

# REVOLT

Organ of Revolutionary Workers League, U.S.

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Price 3 Cents

## WAR DEPT PLANS TO BAN STRIKES

AMERICAN workers will be up against it when the United States goes to war. The cost of living will go up. But strikes for higher wages will be out.

Who says so? The government says so. Listen.

In the last war, says the October issue of *Labor Information Bulletin*, issued by the U. S. Department of Labor

By December 1916 the average cost of living for... cities covered by the survey was 16.6 percent higher than in 1913. In December 1917 it was 38.3 percent higher... largest increases occurred in... food, clothing and housefurnishings... Wages also advanced but the increases did not keep pace with the rise in... the cost of living. In May 1917 union hourly rates of wages were 14 percent higher than in May 1913, while food prices were 56 percent higher.

In 1917 the worker's dollar could buy only 72c worth of things he could buy in 1914 with that same dollar. The profiteers with the help of the government cut his pay—despite increases in wages—28c on every dollar.

It will be the same story in this war. Prices are already going up. When the government takes the plunge they will go up still more.

But will you be able to strike to boost your pay to meet the landlord's and butcher's bills? Here is what the War Department is planning for you and your family.

You have heard of the Industrial Mobilization Plan drafted by the War and Navy Departments.

### I RETURN TO WPA

AFTER a two month lay-off I have been permitted to resume my "career" on WPA. To think that I, a strong healthy individual, should be forced—on pain of starvation—to return to the WPA and be called a "career" man gripes me to the marrow.

In the two months I was laid-off I hunted—yes, hunted — for work, spent all my "hidden resources," and got absolutely nowhere. It was like old times again; in 1932 after I left school I chased around hopefully looking for work. Seven years later, despite increasing production, I was back on the hard trail again. Jobs are just as scarce. I had just as hard a time getting relief.

#### 20c A DAY

While I was laid-off the landlord called me a "chiseler" and got a court order for my eviction. During this time while I was waiting for a 20c-a-day relief order, hundreds of millions of dollars were being spent to build the army and navy in preparation for war.

Before they accepted me for WPA I had to promise not to belong to any organization "advocating the overthrow of the United States Government." According to capitalist law the signers of a contract must be equal. But I am a poor worker; the government is rich and powerful. It forced me—on threat of starvation—to sign this contract.

This is not my contract

### Not My Government

C. W.

LEO M. CHERNE'S book, *Adjusting Your Business to War*, explains that this plan provides compulsory arbitration of labor disputes. And

As can readily be understood the right to strike will become a burdensome one to the instrumentalities of national defense when it is exercised in industries which are producing the needs of the armed forces.

Needs of the armed forces, is a formula which can be stretched to mean just about everything.

The same author gives data, according to articles appearing in the press, which show that it is the plan of the War Department to conscript men, women and children for work in industries "producing the needs of the armed forces," set aside contracts between workers and employers, set aside protective labor legislation like minimum wages.

In other words a MILITARY DICTATORSHIP OVER LABOR.

If labor submits, all the gains of fifty years of bitter and often bloody struggle will be wiped out. Our dead will have died in vain.

But if labor fights back it can smash this dictatorship before it even gets started.

NOW IS THE TIME TO FIGHT!

DON'T GIVE UP THE RIGHT TO STRIKE!

FIGHT SPEED-UP WITH THE SLOW-DOWN!

MEET RISING PRICES WITH THE BIGGEST STRIKE WAVE THIS COUNTRY EVER SAW!

UNITE THE LABOR MOVEMENT!

IF THE GOVERNMENT RESORTS TO FORCED LABOR LET LABOR STRIKE THE COUNTRY FROM COAST TO COAST UNTIL NOT ONE SINGLE SOLITARY WHEEL IS TURNING ANYWHERE IN THE UNITED STATES!

### CP Rats For FBI

Detroit, Nov. 6. — A *Revolt* distributor was picked up by the police at the Dodge Main picket line, Saturday afternoon, for having *Revolt* in her possession, fingerprinted, isolated from other prisoners as "dangerous" and questioned by the FBI.

Investigator Rodgers of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, told the distributor.

You know the Communist Party furnishes us with information about you.

By "you" Rogers meant the League.

Rodgers said he knew some of the members of the League and their records.

The distributor was released.

## U. S. war entry closer

TWO RECENT EVENTS show very clearly that the government of this country is interested in prolonging the war in Europe.

Repeal of the embargo on arms and munitions encourages the British and French governments to go ahead since it places a vast arsenal at their disposal.

Today they must pay cash for it. But history shows that when that is gone the profitable business of selling arms will be as forceful in changing the policy of the government to grant credit, as it was in repealing the embargo.

In sharp contrast was the reaction in Washington to the offer of the rulers of the Belgian and Dutch governments to mediate the war. Roosevelt was reported in the press as relieved that the role of peacemaker had been taken from him.

