Belgian Trotskyist Leader Dies In Prison at Hands of the Nazis

Leon Lesoil, leading member of the Trotskyist movement in Belgium, has died at the hands of the Nazis in a Belgian prison, according to information received by the British Socialist Appeal and printed in its Oct. issue.

Prominent member of the Revolutionary Socialist Party of Belgium, affiliate of the Fourth International, Comrade Lesoil participated in all the national meetings and conferences of the Fourth International held on the European continent.

His life was inseparable for the last 30 years from the life of the working class in the Belgian Charleroi district where he lived as a mining draughtsman. As a militant fighter he was driven from his work and victimized by the mineowners.

After the last war he was one of the pioneer members and founders of the Belgian Communist Party. He was driven out of the party at the time of the expulsion of the Trotskyist Left Opposition from the Communist International.

He immediately threw himself into the work of the Left Opposition and was largely responsible for the systematic way in which our Belgian comrades conducted their activities under difficult circum-

Leon Lesoil was loved not only by our comrades but also by thousands of miners. When the great strike movements swept the Belgian coal fields, workers would walk miles to hear him address meetings in the public square or from the balcony of the Town Hall. Social-Democrats, Stalinists and Syndicalists also recognized Lesoil as a leading militant in battle.

At this time when the Stalinists slander the Trotskyists and try to link them with the Nazis, Hitler has struck another blow at the Belgian workers by the murder of Comrade Lesoil. His death at the hands of the Nazis gives the lie to these foul Stalinist slanders.

We salute the memory of our Comrade Leon Lesoil, a front line fighter in the workers' battles, a gallant soldier of the Fourth International who died a martyr in the socialist struggle against capitalist

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ELECTION RESULTS SHOW NEED FOR A LABOR PARTY

Next Week

THE MILITANT will print: A continuation of the report on the CIO Convention by Felix Morrow, our special correspondent now in Boston. A stenographic report of James P. Cannon's historic speech at the New York celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Russian Revo-

CIO Opens Fifth Annual **Convention In Boston**

Murray Report Distorts Meaning of Roosevelt's Labor Record; Discussion on Anti-Jim Crow Fight Livens 2nd Day's Sessions

By Felix Morrow

BOSTON, Nov. 9. - The fifth convention of the CIO opened here today, with President Philip Murray making unmistakably clear, in his printed report and his first speech to the delegates, that the line of the CIO top leadership remains one of complete subordination. to the Roosevelt administra-

Perhaps the only point in Murray's opening address Labor Papers Threatened By

our Commander-in-Chief, Roosevelt, and I am going to support ment one hundred per cent."

FIRST DAY ATMOSPHERE

.The atmosphere of the first day's proceedings is indicated by Pers. those who spouted from the tform today: two clergymen ("May you be preserv- cut in the circulation of all ed from class hatred"); Mayor labor papers, particularly of Tobin of Boston ("Trust our mili- those papers presenting a military chiefs"); Governor Salton- tant analysis of events, for in stall of Massachusetts (he wouldn't abrogate labor laws the eyes of government officials do), this solution would not be "unless absolutely necessary"); Undersecretary of War Patterson: a rabbi; the "labor" attache

of the British Embassy. addresses by the regional and made by its newly-created Newsstate directors of the CIO, a paper Industry Advisory Comfraternal address by a Canadian mittee, labor publications are golabor leader and Murray's speech, ing to be struck a body blow. the day was monopolized by spokesmen of the capitalist the committee called on the WPB largely of bitter foes of unions. class. Still other government of- to 'freeze' newsprint and to make ficials-Undersecretary of War a 'horizontal' cut of at least 10

(Continued on page 2)

where he grew firm and positive was in saying: "I am determined to support Government Newsprint Plan A grave threat to all labor | WPB's printing and publishing him. I know that this great or publications was revealed in the branch, declared that the sug-

If adopted, the board's pro- tial'. such papers are considered least

"essential" of all. The AFL story follows:

"If the War Production Board Except for short welcoming puts through a recommendation

"After an all-day conference per cent in paper consumption. DISCRIMINATION AGAINST

THE LABOR PRESS "E. W. Palmer, deputy chief of

would have to prove it is 'essen-

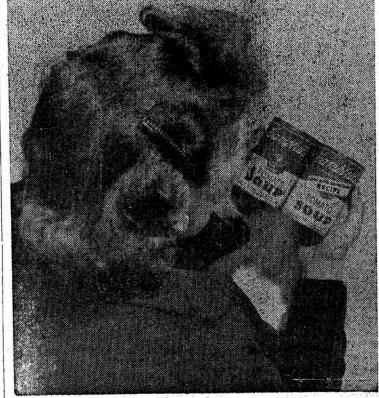
papers could meet by reducing

BITTER FOES OF UNIONS"

"On the Newspaper Advisory

"Publishers of labor papers throughout the country have protested this discrimination in letters and telegrams to Donald M. Nelson, WPB chieftain."

OPA Lets Price Rise



The Campbell Soup Co. has been authorized by the OPA to raise it prices from 1c to 3c per can because of a "new and improved recipe" label on the cover. The only "new" thing that housewives can find is the label; contents of both, listed on backs of the can, are identical. (Federated Picture.)

And while the OPA is permitting price rises for dozens of commodities, Leon Henderson had to admit last week that the majority of retailers are violating price regulations.

Of more than 10,000 stores inspected in the last month, a majority were found to be violating price laws either by simple overcharging, by reductions in quality of goods sold or by reductions in quantity.

A Labor Department report issued this month shows that food costs for the average family rose 2.4% between September 15 and October 15. The cost of all foods has risen 6.6% since May, the date at which the War Labor Board is freezing wages.

CIRCUIT COURT HEARS APPEAL ON MINNEAPOLIS CONVICTIONS

Decision Concerning Trial of Eighteen Is Expected in Approximately Six Weeks

fendants and the government States Circuit Court of Appeals in the appeal of the 18 defend- GOLDMAN AND FRAENKEL ants from the conviction for PRESENT ARGUMENTS READERS OF LABOR PA- conspiracy to violate the Smith PERS SHOULD DO THE SAME. Act. The convictions which are

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Nov. 5 - | being appealed followed a six Arguments on behalf of the de- weeks' trial of 18 Socialist Workers Party and CIO members in were heard today in the United Minneapolis in October and November of last year.

On behalf of the defendants, Albert Goldman, attorney and himself a defendant, and Osmond K. Fraenkel, attorney of the American Civil Liberties Union, contended the Smith Act as applied in the Minneapolis case was speech and free press.

The attorneys for the defense also argued that membership in any conspiracy after the passage of the Smith Act on June 28, 1940 had not been proved, and insufficient.

World War I.

The government's case was argued by Henry Schweinhaut of STASSEN MACHINE COULD Washington and Victor Anderson of St. Paul.

DECISION EXPECTED WITHIN SIX WEEKS

The case was taken under adadvisement by the judges and a decisi n is expected in about six

The Civil Rights Defense Committee of 160 Fifth Ave., New ants, has said that it will take the case to the U.S. Supreme Court if necessary.

Breitman Gets Higher Vote Than in 1940

More New Jersey **Workers Reached** With SWP Program Than Ever Before

it will be a comparatively low vote and although complete returns have not yet been published, the vote cast for George Breitman, Socialist Workers Parshow an in-

crease over that tabulated f o r h i m when he ran for the same office in 1940.

According to information received by THE MILITANT, 418 votes were

counted for G. Breitman Breitman last counties, Essex, Union and Pas-

of skirting around — the really hours of work. cialist terms. More workers

A large number of workers residing in the state's industrial centers did not go to the polls at all on Nov. 3. Undoubtedly Nevertheless the low Gallup esthis had an effect - although timate was 15 per cent more than only a minor effect - on the actually voted! comparatively low Breitman vote. In other words, all the polls

MANY WORKERS VOTED ONLY WITH THEIR FEET

Workers, Having An Independent Labor Choice, Cast Significant Vote for ALP

By George Breitman

The most important aspect of the Nov. 3 elections was the fact that a large and decisive section NEWARK, N. J.-Although of the American workers voted only with their feet.

These workers, who have generally voted Democratic for the last ten years, were faced in most parts of the country with a choice only between Democratic and Republican candidates running on virtually ty candidate for U. S. Senator the same conservative and reactionary programs. from New Jersey, will definitely Not seeing enough of a difference between them to make a choice worthwhile, these workers stayed away from the polls.

This factor, combined with the growing dissatisfaction of the middle class, professional workers and farmers - all being squeezed to the wall by the war and not knowing any other way of voicing their protests than by voting for the Republican 'outs" - resulted in sharp reductions of the Democratic majority in both Houses of Congress and the winning of many new state posts by the Republicans. @

REASON FOR LOW VOTE

plained only by the indifference ing class districts, from New Jeror hostility of many workers to sey to Michigan to California, the Democratic and Republican that usually vote Democratic. week in three of the state's 21 campaigns. Midterm voting is usually lower than that cast in presidential elections.

In addition, many people have Unlike the other minority been drafted, or have moved and wheelhorse, Senator Smathers, party candidates, Breitman's cam- thus been deprived of the right was supported by all the leaders paign was waged in a fighting to vote, or were unable to get to of both the AFL and CIO. He spirit, which took up - instead the polls because of their long even had a number of labor lead-

government, and answered them in forthright, uncompromising in forthright, uncompromising casts. Bearing them in mind, the of a single labor leader in New Associated Press had predicted a were reached with the Socialist turnout of 34 million, and the promise to Smathers and gave Workers Party program than in Gallup poll, which is generally him the amazing plurality of 117, any previous New Jersey elec- accurate within 1 to 2 per cent 000 votes in Hudson County. in its election polls, predicted 30 million.

Everyone had agreed that these estimates would represent a deep "apathy" toward the elections.

