

Workers! This Is Not Our War!  
It is a War for Boss Profits!  
Join Hands in Independent  
Labor Action Against the War!

# LABOR ACTION

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AUGUST 12, 1940

ORGAN OF THE WORKERS PARTY, SECTION OF THE FOURTH INTERNATIONAL

THREE CENTS

## WE WANT NO PART OF THE DRAFT!

### Big Business Wrests Huge Profits Out of Preparations for War

#### You Earned It—They Got It

Corporation	Net Profits During First Half of 1940	Increase Over First Half of 1939	% Increase
United States Steel	\$36,315,003	\$34,344,692	1743.
Remington Arms	1,219,000	1,075,000	746.
Republic Steel	6,449,453	5,366,142	495.
Tidewater Oil	5,904,865	4,698,455	388.
Glen Martin Aircraft	4,291,490	3,323,866	343.
Youngstown	2,423,212	1,877,019	343.
Minnesota Paper Co.	1,120,788	881,852	327.
Atlantic Refining	5,266,000	3,913,000	289.
Bethlehem	21,698,457	15,466,471	247.
Douglas Aircraft	3,388,857	1,992,065	142.
Commercial Solvents	1,046,551	608,451	138.
Libby-Owens-Ford Glass	5,176,748	2,521,935	95.
General Electric	25,871,572	9,501,380	58.
Caterpillar Tractor	3,509,514	1,194,134	51.
Chrysler	30,494,274	5,148,503	23.
E. I. DuPont			
de Nemours	46,853,695	6,982,160	17.
General Motors	115,575,460	12,588,929	12.
American Telephone and Telegraph	44,933,952	4,563,033	11.

#### Patriotism Pays the Bosses Well

Suck Phenomenal Profits Out of Working Class Toil

By DAVID COOLIDGE

Look at the figures. They tell a story that every worker can read and understand. Those figures say—in millions of dollars profit—that war and patriotism pay in cash if you are on the right side of the fence, if you live on the right side of the railroad track, if you are a member of the ruling class. In their semi-annual reports the owners of the factories, mills and banks say brazenly and clearly that they are on their way: on their way to repeat the grab and plunder of 1914-1918.

Look at those figures again. Look at the profits of U.S. Steel. Thirty-six millions in six months! Bloody Tom Girdler, of Republic Steel, did well by his stockholders too. They all did well; aircraft, oil, automobiles, electrical, rubber, chemicals, munitions, paper, glass and public utilities.

The fat-bellies got those huge profits out of the toil of the workers: white workers and Negro workers, male and female, "alien" and "citizen," protestant, Catholic and Jew, little children and old men and women. They all went through the mill and while they were grinding out these profits they all looked alike to the boss.

#### Who Made the Profits?

The bosses and their stooges in Congress, on the capitalist press, in the churches and in the schools will tell you that these profits are the reward for saving and thrift, intelligence and good management. They lie. These vast profits are the result of your labor. The workers created this wealth but they didn't get it. The workers got only a few crumbs, just enough to keep them strong enough to go on working and creating.

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#### Taking the Profits Out of War!



#### Twelve Million To Register on Slaughter List

"Concessions" Are Phoney From Start to Finish

Twelve million men will soon be compelled by Congressional action to register themselves for a place on the slaughter list.

Such is the "concession" made by the Republican and Democratic politicians in the Senate to popular resentment against military conscription—a "concession" worth exactly as much as a Presidential promise of Peace.

Instead of registering forty million males, the Senate now proposes to reduce that number to twelve million, in the hope that some fool will be deceived into believing that a "victory." More likely than not it was all part of the original plan as it

See editorial column on page 4 for comment on the men who inspired the conscription drive.

#### Local New York Opens Campaign To Put Shachtman on Ballot as Congress Anti-War Candidate

With only three months left before the November elections, local New York of the Workers Party, has announced its intention to place Max Shachtman, National Secretary, on the ballot as candidate for United States Congressman from the Bronx.

Shachtman, whom thousands of workers saw in action during last year's Councilmanic elections, declared today, preparatory to launching the campaign, that the single issue in this year's fight is the struggle against the war program of the U.S. Government.

Nathan Gould, organizer of New York local, announced that the full weight of the organization will be thrown into the preliminary campaign to get the signatures necessary for placing Shachtman on the ballot.

"The notable success achieved last year in securing a place on the ballot for Shachtman," declared Gould, "will be surpassed this year. The urgency of the fight against the war program makes it mandatory upon all members and friends of the Workers Party to rally to its standard bearer."

Special posters, stickers and leaflets in the thousands will be distributed during the campaign, Gould promised.

LABOR ACTION will be especially geared to the needs of the election campaign and will be distributed to wide sections of workers.

A city-wide membership meeting to be addressed by Shachtman and Gould will be held next week to officially launch the campaign.

#### Chicago Board of Health Hears About Rats

##### South Side Committee Presents Its Case on Housing Conditions

Special to Labor Action

CHICAGO—At the August 1 meeting of the Chicago Board of Health, representatives of the South Side Action Committee for Better Housing placed full responsibility for bad housing and vermin-infested areas on the Board.

The presence of representatives of the S.S.A.C. at this meeting was the result of an invitation from Herman N. Bundesen, President of the Board.

For weeks prior to this meeting the S.S.A.C. had been carrying on house-to-house investigations in an attempt to fully place responsibility for existing abominable conditions. These investigations resulted in the picketing of the Coleman Real Estate Company, largest agency in the restricted area. This picket line has continued for four weeks. Because the sanitary facilities of the houses and the alleys are their responsibility,

the Board of Health was informed of the results of the investigations.

In presenting the case for the S.S.A.C., Cornelius O'Kennard reminded the Board of the high death rate among Negroes due to tuberculosis, malnutrition, and other diseases. This made it impossible for the Health Board to shift responsibility by sending the Committee to the City Council.

At the conclusion of the report, one of the eminent doctors rose to declare that the picture that had been drawn of the housing and health conditions was much too dark. At this point Miss Ellis, one of the representatives of the S.S.A.C. asked in a loud voice, "Tell them about the rats."

O'Kennard then related the case of Carrie Bell, Negro baby, who died of rat-bite fever after her Mother had repeatedly reported to the Board of Health about the conditions in her alley which was a breeding place for vermin. He then charged the Board with criminal neglect and criminal liability.

The Board then voted "that landlords renting houses to Negro people would have to make them livable and that the Board was ready to have inspectors available to aid the South Side Action Committee in its work."

#### Your Signature Will Put Him on the Ballot



MAX SHACHTMAN

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#### THE WORLD AT WAR

#### Molotov Says Russia Assures Germany of Security in East

The "good-neighborly, friendly relations between the Soviet Union and Germany are not based on fortuitous considerations of a transient nature," declared Russian Premier Molotov in a speech to the Supreme Soviet on August 1, "but on fundamental state interests of both the U.S.S.R. and Germany."

In a brief review of the past months of the war and the position of the Soviet Union, Molotov endorsed the remarks of Hitler of June 19 that English speculations on conflicts between the two allies were baseless. He affirmed that the Stalin-Hitler pact of August 1939 "removed the possibility of friction in Soviet-German relations, when Soviet measures were carried out along our western frontier, and at the same time it has assured Germany a calm feeling of security in the East. The developments in Europe, far from reducing the strength of the Soviet-German Non-Aggression Pact, on the contrary emphasized the importance of its existence and further development."

#### New Threats

Already, Molotov continued, Russia has annexed, "all by peaceful means" (!) territories with a population exceeding 23,000,000 people and has shifted its western frontier to the Baltic coast, "of first rate importance for our country. At the same time we shall have ice-free ports in the Baltic, of which we stand so much in need."

The end of the war is not yet in sight, he stated, but "true to its policy of peace and neutrality, the Soviet Union is not taking part in the war."

This hypocritical "neutrality" is coupled with further threats against Finland, Iran and Turkey. As to Finland: "Naturally, if certain elements in the Finnish ruling class do not cease their persecution of public circles in Finland (that is, the recently organized Stalinist 'Left wing' in the Finnish Social Democratic Party) which are striving to strengthen good-neighborly relations with the U.S.S.R., then relations between the U.S.S.R. and Finland may suffer damage."

And the fate of the Baltic countries foreshadows what Stalin and Molotov plan for Finland—reactionary annexation.

On the pretext that the Baltic governments had formed a military alliance against Russia, the Soviet Government demanded, in the words of Molotov, "changes in the governments of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia, and dispatched additional Red

Army units to these countries." These states, following fraudulent, army-controlled "elections," are now incorporated into the Soviet Union.

Other highlights of Molotov's speech included:

**On Britain:** Soviet-British relations have undergone no "essential change" in recent months, as was to be expected in view of earlier "hostile acts" by Britain against Russia; although the appointment of Cripps as Ambassador "possibly" signifies a desire on Britain's part for improved relations with Russia.

(The British government has already replied to Molotov by holding in its ports Baltic ships destined for Russia.)

**On Italy:** relations improved recently. An exchange of views has revealed that there is a basis for "mutual understanding in the sphere of foreign policy," and prospects of extension of trade relations.

**On Japan:** "our relations have lately begun to assume a somewhat normal character." The program of the new Japanese government is "unclear."

**On China:** "as ever, good-neighborly and friendly, in line with the Soviet-Chinese Non-Aggression Pact."

**On the United States:** "I will not dwell on our relations with the United States of America, if only for the reason that there is nothing good that can be said about them." Molotov protested the U.S. embargo on

(Continued on page 4)

#### C.P. Machine Again Beaten In Food Union

NEW YORK CITY—The United Opposition has just won a decisive victory over the corrupt Stalinist machine in the Cafeteria Employees Union, Local 302. By almost a two-to-one margin, the Opposition elected its complete slate of candidates for delegates to the State Federation of Labor and State Culinary Alliance. The successful candidates were William Mesovich, ex-president of Local 302, Larry Phillips, of the Progressive Group, and Joe Garcia of the Spanish Workers Club.

