

Only the People Have the Right to Decide on War!

The War That Is Coming Will Not Be A People's War!

AN EDITORIAL

The war which everyone sees coming will not be a people's war.

It is being prepared right now BEHIND THE BACKS OF THE PEOPLE, and the war-makers will not ask any "by-your-leave."

If this is not so why, then, the vicious and bitter opposition to the idea of a war referendum on the part of the Roosevelt administration and all of Wall Street's men in Washington?

There is no better way of showing up the hypocritical cant about democracy which daily drools from the capitalist press and from Washington than to pose the simple question: LET THE PEOPLE VOTE ON WAR! WHY NOT?

We know what the big boys are afraid of: They fear that the anti-war sentiment of the masses can be squelched only AFTER the guns begin to boom, AFTER the war propaganda experts get to work, AFTER a war dictatorship is clamped down.

They Remember 1917

They think back with terror at the thought of what would have happened, for example, if a free and untrammelled vote on the war had been taken in April of 1917. As a Kansas Congressman complained recently: "IT TOOK US ABOUT SIX MONTHS TO GET THE BOY WHO WAS GOING TO BE SHOT AT AROUSED TO THE POINT WHERE HE WOULD THROW HIS HAT IN THE AIR AND HOLLER FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE SHOT."

And as a matter of fact, the boy didn't holler to be shot even after six months: the volunteer drive in 1917 was a "flat failure"; the DRAFT had to be imposed.

For anyone who is concerned about democracy, there is a fact plain to see right now: THE LARGE MAJORITY OF THE PEOPLE WANT THE RIGHT TO VOTE ON WAR.

A poll taken about a year ago by the Institute of Public Opinion showed that 72 per cent of the people favored the war referendum resolution then before Congress—almost THREE QUARTERS of the population. Just as indicative of the popular ground-swell in favor of a people's vote on war is the attitude taken by the Congressmen who have their ears to the ground.

There is, to take one example, Representative Gillie of Indiana. Here is what he told the Senate sub-committee on the war referendum:

"This question was an important issue in my campaign last year, and as a consequence I became intimately acquainted with what thousands of Indiana mothers and fathers, and farmers and workers, think of the war referendum proposal.

"Almost without exception they told me: 'We're for it!'

"With typical Hoosier logic, they inquired: 'We vote on the choice for dog-catcher. We vote on bond issues for new schools. Why not vote on war and on the enormous bond issues required to finance modern war?'

"Gentlemen, there is only one answer to that question. Why not?"

These Congressmen are on the spot. No matter how many speeches Roosevelt makes explaining his attack on the war referendum, they cannot, facing the workers and farmers back home, answer that simple query—Why not?

F.D.R.'s "Argument"

Roosevelt's only argument in the last Congress was . . . to swing the big stick of patronage and club the Congressmen into line with the threat of taking away their place at the Presidential pork-barrel. The politicians like Gillie were caught between the cross-fire of the grass-roots pressure in their districts on the one hand, and on the other the threat of excommunication by Jim Farley.

They yielded to the latter, and the war referendum was not even allowed to come up for discussion by these "representatives of the people."

IS THERE ANY REASON TO BELIEVE THAT EVEN THE "PROGRESSIVE" CONGRESSMEN WILL BE ANY MORE CONCERNED ABOUT THE INTERESTS OF THE MASSES, WHEN THE PRESIDENT CALLS UPON THEM TO PLUNGE THE WORKERS AND FARMERS INTO A NEW WORLD SLAUGHTER?

The people themselves must force this issue upon Congress: Only the people have the right to decide on war! LET THE PEOPLE VOTE!

The Boss Courts at Work

On August 4 Max Ornstein, a lawyer, on trial before Judge Mahoney in the 2nd District Magistrate's Court was found guilty of disorderly conduct, and sentenced to two days in jail, or \$5 fine. What had Ornstein done? He had bought a copy of Social Justice from a woman, torn the rag up and thrown it away. A cop thereupon arrested him and booked him for disorderly conduct. The police evidently know when to act.

The case gives pointed attention to the charges made

in the Socialist Appeal and elsewhere, charges that Mayor LaGuardia refuses to consider, of Coughlinite sympathy in the police and the courts. Facts speak for themselves.

There have been innumerable provocations by Coughlinites and their supporters in the New York Police against anti-fascists. Socialist Appeal salesmen have been consistently hounded; meetings have been disrupted. So far no action has been taken by the police against the Coughlinites responsible.

