

THE FIGHTING WORKER

1 Cent

WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!

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

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LABOR DONATED

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Strike the Meat Packing Plants!

Lewis-Bittner Give Up Demand for National Contract

August 20th — Exactly one month and a day after the national convention of the Packinghouse Workers instructed him to call a strike if Armour and Co. refuses to sign a national contract, Van A. Bittner, chairman of the PWOC, announced after a conference with La Perkins, Secretary of Labor, that he was giving up this demand "in order to avoid a strike."

Henceforth, Mr. Bittner, no matter what the wishes of the membership, is requesting only a written contract and negotiations for each plant. In other words, with the help of this labor faker, Armour's and the Big 4 — Wilsons, Cudahy and Swift, — will be able to pit one plant against the other, create large wage differentials and continue its present refusal to adjust grievances. Ar-

mour's has been negotiating locally without signed contracts in the past.

As predicted in the last issue of the FIGHTING WORKER, the Bittner-Lewis-Harris leadership is against strike action for the economic demands of the workers. Its only interest is to gain bargaining rights. Whether Armour will accede to this demand is not yet clear. At any rate the company has been tacitly giving its support to the disruptive dual union drive of the AFL Amalgamated in order to split the workers ranks.

FIFTEEN RE-INSTATED

The desire of the majority of Packinghouse's 116,000 workers remains as ever firm for a strike against the Big 4. In the last month the Chicago workers of Armour and Co., gained a substan-

(Continued on page 3)

LIFE, LIBERTY, AND PURSUIT -

WORKERS RIGHTS DENIED FROM COAST TO COAST

One month in "free" and "democratic" U. S. — here is the pretty record:

Aaron Levenstein, Socialist, arrested for trying to speak in Brooklyn.

Chicago park police clamp down on speaking in Washington Park and other places.

Posters on the West Coast calling on "Jews and Karl Marx" to keep out of here.

Coughlin hoodlums attack Fighting Worker salesman in Boston with full police protection.

Vigilantes shoot at workers in Colorado. Government troops come in and force workers back to intolerable conditions, finishing off the work of the vigilantes.

ARRESTS, MURDERS, ATTACKS

Socialist Appeal salesman arrested in New York by police, while Fascist Social Justice salesman continue to sell their poison.

Cleveland police attack General Motors strikers, giving full protection to scabs and murderous strike-breakers.

Coughlin thugs throw sandbags from roofs at R. W. L. public meeting in New York City, narrowly missing the speaker and bystanders.

Migratory workers and hitchhikers taken off the roads and freights in Colorado, California and other states, and thrown into jail.

Unemployed workers in Missouri Valley, Iowa, are forced to work ten hours a day and to stay in the local jail for 10 days because they are out of work.

Picket killed by scab in Sayre, Pennsylvania, in milk strike.

BILLINGS STILL IN JAIL

Warren K. Billings, framed-up together with Tom Mooney for the Preparedness Day bombings in San Francisco twenty years ago, is still in jail. The Pardon of Tom Mooney was an admission by the capitalists of California that Billings also is innocent and framed. Every militant worker must redouble his efforts to get this class war prisoner out of jail.

ued dozens of thousands of leaflets likewise calling for a counter-demonstration. When united front attempts failed, the New York comrades of the RWL organized a rally at Union Square to point out the lessons of the Coughlinite retreat. Rain forced cancellation of this meeting.

FOR A NEW COMMUNIST (4th) INTERNATIONAL

S.U.—NAZI PACT AIDS HITLER

Reveals Soviet Weakness; Civil War Between Stalin and Workers Looms

Bulletin — As we go to press we hear of the signing of a "non-aggression" pact between Germany and the Soviet Union. Stalinism, under the guise of "peace" and with much talk about "democracy," bolsters up Hitlerism in Germany and Europe.

In the midst of the war crisis, Stalinism has signed a trade treaty with Germany, granting the Soviet Union 80 million dollars of credits for machinery, etc., in return for the promise to deliver 72 million dollars worth of products, mostly raw materials, in the next two years.

STALINISM GIVES POLITICAL CONCESSIONS

That the S. U. should

sign a trade treaty to her advantage can only be welcomed by the world working class. Unfortunately, however, each trade treaty signed by Stalinism in the last ten years has been accompanied by political concessions.

The recognition by the U. S. of Russia came together with concessions by Stalinism in the form of an open betrayal of the Cuban revolution and open support of New Deal capitalism.

The Franco-Soviet Pact was followed by Stalinism's support of France's rearmament, conscription, and war plans, and the People's Front betrayal of the Spanish and French working class.

The conclusion of an agreement with Poland was followed by the

(continued on page 3)

ROOSEVELT BUILDING CONCENTRATION CAMPS, HITLER-STYLE

In the National textile strike five years ago, Southern States threw up concentration camps for arrested strikers. Maybe that's where the Federal government got the idea, or maybe it got it from Hitler and Mussolini.