The administration put up its most prominent officials, Kramberg and Merlin, traditionally delegates to similar conventions in the past. The small vote they received confirms more strongly than ever the fact that the membership is swinging solidly behind the progressive movement in the Local.

Also significant are the antics of officials like Charlie Birch, General Labor Chief. For years a prominent Stalinist fellow-traveler in the administration, he now loudly proclaims his neutrality. To further parade his independence before the members, he ran for delegate against both tickets, receiving a handful of votes. These actions on the part of Birch and other professional jobholders in the administration, are maneuvers preparatory to swinging over to the now victorious Opposition.

#### Scrap Iron Bosses Try 'Moving' Gag Against Strike in Vain

##### Pickets Have Company Backed Against the Wall

Special to Labor Action

NEWARK, N.J., August 5—Despite every union-busting trick borrowed from the Reichman-Hoffman Scrap Iron bosses from the National Association of Manufacturers, the 35 colored strikers are as militant and determined in their strike action today, after ten weeks, as they were on the first day.

Last week the company spread the rumor that it was going to move the plant by the first of September. However, it made one slip. It revealed the location of its allegedly new site. Union representatives immediately examined the site, and came to the conclusion that the company was either crazy, or just telling another whopper. The new site has no rail-

road siding, and without a railroad siding the plant might just as well shut down.

#### Must Settle

As it is, the company cannot ship by scow or truck because the longshoremen and the teamsters have solidized themselves with the strikers. The company is thus compelled to ship by rail. If it moves, and this is an enormous IF, the company will still have to confront union solidarity—and will have no expensive rail shipping to fall back on. Whatever it does, the company has its back against the wall. It must settle on the strikers' terms.

Crucible Steel's New Jersey plant (Continued on page 4)

It is quite possible that more concessions will be made—each of them worth exactly as much as the last one. The people of this country do not want to go to war; they do not want conscription. To deflect and confuse this opposition (the Senators call it "hysteria"), Congress will here and there in the bill add a meaningless modifying clause.

We repeat what we have so often said! Wall Street has given its Democratic and Republican lackeys the go-ahead signal towards war. Wars require armies. Armies require manpower. The boss politicians will not let anything stand in the way of their masters' interests. Whatever modifications are (Continued on page 3)

## With the Labor Unions— On the Picket Line

By David Coolidge

### LABOR MUST FIGHT FOR MORE WAGES

For the first half of 1940 the United States Steel Corporation has announced a net profit of \$36,315,443. For the first half of 1939 the net profit was \$1,970,312. This means that Big Steel's profits increased \$34,344,691 over the first six months of 1939. Think of it; a jump from a little under two million to more than thirty-six million! These are certainly war times and war time profits for America's 60 Families are here.

It is interesting that the big papers and the financial commentators did not make much fuss about the success of Morgan and Stettinius in making millions for themselves and their friends in the steel industry. It isn't good to let the steel workers know that "their" company "earned" more than thirty-six million dollars in six months this year. Furthermore the company declared a \$1.00 dividend on the common stock. This means that a bunch of big shots grabbed all the way from \$5,000 to \$75,000 and over just sitting around waiting for the steel workers to produce the necessary wealth and income for the corporation. These huge profits were sweated out of the men who labor in the ore mines and the mills of the steel company.

These profits too, are the income from capitalist war. Hundreds of thousands of men, women and children were murdered on and around

the battlefields of Europe in order that those millions might go into the pockets of the rich. They are blood profits.

The workers in Big Steel have received no increase in wages. They produced the wealth but they didn't get it. They toiled like hell to make people rich who don't work. They risk their lives daily in the ore mines; they drudge away before the furnaces and are expected to be thankful for any crumbs the bosses see fit to throw their way.

The steel workers can get at least some of this thirty-six million which the bosses have just taken from them. They can demand an increase in wages. The CIO can organize every steel worker in the country and demand higher wages. If this isn't granted the workers can strike.

The workers should not be scared by any boloney about holding up the defense program. All they need emphasize and talk about is the profits the bosses are raking in. If any big shot fakes begins foaming at the mouth about patriotism the workers can talk long and loud about the patriotism of the manufacturers and the bankers: how they are refusing to sign contracts until the government assures them that patriotism will be rewarded in the form of big profits.

### LETTING "NATURE TAKE ITS COURSE"

Roger Babson, who heads some sort of business statistical organization and who also has a service for supplying churches with mottoes and beautiful sayings for their outside announcement boards, has found a cure for unemployment. The President should have "let nature take its course." Also the unemployed should be helped temporarily but "solution of the unemployment problem lay with the jobless themselves" and "if they can't climb out after being helped, they should fall—that is nature's method of showing them they are wrong."

The unemployed should not get too heated over the assassinies of a nit-wit like Babson. There are plenty of people who hold the same views; some with more sense than Babson. The Chicago Tribune ran an editorial expressing the same viewpoint as long ago as 1933. Also

we have the opinion that the New Deal, which Babson dislikes, had just a bit of the let nature takes its course philosophy. There are still around ten million unemployed and many of them are starving.

When Babson says that the unemployed must solve their own problems, we are at least in partial agreement. All workers have to solve their own problem with such help as they can round up. In the days of the militancy of the unemployed organizations, they were on their way. But after the merger of the three national unemployed organizations under Lasser and the Stalinists things went from bad to worse. Lasser was "trying to make capitalism work" and the Stalinists were busy with the Peoples Front, the Star Spangled Banner and Thomas Jefferson. Of course, none of this helped feed, clothe and house the unemployed.

### A REVIVAL OF THE "OLD TIMES"

The papers report that 400 unemployed workers took over the California State Relief Administration offices and held the staff prisoners for more than five hours last week. This sounds like old times. We can remember instances of this kind happening daily and weekly in the earlier days of the depression. When unemployed workers seized a relief station and held it for 59 days, when they stormed the relief warehouses

and carried away food and clothing, when thousands of the unemployed planted themselves on the lawn of the state capitol and forced the governor to see their representatives.

This was the Golden Age of the unemployed movement and it was the battles of those days that makes it possible for the unemployed to get even the meagre relief they receive today.

### THIS AND THAT IN LABOR'S STRUGGLE

The CIO Oil Workers International announces a drive to organize the oil workers in Texas in the region between the Rio Grande and the Mississippi. The drive will center around the Humble Oil Refinery.

The North Georgia Mfg. Co., makers of pants and overalls has been ordered to pay \$2,067 in back wages to several employees, abide by the Fair Labor Standards Act and pay the thirty cents hourly minimum wage. The company was violating the Act by the "kick-back" and by claiming that although the employees remained at the plant longer than the maximum hours, they "were free to utilize such time as they saw fit."

The officers of the Fitzgerald Georgia Cotton mills have been acquitted of charges that they conspired to violate the Wagner Act. This despite the fact that the workers were intimidated, had their wages cut and kicked out of their jobs by the closing of the mill to defeat union organization.

The company had relief stopped and company thugs beat a Congressional minister who took the side of the workers. We suppose the point is that the company did not "conspire" to do any of these things, they

just went ahead and did them. The law is a wonderful thing.

The electrical workers local at the Crosley Corporation, in Cincinnati, makers of radios and refrigerators, has discovered a very questionable method of keeping the men folks in work. They are not going to let married women work in the shops. There is a clause in the new agreement stipulating that married women shall not be employed and should any of the female employees get married it is understood that she resign at once.

We can sympathize a little with the aims of these men workers but their fancied solution to unemployment is thoroughly reactionary. It is cut from the same piece of cloth as agreements to keep Negroes out of the union and to deny them employment. These workers do not mean it that way, but it smacks of Hitler's motto for women, "church, kitchen and children." If all the employed married women in the U.S. should quit their jobs and men should take them, their would be no appreciable change in family security and welfare, except that many families would experience an increase in misery and want. The only way for these workers to get relief is to get higher wages and shorter hours. Sending the women home won't help.

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Where You Do as You Please

## Labor Wants No Part Of the Draft

(Continued from page 1)

made, whatever concessions yielded, Congress means to get just such a conscript army as is necessary for the dirty business at hand. They'll try to make it look as attractive as possible, but when they finish they won't brook any criticism or objection. Already, they have written into their bill severe penalties for opposing the draft. Yes, in this "democratic" country, conceived in what was then the cause of liberty, you will forfeit, at least five years of your life if you dare speak against draft, if you refuse to cut another profit notch in the belt of Big Business with your life.

But the final word need not be said by Senators Burke or Wadsworth or Byrnes. They have behind them only the power of money. We, the workers, have behind us the power of sinew and toil. It is not yet too late, though tomorrow it will be. John L. Lewis has given organized labor a lead. Let us follow that lead with ACTION! Let us warn the 60 Families and their Congressional stooges: Desist, or you will feel the wrath of labor.

## Patriotism Pays - -

(Continued from page 1)

ating more wealth. The big shots took all the rest and called it profits.

What will the owners of the big corporations do with these tremendous profits? The Department of Labor announces that the cost of living for workers has gone up. Will these profits go for increased wages and shorter hours? No, not if the workers let the bosses get away with their present plans. The National Conference Industrial Board, employer research organization, is right now openly demanding a fifty hour work week. They say this will be "temporary" and that they have no desire to interfere with the gains labor has made. They want the fifty hour week they say, because this will increase production 25%. It isn't production as such they are interested in, but profits and dividends. A 25% increase in production may mean as much as 40% increase in profits the next six months over the past six months.

