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NEGRO SAILORS OUSTED FOR PROTEST

J. F. Finerty Joins Aid For Waller

Fight Execution Of Negro Sharecropper

NEW YORK-John F. Finerty famous labor attorney has joined the defense lawyers who are pressing last minute efforts to save the life of Odell Waller, Negro share-cropper, sentenced by a Virginia court to die in the electric chair December 27 for slaying hts

Mr. Finerty was a defense counsel for Tom Mooney and in the Sacco-Vanzetti case, and acted as legal counsel for the International Commission of Inquiry which acquicted Leon Trotsky of the Moscow Trials charges.

An all-white jury including 10 landlords, a business-man and a carpenter passed the death sentence on Waller in a trial at Chating made to the Supreme Court of Appeals of Virginia to throw the verdict aside on the grounds of evidence of prejudice in the conduct of the trial and the selec- I.ABOR'S ARMY ASSEMBLES tion of the jury.

Chatham trial, Waller had shot movement is of one mind on the the landlord. Oscar Davis, in self- decision to appeal the case. Aldefense, after Davis attempted to ready the Minneapolis Teamsters draw a gun on Waller who was Joint Council, the Building Trades trying to get the shares due him Council and the executive board for work performed by him, his of the Minneapolis Central Labor wife and 69-year old mother.

cause of the previous threats of to support the stand of 544. landlord Davis. Virginia state law permits a citizen to carry a will be nominated and will stand gun if he believes his life to be for re-election in Local 544's an-

The case is vital in disclosing the sordid injustice which the trial showed that the leadership on the Negroes, and in providing on sound trade union principles an example of the legal methods in the interests of the union mememployed against the Negroes in bership and organized labor. the poll-tax southern states.

denin, secretary.

Italian military machine?

Hungary and Rumania are in a

position to attack the Greeks in

the north, via Bulgaria. So far

there has been no indication they

will do so. A Greek minister is

still in Berlin and a German

minister in Athens. Extremely

circumstantial reports from var-

ious quarters suggest that the

Germans are by no means en-

tirely displeased with Mussolini's

Behind this, these reports say.

is the internal struggle within

the Axis. Mussolini is supposed

to have been instrumental in

spiking Hitler's attempts to force

Spain into his orbit on the

grounds that Germany was edg

ing too far into Italy's "sphere'

of present or future influence.

not be taken at face value, but

German complacence in the

face of Italian reverses seems

to go far toward bearing them

out. Mussolini is going to make

a major effort to retrieve his

losses in Albania and if that

effort fails, then Hitler is first

likely to step in and by doing

so ensure that the disposal of

the spoils in Southeastern Eu-

last suggests that he is confident

that the Nazi military machine

Hitler's Speech on Tuesday

slone is sufficient to deal with move again-and soon.

rope will be his alone.

Most reports like this can-

discomfiture.

ON THE WAR FRONTS

by GEORGE STERN

his Axis partner slip down into The reduction of Italy to a minor

the bog of military reverses role in the Axis "new order" un-

which is rapidly engulfing the doubtedly forms part of his plan

already been concentrated in to the Nazis.

How far will or can Hitler let | all enemies, actual and potential.

Court Order Denounced Here's A New Angle 13 Discharged; 2 By Minneapolis Unions

Drivers Union Rejects Judge's Order Famous Attorney To To Remove Loyal Unionist From Office

By CARL O'SHEA

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn .- With one voice the union movement here has decided to cry "HALT" to the presumptious efforts of the district court to dictate to the Minneapolis General Drivers Union through the means of the famous fink suit.

Friday morning, November 29th, Judge Paul S. Carroll handed down his ruling on motions by Local 544 and the finks to amend his original findings in the long-drawn-out suit. The court utilized the occasion to take another crack at the union by ordering it to remove Nick Wagner, trustee, from office, on the grounds that he "threatened and intimidated" finks.

resolved to challenge the court's organizing the 12-state area overdecision head-on. Carroll's deci- road drivers. sion sets such a sinister precedent that it must be fought judge has given credence to a few through the highest court. When of the thousands of viciously antiboss courts presume to replace were attempting by this suit to the union membership in decid- have the union officers removed ham, Virginia. An appeal is be ing who shall and shall not be of- as "dishonest." ficers of unions, it's time for a moth-eaten legal technicality, the

Developments of the last few According to the evidence at the days show that the whole labor Union have met and in each ins-Waller had carried the gun be tance by unanimous vote resolved

> It is certain that Nick Wagner nual election this month.

Testimony throughout the long white Southern landlords impose of Local 544 has acted consistently Judge Carroll himself has conced-Organization of the defense is ed the union elections are fairly Carroll must be terrific. The in the hands of the Workers De- run, the officers are honest, that bosses through the fink suit are fense League, which is appealing the union has acted within its out to "get" the militant union strength to this belief is the fact for urgently needed funds to save rights in using its funds to con- which for six years has turned Waller's life. The League's naduct strikes, to defend arrested aside every other blow they have tional office is at 112 East 19th union members, to aid other la-St., New York City, David Clen- bor organizations, to donate to the Carroll has gone too far. At Farmer-Labor Party, to assist in

and to this end, the Greek vic-

But again, how far will Hit-

ler let his ally slide? The Al-

banian defeats have already

opened an astonishingly wide

fissure in the Italian totalitar-

ian facade. The army and navy

commands have been split

asunder. The official Italian

news carries a curious report

of protests by returning Ital-

ian soldiers against the high

command in Albania. Another

official Fascist publication

takes open note of an alarm-

ing increase in the cost of liv-

ing in Italy. Official Rome com-

muniques obviously protest too

much in denying disaffection

among army and navy officers

and among the people general-

One cannot yet by far deduce

from these signs that Italy is

close to a complete breakdown.

But they do show how quickly

reverses in the field can expose

the internal weaknesses of a

totalitarian regime. Hitler can

not afford to have this happen

even in Italy. It strikes too close

Moreover, Hitler cannot him-

self afford to mark time. He

has to keep his forces in mo-

tion-and victoriously in mo-

tion at that. It is safe to as-

sume that he will begin to

to home.

The Local 544 executive board met, surveyed the situation and

While conceding all this, the labor charges by the finks, who Acting on a judge used the occasion of his original decision to order the union to remove Carl Skoglund from his post as 544 president—on the grounds that Skoglund was not yet a citizen. (Skoglund is still president. Nothing was done about the judge's order, pending a hearing on the motions to amend his

decision.) Now the judge has gone a step further and ordered the removal of Wagner because a few filthy finks claimed that Nick "intimidated" them. If this precedent were to stand, bosses everywhere would send their stool pigeons and finks into unions to cook up a case against the officers, drag them before an enemy court and and lay down the policies the un-

ion is to follow. There is no doubt that the pres-

sure of the employers on Judge sought to deal it. But this time means to establish its right to conduct its own affairs completely free from intervention by the position to sanction the rotten charges of a handful of finks financed and guided by the bosses. Throughout the nation, in Washington and in every state capitol and industrial center, the bosses and their politicians are getting The German legions that have tories in Albania are satisfactory set to swing on organized labor. The courageous stand of the Vultee strikers stopped the enemy for a moment. Now Local 544 and the Minneapolis union movement

Nazis Arrest 90 Trotskyists in the

Paris Region

The DAY, Jewish daily newspaper, publishes the following dispatch in its Dec. 10 issue:

"PARIS, Dec. 10-The police here have arrested ninety 'militant Communists,' apparently Protskyists, and questioned them about the Communist propaganda that is being spread here recently. They also arrested 63 'left Communists.' The Nazi secret police have also uncovered nine underground printing presses of 'left Communists'."

HOUSTON DAIRY DRIVERS STRIKE AFTER LOCKOUT

All Deliveries Stop As Milk Trust Tries **To Stall Contract**

By a Truck Driver HOUSTON, Texas, Dec. 2-The bosses of this "Southern Metropolis" appear headed for a show-down with the entire union movement. And they're going to get that show-down.

Yesterday morning, Sunday the managements of the six biggest dairy concerns locked-out all their milk drivers and dairy workers, over 700 men and women. All milk deliveries were suspended.

Local 133 of the Teamsters Union has turned the lock-out into a general milk-drivers strike, calling for an additional \$5 per week on the guaranteed wages of the retail route drivers and four additional days vacation with pay.

The lockout, and now strike, came on the eve of a planned strike against the key Phenix Dairies here and was an evident move of the Houston Dairy Council, the milk bosses' association, to get the jump on the Milk Drivers and start the drive to bring back the open-shop once more.

It is the general belief among have the court behead the union the labor leaders here that the this city is planning to utilize the dairy situation for the start of a general drive against the 20,000 organized workers here whose contracts are due to expire within the next few months. Londing the next few months. Lending strength to this belief is the fact that coincident with the breakdown of the negotiations of Local 133 for a new contract with the Dairy firms, several key compa whatever the cost, Local 544 nies in bottling, baking, trucking and furniture hauling have refus-

Behind the Houston Dairy Counbiased courts who use their legal cil stand powerful oil and banking interests who would move heaven and hell to break the unions of this town.

ALL UNIONS COOPERATE

sible support from the CIO and in the North Philadelphia 20th Railroad Brotherhoods here, as Ward on November 16, have been well as the AFL.

Public sentiment is clearly on the side of the strikers, despite the horrible picture of dying bamean to challenge the whole reac- bies which the bosses have been tionary union-smashing campaign painting in almost hourly blasts The example of this brave fight over the radio and in screaming full-page newspaper ads. And wee should give new confidence in its betide the luckless scab who tries own organized power to labor evto deliver milk to any worker's home. The sentiment in favor of the union is strengthened by the fact that everyone knows how the milk trust, including the huge reprisals against the Negro com-Borden outfit, has been "milking" the consumers for years.

While no retail milk deliveries are being made, special arrangements have been made to see that milk gets to the hospitals and similar institutions, and home consumers can gt all the milk they want by fetching it them-

A clean-cut victory for the dairy drivers will not only stiffen the No charges were placed against teamsters organization, but will them. They were given no iminspire the cutire labor movement mediate hearings as the law proboss offensive. The rank and file of Local 133 are clearly determined to make the milk trust come across with a greater share of the creamy profits which it has gether in cells built for four or Houston milk shed.

"National defense" has been the pretext to break strikes, abolish labor laws, cut wages, lengthen hours, refuse to recognize unions, and fifty other anti-labor moves reported in your morning newspaper, but it remained for John G. Pew, brilliant president of the Sun Shipbuilding and Drydock Company, to invent an apsolutely new angle in this racket.

His company was charged with fostering a company union, espionage, and coercion, intimidation and discrimination against its employees, and notified to appear before the National Labor Relations Board for a hearing on the charges.

