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WORKERS AGE



A Paper Defending the Interests of the Workers and Farmers

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Income Tax Shows Wealth Is Concentrating

The redistribution of wealth promised by the New Deal proceeded rapidly in the year 1933 according to the figures on income tax returns for that year just released by the Bureau of Internal Revenue.

"Redistribution" however can mean two different things. Those who fed on the ballyhoo of the Blue Eagle looked for a "square deal" for the forgotten man, a better break for the little fellow. But the Bureau of Internal Revenue sees things more realistically. Here is the essence of their report:

Net income of corporations increased by \$654,502,697 in 1933 over 1932 or by more than 35 per cent.

Individual incomes of over \$25,000 a year rose but individual incomes under this amount fell.

Wages and salaries dropped by \$567,000 in 1933 from 1932.

Income from business, sale of real estate, stocks and bonds, government investment etc. all rose.

The number of those receiving incomes of over a million a year rose from twenty in 1923 to forty-six in 1934—more than double.

Is this the trend of the New Deal? The Workers Age has always contended that the Roosevelt policies were building up monopoly capitalism to a hitherto unheard of peak. This is in confirmation of our viewpoint—the fact that even in its first year under the NRA business was able to increase its profits greatly at the expense of a hundred thousand people who dropped out of the income tax class entirely.

Defenders of the Rooseveltian economics say this is a premature conclusion—that recovery reflects itself first in corporation incomes. A recovery that manifests itself by widening the gulf between big and little incomes augurs badly for those at the bottom of the heap.

C. P. O. Plenum Opens Dec. 28

The New Year's sessions of the National Committee, Communist Party (Opposition) are assuming the proportions of a national conference. Besides the members of the committee, coming from every part of the country, there will also be consultative delegates from every organization of the C.P.O.

The opening session will be held on Friday, December 28, 8 P.M. in Irving Plaza, 15th Street and Irving Place, with comrade Lovestone reporting on **The Present Political Situation and The Tasks Before Us**. In this report Lovestone will deal with the situation in the international labor movement; the political situation in the country and our attitude to the growing movement for a Labor Party. C.P.O. members will be admitted free on presentation of a membership card in good standing. Admission to others will be 25c.

On Saturday, December 29, 8 P.M. Charles Zimmerman will report on **The Situation in The American Labor Movement**. This session will be held at Rivera Hall 51 West 14th Street. Rules of admission are the same as for the first session. All other sessions will be closed.

The sessions of the National

HAIL AND FAREWELL!

With this issue the Workers Age ceases to appear in the form familiar to its readers for more than two years, to be replaced by the new Weekly Workers Age.

We close the pages on two historic years in the labor movement. The Workers Age has faithfully recorded that history, forecast a good deal of it, even made some itself. But we close the pages without regret because we are advancing—the labor movement is advancing—to a new epoch of greater achievements.

With the advent of the Weekly Workers Age—you can find more details on Page 8—the new chapter opens. The Workers Age has always been dedicated to the service of American labor. In its weekly form that service will be multiplied many times.

Support, build and strengthen the Weekly Workers Age!

Taking Profit out of War Means Preparation for War

The whole nation is expected to stand up and cheer, for Roosevelt has announced his determination to take the profit out of war. Cynical Republican Senators have already raised the cry that it is a political maneuver in order to take the wind out of the sails of the Nye Committee investigating munition manufactures.

* * *

The whole investigation of the munitions industry arose because of the desire on the part of the

military authorities to concentrate the manufacture of munitions into the hands of the government. This is a war preparedness move is made doubly certain by the haste with which President Roosevelt assures us that "the question of preparedness is not under consideration" and that the investigations and his own cry of taking the profits out of war were not prompted by the "danger of international strife." The recently settled controversy between Jugoslavia and Hungary merely emphasizes the fact that Europe stood upon the very brink of a new world war. The settlement has not removed the causes for this conflict and the postponement of war is of short duration indeed.

* * *

Another aspect of Roosevelt's new crusade, throws some light on what we may expect when war comes. "The boys in the trenches," says our very "liberal" President, "got \$1 a day and the boys in the munitions factories got \$8 to \$10 a day." No proposal is made but the implication is clear. Profits from war are to be removed thru the militarization of labor, thru paying labor a soldiers wage. The cries against war profits and the synthetic indignation against the munitions manufacturers will be forgotten under the soothing phrase-mongery of our eloquent President, but what will remain, unless labor prepares now to battle effectively, will be the shackles of military slavery for industrial labor, when war looms.

