We Won't Die For Boss Profits

APRIL 1, 1941

Monthly Organ of the Young People's Socialist League (Youth Section, Workers Party)

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An Open Letter to the President:

# JIH BEMANDS THAT F.D.R. AL HIS REAL WAR A

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON, D. C.

Mr. President:

We write to you in the spring of 1941.

It is a time when American youth traditionally think of getting out into the open air, of having some fun; but this year, Mr. President, the thoughts of American youth turn in a different direction. We think this year, not of the spring, but of wars and jobs and our future. Our thoughts turn to Europe, to politics.

Now as never before American youth is vitally interested in politics, because its entire future be settled by the political events which are today taking place.

We have listened very carefully to your speeches recently, Mr. President. We have listened to your speeches promising things to your Allies in Europe-promising guns, ships, food, money.

There is one little question we should like to ask you: HAVE YOU PROMISED THEM MEN, ALSO? ARE AMERICAN YOUTH TO BE LENT AND LEASED, ALSO?

Frankly, we're worried, and what's more, we're skeptical of your promises. Your administration has steadily been moving closer to the war. You've dropped all pretense of "aid-short-of-war." That phrase no longer occurs in your speeches, or in the speeches of political subalterns.

Now we have another question: What are your war aims? After all, it's we, the American youth, who will have to die in this war to which your administration is moving. So we have the right to ask:

What's the war for?

It's not enough to say that it's a war to stop

Come Clean: What Are Your War Aims?



Hitler. We more than any others know what Hitler stands for, because our comrades die in his concentration camps, the victims of the collaboration of the British and German imperialists who put Hitler in. We want to know what kind of a world you and Churchill expect to build. All that you people have said so far convinces us that you expect to keep the same rotten capitalist and imperialist world after the war, which you dominate

Why does Lord Halifax, the British Ambassador, become so tongue-tied when the question of freeing Britain's colonies comes up, if not because he knows damned well that British imperialism and its American partner plan nothing of the kind?

All that Lord Halifax can list as British war aims are some moth-eaten platitudes about "preserving the family," "respect for God," etc. Now you don't really expect American youth, who know how the last generation was tricked into the First World War by similar lies, only to find out that the war was really for profits-you don't expect American youth to die in Belgrade or in Salonika, or Singapore for that?

You're fighting for the same old rotten boss system, for the same rotten exploitation and misery and unemployment and insecurity. If your rotten system continues to exist, this Second World War will mercly pave the road for a new Third World War, as the First World War paved the road for the Second.

The best proof of this-that your war is really for profits and not for democracy-is the way you are handling the labor situation right now.

The bosses are rolling in tremendous profits on war orders. Profits increase by hundreds of per cents. Yet when the workers go out on strike demanding a few extra pennies in order to meet the rising price level, your government attacks them as "unpatriotic" and "selfish."

Just imagine-Bethlehem's profits, for example, have increased by 97 per cent in the last year. The workers demand a few miserable extra pennies, demand that their union be recognized (that is, that Bethlehem live up to the labor laws!) and they're attacked by the state police, are villified in the press, and one congressman even demands the death sentence for strikers!

Yet you can blandly and glibly tell these same workers that they should die for "democracy!"

So far, all that the war boom has brought to the workers has been increased prices and the threat of dving on the battlefield; to the bosses it has brought big profits.

We say: SOAK THE RICH! LET THOSE (Continued on page 4)

## **Labor Fights on Picket Line** In Reply to Boss Attacks

American labor has begun to give its answer to the bosses and their prostitute press who would deprive the American workers of their right to strike.

In Bethlehem, in Buffalo, in the Chicago Harvester strike, in Allis-Chalmers - in all these important industrial plants the worke's have gone out on strike, demanding union slips a month ago, additional firings have been slowly taking place in order to reach the quota of a

Even though the results of some of these strikes are not yet known, one thing is clear: THE AMERICAN WORKERS ARE IN A FIGHTING MOOD! THEY DON'T INTEND TO GIVE UP THE GAINS THEY'VE WON JUST BECAUSE SOME FAKE PATRIOTS YELL ABOUT "NATIONAL DEFENSE."

The American workers are feeling the effects of the war drive already. While their bosses are raking in tremendous profits in war orders, and while prices are steadily rising, their wages remain the same. The workers see that they have a fight ahead of them. They see that, in the name of "national defense," the bosses are hitting away at labor's right to strike—its main weapon to gain its rights.

AND THEY KNOW THAT THE ONLY WAY TO GET ANYTHING

IS ON THE PICKET LINE! More and more, the American workers are beginning to see the boss government stripped of its polite fronts—like the "New Deal"—and how this same boss government is intervening in every case to smash the

(Continued on page 3

### APM Holds Fake Peace"

Clamaxing a nation-wide drive, the American Peace Mobilization meeting in New York, April 5 and 6, tion purposes, have been fired. marks the most intensive effort made by the Stalinist Communist Party to create an "anti-war" move-ment of its own. The tremendous ment of its own. The tremendous ing to the Philadelphia Record of publicity campaign which resulted in 400,000 calls being sent to vari-

(Continued on page 2)

## MORE FROM PAYROLL

Uncle Sam has been continuing, in the last month, his grim policy of cutting the rolls of the National Youth Administration, with results of misery and privation to thou-sands of youth and their families. In New York City, where 7,000 young workers were given pink total of 13,000 dismissals by June 1.

Despite the public announcement that only "service jobs" would be affected (what does the government care about training youth if they're not in war industries?) we have learned that even NYA work-Meeting ers in defense projects have been fired. A number of NYA workers on the Astoria Workshop Project, which trains youth for war produc-

In Pennsylvania, 6,240 workers have already been fired - among them 2,000 Philadelphians. Accord-

(Continued on page 2)

## NYA DROPS Student Strike Is Split; YPSL Issues Call to Action

By MILTON MILLER

On April 11, 1934, over 25,000 students laid down their books and pencils and marched out of the classrooms of the colleges of the United States. Thus was born what has since come to be known as the Annual Student Strike Against War. For these students demonstrated in favor of the Oxford Pledge. "We refuse to support the government in any war it may undertake," and against the imperialist war, then in preparation.

The years which followed saw a tremendous gain in popularity of this movement. In 1935, more than 175,000 participated and the strike

### Youth Jobless Despite "Boom"

By ROBERT NEVINS

youth. In order to understand the of those organizations, including the real plight of our generation—the locked-out generation - we have pointed out that up until two years ago there were SEVEN MILLION UNEMPLOYED YOUTH. The government, though recognizing the unemployed youth problem, tried to minimize its gigantic size so that the few millions of dollars it voted each year for CCC and NYA would indeed seem generous

Recently the age breakdowns of (Continued on page 2)

swelled to 500,000 in 1936 and to

over a million in 1937. In 1938 and 1939, the strike movement was split because of the Communist - controlled American Student Union policy of "peace actions which dropped the Oxford Pledge and supported the "democratic" im-The Challenge of Youth has been a consistent fighter for the interests and needs of the unemployed against war" passed into the hands Young Peoples Socialist League which steadfastly maintained the original program of the movement.

