

In this Issue . . .

We print the first section of a new pamphlet by Ernest Erber, editor of the "Challenge of Youth," entitled: "WAR — WHAT FOR? Straight Talks to American Youth." This pamphlet is a dramatic presentation of the Socialist youth case against the imperialist war. Turn to Page 2 for the first installment.

THE CHALLENGE OF YOUTH

Jobs, Not Guns!

NOT ONE CENT TO DEFEND WALL STREET PROFITS!

VOL. III, No. 18—DECEMBER 20, 1939

Twice-Monthly Organ of The Young Peoples Socialist League (Fourth International)

Price 2 cents

STARVATION STRIKES AMERICA; RELIEF AGENCIES BREAK DOWN

"G-Men Justice" Frames Minneapolis Unemployed

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn.—To the accompaniment of a hammy, melodramatic red-baiting summation speech by District Attorney Giblin, a jury of hand-picked, small-town businessmen found 25 defendants guilty in the 3rd WPA "conspiracy" trials being held here.

This trial was the climax in the series of persecution trials which the government had been staging here as retribution for the militancy which the unemployed workers of Minneapolis displayed during the recent WPA trials.

The trial was held under the direct prompting of the Roosevelt administration. The special District Attorney, Giblin, was appointed by Attorney General Murphy, who could not have taken such a step without at least tacit consent of the President.

The trial charge was that of "conspiracy"—so broad and vague that it is possible to frame any union on such a charge. The defense, sponsored by the AFL Council of Minneapolis and St. Paul, proved adequately that the only crime of the defendants was that they had been desperately fighting for their right to live. Previous issues of the CHALLENGE have given details about how the defense showed the charges to be frameups.

Among the defendants convicted in the 3rd trial were Oscar and Peggy Schoenfeld, leaders of the Youth Section of the Federal Workers Section of Local 544, Teamsters Union. This Youth Section has been leading the fight of Minneapolis unemployed youth for decent living conditions.

The trial was obviously a political trial—an attempt to punish militant young workers. The District Attorney indulged in hysterical red-baiting.

"Minneapolis is not going to be the Moscow of America," he again and again dinned into the heads of the jurymen, who were farmers and business men. They made sure not to put any workers on the jury. Red-baiting became the means by which the government framed the union militants.

Preparations are being made to appeal the case. The entire trade union movement is behind this campaign to prevent the trade unionists from being framed up.

How Miracles Happen In Jamaica

On the cold morning of December 6, the residents of the Jamaica district of New York City got up to go to work. On their way to the subway stations, many of them passed the Jamaica Armory and King Park.

Suddenly there was a little hubbub... excitement... No, no, nothing terrible happened.

All that did happen was that they saw, painted in large letters on the Armory and the sidewalk of the Park, signs saying: JOBS, NOT GUNS!

All the Chamber of Commerce boys were shocked. The noise of anyone wanting JOBS NOT GUNS!

All the sassiest ladies were shocked. How distressing to paint those kind of things on the street!

But the poor workers who live "on the other side of the fence" in Jamaica didn't think it was such a bad idea.

Youth Can't Find Jobs Despite Industries War Boom to 1929 Peak

Advertisement

WANTED...

WE NEED:

- healthy young men, who are ready to die at the drop of a banknote;
- preferably unemployed youth, who are reckless and have nothing to lose;
- young fellows who won't ask any stupid or embarrassing questions, but who'll do what they're told;
- education no barrier, provided the applicant have no dangerous ideas about wanting to live long;

Who Are Ready to Enter a Little Venture

which we are contemplating. This affair promises to be very exciting; there'll be plenty of blood, cracked bones, wrenched bodies, ruined cities, etc. Besides, this business venture, which we enter quite cold bloodedly, you understand, will prove of considerable profit to us. We hope to corner the world's markets, to drag a load of profits into our coffers; and in general make things soft for the UPPER CLASS.

ALL WE NEED IS MEN

that is to say, YOU. We need your life, which we are certain you will deliver C.O.D. on demand, to safeguard our profits. In return we promise to deliver a lot of fanfare and blarney; loads of idealistic phrases like "Democracy, Freedom, Against Fascism"; some charming, homelike trenches; and a vacation in the Maginot Line.

Won't you please answer immediately?
JOHN D. MONEYBAGS,
OWEN D. COUPONCLIPPER
J. P. PLUTOCRAT
for the United Association of Capitalistic Cutthroats, Robbers, Exploiters, also known as the Ruling 60 Families.

STALINISTS AND JINGOS MAY SPLIT AT A.S.U. CONVENTION

The clash between the Stalinists and the jingo patriots who have been fighting inside the American Student Union for the last few months with regard to the war question will come to a head at its national convention to be held Christmas in the University of Wisconsin.

The Stalinist invasion of Finland has aggravated this conflict. Essentially they are fighting around as to which imperialist camp to support. The Joe Lash clique of jingo-patriots is interested in throwing the support of the ASU behind the French-British imperialist bloc, and its stooge, "poor little Finland." The Stalinists are interested in dragging the ASU into their pro-Hitler camp, despite the fact that at its last convention, the ASU decided to adopt a pro-collective security line. This

meant support of the imperialist bloc of France and England.

After the Hitler-Stalin pact had placed them in the war camp of Hitler, the Stalinists in the ASU, with typical cynicism, engineered a turn in policy. Lash, the ASU national secretary, who holds considerable prestige in the organization, kept fitting uncertainly from one line to the other. For a while he supported the Stalinists. Then there were verified rumours that he was flirting with the pacifist YCAW.

Split Sharpens
Then, it was understood that the breach had been healed between the Stalinists and the Lash crew. However, with the invasion of Finland, Lash definitely lined up on the Allied imperialist's side.
At a meeting of New York ASU (Continued on Page 3)

By MARGUERITE BELL
CLEVELAND, Ohio—In this American city thousands of youth and school children have been starving, due to a breakdown of Relief, despite the fact that the warehouses are bulging with food. I have seen men, women and children desperately, hopelessly walking the streets their faces drawn and pinched with hunger. I have seen these people demonstrating in front of the City Council, fighting for their very right to live.

It seems that for a brief while the relief crisis will be temporarily alleviated by a Federal grant. In no sense, however, does this solve the problem.