* * *

Perhaps not unrelated to this question, is the proposal of Attorney General Cummings, for the establishment of a Scotland Yard. This is of course being proposed under the flag of an offensive against crime, but class conscious workers who remember the role that the Department of Justice played in 1919-20, will know what to expect from a national Scotland Yard. Under the cry of racketeering and gangsterism, the attack will be directed against the trade unions and other working class organizations. The organizations of the Democratic and Republican parties, the centers of gangsterism and racketeering, will of course be left untouched, for it is upon these that the two party system rests.

Already the cry for the suppression of the communist movement has been raised by the National Manufacturers' Association and Congress will be called upon soon to act on a bill to this effect.

Under the guise of liberalism, the executive powers of the government are being constantly strengthened and new methods worked out for a renewed offensive against the labor movement.

Communist Opposition Calls on C. P. For United Front Action

TO THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF THE U. S.:

Dear Comrades:

We address this communication to you as an appeal for united action on one of the most important issues facing the American workers today as well as for cooperation in bringing about a better political understanding between our organizations with a view to ultimate Communist unity.

There surely can be no question as to the vital necessity of a mass movement against war and fascism in this country at the present time. To be at all effective such a movement must be a workers movement primarily, based on the existing mass organizations of labor, with the support, of course, of all other sections of the population opposed to war and fascism. Consequently, its program, its approach, its methods of operation must be such as to appeal to the American workers in their organizations; certainly they should not be such as to repel and alienate them. Unfortunately, those responsible for organizing the American League Against War and Fascism have utterly disregarded these elementary considerations with the result that the American League is now a very narrow organization, practically divorced from the labor movement, embracing hardly more than some Communists and sympathizers together with a few liberals and pacifists. Its militant program or its good intentions should not blind us to the undeniable fact that the American League is not today nor can it become in the future the organizational vehicle of a real movement against war and fascism. Only a new movement on a new and sound basis, can hope to organize the widespread anti-war and anti-fascist sentiment among the working masses. It is manifestly the duty of the Communists to mobilize all their forces to stimulate the development of such a movement, in cooperation, naturally, with all other workers organizations committed to the same end. If we agree as to the necessity and possibility of such a broad, non-partisan movement, rooted in the mass organizations of labor, then it should surely be possible for us to get together to work out ways and means of encouraging its development among those sections of organized labor where we have influence.

But we should not be satisfied merely with cooperation on this issue. Never was the unity of Communist forces so essential as it is today, with the fruits of disunity so obvious. Would it not be of the greatest value if we could join in a common effort to bring about a better political understanding between our organizations so as to pave the way to complete unity? Between the Communist Party and the Communist Opposition there is no disagreement on the fundamental principles of Com-

munist. We have repeatedly condemned the vicious political slander of those who, like the Trotskyites, deny the genuinely Communist character of the C.P. and the C.I. What separates us are very serious differences on questions of strategy, tactics and methods, such questions as the united front, policy in the trade unions, estimate of and attitude to the Socialist movement and the like. The clarification of these issues has been greatly hampered by the obstacles placed in the way of frank and comradely discussion of our differences, especially in the light of recent events in this country and on a world scale. And yet we must all agree that only such frank and comradely discussion can lead to real unity in the Communist movement, which we all desire so earnestly. We therefore suggest that a joint committee be set up to encourage and regulate the mutual discussion of the disputed questions. In particular, we would propose the exchange of discussion articles in our papers, joint discussion meetings, etc. Certainly this suggestion should meet with your approval today in view of the broad discussion the Communist International has urged in preparation of the Seventh Congress, a discussion in which Socialist workers and even members of Catholic trade unions are invited to participate.

We make these proposals to you because we are convinced that they would greatly benefit the Communist and labor movements of this country, to the furtherance of which both our organizations are dedicated. The fruitful cooperation that our comrades of the C.P. and C.P.O. have succeeded in establishing in Germany, should be an inspiration and a guide to us in this country. We hope that, putting to one side all narrow factional prejudices and considerations, you will see your way clear to acting favorably upon our proposals, thus greatly advancing the consolidation of the forces of the class conscious proletariat of this country.