### Where They Go

What else will they do with these millions of dollars of profits. They will use it to pay spies, thugs and stool pigeons. They will spend part of it for barbed wire, guns and tear gas.

For million dollar election contributions to the Republicans and Democrats. They know that both Williekie and Roosevelt are their men.

An official of the Union Electric Company, subsidiary of the North American Company, has just been ordered to jail for five years in St. Louis for using the corporation's money for political corruption. The North American Company, giant utility holding company has just announced a \$21,000,000 profit for the year.

To pay for luxuriant quarters for their dogs on the new U.S. liner America. These dogs will have porcelain baths, grooming tables, clean blankets, medicine chest, and printed menu from which the dog's food may be selected. The dog's temperament, pulse and the condition of its eyes, nose, mouth and chest will be observed daily. Dog quarters are on the sun deck and have tiled floors.

They will use these profits for million dollar weddings. For castles on the Hudson, estates on Long Island, winter homes in Florida, summer homes at Newport and town houses in New York. For yachts, automobiles and gold-plated bath-tubs.

### They Fatten—We Starve

They will do all of these things with these war profits just as they did during and after the last war. They will seek to cover up and hide their waste and luxury by claiming

## A Summary of the Auto Convention

Sees Personal Triumph for Lewis Over Hillman in Attitude of Delegates

By B. J. WIDICK

ST. LOUIS, Mo.—The CIO auto union completed its convention this week, having endorsed Roosevelt for a third term, stated its opposition to military conscription, and elected into office supporters of the Lewis bloc within the union.

Highlights of the convention were the speech of John L. Lewis and the bitter debate on the resolution, passed by a huge majority, denouncing "dictatorships" and "aggressors" including the Soviet Union, Germany, Italy and Japan.

Lewis came before the auto workers to obtain support for his stand against compulsory military training, and to summon this union to maintain its rights in face of the anti-labor drive.

"What is this country coming to when they propose to put you in jail for five years and fine you \$10,000 for speaking against compulsory training?"

"The CIO is against it," he thundered, while the delegates responded with a tremendous cheer and prolonged ovation. It was the clearest cut anti-war feeling shown during the whole week.

Warning the auto workers that a "man on horseback with dreams of imperialist conquest" would be the inevitable outcome of conscription, Lewis strongly emphasized that "war is always the answer to the prayer of defeated politicians."

"Don't be guided into a war hysteria merely because politicians are incapable of solving the problems."

### The Trouble with America

"There are 19,000,000 families in America living on less than \$69 a month. That's what's the matter with America.

"What are the major political party

platforms on this? The platforms are silent. Some day the people are going to lose confidence in the major parties to a degree that they will form their own party." Lewis declared, again to an enthusiastic ovation. He left the question of building a labor party to the future, however.

For the first time in years, Lewis spoke with a rounded out conception of the problems facing Organized Labor. On unemployment, for example, he analyzed the "war boom" and pointed out how few people would be re-employed, while corporations got richer on "patriotic profits."

"When the European war is ended, the Japanese-Chinese war is ended and any kind of peace established, there will be a sharp reduction in business, terrible unemployment and the whole internal economy thrown into reverse."

Speaking of the Democratic Party platform on unemployment, Lewis pointed out that "it took three years to get a major political party to place into their platform that they will call a national conference to discuss unemployment."

"If it takes place in the next three years," he added sarcastically, "labor may be told that unemployment is not so pressing, for it is making guns."

### Hits Roosevelt

Lewis took several indirect cracks at Roosevelt notably with reference

to the latter's role in the General Motors strike where Roosevelt privately proposed to Lewis that he get the men back to work and negotiate. He also mentioned Roosevelt's failure to enforce the Walsh-Healy Act, and the threats of former Governor Frank Murphy of Michigan against the sit-down strikers, made with Roosevelt's express approval, during the GM shutdown.

Failure of Lewis to mention Roosevelt's third term drive, which he was reported ready to support, was taken to mean that Lewis apparently expects to stand aloof this fall, although letting the CIO unions endorse Roosevelt.

His speech was more "radical" than any of his previous utterances against the Republican or Democratic parties, and was much more militant than many of the delegates. However, his stand against conscription, while progressive in itself, was largely negated by his bow to the needs of "national defense."

Taking a position for real and increased voluntary recruitment, Lewis made himself party to the lie that the workers have anything to gain from joining the bosses' army, and consequently from the bosses' war.

The convention was a personal triumph for Lewis over Sidney Hillman, Roosevelt's hatchetman within the CIO, because the enthusiastic 40 minute ovation Lewis received when entering the convention was in marked contrast to the routine greeting extended to Hillman, a day later. Adoption of the Lewis point of view

on conscription was a bitter pill for Hillman to swallow. Also, the insistence by the delegates on union rights and no chiseling was opposite to Hillman's real policy of hogtying the unions for war purposes.

### Fight Over Russia

Fireworks exploded over the anti-Soviet Union resolution which was introduced by the Hillman-Walter Reuther forces in a clever move to isolate the Stalinists and also slap at Lewis for his support of the Stalinists.

The resolutions committee was split on the question five to four. A Minority report was given by C. G. Edelen, president of the Plymouth Local who accused the majority report of factionalism.

When Stalinists denounced the resolution they were heckled with cries of "How about Finland!" Boos galore greeted minority speakers as a frenzy of patriotic spirit was whipped up by Hillman boys.

Part of the bitterness against the Soviet Union, however, was not merely patriotic twaddle. One delegate for example, protested the persecution of minority working-class groups. But this kind of feeling against Stalin's regime, although shared by some delegates, was obscured in the discussion by the patriotic wave. Also, a good deal of the anti-Soviet Union feeling was directed against the Stalinists for their "rule or ruin" policy in the auto union.

John Anderson, president of Tool and Die Local 155, Detroit, and one-time Communist Party candidate for governor of Michigan, was chief spokesman for the minority report which asked that the USSR be excluded from denunciation as an aggressor. When he declared that the record of the Soviet Union in the past 20 years was something to be proud of, a loud roar of boos interrupted him.

One reactionary shouted, "If anyone doesn't like this country and thinks Russia is better, there are boats leaving for Russia," while other delegates put on demonstrations for and against that attitude.

### Frankenstein Plays Safe

Richard Frankenstein, Lewis's henchman, in whose bloc the Stalinists are functioning, declared, "I have been blasted as a Communist in the past and I want to support the resolution (majority report) to make my position clear."

"The rank and file consider Russia an aggressor nation, and while I have not made a study of it, I believe it is an aggressor," he added, warning that this did not mean he was for a purge in the union. "I'll oppose it even if I'm called a Communist again."

George Adde, secretary-treasurer of the union, said, "I would not tolerate a resolution for a purge because it might develop into a faction fight, but if this is an attack on Russia as a dictator nation I too support the committee." R. J. Thomas, union president, took a similar stand. When the question of purging the CPers from the union came before the convention, a reactionary motion to oust the CPers was withdrawn, and a slightly modified one accepted.

Out of the heated dispute certain things stood out clearly: (1) while the Stalinists are on the run, they still have a strong basis in the union, and much of the sentiment against them was of a patriotic rather than progressive nature, (2) many delegates leaned towards a Third Camp idea but had neither the knowledge nor the spokesman to speak for them, (3) the Roosevelt-Hillman-Reuther machine has a clever program to take over the union via the road of patriotism, (4) Lewis will pay a heavy penalty in his future struggles against Roosevelt because of his deal with the Stalinists in the past, (5) the political coincidence of the Lewis and the CP line today does not mean that Lewis is giving them a free hand as before in auto. Rather, Thomas and Adde are his main hope in the UAW leadership.

The splendid idea of fighting for a 30 hour week with 40 hours' pay was emasculated by the convention which adopted a resolution making that an "ultimate goal" and squashing a delegate who urged a general strike in auto to obtain that demand immediately.

Riding on the anti-Stalinist wave, the Reuther clique went into action to elect its henchmen as international executive board members.

Aim of the Reuther clique was to replace Arthur Case, Flint; Reuben Peters, Bay City; William Cody, Milwaukee, and Leroy Roberts of Indianapolis, Ind. with Carl Swanson of Flint; Linwood Smith, Saginaw; Lawrence Carlstrom, Racine; and Charles Shrock of Fort Wayne, Ind. Among other supporters of this slate was the Catholic Trade Unionists Association.

Emil Mazey, Briggs Local president, whose record has been fairly progressive but who is now close to the Reuther forces, is opposing Leo Lamotte of Plymouth Local, an incumbent.

The New York regional post was open, Allen Hayward, CIO national director, having held it. The Toledo post was a contest, between Robert Travis, CP fellow traveler, and Joe Ditzel, a Reuther man.

In the voting, Frankenstein, L. H. Michener of Los Angeles, Richard T. Leonard of Detroit and George Burt of Windsor were re-elected.

## Hillman Says One Thing— But the Facts Say Another

Special to Labor Action

ST. LOUIS, Mo.—Two entirely different versions of the fate of labor's rights and the enforcement of existing labor legislation were given before the auto workers convention here by prominent CIO leaders.

John L. Lewis, CIO chieftain, emphasized that many steel and aircraft companies were dodging the provisions of the Walsh-Healy law which established minimum wages and hours for factories working on government contracts.

Sidney Hillman, CIO vice-president, and member of Roosevelt's National Defense Commission, speaking the following day, said there were absolutely no violations of existing laws.

The third day, Phillip Murray, SWOC chairman and CIO vice-president, without making any direct reference to Hillman's speech or calling him a liar, presented the sensational story of the Bethlehem Steel Corp.

This corporation headed by Eugene Grace has \$500,000,000 worth of unfilled orders, about 70% of which are from the federal government. It made a profit of \$10,000,000 in the last three months alone.