For ONE-MONTH—8,000 single persons, most of them youth, and 4,000 childless couples were completely cut off from relief and the other recipients cut 40% below previous sub-subsistence standards. Nobody starves in America, say the politicians.

For ONE-MONTH—thousands of indigent school children went hungry, during which bungling officials were trying to unravel this red tape which prevented so much as one bowl of soup to these pupils, except by compassionate teachers.

ONE-MONTH—of red tape, political flinching by the Democrats and Republicans while according to the admission of S. T. Rowley, assistant city Welfare Commissioner, "Hundreds of small children are getting no lunch even when they return home."

ONE MONTH—written permission, notes, lunchroom tickets, difficulties with trucking facilities, the mayor blaming the governor, the governor blaming the mayor, Roosevelt blaming both, both blaming Roosevelt—Boy, can they (Continued on Page 2)

Starvation has struck its grim blows at America these last few weeks!

In every sector of the country relief agencies have collapsed with the result that thousands of men and women are walking the streets without any food to eat. Not merely the slow, gradual starvation of subsistence relief meals, but the actual starvation of not having anything to eat, has resulted from the relief breakdown.

Yet, it is important to note that the production level of American industry has reached and passed the 1929 level. American capitalism is today so sick and incapable of giving the people a decent living that it reaches the production level of its most frenzied prosperity years at precisely the same time that relief machinery cracks up.

According to government figures, there are at least still 10,000,000 people unemployed. The war boom, which has been largely artificial and anticipatory, has not succeeded in absorbing a sizeable group of workers. According to Howard Hunter, a WPA official, even if war exports to Europe were to reach the unlikely figure of \$1,000,000,000, there would only be an increase of 600,000 in the number of people employed. Add to this the possibility of the same number of people being reemployed by exports to South America—by no means a certainty—and the same number of people being employed by the resultant expansion of the American market—and even (Continued on Page 2)

'Poor Little Belgium' then— And Now 'Poor Little Finland'

By LOU COOPER

How many of you young people realize that Roosevelt and the sixty families have intensified their propaganda to get the country into war to unprecedented heights during the last few weeks. We, the post-war generation have never actually witnessed, previous to the last few weeks, the development of mass pro-war hysteria on a scale equivalent with the World War government drives to develop a hysterical "get us into war" sentiment. As we of the YPSL predicted, this pro-war campaign comes cloaked in noble phraseology. This time it's "save poor little Finland, the defender of our Western civilization."

And the cry is raised all over the country, moral and material support to Finland. Herbert Hoover, that gallant defender of western civilization (remember the Hoovervilles) starts an enormous fund raising campaign. Governors of States designate "Finland Day" as a day devoted to gathering materials to aid Finland. (Governor Brickner of Ohio who doesn't raise funds for Ohio's starving might very well go in for this).

The newspapers scream, "Roosevelt protests invasion of Finland." Roosevelt in all his speeches gives full moral support to Finland. And pray, what can full moral and material support mean? Full moral and material support is the prelude to full military support!

(Continued on Page 3)

Let the People Decide Their Own Destinies for a Change

On January 9, 1940 the Congress of the United States will open. There is no doubt, of course, that Congress will take up many weighty matters.

It will consider methods whereby relief may be cut even further than it already has been. It will consider the proposal of the President to throw \$271,000,000 more into the pot of war and destruction.

And the individual congressmen will, of course, have important matters to take up . . . bills for new highways, bills for pensions for veterans, etc., etc.

But one question will not be taken up—unless the voice of the American people rises sufficiently high to force "their representatives" to discuss it.

That is the question of the right of the American people to vote against war.

This problem stands today as a burning task for the American workers and youth. Now, while America has not been drawn into the war, is the time to raise the cry: We demand the right to decide our own destiny! Don't let Congress have the right to vote us to death! We demand the right to vote against war!

WAR--WHAT FOR?

Straight Talks to American Youth

(The following excerpts are from "WAR--WHAT FOR? Straight Talks to American Youth," a pamphlet written by Ernest Erber and now in the process of publication by the Young People's Socialist League.)

* * *

The daily newspapers tell us a lot about the war in Europe. But they all tell us that there is not much of a chance that America will get into it. However, the big money-men who own the papers don't believe this. And they ought to know when the papers are lying. For they have the final say on what the editor should write.

We know that they don't believe their own papers because they spend hundreds of dollars a year to get so-called news service letters that give them the inside dope.

THE KIPLINGER LETTER

One of these letters that goes out every week to the business men who can afford to pay for it, is the "Kiplinger Letter." It is sent out from Washington, D. C., by a man named Kiplinger, who claims to have the inside track with the big shots in the government.

In October the "Kiplinger Letter" said the following:

The war spirit in Washington, within EXECUTIVE branch of government, is greater than throughout the country, especially the interior. By this is meant the possibility that U. S. may get into the war. There are complex if-&-ands . . . prospects are far from clear . . . but . . .

The point is this: Within our officialdom, not for quotation, there's VERY MUCH more opinion that the U. S. MAY be drawn into the war than appears in formal official utterances as published.

In very high official circles (not the slightest doubt of it) there is solemn talk of the "possibility" of U. S. in war "by January."

Our government, particularly at the TOP, is acting on the theory that the U. S. "may" be at war "sooner than the general public suspects." That's not precise, but that's the way it is put . . . it shows the spirit."

Even if the Kiplinger information is not exact as to the time, even if they wait longer than next Spring before going to war, we know that it is only a matter of months.

But why should the bald-headed, fuzzy-brained business executives be so anxious to know just when America will go to war? Are they afraid they may have to fight? No, they know better than that. They know, as everyone else does, that the people who will do the fighting and dying will be young people like you and me, the people who are lucky when they have enough money to buy a newspaper regularly, let alone expensive "inside dope" letters.

WHY THEY WORRY

What the business men are worried about is that they know just when to begin cashing in on America's going to war. If you and me and a couple of million other young fellows are drafted, the army will have to buy a lot of equipment. This means that billions will be spent for steel, oil, cement, leather, cloth, and other materials. The big business men want to be sure that when we're dying like flies out in No-mans Land and leaving our guts hanging on barbed wire and the stock market is sky-rocketing, they want to be certain that they have smacked their dough down on the right stocks to be in on the ground floor for the big clean-up.