> In 1940 the movement again underwent great changes. The ASU switched its policy and hopped into the war camp of Hitler-Stalin, and refused to condemn the part of Poland and the invasion

land. The Youth Committee (Continued on page On the Youth Front-

### "YOUTH LEADERS" EXPLOIT CONFUSION ON THE CAMPUS

maze of confusion. Much of it is opportunist who would sell a cam-deliberately propagated by profes-pus for a dollar; and, of course "youth leaders" who are Joe Lash, the youth leader with a comfortable living out of the passport to the White House leading new student movements."

fits have yet succeeded in getting cynical any real mass support on the cam-Their imposing façades—fancy stationery, expensive bulletins, well-paid secretaries — hide their lack of either membership or pro-

They are led by eager people-eager to make a soft living. The requirements for leadership are quite simple: a fair ability to make about how democracy ist be defended in Merrie Olde England; readiness to draw a sizable salary for a minimum of work; connections with the "right" people (the spokesmen and representa-tives of American capitalism who are in the market for Youth Lead-ers); and, above all else, an utter lack of scruples about selling American students down the river triotic student movement, veiled in of Britain's imperialist war.

The student front continues a | York; Bob Spivack, a conniving

reading new student movements." These people are characterized by a complete lack of principles. are legion: Student Defense League, Yesterday, when the political winds Student League for Progressive blew in that direction, they were Action, International Student Serv- great "peace" leaders and fronted great "peace" leaders and fronted ice, Student Defenders of Democ- for the Stalinists. Today, when the racy, etc., etc. None of these out- going is tougher, they have become warmongers and demagogues. Read, for example, what Lash writes in his "Bulletin":

> "What immobilizes student democracy is not a lack of pro-gram-THE PROGRAM WILL COME LATER—but a lack of technique with which to meet these tactics and promote an alternative program

> "If the new youth movement is to be built there must be a new youth leadership. THAT LEADERSHIP DOES NOT HAVE TO BE ONE THAT AD-VOCATES ANY PARTICULAR DAY TO DAY PROGRAM." (Our emphasis-I. H.)

liberal phraseology but basically Most of them are renegades from dedicated to support of the impethe radical movement, who have rialist war. To speak of any "day decided that it would be more profitable—if less idealistic—to get out ests—that is not necessary, says Mr. of it. Among them are dullish Ag- Lash. Naturally Mr. Lash has nothsynolds, whom I remember as ing to worry about. His "day to a Stalinist front woman in New day program" is well provided for.

#### GRIST FOR THE STALINIST MILL

All this, of course, provides grist of their "peace" strikes. for the mill of the Stalinist American Student Union. Most of the above-mentioned "student leaders" whom they invited to speak at one product of the war drive.

But when Stalin switched partners, they also shuffled along. The ASU suddenly recognized that not were at one time connected with only was the war imperialist (exthe ASU. This was at the time cept of course on the part of Sta-when the ASU was actively pro-lin, who was a veritable incarnation of Sweetness and Light) but Then, the ASU wasn't so worried about student liberties. They hobnobbed with such well-known "liberties" as Nicholas Murray Butler. New York are an inevitable by-

#### SABOTAGE OF UNITED FRONT

in true Stalinist fashion, they de- we, the YPSL, see it as a reactionery campus they push an ultimatist tion has the right to foist its evaluagainst Rapp-Coudert, who are ates disunity by its policy and alien-smearing their schools and de- ates students who have a legitimate stroying academic freedom, the complaint against being dragged ASU demands that they must sup- into all the "innocent" organizaport the American Youth Congress, tions of the Communist Party. the American Peace Mobilization and all the other Stalinist front organizations. Otherwise, you see, you're not really against Rapp-Cou-that comes with the students of the colleges must be united against the reaction that comes with the students of the colleges must be united against the reaction that comes with the students of the colleges must be united against the reaction that comes with the students of the colleges must be united against the reaction that comes with the students of the colleges must be united against the reaction that comes with the students of the colleges must be united against the reaction that comes with the students of the colleges must be united against the reaction that comes with the students of the colleges must be united against the reaction that comes with the students of the colleges must be united against the reaction that comes with the students of the colleges must be united against the reaction that comes with the students of the colleges must be united against the reaction that comes with the students of the colleges must be united against the reaction that comes with the students of the colleges must be united against the reaction that comes with the students of the colleges must be united against the reaction that comes with the students of the colleges must be united against the reaction that comes with the students of the colleges must be united against the reaction that the students of the colleges with the students of the colleges

tioned right to assess politically forces that are responsible for the the significance of the issue on war.

After all these twists and turns, which the united front is based mand that the whole world recog-nize them as the only "consistent" think it's a local violation of aca-fighters for student rights. On ev-demic freedom, etc. No organizapolicy of demanding that other or-ganizations accept their political United Front arises on the basis of analysis as a pre-condition for common need for joint action of United Front! Thus, when students various organizations with differ-York wish to take action ent points of view. The ASU cre-

In every fight for academic free It is precisely in struggle that the Each organization participating in broad mass of the students will a United Front has the unques-freedom is a fight against the same learn how their fight for academic conflict with those of the ruling

A Bloody Page from American History

## How America's 60 Families Is Splitby IRVING HOWE Built Their World Empire

Practically everybody about the British Empire - about rules. Most of us have heard of the term "imperialism" in connection with the British Empire. However, not so many of us realize that the United States also is an imperialist nation, one of the greatest in the world, with an empire all its own.

Teachers in school, the movies, the radio commentators and the newspapers always minimize the importance of the American empire. All talk of American imperialism is ridiculed and denounced as "un-American and undemocratic." True enough, they admit, the United States directly owns Alaska, Hawaii, Porto Rico, the Philippines, the Canal Zone, the Virgin Islands, longer applicable to Roosevelt's Guam, Samoa and a few other is"good neighbor" policy. They may lands, but what does this handful also point out that the American of colonies amount to compared with the vast extent of the British rates, is still relatively small in Epire? And it is true-these colonies do not seem very impressive. But very seldom are you told that there should be added to the list of United States territories the following protectorates and semi-colonies: Cuba, Haiti, the Dominican Republic, Panama, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, and Liberia in Africa. Still less frequently do you hear about the unsavory pages of America's imperialist history — how America seized Cuba and the Philippines from Spain in 1898; how it

A High School Student

Replies to the Jingoes

In the New York high school that

I attend there is currently going on a campaign for "Americanism." In

the campaign, pamphlets and book-

lets have been given to us concern-

ing "the American way," "national

defense" and other topics. These

pamphlets are published by the

National Association of Manufac-turers, which, in one breath, tells

us all about democracy and free-

dom, and attempts to censor our

text books because these are criti-

cal of the existing system. In ad-

dition to these booklets, stickers

are circulated among the students to paste in their notebooks, telling

us that there's nothing better than

American "democracy." I have made the following analysis of this

"There's no way like the Ameri-can way.—Why? Because: I CAN

GO TO ANY CHURCH I PLEASE."