At any rate concentration camps of one form or another are springing up all over the United States.

In Chillicothe, Ohio, a brand new concentration camp — as yet empty — stands ready to "accommodate" aliens whom the federal government considers too class-conscious.

In Upper New York stands a concentration camp for women picked off the highway.

In Virginia stands another federal concentration camp.

In Grand Junction, Colorado, the state has erected a concentration camp for transients and others, and puts the victims to work breaking rock for the highways.

"REHABILITATION CAMPS"

In Selma and Marysville, California, the government has established what it pleases to call Rehabilitation Camps. Here migratory workers in the area live under a system of State Peonage. Families move into the camp, are given government credit for a while and little pieces of land to cultivate, and are sent out on jobs on the large farms during the various seasons. Once the family falls into debt to the government, obviously it must take any job at any wage offered to it. The

California fruit-growers are not slow in using this system, with the aid of the government, to slash wages. This is a similar system — except that the Federal government is involved — to the system in the South, where illiterate Negroes are sold little trinkets or food, sign a paper, and then wake up one fine morning to find out they must work one year or so to pay off their "debt."

This rounding up of the migratory workers — in which by the way all the railroads on the coast cooperate — is the beginning of a system of forced labor and union-smashing.

Fascism in America is not coming like a bolt from the blue: it is being prepared by the good "liberals," like Franklin Roosevelt, right under our nose.

Force Coughlinites to Call Off Parade

NEW YORK - Threat of a working class counter demonstration forced the Fascist Coughlin Christian Mobilizers to call off the Columbus Circle demonstration and parade to Union Square, Aug 19th

The RWL issued thousands of leaflets in a number of working class areas. The Trotskyites is-

New War for Profits Threatens Humanity

Workers of Asia, America, Europe Unite Against All Imperialists!

Whether the present Danzig crisis is settled without war or not, the new conflicts and the sharpening of old conflicts caused by the present "war of nerves" is bound to make the next "war crisis" even worse than the present one.

Only last year Slovakia helped Germany take over Moravia and Bohemia. Today Hitler's legions have repaid the Slovaks by virtual occupation of that small country and the posting of troops and barracks on the Polish border.

Only last year Germany and Poland dismembered Czechoslovakia. Today the thieves have fallen out amongst themselves over Danzig. Poland itself faces the same carving up, and Hungary is being given "polite" hints either to help Germany in the rape of Poland or suffer the consequences.

German imperialism has been delivering some of its worst blows against its "staunch" ally, Italy. First she took Austria away from Mussolini's sphere of influence. Now she is putting the squeeze on Poland and Hungary, Italy's re-

maining important "allies" in central Europe. Italy is not over-enthused about Hitler's present campaign.

WHAT IS AT STAKE

The game of cross and double-cross is bewildering the European worker and farmer.

Twenty-five years after the outbreak of the last World War more than ten million of the best of European manhood stand doomed to die, 25 million doomed to be wounded, millions missing in the course of the inevitable barbarism that is about to descend on Europe again. More wealth will be destroyed than Germany, France, and England together possess.

What is at stake for the mad-dened imperialist world? It is not the right of the Danzig people to their self-determination that is the issue. That is sheer camouflage.

What is at stake is Germany's wish to exploit the wheat fields of the Ukraine, to rob the oil fields of Roumania, to re-establish its exploitation over dozens of millions in Central Europe and Africa. What is at stake is

(Continued on page 4)

EDITORIALS

THE STALIN SELLOUT TO FASCISM

The "Non-Aggression" pact signed between the Soviet Union and Nazi Germany constitutes one of the biggest blows against the world labor movement in recent history. Bourgeois propagandists in the "democratic" countries are discovering anew the "kinship" of Communism and Fascism, and are effectively confusing the working classes.

The Pact itself is another capitulation of Stalinism to world imperialism. The so-called "escape" clause which permits either signatory to abrogate the treaty if one or the other power is guilty of "aggression" against a third power is significantly left out of this pact, although it is in most of the other Stalinist pacts with imperialist powers. The pact is an open carte blanche for German imperialism to go ahead with its partitioning of Poland.

The Pact reveals another sensational reversal of line by the Stalinists. Dozens of Stalinists were shot because they favored an alliance with Hitler, according to the G. P. U. The old propaganda about "democracy" versus Fascism is now to be thrown overboard.

HITLER GAINED — STALIN CAPITULATED

In future articles the R. W. L. will comment more in detail on this pact. For the present we merely wish to point out a few of the more prominent features:

1. — The pact represents not a victory, but a necessary concession that Stalinism, because of its internal weakness and isolation is forced to make in order to keep itself in power still a little longer. The defeat of the Loyalists in Spain, the smashing of the Peoples Front in France has further isolated Stalinism. Fearing a British-German agreement giving Hitler a free hand to attack the Soviet Union in return for an assurance to make no direct demands on England and France, and faced with the threat by Japan on its Asiatic frontier — Stalinism, playing bourgeois politics throughout, was forced to concede to Germany in an attempt to checkmate Britain's plans and to isolate Japan.