AT THE SAME TIME friction between the United States and Japanese governments is increasing. Ambassador Grew is reported as continuing to threaten retaliatory action by the United States if Japan does not change its policy in the Far East. Exactly what is being demanded of the Japanese is not stated in the newspaper reports.

On the other side, KOKUMIN, Japanese militarist organ, which has previously attacked the government of this country, is now reported as openly threatening to exclude the United States altogether from the Far East, and as predicting a war in the Pacific over the resources in that part of the world, after the end of the war in Europe.

The navy has just announced a decision to send additional forces to Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

ADDING UP THE FACTS gives the following conclusions:

United States capitalists are determined to make a profit out of the shambles in Europe;

They are determined that Japanese capitalists shall not use the war as an opportunity to mop up the Far East.

East they will not draw the line at that. Profit in wartime goes up.

### Partners?

## UNCLE SAM & JOHN BULL

THE BRITISH Empire is an area of over thirteen and a quarter million square miles, over one-quarter of the globe, with a population of half a billion, over one-quarter of the human race. Ostensibly a democracy, most of this vast population is ruled by military dictatorship. Included in its resources are most of the world's supply of rubber and tin, 13% of the world's products.

It is the largest single importer of U. S. products. Economically it has been declining and can ease its crisis only by expanding its share of world trade and markets.

The U. S., controlling 25% of the world's wealth, has been in an economic crisis since 1929. Over 50% of the world's unemployed are within its borders. The government debt is 41 billions. The dollar is worth only 59c. Production has been unable to reach the 1929 level. U.S. imperialists have over five billion dollars invested in Europe mostly in England, in banking, steel, chemical, and movie industries. The U.S. like England is in desperate need of markets.

Each can try to reach a solution of its economic crisis chiefly at the other's expense.

#### DANGER

German imperialism, possessing the most efficient productive plant in Europe, and therefore a great menace to England and potential rival to the U. S., is challenging England for the second time.

With Britain occupied in the European conflict the coast is clearer for Japan to try to swallow up the Far East.

The U. S. is afraid that between them they may wreck the British Empire. Uncle Sam knows that if the British Empire falls, it may be the spark that will unloose a flood of revolutions in India, Arabia, etc., in which all hope of Yankee imperialism getting new markets would go up in smoke.

American strategy appears to be to give aid to England to stop Germany and Japan; take away German and British trade in Latin America; dictate the peace terms; prevent world revolution.

The high price Britain will have to pay for U. S. protection will probably include giving U. S. imperialists control of key industries; loss of the rubber and tin monopoly; cession of strategic territories. Before it is through the British ruling class may have to put the Empire in hock in Uncle Sam's pawnshop; and the British navy and British diplomats will obey orders from Washington.

# It's No Good, Say Trotskyists, Vote for It

**T**ROTSKYISTS are principled people. Or, so their leaders say.

Fakers, on the other hand, are people who say one thing and do another.

Trotskyists can't be fakers. Or, so you think.

Said the Socialist Appeal on November 3, official Trotskyist organ in the United States

In the statement which we publish below the Los Angeles Section Committee of the Socialist Workers Party advises the voters to vote YES on the "Ham and Eggs" Plan (Amendment 1) while severely criticizing its inadequacy.

The statement says, about the famous "ham and eggs" old age pension plan with which capitalist politicians are trying to cash in on the hopes of old people

...the end result will be... inflation... rise in the cost of living... the plan cannot work.

But the Trotskyists are for it as a protest against economic insecurity! Time was when mass demonstrations was the revolutionary way of protesting against utopian schemes that can't work and will result in inflation.

In New York City there was a furore in the radical movement over a resolution adopted by the American Labor Party on October 4 which denounced the Hitler-Stalin pact, came out for repeal of the embargo and, like the Republican and Democratic parties, for the support of the English and French imperialist governments which, it declared, are "fighting for the preservation of... democratic... liberties."

**M**EMBERS of the Independent Labor League, Lovestonites, in the ALP, voted for the resolution. Members of the Socialist Party voted for it. The Trotskyists attacked the resolution as "a declaration in favor of Anglo-French imperialism."

Said the Socialist Appeal on Oct. 27.

The CIO and AF of L bureaucracies... the Labor Party leaders... their war program is identical with that of the capitalist class...

The Socialists supported the ALP candidates in the municipal elections.

The Lovestonites supported the ALP candidates.

The Trotskyists ran Shachtman, editor of the Appeal, as a candidate on their own war

position.  
**THEY ALSO SUPPORTED THE ALP CANDIDATES.**

The Appeal, October 31, says why

...We support them in spite of their program.

Now why do you suppose they did that?

The bigger the vote for the ALP, the more would the workers be encouraged to insist that their unions join the formation of a nation-wide Labor Party.

What's that?

You'll take your ham and eggs now? Who? Shachtman? Comin' up.

## IN THE RICHEST COUNTRY IN THE WORLD

Rushing down the laurel-decked stairs of her parents' Lake Forest home Mrs. Maurice Francis Hanson... was caught in a shower of rose petals which did no damage to her new turban of crushed fuschia roses...