Socialist Appeal

Official Organ of the Socialist Workers Party, Section of the Fourth International—Issued Twice Weekly

BUILD WORKERS' DEFENSE GUARDS

VOL. III, No. 57

TUESDAY, AUGUST 8, 1939

3c a Copy

Roosevelt Promotes Instigator Of "Bloody Friday" In Minneapolis

National Stockyard Struggle Brewing

Enemy Sides Gather In Chicago—National Strike Possible

By PORFERIO

(Special to the Socialist Appeal) CHICAGO—Various contending forces have converged on the Chicago stockyards, the hub of the country's meat packing industry. A special crew of CIO organizers has arrived in anticipation of a nation-wide strike. John L. Connor, commissioner of conciliation for the U.S. Department of Labor, came fresh from his success in conciliating the dispute at Harlan, Ky. Paul H. Douglas, the "liberal" Alderman, in his capacity as chairman of a Chicago City Council subcommittee on labor, has been trying unsuccessfully to bring the contending parties together. And finally, the head of Armour and Co., President Robert H. Cabell, has returned to the city, cutting short his European vacation.

NATIONAL STRIKE WAS AUTHORIZED

Will there be a nation-wide strike in the meat packing industry? This remains as yet to be seen.

Authorization for such a walk-out against the "Big Four," Armour, Cudahy, Swift and Wilson, was placed in the hands of CIO officials at a packing house workers' convention held in Chicago, July 16-17. Grievances are piling up, organization of the workers has proceeded for some time at a fairly rapid pace. Labor Board elections were won, a huge rally jammed 16,000 workers into the Chicago Coliseum, July 17, with a good many left outside.

All in all, there are sufficient elements in these developments for a struggle of titanic proportions. And while as yet no date has been set for a nation-wide strike, there need be little doubt that, whether or not it eventuates, the CIO is once again facing a major test.

Not less than 856 delegates (Continued on Page 4)



The Joker in the Deck!

Glotzbach Ran Finks Against Pickets; Anti-Labor Jury in Session

Investigation Ordered by Attorney General Murphy as Part of Administration Drive Against the Labor Unions

(Special to the Socialist Appeal)

MINNEAPOLIS, Aug. 3—Amid strict secrecy, the Federal grand jury sitting in St. Paul ended today its seventh day of investigation into the WPA strike in Minneapolis.

But President Roosevelt made no secret of his partisanship in this struggle. Tonight it was announced that Linus Glotzbach, Minneapolis WPA administrator, had been nominated by Roosevelt for promotion to Regional Director of the WPA for the Seventh District, comprising several states.

Glotzbach was the Federal official most directly responsible for the killing of Emil Bergstrom, unemployed worker, and the shooting of a score of others, when the police fired on the WPA picket line on Bloody Friday, July 14. Brushing aside all union attempts to arrange that struck projects remain closed until the strike terminated, Glotzbach had insisted on running finks through the picket lines and had demanded and secured an army of police to do his bidding.

This man, who deliberately sought an "incident" so that he could crack down still harder on the strike, who was indicted by the entire labor movement here in a resolution adopted July 15 as the man "who demanded police action against a majority of WPA workers on strike in full knowledge of what consequence might follow"—is now publicly promoted by Roosevelt.

Roosevelt Action Significant

Roosevelt's action, coming in the midst of the grand jury investigation, can only be interpreted as a public demonstration of the President's solidarity with his underling and as a broad hint to the grand jury. To date the grand jury has questioned about 140 witnesses and has subpoenaed forty others.

U. S. District Attorney Victor E. Anderson announced that the inquiry will continue for at least two more weeks. He testily denied the persistent rumor that the grand jury had already issued a partial report without indictments.

In addition to the Minneapolis strike, the grand jury is now probing the St. Paul and Columbia Heights strikes.

The four daily papers in the Twin Cities keep the probe story on the front page, devoting reams of space to it in an obvious endeavor to continue intimidation of the WPA workers.

