

WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!

# Socialist Appeal

BUILD WORKERS' DEFENSE GUARDS

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

VOL. III, No. 58

FRIDAY, AUGUST 11, 1939

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# LET THE PROFITEERS DO THE DYING!

## Stop Fascism In America!

### Will Father Coughlin Become Dictator of the United States?

By JOSEPH HANSEN

(FIRST INSTALLMENT)

"Bolshevism is knocking at our gates. We can't afford to let it in. We have got to organize ourselves against it, and put our shoulders together and hold fast. We must keep America whole and safe and unspoiled. We must keep the worker away from red literature and red ruses; we must see that his mind remains healthy."—Al Capone. (Quoted in Fascism and Social Revolution, by R. Palme Dutte, p. 204.)

### The Black Shirts March on Rome

On the night of October 29, 1922, a man who later called himself *Il Duce* boarded a Pullman sleeping car at Milan and sped to Rome where he had been summoned by King Victor Emmanuel to act as Premier of Italy. On the following morning King Victor charged him with forming a new government.

A few days later 50,000 Black Shirts, followers of *Il Duce*, climbed off trains at Rome and paraded through the streets shouting "*Il Duce! Il Duce!*"

This was called the "March on Rome."

Before the "March on Rome," *Il Duce's* Black Shirts had ranged like wolves over Italy. They had raided trade union headquarters, smashed the furniture to kindling wood, dumped typewriters out of windows. They had broken into halls where workers met, drenched the floors with gasoline and turned the buildings into crackling furnaces that lit up the sky at night with a red glow.

In every city and village of Italy unions had conducted funeral services for members whose bodies had been found in dark alleys, victims of *Il Duce's* Black Shirts.

But if Terror, Violence, and Torture had ridden as banner bearers during the period before the "March on Rome," now they swept behind *Il Duce's* new government like a great desolating scourge that spared not a home of the workers and small farmers of Italy.

*Il Duce's* Black Shirts strong-armed every trade union and co-operative enterprise, confiscated the insurance and pitiful savings of the poor, herded every one who breathed "union wages union hours" behind barbed wire, drowned free speech in castor oil, black-jacked learning and culture, assassinated all opposition, and marched through every factory and farm with the dripping blade of the bayonet.

*Il Duce* wiped out every progressive organization in Italy. The workers bowed down their backs in misery, hunger, and degradation such as Italy had not known for generations.

Mussolini, the once obscure man, who called himself *Il Duce*, labeled this campaign of murder a "revolution." He called it FASCISM.

He called it a CORPORATE STATE.

He said it would preserve PRIVATE PROPERTY.

### The Powerful Italian Trade Unions

Those who have studied the labor movement in Italy know that toward the end of the year 1920 the trade unions boasted more than 5,000,000 loyal militant members. Besides this, there were almost 20,000 co-operative societies and a powerful working class political movement.

The workers had succeeded in gaining the eight-hour day throughout most of Italy. They had succeeded in gaining wages high enough to live like human beings. Even in the agricultural districts union contracts prevailed, and the workers had won a few nation-wide concessions such as unemployment insurance and old-age pensions.

