

THE FIGHTING WORKER



WORKERS OF THE WORLD
UNITE!

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

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NEW DEAL SPEEDS UP WAR DRIVE AND TRADE WAR

The weight of the President's state-of-the-Nation speech was on international events. Roosevelt was quite clear. On the one hand, American imperialism must build up an enormous war machine — potentially second to none — and on the other hand, he laid down a straightforward threat to Britain, Germany, and Japan of an intensified trade war — dumping, quotas, tariff restrictions, subsidies, etc., unless these other powers stop putting up barriers to Uncle Sam's trade abroad.

Ten days after he delivered this address, Roosevelt showed he wasn't fooling, by asking Congress for over a half billion dollars for planes, training of aviators, strengthening of fortifications, new equipment, and strengthening of naval bases. The threat to strengthen the naval base at Guam was a warning to Japan to heed America's notes. Guam is the most suited naval base for offensive action against Japan.

That the threat of American

Letter from Germany

A revolutionary group in greater Germany which some years ago split from the Stalinists and has rejected the centrist Trotskyites and the London Bureau, again writes to the RWL after a period of silence due to readjustments under illegal conditions. We quote part of one of their latest letters.

"The that came not entirely unexpected, put us in a new situation. On the one hand, it was necessary to speedily organize the emigration necessary in order to save our threatened comrades from the 'National Socialists.' Secondly, due to the sudden change of the political order, vacillations occurred in the working class which we took advantage of, to pick up the big numbers of splits from other opposition groups, mainly from the Social Democrats and Stalinists. In the main we succeeded in both, because we were almost the only ones to correctly appraise the situation... and the false line of the Stalinists and Social Democrats... and to prophesy the coming crash. Secondly, through good organization and teaching, we succeeded as the first ones to adapt ourselves, with the least losses, to the new conditions and at once to continue our struggle with new means. We succeeded in uniting revolutionary cadres of many small groups..."

Imperialism wasn't taken as just idle words was shown a few days after Roosevelt's first speech, when Japan promised to open up the Yangtze river in China to the shipping and trade of Uncle Sam and John Bull.

(continued on page 3)

Fascists Gain in Spain

'DEMOCRATIC' BOSSES CAUSE OF DEFEAT

January 18 — With the aid of vastly superior equipment supplied by Italy and Germany, Franco's Fascist legions have taken the important Catalonian town of Tarragona and are sweeping on to Barcelona, Loyalist capital.

What next in Spain depends on two key factors. The Loyalists have been purging their ranks of revolutionary anti-Fascists. The POUM has been virtually smashed and left-Anarchists and Marxists have been murdered or imprisoned. The next and inevitable step is the offensive against the Anarchists and the syndicalist CNT unions. With these forces smashed the Loyalists will be in a position to consummate a compromise with the Fascists. This is the variant the British imperialists are working for. Once the proletariat is fully smashed Britain is confident the new government will have to call upon John Bull for capital to develop the country and as a counterbalance to the demands of Italy and Germany, which are bound to be excessive.

RED OR BLACK

The other factor is the Italo-French struggle in the Mediterranean. Italian demands of Tunisia recently undoubtedly had as one of their goals stopping France from protesting the increased shipment of men and munitions to Spain. The fall of Catalonia would be a great blow to French Imperialism. The Breaking of French hold in Catalonia will seriously menace French power in the Mediterranean and give Italy — with control of the Balearic Islands and Catalonia — an almost indomitable position in its fight for Tunisia.

Whether the Loyalists or Fascists win, the working class will mop up. The Imperialist vultures will mop up.

With the aid of the French working class a proletarian victory in Spain is still possible. Saving Barcelona is only one of the tasks of the working class. The big task is regaining and extending the social conquests of 1936 when the working class effectively drove Fascism out of the key centers.



Start Campaign For Printed Magazine; Need \$300

One year ago the RWL started the printed FOUR PAGE FIGHTING WORKER and has issued it regularly ever since. Your contributions and subscriptions to this timely Marxian paper made this possible.

Now we are taking another big step forward: We are going to issue:

A printed THEORETICAL ORGAN instead of the present mimeographed FOURTH INTERNATIONAL.