Whereupon President Pew addressed himself, not to the Labor Board, but to his most profitable customer, the Navy. He served notice, in a letter to the Navy Department, that he couldn't make any more ships for the Navy unless the NLRB hearings were put out of the way!

The company, he wrote, finds "it is impossible to (a) exonerate itself from the charges of the board and (b) perform the tremendous task of increasing plant facilities, personnel, purchases of supplies and equipment (in order to accept Navy contracts) at one and the same time." The letter concludes by posing the question:

"Which is more important, that the national defense program go forward on schedule or that the Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers of America be given an immediate hearing?'

Sure! What the hell! You can't expect President Pew (or his lawyers) to put down his tools, take off his overalls and go downtown for just an old Labor Board hearing! Not while HE is working so hard on national defense!

AFL-CIO Unite In Big Lumber Strike

45,000 Rival Union Men Join Hands To Wrest Wage Gains From Timber Lords

PORTLAND, Orc., Dec. 8-As the joint strike of the AFL and CIO lumber workers moves into its second week, the entire lumber industry of the Pacific Northwest is virtually paralyzed.

Throughout the states of Washington and Oregon, sweeping the mighty Columbia River Basin and up into Puget Sound, the side of the Navy and asks to help workers of both the AFL and CIO have joined hands to wrest decent put an end to the policy that perwages and working conditions from Weyerhaeuser and the rest the lumber barons

PROTEST STORM

ed to renew their union contracts. 19 Cops, 2 Judges Transferred For Mass Negro Arrests

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 5-19 Although the strike is just in policemen and 2 magistrates, ints second day, the milk drivers volved in the illegal mass street have already been pledged all pos- arrests and jailings of 565 Negroes quietly transferred into other areas as part of the efforts of the Republican municipal political machine to quiet the storm aroused by this affair.

Meanwhile over 130 of those arrested are continuing to press their eivil suits against the police and officials who ordered and conducted the raids.

The raids, made allegedly in an effort to clean up petty crimes in the neighborhood, were really munity which refused to vote Republican in the last elections.

Some of the vicious acts of the police were vividly disclosed at organizations last night in the St. Paul's Baptist Church, Scores of the victims attended and testified to their outrageous handling.

The victims were picked off the streets and public places just at random. No warrants were used. as high as \$800.

up by the police. Twenty and thirty of them were packed tostand up all night.

6 Logging camp and saw-mill operations in Portland, Seattle, Everett, Tacoma, Morton and a score of other lumber towns are at a complete standstill. By last night the number of

estimated strikers rose to over 30,000, with the end of the walkout spread not yet in sight. The pledge of the joint conference of the representatives of the Lumber and Sawmill Workers' Union (AFL) and the International Woodworkers Union (CIO), which met in Centralia. Washington. last Sunday and agreed to united strike action, to effect "as broad a tieup as possible," is being fulfilled. The strike appears to be heading toward a shut-down of every camp and mill from the Canadian border to the California line.

The major demands of the strikers, formulated at the Centralia meeting by 350 rank-andfile delegates from 76 local unions representing 45,000 timber workers, are for a minimum wage increase of 71/2 cents an hour and one week's vacation with pay. The two unions agreed that any

plant closed under a particular union would re-open under the same union.

OTHER UNIONS AID Representatives of the Iuland

Boatmans Union (CIO), and the Sailors Union of the Pacific and the Masters, Mates and Pilots (AFL), who attended the conference, pledged the timber workers a mass protest meeting of Negro their full support. The sailors and boatmen have refused to haul any scab lumber. As a last-minute move to head-

off the tie-up, the managements of 13 mills in Portland and the Columbia basin had announced. two-days before the general strike call, a 212 cent hourly raise for here to fight down the growing vides. And were held on bail of common labor and 5 cents an hour more for skilled workers. Union Those who protested at this ou- leaders assailed the employers' trageous treatment were roughed move as a desperate attempt to outmaneuver the efforts of the workers to obtain a minimum been skimming from this great five people. They were forced to 71/2 cent increase. The bosses' move flopped miserably.

On "National Defense" Face Navy Trial

Seamen Who Exposed Vicious Jim Crow In Navy Get "Undesirable" Discharges "For the Good of the Service"

By ALBERT PARKER

Rear Admiral Nimitz, chief of the Bureau of Navigation, Navy Department, last week finally told what had happened to the fifteen Negro sailors on the U. S. S. Philadelphia who had written a letter protesting Jim Crow conditions in the Navy.

Nimitz announced, in an interview with P. L. Prattis. Executive Editor of the PITTSBURGH COURIER, that 13 of the sailors had been kicked out of the Navy with "undesirable" discharges, and that the other two were still in the brig, probably being held for even more drastic action.

letter had been printed in the COURIER on Oct. 5, had placed them all under arrest. He had then forced them all to write statements, telling why they had signed the letter and who had suggested it.

the letter. When he had these letters, the commanding officer filed charges against the boys and recommended to the Navy Department that

they be court-martialed.

"Or joins in or abets any combination to weaken the lawful authority of or to lessen the respect due to his commanding of-

another "conduct prejudicial to good order and discipline." DANGEROUS PRECEDENT

his commanding officer"!

guilty of "lessening the respect

due his commanding officer"! hibits discrimination in the

recommendation of the highly respected officer and gave orders for thirteen of the boys to be transferred to the receiving station nearest their homes and there given "undestrable" discharges. (A discharge of this nature differs to the need for the Negro people from a dishonorable discharge to join in the struggle for a sysin that it does not deprive the tem of military training under man of his civil rights. It is a the control of the trade unionsdischarge, as the Navy officers take control and power out of the call it, "for the good of the serv- hands of the Jim Crow and anti-

The commanding officer of the Philadelphia, after the boys'

This was obviously a move to find out who was the "brains" behind

He charged them with violating sub-paragraph 7 of Article 8 of Chapter 1 of the Articles of War. which reads:

In addition to this charge was

In other words, if a Negro sailor signs a letter saying he is being Jim Crowed and doesn't like it, he is "joining a combination to weaken the lawful authority of

If he writes to the people outattendants and cooks, then he is

That, at least, is the viewpoint of the officer caste that runs the ships and every day violates the law passed by Congress that proarmed forces against any person

because of race or color. The commanding officer wanted them court-martialed. But the Bureau of Navigation takes a lighter view of the matter. It agrees that this action is almost in the face of conscription; beas bad as a mutiny, but doesn't feel it wise to have the mess boys

hanged from the yard-arm. So the Bureau over-ruled the

jail, which would indicate that the commanding officer decided that they had "instigated" the letter, and that Admiral Nimitz has

accepted the recommendation of

the commanding officer that they

be court-martialed. But the case would not be closed even if all the men had been set free. Indeed, the fight must go on as long as the officer caste controls military training and has

the power to Jim Crow Negroes. This was indicated also by the Courier in its issue of December in the story entitled "Here Are Six More Chambermuids' You Can Fire, Rear Admiral Nimitz." which contained another letter. from a group of six Negro sailors of the U.S.S. Davis, stationed at San Diego. California.

This letter, which is the sixth signed by groups of mess attendants on as many different ships in the Navy in the last two months, tells the same story that the others did, of segregation, punishment for any "back-talk."

Unfortunately, like the others, the authors of this letter, while they demonstrate great courage in signing their names, make the mistake of urging as a solution 'that the Negro youth of America cease to enlist in the U. S. Navy."

As we have indicated in our pamphlet, Defend The Negro Sailors of the U.S.S. Philadelnhia. such a policy will not solve the problem because it is ineffective cause it will not help the 4,000 Negro sailors already in the Navy: and because it does not take into consideration the need for military training of all kinds by the oppressed Negro people and the working class, if they are to be able to defeat their enemies.

The latest developments in the Philadelphia case point once again labor officers and put it in the The other two men are still in hands of the workers themselves.

Grace Carlson On National Tour

Dr. Grace Carlson, who as our and which she has presented in candidate, under the designation highly successful fashion before of "Trotskyist Anti-War Party" received 8,761 votes for U. S. Senator from Minnesota, will make a coast-to-coast speaking toul

starting January 2. The tour is being undertaken in response to requests from comrades and sympathizers in all which confront women under caparts of the country who have ex pitalism, and in particular, the pressed their keen desire to mee Comrade Carlson and hear he speak.

By special arrangement, Comrade Carlson will speak before local Negro organizations on spe cial topics dealing with the health problems of the Negro people un der capitalism, a subject on which she has made extensive studies days,

many Negro groups in Minnesota. Women workers will be particularly interested to know that Comrade Carlson will endeavor during her visit in each local community to hold conferences on the social and economic problems problems of women in industry

under war-time conditions. The National Committee of the Socialist Workers Party, which is sponsoring the tour, bas announced that it will have available the final dates for each city on the schedule within a few

white landlord.

Write to us-tell us what's going on in your part of the labor movement-what are the workers thinking about?-tell us what the bosses are up to-and the G-men and the local copsand the Stalinists-send us that story the capitalist press didn't print and that story they buried or distorted-our pages are open to you. Letters must carry name and address, but indicate if you do not want your name printed.

Briggs Worker Tells Story of Shutdowns At Briggs-Plymouth

troit, on November 29 and which whole department walked out. volving 10,000 Briggs workers and procedure. 10,000 Plymouth workers, is a tythe auto workers.

