Weekly Paper of the Independent Labor League of America

CP MEMBER DEPICTS POLITICAL DEGENERATION OF STALINISM CURRAN TRIES TO HEAD OFF DE-

MANDS OF SEAMEN . . . by Jack Soderberg page 2

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AT FIRST GLANCE

₌ by Jay Lovestone ===

BLACKOUT OF FREEDOM

FEW challenge that minority groups fare much worse in war time than during peace. But let none make the mistake of concluding that the denial of democratic rights ends there. The blackout of civil rights and social progress covers far more ground.

From now on, we will be writing of the present war to "make the world safe for democracy" as the Greater War. The "bastion of freedom" in this conflict is, according to many deluded but honest folks, England. Hence, we will turn the searchlight on England to see whether our evaluations and conclusions are sound.

Just about a month ago, one Monday night, the London police swooped down upon newspaper offices-"reputable and successful" ones, of courseand destroyed many hundreds of thousands of papers. Actually, these newspapers had only printed some items released by the censor. Here was the product of a collective brainstorm of the Ministry of Information and the Military Censorship. In reality, Britain, fighting for "democracy," is crude in its methods of choking off information. At this very moment, Herr Goebbels is sort of playing pranks with this situation by allowing Act and the N.L.R.B. was also a big "much wider telegraphic facilities to the correspondents of neutral coun-

And if perchance someone might think that all of this is mere fantastic muddle growing out of the inexperience of the newly organized Ministry of Information, then let me hasten to cite an even graver extension of totalitarianism in this "mother of all democracies." We now leave the realm of war news as such. The war gods have scarcely gotten their from the White House and from certoes wet in the first fifty days of infernal fury. But-and the "but" looms most ominous-the London Clearing House has already suspended partment who were thinking in publication of monthly average figures. There isn't even the slightest terms of war "prosperity," President indication that it will be resumed after overcoming the first "dislocations" occasioned by the outbreak of hostilities. Small wonder that the London Economist has been compelled to complain (September 16):

"What is far more ominous, there are warnings that the publication of official and private figures relating to trade, production, prices, shipping and finance will be suspended and that any expression of opinion about the existence of inflation of currency and credit will need the prior approval

"It is necessary to record, at the very outset, the most emphatic that there was no labor representaprotest against any such attempt to impose a statistical blackout. . . . | tion on the War Resources Board, These fears are not illusory, the chapter and verse for them cannot be the key agency of the I.M.P. Mr. quoted in public. . . . No aspect of government policy carries in it more Green also urged American "mediaseeds of danger to stability of the social fabric than the management of seeds of danger to stability of the social fabric than the management of the national finances. The public must be allowed to retain some control tion of the convention will be will

Vain lamentations, indeed! No matter how numerous or how high be early this week but there could be the special wailing walls set up by such liberal stalwarts as the Economist no doubt that opposition to Ameror the New Statesman and Nation, there is nothing that can halt the can involvement in war in any form objective logic of imperialist war. In the era of totalitarian war, more or under any pretext was than ever before is the total wiping out of cultural integrity and elementary widespread among the delegates. rights inseparable from military preparations.

We in the United States—tho not a belligerent country—have already vention by a letter from President provided powerful, all-devouring machinery to crush every vestige of Roosevelt calling for peace and urgdemocratic rights and insure unlimited totalitarianism the very moment ing that the unity negotiations ini-M-Day is proclaimed. Let me cite but one incident replete with sinister tiated last February "be continued public denunciation of Stalinism and implications. Recently, Senator Vandenburg of Michigan described as until a sound negotiated basis of the initiation of a thorogoing formidable" a list of laws which Attorney General Frank Murphy told the Senate "contained powers that President Roosevelt might exercise during war or emergency." After citing the title of about one hundred statutes granting powers to the President, Murphy admitted that this list was incomplete and "could not be finished except by long study."

"By long study," eh? All to make short shrift of democratic rights and cultural freedom thruout the land! Let no one for a moment think that the Vandenbergs can be counted on in the least to fight against this "vast quantity of floating power that may be used in war or emergency." All the Michigan aspirant to the White House could say about Murphy's refusal to express even an opinion on this "floating power" was that such conduct was "probably sound under the precedents"!

