SOCIALIST APPEAL

VOL. III, NO. 89

Tuesday, November 21, 1939

Published Twice-Weekly by the SOCIALIST APPEAL PUBLISHING ASS'N. at 116 University Place, New York, N. Y. Telephone: Algonquin 4-8547

Subscriptions: \$2.80 per year; \$1.00 for six months. Foreign: \$3.00 per year, \$1.50 for six months. Bundle orders: 2 cents per copy in the United States: 3 cents per copy in all foreign countries. Single copies: 3 cents. Bronx and Manhattan subscriptions are \$1.50 for six months; \$3.00 for one year.

"Reentered as second class matter September 29, 1939, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the Act of March 1, 1879."

MAX SHACHTMAN

PELIX MORROW

Associate Editors: Assistant Manager: SHERMAN STANLEY

FIGHT WITH THE SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY FOR:

- 1. A job and a decent living for every worker. Open the idle factories-operate them under
- workers' control. A Twenty-Billion dollar Federal public works and housing program.
- Thirty-thirty-\$30-weekly minimum wage-30hour weekly maximum for all workers on all jobs.
- 5. Thirty dollar weekly old-age and disability
- Expropriate the Sixty Families.
- 7. All war funds to the unemployed.
- A people's referendum on any and all wars.
- 9. No secret diplomacy.
- An independent Labor Party.
- Workers' Defense Guards against vigilante and Fascist attacks.
- 12. Full social, political and economic equality for

Coughlin and Chrysler

One of the banners carried in the gigantic demonstration of the Detroit auto workers against the Chrysler Corporation read: "Coughlinism Is Chryslerism!"

In that slogan the auto workers summed up in three words the role of the fascist priest far better than all the mountains of words written by book-worm college professors and professional

Coughlin is not the tool of Adolf Hitler, the mouthpiece of the German American Bund or a crackpot priest too insignificant and ludicrous to be given any serious attention. That is the opinion of the harebrained crew of intellectual jugglers, just as it was their opinion of Hitler and Mussolini before they became all-powerful dic-

Coughlin is the agent of big capital in America. The auto workers have him sized up to a T. His role in the present Chrysler lockout-denouncing the union over the radio in the same invective he denounces Jews and reds, giving aid and comfort to back-to-work movements, organizing and officering fascist gangs against the union-makes the auto workers understand that all the fine-spun speeches against "international bankers" is demagogy to keep his real backers, America's sixty ruling families, out of the spot-

Coughlin talks against "bankers," "profiteers," "war-mongers." Coughlin is really against the working class, organized labor.

The auto workers say: Coughlinism is Chryslerism. We might add: Coughlinism is Morganism. Coughlinism is Rockefellerism. Coughlinism is DuPontism. And the workers in all industry can add to this list the names of their employers and exploiters.

Grandma Has Teeth

Sumner Welles, Under-Secretary of State, is a great friend of the peoples below the Rio Grande. In fact he has made a vocation out of being friendly to Latin Americans.

Not so long ago that we can't remember, Mr. Welles was United States Ambassador to Cuba. The workers and peasants of that island who were fed to the sharks or pumped full of bullets by the then dictator Machado's gunmen grew to appreciate Mr. Welles. Welles was Machado's advisor-and some pleasant advice he gave him, as you can see. When Machado was booted out of Cuba by a mass rebellion, Welles hung around to help with new advice. (This advice-we say it in a whisper-was backed up with all the financial might of Wall St. and all the gunboats of the Atlantic fleet. He overthrew the Grau San Martin government and engineered the murderer Batista into power. Washington is still "advising" Cuba, along the line carved out by Mr. Welles.

Now we are pleased to learn that Mr. Welles has expanded his field of operations. The other day, he was appointed Chairman of the Inter-American Financial and Economic Advisory Committee .He began his new function with a pretty generous dose of advice which the Latin Americans should soon learn to appreciate much as the Cubans learned to appreciate his advisory gifts. Said Mr. Welles:

"There exists in this hemisphere a large poten-

tial amount of capital available for that kind of employment which offers a sufficiently assured reward. Undeveloped natural resources in many of our countries offer possible fields for such investment."

When Mr. Welles talks about "sufficiently assured reward" for American capital, he has in mind such things as puppet dictators, their official and unofficial gunmen to rid the scene of anti-imperialists, efficient police forces, prisons filled to the brim with those who don't like American business methods in the colonies, and, in the background, the American marines ready to plunge into the breach.

So when he plays the genial grandmother to the little Red Riding Hoods from down South, let the little folks beware. Grandma has great big teeth to eat you with.

