

# WAR AIMS

The workers of Germany, England and France, having been conscripted by the imperialist governments of these countries to fight for profit and territory; having been betrayed by their political and trade union leaders in the years preceding the war and at the present time; and having no means of expressing their opposition to the war and their desire for peace, we declare, in their name and in their interest, that a just and not an imperialist peace like the peace of Versailles, can be obtained only if the workers take the decisions of war and peace into their own hands. To this end we propose the following:

- Fraternization at the front.
- Election of committees of rank and file soldiers and sailors.
- Consultation of the soldiers' and sailors' committees with trade unions and other workers' organization.
- Arm the working class;
- Organize mass demonstrations against the rising cost of living;
- Strikes for higher wages; against speed-up and oppression in the factories;
- Conferences of delegates from soldiers and sailors' committees and workers organizations to discuss and pass on the decisions of the governments and general staffs.
- Peace on the basis of the absolute right of all national minorities, small nations and colonial peoples to determine for themselves the economic, social and political system under which they shall live; no indemnities and annexations.
- A union of republics in which power shall be organized on the basis of delegates elected by workers, soldiers and peasants.

# REVOLT

Organ of Revolutionary Workers League, U.S.

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## What Does the U.S. Want in the Far East?

**D**EBATE in the Senate over the drive of the Administration to repeal the existing embargo on munitions—now to be continued in the House—brought out a sharp difference over attitude toward the British Empire. The isolationists roundly attacked it as a bloody and oppressive imperialist pirate; while the supporters of the Administration came out into the open and said that it is vital for the interests of the United States—they mean of the ruling class—for Britain to win the war.

During the five weeks that the senators have turned loose the winds of oratory there was no hint of any disagreement among them over what policy should be pursued by their government in the Far East. On this there is now, as there has been, unanimity.

The fleet continues to be concentrated in the Pacific. Uncle Sam's largest airfield and largest military garrison are located in the Hawaiian Islands. The aircraft carrier, Langley, and a large number of bombing planes have been sent from the Island to the Philippines as a "neutrality patrol" in the words of the President. And replacements have been sent to the Island from the west coast.

In his recent speech in Tokyo Ambassador Grew insolently attempted to bully the Japanese into a more conciliatory attitude. Secretary of State Hull told the press in diplomatic language that Grew's insulting attack had the approval of the government.

What is behind the government's policy of supporting England against Germany in Europe while it increases its armed forces and diplomatic pressure in the Far East? In our opinion, the vital interest of American capitalism lie in the Far East. While it is true that the rulers of this country have hundreds of millions of dollars invested in Europe, the unbroken series of revolutions, counter-revolutions, civil wars, economic crises and annexations, which have followed the World War, constitute a condition in which the opportunity to make profitable investments is rapidly becomes a thing of past.

**I**N the Far East the situation is not as black. The wealth of China and Sib

are to be found the source of the greater part of the world's rubber and tin. What control of this area means to American capital can be seen from the fact that of the approximately two billion pounds of rubber that are produced annually the United States which produces none, imports more than half. Efforts by the American government to build up a two-year reserve have been blocked by the British and Dutch who control the production and set the export quotas, thereby manipulating prices in their own interests.

**I**N this area the danger to American imperialism is Japan. Since 1931 when it invaded Manchuria Japanese imperialism has dealt heavy blows to American investments in China and still greater blows to its trade. Now with the British fleet assigned the task of starving the German nation into submission, Japan has a better opportunity to expand.

As it shapes up now American strategy appears to be support the British in Western Europe—at a profit—and get ready to take over the job of protecting the Far East against Japan. That Britain would have to pay a high price for this protection goes without saying. But the English ruling class will have no choice.

**W**HETHER this strategy will work is an open question. Leaving aside the probability that the workers will take matters into their own hands and put an end to all imperialist plotting and scheming, the possibility exists that support of Britain may require an expeditionary force. With the fleet in the Pacific this is impossible. To transfer the fleet to the Atlantic to convoy troopships and keep open lines of supplies and munitions would leave the Far East at Japan's mercy and defeat the entire strategy. No doubt this is what Britain hopes for.

On the other hand curbing Japan may require an expeditionary force to the Far East.

A two-ocean navy might solve the problem but would have to be of gigantic dimensions and would take too long to build.

Hence the warmongers here are up a tree. They have not and, in the circumstances, cannot decide yet where to fight.

## No Relief If Kin Eat

The government of the United States wants you to be a patriotic citizen and give it your support. If and when it asks you to go to war it wants you to answer its call. It expects you to be ready to lose half your face by a shell your life under a tank.

What is this government doing for you that you should show your gratitude by doing such things?

In Carbon County, Pennsylvania the government is telling workers who apply for relief to have their fathers and mothers arrested or starve. Sounds impossible in this glorious democracy, doesn't it? But it's true. Here's the story as it appeared in the *Philadelphia Record* on October 17.

### 'Arrest Parents or Starve' Is Carbon County's Edict

By HOWARD CUSHMAN

Mauch Chunk, Pa., Oct. 16.—...Irving Bennyhoff, 27, unemployed weaver and father of three small children, is typical of scores, possibly hundreds, of family heads in this county who have been put on the spot by the cruelties of the State's support law which flatly denies relief to anyone who has relatives somewhere—even in-laws will do—who eat regularly and have not yet reached the status of reliefers themselves.