What more irrefutable evidence can one give to prove that the capitalist war-makers in behalf of "democracy" start their "progressivism" by a devastating assault on every democratic right at home-regardless of how weak or paltry such right may be even in peace time!

Quill Carries the "Party Line" into the Unions

Changes Position As Moscow Changes

By WILL HERBERG

FOR the benefit of those Stalinated "liberals" who profess themselves unable to understand how the "party line" works or how it is brought from Moscow into the unions under Stalinist control, we present the following very edifying experiences. Others may find them instructive as well.

1. Towards the end of August, Soviet Russia entered into a "nonaggression" pact with Hitler Germany, a pact which soon turned out to be a virtual military alliance covering the joint overrunning and lain is just as bad. A man is just partition of Poland, the division of the Baltic and Balkan states into as is one who stabs you from the spheres of influence, etc. This turn front. . . . If Chamberlain is crying represented a definite right-about-face in official Russian foreign first free the colonies . . . " "The policy, which had hitherto been place of Americans," he stressed, "is directed towards a "collective-security" alliance with the "great demo-

2. On September 19, after some days of floundering and confusion, the National Committee of the Communist Party of the United States came out with a declaration branding the war in Europe as an "imperialistic war on both sides" which of all lands, "democratic" as well as sudden right-about-face on his part, heard from whether there is peace fascist, and calling for action to for, as he himself admitted, only a or war for the United States. He ist war." This turn, too, represented in favor of a democratic front to directions, about which I have writficial Communist Party policy, which mind Mr. Quill did not see fit to ex- and the Franks and the Arnolds, the had hitherto glorified the "great plain, altho he did ask rhetorically Ezekiels and the Lubins, are get-

fascist aggression." State, County and Municipal Work-

ers of America. Now, you must understand that Quill is not a "com-Stalinist-dominated; why, of course, not — to make such a charge would be "Red-baiting." But just note the curious "coincidences": Mr. Quill, according to the press

report (New York Times, October 1), "attacked both sides in the war." "He described the war abroad as a conflict between imperialistic and fascist powers'." "God knows Hitler is bad," the C.I.O. leader exclaimed dramatically, "but Chamberas bad who stabs you from the back

in America fighting the war for American standards of living, for more and more progressive legislation, for a real New Deal for all the American people. America must keep out of war." Mr. Quill, the press report notes in passing, "did not refer to the role of Soviet Rus-

sia in the conflict abroad." ought to be opposed by the workers Mr. Quill definitely represented a New Deal thinking which will be interesting to remember that these "keep America out of the imperial- few days before he had been "100% says that tendencies to go off in all a distinct right-about-face in of- resist fascism." What changed his ten frequently, are less marked now democracies" and agitated for "col- "where the democratic front had ting closer together. Out of this lective security" and a "concerted been when Ethiopia, Loyalist Spain front of the democracies against and Czecho-Slovakia were destroyed." But these unfortunate events 3. On September 30, Michael J. had happened some months or Quill, president of the C.I.O.'s some years before and until quite Transport Workers Union, address- recently they did not seem to bother ter formulation of mine is based on thinking helps explain why big busi-

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Hitler Launches His "Peace" Offensive A.F.L., C.I.O. Meets "Keep Aloft the Banner

Face Big Problems

War, Labor Peace **And NLRB in Front**

Cincinnati, Ohio. The war in Europe and labor peace in this country loomed as the two big issues facing the annual convention of the American Federation of Labor that opened its sessions here last week. The Federation's attitude towards the Wagner problem upon which the delegates

would be asked to decide. The sentiment of the A. F. of L., membership and leadership alike, as could be seen at the convention, was obviously strong for keeping America out of war. But, under pressure tain leaders of the Metal Trades De-Green relaxed somewhat his hitherto firm position on neutrality. In the opening address, he declared that of the arms embargo "if it can be allow this country to get entangled shown that such a step would not in the conflicts of European power he also abandoned any real fight able in informed circles here. against the Industrial Mobilization

The question of unity in the ranks of labor was brought before the conneace between the labor groups is (Continued on Page 2)

Unity Question is Basic Problem

San Francisco, Cal Among the delegates who are arriving for the regular convention of the Congress of Industrial Organizations, opening here this week, there is the widespread feeling that big things are going to happen in the next few days at the sessions and behind the scenes, especially on the question of unity.

