

CIO Meet Vacillates on Program

LEWIS TALKS OF WAR PROBLEM— BUT OFFERS NOTHING CONCRETE

(Continued from Page 1) spring, and Roosevelt's demand for unity with the AFL on any basis forced Lewis to reserve his decision on the 1940 presidential elections. Instead of a third term endorsement for Roosevelt, Lewis favors an indefinite stand for a "progressive" candidate.

Yet the CIO state convention of California which just concluded its sessions went on record for the third term despite top CIO pressure. This issue is likely to evoke a sharp dispute at the national convention.

The Stalinists have apparently obtained the assurance of Lewis that he will seek to suppress any discussion of their role by means of an appeal for "unity." However, at least one state convention of the CIO has gone on record denouncing the Stalin-Hitler pact, etc., and dodging the issue will be very difficult.

Compromises Seen

The Lewis report avoided a serious discussion of the problem of labor unity, although he took his usual cracks at the AFL leadership. This reflects the less favorable position of the CIO on this question since the last convention.

The AFL convention indicated that its membership was well over 4,000,000 while the CIO has discreetly kept silent on its present enrollment. The blundering leadership of Lewis, and above all, the devastating effects of the Stalinist rule-or-ruin clique within the CIO has played havoc with the membership of the industrial unions, although some gains in packing houses and elsewhere can be noted.

Seeking to put up a good front for the CIO, Lewis and the top leadership of the organization have been working day and night to effect compromises on all questions so that the convention will appear "democratic, united and progressive." Since the essence of Lewis' control in the CIO is dictatorial, the "unity" slogan is becoming more of a cover for the nefarious Stalinist machinations.

Faces Dilemma

Nor can the dilemma facing the CIO be met merely as in the old days, namely by evading a clear-cut stand. Will the CIO seriously launch a fight against American participation in the second world war? This involves a sharp break with the Roosevelt administration. A call for a labor party? This week will decide.

The unemployed know that unemployment is terrible. The

CANADA A.F.L. CONFIRMS C.I.O. SUSPENSION

LONDON, Ontario—Carrying out the expressed wishes of William Green, president of the AFL, the 55th convention of the Trades and Labor Congress voted by 230 to 97 to approve this executive council's suspension of the CIO unions from the Congress.

Although no CIO delegates were present at the Congress, the delegates had earlier voted to expel all CIO affiliates throughout Canada by the narrow margin of 163 to 133 votes.

Pressure from the top leadership forced a more decisive vote on the question of approving the executive council's recommendation.

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question they ask Lewis is, what are you going to do about it? Will the CIO organize the WPA and relief workers to fight for their rights?

Lewis by his mild attack on the National Labor Relations Board and his concentration of fire on Vice-President Garner, instead of naming Roosevelt as responsible for WPA cuts, etc., reveals that he still intends to drift along, hoping for the best.

Only to the extent that rank and file pressure for a militant, independent and clear-cut program is manifested at this convention will the CIO be able to advance in the coming period in addition to holding on to its present forces. Otherwise, a further disintegration of this industrial union movement, which remains on a historical plane as progressive in relation to the AFL, is the menace of the coming period.

Stalin-Hitler Pact Final Straw, Another C.P.er Joins the S.W.P.

One after another they are quitting the Communist Party and joining the Socialist Workers Party—the party of mass proletarian action against war. Latest among those who have joined the S.W.P. is Irving Stark whose statement is here published in full:

I joined the Communist Party in 1933, a period during which the economic crisis imposed untold misery and poverty upon the working class. Unemployment and mass evictions of workers from their homes swept the city of New York. The C.P. at that time was active in mobilizing the workers in the struggle for jobs or relief and on many other fronts. It was natural that I as a worker endorsed this program and became an active member of that party.

When the Yorkville Section of the C.P. was organized in 1934 I was elected to the Section Committee, the Section Bureau and became the first Section Educational Director. The comrades with whom I worked were serious and devoted revolutionists.

The 7th World Congress of the Communist International brought about great changes: the Peoples' Front, collective security, the Democratic Front, and the wooing of individuals who, our enemies yesterday, became our friends and allies today. It all had a most confusing effect upon us. But the Party was growing and we had faith in the movement.

Dangerous Ideas

The Civil War in Spain marked the beginning of doubts in my mind as to the program of the Party. In an earnest attempt to clarify myself I approached my Section organizer and asked in his opinion, why the C.P. of Spain does not come out for the freedom of Spanish Morocco and give land to the landless peasantry. His answer was clear and unequivocal, "You are developing dangerous ideas." In other words, do not dare question or even dis-

ARCHIE SAVAGE WILL DANCE AT THE NEGRO DEPARTMENT AFFAIR

The Negro Department has been fortunate in once more securing the services of Archie Savage to dance at its affair on Saturday night at the Mimo Club, 2237 Seventh Avenue.

Archie Savage has already captivated our audiences at Irving Plaza and his dancing has created such a sensation that many have been anxious to find out more about him.

He started at seventeen, studying with Hemsley Winfield and his group. Winfield quickly made him a dance director, so that Savage started his education from the top down, so to speak. He did jazz and tap dancing in those days, taking part in general shows. But he soon woke up to the fact that it was time for Negroes to find a new field and he began to study the modern dance.

