

Socialist Workers Party Calls For A \$10,000 War Chest

Branches Pledge Three Times As Much As Before

By JAMES P. CANNON
National Secretary

By unanimous decision of the National Committee, the Socialist Workers Party hereby opens a campaign for a \$10,000 War Chest.

This may seem like a very large sum for a small workers' party to raise in the face of war, when rival parties and groups are crying hard times, languishing or folding up altogether.

Some may regard the talk of a \$10,000 War Chest as a bluff—a fantastic sum of which we expect to collect only a small part.

All such assumptions are completely erroneous. They can be entertained only by people who do not know our party.

We are calling for a \$10,000 War Chest, and our party members will subscribe it 100%—to the last penny!

Our Trotskyist party is not like other parties. It believes in the coming victory of the workers. Its members aim at a great goal. They are in dead earnest, confident of victory, disciplined and capable of sacrifice.

In every case the party strives to understand and single out the most important task of the hour. Then it concentrates all efforts and energies on the accomplishment of that task.

The task of the present hour is to prepare the party for war—to provide it with a War Chest.

All party branches have been consulted on the project. They have enthusiastically endorsed it, and assumed their respective quotas to be completed by August 1st.

The branch quotas are listed below. Each week until the end of the campaign the score board, showing the contributions, the percentages and the balance to go, will be printed in THE MILITANT.

Every party member and sympathizer will watch the War Chest score board with confidence that the \$10,000 goal will be reached. Let skeptics also watch it to see how a Trotskyist party tackles and accomplishes a hard but necessary task.

\$10,000 War Chest SCOREBOARD

BRANCH	QUOTA
New York	\$ 2,500
Chicago	1,200
Minneapolis	1,200
San Francisco	1,000
Detroit	500
Newark	500
Los Angeles	400
Boston	350
St. Paul	300
Flint	200
Cleveland	150
Youngstown	150
Philadelphia	125
Louisiana	100
San Diego	100
Buffalo	60
Akron	50
Fresno	50
New Haven	50
Rochester	50
Toledo	50
Pittsburgh	40
Portland	30
Reading	25
Allentown	25
Quakertown	25
Seattle	25
St. Louis	25
Rockville	20
Texas	15
Baltimore	10
Hutchinson	10
Milwaukee	10
Members-at-Large	655
TOTAL	\$10,000

FDR Spokesman Backs Hobbs Bill

Concentration Camps For Aliens Called For By Attorney General

The concentration camp, long a feature of Nazi Germany and recently adopted by France and England, is about to make its appearance in America, if Roosevelt's Attorney General has his way. The first hundreds of prisoners have already been rounded up and the legislation providing for such camps is being rushed through Congress under pressure from the administration.

Attorney General Jackson told his press conference on May 20 that his round-up of aliens would be "wasted effort" unless the Hobbs Bill passed Congress. The bill provides for "supervision and detention" of deportable aliens.

The bill would establish a three-man board whose rulings would be removed from review by the

courts, except for questions of fact. Section 202 of the bill provides that aliens convicted of treason, espionage, sabotage, kidnapping, extortion, robbery of the mails, (Continued on Page 4)