The big issues facing this con vention are, of course, keeping America out of war and peace in the labor movement. On the first, it is believed that the C.I.O. will adopt a firm stand, reiterating in essence the position taken by John L. Lewis in his Labor Day address. Whether the C.I.O. will go on record on the specific issue of the arms embargo is not known but that the convention will adopt resolutions strongly antiwar in character, stressing especialthe A. F. of L. would support repeal ly the determination of labor not to lead us into war." By implication, politics, is regarded as highly prob-

The central issue of the conven Plan since his only complaint was tion, in reality if perhaps not in appearance, will certainly be that of labor unity. It is, of course, taken for granted that President Roosevelt will address a unity appeal to the C.I.O. as strong as, if not stronger than, the plea sent to the A. F. of L last week. What reception will be not become known until the sessions given to this appeal by Mr. Lewis and whether those elements in the C.I.O. leadership, such as Sidney Hillman, who are known to favor unity, will speak up despite Mr Lewis, was not clear.

Another problem facing the convention will undoubtedly be Stalinist penetration in the C.I.O. It is believed that influential figures in the C.I.O. leadership are pressing for a "nurge" in the ranks. But, again. all depends on Mr. Lewis.

Lewis Break Future of With Hillman America Is Hinted

Roosevelt Pressure For Unity Grows; What Left New Dealers Are Saying

By FRANK HOWARD

Washington, D. C. THERE are persistent rumors here that there may be a sensational break between John L. Lewis and Sidney Hillman at the C.I.O. convention in San Francisco. If the fight doesn't come out into the open, you may be sure it will smolder beneath the surface and a compromise will be worked out-reluctantly by Hillman. I can state as a categorical fact that extreme pressure is being munist" nor is the State, County exerted on Hillman by the Adand Municipal Workers of America ministration. F.D.R. wants and intends to get labor peace, and Tobin and Hillman are his lieutenants. The current Business Week hints that they will be given posts on the War Resources Board, if they bring home the bacon.

Because the Administration is pushing Hillman, John L., thru the Thomas and Dr. Counts could not be C.I.O., is trying to buy him off. The present because of emergency enamount of space and headlines given to the review of Soule's bio- papers read to express their views. graphy of Hillman has caused a lot of smirking among the press here. goes to press too early to permit an Lee Pressman and Len De Caux are responsible for this display of bad A full report will appear in the next taste, and Hillman isn't fooled. The question is: What can he, and—the symposium will be published in more important—what will he do these columns.

WHAT LEFT NEW DEALERS ARE THINKING

A New Dealer who had much to do with the study "Structure of American Economy" (not Professor Means) has revealed to me that this work is merely the beginning of a Now this attitude on the part of process of crystallization of left thinking, they expect will come some proposal for a relatively planned socialized capitalism or moderate socialism with broad areas reserved for capitalist competition. The lated the convention of the C.I.O.'s Mr. Quill in his deep faith in a "de- his reference to some of the economists of the University in Exile

Discussed

Brilliant Set Of Speakers Take Part In "Better America" Symposium

New York City Prominent spokesmen of various sections of the labor movement, representing diverse social and political attitudes, participated last Friday evening in a brilliant discussion on the future of America in a symposium, "Towards a Better America," arranged by the Independent Labor Institute at Hotel Center.