In connection with this appeal, we would suggest that a delegation of our National Committee be permitted to appear before your plenum so as to explain our proposals in greater detail. We take this occasion also to invite a delegation of your plenum to appear before the full session of our National Committee to be held on December 29, 30, and 31 in this city, with a view to presenting to us your attitude on our proposals. We may also advise you that a copy of this communication has been sent to the Executive Committee of the Communist International with the request that it use its influence in obtaining the favorable consideration of our proposals by you.

Fraternally,

NATIONAL COMMITTEE
COMMUNIST PARTY U. S. (OPPOSITION)
JAY LOVESTONE, Secretary

Committee will close on Monday night December 31 (New Year's Eve) with a rousing banquet. A rich concert program has been arranged and dancing provided for the wee hours of the morning. Tickets for the banquet are 60c. and can be secured at C.P.O. headquarters, 51 West 14th Street. (See details elsewhere in this issue).

Jay Lovestone

"WHAT NOW IN SOCIALIST PARTY?"
December 23, 8 P. M. — 51 W. 14 St.

JOIN THE CPO—

JAY LOVESTONE
51 West 14th St.
New York City

Please send information about the CPO to

Name

Address

City

America's Foremost Labor Weekly

Why do we believe the Weekly Workers Age will be America's foremost labor paper?

Because— Jay Lovestone will conduct a weekly column catching history on the wing under the title of "At First Glance."

International news will be reported by August Thalheimer, one of the foremost Communist theoreticians in the world today, former editor of the "Rote Fahne," co-author of the program of the Communist International.

Bertram D. Wolfe, one of this country's leading left-wing critics, will run the Book Review column, reporting on all new literature of interest to workers.

The Stage and Screen reviews which have already won acclaim in the present Workers Age will be continued weekly in the new Age.

"Trade Union Notes" will con-

tinue to present a rapid but thorough survey of trends, tendencies and events in the trade union field week by week.

A brief and accurate outline of the commercial trends of the week will be presented in each issue under "The Economic Week."

The fun in the class struggle—and there is fun in the class struggle—will be handled in "Between Hammer and Anvil."

Because in addition to all these regular features each issue will contain many of the longer articles analyzing carefully and accurately some phase of the Communist and labor movement—the type of articles on which the Age has won its reputation.

If you want to know, to understand what is going on, if you want to work intelligently and effectively in your sector of the movement—you need the Weekly Age.

Hail the WEEKLY Workers Age



BOOKS

THE NEW MONETARY SYSTEM OF THE UNITED STATES. National Industrial Conference Board. 147 pages. \$2.00

This short treatise attempts to present the monetary policies of the Roosevelt regime within their historical context, with an additional section on the objectives and inflationary potentiality of these policies. Contrasting the pre-war monetary standard with the war and post-war developments, the shift from gold as the central and active medium of domestic exchange to central and commercial banks control of currency with very liberal fractional reserves (i.e. less gold in proportion to commercial paper as a monetary backing) is a dominant fact, especially among the European countries. (The trend is also seen in U.S.A. before the crisis in the growing importance and functioning of the Federal Reserve System thru its central powers of rediscounting). The mere fact that in pre-war days the monetary gold stocks of the world constituted 24% of total supply of domestic money for gold standard countries while in 1928 the figure was reduced to 15% is empirical evidence of this point. Thruout the post-war world "the trend in monetary system . . . was definitely away from the use of gold as the primary active money or the predominant base for other domestic money, even the gold was retained as the legal standard of value and ultimate monetary base."

Out of all this with the added intensification of the economic crisis, has come the new American monetary system based on a virtual system of the non-convertibility of paper dollars into gold. Monetary stock—whether of gold or paper quality—expands or contracts as a result of treasury regulation and policy in conjunction with the Federal Reserve system. Thus, gold is reduced to a nominal role, taking on the abstract position of a medium of evaluation with no actual, direct or active part in the functioning of the money and currency system. Even the international sphere of trade and exchange sees the restriction of gold movements in so far as the Secretary of the Treasury has ostensible control of international gold movements—in reality, all power goes back to the executive.

