

# THE FIGHTING WORKER

1 Cent

## WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!

Organ of the Revolutionary Workers League of the U. S.

Vol. 6 No. 5

Whole No. 51

March 1, 1940

LABOR DONATED

Price: 1 Cent

## Imperialists Ready To Invade USSR

### WELLES IN EUROPE TO FORM BLOC AGAINST SOVIET RUSSIA

February 19—Sumner Welles, Assistant Secretary of State and President Roosevelt's personal "peace-maker", is on his way to Europe to try to achieve an armistice in the present war.

Mr. Welles, as the Cuban working class will gladly testify, is the same "peace-maker" who gave the orders for that Cuban butcher, Machado, a few years ago, to slaughter thousands of revolutionists who tried to break Wall Street's dictatorship in Cuba. "Peace" emissary Welles will go to Rome, Berlin, Paris and London. Significantly enough he will not go to Moscow. Add this to the vicious condemnation of the Soviet Union by President Roosevelt before the American Youth Congress last month and Mr. Welles' activities in Europe become crystal clear:

#### FOR AN ATTACK AGAINST THE SOVIETS

1—The main job Welles will try to accomplish is to line up an American-dominated bloc to force England and Germany to U. S. terms, and to direct their energies against the Soviet Union and the developing colonial and proletarian revolutions. More than likely, at this stage, the New Deal will fail.

The argument of American Imperialism to the various European powers will undoubtedly be to point out that revolutions threaten all of them—in India, France, Germany, and everywhere else—unless the war is ended as soon as possible; that instead of a war amongst the 6 imperialist powers, they must all unite to smash the main enemy—the coming and inevitable proletarian revolution, and the Workers State.

Mr. Roosevelt has been the most far-sighted of all capitalist statesmen in understanding the importance of proletarian revolution and its threat to capitalism. He has already prepared for the intervention of Pope Pius and the Catholic Church to help fight any threat of revolution, by sending Myron C. Taylor as a special am-

#### STARVATION AMIDST PLENTY

Twenty-two million American people who live on the lousy government dole and are just one inch from starvation will no doubt be very happy to learn that as of February 1st there were 587 million pounds of beef, 78 million pounds of pork, and 201 million pounds of lard in American warehouses. If the unemployed could get their teeth into the stuff at the warehouses they would each get 30 pounds of pork, 4 pounds of beef, and 10 pounds of lard.

bassador to the Vatican to take these matters up. Mr. Welles will merely advance this offensive against the working class, one step further.

2—Welles will push for concessions by the Imperialists to Uncle Sam, whether the U. S. enters the war now or not. In other words, Welles will negotiate toward the final secret agreements as to what the U. S. will get in the final "peace" settlement after the present war.

#### WHY ENGLAND IS COLD TO IDEA

That, by the way, is one of the reasons Britain and France have reacted so courteously but ever so coldly to the suggestion of the trip. The Anglo-French are afraid of the demands that Welles will put to them. It is almost certain that Welles will demand that at the end of the war England give complete freedom, not just dominion status, to Canada, India, Australia and other English possessions, so that the American dollar can continue the conquest of these countries, some of which

(Continued on page 3)

### Preparing Peace

Forty-three million dollars will be spent in the next four years in "educating" manufacturers in the "preparation of civilian industry for a possible war production program".

Fourteen million will be spent next year in giving "educational orders" to Goodyear to manufacture gas masks, Winchester to manufacture semiautomatic rifles, R. H. Hoe to make anti-aircraft gun parts, American Forge to make 75 mm shells, and so on and so forth.

In the next four years, as in the past, many hundred public schools will be shut down for lack of funds.

### Opportunity

One out of every eight people in Chicago is being given public relief. In six counties in Illinois more than half of the population has no means of support other than relief. The average for the whole state of Illinois is 15% of the population getting state assistance.

The land of opportunity—slow starvation for one out of seven.

### DEFEND THE SOVIET UNION DESPITE AND AGAINST STALINISM!

After six months of World War, now that spring is approaching and the bloodbath can grow still more bloody, an attack against the Soviet Union is on the order of the day. One million allied troops stand ready waiting only for the command.

A struggle to break through the Siegfried line would cost millions of men. Messrs. Chamberlain and Daladier have learned a little lesson from the last war when stupid French generals sent wave after wave of men to certain and senseless death, causing one mutiny after another in the French and English armies. The main weapon in the present war against Germany must be the economic blockade.

#### PREPARE INVASION

So long, however, as Germany can gain materials from the Balkans—especially Rumanian oil—and from the Soviet Union, Britain's strategy will meet with serious setbacks. The next step therefore must be to break the communication lines between

Stalinist Russia and the Reich.

Far too many indications point to the attempt at invasion of Russia as one of the next steps of the war. The French embassy is reported to be burning up its papers in Moscow before breaking off diplomatic relations. Turkey has expelled German technicians and warned the whole world that she is "not neutral", but just not yet involved in the military phase of the war. The military and other aid to Finland by the Anglo-French in the last period has risen very perceptibly.