He worked with an African group, with some dancers from

ANTI-TROTSKYIST COMES HOME TO ROOST

Geo. E. Duemler, prominent figure in the Missouri Socialist Party for several years past and S.P. candidate for governor, has within the last few months allied himself with Oscar Ameringer's "American Foundation for Abundance," and is now an active propagandist for the A.F.A., which advocates political action mainly through the Democratic and Republican parties.

Members of the A.F.A. have talked about Duemler seeking the Republican candidacy for Congress. It is not known whether Duemler still maintains his membership in the S.P.

In October, 1937, it was Duemler who did the job of expelling the Trotskyists from the S.P.—chiefly because the other leading S.P.ers, although they did not like the Trotskyists, were suspicious of their Clarivite National Executive Com-

mittee and could develop no enthusiasm for its expulsion drive against the Left Wing.

The majority of the active rank-and-file of the SP went with the Left Wing, and formed the Socialist Workers Party here. Since then, the SP has been completely inactive. It has held only one public meeting here in two years, and that was more than a year and a half ago; and no effort has been made to sell or distribute SP literature. Duemler apparently became disgusted with this do-nothing policy, and turned to the A.F.A., which has recently succeeded in stimulating a number of former members and staunch supporters of the SP to an extraordinary degree of activity—getting them to subscribe to the American Guardian.

The SWP, during this period, has held dozens of public meetings; and within the past two months alone has sold over a thousand pieces of SWP literature. D.B.

class, and given a transfer to a Bronx Section where I was almost unknown.

Realizing that the C.P. was betraying the working class with its new class collaboration policy and its stifling Tammany-like bureaucracy, I dropped out of the Party. My "dangerous ideas" led me to do some independent reading and to my great surprise I found that people I was taught to look upon as counter-revolutionaries, the Trotskyists, have a program which is clearly and genuinely revolutionary and is based on the true Marxist principles of class struggle.

Here, indeed, is a Party that a revolutionist can turn to and continue his fight for the overthrow of capitalism and all its agencies. The Stalin-Hitler pact was the signal for me to join and participate actively in the work of the American Section of the revolutionary 4th International—the Socialist Workers Party. ISIDOR STARK

Independence Punished

In my branch a resolution was proposed to uphold this criminal decision. Because I dared to get up and speak against it and rallied enough support to my position to defeat the resolution, I was punished by being fired from the function I then held—instructor of the section new-members

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New Stooze Outfit for U. S. Army Organized

(Special to the Socialist Appeal) ST. LOUIS, October 6—The "League of Draftable Men" last night held its first public meeting here. In spite of extensive publicity in the papers and a highly favorable location for the meeting (a high-school auditorium), only about 80 people attended—15 of them S.W.P. members.

The stage was decorated with a large and peculiar symbol, which was reproduced on buttons worn by members of the League. But this symbol, according to the chairman, meant absolutely nothing, and was solely intended to attract attention. It soon became apparent that the program of the League served the same function exclusively. The program has only four points: (1) organization "to secure for all men of draftable age an intelligent and effective voice in the present crisis"; (2) the analysis of propaganda; (3) "year-round, peace-time military training on a voluntary basis"; and (4) neutrality "so long as it remains to the best interests of the nation."

Offers Nothing

The chief virtue of this program, according to its proponents, is that it represents the absolute minimum on which all 12,000,000 of America's draftable men can agree. The main theme of most of the speakers was that these 12,000,000 ought to organize; but it was always carefully explained that the League offers nothing more definite in the way of a program than the above four points.

And the failure of the meeting underlined the poor strategy of trying to win over American youth with the dreary prospect of "year-round, peace-time military training on a voluntary basis"; and on the basis of vague promises; to "secure

TEACHERS UNION DISAFFILIATES FROM C.P. 'PEACE' ORGANIZATION

Stalinist Clique Reverses Itself to Leave Hands Free for Prosecution of New Line

(Continued from Page 1) retrenchment in education did not originate last night. On the contrary, the teaching profession has been confronted with a sharp crisis for a year. What, then, caused the new line? The background of the "new line," apart from the fact that hundreds of Union members have been signing petitions circulated by the Independent Group calling for disaffiliation from the American League, naturally lies in the profound crisis within the American League and within the ranks of the Union membership as a result of the Hitler-Stalin Pact and the new position of the Communist Party.

The C.P., not knowing itself what the next step in the foreign policy of the Soviet Union will be, finds it necessary to throw completely overboard its old baggage and leave its hands free to maneuver and to prepare for any new eventuality. The American League, it is rumored, is to be dissolved, because the "genuine" People's Fronters, feeling themselves "betrayed" by Stalin, are fighting to keep the organization and sever its ties with the Kremlin. The Stalinist leadership of the Union, above all, wants to prevent that fight from being introduced into the Union ranks.