It refuses to pay even the low minimum wages ordered by Walsh-Healy Act. The federal government, despite frequent urging by the CIO, has done nothing against the company. Except to give it more orders. Since June, for example, \$200,000,000 worth of orders were placed there by the federal government.

The plant is working 99% capacity now, Murray said. And then he told of the brazen demand of Grace, on behalf of the stock-holders, to the federal government demanding it furnish the money for plant expansion, and then guarantee the company profit on the money loaned by the government.

Or else allow the company to make so much more profit that the new plant expenditure can come out of it without bothering current profit.

### An Old Game

"During the World War, this company with Grace as chairman stole money from the government," Murray pointed out, revealing a court decision against the company rendered two years ago in Chicago after being tied up for 20 years in courts.

"Grace admitted he was a robber, but proudly proclaimed he was no thief," Murray added.

Today, Bethlehem Steel is repeating the same dirty tactics. It is making patriotism very profitable for the rich people.

Murray was so incensed in reciting this story that he even suggested a little conscription on the top in place of the conscription of millions of young people.

## Bell System Signs with Independent Union

The New York Telephone Company, Bell System, has signed its first agreement with an organization of its workers. The company calls it a collective bargaining agreement and the employees group is known as the United Telephone Organizations, affiliated with the National Federation of Telephone Workers. Both organizations are independent unions.

The agreement recognizes the United Telephone Organizations as the sole bargaining agency of the

company's 10,000 installation, maintenance and repair employees. The contract runs for one year. Wages will remain at present level during the life of the agreement. The company agreed to raise the wages of lower paid workers outside New York City. The agreement includes seniority rights, thirty days notice of lay-offs with termination allowances based on length of service ranging from one to three week's pay, and vacations with pay of from one to three weeks.

### Two Year Dispute

The agreement closed a two year dispute between the independent union and the company over collective bargaining and a three cornered dispute between the company, the independent union and Local 3 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. The telephone workers appealed to the Labor Board and also threatened to call a strike if the company gave certain work to the AFL electrical workers union. The company has agreed to resist

We can be more blunt. Labor would be a sucker to let itself be conscripted to die while Bethlehem Steel and other Big Industries swell with profits.

And we don't mind calling Hillman by his right name either: a damned liar and sell-out artist in labor's ranks. You can't avoid that conclusion from Murray's facts.

## Ohio Police Protect Scabs

CINCINNATI, Ohio—Two small armies of police are busily engaged in protecting scabs here. The largest group is guarding the Vernon Manor Hotel, whose employees have been on strike for over eight months. Six cops are on duty there all the time, and when more than two pickets appear in front of the hotel, it is a signal for five additional squads to rush from their "barracks" to give battle to the pickets.

Another troop is guarding a run-away coat-maker in the Pugh Building, who signed a contract in New York which was effective until June, but who staged a cross-country flight last March, finally landing in Cincinnati. The bosses of this scab outfit say they like the "air" better here. Usually there are two cops per picket, and to date they have been unsuccessful in their attempts to limit picketing.

The International Ladies Garment Workers' Union which is conducting the strike is demanding that the boss live up to the New York contract, plus additional increases for all production workers.

### These Stands Sell

#### Labor Action

#### LOWER MANHATTAN:

14th Street—6th Ave. N.E. & S.E.; University Pl. S.E.; Broadway S.W.; 4th Ave. S.W., N.E., S.E. 1 & 2. 3rd Ave. N.W.; Opposite Jefferson Theater; 2nd Ave. N.W. 12th Street & 2nd Ave. S.E. Biderman's—184 2nd Ave. Modern Book Shop, 27 University Place.

8th St. & 6th Ave. N.E. 7th Ave. & Christopher St., S.W. 75 Greenwich Ave. near 11th St. 131 W. 33rd St. Room 704. 38th St. & 7th Ave. N.W. 42nd Street—6th Ave. S.W., S.E.; opposite Sterns; 5th Ave. S.W. 2nd Stand.

23rd Street—Broadway S.E.; 4th Ave. S.W. Rand Book Store, 7 E. 15th St. Maisel's Book Store—424 Grand St. 1st St. & 1st Ave. K & K Store, Monroe and Market St. S.W. Bowery & Delancey St. S.E.

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attempts on the part of any labor organization, through jurisdictional claims to "encroach" upon work performed by the company's employees. Where there is no jurisdictional dispute the company agrees it would not let out by contract "work that is not customarily so dealt with, in such a way as to cause lay-offs or part-timing of members of the United Telephone Organizations."

The independent union and the company were each represented by a battery of lawyers and general officers.

## Of Special Interest to Women

By SUSAN GREEN

Mussolini and Hitler did everything they could to turn the unfortunate women of Italy and Germany into machines for producing the human victims of their war policies. The rulers of this country are building a war machine second to none. A warning that we can expect a similar campaign for babies here was given by Professor Carl C. Zimmerman, Harvard sociologist, at a conference on "Tomorrow's Children".

He stated that of the 30 million American families only 3 million have more than four children, about 7 million have three or four, and 20 million have two or less. According to the Professor, this is very bad for "American ideals". Each woman "must bear between three and four children on the average to sustain a population, presupposing greater losses some years than in normal times". This is indeed a delicate way of referring to the mass murder inflicted by war.

On the question of "American ideals" he was more outspoken. He said "NO MATTER WHAT WE THINK WE ARE, THE FACT IS THAT WE HAVE ADOPTED AN IMPERIALISTIC WORLD MOOD." Except for the "we", the Professor agrees with what LABOR ACTION has been hammering home for weeks, namely, that today "American ideals" equal bosses' profits. He concludes that "We must either keep up our population and keep it in shape to support the policy, or give up the imperialism."

The bosses and their politicians of both parties are not willing to give up imperialism. That is as clear as the nose on a face. Therefore, for America's women, Professor Zimmerman's speech assumes the importance of hand-writing on the wall.

As the opposition to compulsory military training becomes more pronounced, the propaganda of those supporting it becomes more unscrupulous. The following from the pen of the First Lady of the land is an example.

"We rarely hear any objection now to the fact that we are compelled to pay taxes for the support of the public school systems, and yet that is a good example of the kind of a compulsion all of us enjoy without protesting every day. In view of the necessity for mobilizing our country why should we not compel ourselves to do a little more?"

Mrs. Roosevelt puts education and war on the same basis. No working woman agrees with that.

Education is for life—boss war is for useless death.

In democratic England, where everyone is supposed to be making sacrifices for the war, a committee of the Labor Party reports that there is considerable resentment among the poor. They assert that poorer households only are called on to make real sacrifices in war.

## Sparks in the News

The Anglo-French Alliance is as complete an alliance as one can imagine.

—Pernix, in *July Foreign Affairs*.

Some of these bourgeois commentators are as complete asses as one can imagine.

Recent events have certainly demonstrated that the moldered remnants of morality have been pushed aside and higher ideals substituted. For example, our German nation surely understands the viewpoint of young women who transcend bourgeois morality to the end of replenishing the German lives lost in this war.

—Rudolf Hess, in *Neues Wiener Tageblatt*.

WANTED, young men, several, blond Aryan types preferred, pay nominal but work pleasant.

We know too that vast armaments are rising on every side and that the work of creating them employs men and women by the millions. . . . Such employment is false; . . . it builds no permanent structures and creates no consumers' goods for the maintenance of a lasting prosperity. We know that nations guilty of these follies inevitably face the day when either their weapons of destruction must be used against their neighbors, or when an unsound economy, like a house of cards, will fall apart.

—Franklin Delano Roosevelt, December 1, 1936 quoted in *Uncensored*.

"Either . . . or . . ." Which, Mr. President?

. . . Whether from foresight or thanks to differences in the current international, about nine-tenths of the peace organizations have managed to sidestep total non-belligerence and cater to one prejudice or another. Not that they have openly taken sides, but just slipping a casual 'atrocious' here and an 'unspeakable' there has done the trick. That should spell survival for the peace organizations right on through the present witch hunt.

—Living Age, August.

Most interesting of the examples the author gives is

## Prosperity Around the Corner?

By FRANK DEMBY

As usual, the important news is being buried by the capitalist press in the corners of their financial pages. While you and the average worker may be worrying about how to feed your families decently, how you are going to pay the rent and send the family on a much-needed vacation at the same time, while 9,000,000 (latest official figure) unemployed are still gazing wistfully at "No Help Wanted" signs; and, incidentally, while the Government is spending billions and billions of dollars on "Defense" and occasionally worrying about where the money is to come from, the big corporations of the country are raking in profits at a terrific rate—reminiscent of the boom days of 1929.

What? You didn't receive your quarterly dividend check? The mailman must have mistakenly given it to your neighbor. Better check up on him tomorrow.

Just in case you belong to the 90% of the population who don't own stocks and clip coupons for a living and the almost equally large proportion of the population who have never been educated to the importance of reading the financial pages, I've drawn up a few figures and comments for you to mull over in your mind after a good, heavy dinner (see box on page 1).

That the corporations listed are by no means exceptions is shown by the fact that the first 100 companies reporting earnings for the first half of 1940, according to a compilation made by THE NEW YORK TIMES, had an aggregate net income of \$113,658,828—or a net gain of 60.5% over the first half of 1939. An Associated Press compilation of the first 150 corporations to report for the second quarter of 1940 shows an aggregate net income of \$168,902,000—or a net gain of 39% over the second quarter of 1939. Excluding A.T. & T., the net gain becomes 52%. And this, mind you, excludes such great corporations as General Motors, which, during the previous ten (depression) years made over \$1,000,000,000 net profit.