When this trouble happened all ence. the local boss papers immediately put the blame on the union's grievance hasn't changed the shoulders. They gave an account whole picture, not by a damn which presented the company's sight! statement without comment-but not a line of the union's state- rating over this settlement, be-

cause the company fired the union bursting the union files. steward in the panel division | All the auto workers know that tried to slip over.

men. It claimed that while it of the old pre-union days, had fired six men, production had This Briggs episode shows that been reduced even more in propor- the auto workers are full of fight It claimed that where 24 men cates the path forward for the were turning out 48 panels an whole union, hour (2 per man) that afterwards

18 men were turning out only 24 panels per hour (1 1-3 per man). This company excuse is a downright lie. When the company fired the six men it expected and de-

manded that the rest turn out the The grievance which provoked same amount of production as bethe strike of eighteen workers in fore. The Chief Steward would the panel division of the Briggs not stand for this, and then the Manufacturing Co. here in De- company canned him. Then the led to a one-day shut down in- Shift No. 2 went through the same

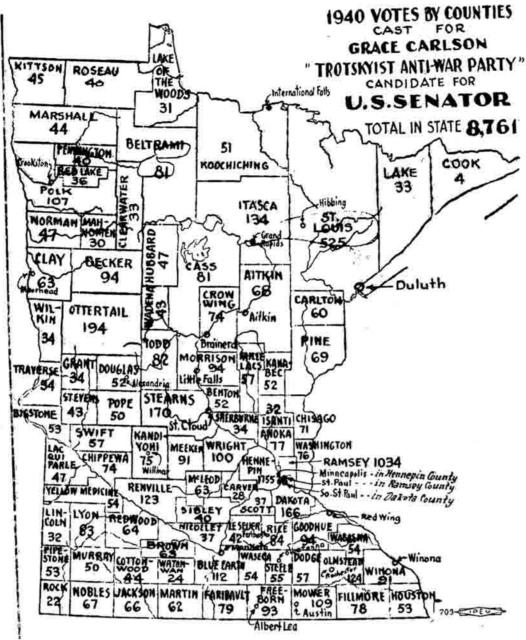
This particular "misunderstandpical example of the crummy way ing" was finally ironed out after the auto bosses are dealing with the company met with the union officials in a three hour confer-

But the settlement of this one

The Briggs men are not celebcause there are scores of other This shut-down happened be- grievances unsettled which are

when he tried to protest the "ra- not only at Briggs, but at all the tionalization"-firing some work- other auto plants, the bosses are ers and making the rest produce trying to see how much heat they more-which the management can put on us. And I say for one that either the unions will answer The company tried to say that this growing offensive of the auto it had actually cut down the re- magnates in the spirit of 1937, or quired production of the panel be swept back to the conditions

Our Party's Vote In Minnesota



This map of Minnesota shows the distribution of counties of the 8.761 votes cast for our party's candidate for U. S. Senator. Significant index tion to the number of men left, and willing to fight, and it indi- of our party's influence throughout the state is the fact that Comrade Carlson received votes in F. B. every county. The vote was of course largest in

the three metropolitan counties: Hennepin, 1755; Ramsey, 1034; St. Louis, 525. But it is noteworthy that we also received blocks of votes from the radicalized farmers throughout the state. Comrade Carlson's vote was larger than the combined vote for Earl Browder and Norman

The "Socialist" Critics of the CIO

They Provide a Pseudo-Radical Alibi for Hillman and the AFL

IGNORES REAL ISSUE

convention of the CIO.)

of John L. Lewis and his allies derstanding of the American labor -that disqualifies the Call's corwhich, upon examination, turns movement flows from their failure respondent as a reporter. out to be merely a cover for a to understand how fascism in pro-Hillman, pro-AFL line. This their Social Democratic policies was the line common to both the assured the victory of fascism in pro-war Social Democratic Feder- their European homelands. In Thomas Socialists.

These two "socialist" groups arrive at their pro-Hillman orienta. nothing must slow up the U. S. tion by arguments which appear armies which will blast open for other. The New Leader complains viciousness against strikers and athat Lewis is hostile to aid to gainst the basic labor movement, Britain, is in league with "com. the CIO. munazis," sabotaging national deer and the Call both favor Hill- apart the Call's case for Hillman. man, but for opposite reasons?

THEY HATE THE CIO

CIO, for the motivation for its sue). Lewis' dignified challenge to

By WALTER ROURKE

Wasn't Meant to Kill Trotsky

MEXICO CITY-David Alfaro intention of terrorizing him into

Siqueiros has finally submitted a inaction, and to injure him only

formal statement to Judge Tru- if he tried to prevent the theft

jillo at Coyoacan. As was expected, of documents—the injury was not

he has added nothing to what was to be serious but only enough to

already known but rather has "put him out of action." Appar-

merely developed his former lies ently he expects this fantastic

His testimony always boils of the mute evidence of Trotsky's

attack was not intended to kill three directions. Siqueiros pre-

Trotsky but only to steal some of tends that most of the bullet holes

the archives; he knows nothing were made by the guards and that

about the murder of Robert Shel- the incendiary bombs were tossed

don Harte. Siqueiros originally by Trotsky in order to gain more

said that he wanted the archives publicity; this is all that remains

to prove Trotsky's "counter-revol- of the original Stalinist theory of

was selling his correspondence he has no connection with the

with Lenin to Harvard University second and successful assault on

of attempted murder. He insists friends led the May 24 assault

Trotsky's life.

COMMAND IN SPAIN

utionary activities;" now he says "self assault."

letters. In either case the story SIQUEIROS HELD

is ridiculous since the archives A STALINIST

that he discovered that Trotsky

Library and wanted to take these

were not even touched during the

attack, though right out in full

Obviously Siqueiros' intention

tack were instructed not to kill his name.

is to free himself of the charge

view in the library.

Says Leader of May Attack!

| Ilne is very clear; one has but to | Hillman on the key question of ture, is now engaged in efforts to | aid of a delicate recording intheir old well-paying posts, they out-jingo the Dies Committee;

fense: therefore the New Leader Call is somewhat different. It is is for Hillman. The Call says not (yet) yelling for war. It sup-Lewis is as much a war-monger ported the Vultee strikers. Hence as anybody, his Stalinist friends its "socialist" arguments are likewill shift to the war camp tomor- ly to carry much more weight row, etc.: therefore the Call is for than those of the New Leader .. It Hillman. How can the New Lead- is necessary, therefore, to take

"Bitterness Dominates Scene At Atlantic City; Lewis-Communist Little need be said about the Bloc Tries To Bait Hillman." Such New Leader's attitude toward the is the Call headline (Nov. 30 is-

Trotsky, to shoot only with the

tale to be believed in the face

Of course Siqueiros insists that

The Colonel-Siqueiros held a

Stalinist command in Spain-

states that one of his Communist

tion and the "anti-war" Norman their impatience to get home to ice of denying that the maintenism against Hillman and his question. diametrically opposed to each them the path home; hence their forces who are advocates of peace between the two great bodies of organized labor. But the truth of The case of Norman Thomas' the main pillar of the C.P. struc-

DEBATE BY

MINNEAPOLIS. Minn .- The

ist Workers Party in the Twin scales in Hillman's favor, with the movement today. Cities sponsors. While suggesting a debate on the attitude of the parties towards the war, the SWP made it clear that "any sugdown to two points-the May 24th | bedroom, riddled by bullets from gestions you may have for a debate subject will be gladly received."

So far this challenge has gone unanswered. Rank-and-file members of the Communist Party didn't know we had asked their party to debate, until we called it to their attention and showed them copies of our letter.

For the information of the forum audience the letter challenging the CP to debate was read at the Sunday Forum on Decem-

Communist Party members and sympathizers are being urged to ask that their leaders accept our challenge to debate the issues that divide us. It has been four years since a debate between spokesmen of the Third and Fourth Inthat the participants in the at- but that he would never disclose ternationals has been held in Min-

(This is the third of a series read its strikebreaking stories a- continuing the fight for industrial raid the warehouse fields in com- strument invented by the Call ediof articles on the Atlantic City gainst the Vultee aircraft work- unionism-to call this "baiting plete disregard of industrial un- tors, Lenin once said, making fun ers. The New Leader is now un- Hillman" constitutes a distortion ion jurisdiction." This is follow- of people who talked about wheth-At the convention-more accu- der the editorial control of a of what happened. And to describe ed by a paragraph to prove that er or not an opponent was "sinrately, in the corridors one heard group of demoralized and disori- the majority's reasoned argument the Communist Party is opposed cere," that nobody had ever ina type of pseudo-leftist criticism ented refugees, whose lack of un- as "factionalism" and "bitterness" to AFL-CIO unity for unworthy vented a sincereometer. But the reasons. Then the Call passes on to other business, as if it has it appears:

proved that there is no difference between Hillman and the Lewis The Call works up a case for group on industrial unionism. lining up with Hillman by the dev-

ance of industrial unionism is the Stalinists. A false, and pretty the Lewis camp, there is much point at issue: . . . "the Commun-stupid, assumption. Will unity be hypocrisy. Hillman's forces are ist Party and Lewis are allegedly a blow to industrial unionism? the defenders of industrial union- The Call avoids this, the real boys are so marked with Com- LITTLE RACKETEERING

> logic would demand that the Call denounce both Lewis and Hillman and call upon the CIO workers But these Norman Thomas Social-

THE CALL'S NEW INVENTION

Communist Party here has re- issue - industrial unionism -

Call editors have done just that,

"The outstanding weakness of the convention and of the CIO generally has been the lack of an Note that the Call blandly iden- effective policy on honest belief. tifles the Lewis forces with the Both in the Hillman camp and in more honest . . . Lewis and his munist alliances, Willkie deals, EXISTS Its case comes down to saying: burocratic trade union practices if Hillman is no friend of indus- and unprincipled vindictiveness eteering" within the AFL? Con trial unionism, neither are Lewis that they constitute an even more trary to the impression deliber the matter is that Harry Bridges, and the Stalinists. In that case, repulsive force to increasing sec- ately fostered by the boss press tions of the C10." (My italics).

And with this type of argument these "socialists" justify supportto mobilize under a third banner ing the opponents of industrial small unions, and these mainly in defense of industrial unionism, unionism against Lewis and his in a few secondary service indusallies who, whatever else they are, tries. ists know only one method in are on the progressive side in the trade union "politics": pick which key issue which at the present one of the big shots you'll back, time forms the dividing line York Times. Dec. 1: "Investigathroughout the entire trade union

movement.

Having thus dismissed the real travel far. But its "socialist" case racketeering is prevalent in small for Hillman and the AFL may industries where cut-throat comjected a challenge by the Social- the Call goes on to find "socialist" be picked up by the pro-Hillman ist Workers Party to debate the reasons for supporting Hillman. cliques in the newer industrial subject of the attitude American "The contention of Hillman's en- unions. In the United Auto Workworkers should take in this mili- emies is that he is a war monger ers, for example, where the mili- Latest "Fourth and is interested in 'national de- tant membership wouldn't listen The challenge was issued Nov-ember 10 in the form of a letter interests." Aha, says the Call, line, but might be confused by a International to the state secretary of the Communist Party. The letter re. Does the Call, therefore, Such "radical" arguments for Communist Party. The letter re. Does the Call, therefore, Such "radical" arguments for Communist Party. The letter re. Does the Call, therefore, Such "radical" arguments for Communist Party. The letter re. Does the Call, therefore, Such "radical" arguments for Communist Party. The letter re. Does the Call, therefore, Such "radical" arguments for Communist Party. The letter re. Does the Call, therefore, Such "radical" arguments for Communist Party. The letter re. Does the Call, therefore, Such "radical" arguments for Communist Party. The letter re. Does the Call, therefore, Such "radical" arguments for Communist Party. to the state secretary of the Lewis and the Stalinists are no "socialist" stooge for Hillman. corded that suggestions for such propose to support neither Lewis Hillman's policy must be exposed a debate have been made from nor Hillman, which would be the for what they are: a "left" winvarious persons attending the logic of that argument? No. In- dow-dressing for the most reac-Sunday Forum which the Social stead the Call proceeds to tip the tionary tendency in the labor

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AFL Gave Undue Prominence To The Racketeering Issue

But Neither Dubinsky Nor the AFL Chieftains Took a Correct Working Class Attitude Toward It

What is more significant than

the limited extent of union racket-

ly invited and sanctioned by the

bosses in these industries. As

iably the union racketeers have

business men, crooked politicians

He adds: "Small employers in

these industries, by their own mo-

tion or through outside instiga-

tion, form so-called trade associa-

tions to limit or increase prices.