THE MILITANT

Formerly the SOCIALIST APPEAL

Official Weekly Organ of the Socialist Workers Party

VOL. V—No. 22

NEW YORK, N. Y. SATURDAY, MAY 31, 1941

267

FIVE (5) CENTS

'UNLIMITED EMERGENCY' IS THREAT TO TRADE UNIONS

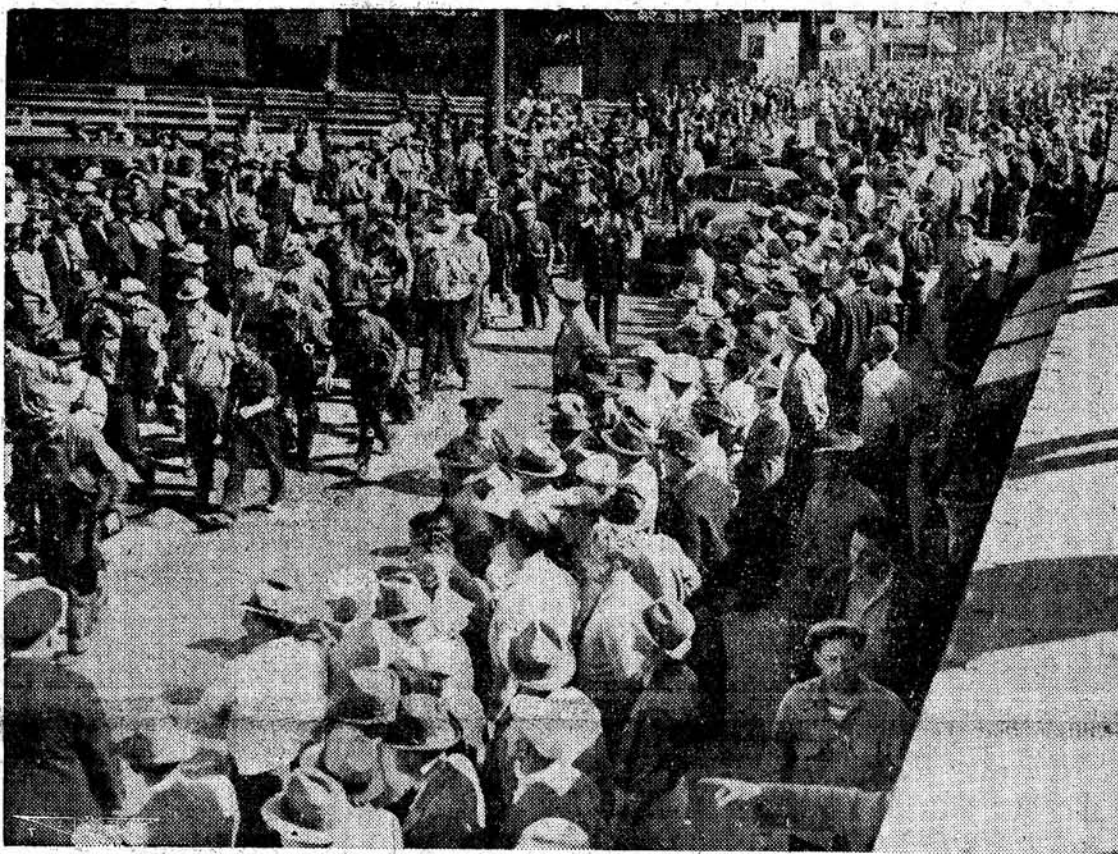
FBI Arrest Fails To Stop Union

TRENTON, N. J., May 23—An attempt by the John Roebing Sons Co., with the aid of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, to sway the NLRB election at the company's plant in Roebing, N. J., fell through as the 5,400 Roebing workers last Tuesday voted more than two to one for the SWOC-CIO.

The night before the election FBI agents arrested Charles Virok, an SWOC shop steward, upon complaint of the company management. The charge was that Virok, had violated the Federal Anti-Sabotage Act by closing switches controlling the power blocks "with intent to obstruct the defense of the United States." A hard-fought strike at the plant three weeks ago was settled by SWOC on condition that the NLRB poll be held.

Bail, set originally by the U.S. Commissioner at \$7500, was finally reduced to \$2000 and was raised by the Workers Defense League and the SWOC just in time to permit Virok to vote in the NLRB election.

Scabherding Is A Flop



Scene at a San Francisco shipyard as striking AFL and CIO machinists, and thousands of other shipyard workers who have refused to pass the machinists' picket lines, contemptuously watch a couple of hundred scabs under heavy police guard, led by John P. Frey, head of the AFL Metal Trades Council, enter the struck plant. Despite the scabherding attempt of the government, companies and AFL heads, operation of the 11 struck shipyards is still at a virtual standstill.

Navy 'Convoy' Flops In Frisco Shipyard Strike

Admiral Greenslade and 'Colonel' Frey Lead Navy Trucks, Busses Through Picket Lines—But With Few Workers in the 'Convoy'

SAN FRANCISCO, May 26—Striking AFL and CIO Bay Area shipyard machinists are still standing firmly on their feet despite the foul blows thrown at them by the phoniestic collection of pie-cards, government strikebreakers and chairwarming admirals ever joined together to break a strike.

Every conceivable effort, from pleading and browbeating to open scabherding and picket-line crashing has been used in the past week to end or smash the strike:

Governor Olson shed a bucketful of crocodile tears begging the machinists to make a "patriotic sacrifice" and go back to work. The machinists, undoubtedly thinking that Olson would do better begging shipowners to make some "sacrifices," voted five to one to continue the strike.

Nation's No. 1 Fink, John Frey, backed by a small army of cops, marched a few score workers through the picket line. Most of them marched right out again.