And as a final indignity to people already bewildered by hard times, they are told at the relief office, as Irving was told last week: "Go out and have your father and mother arrested. They have enough to eat. The State says you must make them support you."

JUST CAN'T DO IT

It's true that George Bennyhoff and his wife have enough to eat, though you won't find caviar in the cupboard of their modest house... Nor are they acting unnaturally when they tell relief investigators that much as they would like to, they simply cannot stretch their budget to include Irvin, his wife and three children.

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Join The League

## With Liberty and Justice for All

### Regimentation Faces Labor If War Comes

WASHINGTON, Oct. 8.—Unless plans now on file in the War Department are profoundly modified, American labor will go under a regimentation potentially as strict and far-reaching as anything existing in Europe if the United States gets into another war.

Steps to meet labor's objections to these plans are being taken by the War Department. It has worked out a program for war-time labor control, plans to submit it to leaders of the CIO and AF of L... and hopes it can eventually come up with a scheme which will get organized labor's approval....

...any such plan will rest on the industrial mobilization plan.

How this machinery could be used to destroy a union organization and regiment labor is obvious.... the famous Nye Munitions committee in 1936... issued a report on the industrial mobilization plan, stating that if this sort of draft act were followed "this country will have for all practical purposes a draft of labor."

Bruce Catton, Toledo Times, October 9.

### Suppressed War Plan Exempts Bankers

A printed notice appears on the cover of the Army's much-discussed Industrial Mobilization Plan, which outlines a semi-dictatorial super-government to run the United States in case of war. The notice says: "Public Document, U. S. Government Printing Office. For Sale by the Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D.C."

But just try to buy a copy! ...Title V dealing with the War Finance Commission states No member so appointed shall refuse to serve....

This refers to the appointment of bankers... at a salary of \$10,000 a year.

But... The bill states that no member so appointed shall refuse to serve. It is not believed that this is a wise provision, as a man who serves against his will in a position of the character set forth would not normally give good service.

Meaning the youth of the nation would be conscripted but the bankers would be treated differently—even though paid \$10,000

Drew Pearson and Robert S. Allen, Washington Merry-Go-Round, October 10.

# Revolutionary Unity

## We Must Learn from Their Experience Basis Advanced by Lenin in 1917

In their replies to the Central Committee's Open Letter to Revolutionists, proposing unity of revolutionary groups, several of the groups objected to the basis advanced by the Central Committee. The Open Letter appeared in the September 16 issue of REVOLT; the replies in the October 14 issue.

The basis advanced by the Central Committee has been denounced as "a snare and a delusion." "abstract," "a war plank," a "program consisting of one plank," "centrist," "a liquidation of Marxism," "a cry in the wilderness" and "a call for unity... represent(ing) a MUTUAL PROTECTION SOCIETY OF LOST SOULS."

The position of the Central Committee as published in the Open Letter is that the basis for unity should be agreement on a line of action against the war and the plans of the government to enter the war and clamp a military dictatorship on the working class. It cannot conceive of a more decisive issue except the revolutionary struggle to seize power. It sees the latter arising out of the situation created by the war.

### DIFFERENT CONCEPTION

Evidently the objections to the position of the Central Committee flow from a different conception. Those groups which have condemned it do not state whether they agree or disagree with the analysis and revolutionary program of the Central Committee. for unity offered by

for the correct theoretical formulation of the principles of Marxism but do not base themselves on the concrete situation in the country and in the world. They do not concern themselves with the tasks which these situations pose before the working class in this country today.

They reveal a sectarian approach.

This is not the first time that revolutionists have confronted the problem of unity. The Central Committee believes that the experience of the past can help us today. It considers the unity of the Bolsheviks with Trotsky's organization in 1917 a case in point.

In 1903 at the Second Congress of the Russian Social-Democratic Labor Party the Bolsheviks led by Lenin split with the Mensheviks led by Martov. Lenin demanded a centralized party consisting only of those elements who would submit themselves completely to the discipline of the organization. Martov favored a loosely knit grouping in which membership involved neither the payment of dues nor attendance at meetings, etc. Trotsky supported Martov. In the following years Trotsky attempted to conciliate Bolshevism and Menshevism.

In November 1914, Lenin advanced the position of turning the imperialist war into civil war by working for the military defeat of one's own government. Trotsky advocated a policy of "neither victory nor defeat." Lenin attacked Trotsky's position as a left support for the social-patriot Kautsky.

14 years of bitter antagonism. Lenin irreconcilably building the revolutionary party, Trotsky fighting him at every step. Yet, they found a basis for uniting—in the revolution of 1917.

### COMMON PLATFORM

The revolution found Lenin and Trotsky on a common platform. From exile in Switzerland Lenin wrote to Kollantai

We, of course, retain our opposition to the defense of the fatherland, to the imperialist slaughter directed by Shingarev plus the Kerenskys and co.... Refuse all confidence or support to the new government.