One Law for All

Washington is a great place for circuses. The best performance is usually staged at the monopoly investigations. Out of one of these carnivals came the Sherman anti-trust law.

To the simple-minded person who believes the law operates like it reads, the Sherman anti-trust law was meant to prosecute trusts.

The other day a Federal Judge in Indiana fined four General Motors finance corporations \$5,000 each for forcing dealers to finance sales of cars through the General Motors Acceptance Corp. At the same time all the big shots of General Motors who were engineering this squeeze play on the dealers were exonerated.

Less than a year ago a Federal judge in Philadelphia had before him another case of "restraint of trade." It concerned the Apex hosiery workers who staged a "sit-down" strike in their mill to compel better working conditions. The judge socked a fine of almost three-quarters of a million dollars (\$711,932) on the union.

The Sherman anti-trust law, as we said, was enacted to prosecute trusts. The Sherman antitrust law, as it operates, prosecutes unions. Or, if you want to be accurate to the dot, it fines a rich corporation \$5,000 and a union of the poor three quarters of a million.

The law that is made to prosecute poor men and workers prosecutes poor men and workers. The law that is made to prosecute rich men and corporations prosecutes poor men and workers. Heads they win, tails you lose.

Labor Looks Through The Press

- By Arthur Hopkins

"PEACE RUMOR BRINGS SCARE TO WALL STREET"-heading in Minneapolis Star-Journal.

'NUFF SAID

Messrs. Sharp and Fox are the authors of a recent book entitled "Business Ethics.

SURPRISE ITEM: A hit-run driver kills a St. Paul WPA worker; no money was found in his pockets, the story relates.

DAILY DOUBT

According to W. Winchell, "the people who fear that Tommy Manville's extravagance is what brings on revolutions, should be reminded that there are oodles of other sons of rich men who offset Mandeville's nonsense. Such sons, for example, as Edsel Ford, Jock Whitney, Sonny Whitney, Phil Wrigley, Ed Stettinius. The list could go on for miles." But it doesn't. And those he names are no better than

Tommy Manville embraced Elinor Troy, 23, New York and Hollywood beauty, when she arrived at Newark Airport on his specially chartered plane, and he explained that he had sent for her because "the war news was boring to me."

It's going to be a long war, in the opinion of Lord Marley, deputy speaker in the British House of Lords, who just arrived in the United States. He said that the British are determined to fight to he end, i.e., to the end of the last worker's life.

Says Robert Olson, president of the Minnesota Federation of Labor: "It must be admitted that after the action of the last convention (of the AFL) in endorsing a particular candidate to run on a party platform for governor, and losing our endorsee, we were not in a very good position to ask for favors fro mthe successful candidate." This is the cap-inhand theory of labor leadership, happily extinct in most sections of Minnesota.

Just Out!

WHY NEGROES SHOULD OPPOSE THE WAR

A message that affects the life of every Negro

By J. R. Johnson

Price-5c per copy. Bundle rates-10 to 50-Se per copy. 50 or more-21/2c per copy SPECIAL RATES TO ORGANIZATIONS ORDER NOW!

PIONEER PUBLISHERS 116 UNIVERSITY PL. NEW YORK CITY

You Can Tell the Minn. BRONX JOBLESS Frame-up Is Raw--Even PICKET FOR A Congressman Raps It CLOTHING

(Reprinted from the Nov. 16 Northwest Organizer, organ of the Minneapolis Teamsters Joint Council)

When even a congressman can't stomach the assault of the fed eral government upon the unemployed workers of Minneapolis, that is news! Yet early in November Congressman Lee E. Geyer of California took the floor in the House of Representatives to protest the persecution of the local WPA workers. Even more, Geyer named names. "I protest it to the Congress . . ., I protest it to the Attorney General . . . I protest it to the President of the United States, and I invite every man present who believes in the fundamental rights of the people to join me in this protest so the people in Minneapolis and elsewhere in the country may know that there are men on the floor of Congress who refuse to allow such flagrant attacks upon their and our civil liberties to go unchallenged," Geyer said.

The California solon started his talk by saying he believed the members of the House "should know how, in Minneapolis, Minnesota, a law recently passed by this body is being used in an attempt ton Avenue area of the Bronx. to destroy the civil rights of labor, to persecute American citizens, and to further the political advantage of certain individuals and fore Relief Bureau 48 at 1946

"The basis of this vicious attempt is the Minneapolis WPA strike wagon depicting the plight of the and the present mass trials of 163 defendants charged with criminal Unemployed toured through the conspiracy as a result of participating in that strike."