On this page you see a report from one of the Wall Street houses, Bonner & Bonner. Read it carefully. Some day when you're lying in a shell-hole with an arm or leg missing, and if you're still conscious, it might make you feel better to remember that at least the customers of Bonner & Bonner who invested in steel stocks are finding the war quite to their liking.

But you will say: "What has all this got to do with me? Do you think that I am so dumb as to go out and get shot up for Bonner & Bonner, or J. P. Morgan, or, for that matter, any other man's profits? If I fight, it will only be after I am sure that it is for a good cause."

NOT SO FAST

Not so fast there, John Jones of 1940. It's not quite that simple. That is what John Jones of 1917 thought. And that is

HUNGER HITS CLEVELAND

(Continued from Page 1)

toss that political football—while the doctors report malnutrition in the schools. There was no money . . . Sure, the 60 Ruling Families had it all, and the unemployed can eat the Constitution.

The relief crisis not only failed to push "poor little Finland" off the front page but there was no mention in the press of actual starvation, until the local Negro leader sent in a letter pointing out that the stalling of the City Council was causing actual starvation among the Negroes of Cleveland.

Only when the exasperated unemployed, under the leadership of the Federal Workers Union, an unemployed group born in the heat of struggle, stormed the City Council meeting and demanded the right to live—only then did a little action come from the City Council. Only then was there a restoration of the previous sub-human relief standards.

But America is a great country where nobody starves . . . The land of Opportunity. Where is this America, buddy, where nobody starves? In Cleveland?

Revolutionary Youth In Britain

The CHALLENGE has just received the latest issue of "Youth for Socialism" organ of a British working class youth group in close contact with the Fourth International movement. This group is continuing its heroic struggle against the imperialist war despite all handicaps. The latest issue of its paper contains material on the fight of British youth against the war, an analysis of the role of the reformist youth groups in the war, and a series of proposals to rally British youth in the struggle for their rights and against the war.

F.D.R. SPENDS TO PREPARE WAR

(Continued from Page 1)

en then there would still be 8,000,000 unemployed left.

It is clear: American capitalism cannot solve its problems—at least by peace!

In the meantime, these unemployed are going through terrible sufferings all over the country as a result of the breakdown of relief. The role which the Federal Government is playing can be seen from the following statement of President Roosevelt made on December 9th in the New York Times:

"Over and over again he stressed that home relief cases were not the concern of the Federal government, but were peculiarly state problems." Peculiarly is right!

In Cleveland there has been a complete breakdown of relief for a number of weeks. In Toledo there has been no relief for the last 6 weeks for the 41,000 unemployed of that city. The only way for an unemployed person in Toledo to get food is to be certified as sick!

In Atlanta, Georgia 2,000 workers have been thrown off the relief rolls. In Birmingham, Alabama over 5,000 workers have been certified as eligible for relief without getting it.

In Kansas City, over 2,500 have been thrown off WPA. In St. Louis there has been a purge of relief recipients.

The capitalist system in America cannot solve its problems with peace-time measures. What other measures will it try to use?

The answer to that question can be seen from the fact that President Roosevelt has asked for an increased appropriation of \$271,000,000 for war purposes.

Our Readers Take the Floor

TO THE EDITOR:

I should like to know why your organization has come out against united front actions with the American Student Union on the New York campuses. After all, they're now opposed to Roosevelt, to the war preparations of the American government, to the ROTC, etc. So that their program is just about the same as yours.

Wilfred J.

(Editor's Reply: The ASU, acting as the stooge of the Stalinists, has suddenly come out with its "anti-war" position because it is opposed to America entering the war on the side of the enemies of Stalin-Hitler. Its opposition to war does not flow from any genuine defense of the interests of the working class, which dictates opposition to both imperialist camps. Its opposition is of the same character as that of Fritz Kuhn's in the interests of an imperialist power—Germany. We are against all imperialist power, Allied and Hitlerist. We refuse to have united fronts with agents of Hitler's policy.)

FIGHT AGAINST THE WAR; JOIN THE YPSL!

what all of our fathers thought when they fought in the last war. It all seemed very noble and idealistic. But they made a terrible mistake. And it's easy to make a mistake if we don't watch out. That's why this pamphlet is written. And that is why you should read it carefully. Between my writing and your reading and our thinking about it together, we will find out just what to watch for when the people who put their money in steel begin talking about "democracy" and all of that. We will know that it is only a lot of propaganda by the customers of Bonner & Bonner and a lot of other Wall Street sharks, all of it designed to catch us for suckers to fight their wars for them.

TO THE EDITOR:

Where is the correspondence which used to appear in the Challenge depicting the life of youth? I know that we in Los Angeles have not corresponded well with the Challenge. I think that it should be brought to the attention of all Divisions and Territories and encouraged. Where are the ridiculous cartoons, such as Scissorbill Sam? Let's have more trade union news. These are a few comments which will improve the Challenge.

Harry Thompson
Challenge Director of the Los Angeles Territory

(Editor's Reply: Dear Comrade Thompson—Where is the correspondence, for which we have written innumerable times to Los Angeles, on the conditions of youth on the West Coast? That you have not corresponded well with the Challenge is the answer to your questions. And the other sections of the League ask the same questions about every one . . . but themselves. Where, too, are the cartoons from the L.A. comrades who can draw and the articles from the L.A. comrades in trade unions? Your suggestions are welcome and in line with what we've always tried to do, but some material along these lines would be even more welcome.)



LENIN, LIEBKNECHT, LUXEMBURG—Throughout the country members of the YPSL are arranging mass meetings against war to be held the middle of January. These meetings will be part of the struggle of the youth of today against war in the spirit of the three outstanding revolutionary anti-war fighters—Lenin, Liebknecht and Luxemburg. At these meetings in every section of the country there will be prominent Party and League speakers, dramatic presentations on the lives of these three revolutionary leaders, singing and in general very colorful programs are being arranged. IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE CHALLENGE OF YOUTH THERE WILL BE ADVERTISEMENTS OF THESE MEETINGS, ANNOUNCING THE SPEAKERS, THE PROGRAM AND THE PLACE

THE ANTI-WAR FUND DRIVE—The Anti-war fund drive has been renamed the Karl Liebknecht Fund. This drive will end with the LLL meetings. Money has been coming in the last few weeks. In the January 15th issue of the CHALLENGE we will announce

the final results. Every section of the League should strive to fulfill its quota. All the proceeds from the LLL meetings will go to the Karl Liebknecht Fund.