**CAHATTANOOGA, Tenn., Oct. 21.—(AP)—**  
A mother of five children waited today for a person willing to pay \$5,000 for the cornea of one of her eyes.... "This is a great sacrifice but I would gladly make it for my children...."

In her smart luggage waiting outside there were quantities of pastel tweeds and sweaters designed for sunny Bermuda days.

Until last week Mrs. Davis' husband was employed two days a week at \$1.50 daily by the city health (!) department. He now has a WPA job paying around \$60 monthly.... Detroit News.

Mrs. Bissell... carried an immense chinchilla muff to go with the lavish chinchilla collar on her wrap.

Step into the Jane Addams dining room of Hull House.... A young Italian mother rises. "There are eight in our family," she says. "We get \$55 a month relief. The other day I asked my case worker if I could get some bedsheets.... She said I'd have to have a paralytic stroke to get bedsheets...."

Purple orchids bloomed on the shoulder of Virginia Winston's silver tissue shirtwaist.... Natalie De Clerque's... white serge coat was appliqued with gold kid... and her black dinner dress had gold embroidery from waist to neckline.

Joe Thompson... 50... lives in... a furnished room with his wife, Zelia, 53... \$24.08... received as relief last month... Rent accounted for \$18... there was... less than \$5 for a month's food... a pound of hamburger, twelve cents... a pack of potatoes 23 cents. Rice, two pounds, ten cents. Milk, four cans, 22 cents. Tomatoes, seven pounds for ten cents... stale bread for a nickel....

Over the cover-up front of her gold lame, Frances Lasker wore a double rope of pearls. Smart Clothes in Smart Places, Chicago Herald-American, Nov. 7.

"I'm down to 108 pounds. I used to weigh over 130..." Mrs. Thompson says she has lost 25 pounds in the past year. "Chicago Daily Times," Oct. 26.

# A Wee Bit O' Hypocrisy

A Short Play  
In Six Acts

## ACT I

**T**HEY (the British Government) did not enter upon this war as a war of conquest... Their purpose... was to defend the existence of their country and to enforce respect for international engagements. To those objects have now been added... liberating populations oppressed by alien tyranny... Beyond everything, we must seek for such a settlement as will secure the happiness and contentment of the peoples and take away all legitimate causes of future war.

From a British government note to the Russian Kerensky government, June 1917.

## ACT II

The British government imposes the Versailles peace; betrays its promises to set the Arabs free; seizes the German colonies in Africa; helps Wrangel, Denikin, Kolchak wage war against the Soviets; bloodily suppresses India's struggle for national independence; bombards Chinese cities to crush the revolution there; breaks the 1926 English general strike; connives with Hitler and Mussolini to crush the Spanish revolution; helps Hitler march into Austria and carve up the Czech state.

## ACT III

...this country is at war with Germany... We have a clear conscience... we and France are today, in fulfillment of our obligations, going to the aid of Poland... it is evil things that we shall be fighting against—force, bad faith, injustice, oppression and persecution.

From Chamberlain's declaration to Parliament, September 3, 1939.

## ACT IV

**S**EPTEMBER 17, in fulfillment a secret deal with Hitler, the Stalin government invades eastern Poland; early in November it incorporates this area into the Soviet Union.

The Halifax-Churchill-Chambelain government hails this invasion as a blow at Hitler, and signs a trade treaty with the Stalin government.

## ACT V

**L**ONDON, Nov. 4—(Chicago Tribune)—Conversations between representatives of the French and British governments are under way in an attempt to formulate more definite statements of war aims...

One problem... is the difficulty of reconciling the British idea of an honorable peace... and the French idea of a punitive peace.

## ACT VI

The German, French and English workers fraternize at the front; overthrow their imperialist governments; set up republics in which power is organized on the basis of delegates of workers, peasants and soldiers. The working class is armed. Capitalist property is socialized. Production is carried on for use.

All over the world the workers and peasants follow suit.

The Russian workers overthrow the Stalin government and return to the principles of Marx and Lenin. There is peace, security and happiness.

The world becomes a decent place to live in.

# THE NATIONALIZATION OF THE LAND IN THE NEW SOVIET TERRITORY

**O**N OCTOBER 22 elections were conducted in western White Russia and western Ukraine, the area invaded by Russia, for congresses of delegates to decide on the joining of these areas to the Soviet Union; nationalization of banks, large industrial establishments, and land owned by the land magnates, the church and the former Polish state.

On October 29 the 927 delegates of western White Russia, meeting in Belostok, voted to approve all these measures. Within a few days the 1,484 delegates of western Ukraine meeting in Lwow, also voted to approve. During the first few days of this month the Supreme Soviet Council, meeting in Moscow, admitted these territories into the Soviet Union.

What is the significance of these events?