All of which leads to the objectives of this new monetary setup. In short, it is the well-known attempt by the Roosevelt regime to secure a higher price-level (preferably one that equates itself with the 1926 price level). This is achieved—assuming the above set-up with executive control—by depreciation of the dollar thru reduction in gold content. Combined with the silver program, the resulting profits (approximately 5 or 6 billion dollars) create the objective basis for enormous international possibilities.

This, in short, is the way in which the American money system is developing. The author, without much attempt at an integration of the monetary problems with the basic antagonisms of capitalist society, cannot offer much more than the solution of free trade, return to the gold standard, no restrictions on international trade movements and "mutual trust and cooperation by the nations of the world." In somewhat of an aside, however, the author presents an idea which if developed to its logical conclusion would get at the core of the problem—the contradictions in business economy. The author states: "When the crisis came in world economy, the stability of monetary systems, nominally employing gold, but actually using credit or non-gold commodity money, was immediately imperilled because the liquidity of assets backing his credit money was predicated on the assumption of sustained economic activity and prices." (Our emphasis).

—ECONOMIST

End the Drive by Jan. 1st

WE HAVE RAISED **\$1,425.70** WE NEED **\$3,000.00**

(The figure in parenthesis is the amount previously contributed)

Alpert Ida(1.00) 1.00	Smith Lilly(5.00) 5.00
Ahearn Mike 2.00	Steinberg Sophie (10.00) 5.00
Anthraxite Unit No. 1	S. E.(1.50) 3.50
CPO 5.00	Shlachter Eva 3.00
Brent Alice(5.00) 2.50	Stone Julius(2.00) 1.00
Bell Albert(7.00) 3.00	Shlachter B. 5.00
Broder B. 4.00	Siegel Eugene 1.00
Broder J. 5.00	S. P. B. 10.00
Benjamin & Dorf (10.00) 10.00	S. B. E. 3.00
Biecker H.(10.00) 5.00	Silverman Jennie 2.00
Bernard Charlotte 1.00	Strong Robert 2.00
C. S.(2.00) 8.00	Sunnyside
Blum M. 15.00	Sympathizers 5.00
Christman A. 2.50	Tanzer L. 3.00
Cork Jim(10.00) 15.00	V. S. Vivian(5.00) 10.00
Carigan J. 10.00	Welsh Edward ..(1.50) 2.50
Cohen Rose 5.00	Wright Edward ..(1.00) 2.00
Chicago Unit CPO ... 15.00	Williams R. 5.00
Cheskin Rose 1.00	Zimmerman Charles 10.00
D. M. 10.00	COLLECTION LISTS
Eisenberg A 1.00	Young B. on list 120250
Edwards Nellie ..(3.00) 5.00	H. Philip .10; E. Lisle .25; Trop .15.
Fisher Rose(5.00) 5.00	Stiglitz Saul on list 119 .75
Fay V.(5.00) 20.00	M. Tatz .25; H. Gross .25; L. Levenson .25
Frances E. 3.00	Hall Lee on List 1275 .. .25
Granofsky 1.00	M. Gross
Glassman M. 1.00	Shachtman Rose on lists 107, -08, 109, 111 .. 2.85
Hall Lee(3.00) 2.00	P. Kaplan .10; Friedman .10; R. Zorn .25; J. Smith .15; Lessor .25; Rifkin .25; M. Romback .25; A. Kobel .25; P. Kutt .25; E. Trauner .25; H. Jacobs .10; E. Davis .15; G. P. Caramanoff .25; S. F. .25.
Howard James ..(2.00) 1.00	Schaeffer Wm. on lists 104, 105 2.65
Hugget Howard 2.00	H. Friedman .10; W. Goodman .10; G. Tlumok .10; L. Infrian .25; S. Wiener .25; E. Tennenbaum .25; E. J. De Leo .25; H. Goodstein .25; L. Nadell .10; J. Alaimo .15; L. Gordon .25; O. Schlossberg .25; M. Ezzer .10; J. Parness .25.
Harris 5.00	Total\$ 505.50
Jones Cora(3.50) 1.00	Previously Listed . 920.20
Jenkins Clarence ..(2.00) 1.00	Grand Total \$1,425.70
Kun Lou(5.00) 10.00	Still to go \$1,574.30
Len(4.00) 4.00	
Lawrence Evelyn 25.00	
Lifshitz Gertrude (3.00) 2.00	
Linn Harry 10.00	
Lawrence Mary 3.00	
Lewis Bob 5.00	
Lurye Minnie 1.00	
Leonard Mary 3.00	
Macklin and Michael(10.00) 32.50	
Michael Ray ... (35.00) 10.00	
Montreal Unit	
CPO(87.94) 6.00	
Marsh Joan 1.00	
Naveira Rosita ..(5.00) 5.00	
Nelson Louis 50.00	
O. E. 1.00	
Phillips John 25.00	
Pickenback Helen (3.00) 2.00	
Pittsburgh Unit	
CPO(10.00) 10.00	
R. (Troy) 10.00	
Roberts Jack ... (5.00) 10.00	
Roland Sylvia ... (2.00) 2.00	
Stewart M. C. ... (10.00) 5.00	
Steinberg I.(5.00) 20.00	