The first American convoys in the war were used not against Hitler and the Nazis but against striking shipyard workers in the Bay Area (still recognized as part of the United States). U.S. Navy trucks and busses driven by navy sailors and marines drove through the picket lines. But mighty few workers were inside them. Frey requested this "transportation" and Admiral Greenslade commanded the heroic expedition.

The Senate opened an "investigation" as a vantage point from which to hurl verbal bombs at the strikers. Senator Tom "Poll Tax" Connally offered to send those who "don't want to work" to "farms"—Texas language for concentration camps or chain gangs.

Ralph Bard, Assistant Secretary of the Navy, offered the

"democratic" suggestion that strike leaders be prosecuted for conspiracy, or to enact a law to so prosecute if present statutes didn't permit that kind of Hitlerism.

San Francisco labor's tradition of unionism and militancy and their fresh memories of the dirty deal shipyard workers got in the last war, has been bad for John Frey's blood pressure. They just don't like to fink, even if they are led by so-called labor leaders and blessed by the government, the army and the navy.

Frey's first attempt at finking was a complete flop. He started

with two strikes on him. The day before Olson's speech to the strikers, Frey declared: "I'm going through that picket line, and God help any man who tries to stop me."

But Frey didn't go through that picket line. The Navy told him to lay it over for a day and the Mayor of Oakland wouldn't give him any protection until after he saw the outcome of the Olson meeting. And without the cops Frey had a sneaking feeling it would have been: "God help Mr. Frey if he tried to go through that picket line."

Next day, Frey and a gang of worthies, backed by plenty of cops, led some of the workers through the picket line but it proved to be a very disappointing expedition. Here is the report from the Examiner at the Moore Drydock in Oakland where the "march" took place:

"Many of the marchers fell out of line and mingled with the pickets before the gates of the plant (Continued on Page 3)

Marines Sent Thru CIO Picket Line In Brooklyn Strike

NEW YORK CITY, May 26—A truck from the Brooklyn Navy Yard, driven by a Navy Yard employee flanked by two Marines, and escorted by a police car, went through a CIO picket line at the struck Biltwell Steel Products Company, 1708 Atlantic Ave., Brooklyn, last Friday, and picked up two loads of metal door frames.

This was the charge made yesterday by Leon Zwicker, regional director of the United Construction Workers Organizing Committee, CIO, in a telegram to Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox, demanding that Knox investigate.

Biltwell is one of a number of companies being struck by metal door workers seeking higher wages and union recognition.

"All over the city our picket lines are solid and, except when the employers bring in the U.S. Marines, nothing is moving in or out," said Zwicker. He remarked on the similarity with the use of the Navy against the San Francisco machinists' strike and concluded: "Has the Navy become a strikebreaking outfit?"

FDR Ready For "Shooting" War

Goes Beyond Convoys, Saying He Will Use 'Any And All Further Methods' On Seas; 'Determined' To 'Prevent' Strikes

"I am going to shoot"—this was the plain meaning of President Roosevelt's Tuesday night speech.

"Convoys mean shooting and shooting means war," Roosevelt had said on January 21. Now he has gone beyond convoys: "Our military and navy technicians" are working out "any and all further methods" to "give every possible assistance to Britain" and "to insure delivery of the needed supplies to Britain."

But not all the shooting threats were directed by Roosevelt at Hitler. Simultaneously he

warned the workers that "this government is determined to use all of its powers... to prevent interference with the production of materials." He could scarcely have used plainer language. "Collective bargaining will be retained, but..." That BUT tells the whole story.

COMPULSORY ARBITRATION

The ostensibly voluntary character of mediation, Roosevelt indicated, is to be transformed, with or without the consent of the workers, into the equivalent of compulsory arbitration: "That (mediation) machinery must be used promptly—and without stoppages of work... Collective bargaining will be retained, but the American people expect that impartial recommendations of our government, conciliation and mediation services will be followed both by capital and by labor."

Since capital is more than willing to prevent strikes, and since only the strike weapon can enforce labor's demands, Roosevelt's insistence on obedience to the commands of government mediation boards is a blow at the workers and at them alone.

Roosevelt's assumption of "unlimited emergency" powers put new teeth into his threat against strikes. Whatever the fine legal points may be—some authorities contend that such "emergency powers" can be used only with the express consent of Congress and after a formal declaration of war by Congress—it is clear that Roosevelt intends to assume any powers he may feel called upon to use, with or without Congressional consent.

MORE MATERIAL REASONS!