In his famous Letters From Afar he wrote

To realize this (peace, bread and freedom—Ed.), we must have a workers government, allied first with the mass of the poorest village population and second, with the revolutionary workers of all warring countries.

In the paper, Novy Mir, New York, March 6, Trotsky wrote

Already at this moment, immediately, the revolutionary proletariat ought to oppose its revolutionary institutions, the soviets of workers', soldiers', and peasants' deputies, to the executive institutions of the Provisional Government. In this struggle the proletariat, uniting around the rising popular masses, ought to make its direct goal the conquest of power.

### BASIS FOR UNITY

The All Russian Conference of the Bolshevik party, and became a spokesman for them in the soviets. The All Russian Conference of the Bolshevik party, May 7-12, passed a resolution which defined the basis for revolutionary unity in that situation:

Now, therefore, the Conference decides that

1. Unity with parties and groups that pursue this policy (the defense of their governments in the war—Ed.) is absolutely impossible; and
2. That rapprochement and unity with groups and trends that are following an internationalist tone in practice are necessary on the basis of breaking with the policy of the petty bourgeois betrayal of socialism.

On May 23 Lenin proposed unity to Trotsky's organization, the Mezhrailonsi. The Bolshevik party had 171,750 members throughout Russia; the Mezhrailonsi

## League Asks Meet on Unity

CHICAGO, Oct. 21.—The Central Committee today proposed to the various groups which have replied to its Open Letter to Revolutionists, published in the September 16 issue of REVOLT, that a meeting be held to discuss the possibility and basis for unity. It proposed that the time and place be decided by agreement.

The proposal followed receipt of letters from a number of groups in response to the suggestion of the Committee that the replies to the Open Letter published in the previous issue, showed that a possibility for unity exists. The League for A Revolutionary Workers Party expressed its willingness to attend a meeting of the kind suggested.

The Revolutionary Workers League (Fighting Worker) said

The following article appeared in Pravda, May 30, 1917.

The All-Russian Conference of our party has recognized the necessity of a rapprochement and consolidation of all the groups and movements that are really international in their outlook, on the basis of a break with the policy of petty-bourgeois betrayal of Socialism.

The question of unity has also been discussed at the conference of the Mezhrailonsi organization of the united Social-Democrats in Petrograd.

In compliance with the decision of the All-Russian Conference, the Central Committee of our party, recognizing the great desirability of uniting with the Mezhrailonsi (Interboroughites) came forward with the following proposals (which were first made to the Mezhrailonsi in the names of Comrade Lenin and several other members of the Central Committee; subsequently, however, were approved by the majority of the Central Committee):

Immediate unity is desirable. It will be proposed to the Central Committee of the Russian Social-Democratic Labor Party that to each staff of the two papers (the present Pravda which is to be converted into an All-Russian popular newspaper, and the Central Organ which is to be established in the near future) be added one representative of the Mezhrailonsi.

It will be proposed to the Central Committee that it create a special organization commission to be charged with the task of convoking (in a month and a half hence) a party congress.

The Mezhrailonsi conference has a right to send two delegates to that commission. Should the Mensheviks, the followers of Martov, break with the "defencists," then the inclusion of their delegates in the above-mentioned commission would be desirable and indispensable.

Free discussion of controversial questions is to be insured by the publication of discussion leaflets in the Priboi and by a free discussion in the periodical Prosvetchnie which is to resume publication.

This draft was read by N. Lenin on May 23, 1917, in his own name and in the name of several members of the C. C.

The Mezhrailonsi, on their part, have passed another resolution. It reads:

On Unity. Realizing that only the closest consolidation of all the revolutionary forces of the proletariat

1. Can make it the foremost fighter for the clearing of the way toward Socialism;
2. Will enable it to become the leader of the Russian democracy in its struggle against the survival of a semi-feudal regime and the heritage of tsarism;
3. Will make it possible to carry on the revolution to a forceful end and to settle the questions of war and peace, confiscation of the land, the eight-hour day, etc.;

The conference declares:

- a. That such a consolidation of forces, so indispensable to the proletariat can be achieved only under the banner of Zimmerwald and Kienthal, and upon the party programme as decided in the years 1908 and 1910, 1912 and 1913;
- b. That every workers' organization, be it a trade union, an educational or consumers' organization, every proletarian newspaper or periodical should be

and ardent advocate of unity on the basis of the

Which resolution is most likely to lead to unity, is a question for all the international workers to discuss and decide.

The political resolution of the Mezhrailonsi basically follows the sound policy of breaking away from the "defencists."

Under such circumstances, any division of forces would, in our opinion be utterly unjustifiable.

tsi 4,000 located only in the Petrograd District. On July 26 at the Sixth Congress of the Bolshevik party the two organizations fused. Fifteen weeks later, at the head of the masses, they seized power.

### PRACTICAL

Satisfied with the internationalist position of the Mezhrailonsi as expressed in their press and in the soviets, Lenin did not waste time negotiating a statement of programmatic agreement, or debating who was correct in the fourteen-year struggle preceding the revolution. As a practical revolutionist he proposed immediate unity.

Controversial issues were not

ignored. But, agreement having been established on the decisive issues of the day, they were not permitted to obstruct unity. Provision was made to thrash them out in the party press.