Aside from the thoroughly reactionary motivation for the proposal, as the Independents pointed out, politics, where it concerns the teachers, cannot be removed from the Union and is not removed by the simple act of disaffiliation. To make sure that the Union will not suspend its anti-war activity, especially at such a critical time, and because the Independents do not think that "the war question is too hot to handle," the Independents introduced a motion after the resolution was passed stating that this resolution to disaffiliate in no way prevents the Union from carrying on its anti-war activity. This motion was unanimously passed.

Clarity Needed

More than ever, it is necessary for the Union to educate the teachers on what war will mean for them and how to keep

America out of war. This, as the Independents pointed out, is absolutely indispensable if the Union is to recruit the thousands of teachers who are ripe for organization and if the Union is successfully to lead the fight against the budget cutters. To achieve this, however, it is absolutely imperative that the Stalinist stranglehold on the Union be broken. The Union membership, through the efforts of the Independent Group, is beginning to become aware of the problem. Last night's meeting represents a big milestone in the struggle to give the Union a healthy, progressive leadership.

NOTICE

An important meeting of all party and YPSL members will be held Sunday, October 15, 2 P.M. at Beethoven Hall, 210 East 5th St. Admission by red card only.

OUR CANDIDATE



GEORGE LYMAN PAINE

YOUNG MEN WANT JOBS— NOT GUNS

When President Roosevelt four weeks ago issued an order calling for an additional 150,000 recruits for the armed forces of the United States, recruiting stations stayed open night and day awaiting an influx of men to fill two newly created motorized artillery regiments.

But the eligible youth of Cleveland prefer jobs to service with Uncle Sam's armed forces. The available figures are an indication.

Applicants for relief as against applicants for service with the Army, Navy and Marines is compared as follows:

Army—0 . . . WPA—12,000
Navy—0 . . . CCC—600
Marines—0 . . . NYA—2000

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A Lesson from the Last War

The Rich Got Richer— The Poor Were Killed

By EVELYN DANE (Special to the Socialist Appeal) WASHINGTON, D.C. — War-time boom profits, corresponding to the 150% returns obtained by American industry during the last imperialist blood-bath, and a quick emergence from its ten-year depression are now an immediate and happy prospect for American capitalism.

Government officials, scanning financial reports, already note a ten-year high in industrial activity with the future of more than a score of basic industries more auspicious than at any time since 1927.

With American factories flooded with orders from European belligerents and with even greater profitable production possible the moment the arms embargo is lifted, the New Deal bureaucrats finally see a concrete solution to the plaguing problem of unemployment.

Scrap Labor Laws

The necessity of attempting to appear as a liberal government by making reluctant progressive concessions to labor and at the same time propitiating the ruling class will no longer exist, government officials state openly, as soon as the country is regimented for war.

All important labor legislation will be scrapped and labor's voice in democratic decision will be annulled "for the sake of the nation," while the industrialists and financiers, deprived of exorbitant profits during the last eight years, will be appeased by the same profit-making spree that they had from 1915-1918.

New Deal officials are realists and cynics. They know and admit frankly that lifting the arms embargo must mean the extension of war credits to the belligerents who buy American munitions. This means, they acknowledge, junking of the Johnson Act which prevents European debtors to the U.S. from obtaining further American loans.

Once American investments and loans in France and England again approach, as they did in 1917, the point where their default would cause domestic panic, American armed forces must again step in to protect those interests. State Department officials admit privately. And America at war would be the complete solution—industries operating at top production; labor stifled and

emasculated, and profits driving skyward.

Fortunately for the plans of these bureaucrats no legislation has been enacted in the twenty years since the last imperialist blood-bath to threaten the profits of the duPonts and Morgans.

All curative legislation inspired by the post-war revelations of 100-150% profits on war materials was killed in committee by the profiteering lobbies.

The last two-weeks' boom in steel holds out promise to Tom Girdler and his colleagues for equalling the first four months of U.S. participation in the war when steel prices sky-rocketed from 274 to 370.

Other industrialists recalling the 139% profits made by Otis Steel even before we entered the war, the 112% profits made by Allegheny, and the 90% profits made by Lukens Steel, have started putting pressure on Washington.

The golden record set up by one airplane engine firm, which, starting with a \$1,000 investment, reaped an \$11,437,250 income at the end of the war, is still a beckoning remembrance for many American capitalists.

Profits of 100% in shoes, clothes, fuel, food, minerals, chemicals and fabrics were the rule, not the exception. And the reason why these staggering profits were possible, New Deal economists point out, is because wages were not increased to keep pace with the rising cost of living.

War-time profits on munitions were exceedingly high but the peace-time armament profits since 1920 have been even higher in many instances, government figures show. Three years ago, Carnegie Steel callously admitted that its bid on armor plate for the Navy, gave it a profit of 58%. In the same bidding Midvale asked a price that would have given it 91%.

In 1933 Carnegie Steel made 42% profit on a Navy contract for turret armor, but unsatisfied with this, the corporation upped its price \$40 and \$50 a ton during the next two years. Sperry Gyroscope which supplied the air forces with flight indicators made an average profit of 54% of cost. Profits went as high as 51% on a single order for the Army air corps.

In aviation, Wright Aeronautical Company showed profits of 29% in 1927 and 44% in 1928 on sales to the Navy, and 93% profits on sales to the Army in 1926.

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