While, in the name of "democracy," serving notice on the workers to stay at work no matter what the conditions on the job, Roosevelt did not forget to give more materialistic reasons to the bosses to support the "war for democracy." He warned them that German victory would be followed by "an economic strangle-hold" against which tariff walls would be futile; that "business, manufacturing, mining, agriculture—all would be mangled and crippled under such a system."

He hastened to buttress this very materialistic justification for war with a pious series of references to how "our right of worship would be threatened" by Hitler; he did not tell his listeners that Hitler himself is a good

Catholic! Or that the Pope is on perfectly good relations with Hitler and Mussolini. Or that the Protestant churches, by and large, have made their peace with Hitler—as the churches always do with any ruler, no matter how vile.

HYPOCRITICAL SLOGAN

Roosevelt's speech made much of the doctrine of "freedom of the seas." He had been preceded in this by statements last week by Knox and Stimson, who had called for return to freedom of the seas by repeal of the Neutrality Law. Roosevelt proclaimed the doctrine of freedom of the seas but made no mention of repeal of the Neutrality Law. In reality he has already skipped over the law, for the navy patrol and the merchant shipping to the Red Sea ports are clearly violations of the Neutrality Law, provisions forbidding U.S. ships to enter war zones.

As in everything else in this war, the "freedom of the seas" propaganda is but the continuation of the last war's formulas.

Wilson was hypocritical enough but at least for a time he demanded freedom of the seas both from Germany and Britain. For that is what freedom of the seas mean—freedom to trade with all belligerents. Roosevelt, however, has tortured this nice-sounding phrase out of all semblance of its original meaning. One can scarcely blame him: there are few attractive slogans left to the imperialists. "Freedom of the seas" makes no real sense as Roosevelt uses it. But anything goes—logic or no logic, sense or no sense—so long as it aids American imperialist interests.

WORKERS WILL DEFEND THEIR OWN RIGHTS

Roosevelt understands quite well that the sacrifices he is demanding from the workers appear all the more intolerable in the face of the huge war profits of the capitalists. Hence his statement that "This is no time for capital to make, or to be allowed to retain excess profits."

Roosevelt's words are, at best, a pious wish, incapable of fulfillment while the war industries are in the hands of the capitalists.

Were Roosevelt really serious about it, he would agree to appropriate the war industries and let the workers operate and control them. Meanwhile, we are confident, his threats will not prevent the workers from continuing their fight for decent wages and working conditions.

UAW Groups Try Strength At Mich. Meeting

Auto Union Militants Show Strength, But Poor Stalinist Strategy Messes Things Up

JACKSON, Mich.—The fourth annual convention of the Michigan State CIO Council, representing all CIO unions in the state, served as a dress rehearsal this week for the contending forces in the UAW who are preparing their lines of battle for the coming convention of the auto workers in Buffalo.

The Reuther-Frankensteen resolution, which forbids "communists" to serve as officers of local unions or as international officers, was tested out at Jackson.

There was a bitter fight on the issue. At one point the forces opposed to the resolution, made up of the most militant elements in the union, had a clear majority in a test vote. But the Stalinists, not satisfied to put the question to vote when they were in a position to win, debated ad infinitum, finally disgusting even their own supporters and by their tactics alienating many votes.

The resolution, a red-baiting measure which is in reality aimed at all local union militants who dare to oppose the leadership, passed by about three to one.

FLINT VOTES AGAINST

However, the opposition was so severe that it will serve as warning to Reuther, Frankensteen and Thomas to step easy at the Buffalo convention. The entire Flint delegation, a powerful force, voted against the issue. These delegates were not Communist Party members for the most part, but sincere militants who oppose any Homer Martin witch hunt tactics.

STAND FOR NEGROES

Outstanding progressive notes were sounded on the Negro question. After several Negro leaders from the auto union gave militant speeches, a resolution was passed unanimously against discrimination in the armed forces, and warning that all the talk about democracy does not go over with the Negro who is Jim Crowed in this country just as cruelly as the Jews are persecuted in Germany.

The convention took no decisive stand on the question of political action. The committee brought nothing to the floor of any consequence, and reported so late in the proceedings that very few delegates were present to discuss the question. One militant from Detroit demanded a State Labor Party, and met considerable applause from the delegates present, but the convention failed to take action.

SPRIT OF OPTIMISM

Over the whole convention, the Ford NLRB victory cast a great spirit of optimism and militancy. When the Ford delegates seated themselves on the stage and were introduced there was a great ovation.

