

ENGLISH SECTION

THE FIGHT AGAINST FASCISM

The People's Front Or Class Struggle

Prepared by The CALL EDITORIAL BOARD

In the struggles that lie ahead of the American working class, the political perspectives of those elements which strive for leadership will play an important role. And the victory of one tendency over another may determine whether or not the American working class shall be able to avoid the fate of its hapless brothers in the lands of Fascism.

The chief problem before the American working class will be the **CRISES** — arising from economic collapse, political reaction and war.

How shall labor face them?

class cries aloud for a Messiah. Leadership must be given the middle class by either the working class or the capitalist class. The capitalist instrument for rallying the middle class is—Fascism.

Fascism everywhere has only served to fasten capitalism upon the backs of the workers. But Fascism has done so by making a revolutionary, anti-status-quo, anti-capitalist, plebian appeal in order to turn mass discontent out of really Socialist channels, especially middle class discontent.

Behind the scenes, the Fascist demagogue takes his bribes from the high-hatted financier, whom he supposedly attacks.

can not follow a group which instead of being the boldest opponent of an intolerable system has turned into one of the staunchest defenders of that system.

As a defender of the present, a working class leadership which clings to Popular Frontism can only counsel: Patience. The impatient and despairing elements of a capitalist society in decay must turn away from such timidity in times of crisis. The policy of Popular Frontism drives the middle class to seek leadership from people who are —against, not for the status quo.

The Fascists know this and take advantage of it. They attempt to pose as the sole champions of the protesting elements. Popular Frontism strengthens the Fascist mass base.

FOR THE WORKING CLASS

They can not attack the political bases of reaction. The army officer corps, in every country a solid and often decisive base and ally of dictatorial reaction on a capitalist basis, can not be dislodged by the "democratic" capitalists. To remove them means to arm the masses to do the job. When "democratic" capitalists must decide between arming the workers or making an alliance with capitalist reaction, they have historically made their peace with the latter.

The sum result of Popular Frontism: the Fascist movement grows; the working class loses allies and strength; the "democratic" capitalist "allies" paralyze the workers and pave the way for Fascist conquest of power.

THE POLICY OF CLASS STRUGGLE

Such a program will: weaken reaction, strengthen the working class, deprive Fascism of a mass basis, and give the working class new allies.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN TODAY?

The United States is not yet face to face with Fascist reaction. And just because that is so, it is all the more necessary for those who would fight Fascism to have crystal clarity about their perspective. Because now is the time to lay the foundations for the fight against reaction.

In the struggles immediate before the American working class, little dress rehearsals of the struggle against Fascism will appear. The "liberal democrats" — always expressing their love for labor—will always point to the bogey of reaction. This reaction may be