Instead of ten cents the new organ will cost only 5 cents.

And its circulation will be increased three-fold.

WE NEED YOUR HELP. A campaign to raise \$300 starts February 1st and ends on May Day.

As a special offer in this period we are giving a one year Subscription to both the FIGHTING WORKER and the FOURTH INTERNATIONAL for the price of one — Both for \$1.00!!

Send in your sub and contributions immediately. Do your share to insure a printed theoretical Marxian magazine!

I am enclosing \$..... for the special subscription offer and/or \$..... contribution to the RWL Press fund.
Name
Address
City

Send all money to Demos Press, 1904 W. Division Street, Chicago, Spain came to the aid of Negrete.

WPA Men Face Big Lay Off

Need New Organization; Solution Lies in Workers Control of Production

A new crisis faces the unemployed. When Franklin Roosevelt took office six years ago sixteen million unemployed just thrown out of the factories were up in arms against the government. Unemployed veterans had just marched on Washington and had been met by Hoover's police. Demonstrations of as many as 150,000 unemployed took place in almost every large city in the country.

Roosevelt's task was to canalize the developing class consciousness of the working class, including the unemployed. In six years time, with the aid of the reformists, he has been eminently successful.

With the set back the New Deal received in the present elections and the increasing world antagonisms among the imperialists, the American capitalist class and Roosevelt are taking a new and broad offensive against the unemployed. Like the program of the Fascist dictators, the Roosevelt relief program can be

summarized in 4 words: More cannon, less butter.

LARGEST WAR BUDGET

Last year's war budget was the largest in peace time history. But this year another billion is being proposed for war purposes, over and above last year's figure. AND A CUT OF ONE BILLION IS BEING PROPOSED FOR THE UNEMPLOYED.

A slashing reduction in WPA appropriations, a decision to reduce the WPA wage differentials, and a transference of funds to the war industries are the answer of Wall Street's new congress to the needs of the people.

The reduction will mean throwing off of WPA over a million workers. Roosevelt's proposed cut of one third was not enough, and congress lopped off another \$150 million.

The reduction of WPA wage differentials will be carried out not by raising the lower paid workers, but by cutting down the "higher" paid below even their present bare subsistence level.

(Continued page 3)

Negrete Free

World Pressure Brings Release From Loyalists

Rosalio Blackwell Negrete, member of the Revolutionary Workers League, has been found not guilty by the Spanish Loyalist court and has thereby defeated the Stalinist frame-up. The following cable was received from Negrete after his release in custody of the United States Consulate. "Notify Hugo everything OK. Will wire details. Boat from France." Signed, Russell.

WORLD WIDE PROTEST WINS FREEDOM.

Again the working class has scored another victory due to its class pressure and world wide protests. The RWL initiated an international campaign last June, after Stamm and Cannon "Revolt" and Trotsky leaders, had suppressed the information of the arrest for about three months. Revolutionary organizations in Australia, South Africa, Canada, Mexico, Holland, Belgium, England, Scotland, France and Spain came to the aid of Negrete.

In leading industrial centers of United States united front meetings of organizations and mass meetings were held. In New York and Chicago picketing of the Spanish Consulate was carried on, with notable success by the New York Negrete United Front Sponsoring Committee. This world wide protest had its effects on the Spanish Loyalists and the Roosevelt State Department.

FIGHT NOT OVER

The fight is not over. Once before Negrete was released only to be rearrested. Further more, we must see to it that United States does not attempt to persecute this revolutionary anti-fascist when he returns to United States. The united front committees must continue until Negrete is free in the U. S.

Now the fight must be extended to demand the release of the POUM members and the Trotskyites and other class war prisoners in Loyalist Spain.

(Continued on page 2)

THIRD CONVENTION APRIL 8-9

The third Convention of the Revolutionary Workers League will be held in Chicago April 8th and 9th. The agenda will include: the general world situation, (Russian question, U.S. — British antagonism, the French crisis, the U. S. relation to the world crisis, document on Revolutionary Defeatism and Class Relations in the U. S.); unemployment; the trade union question; Workers Control of Production; and a number of organizational points.