Except if you happen to be one

of Jehovah's Witnesses or any

other religious group whose aims

Dear Editor:

how the United States took over India, Ireland, Singapore, Egypt the customs of the Dominican Re-and other countries that England public in 1904 when that tiny country defaulted on its debts-to Germany (not to the United States!); how Woodrow Wilson sent the marines to Vera Cruz, Mexico, in 1914 and General Pershing and the United States Army into Mexico in 1917; and how the United States marines occupied Nicaragua in 1912, Haiti in 1915, and the Dominican Republic in 1916, staying for 21, 19 and 8 years respectively. These acts of ruthless aggression are directly comparable to all of Hitler's crimes today.

Our apologists for American imperialism may admit all of the above facts but still discount them as belonging to the past and as no empire, even including its protectosize and mostly limited to the area of the Caribbean and of Central America.

#### Meaning of Imperialism

To these people we can justly reply that they do not begin to understand the meaning of imperialism and the nature of American economy today. For imperialism involves much more than the direct ownership of colonies; it is primarily a question of the investment of saved capital abroad, of the participated in the forcible sup-pression of the Boxer Rebellion in materials, and of the struggle for China in 1901; how Theodo e Roo- an export market for surpluses. In

sevelt engineered a phoney revolu- all of these features, the United tion and took over Panama in 1903; States today is the greatest imperialist country in the world!

Before the first imperialist World War of 1914-18, the United States was a debtor nation, exporting agricultural goods to meet the charges on foreign financial obligations. Since the war, the United States has been a creditor nation, exporting capital and goods and forcing its economic penetration all over the world. The amount of United States capital invested abroad increased from two billion dollars in 1913 to 16 billion dollars in 1936; the amount of United States ports quadrupled from 1914 to The total of United States invest-

ments abroad in 1935 was the staggering figure of \$13,693,700,000, as shown in the following table:

ij	Investments in	Amount
3	Europe	3,026,000,000
	Canada and New-	1000
į	foundland	3,657,600,000
	Cuba and West	2002330
1	Indies	871,700,000
ı	Mexico ,	912,900,000
Į.	Central America	1,920,000,000
	South America	2,574,400,000
	Africa	125,800.000
	Asia	915,300,000
•	Oceania	413,100,000

#### World-Wide

In the cold numerical data next to each country we can see the tentacles of American imperialism reaching out all over the world. Those figures stand for ownership by American capitalists of tin mines in the Dutch East Indies and Bolivia; of copper mines in Chile, Peru and South Africa; of nickel and asbestos mines in Canada; of iron mines in Cuba; petroleum fields in Mexico, Venezuela, Colombia, Irag and Rumania; nitrate deposits in Chile; rubber plantations in Java, Brazil, Liberia and Malaya; sugar fields in Cuba and the Dominican Republic; tea plantations in Ceylon; jute fields in India; banana plantations in Central America; cotton farms and cattle ranches in Mexico, Brazil and Argentina.

How does American imperialism work? By establishing monopolies, by charging high interest, by paying low wages, by making international agreements to eliminate com petition, and by using American military strength to establish po-litical control over the colonial countries, American capitalists have been able to assure a steady flow of profits from their enter prises abroad. From 1921 to 1925 the average earnings on foreign investments were three hundred and eighty-one million dollars annually: from 1926 to 1930, average earnings were eight hundred and sixty-five million annually; from 1931 to 1937, five hundred million. A typical example of imperialist monopoly is the Morgan - controlled Electric Bond & Share Company of Brazil which has increased its electric rates 84 per cent since 1912! A good illustration of the practice of making international agreements to eliminate competition is the case of the agreement signed in 1928 between the General Electric Cororation of America and the I But not by a jury of my peers if I Munitions Works of Germany, APM Holds Fake which resulted in an increase of

#### Natives Suffer

two-thirds of the population were on relief in 1938. In Cuba, where getting 80 per cent of the sugar industry is owned by three United States banks, average wages are \$1 per day for SKILLED labor. In Brazil. day for SKILLED labor. In Brazil, Henry Ford pays his Indian and Negro laborers 12 cents per day on his 3,700,000 acres of rubber plantations and has his own private police force to "keep the natives in their proper places." The story is the same all over the world. In whichever land American capital is invested, the native population is exploited—forced to work long, hard hours at miserably low wages.

Iton with a directly opposite line of the American League but with the identical leadership. Of course a couple of the people got off the merry-go-round but by and large the same people are still listed. Controlled from top to bottom by as cynical group as one can find, it waits with bated breath for Stalin to change his line so they can change once more.

Those delegates to the APM meet. hard hours at miserably low wages. Those delegates to the APM meetieprived of all democratic rights, ing who are genuinely opposed to 
impoverished and enslaved, while 
they see the wealth which they 
produce in the factories, mines and 
ment that is the creature of the 
supporters of one of the important. produce in the factories, mines and plantations, flow outward in a never-ending stream directly into the hands of Wall Street and America's "Sixty Families." The total amount of money "earned" by American capitalists in this manner in the past 20 years is more than 10 billion dollars! Thus the world pays tribute to Imperial U. S.

## Student Strike

(Continued from page 1)

War (Norman Thomas outfit) hesitatingly stepped into the camp of the "democratic" imperialists by giving half-hearted support to Finland and by tacitly supporting England. Only the YPSL called strike actions which held fast to the original strike program.

Today the student strike movement has completely petered out. The "strikes" of the ASU and the YCAW will be small and, what is more important, will be tied to ei-ther war camp. Only the Young People's Socialist League has is sued a statement clearly pointing the war for student youth to fight against the imperialist war.

The statement follows:

### YPSL Stand on Student Strike

Students of America - On this, the eighth anniversary of the annual Student Strike Against War, the Young Peoples Socialist League calls upon you to enroll in its ranks

as fighters against imperialist war. With the United States on the threshhold of actual entry into the European war, it is necessary to unite the mass of student and working class youth around the banner of international socialism.

In the past, based upon the ex-istence of large pacifist sentiment among the mass of student youth, it was possible to hold a nation-most all the organizations which most all the organizations which took part in those strikes have passed out of existence or into one of the two warring camps. There is no nationally unified united front of organizations with a common basis of opposition to the imperial-

In these circumstances, it is nec essary for us to recognize that the objective basis for the calling of nation-wide strikes no longer exists. As a result, the National Council of the YPSL calls upon student youth to act along the following

1) Organize, wherever possible, local strike actions or meetings against the imperialist war.