While, to quote THE NEW YORK TIMES' comment, "The tone of corporation executives' letters to their stockholders, which accompanied the earnings statements, was predominantly optimistic," union demands for increased wages have almost uniformly been met with a categorical "No!" At the same time, activity on the New York Stock Exchange during the month of July declined to the lowest figure in more than two decades!

What does it all mean? First, note that the more corporations that are included, the smaller becomes the

time food rationing. Well-to-do families, able to afford more expensive food, "can get as much as they can pay for". Real restrictions are placed only on the working class housewife.

Who says only the working women are making sacrifices?

Doesn't the queen make daily tours of the hospitals to smile at the wounded?

Don't the duchesses sell their trinkets for the war chest?

Aren't the wives of munition manufacturers rolling bandages while they sip their tea and chat?

You have heard it said scores of times that in this country labor is not a commodity or article of commerce. In other words, we, the workers, are supposed to be human beings. But this idealism about the worker dwells somewhere up in the stratosphere above these United States. Down here on earth, there is no smell of it. Witness the case of 1,000 hostesses who until a week ago worked in the taverns of Newark.

Suddenly they are without jobs, due to an ordinance passed by the Newark City Commission which prohibits women employed in taverns from accepting beverages or food paid for by customers. This makes it unprofitable for tavern-owners to employ hostesses. So they are fired.

I can think of much more suitable work for women to do than to be hostesses in taverns. But the point is that these hostesses are not potatoes or shoelaces or bathtubs. They have to eat to live.

When the Newark City Commission took away their present jobs—for moral reasons presumably—why were they not moral enough to provide these women with other means of livelihood?

From Boston, from Los Angeles and from cities in the 3,000-mile span, come reports of a great increase in applications for marriage licenses. The city registrar of Boston canceled his vacation because of the rush, surpassing even that of 1917. In Los Angeles "the increase has been becoming more noticeable with each day."

The bridegrooms are between 21 and 30, the age group from which conscripts for the Army will first be taken.

We can imagine what happens in the minds of these young people. Many of them were not planning to and are not prepared to marry. But the death-mask of war haunts them. They hope marriage will afford them a little protection. Many of them will have families, prematurely, without the means or the wish for children.

In this way also the capitalist war-makers are shaping the destinies of men, women and children. Socialists do not submit to this tyranny. WE ARE FIGHTING THAT PEOPLE MAY BE ABLE TO CONTROL THEIR OWN LIVES.

the survival of Dorothy Thompson, not particularly notorious recently for her peace efforts, on the National Advisory Council of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom—one of the mainstays of the Thomasite front, Keep America Out of War Committee.

Are we so degenerate, so lacking in trust in our leaders and in our ultimate destiny, as to doubt that the great institution of the British Empire is divinely inspired to be the instrument of our Maker's purpose here on earth?

—Oxford Mail.

Yes.

I would protest your implications that I and the Socialists are opposed to an adequate plan of national defense. Nothing is further from the truth. But we are opposed to a chaotic, planless spending of billions, undecided what we will defend or how.

—Norman Thomas, *Chicago Daily News*, June 26.

"I" and "the Socialists" and the Republicans and the New Dealers and the Tory Democrats—all are for an "adequate" national "defense." Socialists, real socialists, are not for building the "defense," "adequate" or otherwise, of any capitalist country.

Great numbers of people in England regard Herr Hitler as an ogre, but I would like to tell them how I have found him. He exudes good fellowship. He is simple, unaffected and obviously sincere. He is supremely intelligent. If you ask Herr Hitler a question he makes an instant reply full of information and good sense. There is no man living whose promise given in regard to something of real moment I would sooner take.

—Lord Rothermere, *Daily Mail*, May 1938.

We certainly credit Hitler with honesty and sincerity. We believe in his purpose stated over and over again, to seek an accommodation with us and we accept to the full the implications of the Munich document.

—Lord Beaverbrook, *Daily Express*, October 31, 1938

These unswerving democrats.

increase in the rate of profit. In simple English, this means that every year fewer and fewer of the great corporations are making more and more of the profits.

The Story of Steel

If further proof of this fundamental fact is needed, let us look more closely at the statement of U.S. Steel. One might think that with an increase of 1,743 per cent in profits there might be, if not a corresponding increase in wages, then, at least a substantial increase in wages. For the first half of 1940, U.S. Steel employed 242,144 workers with a total payroll of \$199,871,911. For the corresponding period of 1939, the figures were 208,133 workers with a total payroll of \$163,461,751. What are the workers bellyaching about, anyway, Mr. Stettinius and his successor, Mr. Olds, undoubtedly want to know? Didn't we pay out over \$36,000,000 more in wages this year?

Aside from the fact that these figures are for employees, which includes high-salaried executives, so that it is impossible to figure out the real average wage per worker, THESE FIGURES REVEAL AN INCREASE OF ONLY \$40 PER EMPLOYEE. That is to say, by hiring a few thousand more workers, paying them an average of less than \$7 per month more than they got in

## There Some Are Millions of Destitute "Oakies" In This Land of Riches

Contrary to the notion that all the exploited migrant workers are confined to California, hearings held in New York City last week revealed that the problem exists in many other states.

It is estimated that four million destitute people continuously scour the country in search of work. John H. Tolan, Chairman of the Congressional committee investigating the question of migrant workers, said: "Some of them are living in ditches and begging their bread, and one third of them are children."

Judging by the past history of Congressional investigating committees, it is safe to say that the problems of these miserable workers will be solved only when the organized and unorganized workers of the country tackle it. There is one service however, that this committee is doing—it brings the facts to light.

### Robbed Right and Left

The charge that migratory workers were being brought to New Jersey like cattle, came from Arthur J. Edwards, a social worker, of Montclair, New Jersey. He said that Negro workers are brought up from states as far south as Florida in labor contractors' trucks in circumstances that are "hardly believable". The trucks are jammed to capacity and they never stop except for meals.

The contract system robs these workers right and left. The amount paid by the contractors for picking and grading 250 bags of potatoes (100 lbs. to the bag) is \$8.25, but they receive perhaps as much as \$20 from the grower, making a profit of \$11.25. Although the grower pays the contractor \$2 for each laborer's transportation, the contractor extracts \$3.50 more from each worker for the same miserable transportation. He charges the workers for everything conceivable. Most of the families that come up from the South are as much as \$25 to \$50 in debt to him before they earn a dime.

James C. Ewart, representing the New Jersey Potato Growers Association, told the committee that a contractor arranges each summer to bring him a truckload of Southern labor, and that everything is nice and rosy. "We hold religious services for the men," he said. When asked if he ever heard of dissatisfaction among the migrant workers, he unblushingly replied, "Never".

A different story was told by Joe Lappolla, father of eight children. He quit Philadelphia last summer and went potato-picking in New Jersey. He took three members of his family with him. They worked for four months. They earned \$200. The average for each was \$3 weekly. The committee asked him about housing conditions on the farms. "You call it house, I call it shack," Lappolla retorted.

### The "Tramps" of Today Are . . .

Stranded populations of miners and garment workers in towns in which mines have shut down or factories have moved away joined the army of migrants. Mrs. Naomi Hane came from Shamokin Dam, Pennsylvania, to testify. She is married, has a three-year-old child. Last November the shirt factory she and her husband worked in suddenly closed down and fled South to exploit a cheaper labor market, as many firms are doing. The Hanes had no place to go. That is true of the other 700 employees of the shut-down shirt factory.

Many miners from the deserted mines of Pennsylvania also migrate to the potato farms and cranberry bogs of New Jersey for work. They come with their wives and children. The exploitation being so ruthless, the labor of the whole family is required to get anything at all by way of wages.

"The hobo of yesterday is gone," said New York State Representative Caroline O'Day, before the investigating committee "and the tramps of today are fathers, mothers and children traveling together and seeking almost any sort of work."

Mrs. O'Day's testimony was in effect a treatise on the rate of "progress" under the profit system. "We have worked for years to keep children out of sweatshops," she complained. "Agricultural labor, of the type we have been discussing, is sweatshop labor."

About the children on the southern New Jersey truck farms, she said: "Being non-residents of the State they are not entitled to go to school in New Jersey, and 90% of the twelve and thirteen-year-olds have not reached the normal grade for their age. As a matter of fact, the schooling of the children of agricultural migrant workers is noticeably lower than that of their parents."

### White Collar—and Laborer

White collar workers hit by the depression and never able to get back on their feet, are also in the ranks of the plodding migrants. One of these, J. Kennedy, Negro commercial photographer, former school teacher and newspaper man, stated he gets odd jobs in commercial photography now and then from the Sixth Avenue employment agencies, but they collect up to 10 percent of his week's pay before he begins the job. Invariably he is fired after working one day. And this is no coincidence.

Robert Travis, before the depression a tobacco salesman topping \$5,000 annually, has scrubbed floors, cleaned windows, and finally landed on WPA. He was dropped from WPA under the eighteen-month rule. He handed his exalted station in life on to his son, however. His 18-year-old boy was recently put on WPA.

Mr. Edwards, social worker, recommended that the Federal government set up a camp at

Port Norris, New Jersey, where 1,000 Negroes are engaged in oyster fishing under "very bad" housing conditions. He said the Negroes live in the worst imaginable shacks to be found anywhere in the country, built loosely on stilts over the water, where only disease flourishes. Mr. Edwards explained: "There is fear that if a Federal government camp were available, the migrants might not want to go home when the season was over."

After this explanation, it was hard to believe the New Jersey State Secretary of Agriculture when he said that most of the migrant workers have homes of their own to which they return in the fall.