New Unit in Chicago

With the addition of some new members, the Chicago RWL established a new unit during January. This marks the fifth new unit of the organization in the last few months. The new comrades are concentrating on work in the unemployed field, are sending speakers to a weekly forum in that neighborhood, and have organized a class each Sunday at 12:45 P. M. on Marxian Tactics and Strategy at 34 S. Peoria.

5 New Members in K. C.

The organizer of the Kansas City Unit reports five new members, all workers and members of unions. The unit will open a headquarters and will start weekly forums and classes. Detailed announcements will be carried next issue. The League is slowly moving on the upgrade organizationally with new units and new members on the increase.

CHICAGO SUNDAY FORUM

Every Sunday at 8:30 P.M.

Workers Center
1904 W. Division Street

February 5th
A Workingman Looks at
Congress
Bill Streeter

February 12th
Sellout in Spain
Sid Okun

February 19th
The Chicago Primaries
Joe Hadley

February 26th
The Military Plans of American
Imperialism
Hugo Oehler

Claridad Proletaria

Theoretical Organ of the
Revolutionary Workers League,
In Spanish

1904 W. Division Street
Chicago, Ill.

March Separately : Strike Together

(Continued)

THE BOLSHEVIKS AND INDEPENDENT WORKERS ACTION

The outstanding successful example of the struggle between the working class on the one hand against the right and left arms of the exploiters on the other, was the struggle of the Russian workers under the leadership of the Bolsheviks against Kerensky the "democrat" and Kornilov the white guardist. Under Lenin's policy the workers fought against Kornilov on their own independent class line. They organized their own workers militias to "march separately and strike together" with the Kerensky bourgeois army against Kornilov. Furthermore, they continued the struggle at the same time for better living conditions, for arming the people, etc. against the Kerensky government ruling in Russia as the agent of Anglo-French imperialism.

Against the democratic institutions of the boss class government of Kerensky, even in a country where the great majority were peasants, Lenin counterposed the **RULE OF THE SOVIETS**. On the basis of this policy, the Bolsheviks prepared the masses in the struggle against Kornilov to overthrow the capitalist institutions and replace them with the democratic institutions of the workers and peasants — the Workers Councils.

This was in Lenin's day. It is the opposite of what takes place today under Stalinism with its crushing of workers democracy in the Soviet Union, its support of **CAPITALIST DEMOCRACY**, (Roosevelt, etc.) and the imperialist war under the banner of "democracy against fascism".

IMPERIALIST WAR AND THE DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS.

Those who claim they are against the capitalist wars, and at the same time stand for the democratic institutions of the boss class, for bourgeois democracy against fascism, inevitably will end up as social patriots, supporting the murder and plunder of the "democratic" band of imperialist thieves against other imperialists. Patriotism for the democratic institutions not only washes out any really effective fight for workers democratic rights but paves

the way for full submission to the imperialist war.
**FOR THE DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS OF THE WORKERS
AND OPPRESSED.**

The democratic rights of the workers and oppressed masses can only be won by a **FIGHT AGAINST CAPITALISM AND ITS STATE**, in its fascist and democratic form. The workers fight can only be on the basis of a struggle against the democratic institutions of capitalism. Fascism can be held in check and defeated only by a powerful working class. The support of the democratic institutions, of **CAPITALISM**, paves the way for a Fascist triumph by blinding the working class to its real enemies, beheading the proletariat in advance of leadership, of independent class struggle action.

Those "lefts" who like the Trotskyites support Labor Parties, or left People's Front cabinets (Blum-Cachin, Caballero-CNT, etc.), only serve to delude and confuse the working class. Behind their left phrases they support the democratic institutions of capitalism. The perennial argument of such people is: "The workers are not yet ready for Communism. We must prepare them **GRADUALLY**". And so they proceed to prepare the working class for Communism — gradually, mind you — by gaining their support for capitalist parties and capitalist institutions. For Communists the way to prepare the working class for Communism, even though it is not an overnight, but a long process, is to teach them at every moment to break from the democratic institutions, to oppose them, to fight the democratic institutions even in the struggle for immediate demands, to organize independent working class action, to oppose capitalist parties and programs, no matter how left they sound in words. That is the only way to fight Fascism and Bourgeois Democracy both.

