, all United States possessions (including, no doubt all consulates and embassies, which are technically possessions, in every country) excluded not merely if invaded but even at the immediate "threat" of invasion, a

Lundeberg Raps

"Have you stopped beating your wife? Answer yes or no! This old lawyer's trick was dug up by the Stalinists to use egainst the militant leaders of (Continued from Page 1) desire of the workers of New the Sailors Union of the Pacific, the cops. All their personal pa- Haven for real action against on the occasion of the Harry

A stooge introduced into the ervices to light the case in ers Defense Guards appear pending "any official of the S.U.P. that shall testify against Harry Bridges at his forthcoming hearing on deportation charges." Have you stopped

Lundeberg's Answer

Harry Lundeberg, militant city for the right to starve. membership ordered published in "West Coast Sailors" of July

"The introduction of this pro-Workers Defense Guards was cense, you can bet) on the main the officials of the S.U.P. It is gang victims is that the boys S.U.P. officials the slimy slan- and fed. der campaign waged by the gainst Bridges.

official of the S.U.P. has ever in many cases have thus far been connected in any way, kept them going. shape or form with the deportation case of Bridges. . . .

Opposes Deportation

should not attempt to make a case worker to have a

time in New Orleans, in an them will have to apply for reinter-union fight between two lief themselves. groups of N.M.U. men, Joe Cur-

form, and to put it on the most solid foundation. three changes in the current versions are necessary:

war is defensive.

(3) In the war referendum, the right to vote should be given to all of the age of 18 and over. Those who are 18 and over are called upon to die in the war, are drafted. If they are old enough to fight in the war, they are old enough to vote on the question of entering it.

The people want the war referendum. That is the unchallenged fact. What must be done is for the people themselves to take the fight for the referendum into their own hands. Nothing has been or will be done by waiting for Congressmen and Senators. The issue of the referendum must be brought into every trade union, farm organization and farmers' cooperative, every fraternal society and club and youth group. Rallies, petitions, speeches, meetings, canvassings must gather the already vast but unorganized support of the referendum into a powerful, united force. Before the assembled might of the people, the secret diplomats, the star-chamber heroes, the war-mongers and their fellow conspirators, will be routed into the open and compelled to give their accounting.

Let the people decide!

Another Vicious Swipe At Chicago's Jobless

"Economy Drive" Hits Needy While Ward-

By S. B. GRANT

Special to the Socialist Appeal) the opinion that the unemployed CHICAGO-At the behest of have to be taught obedience chicago businessmen a new installed. Every able-bodied going to decide his fitness) will be compelled to work for every cent in excess of fifteen dollars

Leo M. Lyons, head of the

This latest knife-in-the-back

Everybody knows, further more, that the Relief Adminis-"I also want to state for the tration is reducing its staff. Disrecord that so far as deporting missal notices for 15 percent of Bridges is concerned I am op- the clerical workers and 25 per posed to it-in my opinion a cent of the professional staff man who cannot show a clear are now in the mail. Everystrike record in 1921, so far as thing is being conducted in the the seamen's strikes are con- dark. Nobody knows who is gocerned, and a man who has ing to be laid off, or on what been a known and bold enemy basis. This layoff is going to of the S.U.P. to the extent of make things a hundred times walking through S.U.P. picket tougher both for the remaining lines, is a rat-but Union Labor case workers and the relief sufshould take care of these kind ferers. Even under former conof birds-and will-and they ditions, it was not unusual for a phoney 'labor martyr' of him of over two hundred. Attention by holding pink-tea government to individual cases was imposicquiries regarding deporting sible. Now the sick, the crippled and the helpless will be in "Incidentally, while the com- a fiercer jam than ever. It will within five days. But no such rats scream their high heads take even longer to get help this ported and a manuffunction the laborers understand the the way. John Q. Worker has off about the deportation of and attention. And as for the this period and a penalty of an whole thing too, because they got himself a union and a un-Harry Bridges, at the same discharged workers, most of additional quarter of a million are not dummies just because ion wage and the owners can't

clever statesman could find a way of maintaining that the referendum could never apply.

In order to bring the proposal back to its clear original

(1) It should call for a direct, popular, referendum vote in the case of any and all wars. This is the only safeguard. History has shown that diplomats in each and every country are always able to claim that any war into which their nation enters is a "defensive" war. Calling a war defensive is only a way of trying to make it look respectable. The people who should decide whether to fight a war, are also the ones to decide whether or not a given

merely prior to any declaration of war, but prior to the use of any of the armed forces of the United States in any armed conflict whatsoever. Nowadays wars are sometimes not "declared", but undeclared wars can be just as decide not only the partly formal question of the declaration of war, but the concrete question of the war itself, which means armed conflict.

tion. Many businessmen are of

When the Social Workers

tion furiously said no.

destroy America, the ward

heelers, soft job holders, cheap

crooks, political tapeworms, sit

around with their bellies in

their laps drawing, in salaries

and graft, the money that be-

longs to the unemployed.

