

# All War Funds to the Unemployed!

WORKERS OF THE  
WORLD UNITE!

## Socialist Appeal

LET THE PEOPLE  
VOTE ON WAR

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# ROOSEVELT FORGETS THE 'FORGOTTEN MAN'

## Minneapolis Unions Fight F. B. I. Frame-Up

### Stalin's Real Crime In Finland

AN EDITORIAL

Put your capitalist newspaper aside, shake your head loose from the endless din of capitalist propaganda over the radio, the newsreels, the press, everywhere—and ask yourself a few fundamental questions about what is really happening in and about Finland.

Yes, Stalin committed a crime in Finland. But exactly what was the crime? And against whom was it committed? We know what answers are given to those questions by the capitalist press. But if you are a class-conscious worker, you don't take your answers to political questions from the kept press of the capitalists.

Yes, Stalin committed a crime in Finland. Here is how we define and analyze his crime.

Finland is an outpost of imperialism on the Russian border, a spearhead pointed at Leningrad. There is no question about that. How would real revolutionists, if they were at the helm of the Soviet Union, put an end to that hostile spearhead?

They would solve it hand in hand with the Finnish working class. In the first instance, the Finnish working class itself would solve the problem. The Red Army of the Soviet Union would help them, if necessary. By making a socialist revolution, the Finnish workers would transform Finland from a bourgeois enemy into a proletarian ally of the Soviet Union. Then, if the imperialists attempted to destroy the Finnish Workers Republic, the Red Army of the Soviet Union would defend its proletarian ally.

That's the way the problem would be solved—if revolutionists stood at the helm of the Soviet Union. Certainly the Finnish workers have shown that they want to make a socialist revolution. In 1919 they tried to make one. They were defeated, not by the Finnish bourgeoisie over whom they were victorious, but by German troops placed by the Kaiser at the service of Mannerheim's Finnish White Guards. After the German Revolution of 1918, the Finnish bourgeoisie remained in power thanks to the backing of English and French imperialism. Given the opportunity, it is certain that the Finnish workers would make their own revolution.

But in the intervening fifteen years, the Finnish workers have been learning what has been happening across the border in the Soviet Union since Lenin died and a clique of usurpers entrenched themselves in the Kremlin. They have learned, and they shrank back from the Soviet Union of Stalin. That is when Stalin's crime against the Finnish workers began—fifteen years ago. He drove them back into the arms of the Finnish bourgeoisie.

#### Stalin Wanted No Revolutions

Stalin therefore could not appeal to the Finnish workers to protect Leningrad by making their own revolution. Nor would he issue such an appeal. For Stalin fears nothing so much as revolutions. If the horizons of the Soviet Union were ringed with red instead of brown and white, all the social hatred of the Soviet workers against the Stalinist clique would overflow and put an end to the Kremlin bureaucrats.

So Stalin added to all his other crimes against the Finnish workers—which are the same crimes that he has committed against the workers everywhere—the crime of invading Finland against the will and desires of the international working class. For the sake of whatever military-strategic advantages he might gain as a result, he dealt a terrible blow to the most important defense of the Soviet Union: the faith and friendship of the international working class.

Who can wipe out Stalin's crimes, including this latest one?

NOT the army of Mannerheim, now backed by the political support of the imperialist world, by considerable material support from Mussolini, Roosevelt and Chamberlain, and tomorrow perhaps backed decisively by imperialist armies!

#### Who Are the Real Belligerents?

Already it is clear that this is NOT a war between "little Finland" and the Soviet Union. Finland is an outpost of British and French imperialism—add of American imperialism. Already the "democratic" imperialists—including Mussolini—are utilizing the war to the fullest extent possible for political and propagandist preparation for a war against the Soviet Union. Already the propagandist stage is being overstepped by direct material support against the Red Army. Not merely by the Hoover-led "relief commission"—which is primarily a propaganda agency for preparing war against the Soviet Union—but by direct governmental intervention. The ten million dollar credits provided by the Roosevelt government is only "its first material step", declares a weighty spokesman for the American ruling class:

"This action, taken under a law whose purpose is to sustain farm prices, is highly commendable; but it will not meet Finland's most pressing need. . . . It needs planes and cannon. . . . Americans . . . hope and feel confident that ways can be found to give prompt aid where it is most needed." (New York Times editorial, Dec. 12.)