Stalin's new domain is a backward agricultural area. About twelve million people live in it. Information Bulletin, Warsaw 1939, places the number of workers in industry in Poland at 2,500,000 or about 7% of the population. In the eastern provinces taken over by Russia, the percentage is even smaller, 4%. In the U.S. it is nearly 40%.

83.4% of the population live in the countryside.

Largest industry in this area is textile. In 1914 it employed 12,000 workers. In 1930 2,090 textile workers in Belostok, the center, were unemployed. Since then the situation has become worse.

Second largest industry is oil. 70% of all Polish oil is found in the western Ukrainian counties of Boryslaw, Tustanowice, and Mraznic. The Statesman's Year Book for 1939 estimates 2,801 workers employed in the refineries. There are about 6,000 workers involved in drilling. In 1929 7% of all petroleum workers were unemployed. The last 10 years have witnessed an increase to over 30%.

The Polish Handbook of 1925 places the number of kilowatt hours per person produced in Russian Poland as 10 per year. Assuming an increase by 1939 of 100% the average number of kilowatt hours would now be 20 per year. In the U.S. in 1937 it was close to 1,000.

**L**AND HUNGER was great. The Moscow News, October, 1939 gave the following data:

About 87% of all Ukrainian peasant households had no more than 12.5 acres... the majority... had no more than 5 acres and a great many no land at all. In Lwow Province 52.5% of the peasant households belonged to the latter category, in Tarnopol Province their number reached 55.3%... in Polesi... 1,000 landowners owned two-thirds of the entire land, while 70,000 poor Belorussian peasants owned less than one-sixteenth of it...

Hunger was a constant companion of the peasant. Julia Poniatowsky, Minister of Agriculture in 1934, reported to the Sejm that between 1929 and '34 consumption fell 19% in all of Poland, 46% in the rural areas. Exports of agriculture fell 67% in this period. In 1929 a city workers family of four spent an average of \$50 a month; a peasant family of four, \$35. In 1935 the figures were \$27 and \$16-\$18 respectively. In 1928 the yearly expenditures of such a peasant family for clothes and shoes was about \$25; in 1933 about \$13.

It is upon this economic foundation that the measures adopted by the congresses of western White Russia and western Ukraine rest. Through nationalization, the banks, large industrial establishments and land in this area will now be brought into line with the banks, industry and land in the Soviet Union which are state property.

Nationalization of the land lays the basis for the development of agricultural production through the introduction of tractors, combines, mechanical seeders, scientific fertilizers, and planning. This will not be socialism. But it will be a great step forward which twenty years of the Polish state could not bring about.

More. It is a step which no capitalist government can accomplish. In the U.S. for example, agriculture has been in a crisis since 1900. But the ruling class, the most powerful on earth, cannot nationalize the land, since this would signify either the outright expropriation of the private property of the owners of almost 7,000,000 farms; or their purchase which would require more than 57 billion dollars.

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## Unity Meet Set for Nov. 26

CHICAGO, Nov. 5.—In reply to the proposal of the Central Committee of October 21 that a meeting of revolutionary groups be held to discuss the possibility and basis for unity, the Revolutionary Labor Group expressed a willingness to attend such a meeting should it materialize. The League for A Revolutionary Workers Party suggested that the meeting be held in New York City on November 26. The Revolutionary Workers League (Fighting Worker) rejected the proposal on the ground that such a meeting would be "a waste of time" and "will create more confusion." No word has been received from the Marxian Labor College, Communist Workers Group, Committee for Revolutionary Labor Action.

### PROPOSALS

The Central Committee decided to accept the suggestion of the LRWP and has recommended that other groups do the same. At the same time it expressed the opinion that should other groups decide to make other proposals with regard to time and place for such a meeting they be considered since, in its opinion, the arrangements should be made so as to bring about the largest possible attendance.

The Central Committee also proposed that the meeting be open to every interested group and that no agenda and procedure be decided in advance of the meeting in order to give every group which has decided to attend and which may yet decide to attend an equal opportunity to decide these matters.

Further developments will be reported in the next issue.

# Speed-Up Key Issue In Chrysler Strike

DETROIT, Nov. 5.—In a full page ad published in the DETROIT NEWS, Nov. 2, the Associated Dodge, Chrysler, De Soto and Plymouth Dealers of America characterized the present Chrysler strike as a "PERIL... HANGING OVER AMERICA." From the standpoint of the capitalist class this is correct. What the capitalists need now more than anything else is production—fast, efficient, uninterrupted production, to keep the noses of the workers so close to the grindstone they will be blinded to the vital facts of life that are closing in on them with every \$1,300,000,000 naval appropriation and with every billion dollar foreign war order.

As a matter of fact, the whole barrage of charges and counter-charges that are being hurled back and forth by the Chrysler Corporation, the capitalist press and the International representatives of the UAW-CIO in the five week old Chrysler strike seems designed to conceal the main issue from the striking unionists.