C. P. Helped To Elect Minnesota Republican

Only the Candidate of the Trotskyists Presented Correct Working Class Program

By VINCENT R. DUNNE | Farmer-Labor nomination in the

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn. -Another victory for the Repub- demned by the Benson-Stalinist lican machine of Governor clique as an "appeaser" and unconstitutional and deprived the Harold Stassen was chalked up defendants of their right of free in the recently concluded Min- peatedly despite Petersen's denial nesota election as a result of the of membership in the America Stalinist-created disunity in the First Committee, and notwithranks of the Farmer-Labor Par- standing the fact that the Stalin-

The final figures are not yet that the indictment was legally in as this is written, but it appears, on the basis of the latest On the constitutional question, unofficial tabulations, that Stasthey urged the court to adopt sen's plurality over his Farmerthe "clear and present danger" Labor opponent, Hjalmer Peterviews expressed by Justices sen, will be only half as large as Holmes and Brandeis in the crim- his 1940 plurality, and only oneinal syndicalism cases after third the size of his 1938 plurality over the then Farmer-Labor Governor, Elmer Benson.

HAVE BEEN DEFEATED

farmers been given any real leadcontrol of the state, a control Labor nominee for Senator). which has kept Minnesota trade unionists shackled by the infamous Stassen Labor Law since 1939.

But the Stalinists in control of linist, Petersen, who had won the

primaries from the Association-endorsed Paul Rasmussen, was con-"American Firster".

These charges were made re-

ists were the most rabid "isolationists" and "appeasers" during the period of the Nazi-Soviet pact. CIO members were openly advised in a radio address by Robert Madigan, spokesman of the Stalinist-dominated state CIO Council to vote for Stassen, because of Stassen's "endorsement and support of President Roosevelt's win-the-war program.' Equally treacherous anti-Stalin-

ist AFL trade union leaders, such as Sydney Brennan, business agent of General Drivers 544-AFL, supported Stassen, as well as the Republican candidate for U: S. Senator, Joseph Ball. (The Staership by Farmer-Labor politi- linists in the CIO and in the cians in the campaign, they would Farmer-Labor Association suphave broken the Stassen machine ported Elmer Benson, the Farmer-

PETERSEN'S CAMPAIGN

The Railroad Brotherhoods of Minnesota endorsed the candidacy York City, which is mobilizing the official Farmer-Labor machi- of Petersen, as did many trade public support for the defend- nery were actually supporting the union leaders, such as Roy Wier, labor-hating Stassen for governor organizer of the Minneapolis Cenrather than the Farmer-Labor tral Labor, Union, John Carlgren, nominee, Petersen. The anti-Sta- an official of the St. Paul Build-(Continued on page 3)

and machine politicians greatly underestimated the extent of the The extremely low vote of 26 prevailing "apathy" which was million cannot, of course, be ex- manifested primarily in the work-

TREND IN IMPORTANT INDUSTRIAL STATES

In New Jersey the Roosevelt ers running on his ticket in many But all these other factors had parts of the state, and taunted Mayor Hague kent

> In spite of this, Smathers and his labor supporters were resoundingly defeated by the Republican Albert W. Hawkes.

The explanation, as labor leaders ruefully admitted after the elections, was that they just couldn't get the workers in the big cities out for Smathers. If they had, the Democrats would have been able to overcome the high Republican middle class and suburban vote. Similarly in Michigan and Cal-

ifornia, where the trade union bureaucracies campaigned for the Democratic incumbents, Senator Prentiss Brown and Governor Culbert Olson, but where the Re-(Continued on page 3)

Elections Followed By Sales Tax Talk

One of the results of the recent elections will probably be a new drive to put over a sales tax next year. An AP dispatch on Nov. 6

stated that the administration economic leaders forecast "that sentiment for a retail sale tax would be stronger in the new Congress." Secretary of Treasury Mor-

genthau has announced that he will ask Congress for an additional six billion dollars in the near future. Congress will probably try

to use this request as an excuse for the sales tax which soaks the poor and spares the Wall Street also looks with

favor on sales taxes and similar measures to tax the masses. On Oct. 17 the "Magazine of Wall Street" stated: "Whether through a sales tax or otherwise, the major

part of any further increase in the total tax revenue will have to be had from the masses of lower-income people." In other words, last month's

tax bill drastically reducing the workers' incomes is only the beginning!

Boss Unity

The government last week indicted the U. S. Sugar Corporation of Florida on the charge of holding Negro workers in peonage and violating the federal laws against slavery.

The corporation was recruiting offering them free transportation | Imperialists' Aims to the plantations. Once the workers arrived, they were informed that they were in debt to the company for travelling expenses, and forced to work out the debt.

Workers who attempted to escape were captured, the indictment charged, and "injured, oppressed and threatened."

Behind these conditions, the newspaper PM revealed on Nov. staking the very existence of 8, are wealthy Northern in- the Soviet Union on the aid of dustrialists who own the con- the "democratic" imperialists trolling stock in the sugar com- and that he still refuses to call pany. Several of the directors and stockholders are officers of the General Motors Corporation. Among these is C. S. Mott, one

workers are the same financiers and big capitalists who oppress the workers of the North.

ganization that I am privileged Nov. 3 issue of the AFL Week- gestion would probably be adopted and that it would mean that to represent supports that state- ly News Service, which reports newspapers and magazines would that a government board is at- be allotted only a percentage of tempting to curtail the amount their consumption, and that to obof newsprint issued to labor pa- tain an allowance a publication

posal would result in a drastic "This would create a problem which publishers of large newsthe number of pages.

"With labor papers that print possible. If their supply of paper is cut, they will be forced to sacrifice subscribers.

Committee there is not a single spokesman for the labor and farm

"On the contrary, it is made up

Stalin Says Imperialists Will Save The Soviet Union

workers in Southern states and African War Shows Differ from USSR's

By ANTHONY MASSINI

Stalin showed on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Russian Revolution in his speech before the Moscow Soviet and his Order of the Day on Nov. 6 — that he is on the German masses to revolt against Hitlerism.

A year ago Stalin admitted that the Soviet Union was un-GM, whose family controls 68% able by itself to defeat Hitler of the sugar corporation's stock. who had mobilized the manpower The fact that such industrial- and resources of most of Europe ists control the sugar company for the purpose of crushing the workers' state. Stalin promised at evidence that the enemy of the that time that his policies of re-Southern Negro and poor white lying on his imperialist allies would "in the nearest future"

bring aid from outside the USSR, (Continued on page 3)



Red Army infantry are shown moving toward prepared positions in the outer defenses of Stalingrad. Their heroic struggle demonstrates to the world that despite the crimes of Stalinism, the Russian Revolution still lives. (Fed'ted Picture.)

SWP Celebrates Russian Revolution Anniversary

Meetings were held everywhere throughout the country last week on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Russian Revolution. Many of these meetings were held under the auspices of groups such as the Congress of American-Soviet Friendship, sponsored jointly by spokesmen of United States imperialism and the Stalinists. A few of the meetings were sponsored by renegades from the Marxist movement who no longer defend the workers' state. But only the gatherings held under the auspices of the Socialist Workers Party celebrated the anniversary in the spirit of the leaders of the Russian Revolution, Lenin and Trotsky.

Below we reprint accounts of those Socialist Workers Party meetings which reached us before we went to press .- Ed.

New York

NEW YORK, Nov. 8—The journed for a social. 250 workers attending the Socialist Workers Party cele- Detroit bration of the Russian Revolution's twenty-fifth anniversary enthusiastically demonstrated their agreement with the speakganda work.

ist Workers Party and main speaker of the evening, as he of the workers' state.

Comrade Cannon commented still doing all he can to insure workers of the world and directs his appeal to his imperialist

"We on our part turn to the workers and above all to the German and colonial workers as the future allies of the Soviet Union.

He examined the theory that Union were identical, and pointed Italy. As for Germany, he the audience. stated, "Hitler must look to Musimage of his future."

tributed the recent defeats of the other revolution. Axis in the East and in Africa to Hitler's mistake concerning the Soviet Union:

"Hitler looks to the East tonight with dark gloom, with the fear of having crushed his hopes on the Russian front. . . The fascist thinking was too superficial in its attitude towards the Soviet Union. Hitler saw only the Soviet Union which reprederstand the vitality of the still

recognized that despite the poli- a well attended Twin City Suntical degeneration it suffered day Forum in Minneapolis. The under Stalinism, the Soviet Union weekly forum session was devoted the October Revolution was still to a commemoration of the annialive and would be defended with versary of the Russian Revoluunsurpassed heroism and selfsacrifice by the workers of Russia and of the world. "The funeral of the October Revolution," Cannon continued, "now announced by so many renegades, will not only be postponed, but will never struggle for socialism, the speaktake place."

Hansen and Eloise Black, as which calls for real defense of he pointed out, which made pos- men." "Three of the five decisions speakers. Hansen compared the Soviet Russia through a program sible the resistance of the workpresent betrayals of the petty bourgeoisie and their rejection of movement in period of reaction. (His speech is reprinted on P. 3 of this issue.)

Eloise Black discussed the continuation and sharpening of the class struggle as the best method for the defense of the Soviet

The meeting sent greetings of solidarity to Natalia Sedov Trotsky in Mexico. William F. Warde acted as chairman.

Boston

BOSTON, Mass., Nov. 8 -Felix Morrow, editor of Fourth International, main speaker at the meeting celebrating the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Russian Revolution held by the Boston Branch of the Socialist Workers Party, stressed the fact that the Russian Revolution was carried out by a majority of the population, led by the Bolshevik Party.

He was followed by Farrell Dobbs, National Labor Secretary, who pointed out the role of the Socialist Workers Party in the United States as the vanguard of the American working class, and showed the growth and increased activity of the party during the past period.

About thirty-five members and sympathizers attended the meeting. After the singing of The

DETROIT, Mich., Nov. 8 -Fifty-five workers from the was celebrated in the frue spirit the Atlantic City convention in ranks of the most militant sec- of October. tions of American labor gathers, who called for continued ered here tonight to celebrate working class defense of the the twenty-fifth anniversary of Soviet Union, by pouring \$430 the Russian Revolution. Here inevitably attack the USSR and the OPM, who served as the butt speech, if added together, conpansion of the party's propa- labor: old workers experiencing in 1917, unless the world revolution. for the second time the short- tion came to the aid of the lived false prosperity of the ini-The audience gave close at- tial war boom and young worktention to James P. Cannon, ers, many holding "steady" jobs National Secretary of the Social- for the first time; men and women: whites and their Negro comrades associating fraternally.