ANTI-WAR CAMPAIGN—In this issue of the CHALLENGE there is published a section of the pamphlet "WAR, WHAT FOR?—Straight Talks to American Youth." This pamphlet will be off the press soon. Besides we are planning to continue our anti-war work around the slogan JOBS NOT GUNS. We will present the details in our next column. Don't be surprised if we get out two pamphlets at one time.

THE NEW YEAR—We should also have some New Year resolutions:

1. Intensified activity around the anti-war work of the Y.P.S.L.
2. More reading and study so as to prepare ourselves to be more competent anti-war fighters.
3. More recruiting into the Y.P.S.L. and increased sales of the Challenge.

Hoping all of you have a good time New Years Eve (don't forget to attend OUR parties).

THE CHALLENGE BRIGADE

By the Business Manager

Our desperate appeal for funds in the last issue brought results even from unexpected sources. If you will recall we did not ask for donations but merely for payment of back bills. Imagine our delight at receiving ten dollars from Dwight MacDonald with the advice "Use this for the Challenge wherever it will do most good. You're putting out a swell paper!" Donations, of course are welcome at any time. What gratified us most, however, were large payments on several back bills, among them a payment of \$84.00 in one lump sum from the New York Division. Below are the current bills due. These figures include the bills for the last issue. Compare them with the list in our last column.

Account	Bill Outstanding
Akron	\$2.00
Berkeley	4.80
Boston	10.00
Chicago	62.76
Cleveland	17.03
Columbus	7.45
Detroit	2.90
Flint	1.40
Fresno	Credit
Los Angeles	18.95
Lynn	1.30
Madison	1.20
Minneapolis	4.50
Newark	24.70
New Brunswick	3.70
New York	112.31
Oakland	3.00
Philadelphia	16.90
Reading	3.62

St. Paul	5.15
San Diego	2.76
San Francisco	13.80
Toledo	Credit
Youngstown	15.90
Total	\$335.66

Between November 30th and December 14th we received \$149.00 for bundle payments, \$11.30 for subs and \$10.00 in donations. This was enough to pay some pressing old debts and to pay in full for the last issue. Though this is a very good start we must liquidate the debts in full in order to stabilize the Challenge. As we go to press we do not have enough money to pay the entire printing bill for this issue. Let's get rid of the \$335.66 left due the Challenge by January 15th.

Units should also take advantage of the next issue to advertise their three "L" meetings to contacts. The January 1st issue will be a special Lenin, Liebknecht, Luxemburg anniversary edition. It will be out in the mail in a few days before January 1st. Units will receive prominent and attractive advertisements for their meetings if they will send in sums of \$2.00 or more. Copy and money to be in the office not later than Tuesday, December 25th. Take this up at your next meeting. Make provisions for a large ad in the anniversary issue of the Challenge. Build the LLL meetings!

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STATISTICAL DEPARTMENT

THEY'RE READY SPECIAL REPORT

BONNER & BONNER
INVESTMENT SECURITIES
150 BROADWAY
NEW YORK, N. Y.
RECORD 5-9800

STATISTICAL DEPARTMENT

STEELS LEAD THE WAR STOCKS

Without steel modern war would be impossible—Airplanes, tanks, artillery, armor plate, battleships, shells, torpedoes, barbed wire all are principally made of steel.

The machines of war are being continually destroyed and replacements use up tremendous additional quantities of steel.

Steel companies, during the last war, were swamped with business which proved highly profitable to them and to their stockholders.

Steel stocks have always been among the first to respond to the stimulus of war-buying.

We believe that sound steel stocks, purchased around current levels, will prove very profitable—repeating, in many instances, the spectacular performance of the last war.

We have prepared reports on three very attractive steel stocks—

(1) priced around \$6 per share;
(2) priced around \$14 per share;
(3) priced around \$33 per share.

We will furnish you these reports without obligation or charge.

For your convenience, we are enclosing a return card which requires no postage.

STATISTICAL DEPARTMENT

HOSPITAL WORKERS SUFFER UNDER SUB-HUMAN CONDITIONS IN N. Y.

By ARLENE WILLIAMS
Some of the worst conditions to be found in any industry in the United States are existing today in the hospitals of New York City.

For the various positions of porters, kitchen helper and general "hospital helper", young men and women up to the age of 22 are employed.

In a conversation with a young girl who fits into one of these categories, I discovered that these workers are compelled to work 12 hours a day and either 6 or 7 days a week, depending on the hospital. Their work is of the most menial nature and eventually proves to be detrimental to their health.

Living "In"

In some cases those who live "in" make their home in a basement of the hospital building in a dormitory where 30 to 40 people sleep. If a worker has a family and a home on the outside and wishes to live there, he is still only paid for living "in" even though some other worker utilizes his "quarters". In Los Angeles, a hospital worker finally went as far as the State Supreme Court with a case of this sort before he was granted the regular "living out" salary.

"Our food consists mainly of 3rd grade canned goods, leftovers from the patients food, etc", stated this young worker. "This often results in cases of ptomaine poisoning, dysentery and chronic diarrhoea."

"Our wages for 'living in' are from \$20 to \$40 a month, according to the hospital. The 'living out' wages are between \$40 and \$60 a

month. We have to be within reach at any time in case of an 'emergency'. This occurs quite often because of the shortage in help".

Unionize

The natural reaction to these terrifying conditions is for the workers to unionize. This becomes quite difficult. The city hospitals, according to the law, cannot sign contracts with the unions. The so called "charitable" hospitals operate under a charter from the State Board of Social Welfare which means that they are automatically out of the jurisdiction of the State Labor Relations Act. In court, these "charitable" institutions admit that a good number of their patients are paying cases.

As a result of all these technicalities, it is quite difficult to win any concessions for these workers although such organizations as the New York Hospital Fund, which consists of the superintendents of hospitals, admits that "conditions in the hospitals are terrible". Mayor La Guardia made a statement to that effect before the City Council and as a remedy, made the proposal for a mere \$1.20 a week increase in salary for the workers.