The participants included Luigi Antonini, chairman of the American Labor Party and first vice-president of the I.L.G.W.U.; George S. Counts. president of the American Federation of Teachers; Norman Thomas, chairman of the Socialist Party; Louis Waldman, social-democratic leader; Bertram D. Wolfe, I.L.L.A. spokesman; Abram L. Harris, professor at Howard University: Lewis Corey and Scott Nearing, outstanding economists and writers. Jay Lovestone was chairman. Norman gagements, but they had prepared This issue of the Workers Age adequate report of the proceedings.

issue and all of the papers read at The symposium was noteworthy not only for the significant ideas advanced by the participants as to how "better America" could be achieved but also for the fine spirit

of tolerance and sincerity that pre-

vailed thruout.

(New York City), who have written considerably on the desirability of a "half-and-half" economy. It is men were leading German socialdemocrats. I will not comment on the significance of the activity of the Gardiner Means group, but I consider its program much sounder than any advanced up to date by those who believe a gradualist, social-democratic transition from capitalism to socialism historically possible. The New Dealers believe that the President intends to support them "even if we get into war", they say. Incidentally, this left New Deal ness men want to delay our involve-(Continued on page 3)

Of Internationalism!"

THE following message of greetings has just been received by the I.L.L.A. from the Independent Labor Party of Great Britain, dated September 12, in the second week of the war:

"In this hour, when our worst fears have been fulfilled and when we are witnessing the mutual slaughter of thousands of workers who desire only to live in peace and to build a happier world, we send a message of solidarity to the workers of other countries, pledging our determination to keep alive the spirit of international socialism and to work for the attainment at the earliest possible moment of a socialist peace, which alone can remove the horrors of war from the world and allow the peoples to live in justice, freedom and fraternity.

FENNER BROCKWAY, Political Secretary"

A similar message was sent by the I.L.P. to the independent socialist parties and groups in Germany, Austria, Sweden, Greece, India, France, Italy, Czecho-Slovakia, Spain, Holland and Palestine.

Borah Scores in Neutrality Debate

Embargo Repeal Eases Road to War, **Veteran Senator Declares in Address**

and from the first it was obvious even stalwart Administration supconsiderably and make marked concessions, at least in their speeches, peace block. At any rate, there was try from war involvement. little talk of breaking down all neutrality safeguards and returning to

Borah Bares Real Nature of War

Washington, D. C. CENATOR William E. Borah, opening the discussion for the peace block on the neutrality issue, presented the following estimate of the European war:

"I look upon the present war in Europe as nothing more than another chapter in the bloody volume of European power-politics - the balance of power. . . .

"Was it anything more than the balance of power when the de mocracies of Europe, in 'blessed ac cord,' stood over the dismembered body of Czecho-Slovakia? Was it anything but power-politics, the balance of power, when the Premier of

of Germany could be trusted? "Was the cruel and brutal and revolting creed of Nazism any different at Munich than it was at Warsaw? Was civilization of the democracies any less under challenge when Czecho-Slovakia fell at the hands of the combined assassing than when Poland was threatened? Was it anything but power-politics when Germany and Great Britain excluded Russia from the Munich Conference, but both sought industriously to secure her aid in the con troversy relative to Poland?

"When the men at Munich reached the consummation of their awful deed, did they not turn over to the unlimited control and tender mercies thousands of a race whose and vengeance of the one to whose tion? Was it democracy, or was it sheer division of power, a distribution of territory?

"Have the hideous doctrines of the dominating power of Germany been any different during all the years in which the democracies, or some of them, have been conniving and conin parts of Europe which are abdeclare it in the language of the course of the past three years. Premier of Great Britain-I read: "'I do not pretend for one mo-

ment that ideological motives do not exist. They remain unchanged. But delegates were presented with a dorsed the section of the resolution I do declare that whatever may be those ideological differences, they do not count in a question of this kind. "That is the question of conflict with Germany.

of Nazism, however abhorrent we

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Washington D. C. | the "age-old principles of interna-The great neutrality debate got tional law", as the President had under way in the Senate last week originally desired and as he urged in his message at the opening of the that so powerful was the anti-war special session. In fact, Administrasentiment thruout the country that tion spokesmen were obliged to stress the argument that the Pittporters had to trim their sails very man bill, despite its repeal of the arms embargo, would tighten the restrictions on Presidential discreto the standpoint of the Senatorial tion and otherwise protect the coun-