The situation in the United States today does not resemble the situation in Russia in 1917. The United States is not at war; there is no revolutionary crisis.

But the need for effective revolutionary action is great. Unless the workers prevent it this country will be at a war in half a years or less.

### DICTATORSHIP

War will mean military dictatorship for the American working class. Arthur Sears Henning, Chicago Tribune Press Service correspondent, reported from Washington on October 10

The Roosevelt administration... is maturing plans for the establishment of a virtual dictatorship whenever the President shall declare a full emergency.... Presumably a full emergency would be declared on the ground of imminence of the involvement of the United States in war.

Here is a cue for unity as great as Lenin had. Out of the struggle against the war policy of the ruling class a revolutionary situation will develop. We must be ready to meet it.

Groups and even single revolutionists who agree on the need for revolutionary defeatism, revolutionary solidarity with the workers of all countries, a proletarian dictatorship; and the creation of a revolutionary party must put aside all other considerations and unite without delay.

## In The Richest Country In The World

The national wealth of the United States in 1937 is estimated at \$322,000,000,000 by the National Industrial Conference Board, the Associated Press reported on October 9.

The board said the per capita wealth in 1937 was \$2,490.

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Today, said the United Press in August, there are 26 financial and commercial enterprises in the United States with assets of more than \$1,000,000,000 each. On December 31, 1938 their combined assets amounted to close to 52 billion dollars or almost one sixth of the total wealth of the country.

More than 22,000,000 persons in the continental United States received public assistance... during the month of June, according to a report issued by the Social Security Board' in August.

The Bell Telephone System ranked at the head of the list with total assets of \$5,119,062,915, followed by the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company with \$4,942,900,417 and the Prudential Life Insurance Company with \$3,800,786,614.

There were 2,463,000 workers on WPA and 1,568,000 getting direct relief. There was an average of four dependents for each worker on relief and WPA.

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COMPANY	ASSETS
	Dec. 31, 1938
Bell Telephone System	\$5,119,062,915
Metropolitan Life Ins. Co.	4,942,900,417
Prudential Life Ins. Co.	3,800,786,614
New York Life Ins. Co.	2,647,454,712
Chase National Bank	2,523,167,177
Pennsylvania R. R.	2,322,408,356
Equitable Life Ass. Co.	2,260,913,149
Standard Oil Co. (N. J.)	2,044,635,257
National City Bank of N.Y.	2,001,182,640
Guaranty Trust Co. (N.Y.)	1,941,765,661
Southern Pacific R. R.	1,855,149,550
New York Central Railroad	1,822,030,466
U. S. Steel Corporation	1,711,279,006
General Motors Corporation	1,598,012,229
Bank of America N.T.S.A.	
(including Bank of America, California)	1,574,721,670
Mutual Life Ins. (N.Y.)	1,399,427,496
Continental Illinois Bank & Trust	1,386,357,129
Consol. Edison	1,358,558,488
Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railway	1,297,744,922
Northwestern Mutual Life Ins., Milwaukee	1,233,101,693
Commonwealth & South Corp.	1,213,866,439
Union Pacific Railroad	1,210,357,821
Balt. & Ohio Railroad	1,203,638,181
Cities Service Co.	1,080,068,703
Bankers Trust Company	1,043,469,941
Associated Gas & Elec. Co.	1,041,138,985
Total assets	\$51,641,999,617

### WHO GETS THE DOLE

Individual recipients of public assistance and work relief included:

Old age assistance	1,845,000
Dependent children	748,000
Aid to the blind	68,000
Civilian Conservation Corps	266,000
NYA student aid	274,000
NWA work projects	218,000
Total	3,414,000

and work relief on which families were dependent included:

Direct relief cases	1,568,000
Subsistence payment to farmers	69,000
WPA workers	2,436,000
Workers on WPA financed project operated by other agencies	134,000
Persons employed on other federal work and construction projects	499,000
Total	4,706,000

# Auto Workers Challenge Chrysler

DETROIT, Oct. 25.—For the past week 30,000 auto workers have been engaged in the most important struggle against the \$200 million Chrysler Corporation since the historical sit-down strikes of 1937. On October 18, after ten days' dispute between the union and the Corporation in the Dodge Main, the company closed this key plant. 10,000 workers were locked out.

Immediately Dodge Main Local 3 of the UAW-CIO called a strike of its members. Mass picket lines were thrown around every gate of this huge plant which employs over 20,000 men when working full blast. When several Briggs

plants which supply bodies to Dodge, and a number of small parts plants closed down the total involved in the strike reached 55,000.

Immediate cause of the strike was the speed-up initiated by the Corporation. But behind this cause lies a long list of grievances which had piled up for the last six months. Wage cuts and reclassifications amounting to wage cuts, intimidation and outright firing of stewards, and stalling on the grievance procedure brought the Dodge Main workers to strike.

Last April when the contract first expired the men hesitated

to strike because they feared that the Martin outfit was still strong enough to cause trouble. The National Labor Relations poll taken September 27 soon showed that the UAW-CIO was the power in Chrysler and that Martin had nothing. In 11 plants spread over California, Michigan and Indiana the CIO received 40,564 votes or 80% while Martin got a measly 4,673 or 9%. The "neither" votes amounted to 4,476 or 8% of the total.