Since both groups of power are at a standstill in land operations—the Maginot and Siegfried lines are too strong to smash—the imperialists must now try flanking moves. Germany will try to gain full military control of the Balkans, and the Anglo-French will try to forestall this step by either invading this area or forming an immediate military alliance with Rumania, with British troops passing through this little country towards Germany.

The hoped for invasion of the Soviet Union, however, has two additional purposes. At one and the same time Britain can block any Soviet moves toward India and the Near East, and help smash the Soviet Union, the only Workers State (degenerated though it may be) that exists anywhere.

#### A KEY PHASE OF WAR

Many people seem to question this part of Britain's strategy. It must be pointed out still again, however, that the smashing of the Workers State DESPITE Stalinism is a key necessity of the imperialists during the present war; just as fascism must destroy the trade unions DESPITE the class-collaboration leaders, simply because the Unions are working class instruments and must inevitably become the base for a fight for higher wages DESPITE AND AGAINST their reformist leaders.

The material aid by Britain to Finland is only the beginning of the proposed invasion of the Soviet Union. It is part and

(continued on page 3)

## Tom Dewey - Mouthpiece Of The REAL Racketeers

Tom Dewey's hat is in the ring. The young District Attorney is touring the country—on N. Y. taxpayer's time—in an effort to bag the Republican nomination for President. Dewey's big qualification seems to be that he has smashed the rackets in New York, that he sent powerful New Dealer, Jimmy Hines, Nazi, Fritz Kuhn, and a number of gangsters to jail.

The acts of smashing the small racketeers evidently endeared Mr. Dewey to the big racketeers in Wall Street. Here is a fellow who is popular with the middle class, and has an agile tongue. Up till recently he never said a word about anything important. Now, armed with some big books of figures, Mr. Dewey is shouting about the advantages of rugged individualism, about wasteful spending, about government propaganda, saving money, and what have you.

Truly an ideal candidate for Wall Street! He knows when to keep quiet and when to do a Charlie McCarthy!

#### FIGHTS HI-JACKERS

Mr. Dewey has prosecuted many small racketeers, many of the HI-

JACKERS who muscle in on Wall Street rackets—business, financing, etc. But Mr. Dewey has scrupulously avoided prosecuting the REAL racketeers in New York, the BIG racketeers, liars, and swindlers.

For instance, there are thousands of New York tenements that are fire-traps, not fit for dogs to live in, let alone men. Hundreds of these buildings are owned by the Astor family—friends of Franklin D. Roosevelt. Many of the buildings have been condemned for 20 years, but the BIG racketeers still keep swindling poor workers for rent in these death-traps. Mr. Dewey it seems doesn't know a real racket when he sees one.

Or take the case of the big milk companies in New York who buy milk for a few pennies a quart and sell it for 11 and 13 cents a quart—robbing poor workers and poor farmers.

On the corner of Wall Street and Broad is the building of the biggest bunch of racketeers the world has ever known, the founder of which, the elder Morgan, first built his fortune by buying rusty rifles from the U. S. Army and reselling them to the American government for 100 times

their value.

And along the streets around that area is the Chase National Bank, the National City Bank, and others, the big racketeers who steal hundreds of millions from workers ALL OVER THE WORLD, who have murdered more men through overwork than all the wars of American Imperialism put together.

#### A REAL RACKET

At this moment in New York a merger of the subways and elevated is being completed. Mr. Dewey ought to spend a little time exposing this gyp game—a gyp game of hundreds of millions of millions; show how the Vanderbilts, Goulds, Morgans and others grew fat from the use of public funds. Or possibly show who's getting the gravy in the present deal—as no doubt some Wall Street sharks are getting.

But, of course, for Mr. Dewey this is all legitimate, not rackets. It's BUSINESS. So long as you call a racket a business and make it a big business to boot, it's Kosher. Mr. Dewey, you see, is for "rugged individualism" as he stated in a recent speech.

(Continued on page 4)

#### CAPITALISM "SHARES" THE WEALTH

American labor in 1939 was 25% more productive than in 1929 according to the National Industrial Conference Board. In simple English that means that at least one out of every four workers can no longer be employed even though 1929 levels are reached. Every worker produces 25% more than in 1929, but receives in wages about one-fifth of one percent less than in 1929.

## BUILDERS of the FUTURE

To be or not to be, that is the question. And the American Youth Congress, having finished its convention amidst tremendous ballyhoo and hot air, did not answer that question. To be for Roosevelt or against him — therein was the dilemma.

For the group that secretly dominates the A. Y. C. and its policies through clever organization and stupid stooges, that is the Stalinist Young "Communist" League, the answer could not come easy. For years this group of religious Stalin-worshippers has told the various groups represented in the A. Y. C. to support Roosevelt, his New Deal Administration, his "defense budgets", his foreign policy — in fact EVERYTHING that he said or stood for. More and more was the line of the A. Y. C. and the Y. C. L. identified with the Roosevelt régime until that fatal day in August when Stalin openly went over to the Hitler war camp.