2. — At the most critical moment Stalinism bolsters up Fascism and strengthens Hitler's hand against Poland and the so-called "democratic" imperialists and against the small nations of middle Europe. The Soviet Union under Stalinism takes part on a CAPITALIST BASIS in all the war moves of the imperialists. The pact brings war immeasurably closer. Hitler gained an immediate and far-reaching victory. Stalin capitulated.

CLASS WAR IMMINENT

3. — The word of Hitler, or of any other imperialist is valueless. Hitler signed non-aggression pacts with Austria, and Czechoslovakia. When he had completed his preparations he crushed both countries. The present pact is not worth the paper it is written on — from Stalin's side. For Hitler it has already achieved its full purpose.

4. — The Soviet Union made not even a show of dependence on the world working class. In the face of war it capitulated to the bourgeoisie of every capitalist country in support of their war plans — including the Fascist powers.

5. — The fact that class battles in the Soviet Union are imminent, that the Stalinist regime now hangs only by a slim thread, makes it all the more necessary for the workers of the world to come to the defense of the Soviet Union, to aid the workers in Russia in their resistance to the Stalinist and world capitalist attempts to re-introduce capitalism.

A WORKER LOOKS AT CONGRESS

- - Relief Cuts and War Preparations

It took 22 million dollars to run Congress this year, an average of about \$40,000 for each member of Congress in the 7 month session. What did the American workers, who footed this exorbitant bill, get out of it? What did Congress achieve?

Five hundred and thirty-one so-called representatives of the people shouted themselves hoarse about the need for economy - but passed the biggest budget in peace time history.

The same representatives croaked like frogs about the need for peace, but appropriated the largest figure in peace-time history for war purposes - close to 2 billion

dollars.

The so-called Tories, the right wing Democrat-Republican bloc and the so-called liberals fought with millions of words against each other. But now that its all over, can any sane person tell us what it was all about as far as the workers are concerned?

IDLE MEN - IDLE FACTORIES

Sixteen million men are unemployed; thousands of factories are closed and hundreds of thousands of fertile acres are unworked. What did Congress do to solve this problem? They cut WPA appropriations, thus depriving one million more families of a means of livelihood. They increased the appropriations for "plowing under," while millions of workers and their children are sadly undernourished - not just in the South, where conditions have been bad for centuries, but in the great North as well.

What was the fight over tax revision? A mere sham battle over a small tax that involves only 20 million dollars. What was the fight over neutrality, so-called? Both wings agreed on the basic principle of the present bill - the "cash and carry principle" of selling goods in war time only for cash and only to be hauled away in foreign ships. What was the fight over economy? Both groups of hypocrites agreed to wage cuts for WPA workers and lay-offs, both agreed on the war budget and the budget in general. And so on and so forth.

The big wind that came from Congress was merely the effect of the tornado in American economy, the depression, which is still as far unsolved as ever. The agents of the big bankers and industrialists are fighting only over how best to pass more of the burdens of this depression onto the workers and poor farmers than hitherto. On the question of perpetuating the criminal system of misery and oppression which keeps millions unemployed in the midst of plenty, ALL of the members of Congress, New Deal and Old Deal both, agreed unanimously.

LITTLE WORDS OF BIG IMPERIALISM

The hypocrisy of the imperialist powers seemingly knows no bounds. In the last World War, "making the world safe for democracy" meant the annexation by Britain of half of Africa and dominance over Europe, the enslavement of the German and central European people to the American dollar, the intervention in Haiti and Nicaragua, hidden intervention in Brazil, Mexico and a dozen other places by Uncle Sam, and a world wide offensive of ALL the imperialist powers to smash the only nation in the world where real democracy, WORKERS democracy, existed — the Soviet Union.

Today, in preparation for the next World War, similar talk and similar hypocrisy are evident the world over.

Take the Sino-Japanese war, for instance. Japan is trying to gain control over Chinese Currency. Britain controls the monetary system of Holland and a half dozen other countries in Europe. The U. S. dominates the Mexican-American nations. Both these powers are behind and control the Chinese government banking systems. BUT, when Japan attempts to gain a similar position in China that, if you please, is a "war-like" measure.

IMPERIALISM AND NICE WORDS

Take a different aspect of the war. Uncle Sam is shocked by the Japanese murder of babies and civilians. But the U. S. is the biggest seller of war materials to Japan. The United States and Great Britain are seemingly both outraged by Japanese blockades in China and the slapping of American and British women. But behind the scenes each is trying to double-cross the other and make a deal with Japan.