The crooked union leaders lend

a price. They 'police' the indus-

criminals among their number.

"Racketeering union leaders co-

keep them out of trade associa-

From this it is apparent that

racketeering is a direct measure

within the unions of the AFL!

as the bosses try to claim.

WHY IT ISN'T ENDED

and outright criminals."

By ART PREIS

The problem of racketeering occupied an altogether dispropor- questions of dues collections, irontionate place at the AFL convention at New Orleans. It is a very ing out interminable jurisdictionminor problem in the trade union movement as a whole. Had the al disputes, and curbing the des-AFL chieftains been grappling with the basic problems facing the workers, the racketeering question would have automatically been trade enion action, the leadership relegated to the subordinate place it should have taken. But since in control from the top. So long the convention was given no real problems to deal with-the main as these unions pay their dues, time was consumed with canned speeches from government officials Green and Co, do not care whether and other people who had no business being on the platform-it is the members attend meetings, or no wonder that both at the conpetion prevails, such as in clean-

vention and in the press the question of rackeetering loomed out of taurants.' all proportion to its importance. BOSSES RESPONSIBLE

DUBINSKY'S PROPOSAL

Dubinsky, too yellow to fight on real issues-he didn't open his mouth even to second Philip Randolph's eloquent plea against Jim Crow-picked this "popular" issue -i. e., popular with the capitalist

Dubinsky's proposal to empower the AFL Executive Council to suspend any union official "convicted of an act of moral turpitude" would have placed in the hands of the reactionary Council the exact powers which Dubinsky had opposed when they appeared in the form of the right to suspend international unions for "dual" unionism. Militant union leaders, convicted or framed-up in strike activities, could be tossed out of the AFL by a simple vote of the Council.

By its terms only "convicted" persons could be suspended. The well-known tie-up between the police, courts and racketeers preof the trade association is monocludes many such convictions. poly and higher prices." Except, of course, in the case of honest union strikers.

Further, this proposal placed the responsibility for dealing with racketeers on the shoulders of a in any union, and not a phenomenon native to unionism itself, few leaders, instead of on the rank-and-file of the unions.

The convention leaders turned this proposal down. Green and Co. didn't want to be placed in a position where at any time in the future they might be compelled to act against a "pal." The defeat of Dubinsky's proposal also reflected the concern of the various international officers for their iealously-guarded control over their individual unions.

As a counter proposal to Dub insky's, the Executive Council merely put through a resolution ciously "condemning" labor racketeering in general and suggesting that the various internationals "take steps" on their own initiative.

The convention failed to expose the real character and causes of racketeering, and to open the way for strengthening the democratic processes within the local unions which would enable the member ship to make short shift of dis honest elements.

What is the extent of the "rack there is relatively very little. Such racketeering as does exist

is almost entirely confined to

This fact is made clear by Louis Stark in an article in the New tions by prosecuting officials in New York, Chicago and other The voice of the Call doesn't large cities have disclosed that

The December issue of the Fourth International, which will | Lynn be off the press this week, fea- Chicago & Indiana Harbor 200.00 tures as its main article, a manifesto of the Fourth International. Newark "France Under Hitler and Petain." It analyzes what has been happening in France since the collapse. and proposes a concrete program for the struggle for freedom.

Other articles featured are: "Inter-Imperialist Struggle for Latin Buffalo America," by the Argentine revolutionist, Quebracho; "The AFL and CIO Conventions," by Farrell Youngstown Dobbs; "Stalin's Regime as Mirrored in the New Legislation," by John G. Wright; "Milwaukee's Brand of Socialism," by James Boulton; "Discipline in the American Army," by Michael Cort.

Of special interest is the article by Leon Trotsky, "The Class, the Party, and the Leadership," which was found in his archives St. Louis in unfinished form. It was the Texas article he promised to write during the internal discussion last Individual Contributions Spring but which the GPU assassin prevented him from finishing, TOTALS

ires of the members for militant whether local meetings are ever held. Il members who dare ing and dying, laundry and res-

Concerned primarily with the

to oppose the policies of their officials are arbitrarily expelled without proper trial, that's no skin off Bill Green's nose,

CIO HASN'T ANY

eering, is the fact that it is direct- RACKETEERING

The proof that it is the lack of democratic practices within the Stark points out, "Almost invar- AFL which enables the few racketeers to flourish within it, and been found linked with dishonest that racketeering flourishes only In small crafts, is demonstrated by the complete freedom of the CIO from racketeers. It might seem that the new unions of the CIO, formed quickly of inexperienced workers and prey to many unknown and untested elements, would be duck-soup for the penethemselves to the associations at tration of boss racketeers. But it

try and supply the 'police' from No handful of rats or gangsters who valued their necks would dare try to intimidate a meeting operate with dishonest business of industrial workers who had men to force other business men stood up to clubs, revolvers, rifles, to join trade associations or to machine guns, sawed-off shot-guns and tear gas in the hands of poltions. In either case the object ice and National Guardsmen!

It is hard to conceive of the appearance of a racketeering situation in an industrial union. To appear it would require a type of the influence of the bosses with- of connivance with the bosses which is alien to a mass-production industry and an industrial union. It pays a boss to connive with a small craft union, even to the extent of paying relatively The question is: If the extent good wages. He could never feel of such racketeering is really so that way about a mass-production limited, if the vast bulk of the industry, where the wage bill AFL local unions and leaders are looms as the key factor and where free of any such taint, why is it an industrial union is bargaining seemingly so difficult to eradicate on behalf of all the workers in the plant.

The answer is simple. A policy The CIO is thus well-nigh guarwhich would clean out the racket- anteed in advance against racketeers in double-quick time is pos- eering. The less favorable situasible: But it poses a threat to the tion of the smaller craft unions reactionary craft leaders, and it in the AFL could, however, be is the one policy of which the overcome if the rank and file in bosses-those who cry loudest any union were aided by the naagainst the evil-are in deadly tional AFL leadership to establish genuine democracy and use it That simple policy is to restore against any racketeer.

democratic rank-and-file control But real union democracy-that means militancy and strikes, and The prevalent leadership domi- you can't get the Greens and Wolls nates the ranks with an iron fist. to go for that!

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TROTSKY MEMORIAL FUND

The following additional contributions to the Trotsky Memorial Fund have come in during the last week:

Buffalo New Haven 2.00 Lynn Boston 28.50 New York 100.00 Los Angeles 7.50 Flint San Francisco 20.00 Chicago 14.00 Minneapolis & St. Paul 200.00

TOTAL \$389.75 Branch Quota Amount paid Milwaukee \$ 5.00 102% \$ 5.10 Boston \$ 100.00 \$ 100.75 101% Baltimore 10.00 10.00 100 Rockville 7.00 100 50.00 50.00 100 Detroit 200.00 200.00 100 100.00 85.00 85 135.07 55 55.00 150.00 47 70.501000.00 43 430.00 6.00 150.00 38 56.65 1000.00 355.00 32 25.00 8.00 27 30.00 8.00 20.00 5.50 50.00 6.00 12 10.00 0.00 00 00 70.00 0.00 10.00 00 0.00 00 .10.00 0.00 7.00 0.00 00

San Francisco Minneapolis & St. Paul Allentown Los Angeles New York Philadelphia Youngstown Akron Cleveland Hutchinson Pittsburgh Portland Quakertown Reading Rochester 15.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 00 5.00 2.30

\$3509.00

\$1664.87

47%

Struggle

The Hampton Institute Conference

To understand what happened at the much publicized Conference on the Participation of the Negro in National Defense, held last week at Hampton Institute, Va., it is necessary to understand the reason the conference was held and the things it set out to do.

As a full page advertisement of the Institute put it, "Defense Conference Marks New Era. Symbolic of a new era ahead for Hampton was the two day conference ... Nationally known authorities, both Negro and white, concentrated their thoughts on specific programs of both immediate and long time value on how the Negro may best serve the country in the interests of total defense and national unity. Their discussions covered comprehensive subjects-Military and Naval Defense, Industry, Family Life, Labor. The Consumer, Youth, Education, Business, The Press, Morale and Mental Hygiene, Agriculture, Public Health, Housing, Recreation and Religion ..."

It should be clear from the above statement that these "nationally known authorities" were interested in "serving the country"-i.e., the bosses of this country-not in serving the interests of the Negro people who get such a raw deal in this country.

That the government itself did not see in this body any serious threat to its publicly announced and carefully worked out policies of Jim Crowism in the armed forces was made clear in the statement of Roosevelt himself, the author and executor of these policies:

"It is heartening to know that in this time of stress and strain, when the whole nation is engaged in a mighty effort to gird itself against any challenge which a mad world may hurl at it, you...are to hold a two-day conference on the participation of the Negro in national defense... There could be no finer manifestation of the loyalty of the Negro, no more fitting rededication of himself to the cause of America, than the conference which you are holding."

This is Roosevelt's nice and flowery way of saying: Go ahead, hold your conference, it will be heartening to me because by and large what you will do will help to get the Negroes to support my war program.

Whitewashing the Bosses

The highlight of a speech by Aubrey Williams was an attempt to set the Negro against the trade union movement:

"Look at the Negro in the labor field. Negro youth is faced with the same difficulties that white youth faces, but added to these are the prejudiced barriers set up by many employees and the discriminatory practices set up by the labor and trade unions. What is the result? Only 2% get skilled jobs as against 8% for white youth- less than 10% get semi-skilled jobs against 20% for white youth. And when they do get full-time jobs, the Negro youth averages 49 hours a week for a wage of \$8.75, while the white youth averages 44 hours for a wage of

Williams thus places the full blame for industrial discrimination against Negroes on the union movement as such, without bothering to indicate that this is not true of the CIO movement, and not true about many AFL unions. In this way, he whitewashes the forces chiefly responsible for discrimination in industry: the bosses who own and control the factories that Jim Crow or exclude colored workers. And he whitewashes the government which, if it wanted to, could easily have passed a law denying war contracts to those factories that discriminate against Negroes.

Yes, some trade union leaders are guilty of Jim Crowism, and we of the Socialist Workers Party have pointed out again and again that this can be corrected only by persistent and organized action of the progressive white and Negro members of the union movement.