### THE SAM ROOSEVELT

Roosevelt did not change one iota. He represents the interests of the American boss class as he always did. His huge "defense" appropriations were and are in the interests of the imperialists of the U. S. The money has come out of the relief funds that used to go to the unemployed. Even his mild reforms of the past were intended as a sop in order to persuade the American working class to support the capitalists system; and these came only when there was tremendous pressure from the workers themselves.

The whole reform business was linked with the war preparations of the U. S. boss class. The C. C. C. was and is under the jurisdiction of the U. S. Army. The social security rolls have been turned over to the war department. The N. Y. A. was and is used to train aviators. W. P. A. was and is used to break the power of the unions as well as to build more war instruments for less money.

Just recently the N. Y. A. rolls were turned over to the war department. These measures have always marked the New Deal. All this the Stalinists supported in the past. They thought Roosevelt could be persuaded into an alliance with Stalin.

### FROM ONE ROOSEVELT TO ANOTHER

Now the Y. C. L. is worried. The A. Y. C. is worried. How can Roosevelt's war aims be exposed without exposing their own collaboration with him in the past? They think they have found a solution. They support the more "radical" Mrs. of the Roosevelt family.

They demand American isolation in the strictest of Republican Party terms and demand a return to the "Old New Deal" which in reality was the initial step in the present war-drive set-up. "Look away from Europe, and pass the American Youth Act and thus solve the youth unemployed problem," shouts the A. Y. C. thereby revealing its basic reformist character.

There is not a word against the decaying capitalist system that is the cause of the youth crisis. There is not a word against patriotic (for the bosses) national unity and national defense. There is no threat to the American ruling class if they drag us into war. There is only meek questioning of Mrs. Roosevelt as to the aims of her husband. There is confusion too.

The A. Y. C. can never hope to be an instrument of youth struggle, nor was it ever. It can only play the objective role that social-reformists and social-patriots always play — a prop to the capitalist class. The group that split from the A. Y. C. has no

# The «Peaceful» Role of American Imperialism

"That its wars are defensive against an offensive enemy, is the war myth of every country."

No country in the world has so successfully paraded this myth as American Imperialism. Its wars, war plans, imperialist invasions, and slaughter of colonial peoples are carefully hidden behind the shibboleth of "peace". Newspapers play up Uncle Sam as a "good neighbor," a "peaceful power", a "friend of democracy", etc. etc. History books carefully gloss over America's imperialist role, never mention a word about the robberies from Mexico, Spain, the Phillipines, etc.

In the first 135 years of these United States the total budget of the federal government was 66 billion dollars. Of this sum 56 billion dollars, almost 85%, was spent for war. From 1775 to 1923 the United States army engaged in ten major conflicts, 8,600 battles, and had a casualty list of 1,280,000 men. Hardly a very "peaceful" record!

American papers constantly picture the powers in Europe — Germany, Britain, France, Italy — as greedy monsters, always grabbing for new territory, exploiting thousands of colonials. But what of Uncle Sam? In 1790 the United States was only 892,135 square miles. Today the U. S. and its possessions are more than four times as large — close to 4 million square miles. Only a simpleton would think that the hands of the United States capitalists were clean in taking all of this land.

### THE MEXICAN WAR

In 1827, for instance, Mexico abolished slavery. The Texans were against this and in 1836 they seceded. In January 1846, when Mexico refused to sell the area that is now New Mexico, California, Arizona, Utah, Nevada, and part of Colorado the American army was sent in.

"It is a fact", stated Abraham Lincoln in 1847, "that the U. S. Army in marching to the Rio Grande marched into a peaceful settlement and frightened the inhabitants away from their houses and growing crops."

Take the case of the Spanish-American war. During the era of slavery the southern slave-owners wanted Cuba as a base for slave running. Subsequently the sugar interests invested millions in Cuban plantations. In McKinley's time these interests subsidized a movement against the Spanish overlords and then appealed to the U. S. government to restore "law and order" by sending down U. S. marines to take over the island.

The day before war was declared, Spain accepted every demand that McKinley had put to it — abandonment of the concentration camps, an immediate armistice and peace negotiations. Britain, Germany, France, Austria, Russia, Italy, and the Pope, all appealed to the U. S. for peace. But American capitalism was hell-bent on making this killing. McKinley suppressed the news of Spain's acceptance of his ultimatum and declared war. American capitalists took over Porto Rico, the Phillipines, domination of Cuba, etc. From investments of 50 million dollars at the turn of the century, American investments rose to one and a half billion in Cuba by 1931, under the new domination by the U. S. Marines and the National City Bank.

### PILLAGING THE COLONIES

In 1914 U. S. Marines took \$500,000 in gold bullion from banks in Haiti and forced the Haitian government to accept American loans and American control.