The debate was opened by Senator Key Pittman, who explained and defended his bill. Then Senator William E. Borah delivered a magnificent address exposing the character of the present war in Europe as a struggle of imperialistic power- U.S.S.R. there is complete underpolitics and showing clearly that the standing and respect, making war repeal of the arms embargo would between them impossible and retenopen wide the doors to American tion of their own ideologies certain." involvement in this war. These two Hitler was particularly cordial in keynoters were followed by Sena- his remarks on Russia and referred tors Vandenburg, Nye, Overton, scathingly to the efforts of the Tobey and others for the neutrality block and Connally, Schwellenbach and others for the Administration. and to sow dissension between them. The debate will probably continue the good part of a month.

As the discussion progressed, it the arms embargo. There was general agreement on the other features of the Pittman bill, altho there commercial-credit clause and other possible loopholes thru which the measure of security against war involvement provided in the bill might Great Britain, holding aloft an be broken down. The great controagreement of settlement between the versial question was the arms em-Premier of Great Britain and the bargo—the peace block insisting Chancellor of Germany, told the peo- that its repeal would drive the counple of Great Britain and all the try a long way on the road to war, world that there was peace, and the Administration spokesmen largepeace with honor, that the master ly evading the issue and stressing the other stronger features of the Pittman bill. In order to bring clar-

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Allies Ponder Answer to His **Proposals**

The long-awaited German "peace' offensive was officially launched last week in a significant address delivered by Chancellor Hitler before the Reichstag. In this declaration, reviewing developments during the past month, the Nazi Fuehrer made the following proposals and threats:

1. A peace conference of the 'great nations" to "solve European and world problems" and "achieve general security and peace" should be convened. At this conference, the 'reorganization of the international economic system" (trade relations) as well as the return of Germany's "lost colonies" should be considered. Armaments, too, should be reduced "to a reasonable and economically tolerable level" and the use of weapons such as planes, submarines and poison gas should be "clarified."

2. But "a conference such as would determine the fate of Europe is not possible under the presence of guns or even of mobilized armies.' An immediate truce to prepare the way for a peace conference should, therefore, be declared.

3. As to Poland, that is purely the affair of Germany and Russia Future "adjustments" will include demarcation of boundaries, "pacification," "guarantees of security,"
"reestablishment and reorganization of economic life" and the "resettlement of nationalities." In the same connection, attempts will be made to "reach a solution and settlement of the Jewish problem" and to bring about the "formation of a Polish state" that would not be a "hotbed of anti-German activity or intrigue against Germany and Russia." Both of these points Hitler touched upon only in a very vague, unclear manner.

4. The problem of minorities is "not restricted to Poland but is a task with far wider implications for the East and South of Europe." 5. Germany's revision of the Versailles Treaty "must stand un-

changed." 6. Between Germany and the "capitalistic powers" to keep the Reich and the Soviet Union apart 7. Germany has "no further claims against France," not even

Alsace-Lorraine. "Peace can be esbecame clear that the real issue was tablished in this world only if England and Germany get together." 8. If these proposals for an

armistice and conference are not acwas strong objection to the 90-day cepted, "we will then fight." It will be a finish fight, a "triumph of destruction."

Immediately following Hitler's address, obviously inspired sources in Berlin were quick to suggest that if President Roosevelt, or "some other neutral statesman of similar standing," proposed an armistice it would be accepted without question. In Washington, however, it was said that the President would not act unless he had previous assurances of acceptance from Britain and France (Continued on page 2)

A.L.P. Brands Stalinists As Enemies of Labor

Denounces C.P. for Backing Hitler Pact

and supporting organizations adopt- bled delegates. control they assigned them? Was ed by an overwhelming majority a Nevertheless, there was some disthat humanity? Was that civiliza- resolution which branded the Stal- cussion of the arms-embargo issue. inists in the United States as "be- Louis Nelson, manager of the Knittrayers of the labor movement" and goods Workers Union, and Minnie "instruments of Russian foreign Lurye, chairman of Dressmakers policy" and denounced the Russo-

blow to world civilization." The feeling against the Stalinists was very intense among the dele- the direction of war. The other viewsenting to the up-building of the gates at the conference and reflectnaval strength and military power ed not only indignation at the Sov- by Julius Hochman, general manof the authors of the creed? What- iet-Nazi pact and its defense by the ever there may be in the ideologies American C.P., but also accumulat- Board, Alex Rose, state secretary of ed resentment at Stalinist intrigues horrent to us all, I declare, and I and manouvers in the A.L.P. in the ever, stressed that with them too