2) Failing this, the issuance of explanatory material on the nature of the war.

Organization of debates or symposia around the question of the United States and the Imperialist War.

Our program for the strike is:

Not a Man, Not a Cent for Wall Street's war!

Let the Peoples Vote on War!

Ford the Oxford Pledge! Maintain the Democratic Rights

of Labor! For Academic Freedom!
Against the Imperialist War and
United States Entry Into It! Against both Warring Camps-the Camp of Hitler - Mussolini - Stalin and the camp of Churchill-Roosevelt! For the Third Camp of Work-

ers Independent Action Against For a Socialist United States of

Europe and the World!

## the price of tungsten from \$48 to "Peace" Meeting

(Continued from page 1)

Let us see how American imperi- lution of the American League alism affects the natives of the co-lonial areas. In Porto Rico, where Ward, because of "the changed in-75 per cent of the total national ternational situation." The Amerwealth is owned by United States ican League had already made one capitalists, the average wage is \$4 switch in line when it changed its per week, the mortality rate is the name from League Against War and highest in the hemisphere, and Fascism to League for Reace and Democracy and the members were getting dizzy changing back and

So was born the latest creation of American Stalinism. An organiza-tion with a directly opposite line

Stalin.

## Youth Unemployment Continues-

(Continued from page 1)

nsus have been released. Below employment gathered in the 1940 is the official chart:

Employment Status of Youth 14-24 Years of Age

In non-emergency employ 9,001,745 In emergency employment aloyed and seeking

In own home housework \_\_ 3,953,239 8,980,497 able to work In institutions 227,076 404,214 872,104

close analysis of the above rt will show that despite the leading divisions there are, to put it conservatively, over POUR AND A HALF MILLION UNEM-PLOYED YOUTH TODAY.

nt in Figures

stment that must be el records of the WPA, CCC and NYA there were 820,000\* young for all other youth) should be conthe youth on the NYA student-aid program have been eliminated.

The census has over a million and one-quarter in the "unknown" or "other" categories. Actually most of these (since the chart accounts

This figure and all the following facts and direct quotations have been obtained from the BULLETIN of the American Youth Commission, Vol. V. No. 3. This organization is considered the most reliable and authoritative on youth facts and features.

The CHATLENCE OF YOUTH

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Organ of the YOUNG PEOPLES SOCIALIST LEAGUE YOUTH SECTION, WORKERS PARTY

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workers on their rolls even when sidered unemployed. "Unemployed the youth on the NYA student-aid seasonal workers" and youth who being long without employment or have grown discouraged through who believe they have exhausted the prospects of job-finding would frequently come in this category.

Then there is the category "in own home." Close to four million are placed here. Actually in many cases such youth should really be considered unemployed. "His labor is frequently not needed in the conduct of the family business and ne would welcome outside employment." We venture to say that at least one million in this category must be considered unemployed.

And then of course the chart fails completely to take into consideration the part-time worker who is seeking full-time employ-ment. If their man-hours could be figured out we would be forced to add many more hundreds of thousands as unemployed.

From these few facts we can readily see that the government did not seriously undertake to find out the accurate number of unemployed youth. We can also say that from the 1940 figures presented there were over five million unemployed youth at the time of the census.

At this stage of the "wartime boom" bers who work on NYA projects there are at least FOUR AND A HALF MILLION UNEMPLOYED the other fellows to stop the cuts.

American capitalists in this mann in the past 20 years is more the work of the past 20 years in the past 20 years is more than the million dollars. Thus the work of the cuts.

But every time I pick up a newspaper (except The Challenge) or to to a movie, I read, see or hear nothing but the importance of entering the imperialist war "to make the world safe for democracy."

"I CAN EXPRESS MY OPIN-IONS OPENLY." But not TOO loudly, because the

Dies Committee or the Rapp-Coudert Committee or the FBI might overhear me.

"MY TELEPHONE IS UN-TAPPED." But there is a bill now before

Congress legalizing wire-tapping.
"I CAN JOIN ANY POLITICAL
PARTY F WISH." But I better watch my step if

that party has international affiliations or opposes the present gov-"I CAN VOTE FOR WHAT AND

sticker, which is put out by the ernment. Ever Ready Label Corp. (5,000 additional stickers for only \$3.00):

WHOM I WHOM I PLEASE."

But I cannot vote on the most important questions of the day. I cannot vote on the question of conscription and I cannot vote on the question of the war. I am too young to vote, yet I'm old enough to fight. And am I really given the choice to vote for whom I please?
"I HAVE A CONSTITUTIONAL

"I READ, SEE AND HEAR TRIAL BY JURY.

am a Negro or a poor sharecropper. And finally the sticker ends: Neither my life nor property can forfeited without due process of

the law." Yes, it's due process of the law when I'm shoved into a conscrip-tion camp or sent over to die somewhere for Du Pont's or Morgan's profits. It's due process of the law. THEIR law. Not mine and not

yours, either. Sincerely, Martin Phillips.

(Continued from page 1)

only one recourse left to the NYA -both those who have already been fired and those who fear it in the future. That is UNIONIZATION! If the NYA workers unionize and

truggle for the RIGHT TO LEARN A TRADE, for the right to pre-pare themselves for a job, then they'll be able to fight back against the cuts. Then they'll be able to lemonstrate their opposition on the projects; they'll be able to make Congress sit up and take notice—AND FORCE CONGRESS TO VOTE THE APPROPRIATIONS NECESSARY TO PUT THE FIRED WORKERS BACK ONTO THE

PROJECTS.

## Labor Replies to Bosses Attacks th Militant Picket Line Action

(Continued from page 1)

workers' strikers. The most flagrant example is the government order to end the Allis-Chalmers strike:

The government is going back to its old tricks of calling out the National Guard to smash strikes, as it tried to do at Bethlehem

BUT THE AMERICAN WORKERS AREN'T TAKING IT LYING DOWN! THEY'RE IN THERE FIGHTING FOR THEIR RIGHTS, FIGHT-ING FOR UNION SHOPS, FOR HIGHER WAGES AND BETTER CON-

ON THE PICKET LINES AND IN THE SHOPS, THE AMERICAN WORKERS ARE DETERMINED TO PREVENT THEIR UNIONS FROM BEING SMASHED AND TO SURGE FORWARD TO NEW UNION VIC-

#### ANTI-STRIKE BILLS ARE INTRODUCED

Trying to start a lynch drive against the workers in the name of "Na tional Defense," a number of Tory congressmen have introduced bills into Congress which would deprive labor of its most cherished right the right to strike. Every time a few workers have gone out on strike trying to get wages which would meet rising prices, they have been accused of being "unpatriotic" and "saboteurs." The Tory members of Congress have come through nobly . . . for the bosses.