American imperialism has aided and provoked revolutions in Columbia — to take Panama away from that country and build the canal; in Mexico against the Huerta government; and throughout Latin America. Countries like Honduras, Guatemala, Costa Rica are as much under U. S. domination as Washington D. C. So is Haiti, the Dominican Republic, Mexico, Chile, Nicaragua and to a slightly lesser extent Canada, Brazil, Venezuela.

The rule of American Imperialism in the western hemisphere can never be said to have been peaceful. At

essential differences with its program.

The oppressed youth of America must look to that organization that tells them the truth — that capitalism must be destroyed — in order to find a solution to their pressing problems. The Young Workers League is that organization and with its growth will grow the strength of the movement for emancipation of the youth.

this very moment leaders of the nationalist movement of Porto Rico are in American jails for fighting for freedom. The U. S. capitalists, who are so concerned at the moment over the defense of "little Finland" were hardly so concerned 40 years ago when the Phillipine people were fighting for independence against Spain. After giving the movement support for a while American Imperialism threw dozens of thousands into the very concentration camps that McKinley demanded Spain must abolish. "Hell-Roaring" Jack Smith, U. S. Army officer in the Phillipines, "commanded that every building in a certain area be burned and every native over 10 years of age be slain", according to C. H. Hamlin. And this wasn't all of the atrocities, either.

In Hoover's day troops landed in Nicaragua and shot down natives by the score; Sumner Welles, present Assistant Secretary of State, was the guiding genius behind Machado's murders in Cuba; under Roosevelt workers who strike on United Fruit Co. property in Central America have been brutally shot; unemployed — 13,000 of them — in San Domingo in 1937 were forced to dig their own graves and then be shot, rather than have them on the relief rolls — and all this with the quiet knowledge of that good, good neighbor, Franklin Roosevelt, who is so terribly upset about "poor little Finland".

### INVESTMENTS AND TRADE

The picture of the U. S. wars, the aggression against small countries, the oppression of colonials are only, however, just a small part of America's imperialist role, not the most important part. The above incidents merely indicate that U. S. imperialism is by no means as humane and as peaceful as its adherents constantly howl. To prove that American Capitalism is today the MAIN driving force for war — a war in which it is not yet involved in the MILITARY sense — it is necessary to examine more than just these military events; it is necessary to look into the economic roots of American Imperialism.

Because of the peculiarities of the development of American economy, U. S. Imperialism differs in form from that of older powers like Britain. The richest nation on earth can control the policies and destinies of dozens of small countries without sending an army to their shores, without DIRECT political control.

During the whole nineteenth century, despite her enormous natural resources — (the U. S. is today first in production of at least 15 of the 23 most important raw materials) — this country was only a second rate world power. In 1900 the U. S. had investments of only 445 million dollars abroad. England was the big gun all over the world, including Latin America.

### UNCLE SAM AND THE WORLD WAR

By 1912 this figure had risen to almost 2 billion dollars. During the 4½ years of World War, the U. S. really went to town. It replaced English Imperialism as the dominant power in Latin America. From a debtor nation it became the world's foremost creditor nation. By 1920 American capitalists had 800 millions invested in Mexico alone; 525 millions in Cuba. Then followed the "golden twenties", and by 1932 — the height of the depression — the U. S. had investments abroad of 18 billion dollars — close to 4 billion in Canada, a billion and a half in Cuba, almost the same amount in Mexico, 714 millions in Chile, and other investments in every corner of the globe.

In 1937 the U. S. exported more goods than any other nation on earth, 800 million dollars more than its nearest rival, England. It possessed the largest port in the world — New York. Over 69 million tons were loaded and unloaded in this port, more than twice as much as the 2nd largest port, London. America now exported not only capital, but finished products and raw materials as well, in a greater amount than she imported these things. Sixteen billion dollars in gold bullion — two-thirds of the world supply — lay in the vaults in Kentucky.

Under these circumstances it was inevitable that American Imperialism would take on different — more modern — forms than those of the older imperialist powers.

(Next Issue: Uncle Sam's Strategy to Redivide the Earth.)

## JUST OUT

## YOUNG WORKER

5 cents

## BUILD WORKERS DEFENSE SQUADS!

**THE FIGHTING WORKER**

Vol. 6 No. 5  
 Central Organ of the  
 Revolutionary Workers League, U. S.  
 (Affiliated to the provisional International Contact Commission  
 for a New Communist (4th)  
 published twice a month by  
 The Fighting Worker Publishing Company  
 1904 Division St., Chicago, Ill.  
 Subscriptions: Fifty cents per year

Whole No. 51

**WELLES IN EUROPE**

(Continued from page 1)  
 are already under U. S. domination.  
 And 3 — Whether Welles succeeds in the two other tasks or not, the trip itself will be an excellent fig-leaf for America's entrance into the war and for Roosevelt's political ambitions. "We tried to achieve peace", the argument will run, "but since countries X and Y refused our offers we must now take arms to defend American democratic principles and to ENFORCE peace." Mr. Roosevelt will appear as a peace-loving statesman to the uninitiated.

