

# National Plenum Votes To Issue Appeal Twice Weekly

## Launch Campaign For \$3,000 Fund

(Resolution of Plenum of the National Committee)  
For some time the party has been considering the problem of expanding our press to meet the requirements of intensified political work projected in our transitional program. The heavy tasks imposed upon us by the general situation necessitate, and the resources of our growing movement make possible, a decisive strengthening of our most important weapon—the *Socialist Appeal*. The time has come for a bold step forward.

Therefore, after due consideration of the matter, and after consultation with the party branches, the Plenum of the National Committee decides:

1. To publish the *Socialist Appeal*, in its present size, twice a week!
2. To raise a twice-a-week *Appeal* fund of \$3,000 to meet the doubled publication costs and provide a reserve fund to guarantee its maintenance during the first months. Proportionate quotas are to be assigned to all party units and the campaign for this fund is to begin at once and be completed within 60 days. The first number of the twice-weekly *Appeal* is to appear about February 1st, or sooner if the fund is on hand before that time.

## Plenary Session of N. C. Adopts Program of Action

### Party To Be Geared To New Tempo To Apply Transitional Program In Trade Union Activity

NEW YORK, Nov. 20.—The momentous decision to launch a drive to expand the *Socialist Appeal* into a twice-weekly newspaper marked the high point of the second full meeting (Plenum) of the National Committee of the Socialist Workers Party held here on Nov. 19-20.

Turning its face to the gigantic problems created by the developing crisis in this country, the turbulent labor struggles clearly on the horizon and the impending approach of a new war, the National

See page five for resolutions adopted by the Plenum of the National Committee of the S. W. P.

al Committee laid plans to gear the party to its new tasks, to transform it into a combat organization. At the head of its plans is the twice-weekly paper, calculated not only to convey our message to the workers with greater frequency but to influence the labor movement with a fighting policy and a constructive revolutionary program.

**Watchword Is Forward!**  
The watchword of the Plenum, which will be carried into every part of the organization from coast to coast, was FORWARD! With this aim in mind, the National Committee carried through its sessions in a serious, business-like fashion, grappling with the problems before the party and elaborating a practical program of action.

The two principal points on the order of business were the twice-weekly *Appeal* and the problem of organizing our party work.

**Discussion on Semi-Weekly**  
The Plenum had before it a census of opinion of the party branches—in the form of replies to a questionnaire sent out by the national office—on the twice-weekly *Appeal*. The report of comrade Cannon revealed that the overwhelming majority of the party branches were enthusiastically in favor of the two-a-week paper.

In a lengthy discussion which ensued, the relative merits of the twice-weekly paper as against increasing the present weekly to eight pages was soberly debated with practically every member of the committee participating. The arguments weighed strongly for the twice-weekly. It was felt that the striking power of the party and its organizational effectiveness would be tremendously enhanced by two *Appeals* each week. The Plenum decided 3-1 for the twice-weekly.

**Re-shapes Party Work**  
In line with the decision on the paper, the Plenum went to work to re-shape the party organization to enable it to apply the revolutionary program of transitional demands. In order to gear the organization to its new tasks, the Plenum decided to place the party on a campaign footing. Over specified periods of time, the entire membership will be engaged in promoting some special action planned by the Political Committee. All party work, all agitation, all activity in the branches, in mass organizations will be focused on these campaigns.

The campaigns will revolve around the program of transitional demands and intense efforts will be made to popularize this program in the press, through leaflets and in internal educational meetings and bulletins.

To carry through this plan, the Plenum gave the Political Committee power to raise a special fund to increase its staff of full (Continued on page 5)

# Socialist Appeal

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Open the Doors To Europe's Refugees!

# ENOUGH PIOUS TEARS: ADMIT THE REFUGEES!

## CIO CONVENTION RUBBER STAMPS LEWIS MACHINE

### Mine Leader Rides Roughshod To Full Control

By B. J. WIDICK  
Labor Secretary S.W.P.  
(Special to *Socialist Appeal*)  
PITTSBURGH, Pa.—John L. Lewis took undisputed control over the entire Congress of Industrial Organizations (C.I.O.) following the first national convention held by the industrial unions affiliated to that organization.

His election as president, and the heavy predominance of his personal supporters on the newly-constituted executive board of the C.I.O. assures Lewis of greater personal power than ever achieved by a single trade union leader in this country.

After the shadow-boxing between Lewis and the Stalinists over one clause in the constitution for the C.I.O. (described in last week's *Socialist Appeal*) the convention was smoother than a session of Stalin's central committee meeting. There simply wasn't any opposition on any question of importance.

**Stalinists Roughly Handled**  
The C.I.O. constitution doesn't guarantee the right of political affiliation for members. However, Lewis was able to cut off any discussion on this question.

Lewis called Harry Bridges and Joe Curran, the big-guns of the Stalinists to the stage after they mildly protested against the constitution provisions.

"I don't like you and your gang around here. You can go to hell, as far as I'm concerned, and if you want to get licked, start something at this convention," Lewis privately told Bridges and Curran.