Geyer then briefly listed the details of the strike, known to workers throughout the nation; that the strike was a spontaneous pro- looked on, the wagon rode slowly test against the new relief law, that it was led in Minneapolis by along Washington Avenue bearthe unions, that strike leaders asked Glotzbach to close the projects, ing the sign, "When You Ask For that the papers lied upon a Minneapolis cop being killed in the Bread, Rent and Clothes, District strike, and that the strike ended when the cops attacked the picket Office 48 calls you 'Neurotic'." line at the sewing project, wounding scores and killing one man. "Why Only in Minneapolis?"

Geyer denounced, among other phases of the government's conduct of the case, the excessive bail requirements and "the inept manner in which public officials handled the situation.

"I am putting myself on record," he stated, "in protest against permitting under the name of 'prosecution of lawlessness' the persecution of scores of decent, law-abiding fellow citizens. I am maintaining that under the cloak of bringing the guilty to justice we should not permit an attack upon labor's hard-won rights to organize and a further attack upon the basic rights of citizens generally . . If some strikers become hot-headed and get into fist fights, why were they not dealt with as police court cases, which is customary? Why were they, instead, charged with conspiracy and faced with penitentiary terms? Is this awful consequence of strike participation a threat to intimidate labor? Why was there such a wholesale round-up of Minneapolis people whose crimes were no greater than mere presenc where a fist fight occurred, or who were not even present but were simply officers of a group agreeing to leave their project when the picketing began, WHILE IN NO OTHER CITY IN THE COUNTRY WHERE WPA EMPLOYEES PARTICIPATED IN THE NATION-WIDE SRIKE WERE STRIK-ERS PERSECUTED?

Needless to say, not a single boss paper printed the Californian's remarks. The boss press is too interested in joining in the frame-up. And needless to say, neither Roosevelt nor Attorney General Frank Murphy and his G-men, nor Victor Anderson, nor Stassen, nor Leach, has answered Congressman Geyers pointed questions.

HEARING ON APPEAL OF ANTI-WAR MILITANT THIS WEEK

TORONTO, Nov. 16-Preparations for the appeal against the authorities show any sign of conone year prison sentence imposed on Frank Watson under the re-cern. And even then there is a pressive War Measures Act are completed, as public interest mounts maze of red tape to push through in support of the young English-Canadian worker arrested here on before families are saved from Sept. 15 for making a street corner speech described by the author-actual starvation. ities as "likely or intended to prejudice recruiting of His Majesty's The Bronx Locals of the U.P.

The appeal against the sentence imposed on Watson will be campaign to organize the bulk of neard in Toronto on or about November 22. Watson was Canada's first victim of war-time repression, but result of the Local's militant ac

others have followed him to jail. Among the most recent additions to the Watson Defense Committee here is Dr. Carlyle King, member of the Saskatchewan Provincial Committee of the Canadian Commonwealth Federation.

"Most Notable" Case

The Canadian Forum, leading of thing is "missionary work"iberal journal, in its November going among strikers to demorissue, refers to the Watson case alize them and covincen them to as the "most notable" of the prosecutions under the War Measures Act, linking the case with that of Government Witnesses Backfire the seventy-five clergymen of the United Church of Canada who have been threatened with arrest for issuing an anti-war manifesto. "Canadians," writes the editor of witness stand, denying that they the Forum, "are not all united in approving our participation in this war, and a wise government will not insist on too much enforced uniformity."

Democratic Book Club has en- ses, who had evidently been told dorsed the Watson Defense Fund by G-men where a certain perlars. Similar support and dona- as somebody else. tions have come from the Scarboro Womens Cooperative Guild, develop its case. "Watch for America's entry into any forfrom farmers in Wiseton, Sask., some surprises when Defense eign war. Sask., and from individuals of fendants and their witnesses on movement for a war referendum. varying occupations and political the stand," was the word among From the methods proposed to nipeg and Vancouver.

American Workers Help Great encouragement has been given the Canadian Defense Fund by the support of the American Labor Aid. Also as a result of the campaign launched by theSocialist Appeal on behalf of the Watson Defense, contributions have come in from persons in the United States. A large donation has come in from the American Labor Aid and has been welcomed here as an act of international working class solidarity.

of the War Measures Act or aid given, as well as reviews on the ized by war-time repression.

in the War Measures Act.