The trip by Mr. Welles is a trip not for peace but to advance Wall Street's war plans, just as the trips by Colonel House in the last world war were war steps. Peace can not be achieved by any agreements amongst the imperialists. Peace is possible only through the revolutionary overthrow of capitalism.

**FUNDAMENTAL QUESTIONS OF MARXISM**

- Dialectical Materialism
  - Outline of the May 3-7 Insurrection — Barcelona
  - Outline of Volume 1 of Capital Militarism and Youth under American Imperialism
  - Road to Power in Spain
  - Mexican Oil
  - New Zimmerwald
- 10 cents a copy

**THE NAZIS AND "OUR OWN" SOCIAL-DEMOCRATS**

Dr. Robert Ley, Nazi leader and vicious enemy of the working class, came forth with a slogan on Feb. 14th which brought a smile to the lips of our liberals and social democrats. In one chorus they shouted: "demagogue, and fraud", as the Nazi butcher threw in the slogan "Workers of the World unite for the smashing of English Capitalism". But maybe our social-democrats smiled out of the wrong side of their mouths.

For Messrs. Waldman, Oneal, the Jewish Zionists, and Christian liberals are not so terribly far removed from Dr. Ley. Their slogan happens to be: "Workers of the World Unite for the smashing of German Capitalism." That good capitalist, Dr. Ley, and those sterling agents of capitalism, the American, British, French and other social-democrats, have just minor differences — which capitalist country to smash. If Dr. Ley was a British fascist rather than a German fascist there might even be full agreement — to such depths have the leaders of the 2nd International (and parenthetically, the 3rd International, too) descended.

When Karl Marx called on the "Workers of the World" to unite, he made it quite clear they must unite against WORLD capitalism, and ALL of its national states, for the overthrow, above all, of our "own" capitalists. Anything else is nationalism, patriotism of the worst sort.

**Subscribe to the Fighting Worker**

I wish to contribute \$ ..... to your Press Fund  
 I wish to subscribe to the FIGHTING WORKER and INTERNATIONAL NEWS. Enclosed is \$1.00

Name .....

Address .....

City .....

Send all funds to:  
 DEMOS PRESS  
 1904 Division St., Chicago.

**PEACE IS POSSIBLE ONLY THROUGH THE REVOLUTIONARY OVERTHROW OF CAPITALISM!**

**Imperialists and USSR**

(Continued from page 1)  
 parcel of the same process, to weaken the Workers State and re-introduce capitalism, as well as to outflank and isolate Germany. Unfortunately Stalinism makes England's task much easier.  
 By smashing independent working class action in Poland, by invading Finland as an ally and with an understanding with German Imperialism, Stalinism has so

demoralized workers everywhere that Britain's imperialist and counter-revolutionary role has as yet met with little resistance.

**GERMANY UNDERMINING U. S. S. R.**

Furthermore, when and if England finally invades the Soviets the counter-revolution will be strengthened from another source. As a full-fledged military ally of Germany, Stalinism will have to permit even more German "technicians" and "military advisers" into the Soviet Union. These agents of German imperialism will supplement Britain's direct military attack by undermining the Workers State from within and by helping establish capitalist property relations.

The longer Stalinism remains at the head of the Soviet Union the stronger the counter-revolution will grow, the less chance is there for the workers to really defend the Soviet Union, and to achieve the social revolution and emancipation in Germany, Britain, France and elsewhere.

AT THIS MOMENT, as the war is about to spread, the struggle against imperialist war and for a workers society, means first of all the united efforts of the world working class to "DEFEND THE SOVIET UNION DESPITE AND AGAINST STALINISM."

**FIELD WORK**

Comrade Bob Campbell has just returned to Chicago from an extended stay in the east. Campbell stayed a few weeks in Richmond, a few more in Washington, and a somewhat longer period in Philadelphia.

After a short stay in the center Campbell will again be sent out into the field.

**New Pamphlet  
 Trade Unionism  
 Today  
 5 Cents**

**R.W.L. Pamphlets**

- SHALL WORKERS SUPPORT A LABOR PARTY?
- THE SOCIAL SECURITY MEASURES
- WORKERS RIGHTS OR DEMOCRACY
- NEGRO SLAVERY — THEN AND NOW
- CAPITALIST DECAY AND UNEMPLOYMENT
- THE WORKERS ANSWER TO BOSS WAR
- STALIN-HITLER PACT AND THE IMPERIALIST WAR
- WHY COMMUNISM
- WHERE SHALL THE JEWISH MASSES TURN?
- UNCLE SAM'S STAKE IN THE WAR.
- FIGHT AGAINST THE ROOSEVELT WAR PLANS

5 cents each

**How to Defend the Soviet Union**

Right-wing critics of the Revolutionary Workers League have attacked us because of our position on the Russian invasion of Finland. To them the "defense of the Soviet Union" means defense of the Russian status-quo, of the horrible persecutions by Stalinism, of the bureaucratic regime that usurps power.