After a brief report by State Secretary Alex Rose on the current "Whatever may be the philosophy policy of repeal of the arms embargo, the strongly stressing the necessity of keeping America out of

New York City | war; and a condemnation of the Rus-THE American Labor Party took so-German pact and Stalinism in a strong official stand against America. The discussion was largethe Communist Party last week ly centered around the latter point, when a conference of the A.L.P.'s which was obviously uppermost in presence excites the mortal wrath assembly-district clubs, trade unions the hearts and minds of the assem-

> Union Local 22, I.L.G.W.U., and German alliance as a "treacherous other speakers made a plea for saving the arms embargo, pointing out that repeal would be a big step in point on the embargo was defended ager of the Dressmakers Joint the A.L.P., and others, who, howkeeping America out of war was uppermost in their minds.

> Every speaker, except outright election campaign, the nearly 800 Stalinists and their stooges, enresolution previously adopted by the dealing with the Stalin-Hitler pact State Executive Committee. This and the American Communist Party. resolution was an illogical combina- Irving Potash, Stalinist manager of tion of two unrelated matters—an the Furriers Union, attempted to endorsement of the Administration make a defense of the new "party line" but the feeling against Stal-

inism ran so high that he could not (Continued on page 4)

Curran Tries to Head Off Seamen's Demands in Crisis

Ignores Interests of Workers to Kowtow to Bosses

By JACK SODERBERG

I movement there seems to prevail a theory that some Stalinistcontrolled unions are now swinging it can readily be understood that ments, and will, incidentally, learn to the left, initiating a program of the sailors manning the American that insofar as the American secstruggle to improve conditions of ships are facing something which the membership. The theory is that might excusably be termed danger. this is one of several manouvers in- ous. tended to offset the pronounced reaction in the ranks of the unions first ship to be ready to sail after against the Stalinist-dominated the blockade had been officially deleadership for their collaborating with the bosses these last couple of years, their sickening jingoistic MacKenzie were on hand promising patriotism and finally, the Stalin- that if they signed on, they-Cur-Hitler wedding.

In the present maritime situation, some individuals profess to see a ing. Sailing time came, but no definite indication of active struggle against the shipowners. Nothing could be farther from the truth. These ships were tied up by the rank-and-file sailors on the ships, and tied up in the face of the most vicious opposition on the part of the Stalinist leadership of the National Maritime Union.

THE SAILORS DEMANDS

Early this month, following the opening of armed hostilities in Europe, and the war activities on the part of England and France, the crew on the Manhattan refused to sail the ship to Europe unless reasonable increase in pay and other safeguards were granted by the shipowners. The demands were for a bonus each trip, life insurance for each member of the crew, property insurance against the loss of personal belongings due to the sinking of the ship or capture and internment. These demands were reasonable and just and were merely a repetition of what was demanded and secured during the last world war. Also, immediately upon opening of military hostilities in Europe, freight rates rose sky-high and later the passenger fare was increased by 33%. Low insurance rates were offered first by the British government for all ships and cargo heading for British ports, and later by the American government covering American ships. Hence it can readily be seen that while the cost shipowners thru the increased freight and passenger rates increased tremendously. Knowing this, the seamen demanded some consideration.