Comrade Jones, organizer of the discussed the present critical Detroit S.W.P. Branch, who acted peril of the Soviet Union and the as chairman noted the ever-inneed for the continuation of the creasing role of women in the Trotskyist position for defense party in his introduction of the speaker, Lydia Beidel.

Comrade Beidel pointed out the on the Nov. 6 speech to the Moscow. place occupied by the Russian Re-"Stalin's speech," he volution, the most significant stated, "only shows that he is event in recent history, when, in October 1917 the working class. the defeat of the Soviet Union. acting in is own interest consci-He rejects the support of the ously for the first time, kicked the bosses out of the factories and of the Russian Revolution anthe landlords off the land. She heaped scorn upon the hysterical efforts of the leaders of moribund capitalism whose vain thrashings to push back the sands of time. succeed only in burying themselves more thoroughly.

The meeting celebrated simultaneously the anniversary of the fascist Germany and the Soviet Russian Revolution and the birth- gro trade union militants, heard day of one of its greatest leaders, an address by Arthur Preis, to the differences between the Leon Trotsky. Comradely greetcontinued strength of the Soviet ings and expressions of solidarity MILITANT, on the nature and sigeconomy and the high morale of were conveyed to Comrade Natalia nificance of the Bolshevik Revoluits people and the breakdown of in Mexico in a telegram sent by tion.

The assembled workers contrisolini and there he will see the buted generously to a collection sky and the Bolshevik Party in to further another celebration in their opposition to all the imper-Comrade Cannon partially at- the not-too-distant future of an- ialists in the last war and their tatives of the CIO have felt that

MINNEAPOLIS, Nov. 8-"It is the planned economy,

Citing the heroism of the Red Army on the one hand, and conpresent leadership of the Soviet Union which has abandoned the er showed that the Trotskyists

of world socialism. the working class character of ber of workers present parti- the basis for the unequalled the Soviet Union with the past cipated in the discussion and Soviet resistance to the Nazi war betrayals of the working class showed clearly their desire to machine. know the facts about the degenerate Stalinist bureaucracy which rules Russia today.

the forum session at which a ed the Bolshevik slogan of "no lunch was served and opportunity annexations - no indemnities," provided for those in attendance which attracted the support of to carry on their discussion in- the militant workers everywhere.

Youngst'n

YOUNGSTOWN, Nov. 8-A roundtable discussion on the meaning and history of the Russian revolution was the main feature of the anniversary meeting held here by the Youngstown Branch of the S.W.P.

The following telegram was sent to Natalia Sedov Trotsky in Mexico:

"Dear Comrade Natalia: "On this twenty-fifth anniversary of the Russian Revolution, we draw renewed inspiration from the first successful proletarian revolution to face our present tasks, supported by the vigor, integrity and ideological soundness of our great teacher, L. D. Trotsky."

For a Rising Scale of Wages to Meet Rising Living Costs

internationale, the meeting ad-iourned for a social

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 8-Fifty workers were present here at the S.W.P. meeting on the Russian Revolution which

and Janet Bowers, recalled the cept Sidney Hillman, President MURRAY'S METHOD persistent warnings of Leon of the Amalgamated Clothing Trotsky that imperialism would Workers and then co-director of made by Murray's report and seek to destroy the gains made of John L. Lewis' criticisms of

They condemned the Stalinist policy of relying on the imperialists to save the Soviet difficult to arouse the German of the more obvious anti-labor from adding together the facts he workers for the overthrow of Hit- consequences of the policies of himself presented. lerite capitalism.

Natalia Sedov Trotsky, widow of which Murray had to record were the leader of the Russian Revolu- the following: tion and founder of the Red

Chicago

CHICAGO, Nov. 8-A wellattended meeting in celebration niversary was held here this afternoon at the Hotel Hamilton. The meeting was under the auspices of the Chicago Local of the Socialist Workers Party.

An attentive and responsive audience, composed largely of industrial workers including many Neformer associate editor of THE

The speaker contrasted the program and methods of Lenin, Trot-

the bureaucracy. He did not un- sents the workers' power that mentage and the Board." mentary film of the Russian Rethe Trotskyists defend today," volution, "Tsar To Lenin," which Only the Fourth International said Max Geldman, speaking to was greatly enjoyed by the au-

Newark

NEWARK, Nov. 6-George Collins was the principal speaker at the Newark S.W.P. meeting held to celebrate the andemning the policies of the niversary of the Russian fortunate regressions in the law been fundamental, Roosevelt Revolution.

Comrade Collins emphasized tions." the thoroughgoing and uncompromising nature of the revolu-Cannon was preceded by Joseph are the only group in the world tion. It was this solid foundation, to the rights of organized seaers' state to the reactionary dards Act were adverse" to labor. Following the speech, a num- Stalinist regime and also provided

He compared the conduct of the Bolshevik government in the last war with that of the Stalin-The usual social hour followed ist government today. He review-He then contrasted this policy with that of the Stalinists which at present is preparing a bill of indemnities to be presented to whatever government may be in power in Germany after the war

> Defend Soviet Union 1/ By ALBERT GOLDMAN

Pioneer Publishers 116 University Place New York City

First Day of CIO Convention: Murray Tries To Distort Roosevelt's Labor Record

Roosevelt Administration.

On the contrary, each com

Murray's report referred to the

their own unaided efforts.

That it is Roosevelt's

mum as a Cape Cod oyster.

lings, who hand out these con-

That Roosevelt signed the tax

directly sought to whitewash

Had the differences between

One of the most ludicrous

things in Murray's report is his

reason for hoping that the "in-

creasingly conservative majority"

changed. "This line-up," writes

Murray, "may be significantly af-

fected by the resignation of

Justice Byrnes from the bench

to take the position of Economic

Stabilization Director," Byrnes

wrote some of the most reac-

tionary decisions handed down

by the court. Whereupon Murray

says, in effect: Cheer up boys,

Byrnes has resigned—to become

the economic dictator, the most

powerful government official next

Who is responsible for the

anti-labor acts of the War Labor

Next Week's

Classes

of the New York School of

Social Science

Wednesday, Nov. 18, 8:15 P. M.

International Cartels and

Monopolies

C. CHARLES, Instructor

Friday, Nov. 20, 8:15 P. M.

The Lessons of the Chinese

Revolution

JOHN G. WRIGHT, Instructor

At 116 University Place-2d Fl.

to the president!

stead, he signed it.

MURRAY'S HOPES

(Continued from page 1) Bard, Senator Pepper of Florida,

parade of capitalist spokesmen gives the dominant tone of the convention-subservience to the government.

It is worth recalling, in contrast to this atmosphere, that at organization to win the war, or 1940, not a single government destroy labor?" The speakers, C. Thomas official was invited to speak, ex-

ANTI-LABOR POLICIES

Although Murray's keynote together and then urge the workwas support of the "Commander- ers to support the Roosevelt Adin-Chief," his report and speech ministration. You can't do both. Union, a policy which makes it nevertheless had to refer to some So Murray earefully abstained the self-same Commander-in-The meeting sent greetings to Chief. Among the complaints

> 1. Growth of monopoly, "A almost half of the outstanding wise perfect situation. war contracts."

2. Soak the poor, The 1942 tax sought to absolve Roosevelt of measure—signed by Roosevelt on all blame for the anti-labor con-Oct. 21-"will actually deprive sequences. the workers of the means to purchase sufficient necessities of 100 companies who monopolize life with which to maintain their 80% of all war contracts as if strength and health... the companies had been able to create such a stranglehold by

first legislative problem of the CIO. Reactionary Congressional leaders have made very clear the ministration, Roosevelt's underfact that they are not yet finished with their victous work. . . The working men and women of America will recognize in 1943 that the Revenue Act passed this bill, that it was Roosevelt's own year has meant a nationwide dangers to food budgets."

3. Anti-labor acts of the WLB. "On wage issues represensuccessful revolutionary defense the War Labor Board has not Roosevelt by a demonstrable of the early Soviet Union with recognized the extent to which falsehood. the present policies of Stalinism, the needs of war production The Stalinist policies, he demon- require upward adjustment of LIES ON THE TAX BILL A special feature of the meet- been in agreement with the deci- Finance Committee were limited

ROOSEVELT'S COURT

4. Anti-labor acts of the "normal" profits, and similar Roosevelt - appointed Supreme items-while Roosevelt, and the Court. "The past year in the "reactionary Congressional lead-Court has witnessed the crystal- ers" stigmatized by Murray, saw lization of an increasingly con- eye to eye on the fundamental servative majority consisting principle of sharply cutting down primarily of Justices Stone, Rob- the living standards of the erts, Frankfurter, Jackson and masses by taxes. Byrnes. . . The decisions have included a number of extremely un- Roosevelt and the reactionaries affecting labor and labor rela- could have vetoed the bill. In-

The Southern Steamskip Company case "dealt a severe blow relating to the Fair Labor Stan-In the Ritter case the Court of the Supreme Court may be

MEWARK

CIVIL RIGHTS DEFENSE COMMITTEE

presents

'Cabaret Night' Saturday Evening Nov. 14, at 8:30

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Donation - 65 Cents

the right of picketing. And so on, velt, who appointed its personnel, tures, one by C. Charles on 5. Anti-labor role of WPB. Of Nor did Murray breathe a word American cartels and monoetc.—will take up many hours its 15,000 employes, only 90 trade about what the labor members of polies, the other by John G. unionists are "holding jobs of a the Board are doing.

very subordinate nature" while "1.000 leading American business men-mostly dollar-a-year men by the dollar-a-year men? Again Friday evenings in the new -are running the organization." What are they running in Washington? A war production a war production organization to

At The CIO Convention

approves their appointment.