Typifying New Jersey large-scale farming is the 10,000-acre highly mechanized Seabrook Farms, near Bridgeton, at which 30,000,000 to 35,000,000 pounds of frozen vegetables are put up annually. Mr. Seabrook told the committee that in addition to packing his own produce he had contracts to take vegetables from 600 farmers in the area. In peak season 2,500 are employed in the cannery and refrigeration and packing unit. Peak labor in the field goes up to 1,500.

### Race Hatred Helps—The Farmers

James Hill, a small-scale potato farmer from Mercer County, doesn't do so well. With potatoes selling at 85 cents a 100 lb. sack, "a man can't make a living". He said he hires Negro labor to help him when he can find it, and farms alone when he cannot. White laborers will not work for him at the wages he can afford to pay. Since white laborers earn as low as \$3 a week, it is anybody's guess what the Negro worker is paid.

Harold A. Lett, a Negro, secretary of the New Jersey Urban League, testified that "un-thinking employers"—a rather mild name for the profit-thirsty boss-farmers—were contributing to a growing problem of racial antipathies. He said they bring in large numbers of Negro workers and, contrary to law, release them on the community when there is no more work for them.

### "I Didn't Eat"

"How did you eat?" asked the chairman of the committee of the 18-year-old girl who appeared at the hearing. She had hitch-hiked across the country and back again looking for work. With another girl she started last fall from her home in Maine. She left because she "would have starved to death." Her mother is dead, her father jobless, and she said there was no system of public relief in the community of 100 people.

"I didn't eat much," replied the girl. Her grandfather was a United States general in the Spanish-American war. There is a monument to him in one of the cities she passed through.

## European Masses Feel Lash of Famine

By ALAN SELKIRK

Famine and plague, inevitable aftermath of imperialism war, are rapidly descending upon the peoples of Europe.

Sweeping with impartial fury across the continent, in defiance of national frontiers and battle lines, the famine has already accounted for hundreds of thousands dead in Poland, Belgium, Holland and France. At the same time Germany, Italy and England are beginning to feel the pinch of food shortages.

### SITUATION BECOMING MORE SERIOUS

Reports reaching the United States tell of ten million refugees from war torn France, Belgium and the Netherlands who are without food, clothing and medical care.

## Molotov—

(Continued from page 1)

Lithuanian, Latvian and Estonian gold in this country "which our State Bank recently purchased (I) from the banks" of these countries. Little concerned with the displeasure of "certain people" in the United States with the Russian annexation of the Baltic states. Imperialist appetites are growing in the U.S. concealed behind concern for the interests of the Western Hemisphere.

Molotov's speech indicated that, despite antagonisms between the reactionary expansionist interests of Russia, and Germany and Italy, about which he was completely silent, the Soviet Union in the next period will continue its foreign policy in accordance with the Stalin-Hitler pact.

### 1939, PRODUCTION WAS STEPPED UP OVER 94% OF CAPACITY AND PROFITS ROSE SKY-HIGH.

The story of U.S. Steel is symbolic and representative of what is happening in American industry today, and also what ails this country today. During the last decade, American industry has gone through such a tremendous process of rationalization, introducing the most up-to-date labor-saving devices that very small increases in the laboring force and in wages result in tremendous increases in production and absolutely phenomenal increases in profits. Millions of workers are now permanently useless to the industrial process under capitalism. The recovery in profits is not only the story of the remarkable technical skill and efficiency of American industry but equally the story of millions of unemployed and even more millions trying to eke out a living on starvation wages. In other words, PROFITS ARE LITERALLY BEING

COINED OUT OF WORKERS' SWEAT AND BLOOD.

The recovery in profits is due to many factors, but the factor which dominates at the present time is the war. It is significant that the big profits are being shown by the heavy industries and the railroads. The U.S., following the example of Europe, has entered upon an armaments economy. What this means, I shall try to show in detail in subsequent articles. For the present, let me conclude by pointing out that the abnormally low volume of sales on the Stock Exchange in the face of these unusually high profits merely reveals the fact that the "prosperity" in this country is based on the war and the continuation of the war, and during July Wall Street was unable to make up its mind whether the war was going to continue or not. Perhaps Messrs. Molotov, Hitler, Churchill and Roosevelt will furnish them with an affirmative answer.

Oil and coal have all but disappeared. Canned goods are rapidly becoming scarce.

The crops of France, Belgium, the Netherlands and Germany, sown before the beginning of the Lowlands invasion, have been devastated by the advance of large mechanized armies and the furious bombardments from the air.

The Balkans and the Soviet Union, their crops not yet harvested, will have to allocate their potential food stores among the millions of men under arms and ship the rest to food-stricken Germany.

### LITTLE FOOD GETS THROUGH FROM U.S.

Help from the United States has not materially relieved the chaotic situation.

In the past months, only one American food ship, the McKeesport, has been able to land supplies in France. According to officials of the Maritime Commission, all future voyages to the stricken areas will be cancelled. The Maritime Com-

mission cites the Neutrality Act as basis for its cancellations. The Neutrality Act forbids American vessels to enter belligerent waters.

That this prohibition against future American sailings constitutes a virtual blockade against the starving millions of Europe is confirmed by Clarence E. Pickett, executive secretary of the American Friends Service Committee, active in refugee relief.

"Only under the most favorable circumstances," declared Mr. Pickett last week, "can American food be hoped for in France, earlier than October and November."

The trickles of food, clothing and medical supplies now being shipped to Europe by various American relief agencies promises to be cut off altogether from another direction.

For added to the restrictions imposed by the Neutrality Act is the existence of the British Naval Blockade, which has been recently extended to include the unoccupied area of France. The Mediterranean passageway into France is thus sealed against all shipments of aid.

At the same time, the German authorities, faced with a desperate food shortage in all areas of the Reich, have refused appeals of the Petain regime for help.

Thus, a triple blockade, in the nature of a tightened noose, is rapidly being drawn about the ever thinning necks of the helpless, starving population.

That the British are in a position no more enviable than that of the German and the French is indicated by the strengthening of the Nazi sea and submarine blockade of England.

Although England has in store sufficient food supplies for the immediate present, the continuance of the Nazi blockade and the eventual loss of the blitzkrieg may produce results similar to those existing on the Continent.

Hitherto, all British vessels leaving American ports were so loaded with military equipment that no room was available for shipments of food, clothing and medical supplies intended for British wounded.

That in addition to the cargoes of munitions there is now space for Red Cross shipments indicates the worsening of the British food situation.

The program of planned famine and plague, now being used as weapons by both sides, exposes the pretentious claims daily made by Britain and Germany.

### CAPITALISM OFFERS MASSES—STARVATION

Britain, in her war "to re-establish democracy on the continent," first finds it expedient to lay a foundation of famine and pestilence.

Hitler, in his war "to establish the rule of the master German race," first treats the European workers under his regime to overdose doses of rickets, pellagra and dysentery.

In war and in peace, capitalism holds out to the workers of all lands starvation, disease and death.

## Stalin-Hitler Pact Extends Friendship Down to Uruguay

An accidental discovery in Montevideo, capital of Uruguay proved that the partnership of Hitler and Stalin is not confined to Europe.

Nazi agents have been waging a vicious anti-semitic campaign in this small south American country for some time—mainly through a Spanish weekly, filled with anti-labor and anti-Jewish filth.

The editors of this sheet have had considerable difficulty finding a printer. The only printing house willing to undertake publication of the Nazi rag is owned by the Stalinist daily, Unzer Freund, organ of the Jewish Stalinists in Uruguay.

According to the Jewish Daily Forward, which brought this information to the attention of the Jewish people in New York, the friendly cooperation between the Nazis and the Stalinists was brought to light when Nazi copy was mistakenly taken by a Nazi messenger to another Yiddish newspaper, the Folksblatt, voice of the Socialist-Zionists.

The Stalinists defended themselves against the protests of the outraged Jewish people in Uruguay by claiming an agreement with the Nazis "to print only that part which is not anti-semitic(!)."

### I am interested—

in learning more about the Workers Party

in joining the Workers Party

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Address \_\_\_\_\_

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# Editorials

## OUR PROGRAM AGAINST THE WAR

1. Not a man, not a cent for Wall Street's war. All war funds to the unemployed.
2. For a rising scale of wages to meet increasing cost of living. Thirty Thirty—\$30 weekly minimum wage—30-hour weekly maximum for all workers.
3. Expropriate the Sixty Families. For Government ownership and workers control of all war industries—aviation, steel, chemicals, railroads, public utilities, etc.
4. Against both imperialist war camps. For the Third Camp of World Labor and the Colonial Peoples.
5. Let the people vote on war. For the right of youth to vote at the age of 18.
6. Abolish secret diplomacy. Open the files of the State Department.
7. Withdraw all armed forces from territory outside the United States. Free the colonies. Hands off Latin America.
8. Against compulsory military training and conscription.
9. For the defense of civil liberties and workers' rights. Stop the persecution of aliens. Against the M-Day Plans and war-time dictatorship.
10. For full social, economic and political equality for Negroes. End discrimination against Negroes in industry and trade unions.
11. For an independent Labor Party.
12. For Workers' Defense Guards against Fascist and vigilante attacks.
13. No confidence in the Roosevelt government. For a workers' government and a people's army.
14. For Peace through Socialism. For the Socialist United States of the Americas, for the Socialist United States of Europe, and for the World Socialist Federation.

## The Cat Is Out!

Do you want proof that the money-lords of this nation are behind the conscription bill? Listen to the testimony of Senator Rush Holt, made in Senate debate on August 6:

"The conscription drive was started at the Harvard Club in New York City . . . on the 22nd day of May." There were many patriots at that meeting. Grenville Clark "who actually penned this conscription bill" was there. Clark, a member "of the proletarian firm of Root, Buckner and Ballantine" is the patriot who formed a trust in his capacity as a lawyer, which according to the Congressional Committee on Tax Evasion and Avoidance, kept \$90,000 in taxes from being paid to the government.

