

THE FIGHTING WORKER

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editorial

For Production For Use Under Workers Control

The limitations of the struggles of trade unions for better wages are indicated by the present trends toward higher prices and steep taxes.

Eight or nine months ago workers throughout the country began a long wave of strikes to meet the rising cost of living. At first, the National Association of Manufacturers, the Chambers of Commerce, and other capitalist bodies resisted this movement fiercely. But resistance only fanned the flames. Finally, resorting to new tactics, the largest industrial company of all, US Steel, granted a 10 cents an hour increase. This soon became the general pay boost in most important industries and plants.

But millions of American workers no sooner began to enjoy
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War Will Shake Wall St. Rule

A gigantic propaganda campaign by Wall Street and its Government to line up the working class for the imperialist slaughter is being carried through under the slogan of national unity. Some reformists point out that even if the majority of the people oppose entry into the war, they are at least for national unity. This, they claim, is proof that the class struggle as preached by the revolutionary Marxists is just so many words.

But these opportunists do not see the gigantic changes being brought about by the war, and the new forms of struggle that are arising. At this stage of the par-

In an attempt to break the CIO strike at its Kearny, N. J. shipyard, the Federal Shipbuilding and Drydock Company has asked the navy department to take over "immediate possession and operation".

The company hopes to see re-

LET THE SOLDIERS SPEAK!

Taking the cue from Hitlerism, the American boss class has introduced USO as a service organization to help "our boys." But its real significance is to organize the soldier's leisure time as much as possible — fill his mind with boss class propaganda, keep him out of "undesirable" contacts with the working class, etc. The army
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ticipation of American imperialism, the trend of class relations is still to the right — toward social-patriotism, toward national unity. However, factors are at work undermining this process and making for a powerful reversal to the left.

CLASS STRUGGLE DEVELOPING

An important new element in the wave of strikes that has swept the war industries in the immediate past is the fact that today a greater part of the working class speaks and understands a common language. On the eve of the first world war every important

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Plant Seizure Bill Aimed At Labor

peated Roosevelt's strike-breaking use of the army on the West Coast for the North American Aviation Company.

"Confiscation" of plants is fast becoming a new technique in strike-breaking. The much debated property seizure bill, now in process of becoming law, aims at legalizing this technique.

THE SEIZURE BILL

The government is given the right to take over any property it deems necessary to the "national defense." Does this mean the government will confiscate property of a manufacturer making excess profits from government contracts? Not at all. Government price fixing agencies already have power to control costs. Nor does the government need confiscation to enforce production of orders.

There is only one field in which confiscation plays a really meaningful role. Roosevelt is attempting to achieve the outlawing of strikes by a subterfuge. A strike against a confiscated plant becomes a strike against the government. The worker fighting for a living wage and decent conditions can then be arrested and charged with all the sins on the calendar, up to and including treason.

SOCIALISTIC?

Many "America Firsters" oppose the bill on the ground that it is "socialistic". It is worth while to study this curious idea. What distinguishes the socialist expropriation of property from the methods of this bill? Only a few trifling details.

A socialist government is a government of, by, and for the working class; whereas the American government is capitalist through

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ASPIRINS WONT HELP

After a night's headache figuring out how to stretch his pay check to meet rising prices, the worker should read the latest monthly report of the department of agriculture. It states:

1. 177 million, 659 thousand pounds of butter are in storage, the largest supply on record.

2. meat stocks were the largest for an August 1 since 1934, totaling 761 million and some odd pounds.

3. Lard stocks set a new high for August 1,— 334 million pounds.

4. American cheese were at a new peak of 138 million pounds.

5. Frozen eggs in storage set a new record of 194.8 million pounds.

6. Frozen fruits in storage totaled 172 million pounds, compared with a five year average of 127 million pounds.

7. The department announces it has in its warehouses the largest supply of bread grain in its history. The largest wheat crop in 22 years is being harvested this year — 950 million bushels.

Take an aspirin and then read the report of the Government Bureau of Labor Statistics of last week:

Between last November and June of this year food prices jumped 10.4%. From mid-May to mid-June they jumped 3.7%. "The greatest increases were in prices of pork, lamb, lard and other shortenings, eggs, onions, potatoes and apples... Butter, eggs, evaporated milk, beans from 10 to 34 percent higher this June than last. Retail clothing has increased 8% in the last two years, in spite of wide use of inferior materials. The cost of living ranges from 1½ to 8½ percent higher."

No. Dont take another aspirin. Take out a card in the revolutionary movement and fight this outrageous profiteering and robbery of a guns versus butter economy.

Seizure Bill Aims at Protecting Capital

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and through. Thus, the USSR did not compensate the capitalists for property seizure, whereas the American capitalists are guaranteed adequate compensation, plus actual managerial control of enterprise.

Socialist expropriation is for the purpose of establishing workers control of production for use; FDR's "expropriation" is for the purpose of maintaining the profit system and smashing strikes.