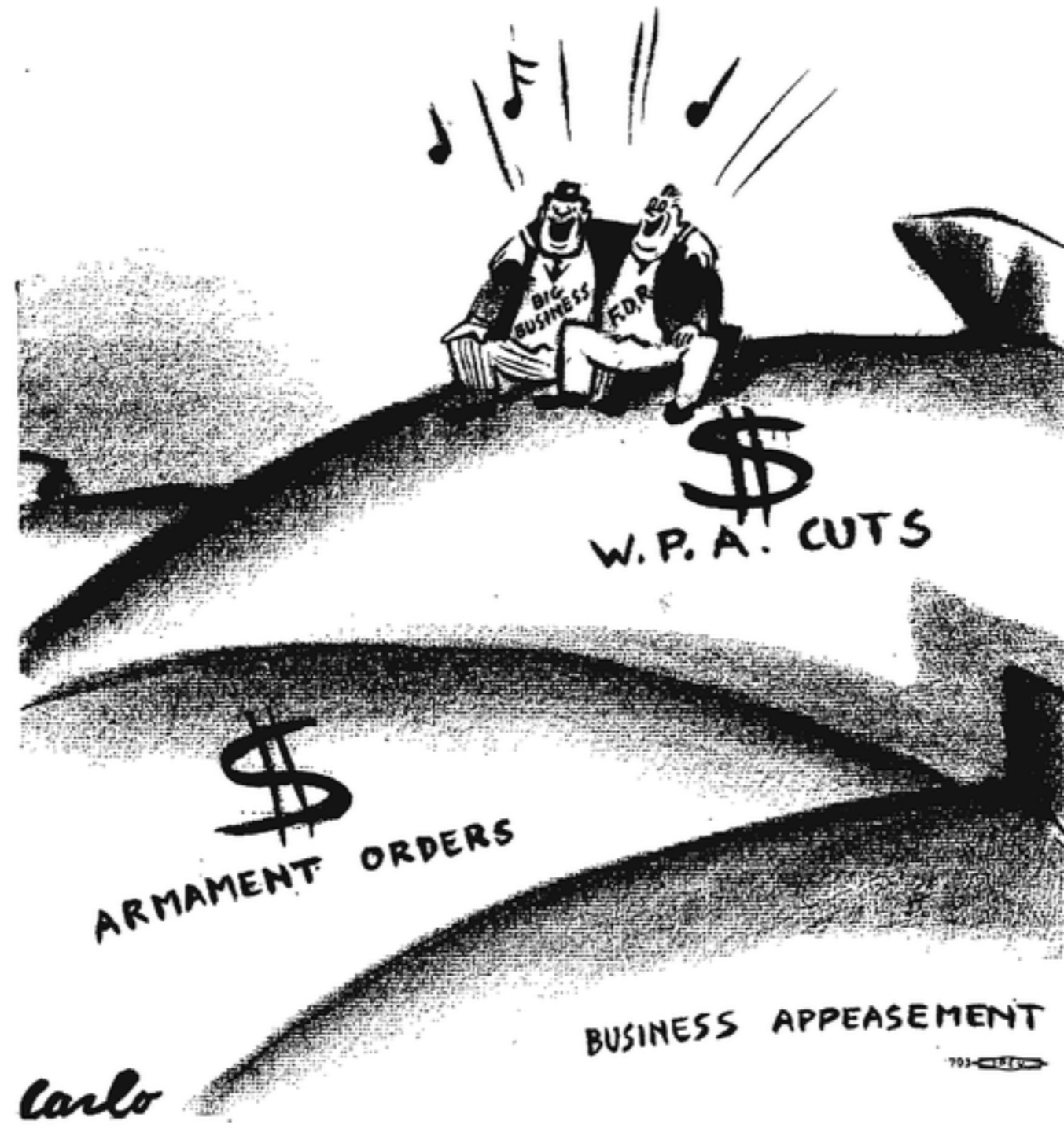
In September 1920 when the big industrialists locked out 600,000 men from the factories, the workers retaliated with a giant sit-down strike. The bosses fought viciously. But the strikers were determined to win. If the stockholding bosses couldn't pay union wages, let them step out of the way. The strikers began running the factories under the supervision of expert shop committees elected from their own ranks.

They even opened the safes of the bosses and uncovered the secret bookkeeping which had hitherto hidden staggering rake-offs through closely guarded manipulation of cost prices and profits.

With a trade union movement as militant and determined as this, how was it possible for a renegade from the Socialist movement like Mussolini, starting with a contemptible handful of porch-climbers and foot-pads, to wipe these powerful labor organizations off the face of the land as if they had never existed?

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## "Happy Days Are Here Again"



## Local New York Launches Drive To Place Names on Election Ballot

### New York S.W.P. Calls on Workers to Vote First Choice for Shachtman and Paine in Coming Councilmanic Elections

NEW YORK CITY, Aug. 8.—New York Local of the Socialist Workers Party today launched a drive for 10,000 signatures to place its two candidates, Max Shachtman of the Bronx and George Lyman Paine of Manhattan on the ballot as candidates for the office of City Councilman in the coming election.