FROM POLAND

Grodno, Poland,

June 20th, 1939.

'We have lived through a

well-to-do to the poorest paid.

People sold their last belong-

ings - sewing machines, bed-

market auction place.

Scissorbill Sam Acts

His Part, But Fails

To Spike Militancy

a little careful grooming.

Special to the Socialist Appeal)

HUTCHINSON, Kansas

"loyalty" and "patriotism."

Then the Sunday paper gave

him a half-page story with pic-

tures about how he had built

himself a house out of scraps

and junk. It was a good job.

It made a Scissorbill Sam out

Acts His Part

So that when the W. P. A.

strike came along, Dunn was

all primed to give the papers

what they wanted. "This thing

of organizing the relief workers

is all wrong," said Dunn, and

he said lots more which the

paper gladly printed.

feeling here.

(affiliated with the

Heelers, Politicians Draw Fat Salaries

and docility, have to be taught system of work relief is being to lick gratefully the hand that man (they don't tell us who is food. The drive for efficiency goes in his monthly budget. He will on in a hot search for "frauds" be paid fifty cents an hour. A and mistakes in budgeting. man whose family receves thir. Professional bloodhounds drive here and want to get the ty dollars will thus have to known as auditors have been most complete file of expired work thirty hours. In other hired at \$150 a month to sniff subs you have available. This words he will have to repay the out mistakes in addition made time we promise action!"-El

Chicago Relief Administration has yet been reported. has not yet given full details concerning the type of work he Union wants reliefers to do, but he has State. County and Municipal indicated that they will do Workers of America, all fixed -washing grimy street signs, League, strikes 100 per cent picking up after the well-to-do. forbidden in its contract) timposed resolution is an insult From now on the only differ- idly suggested that these audience between clients and chainan attempt on the part of the on the chain gang have more author to continue against the security - are better clothed

C.P. hangers-on for the past is particularly vicious because two years in connection with it prevents the unemployed deportation proceedings from supplementing their starvation handouts by picking up "To my certain knowledge no the few miserable odd jobs that

Case Workers Fired

All these ducky reforms are ran and Steve Harty put the a direct result of the campaign finger on Arthur Thomas, sec- put on by the businessmen and Gulf, and had him picked up make the charity racket more by immigration authorities be- "efficient". There are plenty of cause he is 'illegally' in the reasons to suspect that econemy is not the only considera-

(2) The referendum decision should be required not destructive as any others. The point is for the people to

(The end)

ON THE W.P.A. DISTRIBU-TION FRONT:

The W.P.A. strike is still go- A STANDING OFFER ing strong and so is the mass TO BRANCHES: distribution of the Appeal to

he strikers.

veland, St. Louis, East St. Louis, etc. branches all took our policy to do this all along extra bundles of the last issue. and we want to continue. Branches must send in their extra orders in advance—by Manager and the sample copies

THE BRANCHES AT WORK:

to assure prompt delivery.

"We are going to work immediately on a systematic sub by case workers. No case where Booth, new literature agent of the client was getting too little San Francisco.

"We are beginning to sell the Appeal in the streets, and we are also preparing a printed leaflet on the Appeal. I am sure that in the future we shall be able to meet our bills as they come along" - Sol Thomas, Philadelphia agent.

New York City is beginning to get results on its campaign dle of 35 per issue while covertors be laid off the Administrafor renewal subscriptions. Un- ing the W.P.A. strike in Streader the able direction of com- tor, Illinois. And while the economy drive rade Milt "Swachime" Alvin. goes on, and while the Tribune comrades are visiting all by our Canadian comrades in daily raises its snout to howl names on the lists of expired Calgary, Alta., is already takthat the poor and the social workers are in a conspiracy to

|newals.

The Appeal is always ready to send sample copies to lists The Rochester, Detroit, Cle- of contacts supplied by branch literature agents. It has been

Just send in your lists to the tosses them their daily, wormy airmail or by telegram-so as will be mailed out-with no cost to the branches.

Here's the list of new subs that came in during the week: Massachusetts Minneapolis Chicago California Pennsylvania Indiana Washington Foreign Detroit . Wisconsin Washington, D. C.

John Malone is taking a bun-

The new branch established subscriptions and getting re- ing a small bundle of Appeals.

WORKERS' FORUM

THE UNIONS AND THE UNSKILLED WORKER ON W.P.A. Editor:

I want to say a couple of things about the tough spot a lot of common laborers on way around. W.P.A. like myself are being I figure it this way. In order put on by this W.P.A. strike to be a successful and powernow going on.