Henry L. Stimson was there, "Henry L. Stimson, the Secretary of War, who is carrying out in the Cabinet the wishes of those who want to go to war. No matter how much he proclaims to the public, Henry L. Stimson would be for war today if he thought he could get a declaration of war through Congress." So were Robert T. Patterson, now assistant secretary of war, and Elihu Root, Jr.

"Who else was present? Julius Ochs Adler, general manager of the New York Times and a man who holds stock in countries now at war. Mr. Adler wants the American boy to protect his investments."

Holt also named K. P. Budd, a director of the North British and Mercantile Insurance Company, with headquarters in London; J. B. Taylor Jr., a director of several aviation corporations; F. M. Weld, a director of the Baldwin Locomotive works; and Brig. Gen. Benedict Crowell. These patriots, at meetings on May 23 and June 3 laid plans to raise \$250,000 to put the conscription bill over.

Senator Holt cited other evidence. But what we have quoted is enough. Directors of iron ore mines and iron furnaces, directors of insurance companies and other members of the Big Business fraternity—these were the men who wanted conscription.

Why? Look on page 1 of this issue. Examine the profit increases of the companies listed, among them Baldwin Locomotives. The preparation for war has already netted these patriots staggering profits. Actual war will bring them more, and more, and more. What matters it to them if millions of youth will die. They will be safe in their palatial mansions; they will have greater millions to pass on to their idle sons and daughters.

Senator Holt does not speak for the workers. We do not know his motives; nor do we care. Like all the others he approves and supports the fundamental crime: the profit system. When a real showdown comes, Senator Holt will more likely than not be found against us.

But, when capitalist thieves fall out, labor can learn much. In the acrimonious Senate debate, labor learned the names of those who inspired the conscription drive. **That is enough to make any worker suspicious!**

## A Difference

When John L. Lewis forthrightly blasts military conscription, we applaud his doing so. Nothing can so effectively spike the plans of a Wall Street-led Congress than the threat of organized labor's active opposition. And Lewis' statement, made now on several occasions, is the basis for such organized labor action.

**But, and this is a vital BUT, there is more to the struggle against war than opposition to the conscription bill pending in Congress—however loudly and militantly this opposition is voiced.**

It is part of the bosses' scheme to deceive the masses with the poppycock that "national defense" is synonymous for worker and for boss. **That it is not;** and anyone who contributes to that deception is playing the bosses' game. John L. Lewis, despite the militancy and correctness of his stand against conscription, is doing just that.

The "national defense" of the bosses requires huge armies organized with a single purpose in mind—to wage imperialist war in behalf of the Wall Street profiteers. This means recruitment into the army of U.S. imperialism: voluntarily, if they can get it; by compulsion, if there is no other way. This also means huge expenditures for battleships and other instruments of war—expenditures literally sweated out of the workers.

**The "national defense" of the workers, however, requires and means something altogether different. It means powerful unions to defend labor's rights. It means union defense guards to protect labor from fascist and reactionary attack. Right now, it means the mobilization of labor's independent strength against the war plans of the money makers—above all through the unions, the armies of labor. Ultimately, it means directing the impact of labor's strength against the rotten system of capitalist exploitation, and for the establishment of a workers' government which will speak and act for the hundred million, not for the Four Hundred.**

These two types of "national defense" have not a thing in common. They are opposites. And insofar as John L. Lewis obscures this distinction, he is guilty of acting against the interests of labor. Lewis, while objecting to conscription, has bowed before the "necessity" of adequate "defense" measures—agreeing to the "need" of "real, voluntary recruitment."

Necessary for what? For the protection of labor? Not a bit! Such protection is indeed needed, but it won't come from building the bosses' army, it will come only from building labor's union army.

The "reasonable defense" of which Lewis—and the bosses—speak is necessary for ONE thing—to champion on the field of military combat the profit lust of imperialism.

John L. Lewis with the power of the CIO behind him can do a lot. Congress will not be so quick in carrying out Wall Street's orders if it sees before its eyes, and everywhere it turns, the militant fist of an aroused worker.

In his fight against conscription we are with Lewis one hundred percent. But when Lewis leaves working class politics and embraces an enemy class deception, there we take different paths. And we call upon each worker to note that difference, to call it to the attention of his union, **to be satisfied with none but a complete working class position on war.**

## There's A Word...

A recently published item from London points to the progress of democracy among the colonies of the British Empire.

Lord Lloyd, the new Secretary for the Colonies, has sent his first instructions to colonial governors. They are to shelve the Colonial Development Bill, by which some five million pounds were to have been spent in the colonies. "In the present circumstances," says Lord Lloyd, "it will not be possible to make any substantial progress under the new policy."

Thus the pittance of relief granted to the colonials (which would have been spent principally for the benefit of the white capitalists in any case) is snatched back. War for democracy? What is the Hindustani word for Nuts!

## Britain at War: Part 1, the Capitalists

# They Fear Revolution Most!

By BRITANNICUS

Sir Oswald Mosley, the English fascist leader, is an agent of Hitler. He aims at selling Britain over to Fascist Germany in return for which he and his followers will rule. Chamberlain let Oswald Mosley and his rich friends carry on their propaganda unchecked. Then when Churchill came to power and put Mosley in jail, all the admirers of British "Democracy" said "This is the real thing. Now we have a government of Churchill and the labor leaders fully representative of the democracy. Look! He has put Mosley in jail. The Capitalists and the workers must sacrifice equally."

Now the news comes out. Mosley is in prison, but he is drinking wine and eating the finest food that money can buy. He has a valet. His wife has sun-baths and her friends visit her, bringing delicacies.

These things are being done in prison, you can guess how the rich are carrying on outside. And these, mind you, are people who admit themselves to be Hitler's friends. Meanwhile, the workers work 12 hours a day, seven days a week, and their wives stand in line with ration-cards to buy food; their sons are being blown to pieces on land, on the sea, and in the air, in order, says Churchill "to defend democracy."

### AN INDICATION OF OTHER THINGS

The exposure of Churchill in regard to Mosley is important, however, chiefly as an illustration of what is happening in far wider fields. The British working-class was told that it must sacrifice all its democratic rights in order to help win the war. The capitalists would be taxed 100% and capitalist property would be conscripted also whenever neces-

sary. The Labor ministers in the government would guarantee this. When the bill was passed, however, the capitalist press was not troubled at all. For the very biggest capitalists in Britain were not touched by the bill. Five big banks control all the banking in Britain! The bill does not touch them. They can continue to pay 15 and 18 per cent. United Dairies can pay 12½% and Woolworth's can still pay 65% and so on.

In addition, the capitalists remained in full control of their property, while the trade-unions were delivered up to the government by the Labor ministers, while Churchill made the speeches and pretended that everything was changed.

That the capitalists would go on cheating as before was no secret. Before the Churchill government came into power and demanded equality in sacrifice, Ellen Wilkinson, a labor leader, wrote about the budget. "The interesting and the disquieting thing about this budget is that not one job of control (her emphasis), not one particle of power (her emphasis) is taken from the owning classes and transferred to the nation." **The Capitalists held the power.** It had been proposed that there should be an evaluation of the wealth of the country so that after the war, all those who had made money during the war would be compelled to give some of it towards reconstruction. Sir John Simon, the chancellor, refused to go on with this proposal.

### NOTHING CHANGES WITH CHURCHILL

As soon as the Churchill Government came into power, everything was supposed to be changed and Ellen Wilkinson, along with the other laborites, joined the government. On May 31, three weeks after the blitzkrieg had begun, Aneurin Bev-

an, a labor leader, wrote a bitter article in the same paper. Bevan complained that the capitalists were carrying on as merrily as before.

The Churchill Government was supposed to have the right to take over property. Bevan laughs at this. "State Control without State ownership makes the worst of both worlds," stormed Bevan. The white-collar workers in these factories and the other employees know that after the war they are at the mercy of their employers. They continue to do what these say—they cheat the government.

Bevan used to be a coal-miner, and knows the coal-industry well. He says that in the last war the coal-owners practised "Direct sabotage". The most productive seams of coal they left undeveloped for use after the war, and concentrated on the more expensive and less productive ones. They opened the best seams at the government's expense and then left them to be exploited after the war by themselves. The railways and the electricity plans should come under Government ownership, shouted Bevan. But the capitalists are doing the same today. The British capitalists don't worry about Bevan. Let these suckers of labor leaders make the workers sacrifice. They, the capitalists, will go their way, law or no law.

### SCANDAL BRINGS FACTS TO LIGHT

That was in June. Now in the last week of July three tremendous scandals broke in Britain. (They were reported in a back page of the Herald Tribune of August 5, 1940.)

The Richard Thomas Co. is a steel concern worth 100 million dollars. There is a quarrel among the directors, and Sir William Firth, who lost his job as chairman, accused the company of submitting contracts for steel shells to make the "Fantastic profit" of \$45.00 per ton. Sir William made them reduce the profit to \$20 per ton.

In the press discussion that followed, it came out that the government was paying a profit of \$30 per ton on steel helmets. It came out also, that the Richard Thomas Co. had control of the British Iron and Steel Federation, and had limited the production of the latter company to two-thirds of capacity. In the same week the capitalists practically told Churchill to go to hell. Herbert Morrison, the labor leader, as Minister of Supply, while busy driving the workers like slaves, attempted to take over a big machine-tool firm, appointed two men to control it, and froze its bank account. The company refused to submit, took the matter to court, and the court, a few days ago, issued an injunction forbidding Morrison to take over.