That person really is a very dull school-boy who hasn't yet learned that when dealing with imperialist powers — Uncle Sam included — the most treacherous acts of murder, aggression, and swindle are carried on behind the smokescreen of fancy words like "neutrality," "peace," "self-determination," and so on.

Watch For - LOCAL MEETINGS ON The Stalin-Hitler Pact

Stalinites, Fascists Unite Against League Meeting

New York — Unlabeled action of the Stalinists and Coughlinites to break up an RWL meeting met with dismal failure here a few weeks ago.

Placing their speaker's stand a few feet from where a comrade of the League had been waiting to start a meeting for two hours, the Stalinists tried a two-fold strategy to break up the meeting. Some of their members stood at the RWL meeting and joined with the Coughlinites openly in heckling. Others went to get the police.

When informed that the RWL intended to hold its regular Friday meeting no matter what happened, the police told the Stalinists to hold their meeting on another corner. Very meekly the New Deal stooges tried to start up another meeting. But their unity in action with the Coughlinites, disgusted the workers present and they had to fold up in a few minutes.

New Members

Continuing recent gains, the RWL reports 2 new members in Chicago and New York last month. One of the new comrades is a former member of the Stamm Revolt group.

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BOSS RULE OR THE WORKERS VOTE?

Notes On The News

«Neutrality»

The talk about "neutrality" is not talk of "peace." On the contrary it is merely a window-dressing for gaining imperialist ends, of oppressing colonial people, without the expense of going to war.

Here is what Yukio Ozaki, veteran Japanese statesman, has to say on the subject. Ozaki believes that a victory in China is assured and that this will give Japan the key position in world politics as a step toward world domination. He contends, therefore, that "Neither Germany nor Italy has anything to offer," and that Japan should not enter into a military alliance with them. He warns against an attempt to fight United States and England at once. "Japan would have to pay dearly for annihilating their fleets, perhaps at the cost of fatally crippling her own."

He speaks of the advantages of "neutrality." But:

"If neutrality is impossible the next best thing would be to side with the British-French front, in which case Japan would actually enjoy a position of neutrality as she did in the World War."

What Ozaki is arguing for is a really free hand in Asia. Neutrality, or a struggle on the side of Britain would give Japan that free hand to oppress the Chinese masses, make inroads in India, Burma, Dutch East Indies, etc.

American imperialism is looking forward to the same kind of "neutrality," a chance to throw everyone else out of Latin America and to make inroads in Asia at Britain's and Japan's expense. No wonder then that the main imperialist power Japan fears is the United States, which has a similar strategy to her own laid out for the next war.

Defense Squads

Cleveland — On July 31 the General Motors Cleveland Plant drove back the strikebreaking Company thugs and local police who were attempting to open the plant and run it on a scab basis. They were successful in this struggle because they rejected in action the old false tactics of the Gompers-Green-Lewis school.

The breakdown of capitalist economy and the consequent vicious measures being used by the bosses, their police and extra legal agents, are forcing the workers to bring forth WORKERS DEFENSE SQUADS ON A MASS SCALE.

The vicious anti-labor Chicago Tribune comments on this that, "The strikers operated on a military basis. Their fighting was directed by a commanding general who shouted orders from a sound truck. He massed the pickets at strategical points and exhorted them to give no quarter. The union combatants wore helmets and had their own supply of tear gas which they used effectively against the law officers."

The strikebreaking agents of the bosses got a dose of their own medicine. It is "lawful" for the strikebreaking cops to use these tactics to shoot down workers as they did in the South Chicago Steel Strike, but the Tribune thinks it is illegal for the workers to DEFEND THEIR DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS AGAINST THE THUGS OF THE BOURGEOIS "DEMOCRATIC" INSTITUTIONS.

The editorial writers of the capitalist press did not like the lessons of Cleveland. This is the surest sign that the workers throughout the United States must organize WORKERS DEFENSE SQUADS.

Irish Army

For the past few months the outlawed Irish Republican Army has been carrying through a concerted campaign of bombings and other terrorist acts throughout the British Isles. These moves are a genuine thorn in the side of the British imperialists who are driving ahead with their gigantic war preparations.

The movement by the Irish workers and peasants to gain freedom from John Bull can only be greeted by Marxists and workers throughout the world. But sound revolutionary spirit is not enough to liberate the Irish masses from the yoke of imperialism.

Not terrorism — but mass action is needed. The idea of using armed force is the only idea that can gain victory for the oppressed Irish people. But that armed force must be based on the workers in the factories, and the poor farm population. To be successful it must have as its aim not only freedom from Britain but freedom from all imperialists, and from the capitalists of Ireland as well. In short, it must have as its aim the proletarian revolution. Otherwise the Irish movement for liberation falls short of its objective and becomes a tool of other imperialists.