Chief." To do that, lie about his ists. connection with the acts injurious These and other complaints stitute a fundamental indictment of the anti-labor role of the ers. Such are the consequences entire economy. logical person could add all this of the CIO leadership's subor-

Encouraging Response To School's First Sessions The New York School of explain international cartels, the Social Science opened its fall operation of capitalist war eco-

term last week with two lec-Wright on the Bolsheviks and Who is responsible for the con- the colonial question. Both trol of the War Production Board | lectures, held on Wednesday and apparently not Roosevelt, who second floor hall at 116 University Place, were marked by the Such is Murray's line. Above attendance of more than 50 workall, stand by the "Commander-in- ers, most of them trade union-

The Charles lecture on Novemto labor, and pretend not to see ber 4, which was part of a series that the various complaints of entitled "American Economy at held each Friday evening, will which, taken together, are ob- American cartels, and patent of China and India. viously a systematic and con- pools, and analyzed the acceleratscious governmental campaign ed drive of American capitalism against the interests of the work- toward monopoly control of the

The future lectures by Charles, to their support of Roosevelt. 8:15 through December 9, will tures is 25 cents.

nomy, price control, wage freezing and inflation.

John G. Wright devoted his opening lecture to the question of the national aspirations of the colonial peoples and traced the great theorectical contributions of Lenin and Trotsky to a scientific understanding of the problem. He emphasized that history has verified the theoretical in an epoch of imperialist wars, proletarian revolutions and colonial uprisings.'

Wright's future lectures, to be labor are directed against acts War," explained the operation of deal with the concrete problems

Following both opening lectures, refreshments were served and a lively informal discussion took place. This custom will be observed throughout the courses. dination of the labor movement held each Wednesday evening at Admission charge to single lec-

Second Day of Convention:

Delegates Discuss Ways plaint remained an individual item in a separate part of his report or speech, and the connec-1. Growth of monopoly. "A tion of each complaint with the hundred companies still hold over others was in no way indicated. 80% of all the war contracts. Each item was presented as if it were a single flaw in an othertion of each complaint with the Moreover, Murray deliberately

By FELIX MORROW

BOSTON, Nov. 10 .- The struggle of the CIO against racial discrimination was discussed this afternoon for over an hour by the fifth convention of the CIO. Com- | SPIRITED DISCUSSION ing up in the course of the report of the resolutions committee, it was the first moment of real life in the convention so far. The committee presented for platitudes and inc." adoption the following resolution tracts-about this Murray was as

practices within our own ranks, resolution, against Negroes or other groups, strated, have undermined the in- wage levels. . . On union security The tax bill, claimed Murray, ating divisions, dissension and dent of the UTSEA. He emphas- Army, Navy and Air Corps. In ternational revolutionary socialist issues the CIO has urged un- "completely ignored the proposals confusion. Such discrimination ized the distinction between for- short, while the CIO as a whole movement, bound the workers of successfully upon the Board a of the President and the Trea-practiced in employment policies mal "lip-service" to the fight is undoubtedly wholeheartedly all countries to their capitalist fuller appreciation of the value sury." The fact is, however, that hampers production by depriving against racial discrimination and with the Negro against discrimination and the Negro against discrimi socialized production and all countries to their capitalist fuller appreciation of the value sury. The fact is, however, that against racial discrimination and rulers, and weakened the defense of the union shop. . . On these the differences between Roose-the nation of the use of available actually pitching in to fight it.

to minor points-whether corporations should be taxed a top opposition to any form of racial in this section of the country acduty, to carry on the fight for protection in law and in fact of

the United Transport Service Em- tail the principle of the first reso-

caps' organization - objected to Philip Murray spoke at some the committee's resolution as be- length on the detailed record of ing too weak, and asked that it be CIO actions against racial disrecommitted for strengthening.

John L. Yancey, Secretary-Treasurer of the UTSEA, asked the convention to "get away from platitudes" and move for "real Answering for the committee,

John Brophy defended the Roose-"W h e r e a s, discrimination | velt-appointed Fair Employment | against workers because of race, Practices Committee although religion or country of origin is Yancey had not mentioned it. party and his own lieutenants in an evil characteristic of our fas- Brophy promised that the comwage cut which creates serious the Senate and House who encist enemies. We of the democrating year would see "greater acgineered the bill which Murray cies are fighting fascism at home tivity" by the governmental comcondemned as anti-labor-of this and abroad by welding all races, mittee charged with discouraging Employment Practices Commit-Murray was silent. Moreoever, he all religions and all peoples into racial discrimination. Similarly a united body of warriors for Van A. Bittner, steel workers, of- down on employers discriminating democracy. Any discriminatory ficial, defended the committee against Negroes.

He cited the example of "a prom- mitted to covering up Roosevelt's "Therefore be it resolved, that inent CIO leader" in the South, responsibility for the continuing the CIO now reiterates its firm who had told him: "We organize of discrimination in government or religious discrimination and cording to the established patrenews its pledge, as a war-time tern" - that is, catering to white the way in which the Stalinists supremacy.

After the passage of the resothe rights of every racial and re- lution against racial discrimina- of the resolution. Stalinist deleligious group to participate fully tion, Walter Reuther of the UAW in our social, political and indus- proposed that the committee be instructed to bring in another trical Workers (Wm. Sentner), Officers of a Negro trade union, resolution, implementing in de-

crimination. Murray was able to cite an im-

pressive record of CIO actions and to declare that no other organization could claim to have done more than the CIO on this issue. All that was true enough, but was not the real point in question - whether the CIO was doing all it could for racial equal-

NO CRITICISM OF FEPC

Absent from the CIO resolution is any criticism of the notee, which has failed to crack

Likewise absent is any criti-Another critic of the resolution cism of the Jim Crow practices The discussion was notable for

rushed to the aid of the CIO leadership in resisting strengthening gates from the National Maritime Union (Smith), the United Electhe Leather Workers (Feinglass), and Philip Connolly of the California Industrial Council, all rushed to the microphone to defend the resolution. Informed delegates nudged each other in amusement as this parade was

There is a certain vagueness concerning the actual present membership of the CIO. The Murray report gave no figures, but there have been several oral references to "about five million" and one to "over five million." The plain fact is that, in a year of unprecedented increase of employment, the CIO does not claim much growth beyond last year.

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Election Results Show Need

Negro Struggle

By JOHN SAUNDERS

The Effect of the Nov. 3 Elections on the Fight to End Jim Crow and Judge Lynch

Southern Democrats.

They have pointed out, with when Roosevelt did not personwanted passed, he would usually be influenced into opposing it by the objections of the Southern members of his party in Con-

knew that the funds for the the war. FEPC's work-and therefore the Most Negroes have long beer policies for the FEPC-could be convinced of the necessity for limited and controlled by Congress committees in which the poll-taxers have so much in-

Not because he is interested in mand. the Negro's welfare, but because he wants to win the war.

sist on maintaining Jim Crow in some advances. full force, regardless of its effects

The poll-taxers are now the harder from now on.

Ever since Roosevelt came to ers that they are friendly to the the White House, militant aspirations of the Southern ruling DEMOCRATIC ALIBI Negroes have protested against class and would never dream of his policy of "appeasing" the altering the lovely institution of 'white supremacy.'

It is not hard to guess what complete accuracy, that even such a Congress will try to do to proposals to abolish the poll ally object to a particular tax or punish lynching or end measure which the Negro people segregation in the armed forces. So far as the Negro is concerned, the coming Congress will be one of the most reactionary

Bear in mind also that unless When Roosevelt transferred the a Workers' and Farmers' Gov-Fair Employment Practices Com- ernment is established by the mittee to the jurisdiction of Mc- workers, both white and Negro, Nutt's War Manpower Com- before then, this Congress may mission last summer, Negro or be in office not only for the next gressional majorities in many he was just pretending loyalty to labor party. The present Con- adopting a fighting anti-capital since our species first became able

beginning a fight against Jim up this alibi. There the workers' Crow now and continuing it until the fight is successful.

Roosevelt himself would probe show how justified your attitude as usual, corresponding to the ably like to remove, at least for is and how necessary it is to predictions. the duration, some of the Jim speed up and extend this fight THE ALP VOTE IN N. Y. Crow bars to Negro employment, with all the energy at your com-

There are still some Negroes Nevertheless, he has gone easy the war and act respectable, the since the war began because he way the Jim Crow artists want doesn't want to start a fight with them to act, that maybe they will Alfange on the American Labor Bennett. the die-hard poll-taxers, who in- get some concessions and make Party ticket in opposition to the

To them we say: Wake up! Stop dreaming! Quit kidding As is shown by the analysis of yourselves and others! The electhe elections beginning on Page 1 tions show that you have been ed more than 10 per cent of the and the editorial dealing with the elections show that if you don't poll tax on Page 4, from now on fight for your rights, you'll have tal. This represented a very than anyone else. and for the next two years Con- less of them after the war than small decline in the total state

Judge Lynch may be a little

balance of power in Congress. But if the fight against them Both Roosevelt and the Repub- doesn't continue now, it will be licans will be falling all over very much harder to achieve

Second Front Depends On Political As Well As Military Considerations

the imperialists.

preparing for that.

THEY WANT

the other.

By MARK BRADEN

(The following article, dealing with some of the political considerations affecting the To the former, it emphasizes the more than a week before United States forces landed in North Africa. It is printed here as a discussion of a political question overlooked or distorted by most commentators. It will be followed by other articles in subsequent issues dealing with other aspects of the same general question .- Ed.)

Every time the question of the second front is raised, Roosevelt and Churchill assert that the second front is exclusively a military question which should be left to the general staffs and its military strategists.

Yes, the second front is a military question and one which the imperialists will weigh carefully before they launch an invasion of Europe. But like every other major military move, beneath its purely military aspects are grave political issues.

The Stalinist policy of making helpless in the face of the rising every concession to the "demotide of workers' revolts. cracies" in return for the "second front in 1942" becomes more Roosevelt-Churchill have claimed ous force capable not only of dethey are all for the second front, but that they don't want to launch a premature invasion which might be defeated. Behind this reply, however, are concealed political motivations which clearly reveal their real views on this

prop up the defeated German imperialists against the revolt of The underlying strategy of the German masses, or to estabonly that amount of aid which will keep it in the fight against Germany but will drain its fighting forces and economic capacities. It must never be forgotten for a moment that world imperialism is hostile to the workers' state, even in its degenerated from utilizing the occasion to es-Stalinist form; and that if Hittablish their own workers' reler is defeated, the "democratic" imperialists will renew their ef- gimes. forts of 1918-20 to destroy the nationalized economy in the from being a concession to the USSR. The glorious defense of the Stalinist demands or a victory of a 1000 years of Nazi rule. Under formed in advance about the state, he rejects the policies whole world the terrific fighting front will present a terrible im- States of Europe, the workers even if he was not given a voice effective assistance to the USSR capacities generated by the eco- perialist threat to the working and peasants can follow the road in deciding about it. Despite this, - a revolutionary second front nomic conquests of October; but class. power, territory and economy might accrue from a second front, ist war will end in the defeat of erations which involve "in all four shall discuss this aspect of Sta- of war, fascism, racial repression have a totally different meaning already purchased at staggering imperialism.

of the century.

who think if they sit back during

gress is going to be a harder nut you had before Pearl Harbor.

themselves to show the poll-tax- racial equality later on.