"In running independent candidates of the Socialist Workers Party as 'first choice' on the ballot," declared E. R. Frank, election campaign manager,



MAX SHACHTMAN

"we are not competing with any of the candidates of the American Labor Party who have rejected the support of the Democratic and Republican parties.

To Support ALP Candidates "In fact we are supporting every candidate of the American Labor Party who stands squarely against the Democratic and Republican parties of Big Business. We will campaign for them during the election period.

"If our candidates do not receive sufficient votes to gain

office, then all the votes cast for them will be transferred to the American Labor Party candidates (or whoever is marked 'second choice') on the ballot in accordance with the New York election laws.

"We stand 100 per cent for independent working class politics. We reject and denounce those candidates who are so weak-kneed, or thirsty for political office, that they betray the interests of the labor movement and seek help from the war chest of Big Business which finances on the one hand labor spies, thugs, and strikebreakers, and on the other, the Democratic and Republican parties.

Against Relief Slashers "When you vote for a candidate of the Socialist Workers Party you are voting against Democrat Roosevelt and Republican LaGuardia and their slash relief, war-mongering politics.

"When you vote for a candidate of the Socialist Workers Party you are voting against the unwarranted continuance of the depression and in favor of ending the depression by establishing a socialist planned economy.

"Vote for independent labor politics by indicating on your ballot as 'second choice' American Labor Party candidates who are running in opposition to the Democratic and Republican tools of Big Business."

Neighborhood Circulation Petitions have been sent to all branches of the S.W.P. in New York for neighborhood circulation. The whole organiza-



GEORGE LYMAN PAINE

tion is preparing to collect the necessary 2,000 signatures for each candidate in order to place his name on the ballot as a candidate.

The program of the Socialist Workers Party which Max Shachtman and George Lyman Paine are pledged to carry out to the full power of the Councilmanic office, if they are elected, calls for the expropriation of the subways, expropriation of the electric power monopoly, a \$20-billion low cost housing program, and adequate relief for those suffering from unemployment.

Major emphasis of the election campaign will be placed on fighting Democrat Roosevelt's and Republican LaGuardia's war program. Huge mass meetings throughout the Bronx and Manhattan as well as other boroughs are planned to dramatize the struggle against war and the struggle against the rising menace of Coughlinism and fascism in America.

Next issue of the Socialist Appeal will print the full program of the Socialist Workers Party for the coming election.

## The People Do Not Want to Suffer And Die in War

In the year 1913, on the eve of the first world-wide imperialist war, the nations of the world spent \$2,400,000,000 on armaments.

In the year 1938, according to an analysis just released, the nations of the world spent \$20,000,000,000 on armaments: more than eight times the 1913 figure.

In July, 1914, just before the outbreak of the first world war, there were 5,970,000 men under arms.

Last month, in July, 1939, there were 12,600,000 men under arms: more than twice the number of 1914.

Stop to think, for a moment, of what these figures mean.

The first world war was the most horrible catastrophe in the history of mankind. How much more horrible do these figures indicate that the coming war will be!

Think of the incredible waste of these resources, skills, intelligences, men consecrated, even in peace-time, to the war machine—while tens and hundreds of millions of human beings are in need and want of the products which they could aid in bringing.

Are the peoples of the world going to allow themselves, and civilization, to be destroyed by the war thrust upon them by Hitler, Chamberlain, Mussolini, Daladier and Roosevelt?

If not, the peoples will have to take matters into their own hands, out of the control of the war-makers.

Who will suffer and die in the war?

Not the war-makers. You may be sure that they will be safe and comfortable.

We who will suffer and die must demand and take the right to decide whether that war is worth suffering and dying for.

The war-makers in this country, from Roosevelt to Browder, attack the proposal for a war referendum. They attack it because they plan to lead the people into a war against the will of the majority.

Let the people give the answer to the war-makers!

Let the people vote on war!