Below we list a series of bills introduced into Congress which hit at labor's fundamental rights:

1) Congressman Smith of Virginia, who has been the leader of the anti-labor crusade, introduced an amendment to a recent naval appropriations bill which prevented closed shops in all plants working for the government. This amendment was defeated, but it was followed by a slew of other anti-labor bills.

2 Congressman Vinson of Georgia introduced a bill to compel 60-day delays in all proposed strikes for naval contracts (probably in order to give the bosses a chance to get some strikebreakers!) This bill is still pending in Congress.

#### WOULD SMASH UNION CONTRACTS

- 3) Representative May of Kentucky stated that he would seek the same restrictions on army contracts.
- 4) Representative Dirksen of Illinois wants to end union hiring halls n the maritime industry, to revoke licenses of "undesirable" radio men and to compel mediation.
- 5) Representative Clare Hoffman of Michigan, notorious labor enemy, then topped them all by introducing a bill which would practically bar all union members from working in defense industries.

As the CIO News aptly puts it: "War hysteria has always provided an opportunity for the forces of reaction . . . Labor organizers can be denounced as subversive and ordinary union activity called sabotage."

Labor's most important and vital right is the right to strike. Once that is done away with, labor has hardly a weapon with which to improve its conditions.

In our trade unions, we must begin the fight now, before it is too

DEFEND THE RIGHTS OF OUR TRADE UNIONS DEFEND OUR RIGHT TO STRIKE! SMASH THE REACTIONARY ANTI-LABOR BILLS!

### **Program for Young Workers**

- 1. A minimum wage of \$24 for a 40-hour week.
- 2. The machine facilities in the shops shall be available to the union after working hours for the instruction of the youth in skilled trades.
- 3. All war industries shall be required to hire at least 10 per cent of its additional employees from the ranks of unemployed youth (in the trade unions and outside) between the ages of 18 and 24. "One apprentice for every 10 mechanics."
- 4. Equal Pay for Equal Work. We oppose cutting of wages because of "learner" status or because of sex; employees doing the work of the normal employee should receive the regular wage, regardless of conditions of employment. This regular wage should have as its minimum \$1 per hour. Apprentices who do not do equal work should receive at least 60 cents per hour.
- 5. Jim Crow is the Enemy. No discrimination in hiring or on the job because of race or color.

Youth in the Unions—

### L. A. UNION FIGHTS AGAINST FAKE APPRENTICE SCHEME

By EUGENE VICTOR

For years the American trade and Machine Workers of Los Anvided federal funds for trade train- refused to continue its participa-

Big business in some cases stepped in and exploited the trade schools for its own ends and in other cases completely ignored them so that graduates couldn't get jobs through

This was brought out clearly by Local 1421, United Electrical, Radio among its graduates.

schools operated on pitifully low geles. Invited by the Machine Shop budgets provided from state or city Advisory Committee of the Los Anfunds. With the war boom, Con- geles "Defense Training Program" gress recognized its long-neglected to be represented at its meetings, obligation to the youth and pro- the CIO local, after one meeting, tion.

It found that the schools were being used to develop "employability" rather than real skill, that the machine shop classes were more and more restricted to exclude all previously untrained youth and that no provision was made to maintain union wage standards

#### BIG BOSSES DOMINATE THE COMMITTEE

Representatives of the big factory | ticipation in the machine shop adager of Emsco Derrick & Equipment Co.

As Mr. Vestey, coordinator of the program put it, "The objective a program in which discriminaof this training is to meet needs of tion against Negroes and minority defense production, rather than the groups is so flagrant. We feel that needs of individual young people." this discrimination is not excused

union to Mr. Wilson, assistant supervisor of national defense train- refusal of employers to hire meming. Here are some excerpts:

ered the advisability of further par- rather than real training.

owners in Los Angeles dominate visory committee for national dethe committee-McNerney, general fense training and has decided that superintendent of Consolidated it will be impossible for us to par-Steel, and Andrews, personnel man-ticipate unless some drastic changes are made in the character of the training program.

"First, we cannot participate in This resulted in a letter from the to the slightest degree by the two reasons advanced for it, namely, bers of these groups, and emphasis Our executive board has consid- by Washington on employability

#### TRAIN THE UNSKILLED, UNEMPLOYED YOUTH!

"We emphatically feel that in any is complied with, the CIO will see mass of unskilled workers, in order tion. that they may secure employment, since a defense training program main objectives solving the unem-ployment problem is a hollow mockery and is no defense at all. The Appropriations Act (which authortion for race, sex or color. If this out."

program for genuine defense of our to it that such employers as it has country, the emphasis must be under contract are forced to hire placed on training the broadest these workers without discrimina-

"Second, we cannot participate in any program which does not give which does not have as one of its concrete guarantees that trainees shall not be used to lower labor standards. All trainees after placement in industry MUST BE compensated at prevailing union wages izes the program) specifically states and so far there is not the slightest that there shall be no discrimina- assurance that this will be carried

### LOCAL 65-A UNION AND

Local 65 of the United Wholesale and Warehouse Workers, CIO, phoney! They are not against the is a union of over 8,000 members and is spread throughout New York City, although centered mainly in Manhattan. It is one of the most progressive unions in the city. It has a rank and file that is as militant as that of any other union in the city." Strikes conducted by the union are usually accompanied by mass picket lines, colorful demonstrations and result generally in a victory for the union.

In a strike at Goldberg Bres., it had a mass picket line of more than 500 on the line. This went on for weeks. On one occasion, they

staged a mass demonstration in front of City Hall to protest police American Peace Mobilization, etc. brutality against the strikers. Although they were met with clubs they stood up well. Due to the ability of the employers to carry on business out of town, the strike was lost. Despite this, the fame and reputation of Local 65 spread and resulted in the getting of better contracts in other firms.

The union has succeeded in raising wages and shortening hours in shops under its control. They have also organized shops never touched by unions before. The rank and file take a large part in the activities of the union organizational work and social life. There are many committees made up of rank and file

Because Local 65 is among the unions in the city, it is necessary to say a few words of warning on one point to the membership.

The leadership of Local 65 says it is against the war. They involve the union in all sorts of outfits that | ie rights to give out our material SAY they are against the war, like the American Youth Congress, the

nely "necessary."

ed-up production.

the members against the war in these various organizations. It is precisely of these that the membership of Local 65 must be on guard.

The opposition of Osman and the other leaders of the union, as well as the organizations to which they are always running, to the war is

At the last meeting of Local 65, two members of the Young Peoples Socialist League who were distributing copies of The Challenge, were assaulted by some Stalinist members of Lo cal 65. We believe that this sort of behavior is inexcusable for union members. We do not ask anyone to agree with us who hinks we are wro lieve that we have the right to distribute our literature and present our point of view. We appeal to all members of Local 65 to stand up for our democratin front of their meetings.