The front page of yesterday's Detroit News flaunted a two-column editorial on the strike titled Only the Men Can End It. It states

...the principal issue in dispute today is the closed shop... A secondary issue is whether the CIO should have a voice in fixing production schedules... the strike is not directly caused by a dispute over wages or sanitary or safety conditions in the factories... The cause of the strike primarily is a technicality of union procedure...

The Corporation is emphasizing the basic issue in the strike as the closed shop. It is unwilling to grant the closed shop or even the union shop. The reason is obvious. Recognition clauses of this kind tend to establish the union as an institution. As long as one of the principal competitors of the Corporation is not organized at all—the Ford Motor Company—it is at a disadvantage in the competitive game, both from the standpoint of production and marketing.

R. J. Thomas, International President, follows the Corporation and the capitalist press, in taking the struggle of the Chrysler workers off its proper axis. In answer to the Detroit News editorial Thomas stated

Boiled down, the issue is this—the union demands industrial democracy in the plants; the corporation insists on having a dictatorial last word on grievances, including those arising from speed of operations. The UAW-CIO, unlike the corporation, is not demanding the last word. We are willing, where necessary, to call in an impartial arbitrator.

The truth, which these gentlemen hide, is that the main issues in the strike, the slow down as a means of off-setting the speed-up and the desire of the workers to have a voice in the setting of production rates if carried to their conclusion would end up in workers control of production.

### DANGEROUS

This situation is especially dangerous for the ruling class because of the present war. To meet the cost of the government armament program, the capitalists have to take it out of the hides of the workers, extract more surplus value from them. The slow-down and setting a rate of production by the workers which will protect their health, cut into the profits of the capitalists and make it difficult to hold up the war economy.

For these reasons the Chrysler strike is likely to be fought to the bitter end. The advice of the Chrysler Corporation to the striking workers that they abandon their misleaders and "get back to work" will prove a boomerang. The membership is to the left of the leadership. They want an agreement far better than the old agreement which expired September 30. They are against having a no-strike clause in the new agreement. They are for grievance machinery which can control the speed of production on the line.

Their misleaders are anxious to confine the struggle within the strait-jacket of capitalist laws. At the pre-

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## Terror Fails To Break Continental Strike

CHICAGO, Nov. 3.—Murderous terror was unloosed against the Continental Products strikers today when a gang of goons armed with clubs and a drawn gun invaded strike headquarters at 2107 S. Michigan Ave., beat up a number of strikers there and shot Leonard Levy, organizer, in the leg. The strikers—forty-six of the fifty workers in the plant—are members of the United Retail and Wholesale Employees of America, CIO.

This is the second assault on the Continental strikers. The first was an attack on the picket line the day the strike broke out.

Who hired these rats is a subject of keen interest in local labor circles. As far as is known only Continental Products and Max Caldwell, local head of the Retail Clerks, International Protective Association, AF of L, have an interest in smashing the strike, which began on September 30 when Clarence Schneider, Shop Steward, was fired for protesting the dismissal of Jack Kaplan, whose dismissal followed that of two other workers.

It is significant that the second assault followed failure to break the strike with police protection for scabs and the sweeping injunction granted October 24 by Circuit Court Judge Fred Rush, restraining the workers from even advertising by word of mouth that a strike was in progress. Picket lines set up when the strike broke out have been manned despite the injunction.

### COMPANY PARTNER

Partner of the company in trying to break the strike is Max Caldwell who signed a contract with the company without the knowledge or consent of the workers, which omitted

specified that the company could hire and fire at will, and stipulated that the workers would work at all times for the best interests of the employer.

When the workers got wise to Caldwell they refused to pay dues, quit his phoney union, and signed up with the URWE of A. Caldwell had the company fire those who refused to pay dues. If he didn't send the thugs who did this job it is one of the few things this rat overlooked.

Continental strikers are getting a first class education in what the class struggle is about. In five weeks they have learned through their own experience—which is the best teacher—that the boss, the cops, the courts, Continued on Next Page

# Hold Fascist Rally Against Chrysler Strike

DETROIT, Nov. 1.—Tonight before a capacity crowd of 21,000 at Olympia Stadium, Gerald K. Smith gave another exhibition of the rabble-rousing, red-baiting, Bible-pounding, personal bragging, and general clowning which has brought him the well deserved title of "one of America's leading Fascist demagogues." The meeting was organized by the Committee of One Million for "God and Country," but it ended up for "Chrysler and strike-breaking."

G. K. Smith, a former minister, according to the chairman of the meeting, "ten years ago decided to spend his life fighting subversive activities;" succeeded Huey P. Long as leader of the Share-the-Wealth movement; was at one time Father Coughlin's chief lieutenant; worked in the Townsend Recovery Plan movement; was a member of the Silver Shirts; and finally—his latest enterprise—organized the Committee of One Million in March 1937.