Whereupon, the Stalinists returned to their places and kept as silent as a couple of children just spanked by their father. In order that no one else get any ideas of trying to discuss the constitution seriously, Lewis took the floor before the committee on this subject made its report.

"This is a simple and democratic constitution," he explained to the doubters. "It isn't going to be amended. You are going to vote on the committee recommendations. . . ." Lewis gently explained. Everybody got the hint. Outside of a mild discussion on per capita tax, the constitution was adopted without a murmur.

**Weapon Against Autonomy**  
Under the provisions of the constitution, the executive board can investigate any international or local affiliate and make a report to the convention, anytime it thinks an international union is not carrying out C.I.O. policies.

Thus two legal weapons have been given Lewis for a possible purge of political minorities. The first is the lack of a guarantee on political affiliation rights, the second is this clause which allows (Continued on page 5)

## YPSL Convention Opens in Chicago

CHICAGO—The Tenth National convention of the Young People's Socialist League opened here on Thanksgiving Day. Delegates who have come by bus, freight-cars, by the hitch-hiking route, from all corners of the country gathered to hammer out a program of action based on their own experiences in the trade unions, unemployed organizations and in the student field. Subsequent issues will report the proceedings and the results.

## UAW AUTONOMY ENDANGERED BY DETROIT MOVE

### G.M. Loses No Time In Seizing Its Opportunity

DETROIT, Mich.—Continuing its attempts to build up a machine in the automobile workers' union, the International Executive Board announced from Pittsburgh that it had voted to abolish the Detroit District Auto Council, on the grounds that it was "Communist dominated."

This latest autocratic act is a shameless violation of the union constitution, which specifically makes it mandatory for all unions of any locality to set up district councils and provides for their powers and jurisdictions.

It is indeed true that the Detroit District Auto Council is dominated by stooges of the Communist Party, and therefore has been a worthless body as far as solving any of the union problems was concerned. But the previous attempts of the Martin Administration to bureaucratically suppress the C.P. have proven only a boon for the Stalinists and have won them renewed support from the membership.

**General Motors Attacks**  
While the Executive Board is so unceremoniously abolishing auto councils, bureaucratically suppressing the rights of the membership and ignoring the wishes of the locals, General Motors is beginning to crack down on the local unions, firing shop stewards, trying to speed up the lines. Apparently the only answer the Executive Board can give to these provocations is a further attempt to emasculate the union's strength. Above all they want to show the ruthless, union-hating automobile manufacturers that the union is now respectable, that it no longer possesses the fighting qualities it did a year ago.

The militants of the auto union, who have sacrificed their very lives to build up an organization in their industry have other ideas on the subject, however. They are responding to the manufacturers' offensive in an entirely different manner!

**Fire Shop Steward**  
On Nov. 17th, a shop steward was fired out of the Fleetwood plant on the fake excuse of insubordination. About four hundred men, Fleetwood workers, unanimously voted to back up their steward and instructed the local union officers to immediately call a special meeting for a strike vote. The management replied the next day by locking out the workers of the Fleetwood division of General Motors.

That Sunday evening a conference was called of all representatives of the Fisher Body plants from Detroit, Flint, Pontiac, Lansing and several other cities. Almost unanimously they declared that the time had come to assert their union rights; declared that they were ready to back up the Fleetwood division, Local 15, and called upon the International to support their program. (Continued on page 4)

## Empty Talk Fills Air As Pogrom Goes On

### Hypocritical Plans For Havens In Remote Colonies Offer No Real Possibility Of Relief For Victims Of Hitler

There is one, and just one, test of the seriousness of any protest against the monstrous Nazi drive to exterminate the German Jews.

That test is this: Is the protest backed solidly and unequivocally by the demand that the doors of the United States be thrown open at once to all of the German Jews?

Let us not fool ourselves. Bombastic speeches by the big-shots do not prove that they are friends of the persecuted Jews. Quite the contrary.

The truth of the matter is that the big-shots are trying to exploit the popular indignation at the persecutions for their own reactionary purposes.

### REAL ROOSEVELT PERSECUTES NEGROES

Take Roosevelt. What is his real attitude toward the persecution of racial minorities? To get an answer, all you have to do is to look at the practice of the Party he leads in its chief stronghold, the Southern States.

In the South, not 700,000 but 11,000,000 Negroes live exactly the life that Hitler now plans for the German Jews. The Negroes are consigned to squalid ghettos, cut off from the cultural life of the community, barred from any but the hardest and lowest-paying types of employment, and subject to the constant threat of lynch-terror.

The real Roosevelt is the Roosevelt who bases his power and position on the exploitation, oppression and persecution of the American Negroes.

And what is the purpose to which Roosevelt is trying to turn the public outcry against the Nazi terror? He himself makes it plain. He is using it as the excuse for putting across his colossal armament plans, for building up the weapons and the hysterical spirit which will enable him in the not too distant future to drive the American masses to slaughter on the battlefields of U. S. imperialism.

### CHAMBERLAIN'S CROCODILE TEARS

How about Chamberlain, and his side-kicks Joseph Kennedy, Roosevelt's Ambassador to the Court of St. James, and Rublee, head of the Committee created by that widely advertised vacuum, the Evian Conference?