The one Negro member of the UAW-CIO bargaining committee at Ford, Sheldon Tapps, of the Foundry, was given a rising ovation that lasted several minutes, in a spontaneous tribute to the Negro workers at Ford who have shown their mettle and have fought side by side with the white workers for unionism. His short and modest little speech was given a greater ovation than that of any of the big names who spouted for an hour each.

Michael Wildman, Ford director, announced that there are now 60,000 dues paying members at Ford. The Ford workers voted decisively against the AFL, not only at the Rouge plant, but also at Lincoln.

Wildman warned the Ford Motor company that if it takes a strike to get a contract, the UAW-CIO is ready to strike Ford again.

FOR BRIDGES' DEFENSE

The convention went on record in support of Harry Bridges and demanded a cessation of the action being taken to deport him. The delegates also dispatched a telegram to Mayor LaGuardia of New York, demanding that he deal with the Transport Workers Union and cease his union-wrecking tactics in the subway controversy.

VOTE AGAINST CONVOYS

A resolution against the sending of convoys to any belligerent country, and demanding that Roosevelt keep the country out of war, was passed.

The resolution was not discussed at great length, and was in general a reflection of the pacifism of the delegates. Nothing was

CIO Ford Rally



50,000 members of the United Automobile Workers (CIO) as they packed Cadillac Square in Detroit at the final CIO rally before the NLRB election at the Ford Motor Company. The Ford workers voted, on May 22, 70 per cent in favor of the CIO. This tremendous election victory breached the last anti-union barrier erected by Henry Ford, although this final success was virtually assured by the recent strike which successfully shut down the Ford River Rouge plant for the first time in 38 years.

Naval Reserve Blames Union For No Recruits

Seafarers' Union Denies Interfering With Recruiting; Says Naval Reserve's Low Wages, Scab Conditions, Is Real Cause

Failure to recruit American merchant seamen into the Naval Reserve because of the low pay and non-union conditions, has led officials of the Naval Reserve to attempt a smear of the Seafarers' International Union (AFL), charging that a union

representative instructed crew members of the S. S. Delargentina at New Orleans "not to talk to anyone about the Naval Reserve."

A. W. Armstrong, SIU agent at New Orleans, condemned as untrue the story told by Captain John Shafroth, director of the Naval Reserve Division of the Bureau of Navigation, who alleged, May 19, before the House Naval Affairs Committee, "that when a recruiting party boarded the Delargentina on May 1, the SIU ship's representative tried to prevent the seamen from talking to the recruiting officers."

Captain Shafroth implied further that "German sympathizers" were involved, by alleging that a search of the ship had revealed three swastikas painted in the ship's storerooms.

UNION GIVES FACTS
Armstrong's letter, released to the press May 19, declared: "There has, at no time, been any delegate of the Seafarers' International Union, interfering with any officer of the navy aboard any vessel. If the members of the crew ask the delegates what to do, they are told that it is strictly up to the men themselves. Lieutenant Bland (Naval Reserve recruiting officer) asked the Acting Agent if he had any objections to his interviewing the members of the crew (of the Delargentina). He was told that was between him and the men."

"At the time of paying off, the Land, Knudsen and . . . Mr. Hillman:

"Navy and Maritime Commission cannot approve double time for overtime except on Sundays and holidays."

THE BIG QUESTION
3. The big question that still hasn't found expression even from the striking unions is this: "Why doesn't the government take over the shipyards, eliminate the huge profits of the capitalists, operate them under workers' control and thereby be enabled to pay not only double time but probably even double wages out of the profits now made by these capitalists?"

Governor Olson issued a statement favoring government operation of the shipyards for the "emergency." But this proposal is obviously just a means of keeping the workers on the job at any wage offered just as government operation of the railroads was during the war.

Elimination of the profiteers, control by the workers! There is the answer that sooner or later must come out of the ranks of the shipyard workers in answer to the sinking of phoney labor leaders and strikebreaking by the government.

LaGuardia Is Protecting Notorious Fascist Agent

Carlo Tresca, Anti-Fascist Italian Editor, Exposes LaGuardia's Close Relations With Fascist Publisher And Fascist Groups

Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia, now head of three national government "defense" agencies, has been cooperating with Generoso Pope, one of the most influential agents of Mussolini in the United States.

The details of LaGuardia's friendly relations with Pope are published by Carlo Tresca, editor of *Il Martello*, leading anti-fascist Italian publication in America, in his issue of May 14.