At the present time, although the unions have been certified by the hospital employees and the State Labor Relations Board, the hospitals refuse to negotiate. The cases will be brought before a higher body for judgement very shortly.

The thing to do now is to fight for the right of these workers to organize into recognized unions with union conditions and benefits prevailing in all hospitals in New York.

Stand Firm, Together!



It Happened One Day

It all happened on one day, Wednesday, November 20. And all these news items come from the same paper, The New York Times. Read them yourself and you'll see why no editorial comment is necessary.

CLEVELAND HALTS RELIEF FOR 6,000

Mayor Burton ordered all relief offices closed today because all the funds have been exhausted. 16,000 adults were cut off entirely. Many families with children continue to receive relief at the rate of 7c a day for each member of the family. This 7c a day is to cover food, rent, gas, electricity and heating for cold winter days.

One woman was found walking along the shores of Lake Michigan. She was arrested because the police feared she wanted to commit suicide. "I'll kill myself if you don't get food for my children."

INCREASE IN INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION

WASHINGTON, Nov. 28—Latest statements from the Federal Bureau of Labor Statistics report no drop in unemployment despite the increase in industrial production. There are still 8 to 10 million unemployed. New Deal econo-

mists are reported as "doubtful whether any recovery can be long sustained."

NEW DEFENSE COSTS MAY CUT RELIEF BUDGET

Representative Woodrum stated today in Washington that he agreed with the President's request for an increase of \$271,000,000 in military appropriations but stated that "substantial cuts in Federal relief appropriations" will be necessary to "offset the increased army appropriations."

ROOSEVELT PREPARES WAR BUDGET

President Roosevelt discussed again at his press conference today his proposed increases in the military budget. He has proposed a deficiency appropriation of \$271,000,000. This is not included in the budget for 1940, which will likewise be raised.

The President indicated that this was the price of defense. He pointed out that this country would be glad to pay the extra cost to keep the defenses up to peak.

Roosevelt made this statement from his limousine in which he had just returned from the new glass enclosed swimming pool where he goes daily for a plunge in the warm and buoyant water.

"Poor Little Finland"---

(Continued from Page 1)

Now what's all the shooting about? What has made our sixty families so indignant at the invasion of Finland when they didn't present so much as a flicker of indignation at the time of Hitler's invasion of Czechoslovakia, for instance? You know, whenever these fat-bellied capitalists become morally indignant about something, I smell a rat. These boys have no moral scruples. They'd hang a negro sharecropper in the South for demanding a few more pennies a week in wages and they would give full support to the bloody Batista regime in Cuba because of their economic interests. The only time these "gentlemen" pull off a "humanitarian" stunt is when it aids their economic interests, their blood money.

And if you look a little closer at all this "poor little Finland" propaganda you notice that it is precisely the economic interests of the sixty families that lay the basis for the enormous propaganda campaign to get the country into war against the Soviet Union.

Here it is in a nutshell! The sixty families haven't been making out so well for the last couple of years. This long depression has cut into their purse strings. These capitalists know that in order to make more money they have to branch out into new colonies. They want to sell the overproduction that's accumulated and they want to develop new industries, new fields for economic exploitation in economically backward countries.

A Tough Business

The sixty families notice that all the colonies of the world are occupied by themselves or other ruling capitalist families of other countries. To go out and fight these other capitalists is a tough business any way you look at it.

On the other hand they notice there's one territory, one sixth of the world in size, that is not occu-

ried by any capitalist group. In this territory there's no private property exploitation going on. The State owns the wealth and nobody in the country can invest in industry, no one can inherit industry. The State has a monopoly of foreign trade and no capitalist group in the world has as yet broken through this monopoly and sold goods on the open market in the Soviet Union. Gosh, say the sixty families, if we could only break into the Soviet Union and institute a private property system, all our troubles would be solved for a long time. There's gold in them thar hills!

The sixty families are very cautious in outlining their tactics for this military attack on the Soviet Union. For years they have aimed and still aim at getting the whole territory for themselves, but during the course of preparations it has become necessary to combine with other capitalist groups for the attack.

How We Feel

How do we, the young workers feel about it all? Do we want them to denationalize industry in the Soviet Union? Absolutely no! Soviet planned production, despite the hideous cancer of the Stalin oligarchy, has been a beacon to the peoples of the world since its planned basis was instituted in the days of Lenin and Trotsky. In one of the most backward countries of the world we have been given irrefutable proof as to the glorious superiority of planned production as against planless, cut-throat competition. In its most isolated capacity (by the imperialist countries) and most degenerated capacity (the crushing of criticism and creative initiative) the Soviet Union's social base still exists and must be regenerated by the working class which will overthrow the hideous Stalin bureaucracy.

Stalin's crimes must be mercilessly condemned by the youth of the world. Stalin's method of fighting the imperialists, who are staunchly behind Finland, their vassal state, must receive one hundred percent condemnation from all of us. His complete cynical disregard of the feelings and sentiments of people is typical of Stalinist methods and plays right into the hands of the imperialist propagandists.

Stalin is trying to hold on to his usurped power to the last. The workers of the Soviet Union must take the power away from him and carry on the struggle against the imperialists!

Youth of the world! Against the imperialists today, defend the glorious conquests of October. Not one iota of support to Stalin's methods. We, the workers will take care of Stalin. We won't turn our job over to the imperialists. We'll defend and extend the revolution throughout the world.

YCAW to Add More Confusion to War Question at Confab

The pacifist-isolationist Youth Committee Against War is taking time off from its regular slumbers to hold its annual convention in Chicago this Christmas weekend.

The record of this committee is one of complete futility in the one year of its existence. A melange of all types of pacifistic churchmen, churchy Socialists, Socialistic churchmen, war-mongering isolationists—this outfit continually failed to respond to the issues facing the workers on the war question. And when it did respond, it did so on the basis of supporting various capitalist schemes. At all its meetings in New York, for example, it has included war-mongering Congressmen as speakers, one of whom apologized for the actions of Chamberlain!

One thing is certain: it will not adopt as its perspective the program of the 3rd camp—working class struggle against both sides of the war and for a Socialist peace.