Williams has a lot of nerve talking about someone else when he himself enforces a policy of segregation in the NYA, of which he is administrator, a policy which sets up "white projects" and "Negro projects" and does not permit mixing of the two races on any NYA project, even in the North where many of the white and Negro youth whom he separates used to

"The Nationally Known Authorities"

attend school together.

As for the round-table sessions of the "authorities," they were not much better.

As an example, consider the "authorities" scheduled to sit and solve the problems of the Negro on "Industry and Labor":

One administrative assistant of the National Defense Advisory Commission; one superintendent of the Ford Industrial School; one director of the Department of Social Sciences, Fisk University; one representative of Hampton Institute; three officials of the Urban League; one race relations officer, Personnel Division, Federal Works Agency; and one representative of the Bureau of Employment Security.

That means; zero representatives of the trade union movement, and zero working men or

Yet, whatever else it might do or avoid doing, however much it might desire to curry favor with Roosevelt, there was one thing this conference could not avoid doing, and which served to expose Roosevelt: it had to adopt a resolution opposing Roosevelt's anti-Negro policy in the armed forces and to ask for an end to certain phases of policy. It wasn't a very strong resolution; on the contrary, it was weak, inadequate and vague-but it shows up Roosevelt because he will not end Jim Crow in the armed forces.

(Another article on the Hampton Conference

will appear next week.)

They Have Their Plattsburgs

It's Time the Workers Got Wise, and Demanded WORKERS' Plattsburgs

By EUGENE VARLIN

Any draftee can safely trade his chances of gaining an of- American life-bankers, brokers ficer's berth for a nickle beer without feeling he has tossed away and clerks, physicians, lawyers, any reasonable, or even probable, opportunity.

The present officer selection system embodies in a perfected A cross-section of American life form the methods developed during the World War period. Of farmer! the 156,000 commissioned officers who ruled this army in 1917-18, only 16,000 came from the draftee ranks, and most of these were carefully selected on the usual army criteria of "superior"

education, "proper" back-ground, and "leadership" experience (pet- organization. Its membership now ty bosses in civil life). The odds consists of 65,000 officers, includagainst any drafted worker get- ing those it trained during the ing out of the class of those who World War. Although nominally shine the second-lieutenant's boots a private organization, it funcare many thousand to one.

The ruling class, two years before America's entry into the last war, had already established the plan for a sufficient supply of boss-minded officers despite any sudden and huge expansion of the army. This was the Plattsburg Camp movement, which on a national scale became the Military Training Camps Association.

A CLASS ORGANIZATION

The Plattsburg camps, or as the War Department now frankly terms them, the "Business Men's Training Camps," were and are a private system of military training camps run by and for business men, with the material aid and official endorsement of the War Department.

It is from these private train ing camps, limited exclusively to members of the boss class, that the bulk of the officers for the new draft army will come. On August 11, in a message to the largest camp group at Plattsburg. N. Y., from which the movement as a whole derives its name, President Roosevelt made clear the central role of these camps as a source of officer personnel, when he stated that "On the foundation of the Plattsburg camps of Stalin Purges His Playwrights 1915 was built the structure of those camps of instruction which served so successfully to provide the officers essential for the manning of our World War force, manning of our World War force manning of our World War forces two years later."

Roosevelt was referring to the Officers Training Camps, modelled on Plattsburg, and which provided 60% of officers in the last

The Plattsburg camp idea was casualties. first proposed in 1915 by the notorious reactionaries, Cornelius H. Wickersham, Theodore Roosevelt. Jr., and Hamilton Fish, Jr., in a meeting at the exclusive Harvard Club.

the war, and the expansion of the Trotsky suggested that the epoch of Soviet Thermidor will go armed forces far beyond the point ficient "reliable" officers, the first concern of these gentlemen was to assure an adequate supply of

oss-class officers. In a pamphlet published by the Military Training Campus Assorole of these camps was clearly indicated: "The success of ... last summer's camps at Plattsburg for business and professional men has demonstrated the effectiveness of a short and intensive course of military training in helping to qualify educated men to fill the great deficiency in commissioned officers that would arise in case of national

emergency.' The bankers and bosses everywhere were quick to grasp the dea, and camps like the one at Plattsburg were soon established throughout the country.

REVIVED IN 1940

FOR THE SAME PURPOSE The Military Training Camps Association, organized in February 1916 by the veterans of the in the play are Kovrov, engineer he talks at length about Communfirst Plattsburg camp, continues and party member; his wife, Olga

ducted by the International Re-

lief Association and the New

The International Relief Asso-

labor relief organization in this

on this side of the Atlantic; pro-

help them. They are the ordin-

.R.A. takes pride in helping

these brave men and women

lands and in emigration entitle City.

them monthly aid.

Portugal to get visas for countries Fund.

World Resettlement Fund.

For Refugee Relief

cal refugees is now being con- tion camp in France or Germany.

ed refugees in Sweden, France, garet DeSilver Treasurer of the

have no other organization to the Workmen's Benefit Fund.

tions entirely in conjunction with

the War Department.

for Business Men." The announceening of the drive to establish universal conscription.

The boss class rallied at once.

On June 19, the N. Y. Times ern Bourbons. wrote of these boss-class recruits: "An expressed recognition of the danger now facing an unprepared United States brought them from banks, brokerage houses, public offices, the bench, industries, law firms, and universities, in a sort of patriotic 'Who's Who'."

A "CROSS-SECTION" BUT NO WORKERS

"Those who applied" reported

to represent a cross-section of writers, craftsmen, and scholars."

The Military Training Camps Association leaves nothing to chance when it comes to the selecion and approval of applicants. It operates on a plan of selection which it terms "impartial." Three men of wide business and military experience review the applica-

This "impartial" plan of selection was described by the N. Y. The revival of the Plattsburg Times, June 29, as follows: "The ing war was announced by the (was) prescribed by the War De-War Department on June 15. The partment solely on the basis of New York Times headlined the their education, their experience, announcement, "Army Training and their leadership in business, professional or labor fields, 'as ment was coincident with the op- evidenced by their positions."

The "impartiality" of the plan knows. consisted of the technical inclusion of "labor leaders." But even Applications for admission to the a Bill Green or a Matthew Woll camp at Platisburg, N. Y., poured would have been as acceptable as Uncle Tom at a dinner of South-

Almost all the successful applicants were college graduates, the continuation of the tradition escamp in 1915. Harvard, Yale and Princeton, the most exclusive of

PLATTSBURG 'DEMOCRACY' -- produce! IT'S ALL IN FUN

the Times on June 22, "continued burg camp began on July 6.

wrote, "The idea of a son of the mon soldiers mean less than dirt. Rockefellers making his own bed, a United States justice peeling poon table and a high-goal polo play- labor.

er polishing his own shoes may sound rather fanciful, but this all THEY HAVE THEIR CAMPS; took place . . . " And in the pres- LET'S HAVE OURS! ence of photographers, of course, It was all a lot of fun, like a com- on the picket lines of the class bined Boy Scout camping trip and struggle, is a thousand times more slum tour. In the army, of qualified to lead workers under course, these gentlemen, as officers, will have the workers to do talist boss. And infinitely more the dirty work.

Times article. The Plattsburg tary weapons and equipment. camps in preparation for the com- selection of successful applicants camps are described as "the greatgive-and-take this world unions.

> Just how far this "give-and-Weekly of Aug. 24 as follows: "Litgiven an immediate drumhead and against the workers. court martial by their tentmates the colleges, provided the largest and that settled their status." The boss class however. They have greatest leveler democracy can their Plattsburgs. We, the work-

Training at the revived Platts- who will rule the draft army, under the control of the Trade Bosses and labor-haters, to whom Unions!

The N. Y. Times correspondent | the lives and welfare of the com-

Their only qualifications for leading men under conditions of tatoes, a college professor waiting war is their training in exploiting

Any ordinary worker, trained conditions of war than any capiqualified, by virtue of mechanical The theme of "democracy" re- training and machine work, to ceived quite a play in this same operate and direct modern mili-

Just as the bosses have their est leveler democracy can prod- own private military training and duce . . . Living, sleeping and eat- officers training camps, so the ing with men...(whose) thoughts workers must demand and estaband civil viewpoint may be the lish their own military training diametrical opposite of yours ... system, controlled and directed by all adds up to the greatest game their own organizations, the trade

Just as the workers oppose boss exploitation in industry, so take" extended was described in they must fight against boss ex Christian Science Monitor ploitation in the military sphere. Under conditions of universal tle trouble was had. One agitator militarism, war and capitalist rewith ideas which swung widely action, it would be foolish for the to the left . . . was quickly eli- workers to scorn military trainminated. A couple of 'fellow trav- ing and modern arms. But so ellers' who had gotten into the long as the bosses run the army, tablished by the first Plattsburg camp by misrepresentation were it will be used in their interests

> We can take a lesson from the ing class, must have our Platts-Such are the men and the class burgs, - Workers Plattsburgs -

An Indictment Of Jim Crow in Army and Navy

Dr. Milton R. Konvitz has written an extremely timely and pointed article, "The Legal Status of the Negro in the New Army" which has been issued by Contemporary Law Pamphlets of the New York University School of Law as a press release in mimeographed form. The article certainly deserves to be published and widely distributed as a pamphlet.

Konvitz demonstrates that the appointment of Benjamin O. Davis as a brigadier-general, rather than being an indication of the "democratic" nature of the army and navy, "is another instance of our traditional practice; namely, to single out an individual for honors, at the same time to keep the mass of Negroes in inferior status or suppressed."

To prove this point, he takes up the history and nature of the two amendments to the Selective Service Act which are supposed to prohibit discrimination because of race or color, and shows how ineffective and disregarded they are while the three chief types of Jim Crowism are continued in the armed forces.

The first type is segregation, the establishmeht of separate regiments in many branches of the service. The second is discrimination as to placement, so that the Negroes get the worst possible jobs. The third is the "numerus clausus"

Courts Won't Stop Jim Crow

In his discussion of the first example, Konvitz deals a death-blow to the idea current among some Negro organizations that "taking the matter to court" can in any way help to solve the

He shows that Negroes are promised they will get aviation training, when they get it, through the "formation of colored aviation units," and that the White House has stated. "Negro organizations will be established in each major branch of the service, combatant as well as non-combatant."

He then asks: "Is segregation in the armed forces discrimination in violation of the Act and

"An unsophisticated person would without hesitation say 'yes'. When he reads in the papers about separate benches for Jewish students in some European universities, he knows that segregation is intended as, and is, discrimination. But one who knows the decisions and opinions of the Supreme Court of the United States will need to say 'no'. The Court has held that Jim Crow laws, segregating Negroes in public conveyances, and that laws providing for separate educational facilities, are constitutional."