Fight Fascism by Fighting Capitalism
**AGAINST THE DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS OF
THE EXPLOITERS — FOR THE DEMOCRATIC
RIGHT OF THE WORKERS AND OPPRESSED!
FOR A WORKERS COUNCIL GOVERNMENT!
FOR A NEW COMMUNIST (4th)
INTERNATIONAL!
FIGHT CAPITALISM TO FIGHT FASCISM!
FOR INDEPENDENT WORKING CLASS ACTION!**

Help the Victims of Fascism

In the Fascist countries of Europe there are an increased number of class war victims and Jewish People who need the help of the working class of the United States. In behalf of these comrades the Revolutionary Workers League calls upon its members and sympathizers and the working class to give to this Red Aid.

The Austrian section of the International Anti-Fascist Red Aid has written us, pointing out the terror and great need to help the large number of working class revolutionists caught in the Hitler trap.

Funds are needed for the workers who have escaped and are living a precarious life in "democratic" countries.

Funds are needed for women and children of revolutionists who have entered concentration camps and have not been heard of since.

Funds are needed to get as many as possible of these victims out of Germany (and Austria and Czechoslovakia).

Some of the revolutionists have escaped out of the German hell and are living precarious lives in the "democratic" capitalist countries, but the majority are still in Germany and need your aid to get out and to enable others to organize their fight against Fascism.

Send in your contribution at once. Visit your fellow workers and have them contribute. Remember, every small amount will help make a large amount in the Red Aid against Fascism.

ALDINE GUNN, TREASURER

1904 Division Street
CHICAGO, ILL.

WORLD PRESSURE FREES NEGRETE

(Continued from page 1)
**GREAT DANGER AHEAD FOR
SPANISH WORKERS**

The culmination of the many months of betrayal and counter-revolution by the Stalinist-Loyalist Government behind the lines against the workers and peasants has slowly paved the way for one fascist victory after another. And now the pending

sell-out places the working class in a most dangerous position. Either a compromise or a fascist victory means an increased slaughter of the working class.

Before it is too late the workers must again try to re-establish their independent anti-fascist committees (Soviets) and take over power, and drive capitalism, and its loyalist Anglo-French, and German and Italian Fascist agents out of the Iberian peninsula.

Just published.

Draft Program

of the
**Revolutionary Workers League
of the United States**

ISSUED BY THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE

15 CENTS A COPY

For Workers Control of Production

**FOR A WORKERS
COUNCIL GOVERNMENT**

NEW DEAL SPEEDS UP WAR DRIVE AND TRADE WAR

(Continued from Page 1)

F. R. R. DEMAGOGY

The increased costs for preparedness are to come from the taxes on an increased national income. Roosevelt has hopes of raising the income of the United States from 60 to 80 billion dollars — or about equivalent to the 1929 level. This is sheer day dreaming. America's income might conceivably rise to 80 billion again but only in case of war and enormous inflation.

"The first duty of our statesmanship is to bring capital and man power together." "We are strengthening the weakest spot in our system of industrial supply — its long smoldering labor difficulties." With these words Roosevelt summarizes his 6 years of "internal preparedness" and offers a threat to the working class that it must submit to class collaboration — in the interests of "preparedness."

OPPORTUNISTS AID NEW DEAL

The New Deal was able to deaden the strength of the working class in these last six years only because of the support of the various reformist and centrist agents within labor's ranks. From the right wing of the AFL to the phrase-mongering Trotskyites, all have given increased support to bourgeois objectives and bills. In these last six years the Trotskyites — the extreme left of this coterie — have pledged support to a new capitalist Labor Party, to the wage-hour starvation bill, to the Ludlow pacifist amendment, to the actions of America's puppet in Mexico, Cardenas, and other such actions.

Roosevelt's speech — in line with the deal made over the threatened railroad strike of a few months ago — promises large subsidies to the railroads and aid in "other transportation problems", including shipping and air transportation.