On my project I talked to a iot of the other laborers and explained what was the mean- ing class have to accumulate ing of the strike and why the as rapidly as possible a trenightmare in the last two skilled laborers walked off and mendous amount of war mateweeks. The government im- that it is our fight too, because rial, just as the British owning posed a war loan. From the they have cut our prevailing class, the Italian owning Jewish community of our town wage too, and they are making etc., are doing. As usual, John (about fifty thousand people) us work 9 hours a month more Q. Worker, is the goat. John one million zlotys (equivalent and they are going to cut our Q. Worker has to be squeezed

zlotys was imposed. A citizens' they do only common labor cut his pay so that they can committee was formed, it taxed work. But these are the ques- buy more gunpowder as easily every last person to the utmost tions they ask: "Then why as they might like. So they and still the required sum could don't the A.F.L. ask us to come look around and look around not be gotten together. Another off the job too?" This is a and finally decide to call on retary of the N.M.U. in the their journalistic prostitutes to penalty was imposed by the au- hard question to answer so they their pals in the government thorities on top of the first one. will be satisfied. We are will- for help. A pretty little scheme People walked around like in a ing to come off and help them is cooked up. The government daze, they cried, implored, win, one worker says, but will has a W.P.A. and through it some became hysterical, a few they be willing to help us? the principle of the union wage fainted. . . It was no use. The "How is it that they don't want will be smashed in a big way. entire Jewish community was to take us into the A.F.L.?" Lots of publicity, etc., so the threatened with banishment, Another worker said sure, we lesson will sink deep. with concentration camps if the are willing to help them but demanded sum was not pro- after this is all over, where do smashed, the owning class will duced. (Grodno lies in the mili- we stand? Is the A.F.L. going be able to do what they wanted tary zone). Finally 1,333,000 to protect us too like the skilled to do in the first place, namely zlotys was collected. This was labor or will it leave us hold- cut wages so they can turn the acceptable to the authorities, ing the bag without any pro- difference into guns, etc. To Every last person from the tection?

That is what I want to em- union wage is called the prephasize. A good many labor- vailing wage. And John Q. ers want to help, but the A.F.L. ding, chairs were piled in the isn't asking them, and they 18 months business) to help don't want to organize into the him forget the real issue, the "And today came the demand independent unemployed or wrecking of the backbone of his to pay for the gas masks which ganizations because they feel union, the wrecking of the ungovernment distributed these don't have the power and ion wage. The role of the Stalsome time ago. . . How very protection of the A.F.L. So inists in trying to whitewash

difficult it is to live these they don't know what to do. come out of this strike should Worker whose backside tells be the A.F.L. beginning to or- him who really is delivering ganize the W.P.A. common la- the kicks. bor even if they don't have the money for high dues. Yours truly,

A W.P.A. WORKER. Newark, N. J. F.D.R.'S POLICY WOULD

'Scissorbill Sam, the bosses' man," is sometimes born that I have just finished reading JOBLESS STARVE way, but mostly he's made by the current issue, No. 51, of the Appeal. It is one of the Take, for instance, Donald F. best so far. Clear, incisive, Dunn, a foreman on a W. P. A. project here. Occasional news stories in the paper praised him for his "industry" and

WRECK UNION BASIS

to me, though, that the Appeal has missed up in perhaps the most important factor in the W.P.A. mess. The present the smallest appropriations drive is primarily for the pur- here in any month since a pubpose of completely destroying lic relief agency was set up in the unions by wrecking their 1933. Further reductions are fundamental basis, the union wage. (The capitalist press to sequent months, according to confuse the issue calls it the John K. Rowland, local Social prevailing wage.) A secondary Security Administrator. and quite incidental aspect of the W.P.A. wrecking drive is families will be discontinued. that an enormous mass of la- About 800 additional families bor will be thrown on the mar- with one member classified as ket to further depress wages. "employable" will be removed All this, of course, is part of from the rolls after getting a

But in spite of Scissorbill Sam and the paper, there is a by a man named W. P. Gold- likelihood of these persons getlot of resentment and militant ing put the heat on the city ting on W. P. A. or in private commission so well that they industry. A few weeks ago when the city closed down the airport W. P. A. project for lack of funds, a band of W. P. A. workers led the men back to work pronto.

"reconsidered" the shutdown, raised the necessary funds by a quick action bond issue and put the men back to work pronto.

Buy the Socialist Appeal at Your Newsstand

Roosevelt's war preparedness steam roller. True, the Appeal has mentioned all this but only incidentally and has given it only very minor prominence whereas it should be the other.

ful participant in the coming slaughter, the American own-

to \$200,000) were demanded monthly pay pretty soon too. and squeezed and squeezed. When it is explaned to them, But there is an obstacle in

> Then with the principle help the campaign along, the Worker has his wages cut (the "My Friennnnnds" by blaming The big thing that ought to the Tories is obvious to John Q

I should very much like to see the Appeal give this the prominence and attention it de-

MONKEYS WELL FED,

JOHN FISHORT.

(Continued from Page 1) and with excellent coverage, to the 22,037 on the rolls. For and a swell first page. It seems the month of July they are to receive an average of \$3.31 each for food, 11 cents for rent and nothing at all for clothing, expected in August and subse-

Relief grants to non-citizen Franklin "My Friennnnds" final grant of food for two weeks. There is practically no