Union on the one hand, and to its

Roosevelt-Churchill "friends" on

the catastrophic policies of Sta-

linism; to the imperialist "allies,"

these losses mean that they have

so far been largely successful in

letting Germany and the Soviet

Union mutually weaken each

other. This factor is ever-present

But sooner or later the "demo-

under such conditions that they

believe will ensure their victory

over Hitler without exhausting

their own forces. For an exhaust-

ing struggle would leave them

Consequently, they will invade

only when they have a tremend-

feating Hitler but also of main-

taining "order" among the op-

To the "democratic" imperial-

ists, a second front invasion is a

THE KIND OF VICTORY

show by themselves. In the first place, the workers to the defenders of the Soviet

For Nationwide Labor Party

publicans won because many work ers did not feel it worthwhile to go to the polls for the candidates whom they had elected previous-

Administration spokesmen, including Vice-President Henry A. due to satisfaction with administration policies. This "explanation" can be refuted on many

For one thing, the workers gen-In 1934, a midterm election, and nett. in 1936, when most workers were

Furthermore, the vote in New keen, and their participation in To them we say: the elections the voting was almost as great

Democrat Bennett and the Republican Dewey.

A total of 409,000 votes were cent of the New York City tofor Negroes to crack than ever The fight against Jim Crow and for governor in 1938, although it was a small increase in the per-

But the political significance of

down for the same capitalist can- italist parties next time. didate. In 1942 the choice was Their choice of Alfange, a col-

Democratic Party which they had so long supported.

independent ticket even though The platform of the ALP was Wallace, and administration pa- they knew their candidate did almost indistinguishable from history of the ALP. pers such as PM, have tried to not have a chance of being elect- that of the Democrats and Remake it appear that the "apathy" ed, which is a very important publicans. Alfange avoided all on the part of the workers was psychological consideration to the the fundamental issues. average militant worker, who

when they feel really interested. and urged them to vote for Ben- pectations.

Many self-styled "astute" poli- THE NEW CONGRESS the Democrats the greatest Con- really "did not mean this," that the need for the creation of a In addition, such a party, by gains which mankind has made could not have become victorious. sold on the New Deal, they gave ticians claimed that Roosevelt York State also serves to blow a big vote for Alfange so that reactionary crowd in January. interest in the elections was very ley opposition in the Democratic there is already increased talk in

was that Sidney Hillman, Roose- week, etc. velt's most consistent labor lackey who certainly is in a position cant number of them voted for ated Clothing Workers behind

INTERNAL OBSTACLES

This vote for Alfange was recorded, also, in spite of many obcast for Alfange. This represent- stacles raised by the ALP leaders themselves, who were more surof this issue of THE MILITANT suffering from illusions. The state vote, and included 18 per prised at the encouraging outcome of the Alfange campaign

The ALP leaders had not wantvote cast for the ALP candidate ed originally to run an independcentage of the state vote over the for some "acceptable" Democrat - that is, acceptable in the sense that the ALP leaders would the ALP constitutes something have a chance of "selling" him far greater than these figures to the workers as a "friend of

But the reactionary trends inwere voting for an independent tensified by the war and reflected candidate of labor last week, in all capitalist parties made this attempt to unify the Farmer-Lawhile in 1938 they were voting impossible, and the ALP leaders for the Democrat Lehman on the were forced to go through with ALP line of the voting machine. an independent campaign, hoping In 1938 the choice before the to get enough votes so that they workers was which lever to push would be "recognized" by the cap-

It is true that the workers were of Alfange undoubtedly disheart- for a labor party - negatively, still voting for a reformist pro- ened many rank-and-file ALP on the part of the 10 to 15% of gram when they voted for the workers. The vote for Alfange the voters, most of them work-ALP last week, but now they was not a vote for him as an in- ers, who were expected to vote were doing it in opposition to the dividual — it was a vote for an and did not — positively, on the independent labor ticket.

The campaign itself was run in Still more, they were voting an an inept and defeatist manner.

And yet, despite all the obdoes not want to waste his vote. stacles - internal, external and plea of Roosevelt, who asked pile up a vote which far exceederally vote in greater numbers them not to cast a protest vote ed the ALP leaders' fondest ex-

The Nov. 3 elections showed

The most anti-labor section of protests. Congress has long been the Nov. 3 elections, but their rela- over. tive strength has. They now clearly hold the balance of pow-Democratic congressmen, and will 1944, and when the fascist demaing the workers of the whole among the bewildered and des-

position to a capitalist party can-didate. tainly not the cause of the high vote given the ALP. The choice ed that the workers are ready part of the approximately same ers who supported the first statewide independent candidate in the

LABOR PARTY IS NOW NEEDED AND POSSIBLE

A labor party would quickly win the support of more than Even more important, they psychological — the workers saw these 15 per cent of the voters, were doing it in opposition to the the class line clearly enough to who represent in many ways the most advanced and militant sections of the working class. Once a labor party was formed, the other workers would soon recog-1917! nize it as a step forward and would give it their allegiance.

has yet tried to explain why it lations Act and of the 40-hour other sizeable party through future. which they could register their

A labor party can and should For in New York, in contrast to know what Roosevelt "means," Southern Democrats, elected by be formed now. Workers should to other important states, a large deserted the ALP in this came a small minority of the southern not make the mistake of thinking section of the working class felt paign and swung the official sup- electorate. Their numbers have that political problems are setit had a real choice, and a signifi- port of the powerful Amalgam- not increased as a result of the tled just because the elections are

Unless they prepare now, they will be unprepared when the next er between the Republican and national elections come around in of the Soviet Union. obviously have a greater voice gogues in this country set out than before in legislation affect- seriously to create a mass base perate middle class.

against certain former friends of

the USSR, and that is what I

friends have abandoned the

defense of the Soviet Union,

Revolution and its conquests as

But they give as their reason

of Hitler's armies.

reason.

Revolution.

easily recognizable.

cause as hopeless.

International.

swing, now gave up the workers'

the program of scientific social,

opposition to Czarism.

C. P. Helped To Elect ent candidate. They would have been more than satisfied to set- Minnesota Republicans

(Continued from page 1)

ing Trades Council and a number of others.

But Petersen did not conduct he kind of campaign which could have aroused real enthusiasm laws upon the statute books of among the workers. He did not Minnesota. bor movement by calling upon the THE C. P. VOTE organized workers and farmers to get rid of the Stalinist disrupters sociation as an instrument of working-class political action.

Although he was the Farmer-

ask the support of the working masses of Minnesota to place a working class administration in office and clean out the corrupt anti-labor Stassen machine, which has placed so many reactionary

The Communist Party ran candidates for the offices of Governor, and rebuild the Farmer-Labor As- Railroad and Warehouse Commissioner, and Representative from an independent candidate in op- orless Tammany hack, was cer- Labor standard bearer, he did not ist Farmer-Laborites had been proportions as to constitute an the Far East, Africa, even here successful in the primary election. campaign in order to put forth repelled by the degeneration of insecure foundations as it does their hysterical demand for a sec- the Soviet Union, they gave up ond front, opposition to so-called all the conquests of the October 'appeasers," etc.

It appears certain from the present unofficial tabulation of elecdissatisfaction has become so | ian divisions" while the Axis has | tion returns that the Stalinists when their presidential candidate, Earl Browder received 2711 votes and their sticker candidates for state offices obtained an average of 300 votes.

Considering the large sum of money which the Minnesota Stalinists but into the 1942 campaign -they had 11 or 12 radio speechterritories, liberation of enslaved a recent radio broadcast for a es, for example, many of them on class A time - and, more important, considering the "popular" line which their 1942 candidates in the final analysis the lessons a product of the 1905 revolution. Nevertheless, American and put forth, the possible doubling of of the defeat would seep down to The great product of the 1917 resent a very significant gain. In 1940 Grace Carlson received

8761 votes as the Socialist Workers Party candidate for U. S. Senator from Minnesota. In the camnaign just ended, she ran as a sticker candidate, so her vote wil

S. W. P. CAMPAIGN

paign, it was feasible only to run tion. Two thousand citizens who defeated and again gloom and a Notary Public in order to place First International was over-

The state law further provides Stalin will not admit it, but that both the circulator of the became for the Marxists a model

campaigns of other so-called working class parties in Minnehad their say. All the dreams of ond front through southern Eu- the Soviet Union in the hands of the Soviet Union in the hands of the "democrats" to police the rope and the Balkans. According imperialism which by its very brought the clarity of principled Marxist politics.

Minnesota, struggling under the heavy burden of the war, Comrade Grace Carlson brought the message of international socialism blazed by Lenin and Trotsky and Stalin on Nov. 6 emphasized the by the oppressed peoples of Eusociety, free from the barbarities radicals scurried for cover. and colonial tyranny.

a quarter of a century. For nation to strike out for themthousands of years planned selves.

percentage of the New York vot- society was nothing but a dream These petty bourgeois radicals of the future, a distant goal were unable to see what the which one could not hope to see Marxists saw-that they must although he gave his life in the place the revolution of 1905 under struggle to attain it. Even when the microscope and study it with such a society became objectively the most scrupulous scientific possible, thousands and tens of care. They were unable to see of thousands who hoped to par- that out of 1905 would come a ticipate in the victorious strug- still mightier upsurge of the gle never gained their wish, workers and peasants.