Murphy Ordered Probe

The grand jury investigation was ordered by Attorney General Murphy on July 19, when he announced to the press that he had ordered it convened to go "into charges that WPA strikers had interfered with persons wishing to work in Minneapolis and St. Paul." His order followed from his previous threat July 13 against the strikers that: "There must be no strike against the govern-

(Continued on Page 3)

FISHER BODY MEN READY TO FIGHT ON

Leaders Set Dangerous Precedent; Ranks Want to Finish Job

(Special to the Socialist Appeal)

CLEVELAND, O., August 2—All is quiet on the Fisher Body strike front here as CIO leaders and lawyers bowed their heads to the edict of Mayor Burton establishing a 500 yard "riot zone" about the embattled plant which permitted only 5 pickets to a gate and entry into the zone of other individuals only by police permission.

And this after Monday's great struggle, when eight thousand workers cleaned the clocks of the entire city police force, driving them and the strike-breakers to cover! The battle-lines are now limited to the courts, where the company is attempting to get an injunction against all picketing. Meanwhile the scabs and strike-breakers, under protection of police clubs and guns, are insolently passing by the small band of pickets permitted by the Burton ruling.

Meanwhile, small roving bands of pickets are attempting to picket the homes of scabs, but are being driven off by the police.

(Continued on Page 3)

Lending Bill Hokum Is Ended

The much-publicized Lending-Spending Bill, passed by the Senate last week, was killed August 1 by a House vote of 195 to 166 against considering the Bill.

Headlined as a "Four Billion Spending Program," the president's original proposal merely "authorized" expenditure of \$3,880,000,000, with only about \$870,000,000 to be spent during the next fiscal year. With the anticipated national income at around 68 billions for the year.

(Continued on Page 2)

NEWS ITEM: SENATOR GETS IDEA

"I want to develop the idea I had yesterday. It came out of a clear sky. I had been reading the resolution. The thought occurred to me, which is not so clear in the mind of the average layman, that we are a republic and not a democracy."

Any more ideas, Senator Wiley?

New Relief Proposal No Help

By NEIL WHITE

The Murray amendment to the Relief Act, passed in the Senate on August 1, and which is now before the House, reveals, after a brief analysis, that if passed, it will leave the WPA strikers in no better position than when they first went out on strike against the vicious Woodrum Bill dictated by Roosevelt's slash in the relief appropriation.

The text of the amendment of Senator Murray is as follows: (Continued on Page 2)

Bronx Coughlin Group Brags About Fascist Preparations

Workers Will Meet Christian Front Challenge by Preparing Counter-Demonstration

The Coughlin Christian Front held a meeting Wednesday night at Fordham Road and Valentine Avenue, the Bronx, heart of the shopping and amusement center of the borough.

A call to "good" Christians to boycott all Jewish-owned businesses was issued by one, Hartley, chief speaker. Part of "the international Jewish conspiracy to control and subjugate the clean Christian world," he said, was to discharge their Christian workers

and hire "Jews or other communist aliens."

Attacks Labor Unions

The trade union movement and its leadership was viciously attacked. President Dubinsky of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union was particularly abused, called a thug, thief, etc.

Hartley bragged that "minute men" units of the Christian Front were being formed throughout the city, "waiting for the hour to strike." He (Continued on Page 3)

THEY CHEERED THE MILITIA

Strikers at Green Mountain Dam, Col., cheered National Guardsmen who marched in and halted a rifle battle between the strikers and deputized vigilantes.

They cheered when the troops disarmed the vigilantes. The vigilantes had operated under the old phoney formula that "any man who wants to should be allowed to work."

An hour later, Adjutant General Harold H. Richardson, commander of the guardsmen, announced:

"Any man who wants to can go back to work."

Mass Action by Negro Workers Brings Victory

10,000 Negro and White Workers Demonstrate in Chicago—Housing Injunction Lifted

By PAUL PICQUET

(Special to the Socialist Appeal) CHICAGO—A mass demonstration of over 10,000 Negro workers, called to protest an injunction preventing construction of a Federal housing unit on the South Side was turned into a victory celebration, Sunday, July 30. Sneakers at the demonstration were able to announce that the militant stand of the workers in the Negro neighborhood had forced the lifting of the injunction. The backbone of the demon-

stration was a parade of over 1,000 workers, led by the Washington Park Forum, through the poverty-stricken streets of Bronzeville. Hundreds of workers joined in the march which proceeded to the site of the proposed housing unit, where a mass meeting was held.

Prominent real estate interests are violently opposed to the housing project which they fear will force them to lower rents and make repairs on their holdings. The injunction, issued by (Continued on Page 3)