Everyone should recall how the government broke railroad strikes on the ground they constituted interference with the mail, how the government has gone into the scab-herding field on the waterfront, and then judge whether a government can serve the interests of labor by seizing plants.

US Gypsum Strike

East Chicago, Aug. 14.— The strike of over 4000 U. S. Gypsum Workers affecting 18 plants throughout the U. S. has now entered its 7th week of strike action. Organized under the United Mine Workers Union, C.I.O., the men demand union recognition, a contract with 10-cent-an-hour increase in wages, paid vacations and grievance machinery.

The Company has refused to meet with the strikers, has resorted to violence. In Fort Dodge, Iowa, the plant manager drove his auto thru the picket line, critically injuring two workers. In Oakfield, N. Y., a foreman ran over the wife of one of the strikers. The Company has attempted to use A.F.L. and Company unions to divide and destroy the solidarity of the strikers.

Despite all, the workers have carried on a militant struggle against the bosses on the picket line and at demonstrations. Many of the workers are experiencing their first major battle as unionists.

REGIMENT LABOR, F. D. R. GOAL

Roosevelt's attack on the Minneapolis truck drivers union, after it broke from the AFL to join the CIO, is an important step in the Wall Street plans to hog-tie labor to the war machine.

This regimentation is endangered by the growing discontent of the working class which shows itself in the wave of strikes, some of them wild-cat, in the revolts in many unions such as the truck drivers and the Chicago clerks, etc.

Furthermore, Wall Street hopes to prevent jurisdictional struggles in the vital transport industry. The threat of the Dunne brothers, leaders of 544, to head a new motor transport national union, raises new and unknown dangers.

LEWIS' FAKE OPPOSITION

The CIO's granting of a charter to 544 shows that Lewis, still a dominant figure in CIO councils, intends to fight. But Lewis' fight against Roosevelt in no way means a fight against Wall St. Lewis is for capitalism: His "anti-war" stand is based upon his acceptance of the profit system, opposition to class struggle for a workers government in the U. S. In the war Lewis will become a rabid jingoist.

TROTSKYITES

Even today Lewis is not so much against hog-tieing labor to the war machine. But he wants his own people in as the administrative agents. The switch of the CP to Roosevelt forces Lewis to seek a new base, with the assistance of "left wingers". The Trotskyites and the heads of 544 seem quite willing to play their part in these calculations. The Trotskyites in their press tone down any criticism of Lewis. By thus playing ball with Lewis, his class collaborationist policies and bureaucracy, they play into the hands of the regimentation drive.

For Democratic Rights — For the
Right to Organize, Strike
and Picket

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**PRODUCTION
 FOR USE**

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their \$4 a week more, than the capitalist state swung into action. Taxes, prices, rents took a leap upward. The capitalists, so long as they control the state, get us coming and going. If they do raise wages they raise prices and taxes to more than make up for it.

REAL WAGES LOWER

When its all over, therefore, **REAL wages are at the same level they were before the raise in pay, or possibly even lower.**

There's only one answer to all this. The union fight for higher wages and better working conditions is only part of this answer. The struggle must be broadened. It must take on political forms. In order to **permanently** raise the the standard of living (and eliminate war and unemployment), the workers must **prepare now** to take over the whole production machinery and operate it for **use**, not profit.

Simultaneous with production for use under workers control, we must establish a Workers Council Government that will do away with the profiteering, robbery, mass murder and hunger of the capitalist state.

The trade unions are the most elementary forms of working class organization and struggle. They are indispensable to the working class. But the trade unions cannot fight the capitalist **system**, for communism. For this, to coordinate, politicalize and extend the bread and butter struggles, there is needed a new revolutionary Marxian party of the working class.

Pamphlets and Documents on Problems of Marxim

(The pamphlets and documents listed below, grouped together under general headings for your convenience, cover a period of 6 years of the R.W.L. Taken together they provide a broad, rapid-fire review of the outstanding developments in this period of the flowering of the New Deal into the War Deal, the defeat of the Spanish Revolution, the rise of German Imperialism, the outbreak of the Second World War).

SPAIN

Democracy and Fascism in Spain.

Fight Fascism — Defend Revolutionists in Spain.

Stalinism Betrays the Spanish Revolution.

The Sixth Anniversary of the Spanish Republic

Barcelona and Barricades: Lessons of Spain

SOVIET UNION

Behind the Moscow Frame-up Trials

The Stalin-Hitler Pact and the Imperialist War

The Soviet Union and "Red Imperialism"

The Nazi Invasion of the Soviet Union

U. S. AND WAR:

Uncle Sam's Stake in the War American Imperialism: the Main Driving Force for War

Fight Against Roosevelt's War Plans

Militarism and Youth in the U.S.