The confidence and toughness What wouldn't Marx and Engels have given if they could have of the Marxists proved well lived to see the fruition of their justified. 1905 was the necessary struggle in the mighty leap for- condition for the revolution of ward which humanity took in 1917. It was the dress rehearsal for 1917. Without the experience For of all the great historic of 1905 the revolution of 1917

party traditions and that he real- gress, reactionary though it is, ist program could win the sup- to think and to work out methods ever, differed from all previous ly wanted the workers to pile up will be replaced by an even more port of the greater part of the of controlling the surrounding revolutions in one profound farmers and middle class, who environment, the greatest single respect. Whereas previously the he could rid himself of the Far- Even before it has been seated, voted for the Republicans in this step forward was that taken in most the recurring revolution had last campaign not because they October, 1917 when the Russian succeeded in establishing was a Washington of a sales tax, abo- are convinced that it will benefit proletariat blazed the pathway to power dual to that of the bour-None of these "acute" people lition of the National Labor Re- them but because they saw no the planned world economy of the geoisie, now the workers had conquered state power and managed Our celebration of the October to hold it. This enabled them to Revolution constitutes not only smash the bourgeoisie as a class praise of this great accomplish- and thereby to lay the economic

It is the existence of these ecodefense. The conquests which the Russian workers and peasants nomic foundations that has given made under the leadership of the Soviet Union its great vitality Lenin and Trotsky face danger and which permits us to say with of destruction today more acute scientific precision that it is still than at any time in the history very much alive. We can see the verification of this scientific judgment in the magnificent defense put up by the Soviet peo-

radicals had a semblance of

today. The Trotskyists throughout the Revolution by defending the Such people are not an unknown phenomena. They have ap- Soviet Union not only rifle in peared before in history. They hand but primarily by furtherconstitute a tendency that is ing the class struggle against In 1848 the first great proleists who defend the Soviet Union tarian revolution ended in defeat. As a result of this defeat all the mainly to safeguard their own bureaucratic privileges we defend petty bourgeois radicals, the un-

The great Bolshevik party of Lenin and Trotsky, the most However the Marxists did not honest and the most revolutionary lose hope. They understood that party in history, was principally the bottom-most layers of the evolution in addition to the masses and prepare them for a Soviet Union is the Fourth Innew and more powerful uprising ternational, which on a new hisin the future. Out of those ex- toric level continues the tradiperiences in 1848 arose the First tions and program of Bolshevism. The Fourth International con-The confidence of the Marxists stitutes in the political arena the was justified. The experience of crowning achievement of the

Now in the midst of a second ing class stormed the heights and | World War it may seem on the gave the world the first sample surface that the world labor of what the workers' government movement has reached a new low ebb. In Italy, Germany and Japan But that bright token of the the workers' organizations are

the name of the candidate of a whelmed in the backwash of re- is preparing for another leap forward, A new October is forming -a new October that will be a continuation and extension of the advanced workers can see that it petition and the signer may be for study. Out of the experiences old. It will burst out of the bloodis precisely "the difference in punished by prison sentences if of the Paris Commune arose the shed and destruction of the ideologies and social systems" - the law is violated in any tech- Second International which built second world war with invincible powerful mass parties and spread force and sweep the entire earth.

Then on the titanic scale of the humanity can look back at The Paris Commune prepared October 1917. What will be their the Bolsheviks for their great judgment? They will see it as role in the revolution of 1905 in the first brilliant conquest of Russia, when the working class socialist society—the dawn of reared a socialist government in real civilization. They will see that the Russian Revolution and But that revolution too was the defense of its conquests was defeated. And again a period of the indispensable condition for intense reaction set in, the reac- final victory. And they will also tion which culminated in the first see that history chose as leaders world war. The petty bourgeois for the next victorious upsurges after 1917 only those who were They were unable to see that capable of defending the old

question of a second front, was received by THE MILITANT Union finds itself as a result of the estastrophic policies of Sta-Will Save The Soviet Union

in second front considerations of Britain and the United States.

Stalin's policies have not resulted in any effective aid for the solving his own policies of responsibility for not securing such cratic" imperialists must come to aid. Stalin again said that the decisive struggles with Hitler; defeats were due to "the absence the stakes for which they are of a second front"; and he again fighting dictate that they invade promised that the Soviet Union Europe, and all the evidence in- would be saved from disaster by dicates they are now carefully a second front of the imperialists which was bound to come "soon-When they do launch the in- er or later."

vasion, however, it will be only DEFENDS HIS POLICY

primarily for home consumption; tion." there would be no point at this time in his directing such propaganda toward the U.S. or Brit-

defeated Petain government, so allies (and consequently, most viet Union. the "democratic" imperialists likely, with Stalin's policy of rewill use their armed forces to lying on them.) Evidently this the interests of U. S.-British im-

cost to the Soviet workers and because of the difference in their Roosevelt-Churchill thus far has lish another variety of dictator- the world working class, would ideologies and social systems, the been to give the Soviet Union ship against the European work- be more than counter-weighed by interests of the Soviet Union and the invaders' bloody attempt to the imperialists are different. suppress the European working Consequently a second front class. The second front would re- launched by the imperialists will lieve the military pressure of Hit- be calculated to serve interests the hostility of the imperialists nical detail . le only to establish a new ring different from those of the USSR to the nationalized economy of In the muddle of opportunism, German imperialism's attempt to of imperialist steel against the This was graphically illustrated the program of imperialist steel against the This was graphically illustrated to the USSR — which governs all which characterized the election redivide the world, and to prevent Soviet Union. the oppressed European masses

Under such circumstances, far world will be placed on the same to President Roosevelt's Nov. 10 nature must desire the destrucscrap heap as Hitler's dreams for press conference, Stalin was in- tion of the USSR as a workers' the Stalinist position, the second the banner of the Socialist United coming North African invasion, which alone could mobilize real Whatever military advantages see to it that the second imperial- secondary role of the African op- rope and Germany. Next week we

widespread that Stalin now feels 240 divisions on the Soviet front. will increase their vote over 1940 in the form of a second front by it necessary to speak out openly against it.

into a eulogy of his imperialist ern Europe. The Worker's "Vet-Soviet Union. Last week, still ab- allies, claiming that they were eran Commander," plainly a GPU fighting for the "abolition of ra- agent who prints what the Kremcial exclusiveness, equality of na- lin wants, complained bitterly on nations and the restoration of their sovereign rights," etc., etc.

of imperialists who refuse to free their own colonial slaves or abolish their own Jim Crow laws could not be very persuasive, Sta-A good part of his latest speech lin went on to belittle the imwas consumed in attacking the portance of "the difference in idea that a second front would not | the ideologies and social systems be created. Unquestionably this of the countries composing the part of his speech was intended Anglo - Soviet - American coali-

BASIC DIFFERENCES

There are such differences, Stalin said, but Britain and the For the last six months there United States will launch a sechas been a growing dissatisfac- ond front sooner or later because pressed European masses. Just as tion on the part of the Soviet to do so is in their own inter-Hitler's bayonets propped up the masses with Stalin's imperialist ests as well as those of the So-

> That a second front will serve perialism is obviously true. But

the day after Stalin's speech. But the oppressed workers and The Stalinists have not looked front. German divisions and eleven Ital- lin's speech.

The Daily Worker in this country has also denounced the idea To this end Stalin launched of a second front through southtions and the integrity of their Nov. 1 against Willkie's call in

second front through Italy. Realizing that this whitewash THE AFRICAN FRONT

British troops landed in North Browder's 1940 vote does not rep-Africa, on Nov. 7, and Roosevelt pointedly declared that this was "an effective second front assistance" to the USSR.

Stalin does not want his imperialist allies in the Balkans which constitute a dagger point not be reported until the State 1848 made possible the Paris 1917 revolution. ed at the heart of the USSR - Canvassing Board meets on Nowhen Hitler's military power is vember 17. broken; he wants a second front through western Europe so that say about post-war Europe.

But his imperialist allies are not concerned with Stalin's wishinterests, and that is why the second front takes place in the form and at the time that THEY

questions dealing with the second which characterized the election earth.

While Stalin places the fate of

Despite the encouraging resces in time to have something to ponse to the 1940 Trotskyist cam- of the future will look like. es; they are serving their own tion must sign a petition before petty-bourgeois radicals. The sive of Big Business. minority party on the ballot.

To the workers and farmers of

Opening Speech at SWP Meeting in N. Y. It is a great historic privilege trified the masses of the whole to be able to celebrate the ex- world, inspiring them with hope istence of the workers' state for and confidence and the determi-

WE CELEBRATE THE

RUSSIAN REVOLUTION

By Joseph Hansen

ment but more properly its foundations of a new order.

Our defense of the Soviet ple against the imperialist includes its defense invader. In the past the petty bourgeois

want to talk about. These former justification for their defeatist mood, for the bourgeoisie reestablished its power, apparently They considered the October on a firmer basis than before. The miserable, cowardly charactliquidated even before the attack er of the present defeatists can be judged from the fact that the Why do these people consider 1917 revolution was not vanquishthe October Revolution as having ed in a few days nor in a few perished some time ago? As months but has existed today for capitalism in its death agony a quarter of a century despite all reached the impasse of a second the corroding influence of Stalinworld war, they responded to the ism and despite all the blows of war pressure emanating from world imperialism. Their stupidity the world bourgeoisie who are is evident in the fact that they irreconcilable enemies of the are incapable of seeing what even Soviet Union. That is the basic the bourgeoisie are aware ofthat the October revolution exists deep in the consciousness of the monstrous crimes of the the workers of the whole worldthe Fourth District. These were Stalinist regime. These crimes, not only in Europe but in the the offices for which anti-Stalin- they say, have reached such colonial countries, in China, India, economic system hitherto un in America; and that world The Stalinist candidates used the known in history. Disoriented and capitalism never stood on such

> world celebrate the Russian the international bourgeoisie. In contradistinction to the Stalinstable elements who had joined it to advance the interests of the with the revolution in its up- world socialist revolution.

Commune of 1871 when the work-

a sticker campaign in this elec- socialist society likewise was completely smashed and in the so-called "democracies" they are did not vote in the primary elec- despair prevailed among the on the retreat before the offen-But underneath, the revolution The Paris Commune, however,

the revolution of 1905 had elec- positions.