Our critics do not understand the question. Defense of the Soviet Union is impossible without a struggle at the same time against Stalinism. Our slogan in the present imperialist war is: "Defend the Soviet Union DESPITE and AGAINST Stalinism." Every day that Stalinism remains in power makes the Soviet Union weaker. Every independent working class act towards a political revolution to replace Stalinism strengthens the defense of the Soviet Union.

In the whole labor movement today there are only three forces that are for the defense of the Soviet Union — the Stalinites, the official Trotskyites, and the International Contact Commission, to which the R. W. L. is affiliated. And it is precisely on the question of "Despite and Against Stalinism" that the Contact Commission disagrees with the other two forces.

**DEFENDS CLIQUE**

Stalinism is in reality for the defense of the bureaucratic privileges of the Stalin clique. To defend those privileges it constantly weakens the Soviet Union by giving concessions to first one group and then another group of imperialists, and by throttling independent working class action all over the world.

The official Trotskyites consider Stalinism PROGRESSIVE in its struggle against Finland and are in reality for the defense of STALINISM as well as the Soviet Union, for material aid to Stalinism. "We must", says Leon Trotsky in the Nov. 24, 1939 internal bulletin of the SWP, "keep our eyes open to discern the progressive acts of the Stalinists, support them independently, foresee in time the danger, the betrayals, warn the masses and gain their confidence." The Stalinists, Trotsky says, "can be forced to support progressive movements".

Trotsky has forgotten very much about Marxism. The Stalinists and all other reformists will get at the head of a class struggle movement PRECISELY in order to BE-head that movement. Stalinism defends the Soviet Union — is progressive, as Trotsky puts it — in the same way that a noose supports (defends) the hanging man.

**EXTEND THE REVOLUTION**

The workers of the world must defend the Soviet Union because there exists there the October property relations; a ready-made economy which can be developed towards socialism — unlike the capitalist property relations which must first be destroyed. But those property relations can be defended only by extending the revolution to other countries and by prosecuting a political revolution in Russia against Stalinism. Stalinism, objective agent of world imperialism, is the main obstacle within the Labor Movement in carrying out such a program.

To be a "good soldier" under Stalinite generals, as Trotsky says, is to support the AGENT of one group of imperialists. To give material aid to Stalinism is to give that same AGENT the very gun which he will soon use to try to smash the coming political revolution of the workers. It is to "defend" the Soviet Union TOGETHER with Stalinism, instead of DESPITE and AGAINST Stalinism. It is in reality no defense of the Soviet Union, but aid to Stalinism in undermining the Workers State.

When our critics accuse us of this position they evidently confuse us with the Trotskyites. We repeat still again — DEFENSE OF THE SOVIET UNION WITHOUT A SIMULTANEOUS STRUGGLE FOR THE OVERTHROW OF STALINISM, IS IMPOSSIBLE.

## THE NEGRO WORKER

### THE CIVIL WAR

It is the common belief of Negro workers (and whites) that Abraham Lincoln waged a bloody Civil War for the liberation of Negro slaves. This lie has been perpetuated by the ruling class through its various channels of propaganda — school books, churches, newspapers, etc. The myth is kept alive by calling Lincoln the "Great Emancipator".

The Civil War and the liquidation of slavery was historically a progressive step, but to say it had an ideal or noble motive instead of an economic one is a dangerous lie that must be exposed.

The Civil War was a struggle between two opposing economic systems: The Agrarian South, on the one hand, depending on the exploitation of Negro slaves for profits, and on the other hand, the rising young industrial North, depending on the exploitation of "free" labor.

Both the North and South needed the virgin West for expansion. In Congress for 31 years between 1830 and 1861 there was a struggle between the agents of these two opposing interests, until it was finally settled by blood and iron.

Throughout his election campaign and up until the war was 2 years old, Abe Lincoln was against emancipation. His whole policy was for the confinement of slavery in its original states, rather than liquidation of slavery. Anthony Bimba in his book "History of the American Working Class", tells how in 1861 the "Great Emancipator" opposed the liberation of slaves in Missouri by General Fremont. Fremont was removed for this act, among other things.

Military reversals and pressure from the working class caused a change in Lincoln's policy. Negro liberation was a result and not an aim of the American Civil War or Lincoln.

### DEFENSE OF DEMOCRACY

Less than a week before the out-break of the present war for the "defense of Democracy", 56 Bantu workers who went on strike for higher pay were fined about \$10, and 15 native boys that took part were each given 5 strokes of the cane by His Majesty's judge.

In the last war the native that laid down his life in the "defense of Democracy", received a brass plate on which was inscribed: "He fought for King and country and died for Freedom and Honor." How ironical!