CUTS FOR WORKERS

But there is not a single word — outside the prayer-like wish for an 80 billion dollar income — to ameliorate the plight of the masses. There can be no doubt, that with the reverse at the polls last election, Roosevelt will take a middle-of-the-road course. There will be less appropriated for relief and other social security measures. The vote by the House of Representatives for only 725 millions for 5 months of WPA is an indication of the trend in Congress which saw fit to reduce Roosevelt's far too meager sum of 875 million by an additional 150 million. The head of the committee which brought in the report for the bill correctly stated that the figure in the bill was not a slap at the President, that they agreed with him in his AIMS.

Roosevelt defended Democracy in his speech, without mentioning the fact that the economic decay of capitalism is pushing the Democratic form of capitalist rule more and more into the authoritarian form, with greater government intervention and control over the working class and subsidies to and control of capital.

DEMOCRACY AND FASCISM

His attempt to create two camps in the imperialist arena opposing each other, the Democratic imperialists and the Fascists, is a deliberate fraud, a deliberate step to beat the drums against the Fascist monsters in an attempt to gain support for American war moves. This is the same strategy as the one adopted at Lima. The fact that the Stalinists and other reformists advance this same line — that the main struggle today is not between the working class and capitalists but between Democracy and Fascism — shows the depth of the capitulation of the reformists to the "liberal" bourgeoisie.

Roosevelt, in his speech before Congress and in his whole outlook in the past six years, has based his

program on the hope that he can keep the working class behind his subsidy schemes and preparedness program, can corral the energies of the working class. So far, with the aid of the reformists, he has been fairly successful. Only if the working class strike out independently, break the fetters of its fake leadership, will the class struggle upset all of Roosevelt's calculations for a war economy.



Mexican Trotskyites 'Consolidate'

Since Trotsky and his followers have come out in support of the Cardenas government, which is a puppet government of American Imperialism, the majority of the Mexican Trotsky membership have been in revolt. The membership understand that the expropriations against British interests, and "against" Yankee imperialism are necessary capitalist measures in the attempt to hold off pending struggle between Communism and Fascism, with Cardenas playing the role cleverly for a big section of the American capitalists and the new Mexican bourgeoisie. Recently Trotsky took back the group that refused to follow him into this centrist swamp, after Garcia groveled at Trotsky's feet and in a confused and unpolitical manner slandered the RWL and some ultra-lefts. The Trotsky "consolidation" led to bureaucratic measures against the Marxian elements and even against Garcia. Instead of democratic centralism petty-bourgeois careerists are being placed over the proletarian elements.

The revolutionary Marxists in the Mexican Trotskyites must work toward a complete political and organizational break with Centrism and unite with the Marxists.

HAVE YOU READ?

Workers Rights Or Democracy

Price: 5 cents
DEMOS PRESS
1904 DIVISION STREET
Chicago

League Addresses

- Chicago, Illinois.
1904 W. Division Street
- New York
66 E. 12th St. Room 3
- Philadelphia
329 Pine Street
- Cleveland
2071 E. 30th Street

WPA Workers Need New Organization

(Continued from page 1)

But the boss class representatives, fresh from their \$100 a plate Jackson Day dinners, will pour increased new millions into the war industry, millions to build war planes, fortify naval and submarine bases, train 20,000 airplane pilots. There will be no let-up in the millions of dollars in subsidies to capital. The working class, the unemployed, must foot the bill.

The Workers Alliance, largest organization of the unemployed, not only has accepted the slashes made by Roosevelt in all these years, but is supporting the full war program of the President. The original works appropriation in 1933 was 4 billions. With the aid of the capitulatory line and belly-crawling of the Stalinist Workers Alliance leadership the appropriation has been reduced to half.

Throughout the country splits from the WAA have taken place. A significant group to arise out of the new situation has been the Association of Unemployed on Direct and Work Relief in Cleveland. Other groups include the WPA and Unemployed Workers Union in Chicago, a number of groups in New York, and incipient movements in a dozen other cities.