Konvitz cites the well-known case of Gaines v. Canada, "decided at the end of 1938 by a liberal majority," which held that the Negro petitioner could attend the school "in the absence of other and proper provisions." "The opinion was so written as to make the decision seem to be a great victory for the Negro race; and the fact that McReynolds and Butler dissented also tended to make the decision seem a gain for the liberal forces. As a matter of fact, however, the decision took two steps backward for one step forward, for it upheld the constitutionality of segregation, mitigated only by the requirement that proper facilities within the state need to be provided for qualified Negroes."

Army is Law Unto Itself

Konvitz's discussion of the second type of discrimination is well-known to readers of the Socialist Appeal, especially as reflected in the stories we have been carrying on the U. S. S. Philadelphia case.

"Since the military arm is well-nigh autonomous," he points out, "it is difficult to conceive of legal means to eradicate these forms of discrimination. The provision in the Draft Act that no man shall be inducted for training and service 'unless and until he is acceptable to the land and naval forces for such training and service' vests unlimited discretion in the military and naval authorities. That the forms of discrimination referred to are abuses of discretion is apparent; but they are probably damnum absque injuria, injuries without remedies."

Konvitz's discussion of the third type of Jim Crowism is one, as he points out, which has received very little attention, although it is a very important point. The White House laid down the procedure: "The strength of the Negro personnel ... will be maintained on the general basis of proportion of the Negro population of the country." That is, since 9% of the population is colored, 9% of the armed forces will be colored

Roosevelt Imitates Hitler "It is amazing that these announcements

aroused scarcely any protest. Here is an importation of the the numerus clausus practice from Europe, a practice made notorious toward the end of the Nineteenth Century when the Czarist government fixed a quota to govern the admission of Jews to the Russian universities and schools of higher learning. That this practice is a denial of the very essence of democracy is in part shown by the fact that every anti-Semitic government has made use of it. "Very quietly this obnoxious practice has

been introduced in the United States, in the very institution created to defend our democracy. It is wrong in itself and as a precedent, dangerous to everyone who can be identified as a member of a racial or religious minority, and to every American who prizes his heritage of freedom and equality. The practice is as indefensible as it is unprecedented (as a governmental policy), yet I know of no legal measure that might be taken to stop it."

All in all, this pamphlet is very helpful toward an understanding that "legal means" will very probably do nothing to help the problem. What is required is the struggle which our party has outlined: for trade union control of military

By JOHN G. WRIGHT Kolkov, the author, obviously felt | The new, silent purge is pruning the ranks of the Kremlin's himself a champion of the "Soviet most pampered and fabulously-paid servants—"the creative ar- Family," and must have made tists." Dramatists and scenario writers have suffered the heaviest sure of adhering rigidly to the line of "Bolshevik self-criticism"

Apparently the formulas for the 1940 edition of the purge equally unquestionable that the invary depending upon the individuals and circumstances involved. Thus the Komsomol and Trade Union bureaucracies were decimated under the formula of bezdelniki and darmoyedniki (loafers, scoundrels who eat the bread they haven't earned), highly moral light. Pravda itself Foreseeing America's entry into But the formula for the intellectuals is: klevetniki (slanderers).

where West Point and the small pre-eminently as an epoch of

production. Not one among them, of his son. End of Act One. lamented Pravda, showed "the least sign of political perspicachood and distortion of Soviet real-

ity." Pravda dwells in detail on Kol-

Kirchwey its treasurer.

into history of artistic creation their ten year old son, Mitya, rected to read-slanderers. mother, neglects his studies, but mattered, obtained all the indis-(October) is one S. Kolkov, au- about his son's progress in school. time his play reached the stage, ciation in 1916, the purpose and there of a play entitled, "The Kov- A crisis ensues when Kolkov life and its problems had altered State Theatre and there staring rov Family." This play was learns on returning from a prostaged by the Gorki State Theallonged stay in the provinces that Pravda's eyes. tre, the initial performances were Mitya has been kept back another greeted with ecstatic, if stereo- year in the same grade. His wife typed, reviews, scores of other utilizes the opportunity for carry- is, as the French say mildly, mal theatres rushed production plans ing out a long contemplated plan. -when suddenly Kolkov's master- Gathering her possessions and piece was deflated. On October Mitya she leaves Kovrov in favor 13 Pravda indicted his play as of a mutual friend, the jurist Bo- bers, and at the same time all the "Slander Against the Soviet Fam- rovsky, another party member, families in the play without exily." damned the Gorki Theatre and this newly constituted fam- ception break up. Even Gavrik. for befouling its stage with it, and ily immediately "departs to a the homeless waif, is a by-product generally berated all the "respon- summer resort." Kolkov falls ill of a broken home. His father sible" people for approving its from worry about the education committed suicide out of "sexual child and mustn't be upset."

a courtroom. In it Kovrov delivity, not one saw in this play false- ers a very long speech which obviously exasperated Pravda. He "lashes as un-Soviet the educakoy's opus. The main characters followed by Olga Alexandrovna, "Kovrov's 'eloquence'.' Unions Back Campaign ya, it appears, would prefer to live with both his father and mother. Whereupon the court dismisses Kovrov's plea and rules that the boy must remain with his mother. A joint campaign to aid politi-| them to more than a concentra-

In the third act Mitya degenerates completely. He longs for his Charles A. Beard is honorary father, associates with street chilchairman of the I.R.A.: Freda dren, and stops attending school altogether. He becomes ruder and The New World Resettlement ruder to growups, acts like a hoociation is the oldest anti-fascist Fund is working to resettle the ligan on the street, and learns to steal. Even his mother begins from the Soviet schools to form families of Spanish anti-Fascists. country. For fourteen years it has now interned in France, in a co- to worry.

rendered invaluable service to operative colony it has established Meanwhile her lover Borovsky anti-fascist fighters abroad. It is in Ecuador. Oswald Garrison Vil- gets bored with her worries, and the privileged, can now attend sible people" are the breeding now helping politically endanger- lard is National Chairman; Mar- still more with her personally, school, because their parents alone "It seemed to me," sums up the can pay the tuition. All the state jurist, Borovsky, "that I loved her This campaign is endorsed and a lot. But once we started living viding them with the necessary supported by many leading trade- together I suddenly sensed that to understand the historical sigfunds for travel; and sending unions, including the Amalgamatit wasn't so. I don't love her at ed Clothing Workers, ILGWU, and all." Mitya decides to run away Almost all of these refugees by fraternal organizations such as with a homeless waif who has become his pal and preceptor; but The anti-fascist refugees belong in trying to board a train, he ary humble people, penniless, un- at the head of every Christmas slips, falls under the wheels, and known, but the most courageous list. Send contributions care of is killed. The lone witness of figthers against reaction. The George Novack, Joint Campaign Mitya's tragic end is his faithful nurse, who runs after him, calls for Political Refugees, Room 405,

out to him, but cannot catch him. whose records in their native 2 West 43rd Street, New York Curtain. In writing this problem-play,

"responsible" people who passed the script viewed it in the same not so very long ago featured much more embarassing family compliials on education from which Kolbeyond recognition, at least in New policies demand new plays,

Small wonder, that Kolkov's play à propos (evil to the purpose.) For instance, the prominent characters jealousy." Kolkov surpassed him-The next scene takes place in self in inventing so plausible and breaks into tears, and Pravda yet so original, almost poetic, an breaks into cold sweat and shrieks explanation for the presence of a in the ears of all "responsible peohomeless waif on a Soviet stage, ple": "Art has the capacity of but even this superb stroke only generalizing things!" How true, tional methods of child raising aided in his downfall. "Let us continues Pravda sarcastically, ing reality one obtains a false- stray ideas. fails to sway the court." The nay, worse than that!-a vicious udge interrogates the child. Mit- generalization, a slander against with another issue: hooliganism. the Soviet family."

Kolkov's real sin, however, is not in failing to counterbalance an aborted family with an idyllic couple and a budding Stalin. He made his mistake in centering his play on the educational probpoints out is a "problem of greatest state importance."

Sons and daughters of workers dent. and peasants had just been driven an industrial labor reserve. Only the Mityas, i. e., the children of resources were being mobilized in October to educate the populace nificance of this latest victory The Presidium of the C.C.T.U. convened in solemn session and

"The trade union organizations must explain to the worksignificance of an organized prekolkhoz youth, and the creation "under socialism."

of indispensable labor reserves for industry. In doing this they must pay special attention to carry on the work of explanation among . . . the intermediate secondary schools, in the secondary schools, in children's rooms, and school rooms, at clubs and places of culture.' (Pravda, October 13). The All-Union Committee in

Charge of Highest Education lost no time in issuing instructions to that "they establish rigid control

of relaxation walks into the Gork him in the face struts a spoiled and horrid brat, a blurred image of his pet at home, "attended by his nurse, cranky and capricious. issuing insolent orders, yelling (just like papa): 'Take off my shoes! . . . Give me a clean shirt! Always referring to his mother 'Mama ordered you to keep me in cleanliness . . . Mama said you must feed me well." Slaps his nurse's face, and justifies himself "Mama told you I'm a nervous (Pravda, October 13). The nurse Besides, a worker may wander

grant." Pravda comments cau- into the theatre. Or maybe a stutiously, "that there is such a fam- dent just dropped from the rolls. ist views on the family in ily, maybe more than one. But Why, anyone in the audience is today as a powerful quasi-military Alexandrovna, a party member; short, proves his rights to the when a family of this sort is taken apt. especially under the impact apart from the entire surround. of art, to start generalizing a few To crown it all, Kolkov meddles

Pravda passes it by without comment. But hooliganism has also become a "problem of greatest state importance." It has penetrated so deeply into Soviet in dustry and institutions that the authorities are finding it very diftem, which Pravda belligerently ficult to differentiate between a hooligan and a worker, L. c., be tween deliberate resistance to the June laws and an innocent acci-

> But from Kolkov's play one could readily conclude that the families of party members, engineers, jurists and other "responplaces of-hooliganism!

"Who needs this?" Pravda.

In a concentration camp Kolkov may have an opportunity to compare notes with another inadvertent "slanderer," one Avdeyenko, author of the novel I Love. but really celebrated for breaking all records several years ago in "loving" Stalin. Avdeyenko slapers, the state employes, and ped together in an absent-minded members of their families the moment a scenario dealing with high-life among the Komsomol paration of cadres of new work- bureaucrats. Playwriting, it turns ers from among the urban and out, is a hazardous occupation

right-thinking and cations and used to write editor- university directors, proposing Regular Army could supply suf-ficient "reliable" officers the first toadies. According to Stalin, especially over the upbringing of Kolkov had finished his play, an paid in by the date designated. the designation should be cor- their boy. Mitya, spoiled by his techambered all the people who (idem). Everybody is busy. The slanderer of the month father always get glowing reports pensable approvals, in short by the ity a tired bureaucrat in search

SOCIALIST APPEAL

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FIGHT WITH THE SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY

ON THE WAR FRONT:

For:

- 1. Military training of workers, financed by the government, under control of the trade unions.
- 2. The establishment of special officers' training camps, financed by the government and controlled by the trade unions, to train workers to become
- 3. Confiscation of all war profits-all company books to be open for trade union inspection.
- 4. Expropriation of all war industries and their operation under workers' control.
- 5. Trade union wages for all workers drafted into the army.
- 6. Full equality for Negroes in the armed forces-Down with Jim Crowism.
- 7. An end to secret diplomacy.
- 8. A peoples' referendum on any and all wars.