Contact Commission

The Spanish defeat and the demoralization in its wake, just like the Russian defeat of 1905, again makes it necessary for the Marxists to reassemble their forces on the basis of the lessons of the defeated revolution. From these lessons and the victorious October Revolution the German Red Front, the Leninist League of Scotland and the Revolutionary Workers League have taken the initiative towards consolidating the revolutionary Marxian groups into a Provisional International Contact Commission.

Our comrades in Europe are meeting this task. In the face of Fascism, and the Stalinist GPU, to say nothing of the local police in those countries where many of the revolutionists live, the Red Front of Germany has been able to unify a number of revolutionary groups and consolidate a strong force functioning throughout Greater Germany and Europe. In Scotland the small but firm Marxian group of the Leninist League has within the last period participated in the strikes of metal and dockworkers in Scotland. The readers of the FIGHTING WORKER are familiar with the revolutionary work of the RWL. These three organizations are developing cadres with experience in legal and illegal work, in theoretical and mass work.

Objective conditions in spite of the defeats and demoralization in the labor movement, are in our favor. The Bolsheviks were able to consolidate their small international force, through Left Zimmerwald, only after the imperialist war broke out. We are now assembling the forces of our international movement prior to the open hostilities of the leading imperialist powers.

The provisional International Contact Commission calls upon all revolutionary Marxian groups in the different countries to join the Commission on the basis of its 14 Points. It calls upon those groups within one country that agree upon the 14 Points to unite into one organization.

Forward to the new Communist (4th) International!

Forward to the Proletarian Revolution!

Forward to Communism!

The Main Enemy Is At Home

For A National Sitdown Strike In Packinghouse

(Continued from Page 1)

tial victory when they forced the company to reinstate 15 men one day after Superintendent Renfro fired them. The company evidently was alarmed by the show of strength of 650 shop stewards who met that night and threatened an immediate strike.

That such militant tactics can force not only a national contract but wage increases, a reduction in loads and speeds, better seniority rules, etc., is evidenced negatively by the fact that in Omaha where the cases of 12 workers were merely submitted to the National Labor Relations Board, without militant strike action or threat of it, the 12 men were refused reinstatement by the NLRB.

The fact that Armours was forced to retreat in Chicago is evidence that the most favorable moment to strike is at hand, that the company is at its weakest right now and the men relatively strong. Armour's strategy is to delay action as long as possible until the workers become discouraged and demoralized. If the rank and file permit their leaders to keep on stalling while they make more grand-stand appeals to the President and NLRB, instead of actively preparing for the strike, Armour's and the Big 4's strategy will be victorious.

The sentiment of the workers in such centers as Omaha and Kansas City is not only for strike, but for a sitdown strike, such as the strike of less than a year ago.

STRIKE THREATS

Despite his abject sell-out Bittner still talks of giving the company and President Roosevelt until Labor Day to negotiate signed contracts in each plant. Otherwise "there will be a strike."

The strike threat by the PWOC leadership is growing threadbare. Many workers in the plants are losing faith in the leadership. On April 8th, the Armour National Policy Committee of the Union met in Chicago and "threatened" to strike by May 10, if Armour didn't sign a national contract. Another threat was made publicly before the convention, July 17, and a similar threat was made at the convention.

There has been much loose talk of strike, coupled with the Lewis-Bittner actions to prevent a strike. They have been holding the workers in check for a half year, instead of actively preparing for a strike in this period.

CONSOLIDATE BUROCRACY

The period since the convention has been used to consolidate the powers of the Bittner-Harris-John L. Lewis leadership, against the militant elements. A Draft Constitution was sent to all the Locals by Bittner which must be accepted by the Locals in toto.

Changes to this Constitution can be made only with the permission of the PWOC national leadership. Oddly enough this whole point was omitted from the Convention agenda just a week previous. The new Local Constitutions provide for strengthening the powers of the Local and National leaderships, for cutting to a zero the power of the Stewards Committees and other such provisions.

In his speech in Kansas City, August 11th, Don Harris, National Organizer, laid down a vicious barrage against the militant elements in the K.C. plants who were aroused against the bureaucratic handling of their resolutions at the national convention and the Bittner-Harris policy of depending on Mayor Kelly and President Roosevelt to solve the present dispute, instead of on independent working class action — strike.

Harris denied that any resolutions were not voted on. This in

Thousands Starving As FDR Continues WPA Cuts

"Remember the Forgotten Man" Roosevelt continues to swing the bosses' axe against the unemployed and WPA workers. He and his administration are proceeding to "equalize" the wages of most of those who remain, down towards the low wage levels of the Southern workers.

The big "fight" in Congress about the bill to rescind the 18 month lay-off provision frittered away as Congress closed its doors. The bill is now being executed and lay-offs for all those on WPA 18 months or more are being completed.

As a matter of fact, even without the 18 month provision the lay-off of a million men would have proceeded, because Roosevelt's proposal to cut WPA funds by 921 million dollars had carried. The 18 month rule is only a METHOD of accomplishing these cuts. If it had been dropped, the political stooges of capitalism would have found other methods to carry through the lay-offs.