The old contract with its no-strike clause prevented the union from effectively resisting the offensive which the Corporation undertook last April. Obviously with a new contract coming up the Corporation wished to test the strength of the union. The workers retaliated with slow-downs and several "outlaw" strikes. The International officers assisted the Corporation in disciplining several of the workers' leaders.

Words and actions of the Corporation's representatives show it is out to smash the union. On October 10, Herman Weckler, Chrysler Vice-President in charge of operations, in answering a

letter from Frankenstein, regional director of the UAW-CIO, characterized the demand to fix production rates with the Corporation as an attempt by the union to "take control of production."

The attitude of the Corporation is best shown by the stand taken on October 19 at the hearing before the Michigan Labor Mediation Board in Lansing, by Lester L. Colbert, Chrysler attorney, who told the Board

**The corporation thinks that there is a time for everything. We see no reason for mediation at this time.**

When the workers went out on

Continued on Page 4

## A Day in the Misery Mill

CHICAGO, Oct. 20.—Yesterday, seven weeks after receiving my "leave of absence" from WPA, I finally got a food order. It took eight hours of constant pressure to get it even then. I should have known better than to wait as long as this but, like many others laid off by the eighteen-month ruling, I was thinking only of getting back on the WPA.

It wasn't because I was looking for a soft job that I wanted to get back on WPA, but because I would like to get the \$85 per month I had been getting before. With \$85 per month I can live considerably better than on a relief check of \$22.60 per month for three people.

I for one am not going to forget to eat—not in the richest country in the world.

### BE PATIENT

Evidently others at the station thought the same way yesterday. One worker came in threatening to move lock, stock and barrel right into the station unless he got something to eat for his children. One of the trained stooges of the Relief Administration sidetracked him for a while with

**BE PATIENT**

if only he would be "patient," and "not too hard on the caseworkers who are in the same boat." All the energies of the Relief Administration are devoted to "pacifying" the workers in the local stations and they have paid stooges who warn the workers against "communist agitators."

**GET RUN AROUND**

The relief authorities took advantage of my desire to get back to work and steered me from one relief bureau to another until not my "hidden resources" were patience as well. I should have demanded relief first because after all I do not want to work just for work's sake; I work only in order to obtain the necessities of life. But whether I work or not I must still have them.

## Unemployed Picket Chicago City Hall

CHICAGO, Oct. 20.—For two hours today from 11 a. m. to 1 p. m., a small group of fifty unemployed workers about half of them negro, picketed the City Hall in a demonstration organized by the Chicago Workers Security Federation.

Hundreds of fat-bellied political job-holders, on their lunch hour, were highly amused.

Banners carried by the pickets called for "Adequate Relief Budgets," "All War Funds to the Unemployed," "We Want More WPA Jobs," and something about collecting taxes. Slogans shouted by a few pickets were "Refuse to Starve on a 65% Budget," "Not Guns but Bread," "Tax the Rich to Feed the Poor."

On the wall of the station there hangs a sign—"Free classes in Citizenship." This is for the benefit of the foreign-born workers, but one American-born worker commented on it. "Who in hell wants to be a citizen under this lousy government?" he said. "Only the rich can afford to be citizens." This met with the approval of everybody who heard it—except the stooges.

This led to further discussion; I said the only sure cure for all this misery is to overthrow the whole capitalism system and be done with it. No one argued the point. One fellow said, "That's sure something to think about all right."

### WAY OUT

Yes, if the largest army in the world, the American unemployed army, only thought about it and realized its own strength, never again would any worker have to miss a meal or worry where the rent was coming from. I wish that the woman I saw yesterday in the station sobbing in utter misery and helplessness could be shown that there is a way out.

The way out is for committees of action consisting of four or five workers fighting for each others' cases at the station. This is the way strong organizations can grow. The Relief Administration fears this kind of struggle more than anything else. They are not afraid of the organizations which do no more than send letters to congressmen or put all grievances into the hands of one man from each local who politely takes them up to the Merchandise Mart and peacefully asks for consideration. The Relief Administration loves that.

UNEMPLOYED WORKER.

**PASSES BUCK**

At the end of the picketing a committee of seven was granted an interview with Corporation Counsel, Barnet Hodes. In reply to their questions he said "I sympathize with you... but I have no influence," and referred the committee to the County officials.

One negro picket said: "Many of these pickets are starving. They want something to eat; but all they can get at the City Hall is politician's promises. What really counts is not sending post-cards but picketing and organizing at the relief stations. I'm willing to take part in action committees and picket lines to fight grievances at the local stations, but the organization doesn't like that. C.W."

**SPEED-UP**

On August 15 production on the new models began. The company tried its old tactics of speed-up right at the start. In Dodge Main under the old contract the men in the paint shop sprayed 9 jobs an hour. This year the company tried to jam through 12.

The Dodge workers responded by skipping enough jobs to turn out only 9 an hour. Foremen walked up and down the lines firing men until at the end of three days 150 key union men and stewards were out of the plant.

Meanwhile those left continued to slow down. Several days in a row the men were at home after 5 or 15 minutes work. Then came the lockout and the strike.