## TOM DEWEY

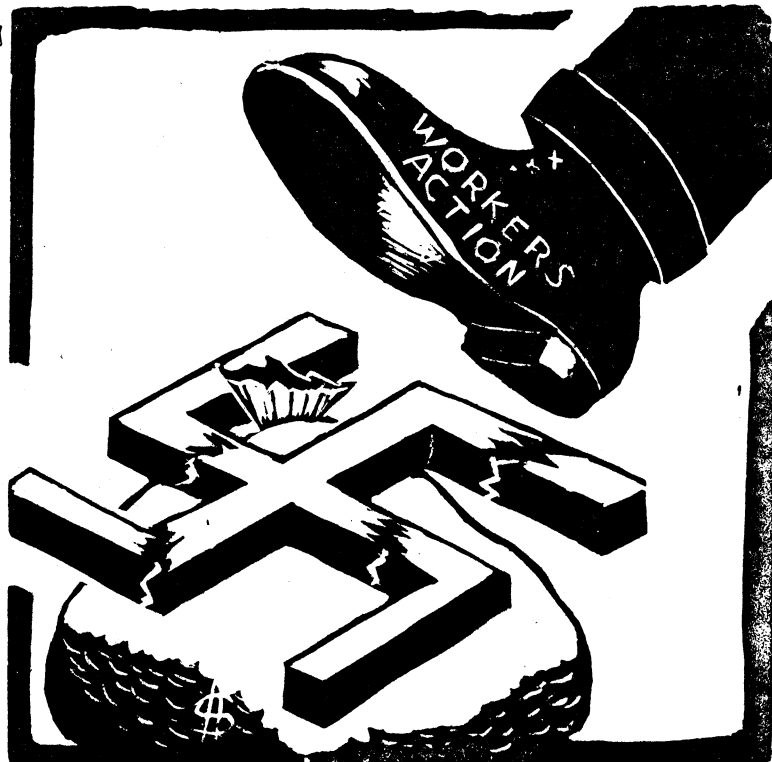
(Continued from page 1)

We might say in passing that Mr. Dewey, the mouthpiece for the Wall Street racketeers, is just as much a liar in 1940 as Roosevelt was in 1932. If he is nominated and if elected — or no matter who else is elected — he won't balance the budget, he won't restore "private enterprise", and he most definitely will not put 12 million men back to work.

Dewey seems to have the lead right now for the Republican nomination. But as a Wall Street candidate he will have lots of competition, because in the coming election Wall Street already owns most of the horses in the race — and can't lose.

Unless . . . the working class fights back on an Independent Class Line!

## AGAINST IMPERIALIST WAR, FOR CLASS WAR



'DEMOCRACY' WILL NEVER DO IT

## MINOR GAINS MADE IN ARMOUR MEMORANDUM PACT

A "memorandum" agreement has been signed between the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee and Armour's affecting 7,000 workers in the big Chicago plant.

The agreement is not a contract. It can be revoked by either party at will. Terms of the agreement according to the Stalinite Weekly Record include recognition of the P. W. O. C. as the sole collective bargaining agent in the plant, elimination of the 60 day break in seniority, a 32 hour weekly guarantee, and improvement of the vacation plan.

Armour's has promised, in addition to make similar agreements with the workers in about a dozen of its other plants.

While the terms of the "memorandum" represent a small gain for the workers in the plants, they represent a retreat and a capitulation by the Bittner-Harris leadership of the PWOC.

### STEWARD SYSTEM MUST REMAIN

For more than a year and a half the main demand of this leadership was for a NATIONAL contract. After threatening strike, strike, strike, for more than a year they have permitted the enthusiasm of the workers in the plant for some action to peter out, have permitted lockouts of militants in a number of plants, such as Fargo, and have settled strikes such as a recent one day strike in K. C., by conceding everything to the companies.

The present "memorandum" does not say a word about the shop steward system. If Bittner bargained away this system for a lousy "memorandum" the whole thing isn't worth a dime. During negotiations of the bureaucrats in Kansas City they offered to give up the Steward System.

Without the Shop Steward system grievances will pile up by the hundreds — right now there are literally at least 1,000 grievances in the various plants that haven't been discussed, let alone settled, for months and months — some of them are more than a year old. Without an effective democratically elected Steward System all the concessions that Armour's makes isn't worth a damn, because there's no way of enforcing them or even having them taken up.

The Record does not state whether the Bittner-Harris leadership agreed to halt all strikes and to discipline its militants. During the K. C. negotiations the Bittner

forces also offered this "concession" to the boss. If these two points are included in the "memorandum" then the agreement is nothing but a rank sell-out.

In a future issue the FIGHTING WORKER will deal with the "memorandums" being arrived at in Chicago, K. C., Fargo, and elsewhere more in detail.

## FDR RETREATS ON M'PLS FRAME-UPS

The Roosevelt Government momentarily suffered a setback in the mass trials of the Minneapolis W. P. A. strikers, on charges of "conspiracy".