Pope is publisher of the Italian-American newspapers, *Il Progresso* and *Il Corriere*.

Pope's newspapers are described by Tresca as "the main source of fascist propaganda in the United States."

LAGUARDIA PROTECTS HIM

LaGuardia recently whitewashed Pope as a "defender of democracy" by placing this fascist on the "I Am An American Day" committee. That happened, according to Tresca, "just when the State Department was scrutinizing the activities of the fascists in the United States and Generoso Pope was being put on the spot as a fascist leader."

Tresca charges LaGuardia with deliberate efforts to protect Pope, despite the fact that the Mayor knows his fascist activities.

"Speaking of Pope's recent invitation from LaGuardia, Tresca says:

"Pope has made the most of it. He has used the invitation as evidence of the fact that he is an American."

"He is not. He is, and he is proud of it, a fascist to the core and LaGuardia knows it."

LAGUARDIA'S OLD PAL

Going into the background of LaGuardia's present relations with Pope, Tresca writes:

"During the fascist aggression against Ethiopia, the same fascist organization, that now is put under the ban of the State Department, did collect money, plenty of it, golden rings and all sort of things, to give Mussolini aid and comfort."

"And a big rally was then, in 1936, staged at the same Madison Square Garden, by the fascists, under the dictation and supervision of the Consul General Vecchiotti."

"Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia was one of the speakers. On the platform he was warmly greeted by Generoso Pope, one of the most influential agents of Mussolini in the United States."

LAGUARDIA LIED FOR HIM

LaGuardia's friendliness to Pope has gone so far in the past as to lead the Mayor to doctor a police memorandum on fascist activities, striking out all references to Pope before the memorandum was issued.

Tresca tells of this in detail, as follows:

"On June 14, 1940 the New York Times, under the title 'Italian Consulate Charged With Plot — Police documents report official guidance of fascist propaganda here,' stated: 'The Italian Consulate General in New York, working under orders from Mussolini according to documents disclosed

LAGUARDIA'S "DEMOCRACY"
Absolutely not. He is a 100 per cent loyal supporter of the defense of American capital inter-

Mayor LaGuardia's New Post Defined By N. Y. Times

President Roosevelt has just appointed Mayor LaGuardia head of the Office of Civilian Defense. If, just after that happened, we radicals started to warn that LaGuardia would use that post for strikebreaking purposes, we'd sound like crackpots to a lot of people. So we won't do it. We'll just quote the May 24 New York TIMES ("Topics of the Times," written by its chief editorial writer):

"Suppose, for example, that Mr. Michael Quill and the Transport Workers Union justify their opponents' worst fears by launching a big strike and tying up transportation and paralyzing the life of the city. In that case nothing would be simpler than for Mr. La Guardia, as head of civilian defense, immediately to outlaw the strike and order the men back to work by virtue of powers which he cannot invoke as mere Mayor of New York. At least once in the history of France a serious railroad strike was handled by a Premier summoning the strikers to the colors and operating the railways as part of the national defense. It was done more than thirty years ago by Aristide Briand, who came to power as a radical."

ests. He is for war against the Axis powers.

LaGuardia isn't for that war because he is against fascism as a system. He is sympathetic to the idea of fascism, as represented by Pope, or so long as Mussolini attacks Ethiopia and not any territory in which American imperialism is interested.

LaGuardia is also an opportunistic capitalist politician. Pope undoubtedly has weight among a certain section of the large Italian population in New York City. LaGuardia figures that a few thousand more votes will always come in handy, even if they do come from pro-fascist sources.

LaGuardia has no principled opposition to fascism. He represents the kind of politicians who are backing the war for "democracy."

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Sam Smith's Newsstand 5th & Main St.

Memorial Day--1937



This is what happened four years ago on Memorial Day. On May 30, 1937, during the Little Steel Strike, hundreds of Chicago police fired point-blank into a peaceful column of several hundred strikers, their wives and children, who were marching to picket the plant of the Republic Steel Corporation. Ten unarmed strikers were slaughtered, shot in the back or clubbed to death. Old men, mothers, little kids were mercilessly beaten down with riot sticks and revolver butts. This was the way the Democratic Party machine of Chicago, Roosevelt's political henchmen, helped smash the Little Steel Strike. This year the magnificent strike victory at Bethlehem Steel and the rising tide of unionism throughout the rest of Little Steel have begun to pay back the bosses for the Memorial Day Massacre.