Union Developments In Montreal Workers Democracy Or Dictatorship

(Continued from Page 5)

the Industrial Union, supported by the cutters, called a general strike of the dressmakers. The response was excellent—about 3500 workers walked out. The militancy on the picket lines and in demonstrations was exceptionally high. Within five days of the call the strike was at its height and—with in the next five days it was practically all over.

There were of course many factors operating against the success of the strike: the season was not opportune and the lack of proper preparations. But let us assume that the Industrial Union knew what it was doing. Any honest worker with common sense, who knows the situation, must admit that the Industrial Union, lacking in resources and without the support of the general trade union movement, could not conclude the strike successfully.

When the support of the rest of the trade union movement was most needed the Industrial Union found that its campaign of slander against all other unions as "bosses unions" was responsible for its complete isolation. The sentiment today, among the dressmakers is for organization thru the I.L.G.W.U.

The Future Of The Industrial Union

The Industrial Union has lost all control in the shops. The local meetings of operators and finishers are very poorly attended. The pressers, mostly men, were hardest hit because they were replaced by girls. The cutters decided by an overwhelming majority to affiliate with the I.L.G.W.U. and have already been admitted. With the cutters in the International the Industrial Union loses all hope of organizing the dressmakers. It is only a matter of time before the dressmakers become part of the general trade union movement.

If the ultra-left leaders would give up definitely their sectarian policy of "red" unions and recognize the all-inclusive unions as labor and not "bosses unions", they could, within a short time, win considerable influence in the unions. On the other hand if they continue their suicidal policy they will themselves be isolated and re-

(Continued from Page 3) chooses . . . the form of democracy.

Relation of Soviet To Proletarian Dictatorship

To Hook the proletarian dictatorship is simply and solely "workers democracy" thru soviets. He regards this as so obvious that he doesn't even bother proving it. But does Hook really believe that, with a policy opposed to the program of revolutionary Marxism, the soviets would still be organs of the proletarian dictatorship? Were the Russian soviets such from March to October 1917? Were the German soviets such in December 1918? They were certainly soviets of workers and soldiers deputies, democratically elected—the authentic expression of "workers democracy"—but were they the bearers of the proletarian dictatorship? Is it not clear that soviets become organs of proletarian dictatorship only when they adopt the program of the Marxist party? By fixing his fascinated gaze upon the formal aspects of soviet democracy, Sidney Hook misses completely the real substance, the class content, of the soviet dictatorship. But then, of course, Sidney Hook doesn't like dictatorship . . .

(In the second article I will analyze Hook's plea for a many-party system under the proletarian dictatorship and discuss the real nature of soviet democracy).

main discredited for quite a time. The progressives in Montreal reject the anti-union attitude of the ultra-lefts. The joining of the dressmakers into the I.L.G.W.U. will mean the strengthening of the militant and progressive forces. The organization of the dress trade in itself requires a lot of militancy. The bringing together of the cloak and dressmakers into one union means to lift them from petty craft-selfishness to a higher level of workers solidarity.

BUILD THE AGE FOR UNITY

JOIN THE COMMUNIST PARTY (Opposition)

COMMUNIST PARTY (OPPOSITION)

51 West 14th Street
New York City

I am interested in the work and tactics of the CPO. Please send me additional information.

Name

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