(Continued from Page 1)

go back to work. Two or three of the witnesses whom U.S. District Attorney Anderson thought he had properly primed, backfired on the

During the government's presentation, defendants amused themselves by changing seats Three thousand miles away, in with each other in the rows of Victoria, British Columbia, the chairs alotted them. New witnes-

by the pickets.

from workers in Saskatoon, Attorney Tom Davis places deviews in Toronto, Montreal, Win- union leaders this week. Defendthem by the FBI-coached government witnesses.

New International

The December number of The editors. New International will be a special Negro number. All major articles will be devoted to an eluci-The Committee is prepared to dation of the various aspects and extend its activities to the de- problems of the Negro masses. fense of other cases arising out Complete historical surveys are accredited organizations carrying immediate pressing and political on the defense of persons victim- perspectives for the Negro people in the United States.

It is also hoped here that a Featured are articles by J. R. broad movement can be launched Johnson, outstanding exponent for the repeal of the Defense of of the Negro problem; by George FIGHT AGAINST THE Canada Regulations incorporated Novack, Jack Weber, Robert Birchman and others.

Horse Lives Better Than Relief Clients, Placard Reads

NEW YORK-Spurred by the present City Council's refusal to make adequate provision for the winter needs of the unemployed, Local 5 of the Unemployed and Project Workers Union carried through last week a series of protest picket lines in the Washing-

Whole picket lines formed be-Webster Avenue a horse and Middle Bronx.

While hundreds of workers

A sign slung across the side of the horse read, "I Live Better Than People on Home Relief." Demand Clothing

Protesting the LaGuardia Administration's open refusal to appropriate funds for winter needs, another sign declared, "We Demand Winter Clothing."

Bernard Ross, an official of Local 5, pointed out that overcoats, suits and shoes for male relief clients are as yet not available, although cold weather has already set in. The winter clothing allotment for women, he stated, is frightfully inadequate."

"At the same time," Ross declared, "needy families are being thrown off the relief rolls. Even Commissioner Hodson of the Welfare Department takes pride in the fact that the city saved two million dollars in the last few months as a result of the transfer of relief clients to the WPA rolls. That two million dollars, instead of constituting a saving of funds, might easily have been alloted for the purpose of caring for new

New Cases Ignored

New cases, according to Local 5, receive scant attention. Only when familis are actually evicted onto the cold streets do the relief

W.U. are carrying on an active the unemployed workers. As a tions, numerous emergency cases have been opened up and clothing distributed during the last two weeks. Within the next few weeks, the Local announced, the Bronx organizations of the Unemployed Union will hold a mass indoor rally to protest the severe plight of the jobless.

STUDENTS FOR **ANTI-WAR VOTE**

PASADENA, California-The Pasadena Chronicle, student weekly newspaper of the Pasahad been pushed or intimidated dena junior college, came out with an editorial November 10 using the slogan "Let the People Vote on War."

To express the campus antiwar sentiment the editorial staff of the Chronicle adopted the policy of supporting a war referendum. Results of a poll on the and indicated its support of the son was sitting, were thus often the of the 7,000 student body case with a check for sixteen dolwhere the junior college people Today the defense begins to stand.d They are opposed to

The Chronicle is pushing the keep this country out of war, ants are confident they can ex- the referendum was selected for plode the lurid lies told about support. It was judged as most effective for rallying the opposition to the war.

Distrust of Congress is what the editorial reveals. The decision on war or peace should never rest with Congress, the editorial states. With the people who will do the fighting should Is Negro Number | who will do the fighting should rest the decision of war or not That is the stand of the student

> Some of the articles in the December number are: 1. The Social Revolution and the Negro by J. R. Johnson.

> 2. The American Negro Politics by Jack Weber. 3. Negro Slavery in the North American Colonies by George Novack.

WAR;

They Alibi For Social Patriots; Insult Leninists

By FELIX MORROW

To all our concrete analysis of their course, the Stalinists have always answered: "The Trotskylsts are fascist agents.' (Now, presumably, we are no longer that, but Anglo-French agents; our alliances change always, in the Stalinist picture, to the opposite of Stalin's.) This 'answer' has served them as a substitute for specific answers on the issues we raise.

The Norman Thomas socialists have borrowed this leaf from the Stalinists. To all our concrete analysis of their course, the Thomasites answer: "Bolshevism-Trotskyism leads to Stalinism." Having said that, they need not answer us (they hope). The Lovestoneites have evolved a similar formula for the same purpose: "Trotskyism is inverted Stalinism."