With the war pressure forcing the American Capitalists to take the most drastic steps against the working class, it seems that the speed of their attacks was based on the false assumption that the workers would remain quiet to all this.

Fourteen workers have already been given short prison sentences and the charges have been dismissed against the remaining 125. The militancy of the Minneapolis workers forced the Government's hand. The trumped-up charges presented by the Government was shown up as an obvious frameup.

### PRECEDENT FOR MORE FRAME UPS

Though the Government has retreated the precedent has been established where President Roosevelt can say, "the duty of the W. P. A. workers has been made clear; while they may organize like others on the Government payroll they have no right to conduct a strike or engage in acts of violence". And it is on this basis that the fourteen workers remain in jail.

The workers must not be misled by this temporary retreat. The war needs of American Imperialism necessitate the saddling of the working-class. To-morrow the attacks of the capitalist class will be redoubled. The vigilance and militancy of the workers must be broadened. One of the methods is to continue the fight for the freedom of those at present imprisoned. The right to strike remains an essential part of the workers democratic rights, no matter where employed. The bourgeoisie must not be allowed to take this away.

## Bishops Call for Fascist Guilds in U.S.

Sixteen archbishops and Bishops of the American Catholic hierarchy drew a plan on Feb. 9th that is the ideological essence for Fascism.

"Social responsibility of property must be regulated by the State in order to distribute equitably the burden of providing for the common good", states the American Catholic Church.

But the type of property defended by these gentlemen is capitalist property. And it is just this that condemns the working class to misery. The State regulation in this case is one similar to that of Hitler and Mussolini, to prop up a decayed system by placing the burdens on the toiling masses.

The main aim of the plan is to "abolish the conflict between classes with divergent interests" — to abolish with the aid of the capitalist state, in other words, the class struggle. In order to achieve this the Church proposes to re-establish guilds such as existed in the middle ages — unions, in other words, of the bosses and workers of each industry.

### A LA HITLER AND MUSSOLINI

Trim these phrases down and you have the essences of Mussolini's Fascist "Corporations" in Italy — where the trade unions have been completely smashed and Corporations of Workers and Capitalists, with the capitalists

giving the orders, exist.

The proposal for American guilds by the Churchmen is nothing more nor less than a proposal for smashing the American trade unions and establishing Fascism.

Mixed together with the plan are the usual catchphrases of every reactionary program about a "living wage", etc., catch phrases that are reminiscent of Hitler's demagogic program.

Coming at a period of wars and a deepening crisis the program of the Prelates marks a new step for the Catholic Action groups, which have some influence in the trade union movement, in the drive toward Fascism.

Catholicism has its roots in a society of exploitation. The destruction of the capitalist system will inevitably see the end of this reactionary force. It is for this very reason that the Catholic Church is always in the forefront of all reactionary movements. Their support of Franco in the Spanish Civil War reflects on a national scale what is a policy internationally.

This is the American program.

The task confronting the working class is the thorough exposure of this program. The answer must be as to all capitalist agents the slogan "not class peace through Fascism, but through class war to a Workers Government".

## Brotherly Love

The United States Chamber of Commerce has a new slogan:

"If you work for a living, you're in business. What helps business helps you."

Every American worker can now stick his chest right clear into his cornmeal mush — he's in business! Maybe he doesn't understand just exactly how he got into that business or how it helped him, but if the U. S. Chamber of Commerce said it, it must be true. Everything else is just a minor matter.

Such minor matters for instance, as the fact that new machinery in the last ten years HELPED business increase its productivity by 25%, and HELPED labor lose one job out of every four.

That war orders have HELPED business boom up to 1929 production levels, and have HELPED the workingman add up 12 million unemployed.

That about 20 billion dollars of subsidies to business since Roosevelt came to power have HELPED business pile up some healthy war profits, and have HELPED those who work for a living by closing down hundreds of schools where their children received a "free" education; by adding sales taxes in almost every state in the Union, that eats a big chunk out of wages.

That war orders in the first quarter of 1939 HELPED business DOUBLE its profits, and HELPED 30 million workers to the measly wage of \$16 dollars a week, \$20 a week below the MINIMUM needed for existence as stated by government authorities.

To tell the truth the more one studies the matter the more one learns that this new slogan of the Chamber of Commerce is merely the old baloney about the "harmony of interests" of capital and labor — the biggest swindle and lie that was ever sold an unsuspecting public.

The truth is: "If you work for a living, you're a wage slave. Whatever helps business enslaves you still further."

FOR THE VICTORY OF THE SOVIET UNION.  
FOR THE DEFEAT OF STALINISM BY THE JOINT ACTION OF THE RUSSIAN AND FINNISH WORKERS.  
FOR THE DEFEAT OF BOURGEOIS FINLAND, AGENT OF WORLD IMPERIALISM.  
FOR THE VICTORY OF THE FINNISH PROLETARIAT AND THE EXTENSION OF THE OCTOBER REVOLUTION TO FINLAND.