What it Cost Last Time

The following key industries made the following profits during the last war:

	—Average Annual Profit—	
	4 years preceding war	During war
Scovill Manufacturing Co.	\$655,000	\$7,678,000
Niles Bement Powder	656,000	6,146,000
Atlas Powder Co.	485,000	2,374,000
Hercules Powder Co.	1,271,000	7,430,000
Republic Iron and Steel	4,177,000	17,548,000
International Merchant Marine	6,690,000	14,229,000
General Motors	6,954,000	21,700,000
American Smelting and Refining Co.	11,566,000	18,602,000
Utah Copper	5,776,000	21,622,000
Anaconda Copper	10,649,000	34,549,000
United States Steel	105,331,000	239,653,000
Bethlehem Steel	6,840,000	49,427,000
DuPont	6,092,000	58,076,000

This was the war which was going "to make the world safe for democracy."

This was the war which was fought for the "New Freedom."

This was the war for which the American 60 Families asked us to die because it was "different", because it wasn't being fought for anything but the noblest of motives.

Well, if you still need an answer to that kind of hokum, just glance over the above figures once again. Then you'll know why the war was fought. Then you'll see that it was for profits, not democracy.

Will you let them pull the same stunt once again?

What Could Be Done

Have you ever been told by some peanut politician—"Sure, we believe youth should have the right to have vocational training and playgrounds and other things it needs, but there just isn't any money"?

Well, if these stooges of the bosses stopped spending so much dough for guns and battleships to protect Morgan's investments in China, they could use it for youth needs.

If there had been Socialist governments in control of the leading countries during the last war, instead of boss governments, there would have been no need to war for profits; and this is what they could have done

with the money which they spend for war:

\$2,500 home, furnished with \$1,000 worth of furniture, could have been provided for every family in Russia, Germany, Belgium, France, Britain, Australia, Canada, and the United States; and every center of 20,000 people in those same lands could be given a \$2,000,000 library and a \$10,000,000 university. There would be enough left so that 125,000 teachers and the same number of nurses could be paid adequate salaries. And then you'd still have enough left to buy up every piece of property in France and Belgium.

Don't you think it would have been worth while?

YPSL Leads School Drive to Preserve Civil Liberties for Minority Groups

NEW YORK—A large-scale and dangerous drive against civil liberties has been launched in the colleges here, through the form of banning speeches by Earl Browder, Stalinist leader.

Browder has been banned in a number of schools: Brooklyn College, NYU, City College Day and Evening Sessions. Despite the variety of excuses given by the school administrations—ranging from the excuse that people indicted in court cannot speak in colleges to the assertion that Browder would give a "bad reputation" to the school—it is increasingly obvious that the issue is one of the right of a minority radical group to speak.

The Young Peoples Socialist League (4th Int.) units in these schools has entered the fight to allow Browder to speak. It has issued the following statement on the case:

"We condemn the refusal to allow Browder to speak. It is a de-

nial of the right of free speech. It also gives the Stalinists, who have often acted against the interests of workers' civil liberties (e.g., the Fred Beal case) the opportunity to pose as defenders of civil rights.

"We hold no brief for Browder. We completely condemn his politics. But we demand his right to speak. Let the Stalinist stooge expose himself."

In City College where the issue has reached its sharpest proportions, the reactionary faculty elements and their student stooges have used the excuse that the appearance of Browder would serve to increase the "red tinge" of the school. This is patently a false argument because: 1) This argument stems from the Harvey-Fairchild politicians who use it as a weapon against free education. 2) The argument is used by reactionaries to smear every progressive tendency

and shouldn't cause militant students to back down, just as the

red scare shouldn't cause workers to give up a strike and 3) If CCNY students want to, they have the right to be reds, just like anyone else.

In NYU the Dean used the argument that Browder shouldn't speak because he was under indictment in court. Nonsense! In America a man is assumed to be innocent until proven guilty. Especially in as patently phoney a charge as the one Browder is arrested on—travelling with a false passport, something done by every movie star.

These bans serve as the opening guns in an anti-civil liberties drive. They pick on Browder first not because he is a real "red" but rather because he is most discredited among the workers and therefore it is easier to smear him as a prelude to smearing the genuine revolutionists.

Defend Browder's right to speak. Let the Stalinist expose himself!

ASU CONVENTION

(Continued from Page 1)
chapter presidents a conflict took place between the 2 groups. The Stalinists winning by an overwhelming majority. It is to be expected, however, that unless some kind of compromise can be reached which will slide over the issue, a sharp fight will take place at the convention, in which the Stalinists will probably be the winners.

In any case, which ever side wins the ASU will remain tied to one or another pro-war camp. Unless there is an unexpected voice raised giving the point of view of the 3rd camp—the camp of the workers struggle against the imperialist war—nothing much can be expected from this convention.

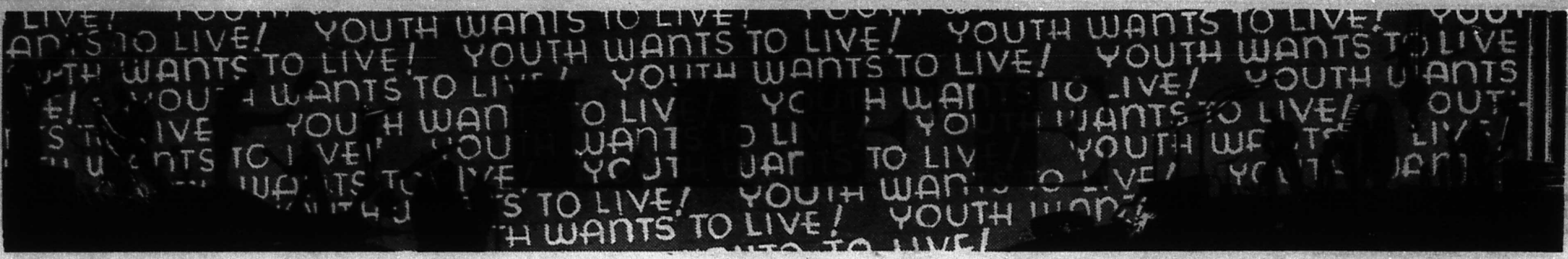
Spilling the Beans ...

The following cablegram was sent by Walter Hines Page, American Ambassador to Great Britain, to President Wilson on March 5, 1917. A month later we were in war.