Even more open is the declaration of British imperialism's most responsible organ, the Times of London, which on Dec. 11 declares:

"If Finland is to be saved, she must be saved now. . . . But Russia has not declared war upon Finland—is not on her own showing warring against her now. Everything short of war, therefore, can and must be done by other countries to help Finland—and the standard of what can be done without formal war is very different today from what it was a quarter of a century ago."

Amid the voices of the imperialist powers are heard also the shrill, screams of their lackeys in the labor movement. For such war-mongering gangs as the Social Democratic Federation and the Jewish Daily Forward, the latest events become merely an additional opportunity to demand the expulsion from this country of

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### Approaching the Breaking Point



Carlo

### 'Conspiracy' Trial In Mpls. Aped Moscow

#### Hand-Picked Jury of Wealthy Farmers and Businessmen Found WPA Defendants Guilty Before "Conspiracy" Trial Began

MINNEAPOLIS, Dec. 11—The trade union movement here has answered the "guilty" verdict in the third WPA-strikers' trial by voting to recommend to the membership of every union an assessment of \$1 per capita for the defense fund. First of the unions to hold membership meetings and adopt the recommendation last week were the Furniture Workers and the Private Chauffeurs Union.

In the past few days, the truth has come to light about what the jurors really discussed in the jury room. They didn't

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### Behind the Lines

By GEORGE STERN

Roosevelt showed a little more of his hand in the diplomatic poker game at Tokio this week. He has in effect informed Tokio that any improvement in Soviet-Japanese relations, e.g., conclusion of a non-aggression pact, would imperil the "friendly" relations between Washington and Tokio.

One aspect of this American intervention in the Soviet-Japanese negotiations was officially confirmed.

Eugene Dooman, the counselor of the U. S. Embassy, asked the chief of the American Bureau of the Tokio Foreign Office, Seijiro Yoshizawa,

whether Japan intended to negotiate a non-aggression pact with Russia. Yoshizawa replied evasively that such a pact was "not at present on the Japanese program."

In connection with this incident, the Foreign Office let it be known through newspaper channels that a few days earlier, on Dec. 4, Joseph Clark Grew, the U. S. Ambassador, had bluntly informed Japan's foreign minister that Japanese-American and Japanese-Soviet "friendship" were mutually exclusive, or, as the Japanese newspapers put it, that "Japanese-American friendship

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### Ten Million Jobless Starving Amid Plenty; Fired from WPA, Get No Jobs, Almost No Relief

Federal funds for feeding the war machine for one year will shortly reach the Three Billion Dollar mark. Federal funds for feeding the unemployed for the same period will hit a low of one billion dollars.

But the relief crisis exploding all over the country doesn't bother Roosevelt, he made clear Saturday, when pressed by reporters for a statement on the relief situation.

"Over and over again", the New York Times of Dec. 9 reports, "he stressed that home relief cases were not the concern of the Federal government but were a peculiarly state governmental problem. Federal responsibility ends," said this man who became president as the spokesman of the Forgotten Man, "with the provision of WPA jobs for those able and willing to work and unemployed through no fault of their own."

What hypocrisy! Roosevelt never provided more than three million WPA jobs for fifteen million unemployed able and willing to work, and in the last year he has cut the WPA rolls down, throwing into the streets a million and a half WPA workers. Over a million men now on relief rolls are certified for WPA jobs—not to mention the millions whom the authorities now refuse to certify.

What has happened to the workers who got thrown off the WPA rolls? The social work journal, "Survey Monthly," made an investigation to discover "what has become

### JOBLESS FORCE RELIEF IN CLEVELAND

#### Picket Line Crashes Council Sessions; Compels Action

CLEVELAND, Dec. 11—Relief will be restored in this city by Friday of this week, the City Council meeting this afternoon decided. Hundreds of unemployed and WPA workers thronged the session, despite a "sneak" play by the Council, which held its meeting without previous public notice at 4 p.m., instead of the regular evening session.

Anticipating a huge and militant demonstration called by the Federal Workers Union and Workers Security Federation for the regular session in the evening, the Council hastily passed legislation authorizing the sale of \$1,050,000 in tax delinquency bonds to finance relief for the rest of the year until the 1940 appropriations are voted.