NEED NEW ORGANIZATION

With a million workers threatened with lay-off from WPA a new national unemployed movement based on class struggle policies has real possibilities of growth. In fact unless such a movement is developed the misery of the unemployed — large sections of whom are slowly starving under the starvation wages of WPA and relief — will be even greater.

The unemployed must answer the More Cannon and Less Butter program of Roosevelt with a demand for MORE BUTTER and NO CANNON. All war funds must be turned over to the Unemployed. Not one penny for war. Not one penny to help American imperialism shoot down workers in other countries. The unemployed must demand the right to live, as against Roosevelt's proposal to make cannon-fooder out of them. Instead of lowering the wages

of the unemployed we must again press a vigorous campaign for trade union wages on WPA, a \$30 minimum relief wage and the 6 hour day and 5 day week for the employed, to make room for millions of those unemployed in private industry.

FIGHT WAR PLANS

The various proposals to use the CCC as war camps and to use the NYA to train 20,000 aviators must be fought bitterly by the working class and young workers.

But we must emphasize in the unemployed movement again and again: UNEMPLOYMENT CAN NOT BE SOLVED UNDER CAPITALISM. Millions are doomed to unemployment under the profit system. Only a workers society and workers control of production will eliminate unemployment. This must be the central point in the program of the unemployed movement.

The unemployed must fight for Workers Control of Relief Funds. They must do away with all the rotten red tape, chiseling, run-around of the relief administration. They must demand to run the administration themselves.

WORKERS CONTROL OF PRODUCTION

The struggle for the unemployed immediate demands must continue from day to day on a class struggle basis, but above all this must be coordinated with the fight of the employed in a struggle of the working class for workers control of production. Workers Control under capitalism is not possible, but the struggle for workers control with the widespread breakdown are essential steps toward the solution of the workers problems.

Where-ever possible the employed and unemployed must take over the factories, must demand government grants, and start running industry for their own needs. The workers must not tolerate idle factories and unemployed and starvation amidst plenty.

The struggle for workers control of production cannot be carried on by asking the government through BILLS to adopt it. This action is reformist. Instead the workers in direct action must take over production.

Finally the unemployed must cement their ranks more closely with the employed workers in the struggle against Roosevelt's war plans.

WHAT WE STAND FOR

- For the six hour day, five day week with no reduction in pay!
- For work relief at trade union wages!
- For Workers Control of Relief Funds!
- For Adequate Cash Relief!
- For the unification of all trade unions on a class struggle policy, with industrial structure!
- For democratic rights; for the right to organize, strike and picket!
- For the coordination of free education and practical vocational training for all youth; for equal pay for equal work; for independent relief for all youth equal to the adult!
- For full economic, social and political equality for the Negro masses!
- For immediate complete independence for the Colonies and protectorates of the U. S.!
- For the Class War — Against Imperialist War!
- For independent working class action!
- For Workers Control of Production!
- For a Workers Council Government!

FIGHT AGAINST THE ROOSEVELT WAR PLANS. Turn The Imperialist War into a Civil War AGAINST THE IMPERIALIST WAR FOR THE CLASS WAR.

BOSS STOUGE BETRAYS NAT. TEA MEN

Chicago, January 16th. — By a vote of 396 to 143 the American Federation of Labor, which scabbed on the militant strike of the National Tea workers in April to August 1937, won an NLRB election victory over the CIO Local 233 in the Chicago warehouse.

Since 149 workers were reinstated in June 1938, with a small re-imbursment for pay lost, the CIO Local, under Herman W. Buller, has consistently refused to conduct a campaign for organization and against the AFL union. Efforts by the rank and file to force the Local 233 leadership to issue leaflets, visit contacts, hold meetings and push a vigorous campaign against the AFL scab leadership, were fruitless.

STOUGE AIDS AFL

Buller showed on whose side he stood by bringing charges against one of the militant workers who founded the union almost two years ago, and who had been demanding a campaign on the program of: re-instatement of discharged workers, democracy in the union, publicity campaign, functioning shop stewards, and organizing the unorganized in the grocery industry.

The membership of Local 233 twice voted down the charges against this worker as a rebuke to the do-nothing leadership. Since the election Buller has again shown he is a company stooge by proposing to liquidate the CIO union.