BAD TO WORSE

Meanwhile, in most of the large cities, despite the fact that the needs and number of the unemployed have increased, relief conditions go from bad to worse. In Chicago for instance, a new 3 years residence provision, will force thousands off relief. All workers on relief must reapply. Only 65% of the regular budget is being given those on relief, and there is a strong possibility that even this figure will be cut.

Doctors are reporting that hundreds of medical cases of malnutrition are coming up to them. Even the Chicago Daily

News reports many cases of people actually starving to death under the New Deal team of Kelly-Horner-Roosevelt.

Significantly enough, the capitalist politicians are silent about the sales taxes they have passed in most states to take care of relief. They're using most of this money for purposes other than relief, even though the sales taxes were first passed in order to pay the relief bill. In Illinois, for instance, only one-third of the sales tax receipts go for relief.

GET JOBS BACK

With the collapse of the WPA strike, things have been quiet on WPA for the last month. In New York, however, the Building Trades workers on WPA are threatening to extend their strike to all WPA projects. Thousands of strikers are now without jobs and finding it hard to get back on relief. Here and there, however, as in Streator, Illinois, the militancy of the strikers gained back for the workers their WPA jobs.

All over the country new organizations are springing up, breaking from the pro-Roosevelt policy of the Workers Alliance. In a tour to 17 cities for the Cleveland Association of Unemployed on Direct and Work Relief, C. B. Cowan, organizer of this militant organization, reports promising new unemployed organizations being built in Seattle, Washington, in Oregon, in Colorado, Kansas City, and a number of other places. Attempts will be made in the near future to coordinate these groups into a new National Unemployed organization based on a class struggle program and calling for Workers Control of Production for Use.

spite of the fact that a leading Stalinist, Matthews, admitted when he returned that only the "must" resolutions — in other words only those introduced by Bittner and Harris — were voted on.

BUILD PROGRESSIVE GROUPS

In all the press releases and talk of the Bittner-Harris leadership, it is evident that their only interest is to gain the contract with Armour's. Just as in the coal strike, they are willing to give up the bread and butter demands so long as they — the bureaucrats — gain the absolute right to collect dues from the men.

Packinghouse militants are beginning to realize that a struggle against the big companies can be waged only if the rank and file organize progressive groups within the union to fight the attempts of the leadership to take away local autonomy and democracy, to fight the class collaboration policy of depending on Roosevelt and Memorial Day Massacre Kelly, instead of a militant strike struggle.

Stalin-Hitler Pact Aids Nazis

(Continued from page 1)

liquidation of the Polish Stalinite Party.

That Stalin is preparing to make similar concessions to Hitler is evidenced by the statement in Pravda, government paper in the S. U., that the new trade treaty "may become a serious step in the direction of further improvement of not only economic, but also POLITICAL RELATIONS between U.S.S.R. and Germany." (Our emphasis.)

A HIDEOUS DISGRACE

That a Workers State can possibly conceive of improved political relations with a Fascist state is a hideous disgrace. But added to all the rumors of a Hitler-Stalin rapprochement, this statement is an indication that Stalinism is preparing the most shameful sell-out of its whole career.

Whether the Stalinists capitulate to "democratic" England or to Fascist Germany it is still capitulation. Both are concessions to imperialism. But the difference does reveal the degree of internal weakness in the Soviet Union.

The capitulation to Hitler signifies extremely grave internal conditions. The R. W. L. predicted in November 1936 issue of the "Fourth International" that Stalinism was moving toward an agreement with Hitler. It is now evident that a decisive struggle in the Soviet Union is imminent.

AGAINST IMPERIALIST WAR, FOR CLASS WAR

THE MARXIST

September Issue

New Deal Breaks WPA Strikes

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G.M. Strike Ends With Small Gains

CIO Leaders Concede on Strike Question

Detroit — After five weeks of striking, 7,600 tool and die workers of General Motors, went back to work with a number of important gains.

The militant picket lines in Cleveland, which the Thomas-Reuther leadership ordered withdrawn after the police attacked them, and the militancy in Flint and Detroit, were responsible for the gains made.

Small wage increases were granted by the company, double time for Sunday work, time and a half for Saturday work. Recognition of UAW-CIO shop committees in 42 of the G. M. plants and other gains were won.

These gains advance the position of the union men. At the same time the workers must note certain negative factors which are very dangerous.

ANTI-STRIKE CLAUSE

The new contract provides a far stronger anti-strike-during-contract clause. Democratically elected shop committees are to be replaced — that is the real meaning of this part of the contract — by "responsible" leaders from the union front office, who promise not to strike until all the procedure laid down for settling grie-

vances are met. This sort of provision gives the company enough time to stall and organize its forces to fight the strike movement.

The main concern of the UAW-CIO was to break the back of the Martin-AFL faction, and vice-versa.