Smith gained national notoriety when a United Press dispatch of October 20, 1936 stated that he had formed a fascist organization "to seize the government of the United States." At that time he boasted that "Four hundred business men in 22 key cities, worried over the future of private property, have pledged to contribute 1 per cent of their 1935 income to make America vigorously nationalistic."

### ANTI-LABOR

Smith has been carrying on his activities in Detroit since February of the present year. During this time he has attacked the Briggs, General Motors, Bohn, Stearns and now the Chrysler strikes. His regular Sunday radio broadcasts have had only one theme: drive the CIO and the communists out of Michigan.

Before Smith came on tonight there was an hour of religious singing, prayer, anti-communist speeches and patriotic music. The Wyandotte Young American Band, sponsored by the Ford Post of the American Legion in Dearborn played several airs. Then Pat McCartney, member of Homer Martin's UAW-AF of L Executive Board, spoke, denouncing the CIO as a communist organization and stating that the AF of L had adopted the slogan of "take communism out of unionism."

### RAVED AND RANTED

Smith raved and ranted, took dramatic poses, challenged the reporters, called for applause for everything he said. One minute he would cringe before the microphone, the next minute he would blast forth some threat in his strong voice.

He hurled invectives, pictured the destruction of the home, the church, the school. He pictured himself as a hero, a martyr dying for his country.

He boasted that the meeting was so democratic that even "commies" as he calls Communists, could attend. Then he dared the "commies" to stand up and the crowd would know how to take care of "you rats"

Time and again he emphasized the necessity of preserving "that great right to own and develop property."

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## Cop Wants to Murder Radicals

CHICAGO, Oct. 28.—Two Revolt distributors outside the Revere Copper and Brass Workers Victory Dance, UAW No. 477, AF of L, at Northwest Hall, North and Western Aves. were seized tonight by three plainclothesmen, and taken to the North Avenue Police Station a block away. After a half hour grilling and lecture they were released without being booked.

A police official wearing a diamond stick pin said that if he ever saw them distributing literature in war time calling for workers to put an end to the war he would "shoot you in the head." He further stated that he wished that he would be put "in charge of a company to line up all the radicals and murder them" if they "refuse to go to war."

## Turn Lockout Into Strike At Dodge Truck

DETROIT, Nov. 2.—Tuesday at 2 o'clock about 700 workers in the new Dodge Truck Macomb County plant were locked out "until further notice." The Chrysler Corporation claimed the men had been slowing down to the point where it was impossible to carry on production.

Truth is the workers were slowing down in protest against the scabherding of the Detroit police and Macomb County deputy sheriffs escorting trucks into the plant carrying materials from other Chrysler units. On one occasion three trailers from the old Detroit truck plant had an escort of about sixty policemen.

Difficulty at the Truck plant started when the lockout at Dodge Main was turned into a strike. Transportation workers, organized into Local 3, UAW-CIO, were pulled out, too. It was not the International Executive Board's policy to close down the other plants, so they permitted a number of transport workers to take materials from De Soto, Kercheval and Highland Park to Dodge Truck.

The majority of the transport workers who are good union men and had gone out on strike resented this. That a few of these drivers were non-union men caused greater resentment.

The result was that the union transport workers threw picket lines around Dodge Truck. They were joined by Truck workers, laid off because of the Dodge strike, and Briggs and Hudson workers. On Monday a truck was stopped by flying squadron mem-

bers in cars, the window was smashed and the driver beaten up. The driver's place was taken by a deputy sheriff. Local union officials told him to get the truck out of the plant or there would be a strike.

On the following day the workers began to slow-down. Although scabherding was the immediate sore point, and, disgusted with the dilly-dallying they wanted to extend the struggle against Chrysler and, disgusted with the dilly-dallying of the International officers, used the slow-down to force the issue.

At 11 o'clock the company called in O. E. Zimmerman, Local 140 president, and four members of the Plant Shop Committee. The conference resulted in nothing. Zimmerman told the company he "would be on the picket line in the morning." At 2 o'clock the company closed the plant. That evening picket lines were thrown around the plant.

The Dodge Amplex and Forge divisions of Local 140 are still working with skeleton crews. These workers should be brought out with the rest since it is all the same fight.

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## SPEED-UP

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sent moment they are collaborating with the Federal Bureau of Investigation to prevent the distribution of revolutionary literature among the strikers.

In a word, they are holding the rank and file in check and systematically confusing them. They call the strike at Dodge Main a lockout. They permit workers at the Highland Park plant to continue working. They permit skeleton crews to work in most of the Chrysler plants. They call everything by its wrong name and permit a set-up to continue which divides the membership.

There are indications that there will be a back-to-work movement organized not by the workers but by the reactionary forces, Gerald K. Smith, Pat McCartney of the UAW-AF of L. and other corporation agents. More and more police and deputy sheriffs are being brought into the service of the company, both at the gates where picketing is being done and for patrol and convoy or scab-herding purposes. The danger of injunctions both in Detroit and Macomb County is imminent.