To try to stifle and shunt aside the world protest, they now put forward a grandiose "plan" to settle the Jews—in British Guiana and in the British mandated colony of Tanganyika, and they ask "private individuals" to contribute at least \$100,000,000 to this purpose.

The proposed territories, so generously suggested, are completely wild and undeveloped, without even means of communication and transportation.

The maximum estimate of the number of Jews that could be settled in Guiana over a period of many years is twenty to thirty thousand, and about the same or a few more in Tanganyika.

The Chamberlain-Kennedy proposal thus comes down to this: no solution at all for the mass of the Jews, but a scheme for the highly profitable exploitation of British colonies to the benefit of British finance-capital.

### VILE OFFERINGS OF STALINISM

The most shameful role of all is that played by the Stalinists. The Soviet Union, product of the workers' revolution, which should be the home of all the persecuted and oppressed, has been transformed into so iron-bound a prison by Stalin that the regime cannot even make the pretense of offering asylum within the vast and under-populated Soviet territories to the German Jews. Instead, Stalin's trade treaty with Germany continues merrily in operation, and not a single demonstration of protest against the persecutions by the Russian workers is permitted by the G. P. U.

But in this country, the agent of Stalin and the G. P. U., the Communist Party, calls for a breaking of diplomatic relations between the U. S. Government and Germany, an official Governmental boycott, and, as Marcantonio explained Monday night at the Madison Square Garden meeting, for the logical sequel to these—war.

Every one of these demands can serve only the interests of imperialism, and can only injure and worsen the condition of the German Jews.

### FACE THE ISSUE—HERE!

We have got to face the issue. If we are not merely indulging our emotions, if we mean business when we say that it is our duty to aid the German Jews in their terrible crisis, we have got to raise throughout the country and carry through the one demand that can really help them and help them now, when they need help: the demand that they be permitted to enter this country. We cannot carry out our duty by passing it off on to the shoulders of someone else, of some other country or of imperialism.

We must compel the President and Congress to lift the quotas and abolish all financial restrictions and all red tape.

This demand can be won if a great popular movement for (Continued on page 5)

## Minn. Labor Demands Open Door for Refugees

MINNEAPOLIS.—Progressive labor forces here have given real impetus to the drive to lower the U. S. immigration restrictions to permit asylum to the hounded refugees from Fascism.

This drive was initiated by the Executive Board of the General Drivers Union, Local 544.

A resolution adopted last week which called upon President Roosevelt to back up his expressions of sympathy with real aid to the refugees and demanded that he "open the gates of the United States to the oppressed of Europe."

The resolution, which is a model for trade unions throughout the country, reads as follows:

"The working thousands enrolled under the banner of General Drivers Union Local 544 extend their keen sympathy to the victims of the repulsive and abominable fascist terror in Germany.

"Fascism is the most reactionary form of capitalism. The senseless cruelty of these outrages demands more than sympathetic statements. The people of the world must study conditions in order to root out the causes for such pogroms as are now being let loose daily in Central Europe. They come only when the working class of people see their organizations destroyed and become enslaved. Such outrages inflicted upon helpless minorities have never happened where a strong independent labor movement exists to guard human rights.

"Local 544 pledges itself to stand ready to protect the civil rights of minorities here locally.

"Local 544 demands of President Roosevelt that he open the gates of the United States to the oppressed of Europe."

## Roosevelt Proclaims Hemisphere His Domain

### New Arms Program Designed To Assure Rule Of U.S. Imperialism From Arctic To Cape Horn

From every sounding board of the administration, from President Roosevelt down to Mayor LaGuardia, through the press, and over the radio, the American people are being prepared for the greatest armament program in history.

They are being prepared for the war policies of the Roosevelt administration which has now openly proclaimed the entire Western hemisphere as the immediate bailiwick of United States imperialism.

This is now the heart and core of Roosevelt's policies. Every move he makes is related to it.

**DALADIER LASHES FRENCH WORKERS; FIGHTS STRIKERS**

### Concentration Camp To Be Created For "Undesirables"

The regime of the concentration camp has been introduced into France.

Begun now only for "undesirable foreigners"—which includes the thousands of foreign workers in France already hounded by the People's Front regime and the present Daladier government—the concentration camp will soon face all the workers if they do not quickly crush the totalitarian threat.

These camps were set up under the same decrees issued ten days ago by the Daladier government putting a formal end to the 40-hour week and attempting to meet France's permanent economic crisis by fresh attacks on the living standard of the French workers.

**Strikes Begin**  
Sporadic strikes of protest took place last week but in each case Daladier's Mobile Guards and police carried out the orders of the erstwhile hero of the People's Front and forced evacuation of the factories occupied by the workers.

That the regime of the concentration camp (Continued on page 6)

### Membership Meet On Plenum Report

A membership meeting of all New York S.W.P. members will be held Saturday, Nov. 26, 3 p.m. at Irving Plaza Hall, Irving Place and 15th St. James P. Cannon will report on the Plenum of the National Committee and on the twice-weekly *Socialist Appeal*. Admission by red card only. (Continued on page 4)