Workers Answer to Boss War American imperialism and Militarism

U. S. AND GENERAL:

Capitalist Decay and Unemployment

The Social Security Measures Workers Rights or Democracy

The Black Legion

Shall Workers Support a Labor Party?

Boss Elections or the Workers Vote

The Worker in the 1940 Elections

History of the American Labor Movement

Negro Slavery—Then and Now

Trade Unionism Today Where Shall the Jewish Masses Turn?

Why Communism?

MARXIST THEORY

Dialectical Materialism

Outline of Capital: Volume I

An Answer to the Renegades

(A Critique of Anti-Marxism)

Dialectical Materialism and Sidney Hook

Draft Program of the R:W.L.

Constitution of the R.W.L.

SPECIAL DOCUMENTS:

The Anglo-American Antagonism.

Documents of the POUM and its Left Wing, with an R. W. L. Analysis.

The Morgan Rockefeller Conflict

Road to Power in Spain

Mexican Oil

New Zimmerwald

Criticism of the Trotskyist Transition Program

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LET THE SOLDIERS SPEAK

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cannot be used for breaking strikes if the soldiers understand their role.

WHO KNOWS BEST

There is not the slightest question that soldiers need entertainment and "welfare work." On \$21 monthly they don't have enough. But who knows best what the buck private wants and needs — the buck private or the general? The general, the newspaper publisher, etc., know what THEY need out of the soldier — and that's what they're aiming to get.

The soldiers should have the right to speak for themselves. In every company the soldiers need their own organization — rank and file committees to take care of their personal needs. The recent shooting of prisoners, the disgraceful inhuman treatment of Negroes, the extreme disciplinary requirements of higher officers and raw shavetail (such as General Yoo-Hoo Lear), can only be answered by the independent rank-and-file action of the worker soldiers.

WORKER-SOLDIER UNITY

The soldiers' rank and file committees are the only instrument in the military arm which can serve the imperative need of unity between soldiers and their fellow workers still in factories, shops and mines. These committees are the sole way of educating the workers in barracks on their role in capitalist society. The soldiers need their own rank and file welfare committees. Let the soldiers speak .

TURN THE IMPERIALIST WAR INTO A CIVIL WAR

DEFEND THE SOVIET UNION AGAINST WORLD CAPITALISM AND ITS STALINIST AND OTHER AGENTS

CHICAGO MEETINGS

Plebian Forum:

League Speakers every Saturday night at 8 P. M.
34 South Peoria

WAR WILL SHAKE WALL ST RULE

(Continued from page 1)

strike needed dozens of foreign-language-speaking organizers to cope with the numerous national minorities.

Furthermore, unlike the past, great masses of unskilled are today organized into industrial unions, even though under reformist control. The basic industries such as Steel, Auto, Aviation, etc., are being organized against the most bitter open shoppers.

CAPITALISM BANKRUPT

The army of permanent unemployed remains an army of many millions in spite of the war production and the masses being drafted. This alone reveals the bankruptcy of capitalism to pro-

vide for its wage-workers. The dislocation of industry, (auto, oil, silk, etc.) will throw more out of work. Low wages, unemployment and starvation amidst plenty is now the rule.

The stratification of the wage workers into definite class lines is more rigid than ever. In the past a worker here and there could "escape from the working class". Now there is no escape except through class solidarity

The Draft and militarization of the American youth with a permanent standing army reveals in the sharpest fashion that all the evils of decaying capitalism in Europe have been maturing in America — and with them is maturing the social revolution.

the «four freedoms» in the pacific

The imperialist war front, which has reached a stalemate in the west pending the Nazi attempt to extinguish the workers' state, is now developing rapidly in the Far East. Here the war moves of American and Japanese imperialism are coming to a head. The role of Britain is virtually that of an unwilling assistant to Uncle Sam's inroads on her own economic and political control of the Malay Peninsula and ultimately, of Burma and India.

THE FOUR FREEDOMS

This development which received definite form with American control of the Burma road some months ago, has been extended with more and more American troops in the Far East, with increasing economic pressure against Japan, with the war moves of America's internal economy and her growing military organization.

What is America's role in Asia? Is she setting out to preserve the "four freedoms?" Not at all. The

Malay Peninsula is the richest spot in all Asia from the standpoint of rubber, tin, strategic naval bases, etc. It is the nucleus for control of the East Indies, Burma, and the "jewel" of Britain's empire — India.

ROOSEVELT'S PRICE FOR AID

Every speech Roosevelt and his stooges make against the Nazis is paralleled by action not against the Nazis but against Japan. The much discussed secret conference in mid-Atlantic between Roosevelt, Hopkins and Churchill is a clear understanding of the relative roles of America and Britain in the war.

Many have wondered what Roosevelt's price for aid to Britain was. The answer is increasingly clear: naval bases in Singapore, air bases throughout the Malay Peninsula, "protection" of the Dutch East Indies—the whole series of steps which are aimed against the colonials of the Far East — and all in the name of freedom.