#### There are some who say that it war because it is an imperialist makes no difference what the powar on both sides! They are against litical line of the leadership is as the war because the Soviet Union long as the union fights for higher isn't with the "democracies." wages and shorter hours. The point fore the outbreak of the war, they were for collective security." They is that the union leadership won't always fight for higher wages and were for a collective war of the shorter hours. If Stalin should switch partners, they would say "democracies" against Hitler. If the United States, England and France that the union has to go easy and give up gains to meet the needs of "national defense." You see, the had waged war then against Hitler, it would have been a war for democracy. They were the world's war would be a "good" war again. best warmongers. Then something That is what would happen if

Stalin should change his alliance. The Stalin-Hitler pact was signed! All the organizations to which Lo-The leadership switched their polcal 65 was affiliated are for this. They don't dare say they are for the Axis robbers, so they say the United States with Russia. they are for neutrality. In place of their campaign for a third term for Roosevelt and his war deal, they found out that he had "changed." The real truth is that Roosevelt

Stalin. It means adopting a policy against the war that is based on ic" imperialisms. It was Osman and Dave Livingston who changed. with the organizations to which they always send delegates:

#### King Kard Youth Writes In The company is so strict about a

Dear Editor:

Last week I received a copy of The Challenge from a fellow who was giving them out in front of our plant. I didn't think much of it then but when I read it through I decided this was the paper to write to. Why don't you have a forum to which fellows can write They all agitate for an alliance of describing their experiences?

mean supporting the "polities of chines sitting on boxes or anything Stalin. It means adopting work is tedious and if we take our the needs of the American workers eyes off the machines we make a and not the Russian dictator. It reject and if we make too many means pushing forward the organ- rejects we are fired. And the bathization of the unorganized. It room is terrible. I myself am afraid means making Local 65 a powerful to go in there for fear of catching viet foreign policy, they, like the instrument of action for the better- a disease. It really constitutes a Communist Party, run along. ment of the workers. Imenace to our health.

worst part about the place is that the ILGWU Raincoat Makers don't give a damn about us fellows. What we ought to do is go out on strike, but we know we won't get any support. Please print this letter. Yours for stronger unions,

union for the unskilled work that

anyone caught talking about a

union is fired. And we have to be

careful, too, because practically

every other fellow is a stool pigeon.

They're hired on that basis. The

A King Kard Worker.

## Ford Instrument Gyps Girl "Learners" Who Do Mechanics Work for Less Pay

To the Editor:

ciy.

tended this policy. Girls are being ployment. hired to work in the assembly department at 40 cents an hour.

was consistently for the "democrat-

With every twist and turn of So-

125 and Ford Instrument there is a clause which permits the company "Soon they'll be doing our work, to hire "learners" beginning at 40 too." cents an hour. Not satisfied with Such an attitude gets us nowhere. employing young fellows under this The young people who are the subheading and making them productiect of all this discussion have just tion hands on the bench lathe, the as much right to the jobs as any-management now exploits girls at body else. But the company has no much less than the wage it for- right to rob its employees and play merly paid to mechanics. These girls do bench assembly work and operate drill presses and arbor resses, work which in the past was done by instrument assembly helpers at a starting rate of 65 cents an hour.

The Contract

The clause in the contract which is so abused by the company reads, "Minimum starting rates for learners (male or female) shall be 40 cents per hour." But nowhere in the contract is the word "learner"

The boys are beginning to ask: If there is no money for cultural projects, if the industrial projects are being tightened up, where in hell is all the "defense" money going to? It wouldn't be going to the Wall Street billionaires or their British pals . . . or would it?

defined.

In reality these girls and fellows are not "learners." The operations they perform are taught in one week at the MOST. In many cases

ment Co., the management has ex- ping" the mechanics out of em-

In the contract signed by Local young fellows for taking away jobs. One of them gloomily remarked; "Soon they'll be doing our work,

one section of the shop against an-

It's Up to Us

union protests, the matter should be brought to the union membership with respect to point one, recent union contracts in the machine tool on the agenda should be advertised industry have established minimum well in advance of the meeting to starting rates at no lower than 55 arouse interest and more active union brothers should be asked to speak to the "learners" and make a special point of bringing them to the meeting.

The Contract Says
If the company continues to stall, we have resource to our contract, Section 7, Paragraphs D, 1 and 2,

lathe operators, as the case may be. Department of Labor and the De-Since you printed the letter about The company is robbing them of partment of Commerce and other underpaid youth at Ford Instru- their rightful pay as well as "gyp- governmental agencies will show an upward trend of wages substanployment. tially affecting the rates of pay of the mechanics are pretty sore the classes of labor employed by about it. They blame the girls and the employer, then the question of an appropriate upward revision of wage scales may be reopened upon 30 days' notice by either the union or the employer. 2. "It is also agreed that if the

cost of living index shows a substantial increase, as reported by the Department of Labor or the Department of Commerce or other governmental agencies, either party to this agreement may reopen the riate revision upon 15 days' notice If the management continues to it is understood that the index fig-violate the contract in spite of the ure of October 1, 1940, shall be taken as 100?"

cents an hour, in many cases even for apprentices. But the "learners" are certainly not apprentices.

As for point two, food price alone have gone up more than 10 per cent since October, 1940, when the contract went into effect.

The union has a good case. The brothers and sisters in the shop are

they can be mastered in ten min-utes. Therefore they are produc-tions workers, assemblers or bench based on available figures from the

## Philly Boss Has His

Money on Both Sides

Stick your tongue in your cheek when some of these bosses begin talking about national "defense" and lower wages.

E. G. Budd, who owns a plant in Philadelphia from which he recently fired several workers union, is not quite a patriot. In 1930 the Budd Company ac-

quired 82 per cent of the comon stock of the newly formed Budd International, which means control of the following: Pre Steel Co. of Great Britain, Ambi-Budd Presswerk in Berlin and the Société Française Budd in France.

Nice work, Budd! Since 1930 your Ambi-Budd Presswerk has been manufacturing supplies for the Germany war-economy. At the same time you made sure you got your share of British, French and American profits.

No matter whether Germ wins or the Allies win, you have already won your share of the spoils of this war, with more gravy to come.

will call upon them for cooperation If the "learners" and "h saw that the union really paid son attention to their problems the would take a greater interest in meetings and give the union active

It would be a mistake to wait u til September, when the contra expires in order to take action. I

## And there has also been some talk about organizing a union . . . a they easily good idea. A strong union might be able to stop the firings and utes. et union wages or real instruction.