Morale of the pickets is excellent. That the other Chrysler workers outside of Dodge Main are eager to come to the defense of their brothers in a general Chrysler strike was clearly and brilliantly shown by votes authorizing the International to call such a strike:

### LANDSLIDE

Chrysler Local 7—5,241 for, 208 against; De Soto local 227—1,479 to 55; Dodge Truck, Forge and Amplex 14—3,387 to 307; Highland Park Chrysler 490—1,122 to 92; Marysville, Mich. Local 371—432 to 43. The Dodge Mani vote had been 13,751 to 1,324.

Demands of the strike are: the right of the union to fix production rates along with the Corpora-

### Injunction Fails

## Continental Strikers Firm

CHICAGO, Oct. 24.—Circuit Court Judge Fred Rush made permanent today the temporary restraining order issued by him on October 6 enjoining the fifty striking workers of Continental Products, Inc., auto accessories warehouse and mail order from "stating by word of mouth, sign, or placard, or otherwise that there is a strike in progress...." The striking workers are members of the United Retail and Wholesale Employees of America, CIO.

The judge ruled that inasmuch as the employer had made a contract with Local 164, Retail Clerks International Protective Association, an AF of L union, the workers could not say that the employer was unfair to organized labor. The workers quit the AF of L union and joined the CIO when they learned that the contract had been signed without their knowledge or consent.

Well, local RCIPA head, when they discovered that a washing machine was being sent to Caldwell from the firm. The strike broke out on September 30 following the discharge of two workers for refusing to pay dues to the RCIPA; and the discharge of two others for protesting the discharge of the first two.

### SOME CONTRACT

The contract gives the employer the right to hire and discharge at will for any reason which in his judgment is necessary; and specifies that

**Employees shall obey all orders of those in authority... and work for the best interests of their employed.**

Rush's injunction would have the effect of forcing the workers to submit to this contract in the

writing of which they did not have a voice or vote. Rush, no doubt, is a staunch believer in democracy.

### INJUNCTIONS

Rush's ruling which followed the hearings conducted by him on October 9, 10, 11 and 19, in which Attorney Francis Heisler ably defended the interests of the workers, and tried to get a modification of the injunction, is the latest in a growing movement in this city to use the injunction as a strike-breaking weapon. Within the past year restraining orders have been issued by laboring judges against the American Newspaper Guild in the fight against Hearst; against the United Rubber Workers in both the Dryden Rubber and Rapid Roller strikes; and now the Continental strike. Incidentally all of these injunctions were issued against CIO unions.

In a previous case similar to this one Rush made the same kind of ruling and was reversed by the Appellate Court in ten days. Efforts are being made to raise money for an appeal.

Although this is the first strike Continued on Page 4

## Attention: U. S. Workers

A dispatch from London by David Darrah of the *Chicago Tribune Press Service*, of October 22 should be of great interest to American workers who are up against the rising cost of living in this country. Darrah reports:

Millions of workers are demanding higher wages as the cost of living soars. After a rise of 10 per cent in the cost of living index announced by the labor ministry, the board of trade index of wholesale prices issued this week end showed an average increase of 7 per cent last month as compared with September, 1938. Food prices jumped 9½ per cent.

Around 3,500,000 workers are directly involved in negotiations now under way for pay increases. They include railroad men, miners, engineers, glass workers, dockers, employees of the clothing trade, and others.

Lancashire cotton operatives also have been agitating for higher wages. Under an agreement reached in Manchester Friday between representatives of unions and employers, 350,000 of them will get pay

increases ranging from 5 to 20 per cent....

Even though Darrah doesn't say so it is obvious that these negotiations are the result of the pressure of the workers themselves who feel the pinch of hunger as prices rise.

The policy of the union leadership is indicated by Darrah who says:

...many rank and file trade unionists looked askance at the newly formed council of industry set up to advise the government on all aspects of war production....

### INDUSTRIAL BRAIN TRUST

The decision to establish an industrial brain trust was taken at a meeting of 15 representatives of the general council of the Trades Union Congress and an equal number of delegates from the British Employers Federation. The meeting was held at the Ministry of Labor in London.

Among the old time trade unionists, fears are expressed that the new council of industry may be used as a brake on movements for pay increases....

Prices rise as a result of the war. The workers want wage increases. The employers, the government and the trade union leaders combine to block pay increases. That is the story in England.

It is also the story in the United States. Everywhere the government and the official union leadership are on the side of the employers.

When we are told we must go to war to support Britain let us resolve to join our British working class brothers in the class war against the British and American employers and their agents in our ranks, the union leaders who block wage increases and preach collaboration with the employers and their governments.



# REVOLT

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## War and Seniority

A CONTRACT just signed between Local 261, UAW-CIO, and the Hulett Top and Body Co. includes a provision which states that "if war should come, employees called to military service will be returned to work with full seniority for the time he is away." Numerous CIO contracts throughout the country have included this clause. So far it has been confined to small shops but now it is understood that UAW International officers negotiating the Chrysler strike will seek to have this war seniority provision incorporated in the new contract. Since this will involve over 50,000 workers, an analysis of the meaning of this provision becomes very necessary.