"If we should go to war with Germany, ALL THE MONEY WOULD BE KEPT IN OUR COUNTRY, TRADE WOULD BE CONTINUED AND ENLARGED UNTIL THE WAR ENDS, AND AFTER THE WAR EUROPE WOULD CONTINUE TO BUY FOOD AND WOULD BUY FROM US ALSO AN ENORMOUS SUPPLY OF THINGS TO RE-EQUIP THEIR INDUSTRIES. WE SHOULD THUS REAP THE PROFIT OF AN ENLARGING TRADE OVER A NUMBER OF YEARS AND WE SHOULD HOLD THEIR SECURITIES IN PAYMENT."

"I think the pressure of this approaching crisis has gone beyond the ability of the Morgan financial agency for the British and French governments.

"PERHAPS OUR GOING TO WAR IS THE ONLY WAY IN WHICH OUR PRESENT PREEMINENT TRADE POSITION CAN BE MAINTAINED AND A PANIC AVERTED."



It would seem that the Dead End Kids have been softened up considerably since they first scared the wits out of polite society. In their first picture, "Dead End," they were a pretty tough bunch. Despite the "happy" fadeout at the end of that picture no one seriously believed that very much could be hoped for from them.

The reason that they went over with a bang is that they were as rowdy a gang as ever roamed a city's slums and they were proud about it. But look what's happened since then. Their next picture pleads that they not be judged by superficial aspects, because after all there are "Angels with Dirty Faces." And as if this whining weren't enough, they went further in their reform, that is, "Angels Wash Their Faces."

WORSE AND WORSE

That's been the general pattern. In the early scenes of the picture they run through their routine—banana stealing, "I'll spit in your eye," etc. But then some reformer, a priest, or a pretty society dame, reveals the evil of their ways to them. The result—butter wouldn't melt in their mouths, that is, if they had the butter.

As if all this weren't baloney enough, they've just been put through their paces in military school. "On Dress Parade" is the name of this little gem. Of the original crew only one has been faithful to his mold. "Spit" enters the Academy where his "unconventional" ways conflict with the heel-clicking, chest-out, stomach-in routine of his former buddies.

You know the rest. "Spit" is made to understand that the army is an honorable career, that one can find no nobler profession than lugging around a rifle to protect the investments of the 60 Families. It's interesting to notice what standards the picture sets up. Discipline, no complaining, patriotic mouthwash, kow-towing to the military authorities—these characterize a regular guy.

ONE PURPOSE

Pictures like this serve but one purpose. They are calculated to whip up a false sense of patriotism to pave the way for the military totalitarianism that is in store. But this picture is just one of many. Think back to the pictures that have appeared in recent months. "U-Boat 29," "Nurse Edith Cavell," "Torpedoed," "Thunder Afloat," "Bombs Over London," "Beasts of Berlin," (circa 1916, revised edition). Taken individually, each of these pictures is typical of the run of the mill flag-waving variety. But the accumulation is a dung heap of pro-war agitation. The movies have been commandeered by the 60 Families in their drive towards war.

Recommended for merriment:
The Marx Brothers run riot in their latest, "A Day at the Circus." Groucho, as the "Legal Eagle," leads a crew of trained maniacs in tracking down a circus mystery. Screwy stuff, but I like it.
Mickey Rooney is on the loose again. Rooney, who is a terrifying combination of "ham" and pure genius, saves and otherwise ordinary musical, "Babes in Arms." His imitations of Lionel Barrymore and Clark Gable are really something.
Currently dripping across the nation's screens is a bloody little piece, entitled "Tower of London." It is the story of Richard the Third's rise to the throne. Basil Rathbone is properly villainous as the plotting Richard and Borith Karloff plays his chief Executioner.
Reviewer's comment:
Chop! Chop! Well all right.

I Am Interested

Please send me more information on the aims and activities of the

Y. P. S. L.
116 University Place
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The Story of the Socialist Youth Movement During the Last War

By WILLI MUENZENBERG
(This is the fifth installment in a series of excerpts from Muenzenberg's account of his experiences in the Swiss and the International Socialist Youth Movement during the World War. The material is translated from the German as it appeared in his book "Die Dritte Front.")

Despite the blunt rejection by the social patriotic Central Committee of the German youth in Berlin and the reservations of the French youth leadership, the international conference met in Bern, Switzerland on Easter Day, 1915. The conference was attended by 14 delegates from Poland, Holland, Italy, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Switzerland, Bulgaria, Germany, and Russia.

The German delegates participated in a conference with the international organizations for the first time since 1907. The call for the Bern conference had made a deep impression on the German youth movement. We received greetings via letter and telegram from many places in Germany, including Hamburg, Kiel, Erfurt, Dresden, Leipzig, and Berlin. Delegates from three local sections of the German organization succeeded in crossing the carefully guarded frontier and attending the conference in person.

Delegates of the Polish and Russian workingclass movements also took part for the first time at Bern in the activities of the youth international. The Social Democratic Party of Russian Poland and Lithuania was represented by Dombrowski. The Central Committee of the Social Democratic Workers Party of Russia was represented by Comrades Inessa and Jegerow. Their credentials bore the signature of Lenin, who showed a great interest in the conference and exercised a decisive influence upon it despite the fact that he did not attend personally.

International Conference

The international conference of socialist youth organizations that met in the People's House in Bern on April 4, 1915 was the first publicly announced and publicly conducted international conference after the outbreak of the war. A few weeks previously, an international

women's conference had met in Bern under the leadership of Clara Zetkin. But its session were kept a secret and not announced until some time later when all the delegates had returned to their homes.

The opening session of the youth conference met in the great hall of the People's House. It was a demonstration of the fundamental ideas of the revolutionary international socialist youth movement. In addition to the leading delegates, the speakers included Peter Grimm for the leading committee of the Swiss Social Democratic Party and Angelica Balabanoff for the Italian Social Democratic Party.

The first day's session was taken up with reports from the delegates on the developments in their own organizations. Olausen, reporting for Norway, stated that 16,000 members of the youth organization were building the kernel of the left wing in the Norwegian party. The left wing was fighting for a revolutionary program for the party and the trade unions.

Reports Strike

In Denmark the membership for the year 1915 was reported as 7,000. The Danish organization, at its recently completed congress, had voted to call for a military strike if the government announced a mobilization.

Speaking for Holland, the delegate Luteraan reported that he represented a left wing youth organization and that they were waging a revolutionary struggle against the reformist organization on the issue of the war.