### CRISIS

The issues are squarely before the Chrysler workers. Not only are the Chrysler unions facing a crisis in this present strike, but the entire International union as well. And, what is more, it will have effects reaching far into the labor movement. A defeat for the Chrysler workers will set the labor movement back in that it will encourage other manufacturers to make a drive on unions.

On the other hand, a victory can mean a healthy rebellion on the part of the auto workers against their misleaders who will most certainly stand in the way of a complete victory, and it may be the match that will set fire to a movement among the auto workers that will cause serious inroads on the war preparations. It is a goal worth struggling for.

### AUTO WORKER.

## Fascist

Continued from Preceding Page

Smith had many favorable words for the strike-breaking Detroit police, which brought smiles to the face of Chief of Police, Heinrich Pickert, who was a guest of honor.

Climax of Smith's speech was his remarks about the CIO and the Chrysler strike. He blasted the CIO as a "communist-laid egg." He misrepresented the causes of the present Chrysler strike when he declared that "55,000 workers were being put out on the street without pay in order to gain a two weeks vacation with pay."

"You manufacturers quit dealing behind closed doors with rats, and the honest workers will know how to take care of these rats," was the way he invited strike-breaking.

### PREVENT REPETITION

There was no counter-demonstration or picket line organized by any working class organization. The Civil Rights Federation distributed papers giving an excellent factual account of Smith, but the article ended in typical liberal fashion with abstract pleas for "Americanism; industrial peace and national unity." The Labor's Non-Partisan League issued a leaflet exposing the 1936 incident.

Smith's Committee of One Million is an important part of the Fascist movement, particularly in Detroit. The workers of this city should see to it that Smith's gang of labor-haters is prevented from holding another such demonstration.

E. Barton.

## SOVIET

Continued from Second Page

WITH THE NATIONAL debt over 40 Billion it is obvious that the latter is out of the question for economic reasons, while expropriation is impossible since it would drive about 4,000,000 farm owners to revolt. The government has been forced to try to take the edge off the situation by plowing under cotton, destroying cattle, etc. But it has only made the situation worse.

In short, the changes being introduced in the new territory are possible only because of the revolution of 1917.

Are the Stalinists then spreading the world revolution? A million times no! The Stalinists are motivated by entirely different interests.

For one thing, their foreign policy remains fundamentally the same. While they denounce the present war as an imperialist conflict the Communist parties in the decisive capitalist countries where they exist continue to sell-out the efforts of the workers to fight their exploiters. In the class struggle on an international scale they are on the side of the class enemy.

The changes in the new territory are introduced with the purpose of giving the peasant something to fight for against any attempt by a capitalist power to invade that area. It is a part of the system of bulwarks which the Stalinist government is trying to create in neighboring territory against the possibility of a united imperialist attack.

There are other reasons. In expropriating the Polish gentry the Stalinist bureaucrats will transfer to their own pockets a large proportion of the rent which the former landlords squeezed out of the peasant. And they can satisfy thousands of their supporters by creating new jobs in the apparatus to be set up in this territory.

Toward proletarian revolutionists they show a murderous hostility. Reports from that territory indicate that the spontaneous efforts of local workers and even nationalist elements to remove some of the landlords and priests were suppressed with an iron hand and scores of revolutionists were shot.

### CONCLUSIONS

THERE IS NO FREEDOM in the new territory. If the peasant raises his voice except to hail Stalin, the Red Army will teach him how to sing in tune.

These events, then, show:

The Stalinist bureaucracy is counter-revolutionary;

It is broadening its base in the peasantry;

But in order to do so it is compelled to extend the main property relations set up by the revolution of 1917-18.

If the workers and peasants in the new territory are to profit from the new property relations they will have to join with the workers in the rest of the Soviet Union to overthrow the Stalinist bureaucracy.

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Those who maintain, because of the counter-revolutionary character of the Stalinist regime, that Russia is a capitalist society should reconsider their position in the light of these developments. For, it leads to reactionary conclusions. Viz.

If a capitalist society is capable, not only of nationalizing the land, banks and industry within its own borders, but of extending this progressive development to other countries, it must be considered a progressive society.

And, if this be so, then capitalism as a world society is once more capable of social progress; and the revolution to overthrow it must wait until some far off future time when capitalism will have again become a hindrance to the advance of humanity.

## Shop Talk

DETROIT, Nov. 6. — "The boss threatened me this morning," I said to my neighbor during lunch time. "He told me that if I couldn't do the job, there were lots of guys on the street who could."

"No kidding?" he replied, "And what did you do?"

"Me? I just took it, that's all."

"You're an ass," he said, "why if I was a young singleton like you, I'd have let him have it on the jaw."

I laughed out loud. "What good would it do? I'd simply get fired and that would be the end of it."

"Oh no—you'd get fired alright but he'd think twice before threatening anybody again."

### KILLING PACE

"Maybe you're right," I said, "but if he scared that easy so that he wouldn't bully us guys any more, then the company would replace him with somebody who wouldn't scare."