Another important factor in this defeat was the do-nothing attitude of the International representative, Leonard Levy, who submitted tamely to his exclusion from the affairs of Local 233. Levy spoke of fighting for a militant class struggle program, but in action he never once opposed the sell-out leadership of 233.

FIGHT BOTH BUROCRACIES

National Tea workers can expect further sell-outs from the AFL leadership and the National Tea bosses, who work hand in hand.

A campaign to fire militant workers and lower the wage standards of the National Tea workers is sure to be started unless the honest elements in both the CIO Local and the AFL get together to wage a fight against the Bullers and the stooges of the superintendent, like Green, and against the poor working conditions and the anti-labor attitude of the National Tea company.

COMBINATION OFFER

Five newly printed pamphlets and one timely pamphlet of two years ago,
ALL
for 25c postpaid.

WHY COMMUNISM

SHALL WORKERS SUPPORT A LABOR PARTY?

CAPITALIST DECAY AND UNEMPLOYMENT

FIGHT AGAINST THE ROOSEVELT WAR PLANS

FIGHT FASCISM — DEFEND REVOLUTIONISTS IN SPAIN

BOSS RULE OR THE WORKERS VOTE?



Mooney Free; What Next?

The freedom of Tom Mooney after 22 years in the capitalist jails on a frame up charge enables him now to play a new role in the labor movement. Mooney's freedom is not the result of the "good" governor Olson, or the New Deal. It is the result of the same class pressure which was instrumental in commutating Mooney's death sentence more than a score years ago.

Governor Olson and the New Deal are themselves the by-products of the changing class relations, since 1929 and the increased pressure of the working class upon capitalism as a whole. It was this pressure and the attempt by Olson to analyze and utilize the energies of the working class that led to Mooney's release.

MOONEY HOLDS KEY POSITION

Mooney is a representative of the "old school", of the Debs, and Haywood period. All have passed on except Mooney, Abe Cahan and a few others, Mooney's prison record, his world wide publicity, the natural resentment against a frame-up by many who are ardent supporters of the capitalist system, his "non partisan" role for years, places him in a key position in the labor movement of the United States and the world. No doubt some already have him slated for a 1940 presidential candidate on "Labor's" ticket. No doubt others think he would be a good president for a new federation of labor, with A. F. of L. and C. I. O. unity, with both Green and Lewis taking a second seat.

LET MOONEY SPEAK

One thing is sure. His unique position will enable him to play a big role: for the interests of the working class, or for class collaboration. We naturally hope that his time in prison and his political development has enabled him to understand the development of the October Revolution and its betrayal by Stalinism. His public utterances so far places him in the camp of the "democratic" front. He expressed himself clearly for "democracy" against Fascism, but he has not presented himself for INDEPENDENT WORKING CLASS ACTION AGAINST CAPITALISM, against both the "democratic" and the Fascist

Organize The Unorganized

LET EM STARVE Government Refuses Aid to Evicted Croppers

Twelve hundred sharecroppers who pinned their faith on the great white father in Washington were greatly disappointed after one week of sitting and sleeping in the slushy snow bound fields near highways 60, 61, and 62, when the state police broke up their "demonstration" and dispersed the 'croppers to "save the good name" of the good state of Missouri.

The croppers, under the leadership of the Southern Tenant Farmers Union, answered eviction notices with this. Ghandi-like demonstration. The landlords find it pays under the federal subsidy plan to let the ground go uncultivated. So the STFU told the 'croppers to starve out on the highway until they get aid from the "democratic" and "good loving" president and state governor.

FDR DOESN'T HEAR

Unfortunately, Mr. Roosevelt doesn't read the papers, it seems. It rained one day. It snowed another. The situation is fertile for sickness and disease. Old men succumbed to their rheumatism. But Mr. Roosevelt just doesn't seem to care.

The food supply is entirely gone. It is 24 miles to the relief station and once there you must wait your regular turn — at least a few weeks — to get relief orders. The Missouri governor, meanwhile, has had his nose buried in all sorts of legal books to find out just what the status of these destitute people is.