Comrade Inessa reported on the developments in Russia. Since it was impossible to have legal youth organizations under Czarism, they were working under the cover of dramatic groups, literary circles, and other such organizations. Many youth received heavy sentences for their activities against Czarism. The youth organizations of Russia were very different from those of Western Europe. Most of the activities were carried out in common with the adults. The workingclass youth of Russia were as international now as before the war. The struggle for peace, against Czarism and capitalism was being continued undauntedly.

A further report on the Russian situation was given by the Menshevik delegate, Weiss.

The Polish delegate Jegerow reported that the youth movement of Poland stood on a program of uncompromising class struggle. They rejected the military strike, however, and stood for the continuation of a class struggle against capitalism that was clear about its goal.

The youth movement of Bulgaria was represented by Mineff. He spoke in the name of the left, revolutionary youth group which was affiliated to the Social Democratic Party of the Marxist tendency and waged a sharp struggle against the Young Workers organization, which was affiliated to the revisionist Social Democratic Party.

German Report

The first report on the struggle of the German youth groups against reformism was given by Stirner from Goppingen. He reported that not only the bourgeois organizations, but also the organizations of the workingclass sought to enthrone the workers for the war. The organ of the youth committee of the Social Democratic Party, "Working Youth," which had a big circulation, was full of articles defending a pro-war position. Many local groups raised sharp protests. In a number of places the youth refused to distribute the pro-war papers. The police measures against the proletarian youth had been sharpened.

Excluding the German and Russian delegations, the Bern Conference represented some 33,800 members of the Socialist youth movement.

At the beginning of the second session, a conflict arose with the Russian delegation. At previous congresses, each country received one vote for each 1,000 members. For obvious reasons, the same method of representation could not be adopted at Bern. A heated discussion ensued on the method of representation without any results. As the majority of the conference decided to settle the matter by giving each country represented one vote, the Bolshevik delegates left the conference in protest. Weiss, the Menshevik delegate, remained with a consultative vote. This conflict almost resulted in a break-up of the conference. After long negotiations with the Russian comrades an agreement was reached and they returned to the conference on the following day.



THE BLACK JACOBINS, by C. L. R. James.

Reviewed by RUTH WILNER
"The Black Jacobins" by C. L. R. James is the exciting and inspiring story of the only successful slave revolution in history. It is at the same time the political biography of Toussaint L'Ouverture, the organizer of that great victory.

San Domingo, an island in the West Indies, was the richest colony in the world in 1789. The traders and merchants of France's maritime towns had grown fabulously rich by supplying slaves to San Domingo. The plantation owners lived in disolute luxury on the income derived from the inhuman exploitation of half a million black slaves. San Domingo was a precious jewel in the French mercantile empire. The profits kept piling up and it seemed that this blood-stained prosperity would last forever.

The half million human beings who were the source of this great wealth for the plantation owners and the slave-traders, were the victims of the brutality of these men who were ready to go to any lengths to insure their rule. From the break of dawn until the last rays of the sun had disappeared from the sky, the slaves were forced to work in the fields. They were driven by the whips and kicks of the overseers. The slightest "offense" was met with vicious punishment. Ears were cut off, men and women alike were whipped into unconsciousness. The masters seemed to take delight in devising ingenious tortures for the slaves.

HAIR-RAISING STORIES

There are blood-chilling, hair-raising stories of slaves being buried alive up to the neck, their faces smeared with honey so that the insects and ants would "eat them up." A Frenchman who had travelled in San Domingo related the story of a "cultured" woman who at a dinner party had her cook thrown into the oven in sight of the assembled guests because he had failed to prepare a dish to her satisfaction.

To the casual observer, travelling in San Domingo at that time, the slaves seemed to be completely cowed and terrorized by this treatment, incapable of rebellion. Certainly, the strongest men would break under such treatment. But at night, after hours of grueling labor in the tropic sun, the slaves would come from plantations from miles around, to meet in secret in the woods. There they filled the warm, deep night with the incantations of their Voodoo rites. In unison, they chanted: "We will avenge ourselves against the whites." . . . The more spirited among them escaped from the plantations and formed marauding bands. Leaders arose among them who prepared the people for the day when they would strike for freedom.

This was the situation in San Domingo, when in 1789, the Great Revolution broke the chains of feudal reaction in France. Liberty! Equality! Fraternity! These flaming slogans of the Revolution resounded across the ocean and acted as the signal for the revolt of the slaves of San Domingo. Under the leadership of Dessalines and Christophe, and nameless other rank and file leaders, the slaves formed themselves into armies. They burned the plantations and drove out the hated white masters, the slogans of the French Revolution on their lips and in their hearts. Toussaint L'Ouverture emerged from the obscurity of the plantation to take his place at the head of the fight for Negro freedom.
(To be continued)

With Scissors and Paste . . .

AMERICAN EDUCATOR SPEAKS

Dean Theodore J. Hoover, of Stanford University, once said, "The human race develops by war and succeeds in war in proportion to its use of metal. Races perish in peace. Culture is increased by the invention of new weapons. The pacifist errs in assuming that peace is desirable."
And this guy was supposed to teach something to American youth?

THESE BRAVE GENERALS

Writes Major-General Douglas McArthur: "A warlike spirit, which alone can create and civilize a state, is absolutely essential . . . life should be permeated with the ideal that death itself may become a boon."
Come to think of it, the doughty general may have a point there. Death may be better than the way some people live under capitalism or the way men "live" in the trenches.

THIS GENERAL WILL DIE IN BED

Says General Cherfil: "War is of divine essence. It is the blood-letting which restores the moral health of a world surfeited with evil desires. The peoples will never disarm, fortunately for their moral greatness and for the beauty of civilization."
Some concept of beauty!

WANTED: CANNON FODDER

The following advertisement appeared in a New York paper:
"UNITED STATES ARMY—Able-bodied men, single of good character, between the ages of 18 and 35 years, are wanted for enlistment; openings exist in various branches of the service. Apply at Army Recruiting Station."
What the matter? Haven't they got enough cannon fodder volunteering with placing ads in the papers? Or has the supply suddenly lessened?

Off the Press Next Week--

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Straight Talks to American Youth
by ERNEST ERBER

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