AT HOME:

For:

- 1. A job and decent living for every worker.
- 2. Thirty-thirty-\$30 weekly minimum wage-30 hour weekly maximum for all workers on all jobs.
- 3. \$30 weekly old age and disability pension. 4. Full social, political and economic equality for the
- Negro people.
- 5. Workers Defense Guards against vigilante and fascist attacks.
- 6. A twenty-billion dollar Federal public works and housing program to provide jobs for the unem-
- 7. Expropriate the Sixty Families.
- 8. An Independent Labor Party based on the Trade
- 9. A Workers' and Farmers' Government.

British "Equality"

The capitalist press devotes much of its space to describing the punishment being dealt out by the British authorities to the German and Italian forces; we permit ourselves to call attention to a few scarcely-noticed items concerning punishments dealt out by the British authorities to people who are not fascists.

Within Britain itself, we limit ourselves to just one small item, published by the Chicago Tribune under the misleading heading, "London Severe With Looters." We quote verbatim:

"LONDON, Nov. 18-The unprecedented severity with which authorities are meting out punishment for looting from demolished houses and shops was illustrated today when a London police court sentenced Mrs. Doreen Jones, 42 years old, mother of ten children, to three months in jail for receiving 29 cents worth of coal stolen by a ten-year-old boy. Mrs. Florence Pedder, also 42, received the same sentence for getting 40 cents worth of coal under similar circum-

The numerous stories in the press about the social transformation and the growth of real democracy in England, the socialist acts of the British government now that "Labor" is in the government, etc., etc., are shown up as just so much lying war propaganda by this little item. "Equality of all" in capitalist England today is the same old equality of which Anatole France wrote: the majestic equality of the law which forbids rich and poor alike to steal bread. Rich and poor alike are sent to jail for stealing 29 cents' worth of coal. To enforce the majestic equality of such laws, many British policemen and troops are kept in England who might otherwise be added to the armed forces fighting Germany and Italy. Such is the love for law felt by the British authorities that they restrain their impulse to send these police and troops against the fascists and keep them at home to punish "Mrs. Doreen Jones, 42 years old, mother of ten children" and all other lawbreakers like her.

Other large bodies of British troops have their backs turned to Hitler and Mussolini in order to mete out punishment to lawbreakers in India. Punishment such as the sentence to four years at hard labor, meted out to Pandit Nehru, a leader of the All-India Congress, for daring to say publicly that India has been dragged into the war without the consent of the people of India. The arrest of Nehru has been followed by a wave of mass arrests for the same "crime".

Still other British troops cannot go to fight Hitler because they must enforce the majestic equality of the law in Britain's colonies. The Negro newspaper, the Pittsburgh Courier, reports the imprisonment in a concentration camp of Wallace Johnson, secretary of the Sierra Leone Trade Union Congress; and the sending to prison of S. O. Boyle and George Thomas, publisher and editor

of the African Standard, for having published an article protesting Johnson's arrest. These and many similar arrests are made under the Colonial Defense Regulations, which give the British governors the right to imprison any native whose conduct is considered likely to "prejudice the successful prosecution of the war."

Not only troops, but useful naval vessels, are kept in Palestine, to carefully patrol the coast in order to catch and deport the desperate Jewish refugees who are trying to enter the country illegally -illegally, because by British edict practically none may enter legally.

A brilliant alibi for Britain's treatment of its subject peoples was recently conceived by an editor of the New Leader, the organ of the all-aid-for-Britain-including-war Social Democratic Federation. He printed a picture of Nehru and in the caption underneath triumphantly explained that if Nehru were in German-held territory instead of in British-held territory, Nehru would have been

For once we find ourselves in agreement with the New Leader. We accept the distinction that it makes between German fascism and British democracy. In Germany, fighters for freedom are shot; in the British Empire, fighters for freedom are imprisoned for four years at hard labor. That is what the distinction between fascism and "democracy" amounts to.

From this distinction the New Leader draws the conclusion: therefore let us support the British ruling class in its war against the German ruling class. Let us, this means, become the adherents of four-years-at-hard-labor against death-sentences.

Whoever draws such a conclusion has the soul of a slave or the heart of a traitor to the working class.

Down with those who sentence to death our brothers, the workers of Germany! And down with those who send to prison or concentration camps our brothers, the workers and toiling peoples of the British Empire! We ally ourselves meither with the hangman nor the prison-keeper! Our only allies are the workers and the oppressed peoples of every country!

A Correction

While the Army authorities have not appeared anxious to call the matter to our attention, we hasten to correct a serious error of fact in our last week's editorial, "The Draftees' Health."

We stated last week that among the first batches of draftees called for medical examination, from 15 to 25 per cent had been rejected as physically unfit. This is absolutely untrue and we hasten to correct the wrong impression conveyed by these inaccurate figures.

The correct figures included: (1) From 15 to 25 per cent of the draftees were rejected as physically unfit by the Army doctors at the induction centers: (2) Prior to that, in the medical examinations made by the draft board doctors, nearly 60% were rejected as physically unfit. The 15 to 25 per cent found unfit by the Army doctors were found in a body of men who remained after 60% of the original body of draftees had been weeded out. That means that, out of a hundred men called up by the draft boards as eligible for Army service, only from 25 to 35 were found physically fit!

The real picture of the physical havoc wrought by eleven years of capitalist depression is, therefore, three times as gruesome as we had painted

For the conditions which have bred this disease and physical degeneration among the masses, the Army has now found a solution. "A slight trend toward greater lenity on the part of Army doctors conducting final physical examinations of draft inductees was apparent today," the November 29 New York Post reports. In other words, the Army's solution is to lower the health standards of the

It reminds us of Jonathan Swift's savage satire on Britain's mistreatment of Ireland. Swift suggested that in order to take the Irish children out of their misery they should be eaten.

Industrial Explosions

Most of the newspapers which blazoned in front page headlines the strike-breaking "red scare" statements of Attorney General Jackson against the Vultee Aircraft strikers did not carry a line of his statement of December 5 in which he warned against attributing the epidemic of industrial explosions to sabotage.

Jackson's statement was: "Industry is engaged in a great and sudden speedup which results in accidents... Many men are being called to work who have long been idle, and their skills have

"Experiments are being undertaken by industry to increase production. All these things tend to increase the number of industrial accidents.'

All of which adds up to one fact: the employers, in their lust to reap war profits, are resorting to such unendurable speed-up and dangerous "experimental" processes, that the resultant deaths can only be termed, MURDER FOR PROFIT!

light on this whole matter in a tiny item: "FBI officials have said privately that there definitely had been no organized attempts to dis-

The N. Y. Post, December 5, throws further

"They point out that last year before the preparedness program got under way, manufacturing plants suffered 23,700 fires,10,500 of them caused by explosions."

The imperialist war in which the capitalists of the world are now engaged is merely an extension and heightening of that bloody and continuous war against the workers, which even in "peacetime" numbers its yearly victims in the millions.

Juicy War Contracts Just Ooze Fat Profits

Reporter Gets a Peek at Some of the Contracts—They Give Away Everything Except the White House Linen

Big Business.

There is good reason for such of professional scabs, etc. silence. Were the general public to learn of the contents of these te the myth about "taking the profits out of war.'

in the press giving some of the terms of a few of these contracts. It was written by Frank Ryhlick, in the New York Post, Nov. 19. for the purpose of showing the average businessman that Roosevelt was all right for business. It proved that too well, perhaps. for Ryhlick never wrote any follow-up articles on the subject!

Of the contracts in general. Rhylick declares; "The contracts, and they were described as 'typical' of their kind by a War Dept. employee, contain none of the profiteering crudities that characterized many contracts of the World War era. But they show indisputably that business is demanding and getting handsome

"... The War Dept., aided by formal Treasury Dept. decrees. has been open-handed in approving the items a contractor may charge to 'cost.' ... Some of the contractual provisions seem almost an invitation 'to pad the expense accounts."

Some of these "invitations," quoted directly from terms of items chargeable to "cost":

Perhaps you haven't noticed it, ing by reason of or in connection so as to provide for additional but practically nothing appears with labor shortage or labor dis- allowable items of costs, such adin the press giving any of the putes." This means, in effect sub- ditional items shall be considered actual terms of the war-mater- sidization of the corporations by allowable items hereunder." ials contracts which the govern- the government during strikes. ment has been handing out to including costs of strike-breakers clause provides that at any time and company police, hiring fees

2. "State and local taxes including franchises and other contracts, there would be an end taxes levied on the right to do business." Workers will continue to pay taxes out of their incomes, We have seen only one article but the bosses will be permitted to plough all taxes-including 'excess profits" taxes-back into costs," and realize 6 to 12 per cent profit on their taxes.

> 3. "Reasonable costs of servicing and maintaining corporate structure, including taxes and expenses on the transfer of capital stock." The bosses will have a picnic on this one! A multitude of "costs" can accrue from the 'expenses" of stock manipulations and "the servicing and maintaining" of interlocking directorates and holding compan-

4. "Such other costs as should, in the opinion of the contracting officers, be included in the costs of airplanes." Such other costsan unrestricted blanket coverage of any item which the contractor wishes to include-might mean a new "corporation" yacht, six months in Florida for all the vice-presidents, etc. And it will, it will!

GOOD OLD UNCLE-ANYTHING GOES!

\$19,084,136 contract awarded the war profiteers might overlook Curtiss contracts. It does not the Douglas Aircraft Corp. on a few crumbs in the public treas- even attempt to stipulate the Sept. 12, include the following ury: "In the event that, prior to concern's margin of profit, Anyfinal settlement under this con- thing goes!

1. "Any reasonable costs aris-, tract, the laws may be amended

But that's not all. Still another during the manufacturing of planes under the contract, the manufacturer may re-open negotiations for re-determining costs "on the basis of the experience then available, or on the basis of other pertinent knowledge or information," and the new "fixed price" per unit which the government will pay "shall apply not only to units there after to be delivered, but also to units theretofore delivered, for which proper adjustment shall be made."

This provision, the Post explains, is not peculiar to the Douglas contract. It appears as a "special provision" in an \$11,-707.657 contract awarded the Curtiss Wright Corp., Sept. 9.