What part did the Stalinist misleaders play in the defeat of these place from the East 13th St. Kremlin, and Curran was merely-as always-the mouthpiece. However, the could not very well see it that way at all and promptly sat the Manhattan down. Curran and MacKenzie immediately boarded the ship and succeeded in talking the crew into signing on, assuring them that negotiations had reached a stage which amendments to the Wagner Act were would guarantee the demands in a urged in an address by Joseph A. very short while and that the agree-ment would be made retroactive to A. F. of L., who merely lent eminclude the Manhattan crew as well. phasis to a recommendation made Foolishly, the crew believed these in the Executive Council report to promises and sailed their ship. (In- the convention. Here, too, a fight cidentally, as an indication that this was expected as the machinists and crew will not again be fooled, we pattern-makers unions were known have a radio phone message to Cur- to oppose amendment of the Wagner ran this week. The Manhattan, forty Act. In his remarks, Mr. Padway miles off the coast of France homeward bound, phoned stating emphatically that unless a satisfactory Pittsburgh Plate Glass Co. case as agreement was concluded by the evidence of the Board's bias. time their ship reached New York she would be tied up).

In the meantime, more ships were getting ready to sail for Europe to cash in on a booming passenge trade. Some ships were taken off coastwise trade, chartered by the United States Line, and made ready to be sent across. Shipping was booming, the shipowners were making dough, but Johnny the Sailor, thanks to the miserable sell-out on the part of the Stalinist leadership, was still sailing for peace-time wages, with no insurance, no guarantees of any kind!

DANGERS SAILORS FACE

England published a lengthy list of what it decided would constitute contraband, covering most anything ever carried in the hold of a ship This did not affect American ships greatly because they had ceased calling at German ports. When, however, Hitler issued an identical list in this conflict and its cure is not as a counter measure, warning ships they would be captured or sunk were they to bring any of the listed cargo to England or France, the picture in relation to American ships changed considerably. The minute the counter-blockade went into effect, it affected every seaman sailing the ships from this country to England. Because of the geographical position of Germany in relation to Eng- if the American boys take part, they land, it is obvious that no ship can be successfully captured and taken lives that this or that nation may they must be sunk, should they, in for power."

the opinion of the submarine com- | sion. Those who seem to believe September 27, 1939. mander, carry contraband. Add to that a "leftist" turn is being made circles in the labor this submarine menace the fact that in the unions by the Stalinists will loose mines are floating about the be in a position to amend their concoasts of the warring nations and clusion when studying these argu-

> The American Trader was the clared. The crew demurred, demanding their bonus, etc. Curran and ran et al.-would see that their demands would be realized before sailbonus. The crew sat her down.

By sitting her down after signed to federal charges of refusing "lawturn for the dropping of all charges. abode! This means that the princely sum of from \$14 to \$18 will be earned as

"bonus" by this crew for the trip! In the meantime, some fourteen more ships had followed the example of the American Trader crew and up and down the Coast and the Gulf, these ships were tied up with identical demands. Finally, the Stalinists succeeded in getting these crews also to sail in return for the measly 25% on the promise that negotiations would continue and any agreement reached would be retroactive.

SOME OF THE

STALINIST ARGUMENTS

tion of Stalin's commissars are concerned, they are still frantically holding on to the tail of the Roosevelt machine, and any militant action on their part is furthest from their minds. When some of the strikers at a

mass meeting used as an analogy the recent Spanish war where bonus was paid, MacKenzie, for years a member of the Communist Party, had this to say: "The ships running to Spain were continuously bombed. Furthermore, those ships were freebooting and were not supported by other shipowners or the articles, they left themselves open government." This kind of statement could come out of the mouth ful commands of the master," and of a shipowner anywhere, but for a such being the case, they stood to supposedly responsible trade-union lose their certificates forever, thus official to use it simply indicates the barring them from following their level to which these rodents have trade of seafaring. Of course, the sunk. What difference does it make Stalinists knew this and when the to the seaman being blown sky-high crew later was charged with this, over a mine or neatly drowned by a the Stalinists used it as a lever torpedo whether it is being protestagainst the crew, against their own ed by the government or recognized union members! They reached a by a shipowner? The result to the compromise whereby the crew would sailor would still be the same, and sail with an increase of 25% in re- Davey Jones locker his future

> The excuse to accept the 25% is put as follows: "This was the first offer made by the shipowners following the step of the Maritime Commission after three weeks of negotiations." Because it was the first offer made by the bosses, it had to be accepted! Some logic!