In this, as in so much else, the Thomas-Lovestone groups find themselves in the same camp with the democratic war-mongers. The Louis Waldmans, James Oneals, etc., have always insisted that Lenin, Stalin and Trotsky are of one flesh. Thomas and Lovestone lend fuel to that fire for the same reason that they support the pro-war resolution of the American Labor Party. They simply cannot conceive of standing on their own feet. Where two camps exist, they can conceive only of the tactic of joining one or another. The fact that the two camps of any size in the labor movement are both pro-war camps-the Hitler-Stalin war camp and the "democratic" war camp of Hillman, Lewis, Green et al-does not deter them from their usual strategy of joining one of the camps.

To build the third camp, which is today small in its actual existence, but the only one which holds out a real future for humanity-the camp of revolutionary struggle against war-this is beyond the mental and moral grasp of the Thomas-Lovestone groups.

In a series of articles in this paper, I attempted to engage these groups in a serious discussion of the concrete meaning of the struggle against war. A number of articles I devoted to the issues raised by the pro-war resolution adopted by the American Labor Party, and in other articles dealt with the pro-war positions adopted by the CIO and AFL conventions, the danger of non-Stalinists who call themselves revolutionists, yet identify themselves with democratic-imperialist attitudes toward the Soviet Union, etc. etc.; and on each concrete question I dealt conscientiously, if sharply, with the false positions which, I believed and sought to demonstrate, had been taken on all these questions by the Thomas-Lovestone groups.

Their "Answer" Avoids the Issue

The only replies made by them to our detailed anal-

1. The Call, Nov. 18, carried a half-column article whose whole point is contained in its title: "Trotskyism, a Chip from the Stalinist Block." It refers to "the vindictive misrepresentation" in our press about the socialists and Lovestoneites, which "is rapidly approaching that of the Daily Worker in its old Third Period days." In the one sentence on the ALP question in the article ,it says that we hid "the fact that this was not made a matter of discipline by the ALP and socialists indorsed by the ALP publicly recorded their disagreement with this position . . ."

The fact is, that when The Call finally broke its embarrassed silence on the Oct. 4 ALP resolution several weeks later, in its Oct. 28 issue, I wrote an additional article dealing with that "publicly recorded"

I pointed out that The Call did not print the resolution, and with good reason, for its description of the resolution continued to be utterly dishonest. "Of the fact that the fundamental motivation of the resolution is pro-Ally, The Call says not a word. Of the fact that the resolution denounces Stalin from a democratic-imperialist standpoint and from no other standpoint, The Call breathes not a hint. Of the fact that the Socialist party member, Frank Crosswaith, ALP candidate, 'expressed unqualified approval of the resolution as a whole,' including the sections supporting Roosevelt's proposal to lift the embargo, The Call says not a word." In previous articles I had analyzed in considerable detail the contention of the SP that it was correct to vote for the anti-Stalinist section of the resolution, and had demonstrated that that section was what its authors intended it to be: a war-mongering declaration for the democratic-imperialists.

The Call "answers," as I said, by the methods em-

Will Herberg Plods to the Rescue

ployed by the Stalinists to avoid answering us.

2. The Lovestoneite Workers Age indirectly seeks to answer us in an article (Nov. 4), "The ALP and the War Issue." Its author is an extremely ingenious fellow, Will Herberg. He is the author of the cleverest defense ever made of the Moscow trials--he drew an analogy between the Moscow trials and the trials of the latter days of the French Revolution, triumphantly asked who remembers today whether the French trials were true in detail, and concluded with the pregnant assertion that Stalin represented the correct course of History and that was enough for him. It is, therefore, the merest child's play for Herberg to get around the ALP resolution.

The main part of his article consists of a friendly, in fact comradely, discussion with the ALP warmongers in which he points out to them that their position in support of the war is incorrect. Then, while the reader is still reading-or so he thinksall this is whisked away, and the reader, rubbing hiseyes, reads: "It is manifestly not on the war question that the Stalinites are being 'purged,' even though they themselves and the Trotskyites both pretend it is; it is on the issue that the Stalinites are 'blind servants of Russian international (foreign) policy, as the ALP resolution very properly puts it, and that they function as forces of disruption wherever they

The consummate dishonesty of the Herberg sleightof-hand will only be apparent to those who read the ALP resolution. The resolution, having declared its fundamental orientation as pro-Ally, then denounced the Stalinists for "their callous disregard" of the fate of the democracies. That was the crime of the Stalinists for the democratic war-mongers, who, like Leon Blum, had lived at peace with the Stalinists when they were in the democratic war-camp.

Apart from these two sentences, quoted above, the Thomas-Lovestone groups have maintained a dignified silence. For thats all they have with which to cover up their nakedness.