Laying aside for the moment the fact that if war comes thousands of our workers will be left on the battlefields and will not be able to "return to work with full seniority," the effect of this provision which union leaders are hailing to the skies as a great victory is to get workers to accept the inevitability of the United States going to war.

### LABOR WANTS NO WAR

MANY auto workers may object to this interpretation. Has not John L. Lewis, president of the CIO, said that "Labor wants no war or any part of war"? Did not the Chrysler Local 7 go on record just the other day "against American participation in any war"?

Yes. But that is only one part of the picture. There is another part.

At the second CIO national convention Lewis, in his opening speech, again declared that "Labor wants no war or any part of it," but then he added:

This second annual convention of the CIO declares in unequivocal terms that we will defend the free institutions of this republic, the greatest democracy on earth. It shall ever be our purpose as Americans to defend our country and our free institutions against foreign invasion.

In other words, if Japan were to attack the Philippines or Hawaii or if Germany were to attack the remotest part of South America, or if there were even talk of these countries invading this hemisphere, John L. Lewis would willingly send American workers to their deaths. He will be in Washington occupying some government post. The Chrysler 7 resolution goes as far when its resolution declares for the "defense of our own national boundaries and strategic points immediately surrounding them."

What do workers have to gain from such a policy? The CIO publications have recited time and again that war will mean the militarization of labor organizations, forbidding the right of strike, preventing any "agitation" to change conditions on the job, etc.

### JAIL FOR SENIORITY

SENIORITY and union contract will go by the boards in the interest of "national defense." Even patriotic union men who support the war will be jailed if they propose strikes for seniority, and a contract. The employers will use the war to get rid of all contracts and unions. The present attitude of the Chrysler corporation shows us that even before the war has begun.

The war seniority clause is a trap. The union leaders and the corporations are co-operating to make the American workers war conscious by holding out a bribe that will soon be forgotten and never fulfilled. Workers should have no dealings with such clauses. If they want a clause on war in their contracts it should rather be one like this:

And be it resolved that the union will not produce for the company one bolt or nut for any war in which America imperialism is involved.

### HE HAS THE RIGHT IDEA

THE AUTHOR of the following piece, which appeared in the Local 212, Briggs edition of the Auto Worker, October 18, has the right idea.

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Everyone in this country is interested more or less in this European war. My advice to the workers is to keep one eye on such fellows as J. P. Morgan, the Du Ponts, the Rockefellers and many others who have investments in Europe. They are the kind of fellows who have their eyes on the dollar mark (\$\$\$\$) regardless of the many thousands of deaths, the sorrows and sufferings which may result from war—these fellows are always ready to bring about the rich man's war (\$\$\$\$) and the poor working man's fight (00000). Watch out workers, don't let them put anything over on you.

Yes, we are ready to fight, but not for J. P. Morgan, the Du Ponts, the Rockefellers, the Fords, the Knudsens, the Chryslers, the Briggs, in order to protect them and their heirs. No, no, not me! But, I will fight for removing the yokes of exploitation and oppression from the necks of the workers of America and Europe, placed there by the Industrialists of the world (Exploiters of the workers). I will fight also for my union (the salvation of the workers). You would too, so keep your eyes peeled and see who and what you are going to fight for—before the fight. That dollar mark (\$\$\$\$) is always there—but not for the workers.

Fellow workers, let's build more and stronger unions for protection against these exploiters of labor and capitalist war mongers.

## New Address

# REVOLT

P. O. Box 5463

Chicago, Ill.

# Continental

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experience for most of the workers involved, excluding a one day strike at this plant which led to their organization into the RCIPA, they seem to understand that the place where victory is won is on the picket line.

### PICKET LINES SOLID

Picket lines have been maintained since the strike began and are continuing. Five Yellow Cabs deliver scabs to the warehouse every morning and take them away at 5:30 p. m. under police escort. But picking orders requires skill as over 8,000 different parts are handled. Errors on the part of the scabs are great and there

is an enormous number of returns. The pressure on the scabs to keep up with the orders—this is the busy season—is more than they can stand and some quit almost every day. The firm has hired private detectives to watch the scabs and see that they don't help themselves to the stock.

The morale of the strikers is good. This reporter, who personally interviewed a number of them, was told that they are determined to stay out until their demands for union recognition, plant seniority, wage increases and the reinstatement of the four discharged workers, are won.

Retail Employee

## Shop Talk

NEW YORK, Oct. 23. — A couple of times during the past month we talked about the war in our shop. Business for the boss had picked up and everybody was hopeful that now we would get a raise. Three new machinists were hired but were being paid helpers' wages.

One worker came over to me and asked me what I made of it. I wasn't sure but I told him, "I guess as long as there are fifteen million unemployed wages won't go up. It's the old story again, supply and demand, and the war won't make much difference."

"Not even if America goes into it?" he asked. "No, the army and navy will take several million men, and their wives, sisters and mothers will have to go to work. But there will still be millions of unemployed."

### COMING AND GOING

"What about the cost of living going up?" he asked me. "It's the same gang at work," I told him. "The profiteers control the market in peace time as well as war, and there's too much food in peacetime they burn, plough it up, or dump it to keep prices up. In wartime they hoard it to jack the price up. They get us coming and going."