"Aw hell, I guess you're right," he replied, "but, Jesus Christ, something should be done about this speed-up. I can stand the pace for an hour or two; but eight hours! It kills me!"

"I know that—and something can be done about it—we should organize ourselves. Then let them threaten anybody. We'd tie up the works!"

"That sounds O.K.," answered my neighbor, "but it looks like that bunch of union grafters don't even want our dough. They're dropping' this joint like a hot potato."

"Sure," I replied, "That's because this place is a hard nut to crack and Lewis and his crowd are afraid of a fight. But we aren't. We should form a committee and organize it from the inside. The boss can stop Lewis, but he can't stop us. How about it?"

M. Bono.

## Starves; Steals; Jailed; Eats!

Milwaukee, Wis., Nov. 6. — Harry E. Eichstaedt Jr., 25 years old, son of a WPA worker, told U.S. Commissioner Floyd E. Jenkins today he got so tired of a diet of bread and water that he cashed his father's \$31.68 WPA pay check and feasted at restaurants as long as it lasted. The commissioner bound him over for trial and sent him to the county jail in default of \$100 bail. He will get more than bread and butter in the jail. Chicago Tribune.

### Capitalism!

## Organization Notes

### CHICAGO

The Chicago Unit is planning to begin a class in the ABC of Marxism based on the pamphlet of the same name within a month.

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REVOLTS distributed here have almost doubled in the last month. The comrades now handle 600 per issue. Everybody contributes articles to the paper.

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Comrade Drake spoke Saturday, Nov. 4 at the Plebeian Forum, on "Workers and the U. S. War Machine." Comrade Ross will speak there Saturday, Nov. 18, on "Can the United States Keep Out of War?"

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### DETROIT

The Detroit Unit has increased its bundle order of REVOLT to 600.

This is not only contrary to what Lenin taught, but is contradicted most decisively by the second imperialist war which is a senseless slaughter for the sake of capitalist profit; out of which will develop a new round of revolutions.

## Book Review

### INDUSTRIAL VALLEY

by Ruth McKenny

Harcourt Brace & Co., N. Y., 1939. 379 pgs.

Industrial Valley describes the struggle for existence of the rubber workers in Akron against the rubber barons and Wall Street.

The gum-pit wage slave is largely the old-stock American backwoodsman from Kentucky and Tennessee, who deserted his unproductive farm under high-pressure advertising to go to the big city to make his "pot of gold." When he got there he became a wage slave.

The book is written in diary form and covers the years 1932-36. The story of the rubber workers is a bitter, hard but human drama. The story of the Ohio Insulator strike in Barberton, a suburb, in the Autumn of 1936, is unforgettable.

The picket line of 300 men—100 per cent organized; the treachery of Sheriff Jim Flower who, during a truce, sprang a gang of hoodlums and vigilantes through the picket lines; cold-blooded tear-gassing of women and children by Colonel Joe Johnston, super-salesman of tear-gas for the Lake Erie Chemical Co.; 24 hour death vigil; barricades in the streets in front of the plant to keep the "legal" gangsters inside; and, finally, the threat of general strike. Vivid pictures of the class struggle.

### SHORTCOMINGS

But the book has serious shortcomings. Miss McKenny is associate editor of the Stalinist New Masses.

In beginning her book with the year 1932 she is able to ignore the 1925-26 Stalinist attempt to organize the rubber mills into the Modern Society of Rubber Workers when Ike Amter's union-splitting enabled Ku-Klux-Klan elements to smash the Union. In this way she attempts to present the CP as a progressive union force.

The AF of L is ably dealt with. Coleman Claherty, the Francis Dillon of Rubber, and William Green are exposed for their sell-out agreements and craft-separatism of 1935 when the workers tore up their cards and the union dwindled to a small handful.

But her treatment of the CIO is distorted by her Stalinist approach. In January 1936 the first sit-down strike in American history, took place in Akron. This movement was organized by the workers themselves. After the strike was a week old the CIO sent in organizers and money and placed itself at the head of the movement.

All this is amply demonstrated by Miss McKenny who nevertheless gives the credit for "supplying courageous leadership" to the CIO.

Valuable lessons can be learned from this book. To be successful, sit down strikes must be organized strictly on almost military lines. Unions must have a democratic structure and all strikes must be decided upon by the workers themselves.

Last but not least, a poor union is better than none. Don't tear up your card as the rubber workers did in the Spring of 1935, but stay in and fight for progressive union principles as these same workers did in the autumn of that year when they chased William Green out of Akron

E. Denny

## Terror

Continued from Preceding Page

the RCIPA leadership are lined up in a united front to break their strike for better conditions and the right to choose their own union.

Best lesson of all is that the workers are in a position to beat this line-up and win the strike—if they stick together and hold out, as they appear to have every intention of doing. If they win it will be only because of their own solidarity and determination and the help of other workers.

Retail Employee.