Let the people decide!

## Judge Rules Anti-Coughlin Salesmen Can Shout Slogans

### Trial Evidence Shows Police Act under Instructions in Hounding Anti-Coughlinites

NEW YORK—The case against Alyce Carlson heard in Magistrate's court, August 4, was dismissed by Judge Seigel, who made the ruling that anti-Coughlin street salesmen were legally correct in shouting slogans.

During the trial of Alyce Carlson, anti-fascist literature agent, evidence that the New York policemen are acting under instructions to prevent sales of anti-Coughlin pamphlets was brought to light.

Sergeant Orders Arrest At the first hearing, Officer Schnitzges stated that Miss Carlson had shouted statements not printed on the cover of the pamphlet she was selling, and that he had therefore arrested her on the charge of disorderly conduct.

When questioned, Officer Schnitzges disclaimed knowledge of a violation of any statute, but said that he had acted upon the orders of his superior, Sergeant Kelly.

The trial was then postponed and Sergeant Kelly was subpoenaed.

Statements by George Lyman Paine and Max Shachtman, Councilmanic candidates of the Socialist Workers Party, appear on page 2.

naed. Sergeant Kelly's testimony served as the basis for Magistrate Seigel's dismissal of the charge at the next hearing. This case is further proof of the deep inroads the Coughlin movement is making into the New York police department. Mayor La Guardia's statement whitewashing the police is exposed once more as an open lie and cover-up for the Coughlinites working in the police department.

Why No Coughlin Arrests? Another victory for the anti-Coughlin forces was won in New Haven in the case of Albert Harde and Ray Robbins, arrested on the trumped-up charges of selling literature without a license. After the Magistrate heard the testimony he threw the case out of court.

"Why don't the police ever arrest Coughlin salesmen?" the Judge asked. The cops in New Haven are lying low after this slap in the face, and the S.W.P. street meetings continue, more and more workers getting acquainted with the fight against Coughlin and their most effective weapon, the Workers Defense Guards.

Join the Socialist Workers Party

## New Mass Layoffs On WPA Speeded

### Building Union Head Says WPA Strike May Spread to PWA

NEW YORK, Aug. 7.—With the refusal of Congress to pass the Murray Amendment to the Relief Act, the consideration of which had interrupted mass dismissals of WPA workers on the rolls for eighteen months or more, the WPA Administration gave notice that wholesale firing was to begin again at once, 55,000 workers to be laid off in New York City before August 31.

This almost unbelievable brutality was supplemented by the refusal of Congress to consider the restoration of the prevailing wage on WPA projects.

Let us forget, both of these provisions, the dismissals of the "eighteen monthers" and the destruction of the prevailing wage, were dictated by the one billion dollar slash in the relief appropriation made by President Roosevelt in his rec-

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## MILLIONS OF MEN AWAIT CALL TO WAR

### War Postponement Beyond Fall Can Only Be for Short Period

The crisis month of August finds nearly 13,000,000 men under arms waiting for the outbreak of war.

The British reserve fleet of 133 vessels and 12,000 men is opening maneuvers this week in the North Sea that are to last until the end of September, by which time the European politicians figure war will have begun if it's to begin at all this Fall. An army of 750,000 is exercising in England, and British planes are making weekly practice flights to the continent.

German Maneuvers Italy has just completed "maneuvers" near the French frontier. Germany's maneuvers, the most redoubtable of all—with 2,500,000 men engaged—are to begin in the next few crisis-laden weeks.

These are the men and guns being moved across the traditional green tables of the diplomats in the game that is to end sooner or later in a new slaughter of the nations. Last year the situation was much the same and war did not actually break out. There was a climb-down instead and Hitler grabbed Czechoslovakia. This Fall war may again be staved off and Hitler may grab Danzig. If so, the issue will only have been postponed again—and only for a brief period.

Main Developments At the present stage of the pre-war diplomatic tangle, the main developments are as follows:

1. In Moscow: The Anglo-French-Soviet negotiations drag their way along, with the French and British negotiators still off at arms length from the ardently desired pact. They

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