"Why do you think America will enter this war?" he asked me. "America can produce goods faster than any other country," I told him, "and yet it has fifteen million unemployed. When there is overproduction the bosses shut down the factories. Markets must be had to sell these goods, but the world is round. Someone else has got them. To get these markets they must take them away from the foreign bosses. The only way is through war—unless we workers organize to stop it."

D. Whitman

# Chrysler

Continued from Page 3  
strike the International leadership tried to deny that a strike was going on. They called it a lock-out. But this did not work because Dodge Main was soon forced to call a strike "to protect ourselves" as Pat Quinn, president Local 3 stated.

### APOLOGIZES

On October 19 R. J. Thomas, International President, issued a statement in which he said:

For the last ten months we have had but one unauthorized strike, and that was settled, on orders by myself and by a three to one vote of the workers involved. Our record with regard to slow downs is equally good.

Officers of the Dodge Main local have given permission for their transport worker members to supply the truck plants with motors and other parts made at Main. It is reported also that foremen are ferrying back and forth between Main and Truck carrying small parts in their private cars.

Workers feel that those of the truck plant are scabbing while those of the truck plant, but because of parts shortages feel that those in departments still working are scabs, too.

### FAULT

The fault lies with the International. These men have not been called out yet because of its belly-crawling attitude. Frankenstein stated

We want our people working and realize the Corporation is losing a lot of sales.

Negotiations now are being conducted by James F. Dewey, Federal conciliator, the state labor mediators having withdrawn from the picture for the present. If the workers are going to get what they need out of them they should strike the entire Chrysler Corporation without delay. Chrysler made \$25 million profit during the first six months of this year and can afford to meet the workers' demands.

Auto Worker.

# Organization Notes

## DETROIT

The comrades are participating actively in the strike of the Dodge Main workers. The members in the Chrysler unions are helping in the conduct of the strike, while other comrades are walking the picket lines with the militant strikers. Friday afternoon about 75 REVOLTS were distributed on the picket lines. Certain picket officials did not like the idea but the workers read the papers with great interest.

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As a result of a preliminary conference held in Detroit, October 1st, to which representatives from our unit and from the Flint branch of the Marxian Labor College and several trade unionists responded, it was decided to call a conference of political working class organizations in Detroit, Pontiac, Flint and elsewhere in Michigan for the purpose of increasing the effectiveness of the anti-war agitation of these organizations.

The conference will be held in Detroit, November 12. To date invitations have gone out to the Industrial Workers of the World, the Socialist Labor Party, the Socialist Workers Party, New America, and the Socialist Party in Detroit; the Socialist Party in Pontiac; and the Socialist Party, Socialist Workers Party, and Proletarian Party in Flint. Invitation also will be sent out to other organizations and to various trade union workers.

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Friday night, October 20, a study class in the ABC of Marxism got under way. About ten students are expected to enroll in all.

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The Detroit unit has decided to increase its bundle order of REVOLT to 400. With the developing radicalization of the auto workers here, the unit looks forward to the time when it will be able to distribute thousands.

## Thou Shalt Not Kill

Paris, Oct. 23.—More than 500 Paris priests, representing one third of the capital's clergy, are fighting with French armies, Canon Pasteau, in charge of mobilized priests in the Paris diocese, said today. Of those called to the colors, he said, 400 are serving in front lines as officers or soldiers.

# NO RELIEF IF KIN EAT

Continued from Page 1  
George Bennyhoff is an engineer on the Jersey Central Railroad. He's worked for the railroad 35 years, reared seven children and owns his own home. Right now there are nine in the household—the Bennyhoffs, five daughters, and two grandchildren....

### AFTER 30 DAYS

Irvin Bennyhoff and his family do not live there; they live over on what is ironically called Pleasant Hill in half of a two-family house down the ravine from the silk mill. The rent is \$12 a month—and it might as well be \$1200 for all Irvin can do to meet it.

He hasn't been able to get a private job in more than four years and in December, 1935, got on WPA, doing road work at \$57 a month. Last August he was dropped

under the 18-month clause for what was supposed to be a 30-day furlough. After 30 days he could reapply.

The last provision would be a laugh if it were not so tragic. Now off WPA for eight weeks, Irving was told he must first attain relief status before having a chance at a WPA job. And the relief people have discovered the beautiful fact that the nine people in George Bennyhoff's household are fed and clothed and are warm and all-in-all are prosperous enough to support the five Bennyhoffs of Pleasant Hill. If they won't do it, they should be arrested and compelled to do it....

### THE SAME STORY

All through Carbon County it's the same story, though many families applying for

relief are... afraid to have their protest aired because of possible reprisals.

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Yes, fellow worker. This is the good old USA, not Nazi Germany or Stalinist Russia.

The government wants you to support it. But who is going to defend you against the government?

Mass demonstrations in front of the relief stations by hundreds of thousands of workers, employed and unemployed, for adequate relief and unemployment insurance, will quickly correct the situation in your interest in all the counties in the State of Pennsylvania and in all the states of the union.

The way to get relief is through

## MASS ACTION