GM dyes were moved by AFL teamsters, and at the tail-end Martin attempted organized scabbing. On the other hand, the CIO refused to involve the production workers in the strike. They permitted the strike to remain on a purely craft basis. They withdrew the Cleveland picket line and defense squads which had put up such heroic battles in fighting off the scabs and police. While the shout of victory was being heard, many militants of the strike were out on the street — they didn't get their jobs back.

The pressure of the rank and file forced a number of concessions from General Motors, but those concessions will be washed out unless the same rank and file is able to regain democratic control of the unions, and re-establish democratically-elected plant committees which have real powers, instead of acting as door mats for Mr. Thomas, Walter Reuther and the others.

NEGRO CULTURE AND CAPITALIST LIES

We print below a short article by Simon Williamson, a Negro figure in the labor movement, on the culture that existed in Africa centuries ago. Comrade Williamson is not a member of the R.W.L.

By Simon Williamson

Africa is the birth-place, as well as the grave, of many civilizations. The Negro, her indigenous child, has fathered and nursed most of her ancient and medieval cultures that are now part of modern civilization and progress. In the last few decades startling facts concerning the past achievements of the black man have been unearthed and brought to light. Facts that seem incredible to the laymind about the Negro's part in World History are now common knowledge to such liberal minded scholars as Ripley, Sergi and Franz Boas.

In spite of such natural barriers as the Sahara desert and an unhealthy primeval forest, Negro Africa created and developed cultures of its own. Political and social institutions on a par with those of Europe of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries were common to African communities of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. But because of economic and geographical conditions, and the tribal wars and the slave trade, disintegration set in, and the Negro became the less progressive member of the human family.

CAPITALIST CAMAFLOUGE

This unfortunate circumstance was taken advantage of by superior economic interests of Europe and, later, of America, who discovered that the best method of prolonging their hegemonies over the oppressed of Europe and America was to create an artificial barrier between the oppressed whites and suppressed Africans. Convenient theories of racial superiority and inferiority were created to serve the purpose. The true facts of history concerning the Negro's contributions to civilization and

industrial progress were hidden from the masses of blacks and whites in Europe and America. A regime of mis-education was established.

The bourgeois educational system of Europe and America has never taught that culture of the whole world was on a low level at the beginning of the fourteenth century; and that the African governments of that period were culturally on par with the most advanced governments and people of Europe of that age.

BLACK AND WHITE UNITE

Today there are Negroid people (the Vi and Kru nation of West Africa) who have created their own alphabet — something that no nation of Europe or America can boast of. The Negro people are moreover credited with the discovery of iron, — a metal that constitutes the base of modern industry.

Were these facts and many others that space does not permit me to enumerate brought to the attention of white and black labor, that suffer from capitalist influence and ideology, a more amicable understanding and good will would exist.

Fascists Fail to Stop RWL Speaker

New York — On July 21st at an RWL open air meeting here, a young Coughlinitic hoodlum stepped up to the speaker's box, took out his watch, and "gave" the speaker just ten minutes to get out. The speaker — who was talking on WPA cuts — informed the audience that the RWL always has and will continue to defend to the last the democratic rights of the workers gained through years of struggle, disregarded the threat and continued the meeting.

Before long there came hurling from a nearby roof heavy bags of sand, missing the speaker and

K.C. FACTIONS FIGHT FOR 1940 CONTROL

Kansas City — This city is apparently passing through a period of political upheaval since the jailing of Pendergast, former political boss, and other well-known local machine figures. However, the appearances belie the facts, for Mayor Smith, Pendergast man still remains in office, as well as others who were closely associated with the machine.

In the meantime, a Forward-Kansas-City-Committee was formed by a group of business men who have become discouraged with the present administration, and immediately set out to capture the confidence of the masses of voters. Finding that the move was gaining influence, the Republicans insinuated themselves into the organization and formed out of it the Charter Party, which is now seeking sufficient signatures of voters to demand a recall of the present mayor and Councilmen.

OLD WINE - NEW BOTTLES

What is happening, then, is that under the guise of a "reform" movement one band of political grafters and cutthroats is being replaced by another group of capitalist politicians with no great differences.

This same type of tactics was used in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, when the people throughout the country were aroused by the disgraceful graft and dishonesty in capitalist government. When the masses threaten to take independent class action and flock towards revolutionary anti-capitalist parties, the bourgeois politicians are smart enough to organize fake "reform" movements to direct such revolts into "safe" channels.

The Charter Party boasts that "even labor is represented" in its organizing committee. But the labor that is represented is the same reactionary trade union bureaucrats who in cities such as Chicago, are major props of the reactionary machine.