In the Astoria NYA Shop-

It looks like the fellows on the Astoria NYA workshop are getting it

When the NYA announced that a total of 13,000 NYA workers would fired last month, they also declared that the fellows on "defense" pro-

jects would not be affected. The excuse was given that while the cultural NYA projects were unnecessary "frills," the "defense" projects were

Lately, we have found out, there have been firings even in "defense"

Aside from the firings, a production system has been put into operation

ch greatly limits the opportunities for learning a trade. On produc-

the worker constantly repeats over and over again something he dy knows how to do; if something comes up which he doesn't yet

w how to do, it is not explained to him. The "instructor" takes over

the job himself, since what everyone is suddenly interested in at the op is SPEED. Result: the worker learns nothing, or next to

Of course, production is all right . . . if it's paid for in union wages, not \$22 a month. But if we can't get union wages, we want instruction.

projects. A number of fellows have been quietly fired from the Astoria

## A Fighting Program Is the Only Answer to Jim-Crow

The politicians maintain a discreet silence on this question. The 'DEFENSE' INDUSTRIES. boss press can find room to print everything except news on this subject. All the apologists for and defenders of the Roosevelt Administration suddenly become tongue-tied, as if afflicted by some supernatural power, when the topic is brought up.

But the facts remains they grow larger and more powerful each day-to the point where they become a national disgrace.

THE NEGRO PEOPLE HAVE BEEN LOCKED OUT OF THE "NATIONALL DEFENSE" INDUSTRIES!

WITH ALL THE TALK OF MAKING AMERICA AN "ARSE-NAL OF DEMOCRACY' AND WITH ALL THE SUPER-PATRI-OTIC BABBLING ABOUT HOW WONDERFUL THIS COUNTRY IS-THE NEGRO PEOPLE ARE DELIBERATELY AND COLD-BLOODEDLY BEING JIM-CROWED IN THE ENTIRE "DEFENSE" PROGRAM!

No one can deny it; no one can whitewash the ugly facts! AND THE FACTS ARE UGLY-

There is hardly a company in the country that has government orders which employs any Negroes, except in the most menial and poorly-paid tasks. Company after company-Sperry, Gyroscope, Vul. 1 tee, hundreds of others-engaged in "defense" work, 'deliberately refuse to employ Negroes.

And none of the spokesmen of the Roosevelt government have a word to say about this.

The silver-tongued President mouths phrases about the "four the bosses, not in getting fair play for the Negoes.

BUT WHAT ABOUT THE BASIC LIBERTY OF A YOUNG NEGRO TO GET A JOB AND KEEP IT, other than a job as a porter or janitor?

YOU CAN MAKE ELOQUENT SPEECHES ABOUT DEMOC-RACY IN GREECE, MR. PRESIDENT; YOU BABBLE ABOUT DEMOCRACY IN YUGOSLAVIA—BUT WHAT ABOUT DEMOC-RACY RIGHT HERE IN AMERICA FOR THE ONE OUT OF EV-ERY TEN AMERICANS WHOSE SKIN IS BLACK?

For them, Mr. President, you only have a few vague promises, a slick smile, and a large silence. YOU REMAIN DEAF TO THE DE-MAND OF THE NEGRO PEOPLE WHO WANT - TOGETHER tossed a few crumbs from the overladen tables of the Jim-Crowing WITH OTHER WORKERS-TO GET A FEW DECENT JOBS IN rich.

dustries. Just put a clause in all contracts that companies which refuse to hire Negro workers are deprived of contracts. Then you'll see the Sperry-Gyroscopes and the rest of them drop their Jim-Crow policy soon enough!

But President Roosevelt daren't do such a thing. He's tied up with the Boss Democratic Party in which the reactionary Southern Negrohaters play a large part. He's interested in getting more profits for



WHAT ARE THE NEGRO PEOPLE TO DO?

There is one thing they cannot do: they cannot take it lying down. They cannot merely resign themselves to a fate of once more serving as the door-mats of American life. The Negro people must struggle back against Jim-Crow.

Negro youth especially, who have never been able to break into industry, who are doomed to indolence and misery despite whatever education they may have-Negro youth especially must fight back. They cannot follow the path of some of the cringeing Negro papers which crawl before the politicians and bosses, begging for a few favors and pledging their eternal submission . . . if only, if only they are

Are there any words to strong with which to condemn the recent And it would be so simple, too, to end Jim-Crow in "defense" in- article in the Saturday Evening Post written by Walter White, of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, in which White, after listing numerous cases of Jim-Crowism in the "defense" set-up, then proceeds to pledge the loyalty of the Negro people to the war drive and to the Roosevelt Administration?

Why should the Negro people support this bogus "defense" drive, why should the young Negro fellows prepare to die in this coming war for "democracy," when right here at home General Jim-Crow is still boss?

To what should the Southern Negro sharecropper be loyal—to the lynch mob, to the planters who oppress and murder him?

To what should the Negro youth in Harlem be loyal-to the system which can't get him anything better than permanent unemployment, or the worst and most hopeless jobs in the country?

No, these Walter Whites, and these Pittsburgh Couriers (which support's Henry Ford's anti-union drive!) are only betrayers of the Vegro people!

The place of the Negro workers is together with their white brothers. The Negro workers can get jobs, can smash the barrier erected against them in "defense" industries, by fighting together with their white brothers in the trade unions and in the party of the workers, the Workers Party, and in the Young People's Socialist League, its youth

You will say that there are some unions—like the old craft unions in the AFL—which discriminate against Negroes.

That's true. And it's bad.

But despite that, the place of the Negro worker is in the trade union. The trade union is the organization of the workers fighting for their rights. If there's something wrong with the trade union-like its being Jim-Crow-then all decent and progressive workers will fight inside the trade union movement to change that.

But the basic allegiance of the Negro worker must be to the trade union movement. And that's true of the Negro youth, too. That's the only way they'll be able to break into industry-if the trade unions break down the Jim-Crow walls.

Only the unity of the Negro and white workers only that can bring security and freedom for both.

## How the Underground Railroad Helped Free the Negro Slaves

When the Constitution of Amerwas first written, no freedom was brought to the Negro. Instead, his slave status was guaranteed and formulated by the Constitution. The struggle of Negroes against their bondage is the subject of a new book, "Let My People Go," written by Henrietta Buckminster.

Her story revolves around two parallel movements: ground Railroad, which spirited Nemovement, fought to end slavery completely.

She prefaces her book with the

statement: "If the Negro yielded to the slave states, with little show of resistance, how does one account for the fact that he employed sabotage, engaged in strikes, committed suicide, ran away, turned guerilla, and struck at his master through arson and murder," in order to prove that the Negro had desired and fought for his freedom independently, even before the North came to his aid.

The main concern of the book is with the Underground Railroad. The road began in 1804, when white men and Negroes cooperated to help slaves escape from their mas-ters. The mild, peace-loving Qua-kers were the first "conductors" on the railroad. The slaves were given food and refuge and were conducted to the next post, which would lead them to Canada. The ingenuiand determination of the slave amazing. The courage of this pressed people trying to gain edom was tremendous.