Getting word of the "sneak" session, the Federal Workers Union and Workers Security Federation put out a last minute call for the unemployed to mobilize, and organized a colorful picket-line before City Hall to greet the Council members and city officials as they arrived.

Picket Line Marches In  
Before the Council convened, the entire picket line marched into the Council meeting with their banners which carried slogans in red letters reading, "Stop playing politics with relief", "Stop passing the buck", "We refuse to starve", etc.

Francis Councilmen and city officials first pleaded with, then threatened the leaders of the unemployed to remove the banners, as out-of-town newspaper photographers took dozens of photos. The publicity of the past 26 days of relief crisis has been so damning, that the city officials were trying to give the impression that their subsequent action in restoring relief was voluntary.

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### THE REAL CASE OF CONSPIRACY IN MINNEAPOLIS

MINNEAPOLIS—Just what the WPA strikers were fighting against, what they were railroaded to jail for protesting, can be made clear by a few figures.

One year ago there were 14,379 families here on WPA. Now, according to a report made by Ole Pearson, city relief superintendent, on Dec. 8, there are only 6,967—more than one out of two WPA workers have been fired.

"If people dropped from WPA had come back on direct relief, our total would be crowding 20,000 families on relief," Pearson reported. "But they haven't come back. Nearly 8,000 families have managed to find some private means of support."

Which is just Pearson's fancy way of saying that the people thrown off WPA by the Roosevelt-Woodrum Relief Law are being denied direct relief. There are even fewer families permitted direct relief today than a year ago, despite the WPA firings.

In addition, direct relief per family has suffered a 25 per cent cut, put through in October. For daring to protest against these conditions, the WPA strikers and their militant leaders have been indicted—162 of them so far—and 33 of them so far convicted in the first three WPA trials.

### UNEMPLOYED FACE EVICTION IN TOLEDO

(Special to the Socialist Appeal)  
TOLEDO, Ohio, Dec. 11—Cut off from relief for nearly three months, Toledo's unemployed now face the additional horror of evictions from their homes. Some thirty eviction orders are now awaiting execution, and another sixty-odd families have received the necessary three-day notice. Hundreds of other families are threatened with a similar fate by landlords unless their rent is paid this week.

Faced with this situation, the city fathers are doing exactly what they have been doing for three months—nothing. The Toledo Blade—a Paul Block newspaper—started a fund to give school children of the unemployed milk once a day. But the schools have been closed for six weeks for "lack of funds" and the children

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of this economically lost battalion and what effect WPA cuts have had on current relief situations." The October "Survey" published its findings. Here are ten reports, from among those made, shocking even in the staid language of a social work journal:

90% Get No Jobs  
ATLANTA, Ga.—Since early this year WPA employment in Fulton and De Kalb counties has been reduced from 16,000 to 8,800, with further reduction expected. . . . About 5,000 project workers were affected by the eighteen-months rule and public relief agencies are swamped with applications, most of them for re-certification and for "emergency" aid. Private agencies, without adequate funds to meet even "normal" needs, likewise are swamped. Because of quota restrictions it seems "extremely unlikely" that WPA will be able to reinstate many of these people, and probably not even 10 percent of them will be able to get private employment even with the industrial pick-up in the area.

Social workers say: "In some mysterious way people are getting by, but they are undergoing a process of slow starvation with no means of making themselves heard by those who control relief appropriations."

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—Before WPA layoffs began, the situation already was critical with upwards of 5,000 heads of families certified for many months but unassigned to projects. With the layoff came hundreds of new relief applications every day. There are no local relief funds and the only assistance available is surplus commodities. WPA is beginning to make replacements, but the prospect is slight that these will reduce greatly the reservoir of a cumulative distress. Evidence of growing distress is seen in the increase of evictions, of patients at the pellagra clinic and the children's hospital, and in irregular attendance at school.

The city is facing a greatly reduced budget for the coming year, but it seems unlikely that the relief situation, critical as it is, will break through the surface of public apathy and the tragic docility of the relief population. Private employment is showing a slight improvement, but "it holds no prospect for the thousands who, while they wait for WPA assignment, continue to live in ways that no one but they can know."

Apply, But No Relief  
CHICAGO, Ill.—The great majority of former WPA workers

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