The Kansas City lesson, just like the New York lesson when Tammany Hall was ousted in favor of LaGuardia, indicates once again that so long as the working class and lower middle class depend on one gang of capitalist politicians as against the other, it will meet the same results — the old graft, dishonesty, oppression under a more high-sounding name.

others in the crowd by a few inches. Immediately Second Avenue became electrified. A few hundred workers gathered and protested violently against this attempt on the part of the growing Fascist forces in N. Y. to invade a Jewish working class neighborhood.

Some of the workers, remembering that a few years ago, two workers were killed in the same neighborhood by similar hoodlums, immediately rushed up to the roof, but the hoodlums had fled.

The effect of this murderous act was just the opposite of what the hoodlums expected. The meeting continued much longer than before. Close to a hundred FIGHTING WORKERS were sold and many contacts were made.

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Tenants Fight Jim Crowism, and High Rents

South Side Tenants Group Being Formed

Chicago — At a meeting on the South Side two weeks ago, a number of tenants decided to organize a committee to start a Tenant's Union here.

The tenants discussed three main grievances. The first is the high rents and overcrowded houses, the dirty and run-down buildings that the Chicago workers have to live in. The second is the Jim Crow "restrictive covenant" which stops Negro families from renting outside of one overcrowded and run down neighborhood. The covenant makes this neighborhood a Negro ghetto. The third thing discussed was the U. S. housing projects and new buildings on the South Side.

EXTRA RENTS FOR UN-SANITARY HOUSES

Tenants on the South Side today are paying \$10 and \$20 more rent a month than people in other parts of the city. In one year that extra rent adds up to between \$120 and \$220.

The landlords jim crow the Negro tenant because in that way they can make a housing shortage and charge him higher rents.

These same landlords fight against the Ida B. Wells housing project and against any new building on the South Side because they are afraid that new buildings will mean less crowding, and less crowding will mean lower rents.

A FIGHTING UNION

The committee plans to start a Tenants Union that any tenant can join. There will be no restrictions because of race, color, religion or politics. The Union will be run by the tenants who belong to it. Locals of the Tenants Union will be started in

the different blocks and flat buildings in the South Side. Every local will carry on the fight for lower rents and better housing in its own block or building. All the locals in the city will work together to break down the jim-crow restrictive covenant and to get new housing built. The Tenants Union will cooperate with the trade unions and unemployed organizations.

Tenants who are interested in helping to get the Union started should write to the temporary secretary, M. Revyuk at 3101 S. Parkway. Those who get in touch with the secretary will be invited to the next meeting of the committee.

(Editor's note: The FIGHTING WORKER is glad to publish the above article on the Tenants Union, and to give the efforts to start the Union its full support. At the same time we take the opportunity to add a few remarks. The tenants can not depend on the housing projects to lower rents and end over-crowding. The 1900 apartments in the Ida B. Wells houses are not going to do much when there are almost 90 thousand families on the South Side.

The housing projects will only be a drop in the bucket. Half the Negroes on the South Side are on relief or WPA and most of the rest are on part time jobs. The project will be of only slight help.

The tenants cannot depend much on petitions and protests. They are a help only when backed by action and organization. Remember that the only thing that worries the landlords is how fat their pocket books are. Rent strikes are the fastest and surest way to get lower rents and better housing.)

War For Profit Approaches

(Continued from page 1)

Britain's desire to continue its brutal exploitation of hundreds of millions in India, South Africa, Asia. What is at stake is Uncle Sam's 8 billion investments in Latin America, the billions invested in Europe and Asia.

In Germany, in France, in England the working class is stirring restlessly. One hour strikes and slow down strikes are gaining scope in Nazified Germany. The workers in France and England are looking only for leadership.

VOICES OF REVOLT

But the labor movement in Europe is under social patriotic leadership. In recent weeks a split took place in the Brandler group in Germany — a group with fraternal ties to our "own" corrupt Lovestone group in America. The majority of this group came out in favor of a punitive war by the "democracies" against Germany — the same line of argument adopted by Pilsudski of Poland, who joined the Austrian ranks in the last world war in a punitive struggle against Russia.

Voices are being heard in illegal Germany, in bonapartist France, in the Scottish hills, calling for the defeat of "our own" government and armed forces — the voices of the International Contact Commission for the New Communist (4th) International. Like the voices of Liebknecht and Lenin of 1914 they will be temporarily drowned out by the

patriotic fervor of the first few months of war.

But victory and salvation lie only with those who today have the courage to stand out against the imperialists, who point to the world unity of interests of the French, British, German, American and colonial worker, who refuse to support the coming new descent into Barbarism.

Down with the war mongers!
Long live the Proletarian Revolution!

International News

The first issue of INTERNATIONAL NEWS, theoretical organ of the Provisional International Contact Commission, is just off the press in the English edition and French supplement. The German edition will be published in Europe by the Red Front.

Contents of the first issue include:

- The 14 Point Program of the Contact Commission
- Revolutionary Defeatism
- Workers Democracy in a Soviet State
- Letters from Europe
- The Revolutionary Movement After Spain

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