#### Fight Continues

Negroes continued to escape rough the Underground Railroad spite the fact that their educaon was extremely poor, due to the it that their masters prevented on from learning anything. The sters realized that knowledge ase the Negro's desire

With continued success, the numr of runaway slaves increased
southern masters became alarmed and tried to recapture

and the Underground Railroad.

To Harriet Lubman, Negro leader, this meant that the force of the

Hilton Helper called upon the poor whites to struggle against slavery on the ground that they would always be oppressed and would never have any freedom so long as slavery continued to exist.

In 1860, Lincoln was elected on the platform of no extension of slaery to the new states. The South remained in the Union on the basis to secede. With the outbreak of real help. the war, the Abolitionists in the

runaway slaves. As a result, little North and the Negroes in the South the financial and industrial oligarwars were continually being con- were elated; for they thought that chy .

In 1850, Congress passed the Fu- aim was to get the South back into capital was already making vast gitive Slave Law to protect the the Union and maintain the status inroads and where complete dom-"property rights" of the slave mas- quo and to compromise with the ination might only be a matter of ters. This law allowed the word of South. Negroes pleaded to be ala master to drag a Negro back to lowed into the Northern army. But left at the mercy of their old masslavery, even after he had escaped when Fremont formed a Negro army, Lincoln ordered him to dissolve it.

> slaves is the fact that the Negroes were not freed in the border states, in which no fighting was taking place and where Lincoln didn't need the support of the slaves.

#### Negroes Not Helped

The Civil War ended, of course, with the victory of the North. The of having maintained a balance of task of finding a place for the Nepower in Washington, but as soon groes was now before the govern-as this was upset they were ready ment. But the Negroes received no

As Miss Buckminster writes:

wars were continually being con- were elated; for they thought that chy . . . was concerned only with ducted between the slave masters now Negroes would gain freedom. the pacification of that treasure But Lincoln had other ideas. His house in the South where northern No means of employment not allotted any land, so that their Lincoln proposed the Emancipa- old masters could buy them back masters must be countered with the tion Proclamation not out or a genwhich force of the Negroes and she enletely. gineered some spectacular and sucletely. gineered some spectacular and sucletely spectacular and sucletely specific some spectacular and sucletely specific some spectacular and sucletely specific some spectacular and sucletely specific som groes from the slave states, and the masters must be countered with the tion Proclamation not out of a gen- into bondage at measly wages. Al-From the depths of the South heard of the Emancipation Procla- passage of the 'grandfather clause' came aid from another source. A mation, would rally to support the and the poll tax. When Johnson book called "Impending Crisis" by North. The proof that Lincoln was said 'damn the Negro, let's get businot very interested in freeing the ness started again,' he really meant

This was almost inevitable. Since the Northern capitalists exploited their workers, their only interest could be to exploit the Negroes in the same way. Certainly they could not be expected to give the Negroes freedom and security which they hadn't given to their own workers The result of the Civil War was that capitalism was brought to the South; the Negroes were no longer slaves, but they still hadn't gained

### LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT --

(Continued from page 1)

WHO PROFIT FROM THE WAR PAY FOR IT! And one last question, that you especially don't AFTER THE WAR?

That's what every worker wants to know. The young fellows who have been lucky enough to pick up a job in the war industries and not many have; there are still 4,000,000 youth unemployed in America-are all asking: AFTER THE WAR,

Will those who are lucky enough not to be shot on the battlefields have to face unemployment and breadlines once this war boom collapses? What

answer have you?

None! You have no answer. Your capitalist system is sick, getting sicker. It has no future for the youth or the workers. It can only give them death and privation.

We don't intend to be slaughtered like docile sheep. We intend to fight back, against your war plans, against your rotten economic system.

We have the future on our side. We stand for socialism-peace, security, plenty, freedom. That is our goal. You have none that can match it.

Young Peoples Socialist League (Youth Section, Workers Party)

## **Negroes Are Terrorized** In Jim-Crow Memphis

The following are excerpts from an article appearing in the February issue of the Youth Bulletin of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. It is a significant and dramatic picture of Negro life in "free" America. While most of the leading legro newspapers and organizations are protesting their patriotism and whooping it up for support of the government's war plans, here an article which shows the real character of the "democracy" egro youth are being asked to die for:

America is about to go to war to save "democracy" again. And in Memphis, Tenn., the machine is 100 per cent for it. But Memphis, prenames representatives to Congress, the mayor, the police commissioner, his very thoughts are the law. And since October, Crump has been carrying on a deliberate campaign intimidation and terrorism

against the Negroes of Memphis. Here are the facts. Police enter any Negro restaurant and force the patrons, male and female, to submit to an unexplained and illegal search. In this search the police ise profane and insulting language Any Negro on the streets at any hour of the night is liable to be picked up, insulted, pawed over, cursed at and in many instances beaten up. Negroes are arraigned on the slightest pretext-often on false pretexts—for vagrancy, loi-tering, carrying a "dirk," resisting an officer-and forced to pay exerbitant fines. Any organization pro-testing is immediately labeled as "inciters of race hatred." The Negro press is gagged absolutely . . . And these "democrats" claim that this is a "white man's country, by God, and always will be," and that Negroes should be pleased that they are permitted to live here at all.

Called "Subversive"

The latest addition to the continuous process of intimidation is the street car situation. After sevthis town, this man, who holds no dence on the street cars." Immedipublic office, is absolute boss. He ately police are placed on the cars and busses to "enforce the law"which means that not only must a Negro be prepared for insult and injury on the streets, in his restaurants, but as well on the sole means of transportation available to the mass of Negroes. Here is a typical example of how the law is enforced On a crowded street car a Negro is seated on the extreme rear The law-enforcing officer orde him in language unfit for print to stand in order that a white person may sit. The Negro protests that he is already on the rear seat and within his "rights," whereupon he is arrested. A Negro woman straphanger nearby mutters, "Gawd, what they goin to do next!" For that she too is arrested. And the list of such incidents is so huge that a day's total would be seen and the list of such incidents is so huge that a day's total would be unbelievable in any country except Germany with its Jews. And this is America, "girding its loins to save 'democracy.

And what can be done about it? No one wants to be sent to the ho pital, as was Norman Smith, the CIO organizer, or be run out of town as Prentiss Thomas, Willia Glover and Tom Watkins were. No one wants to lose his job.

The few Negroes who dare to protest are immediately classed as "subversive" individuals, made the recipient of threatening letters and must face the bald fact of physical sulted, persecuted, terrorized by these staunch supporters of "Americant and the supporters of the supporters o beating, imprisonment, or exile those staunch supporters of "Amer-from the city if they dare protest ican democracy"—E. H. Crump and a second time . . .