Some time ago Morrison said he would take over 1500 companies employed in war work. The companies challenged the decision and the capitalist courts sustained their objection. Let the workers sacrifice their hours of leisure and their liberties. The labor leaders can fill them up with as much anti-Hitlerism and patriotic nonsense as they please. But let them leave the capitalist class alone.

The government has instituted a war loan at 2½ per cent, a low rate of interest for a war loan. The bankers, in one week, have subscribed only 50 million dollars, about the cost of the war for one day. Meanwhile Churchill makes his speeches and the workers suffer and die.

Does this mean that the capitalists want Hitler to win? No, but until the workers are beaten flat, until the labor leaders are murdered or are in concentration camps, until all fear of the Socialist Revolution is stamped out, the capitalists are more concerned with the defense of their property against the workers than they are with defending it against Hitler. For if they lose to Hitler they keep some, but if they lose to the workers, they lose all.

(Next week. The British working-class.)

## Roughing It

Walter Winchell, who is not a correspondent for LABOR ACTION, made these observations on the sad plight of the millionaire play boys and sportsmen who recently spent two weeks at the Plattsburg Military Training Camps:

The remnants of publicity glorifying the "Business Men's Training Camp" at Plattsburg are a little misleading. They say nothing about the elegant private parking place for the "gentlemen warriors" cars and the million \$\$\$ worth of expensive charlotts on display there. Nor do they mention the goings-on at the tony Hotel Champlain where from 5 p.m. on—these buck-privates (who are supposed to be roughing it) order an army of waiters about to bring drinks and fancy chow. (The army grub isn't good enough for them, eh?) . . . You should've seen these "soldiers" lolling in the garden bar. One's sec'y rushed there in a limousine—bringing the clippings from the latest New York editions—and all eagerly scanned the amount and tenor of publicity they attracted.

## THE NEGRO'S FIGHT

# Negro and White Workers Must Stand Together

By J. R. JOHNSON

At the present time America, like the rest of the world, is in a grave crisis. A Negro watches the billions being poured into armaments, the draft bill for conscription in peacetime, the violent attacks against aliens and Fifth Columnists. The world as we know it is going. That is clear. What is taking its place and how will it affect the Negroes?

What is taking place is an international re-organization of society to meet the world wide economic crisis. The crisis caused the war. Hitler has beaten down the German workers so that they are no more than slaves. Fascism has assumed full power over all production and has created a mighty armament by which it hopes to conquer Europe and reduce the whole continent to a colony of German imperialism.

### WARS—AND MORE WARS

Negroes understand this well. They know how European imperialism trampled over Africa and reduced the Africans to slavery in order to exploit them. Today the colonies are not sufficient and the great imperialisms devour the smaller and weaker countries nearer home. And in the same way that imperialism in Africa created theories about the superiority of the white race in order to justify its attack on the Negroes, so Hitlerism creates theories about the superiority of the German race in order to justify the enslavement of European peoples.

Imperialism today, however, is a great mouth which swallows everything within reach and is never satisfied. British imperialism is fighting in defense of its own slave colonies in India and Africa. At the same time Britain, Italy, Japan, America and Germany are fighting a fierce trade battle for control of Latin-America. That is why Hull went to Havana; to try to win over the Latin-American countries to his support. In East Asia, Japan tries to swallow China and runs ahead of America and Britain for domination of the trade and resources of the Far East.

There is a life and death struggle going on all around and the Fascist state has a great advantage. Once it has defeated the workers it makes them work 12 hours a day for dog's wages, it produces arms instead of food and clothes, and it can produce goods so cheaply that it undersells other countries in foreign markets. The American capitalist sees all this, and he is preparing to do exactly the same if he can, to batter down the workers organizations, to institute control and fight trade wars and then military wars. But the last war did not stop the crisis and the crisis was already so bad before this one began that the world faces years of continual wars, chaos and disaster until these imperialists are overthrown.

### WORKERS MUST STAND TOGETHER!

This affects the Negro in a very intimate way. Wherever the capitalist class has to batter down the workers it tries to demoralize them by dividing them, and setting them quarreling with each other. In Germany, Hitler used the Jews in America, they will not only use the Jews but the Negroes. The capitalists have long practice in setting Negro workers against whites. As the battle between them and the workers becomes more acute they will seek to take away jobs from the Negroes to satisfy a section of the whites; they will intensify anti-Negro propaganda; they will try to turn the hostility of the white workers against the capitalist class against the workers instead. The Negroes must understand therefore, that the developing crisis will not only hit the American workers hard, but will hit them, as a weak section of the workers, harder than before?

What is the remedy? The remedy is to fight not tomorrow not next week, but now! Fight first and foremost for jobs in industry. The Negro suffers most and therefore he must fight most. He must fight under the general slogan of "Democracy for Negroes here and now!" He must join the local workers organizations, like the trade unions. He must criticize them mercilessly if they try to keep him out. He must form local Negro organizations, and cooperate with political organizations that will battle for Negro rights. The Workers Party is today in the very front of that battle.

The Negro must show the white workers that he means to have his rights, that he must have his share of the jobs, that he is a fighter, that he fights always for his rights in the working class as a member of the working class. By this means the Negro can compel recognition and respect from the great masses of white workers, and prepare the way for the joint battle both have to fight against the gathering hordes of American fascism.

Along with this battle for his rights, the Negro must fight for the defense of civil liberties, against the persecution of revolutionaries as Fifth Columnists, against the enemies of democratic rights wherever they show themselves. For wherever the working class or the revolutionary movement sustains a defeat, there the Negro is defeated also, if even one Negro lives in that community. That is the lesson of today. The Negroes must learn it and learn it well, and must fight for their place in the working class movement, as the surest way of defending the little that they have and gaining full equality under socialism.

## Our Readers Take the Floor...

### A LITTLE MORE PROOF FOR WHAT WE SAY

Washington, D.C.

To the Editor:

That Roosevelt and the big shots are hell-bent for imperialist war is an absolute fact, and not just a guess. The other day a government worker here in Washington told me that the War Department is receiving reports from the commanders of the various corps divisions concerning all the officers who speak Spanish, and their degrees of ability with that language. This points to future Wall Street blitzkriegs in South and Latin America.

While thumbing my way to Washington, I was picked up by a delegate and alternate from the Democratic convention. They were groaning about the President's war-mongering. They told me that Roosevelt drew up resolutions on war and intervention that were so frightful, that they were twice killed in committee because the Democrats didn't dare to show the public how raw their nominee's plans are!

What LABOR ACTION only surmises, the inside boys know only too well.

Fraternally,  
Washington, D.C. H.T.

### FROM A MIGRATORY LABORER IN CALIFORNIA

Dear Friends:

Last week my wife and I went north to the region around Marysville to see about picking plums and pears. There we met an official of the CIO Industrial Council of Oakland which is Stalinist controlled and learned the alarming news that the CIO is considering dissolving the Canning, Packing, Agricultural Allied Workers of America into the Workers Alliance. He gives the reason that the Workers Alliance fights for the migratory workers in the win-

ter and the agricultural union (called Pawa) in the summer. Also, the CIO is having a series of fights in the steel and aircraft industries. The treasury is consequently in bad shape, and the Pawa has to be subsidized.

My impression is that while the workers are interested in Pawa they can't swallow the W.A. As many migratory workers have told me, "Sure I believe in Pawa, but damned if I'm going into the W.A. I had experience with them at home."

It's a difficult situation because so many of the canning and packing plants lie so far away from the orchards. One company, Hunt Brothers, is packing peaches picked twenty miles away. The AFL union is organizing the packing plants, but refuses to give the pickers a charter.

Two years ago this county (Alameda) had two strong AFL cannery unions which worked very well with each other. They had joint action in tying up canneries and packing plants. So the company hired a lot of scabs, and gave a corrupt union official a "union contract" for organizing the scabs.

An industrial union with militant leadership is needed here before it can accomplish much because the workers drift from cannery to packing to picking and back again. The CIO, if it turns this over to the Stalinist W.A., cannot give the necessary leadership. A strong central organization, knitting the locals together, is necessary.

Last year 18 pickets were imprisoned and many gassed during the grape picking at Lodi. The Associated Farmers, California Packing Corporation and American Legion and business groups united in fighting the CIO. This same set up is evidently planned for today. However, I'll write you more later since I'm going to work in grapes.

Fraternally,  
J.L.  
Alameda County, Calif., July 23.

## Scrap Iron - -

(Continued from page 1)

tried this moving gag last year when it appeared likely that the Steel Workers Organizing Committee, CIO, would call a national strike. In fact, Crucible actually moved a few machines to Syracuse, N.Y. Even Mayor Hague howled—thinking he was going to lose a tax payer. However, the company quickly forgot about Syracuse when the controversy was settled.

New Jersey's scrap iron bosses are organized in an association of their own. They are working together, in backing up the Reichman-Hoffman Company, to break the strike under the infamous "Mohawk Valley formula" devised by the National Association of Manufacturers. When the steel barons tried to break the little steel strike of 1937, they set up rules and regulations for going about their dirty business: violence against strikers, provocations designed to throw strikers into the hands of waiting police, police brutality and intimid-

ation, refusal to bargain collectively, refusal to recognize any union but a company union, local newspaper control through advertising, the threat of firing every striker, and the threat of moving.

So far the company has tried every one of the Mohawk Valley formulas. But the strikers are wise to each trick.

Police intimidation, which has so far proved fruitless in undermining the strike, nevertheless continues. Cops heckle pickets with "haven't you guys got your belly-ful yet? . . . aren't your feet sore? . . . why don't you stop walking and get back to work? . . . you can't win." The strikers just keep on picketing.

Local 1120, Waste Materials Union, AFL, which is leading the strike has already placed a number of the men in New York scrap iron yards. These men donate a percentage of their pay to the strikers' fund, thus assuring the pickets steady financial support.

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