The Post tips the mitt on the real significance of these contracts by admitting: "The War Dept. and Defense Commission officials are fully aware that the customary fee of 6 percent on a cost-plus-fixed-fee contract is no indication of the company's real profit. The term 'fixed fee' has long caused chuckles among lobbyists, and army and navy heads are always frank to wink at the phrase in private, but this is the major fact of life in Washing-

A \$33,500,000 lump sum tank contract awarded the Chrysler Motor Corporation is even more The proviso adds, just in case wide open than the Douglas or

Camacho Takes Office --And Turns To The Right

By WALTER ROURKE

first signs of the new Camacho people. Government in Mexico. Henry Wallace arrived to attend the inau-

for" policy.

LAR is more repulsive since it is ico. a trade union paper-official or-Toledano, was always especially agent of the Dies Committee.

But with Henry A. Wallace the story is quite different although in an editorial that . . . "the expropriated oil properties, American-owned lands and American railway investments (are mentioned) as rumored subjects of con-Wallace and Mexican officials," El Popular begs to differ:... "President Roosevelt has given one more proof of his loyalty and respect for the principle of non-intervention, consecrated in America, and has made patent at the same time his proposition to continue his policy of Good Neighbor . . . "

CAMACHO'S RIGHT-TURN

Such a stupid and servile statement is not so surprising as it would seem, when the recent frend of Camacho is considered. Soon after being elected Camscho stated in an interview that he was a Catholic and that furthermore he was not a "socialist" but rather a democrat. These are unprecedented statements for a Mexican president to make since the revolution. (The church was always left out of the picture and every Mexican politician claimed to be a "socialist.") In the same interview Camacho said that he was sure that Cardenas did not wish to participate in his government and that neither Toledano

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 1-The borate. It must be remembered shot from outside. There are past week has seen the last of that Camacho was elected only theories that this raid is the prethe Cardenas Government and the thanks to the support of these lude to the complete outlawing of

Shortly afterward it was antion of Roosevelt's "Good Neigh- that he will be active in the Central and South American trade Comrade Trotsky. Such a reception by EL POPU- union movement-outside of Mex-

The inauguration ceremonies of gan of the C.M.T .- Confederation the new president have been herof Mexican Workers. EL POPU- alded by a demonstration in front with any of the "fifth columnists" LAR, under the control of the of the American Embassy and a who object to the United States' close collaborator of the Stalinists, raid on the Communist headquar- "non-intervention" intervention in ters and the Almazan headquar- affairs of Central and So. Amerdiligent in "discovering" that the ters. The demonstrators at the ica. Garrisoned airdromes and Yankee imperialists and reaction- Embassy all claimed to be Almaaries are active in Mexico through zanistas with surprising unan such agents as Leon Trotsky and imity; a leaflet they distributed other enemies of the Stalinist In- began "Remember Texas." Inditernational. It referred to Com- cations are that this was organrade Trotsky several times as an ized by the Nazis and not by the Almazanistas.

The raid on the Communist even the New York Times states ported in various different ways. Party headquarters has been re-The facts are however that some members of the army or of the police force attacked the headquarters. There was a brief versations to be held between Mr. fired—result. several wounded skirmish and several shots were and an army Major was killed. He was neither a fascist nor an Almazanista but a Camachista. Communist party members ar-

> Boro Park MASS MEETING

15 Months of TOTAL WAR! WHAT NEXT?

Hear

JOSEPH HANSEN Former Secretary to Leon Trotsky MURRAY WEISS Organizer, N. Y. Local FRIDAY DEC. 20 8 P.M.

3623 - - 5th Ave. Brooklyn, N. Y.

Adm. 15c Door Prize

| nor the Communists would colla- | rested insist that the Major was the C.P.

In the light of these few hapnounced that Toledano would re- penings it is possible to see why guration of Camacho. General Al- tire from the General Secretary- there are some misgivings as to mazan returned to liquidate the ship of the C.T.M. at the next Con- the future course of the Camacho movement which supported him gress which will be held in Feb government. Yet Toledano affirmand which continued to the last ruary. This report was confirmed ed that " . . . no conservative minute to believe his repeated this week by Toledano himself in force either from within or withpromises that he would take pow- his speech to the 15th session of out will be able to do anything er in the National Palace today. the National Committee of the against the regime of General Av-The visit of Wallace has been C.T.M. He assures his listeners ila Camacho." He calls upon the given a flowery reception by all that he will continue to be a working class movement to give of the daily press, from the most soldier of the proletariat "in what the same support to Camacho that reactionary to Toledano's EL ever country of the world I may it has given to Cardenas. Tole-POPULAR. They all interpret the find myself," Yes, Lombardo is dano aids Camacho with the same visit as a proof of the continua- going to take a trip; it is said servility with which he aided the Stalinists in doing away with

We can be confident that Special Ambassador Wallace will not place any obstacles in the way of Camacho's dealing summarily naval bases located strategically throughout the Americas will serve to defend the interests of Uncle Sam against the competitors from without the western hemisphere and against the future protesting peoples from within. Wallace's Good Neighbor" smile and Camacho's "democratic" ideas will help to screen the Latin American parallel to the North American jingoist reaction.

Request Photos Of Leon Trotsky To all Comrades, Friends,

and Sympathizers:

The Party has set up a Film Commission headed by John G. Wright to gather together for preservation every possible scrap of photographic record concerning the life of Leon Trotsky. We earnestly request everyone who has taken pictures of Comrade Trotsky during any period of his life to send them to us for duplication and preservation. The originals will be carefully handled and returned to each sender, immediately after dup-

lication. The Party will appreciate the cooperation of everyone in this task. Please send all material direct to:

John G. Wright 116 University Place New York, N. Y.

NOTEBOOK Of an Agitator

Finland and Greece

Public opinion-that melange of sentiments and moods which are set in motion by bourgeois pressure and propaganda-is reacting rather calmly to the Italian attack on Greece. A year ago this same public opinion was all in a lather over Finland, then under attack by the Soviet bear. Why is there no hue and cry for Greece? Isn't poor little Greece as noble as poor little Finland, and isn't Mussolini just as big a bullying scoundrel as Stalin? Evidently there is something different somewhere.

In many respects, the Italo-Greek war appears to be a duplicate of the Soviet invasion of Finland; the points of resemblance strike the eye. In each case a strong military power attacked a smaller and weaker opponent. The Soviet invasion of last year appeared to be poorly prepared. The victim of aggression fought back and scored initial victories. The press dispatches pictured David putting Goliath to rout while thousands cheered. So today, in the modern war of the Greeks and the Romans. The first at tacks are repelled and followed by what appear to be successful counter-attacks which push the invader back in retreat.

Neverthless, the sheer military preponderance of Italy over Greece would seem to assure eventual victory unless powerful new forces are brought to play in favor of Greece. Why, then, is the far-flung anti-Soviet mob of last year not in action? Why are they resting in their dug-outs with such maddening nonchalance while the armies of Mussolini and Metaxas fight it out? Where are the sermons thundering from the pulpit? Where is the Hoover Fund Raising Committee? Where are the special theatrical benefits for the victim of aggression? Where are the trade union relief committees?

The sympathy of the American ruling class is indubitably on the side of Greece, since Greece is an ally of Britain, and thereby also of the United States, in the developing and expanding world struggle of the rival imperialist powers. But this sympathy is lukewarm and restrained. There is no drum-beating campaign, we see no hysteria, no unbridled fury, such as that which swelled in a mighty tide against the Soviet Union during the Soviet-Finnish war.

Is this because the rulers and makers of public opinion perceive a fundamental difference between the regime in Greece and that of Finland? Not at all. The bloody work of exterminating the flower of the proletariat, which was carried through to completion under Mannerheim in Finland, and on the basis of which Finnish "democracy" was stabilized, is still in process in Greece under the dictatorship of Metaxas. But this is a factor of secondary importance which does not even interest the class rulers, to say nothing of determining their policy.

The difference from their point of view is the difference between the class nature of the Soviet Union and fascist Italy. A victory of fascist Italy over Greece would be a military episode in a drawn-out world war. The masters of America, because of the international alignment, have an interest in preventing such a victory. But they do not permit themselves to get unduly excited about the prospect. The military domination of Greece by fascist Italy would not change anything fundamentally in the class structure of the latter. It would not spread the infection of expropriation and nationalization which the masters of property fear and dread above everything else.

The difference which the ruling bourgeoisie perceives, and which motivates their instinctive reaction. is the fundamental difference between the property relations in the Soviet Union and those of fascist Italy. They do not delude themselves for one moment by a vulgar identification of the two countries because of the superficial similarity in the political regimes. They know the difference between a fascist regime which reinforces the rule of private property and a soviet regime which signifies its annihilation. and they have great respect for this difference. The preservation of the system of private property is the one thing that really concerns them.

It was the threat to private property, implicit in a Soviet victory over bourgeois Finland, which determined the unrestrained violence of the bourgeois anti-Soviet campaign during the Soviet-Finnish war. They gave the workers an instructive lesson in class politics! The motivation of the bourgeoisie in this case was graphically summarized in the Manifesto of the Fourth International on "The Imperialist War and the Proletarian Revolution," adopted by the emergency conference of the Fourth International last Spring. This Manifesto, the last great programmatic document written by Comrade Trotsky, says:

"Extremely eloquent in its unanimity and fury was the campaign which the world bourgeoisie launched over the Soviet-Finnish war. Neither the perfidy nor the violence of the Kremlin prior to this had arcused the indignation of the bourgeoisie, for the entire history of world politics is written in perfidy and violence. Their fear and indignation arose over the prospect of a social overturn in Finland upon the pattern of the one engendered by the Red Army in Eastern Poland. What was involved was a fresh threat to capitalist property. The anti-Soviet campaign, which had a class character through and through, disclosed once again that the USSR by virtue of the social foundations laid down by the October revolution, upon which the existence of the bureaucracy itself is dependent in the last analysis, still remains a workers' state, terrifying to the bourgeoisie of the whole world. Episodic agreements between the bourgeoisie and the USSR do not alter the fact that 'taken on the historic scale the contradiction between world imperialism and the Soviet Union is infinitely more profound than the antagonisms which set the individual capitalist countries in opposition to each other.' (War and the Fourth International)"

From a class point of view, the bourgeoisie were absolutely right in the position they took on the Soviet-Finnish war. So were we right, from the point of view of the fundamental class interests of the proletariat, in firmly maintaining our defense of the Soviet Union in spite of the enormous pressure of bourgeois public opinion, which even found expression at that time in our own ranks. Contemptible was the faction of Burnham and Shachtman which attacked our program in synchronism with the bourgeois anti-Soviet campaign. Pathetic must be the fate of the faction whose "independent" existence stems from that shameful capitulation.