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- 2. Trade union wages for all workers drafted into the army.
- 3. Full equality for Negroes in the armed forces and the war industries-Down with Jim Crowism everywhere.
- 4. Confiscation of all war profits. Expropriation of all war industries and their operation under workers' control.
- 5. For a rising scale of wages to meet the rising cost of living.
- 6. Workers Defense Guards against vigilante and fascist attacks.
- 7. An Independent Labor Party based on the Trade Unions.
- 8. A Workers' and Farmers' Government.

Talking About Stabs In The Back...

An unprovoked act of aggression! A treacherous stab in the back!

Do such expressions sound familiar? They've been

used so often that they should. Most recently these tones of indignation have been heard from the French government. Less than a year

ago they were heard from the United States government. Even Japan this week denounced the invasion of French Africa as "ungentlemanly." The same things have been said countless times by all other imperialist governments.

Remember how Secretary Hull denounced the deceit of Japan which engaged in long diplomatic discussions while Pearl Harbor was being prepared? That's the same Secretary Hull who this week smilingly admitted that the government's policy of "friendship" toward Vichy was designed all along to pave the way for an invasion of the French Empire.

A nation that gets beat to the punch always hollers. It seeks by acting the part of injured innocence to justify its own imperialist policies and thus gain support from the masses. This unprovoked aggression, they say, proves that ours is a just and holy war.

As for the imperialist nations that manage to put over the "Pearl Harbors," they have a different line, but also a uniform and by now trite one.

President Roosevelt says that French Africa was invaded "in order to forestall an invasion of Africa by Germany and Italy." "The ultimate and greater aim is the liberation of France and its empire. . ."

And Hitler says he has marched into unoccupied France "with one single aim, and that is to repel an American and British landing. I have given the order to the troops to look after the interests of France." And of course Japan also claimed to have invaded China in self-defense and in the best interests of the Chinese people. And the French government originally entered the war to defend poor little Poland, didn't

We have often said that the character of a war cannot be determined by who strikes the first blow or by diplomatic maneuvers employed to prepare the first blow or by the indignant complaints of the nation that gets struck the first blow. For these are methods and arguments used interchangeably by all the imperialists to serve their own reactionary in-

We hope that the latest events will open the eyes of the workers and lead them to an examination of the real causes of imperialist war - the capitalist system and the continuous struggle for profits which it breeds among all capitalist nations.

The Central Aim

The central idea around which all the activities and decisions of the government revolve was again illustrated on Friday, Nov. 6.

On that day the Treasury Department announced that it would "ease up" on the \$25,000 limitation on the "salaries" of the bosses.

And on the very same day, the War Labor Board, which has jurisdiction over wages and salaries below \$5000 a year, cracked down on the workers' wages.

The Treasury made another concession to the bosses. It ruled that the wealthy who hold contracts providing salaries in excess of \$25,000, would be permitted to continue receiving this "salary" in 1942, providing the contract was entered in before Oct. 4. A few months ago Roosevelt abolished by decree all overtime pay for week-end and holiday work unless these days were the six and seventh of a working week. The fact that many unions had contracts stipulating such payment did not halt Roosevelt. The contract is not at all sacred when it benefits the workers; when it favors the bosses it is a holy of

The WLB sternly notified the workers that not even to correct maladjustments and inequalities would any group of employees be allowed to receive wage increases greater than 15 per cent over the January

In his statement announcing the policy of the WLB. the chairman of that body, William H. Davis, said that the board would grant increases "very sparingly" and that the "Little Steel" 15 per cent formula would be interpreted "rather strictly."

For the small handful of capitalists who are making tremendous profits out of the war, the government adopts a policy of conciliation and makes further extensive concessions.

For the great mass of the people, the toilers who produce the wealth of the nation, the government adopts what Davis calls a "pretty damn tough policy." Nothing illustrates better than this the fundamental policies of the government.

Now He's 'Our' S.O.B.

"From the headquarters of General Eisenhower in North Africa comes the dramatic announcement that General Henri Giraud, hero of two world wars, has arrived in Algeria and that he will organize there a French North African Army 'to take up arms side by side with the United Nations for the defeat of Germany and Italy and the liberation of France and her Empire'." From an editorial in the Nov. 10 N. Y. Times.

Who is this great "hero" who once more unsheathes his sword for the cause of "liberation?"

The answer was not long in coming. Out of the wrangling, bickering camp of French capitalist refugees who prefer to kneel at the foot of the Anglo-American masters rather than bend before the German overlord comes an answer written by the informed Pertinax in the N. Y. Times the following day: "Anti-German General Giraud decidedly is, but he

is also anti-communist and it cannot be said that he ever was a friend of Great Britain. With all that, for the sake of national liberation, he dropped for the present his anti-British prejudice."

"General Giraud is a vigorous leader in the field. He pacified South Morocco before the war, but in Belgium and in Northern France two and a half years ago he did not have the opportunity to prove his

"All Frenchmen opposed to Germany who at the same time want to save the Vichy regime and prevent the restoration of the republic will flock to General Giraud while former republicans take their stand by

"General Giraud (in pre-war days) belonged to the extreme right. On his staff of the Seventh Army was Guy de Wendel who was wont to exclaim: 'Between Hitler and Stalin I don't hesitate; I am for Hitler'."

"As Prime Minister and Minister of War, M. Daladier did not relish General Giraud's public indictments of representative institutions and several times was on the point of dismissing him."

Here is the portrait of our "great" general who has been assigned the task of "liberating" France: 1. He is a confirmed opponent of capitalist democ-

racy, even of the sickly degenerate kind represented by Daladier before the war. 2. He is "anti-communist," that is, a foe of the working class and the unions and therefore undoubted-

ly a supporter of fascism. 3. He was a supporter of the now defunct Vichy Regime which collaborated with the Nazi conqueror

in a reign of terror against the French people. 4. He is a bitter enemy of the Soviet Union on whose side he is now supposed to be fighting -

and preferred an allied invasion of the workers' state to a war with Hitler. 5. He is a butcher of colonial peoples. As a "great general" he won his spurs "pacifying" the helpless

natives of Morocco. 6. He differs from de Gaulle only in the time he jumped on the Anglo-American bandwagon. De Gaulle, leader of "Republicans" is an avowed monarchist and recently took to his bosom Vallin, one

of the leaders of the French fascist Croix de Feu. The N. Y. Times commented in its editorial that Giraud's "assumption of leadership of the Free French movement in North Africa cannot fail to aid our cause enormously."

What "cause" is this? And in whose interests? The cause of imperialism! Against the interests of the French masses!

Election And The Anti-Poll Tax Bill

The danger that the present Congress will not pass legislation abolishing payment of poll taxes for federal elections has been increased by the outcome of the Nov. 3 elections.

The poll-tax Democrats will hold the balance of power in the new Congress. If they throw their support to the Republicans on any issue, the Democrats can become a minority. And vice versa.

The tendency of the Democratic and Republican machines will therefore be increasingly to make horse trades with the poll-tax Democrats in return for support on issues in which the machines are inter-

That tendency will develop not only next January when the new Congress is seated, but right now. More than ever, the national leaders of the two parties will hesitate to take any steps that might offend the poll-taxers.

During the next six weeks the anti-poll tax bill will be threatened not only by the danger of filibuster and obstructionism on the part of the poll-taxers, but also sabotage, concealed if not open, on the part of the administration and of the Republican leaders.

It will be hard to pass the anti-poll tax bill this year under these conditions.

But it will be much harder to pass it next year. It is therefore necessary, even more now than before the elections, for all workers' organizations in the country to intensify their pressure on Congress, the administration and the Republicans, to demand the immediate passage of the anti-poll tax bill,

Old Enough To Fight? Old Enough To Vote!

The exacting and exhausting demands made on the mechanized soldier in the present war have caused all the nations to turn for man-power to the youth. The United States is preparing to take the unprecedented step of applying conscription to those who are eighteen and over. It is recognized that the young make the best fighters, those who can "take it" under the worst conditions. Thus the youth are being called upon to make the supreme sacrifice in the imperial-

It is not only as fighters that the young are called upon to bear the burdens. In the factories also both young men and young women are being driven for production in the totalitarian war. The "forgotten generation" is suddenly no longer forgotten.

All the agencies of government, day hurled anathema at the New | the battlefield. Deal for "coddling" the young | The reasons back of the failure no place in an industry in crisis, vote to the eighteen to twenty-

Soldiers and

The Elections

There was a lot of talk by the

press and the politicians about

"apathy" so far as the elections

were concerned. There were even

appeals by Roosevelt, Dewey and

Farley for the greatest possible

But there was one group of eli-

people was interested in getting

Everyone knows that Congress

as a result an item appeared in

the press the other day that not

a single American soldier in Brit-

As for the soldiers stationed in

this country, I have a brother in

camp who told me how difficult

it is for the soldiers to get a

vote. Tucked away in a corner

of the bulletin board where very

few people would notice it was a

THREE-LINE announcement that

application cards for war ballots

were available at the regimental

The soldiers are on duty from

reveille to retreat, my brother

up and eat. By the time a soldier

ters, it is long after 5:00 P. M. Editor:

gets to the regimental headquar-

But all the personnel leaves the

Nor did the officers do a single

voting. There were no speeches

no propaganda about the "bene-

sales, such as a friend of my

the situation is altogether differ-

ent. Then the soldiers really see

some high-pressure salesman-

ship, with everyone from the low-

est non-coms to the highest offi-

cers continually nagging the ranks

ing? Is it because he, like the

fascist-minded officers in the ar-

ting any ideas about having some

In a democratic atmosphere the

miserable weapon of slander with

which the Stalinists try to meet

the program of Trotskyism fails

and alienates those whom the Sta-

This was demonstrated on Octo-

ber 27 at a forum, "Political Parties in This Election and the

Negro People," presented by Mod-

linists are trying to influence.

cided for them from above?

stead of having everything de-them.

MARY R.

New York City

soldiers on the importance of vot-

When there is a campaign for

headquarters at 5 sharp.

fits of democracy."

to "do their share."

ain voted on Nov. 3.

headquarters.

both at home and abroad.

ify the idealistic youth who, if are characteristic of class society, anybody, will save their civiliz- and particularly of capitalist soation of privilege. Or so they ciety. Politics, the game of rul-

no chances with the youth who in it. are found perfectly capable of own fate.