The Red Cross in St. Louis — remember the outfit everyone gives nickels and dimes to in order to help the destitute? — the Red Cross says it has no "jurisdiction" over the matter. People have no right to starve unless someone has jurisdiction over their starving — don't you see?

LANDLORDS INDIGNANT

The good landlords of New

capitalists. Is he a "left" wing New Dealer, or is he an undercover Stalinist? Or what? Let Mooney speak for himself.

Mooney is free. It is a working class victory. Now let's free Billings.

Madrid and environs met last week in a huff. The demonstration is giving a bad name to the fair community. They called upon the Governor to drive these "agitators" off the highway. Where to? No one seems to know.

The croppers' plight in Missouri reveals the condition of the entire South, of Negroes and whites. If ever the harsh brutality of capitalism made itself felt it is in this case of the Sikeston Missouri sharecroppers. What they should have done is to start a movement among all croppers to take the land away from the landlords and force the landlords to park out in the cold snow-laden highway. No one will help them except their own militant action against the landlords and the capitalist government.

N.Y. Cops Frame Unemployed

New York—Magistrate Rothenberg has convicted Jerry Leves for the "crime" of having volunteered to act as witness for the three members of the Unemployed Workers Union who were arrested on the framed charge of "assault."

Rothenberg is a good La Guardia appointee. He merely reflects La Guardia's real anti-labor character. The 3 workers involved came to the Spring and Mercer relief station to ask for relief for a member of the Union. They were beaten up by the police and guards, thrown down the stairs, called a "bunch of dirty Jews" by the same La Guardia's "finest" — an to top it all they were arrested.

The worker for whom the committee intervened was evicted the next day. He had been waiting 8 weeks for his social security check.

A united front committee of several unemployed organizations, the IWW, LRWP, RWL, Revolt Group, Leninist League, and RML is handling the case. The Trotskyites refused to join the united front, but a number of trade unions and even the ILD — stalinist defense group — have promised to send delegates or observers to the meeting of the Committee.

LAND OF THE FREE

TWO CLASSES IN SOCIETY

A 64 year old man walked 50 miles for a job as caretaker which paid \$40.00 a month salary, only to find the job already filled. Having exactly 10c for lunch, he walked the 50 miles back to New York City with hopes of finding work there... The parents of Brenda Frazier spent \$50,000 on a party so she would be properly introduced to N. Y. "society"... Surveys just completed by the U. S. Government show that an average of 4½ million homes (in the richest country in the world) are without toilets and 6 million without baths... The Democratic Party (for the people?) gave a Jackson Day Dinner, where members paid \$100. per plate for the privilege of dining with Roosevelt...

CENTURY OF PROGRESS IN CHICAGO

Mayor Kelly declared there is no organized vice in Chicago — the joints took the hint and closed up for a day... Of the 90,000 families in Chicago on public relief, about 45,000 have no electric or any other form of light except candles. As soon as it is dark they must either go to bed or hang around the streets. School children who struggle through their homework in the dark are developing eyetrouble.

The other families which kept the light are all suffering from lack of food, fuel, or both. This is from the report of the CRA supervisor, yet they insist on cutting the relief budget...

THE RICH GROW OLD, THE POOR DIE YOUNG

40 million people in this country do not have adequate medical care. 70,000 people die each year from TB, mostly poor white and Negro workers; 150,000 is the toll from pneumonia — not 1 in 20 can afford the necessary serum; Cancer specialists could save 30,000 lives yearly, if people could afford treatment; 14,000 mothers die from childbirth, ½ to 2/3 could be prevented...

Research in infant mortality shows that 30 out of every thousand born to families with incomes of \$3,000. a year and up die, but 168 die of every thousand born to families with incomes of \$500, a year or less... Areas covering 17 million citizens don't have a single registered hospital; people on relief standard of living average 16 days a year sickness, but those in the higher income groups average only 7. When the boss press of United States boasts of the world's highest standard of living, it conveniently forgets these facts about the working class. When workers wake up and run society for USE instead of letting the capitalists run it for PROFIT they will find all the means for a healthy population stored in the profiteers' warehouses, waiting for prices to go up...

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