WHERE DEMOCRACY ENDS

where youth begins. The right to lives to keep them under the vote is reserved for their elders. thumb of the powers-that-be. The law which acknowledges their manhood by sending them make up their own minds con- gress. cerning any of the larger issues ganizations, lay themselves out to to question why, theirs but to American history. foster the good will of the youth. do and die," applies doubly now The employers who but yester - to the home-front as well as rience of seeing fathers and

ORKERS'

Socialist Workers Party.

communication from

The fireworks began when a

said he could not appear

ous week). Besides, he went on,

of indignation among the mem-

bership, who voted to send a let-

ter of censure to the Young Com-

fused to come up to the platform.

THE MILITANT meets with fa-

They have built ashcans and

rammed resolutions through un-

stood in front of the hall where

the 'Frisco local of the longshore-

The stevedores gave him the

most of the men took the paper,

A. STEIN

New York City

Write to us-tell us what's going on in your part of the labor

movement-what are the workers thinking about?-what are the

bosses up to?-the labor leaders?-the Stalinists? Send us that

story the capitalist press wouldn't print and that story they

buried or distorted-let us know whether you agree or disagree

with the views expressed in this paper. Letter should carry name

and address, but indicate if you do not want your name printed.

recently passed a bill permitting platform with those betrayers of

the soldiers to vote. But Secre- the working-class and fifth-col-

while to send ballots abroad, and The letter aroused a great deal

cratic attitude

was well received.

ern Trend meetings.

Job of Censor

and at plant gates.

and read it.

tary Knox didn't think it worth- umnists, the Trotskyists.

says. Then they have to clean Bridges Takes On

thing to encourage the soldiers in MILITANT and intimidate union

"soldiers' relief" or for war bond ions under their control . . . but

give a couple of speeches to the who took it not to read it but

my, doesn't want the soldiers get- went off without difficulty and

ing society, is held to be the But the ruling class will take sphere of those who have a stake

It is the prerogative of the carrying all the burdens of the class that dominates modern sowar on their shoulders. They are ciety, who permit the right to given all responsibilities except vote to the masses only so long that of having a voice in their as the vote does not endanger the present system. The older men and women are under all It seems that democracy ends sorts of pressures in their daily

But the youth cannot so easily be cowed. They are proverbially to the battlefield, gives them the the idealists and the radicals. status of minors when it comes to They do not fear, but on the conpolitics. They are not asked to trary, welcome change and pro-

The present younger generaof the war or the post-war world. tion is especially under suspicion That will be done for them by by the finance capitalists who those with greater experience, really run capitalist society. This the experience that brought on generation has been raised in the all the controlled peripheral or- the war. The old line, "Theirs not period of the greatest crisis in

It has learned the bitter expebrothers and sisters out of work, of being on relief, of having to men and women who could find to grant the democratic right to fight for its daily bread. The lessons of the awful years from '29 to '39 can never be forgot-

LEARNING LESSONS

The war and the post-war events will serve, without question, to drive those lessons even deeper into the minds of the young soldiers who return from the battlefield. The kind of democracy they are fighting for is not in the least the same as the democracy for which the bankers have sent them to fight.

They are not interested in seeing American imperialism dominate the world in place of Hitler imperialism. They want a world that will really be fit to live in without fear, without constant insecurity.

The demand for the right of ern Trends, a progressive youth those who are eighteen and over group which meets at the Harlem to vote, has long been inscribed YMCA. On the list of speakers on our banner. The very reasons for the evening were representafor the capitalists' fear to grant tives of the Stalinists and the this right are the reasons for our making the demand. We make this demand in time of peace, an additional reason then Johnson, vice-chairman of N. Y. being the fact that capitalism State YCL was read. Johnson exploits youth in special ways which they must be capable of gible voters whom none of these on the ground that he had not resisting politically and econombeen informed in time. (Johnson ically. But the democratic demand to vote. I refer to the soldiers had accepted in person the previfor this right now becomes even more urgent and more meaninghe could not appear on the same ful when these young men - and women - are sent into the war.

REACTIONARIES AND THE SOCIAL-DEMOCRATS

It is interesting to see that reactionaries like Vandenberg have munist League on their undemo- taken up the cry for the right of these youth to vote. The re-The joker of the evening was actionaries want to capitalize on that Johnson did appear but re- the natural feelings of the young soldiers.

The point of view of Trotskyism The Vandenbergs rightly fear was presented by B. Lenz and that we Marxists may gain increasing influence among the young soldiers by our efforts in vor among those who attend Modtheir behalf. But these demagogues are not serious for one moment in putting up the demand. They know that Congress will never grant the right, and they bank on that fact to gain a false popularity.

The attitude of a political party towards the rights of youth Stalinist bureaucrats in this characterizes the nature of the state have been carrying on a party. The social-democrats, for wild campaign to smear THE example, fear to make the demand for the right to vote. The about it by any of the officers, it is distributed before meetings members from accepting it when editor of the New Leader, William E. Bohn, has conducted several columns treating this question. There are repeated all the capitalist arguments for refusing the right to youth.

brother recently described to me, ers continued to accept the paper Bohn even goes to the trouble to quote at length from the let-On Nov. 1 H. Bridges, Stalinter of a "socialist" lawyer (God ist stooge and California director save the mark!), in which this of the CIO, personally assumed cretin harps on the inconsistency

the role of cop and censor. He of calling youth "minors" in law - and granting them the vote! At least 95% of the 5 million men's union was meeting and ex- and its definitions shows precise-His concern with capitalist law or more soldiers are eligible to horted the men not to take THE ly how he views the functions of vote. Why didn't Mr. Roosevelt MILITANT, and he asked those his party.

Bohn evidently fears for "democracy" should youth get the vote. Our attitude is clear and unambiguous. We demand the right, the democratic right, of rights, such as the right to think put it into their pockets and carindependently and politically, in- ried it into the meeting with sponsibility of such youth we consider to be the responsibility to the future, and not to the dying San Francisco | past.

A New Pamphlet!

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And They Call It A 'War For Democracy'!

What are the British fighting for? Do they intend to grant freedom to the colonial peoples in the British Empire?

Stung by the growing criticisms of British imperialist policy, Brigadier General Lord Croft, Joint Parliamentary Under Secretary for the War Office got up in Parliament on Oct. 28 not only to defend the British government but also to brag about its slave-master policies:

"The time has come to throw off the inferiority complex and realize that what Britain is fighting to defend is as sound as anything yet discovered and to cease apologizing for our existence. This 'decadent, dying race' has a finer system of justice and better social services than any other land, and nowhere in the world has the gap between riches and poverty been made so narrow without a revolution...

"We intend to drive out the aggressor from Malaya and Burma and restore happiness and liberty to those unhappy countries. Far from quitting, we have the opportunity of continuing to lift those countries from illiteracy to understanding, and some day, in our wisdom and at our own time, into full self-expression, and by our example, lead the world to a fuller, happier life."

It is unlikely that the speech of Lord Croft who, according to Time of Nov. 9, "was a supporter of Francisco Franco during the Spanish Civil War, of Benito Mussolini at the partition of Abyssinia" will be published in all sections of the British Empire to encourage the colonial masses.

After all, 90% of the colonial subjects still cannot read after hundreds of years under British rule; and very few of those who can read, can afford to buy

More On Why Bosses Are Happy About New Tax Bill

The recently passed tax bill is full of provisions favorable to the capitalist class. These loopholes, which are called "relief" provisions, were exposed in last week's issue of THE MILITANT.

There is an additional method that the bosses use which was not mentioned in THE MILITANT article on "Why the Bosses Are Happy About the New Tax Bill." This method, which has been in operation for some time, is called the tax amortization allow-

This is an example of how the tax amortization

A firm plans to put up a new plant to produce war goods (at a very good profit). If the Army and Navy decide that this plant is necessary, they certify it to receive the benefits of the tax amortization pro-

According to these provisions, the firm is allowed to deduct from its taxable income 20 per cent of the cost of the plant for purposes of "amortization." Amortization is a financial device whereby a company each year or period pays off a certain part of

Since a steel plant wears out only about 3% each year, this means that every year the firm receives 17% of the cost of the new plant as a gift in the form of exemption from tax payment.

Thus the government, over a period of less than six years, gives a free plant to the firm, saving the capitalists hundreds of millions of dollars in taxes an-

German Tax Laws Also Go Easy On **Capitalist Class**

By HOWARD ALLEN

The Nazis and Fascists have always posed as anticapitalists. The speeches of Hitler, Mussolini and their stooges have been full of demagogic attacks on "Big Business." They have tried to cover up their naked dictatorship with phrases against profiteering.

Nazi propaganda in particular has exploited to the limit the deep-seated desire of the workers for an economic system without profits. In this they have been aided by a host of phoney economists and sociologists, inside Germany and out, who have pictured the Hitler dictatorship as a non-capitalist system.

According to these vulgar, would-be theoreticians, the Nazi economy is a new social order, a planned economy; they identify Nazi Germany with Soviet Russia. In spite of their divergent interests, both the apologists for "democratic" imperialism and the fascist soothsayers have agreed that the capitalist class no longer rules in Germany. They both lie.

Waverly Root, writing in the Nov. 2 Philadelphia Record reports, "When the war began, German business firms were subject to a corporation tax of 50% and an excess profits tax of 100%. But there was a loophole in the law big enough to drive an armored car through. The German companies simply added their excess profits to their reserves, instead of listing them as profits. . .

"In order to keep on paying high dividends without running over the 6% of capital, (upon which a heavy tax was levied on June 12, 1941) the big German concerns wrote up their capital, revealing in so doing the tremendous hidden reserves they had accumulated, which now became part of the permanent capitalization.

"The reserves in many cases turned out to be greater than the original capital. Thus, the Deutsche Waffen and Munitions-fabriken increased its capital 300%! . . . The overall capital increase for all German corporations was 60%."

In other words, Mr. Root charges the German capitalist class with a hunger for profits equal to that of the American capitalists. The tax-evasion devices of the German industrialists which Root exposes, is certainly nothing new to the American "captains of industry."

Despite the political differences between the Nazi and the "democratic" imperialist states, one fact sticks out: Both are concerned primarily with helping the bosses to coin profits at the expense of the workers,