And here is Curran's contribution taken from his signed editorial in the September 22 issue of the Pilot: 'My honest opinion is that it is 100% wrong to strike at this time. Why? Because we haven't a clearcut issue."(!!) He lacks a "clearcut issue"! With some 160,000 tons of shipping already sunk, neutral Now let's look at some of the ar- and belligerent alike, during the guments put up by these gentry in three weeks since the slaughter their endeavor to please the ship- started, Curran has no "clear-cu owners and the Maritime Commis-

readily be seen that while the cost of operating remained much the same as before, the profit to the ship remained the profit to the profit to the profit to the same as before, the profit to the same as before the profit to the same as the profit t Face Big Problems

(Continued from Page 1) just demands? First, Curran came reached and agreed upon"-all in leaving the I.T.U. in a state of virout with a public statement in the the interests of "national unity. tual suspension. press offering to sail these ships without wages of any kind until all functory applause and there was Paramount," on page 4.—Editor.) Americans now in Europe were general feeling that the next move safely returned home! Bear in mind on the unity question was up to the that these Americans are neither C.I.O. inasmuch as it was Mr. Lewis Hitler Starts safely returned home! Bear in mind on the unity question was up to the sailors nor bricklayers, nor long- who had broken off the negotiations shoremen, nor "needle pushers"; in that were under way. It seemed fact, few if any wage earners are likely that there would be a real conamong them. In this, he was backed flict, tho perhaps not out in the open by every commissar in the union; in on the question of peace since there fact, the idea emanated in the first was a large and influential group of top officials and delegates, such as William Hutcheson of the carpen ters, who appeared set on fighting rank-and-file seamen who must sail for an uncompromising, bitter-end barrass" the Allies or to anything these ships thru mine-infested stand by the Federation. The diswaters amid lurking submarines cussion on the report of the negotiating committee later in the sessions was expected to show the lineup more clearly.

The National Labor Relations Board was again condemned for alleged bias in favor of the C.I.O. and quoted Dr. William M. Leiserson's recent Labor Board dissent on the

In the report of the Secretary Morrison, it was revealed that the A. F. of L. membership had reached the figure of 4,006,354, just under the post-war high-water mark of 4,078,740 in 1920.

The special one-cent-a-month asessment on each member for the Federation's "war chest" was continued by vote of the convention. For failing to pay this assessment to the A. F. of L. treasury, the International Typographical Union was barred from representation at the convention, the credentials committee refusing to seat its delegates. The report of the credentials com-

Borah Bares Real Character of War

(Continued from page 1) may write it down, it is not an issue war. It is not an issue which will be settled by this conflict, and I venture to say that the treaty of peace, in it about the ending of Nazism or its teachings or of communism or its teachings. It will devote itself, as did the Versailles treaty, to the unquenchable imperialistic appetites of those who sit around the table. And, will sacrifice their health and their

mittee was adopted unanimously,

His "Peace" **Offensive**

(Continued from Page 1) because he did not want to "emto "throw the onus for continuing the war" upon them. In London and Paris, an official

answer to Hitler's proposals was not yet forthcoming last week. Despite routine statements to the contrary, it was clear that they were being given thoro consideration. In both countries, peace sentiment was very strong, reaching up from the masses to the very topmost ruling circles. Lloyd George's demand to Chamberlain earlier in the week, when the general nature of Hitler's terms must have been informally known, that any German proposals, when made, should be seriously discussed in a secret session of Parliament, was received with much sympathy inside the House of Commons and out. Members on the floor of the House even spoke of the "widespread hostility" of the masses

Informed quarters expressed the belief that further unofficial, indirect explorations of the situation would be resorted to before any final and formal declaration is made by the Allies. It was said London planned a reply that would neither immediately accept nor flatly reject Hitler's proposals.

On the general diplomatic front, which was again the main front in this, the fifth week of the war, Russia continued to score heavily on the strength of the reinforced Russo-German alliance. Moscow swung another Baltic state into its orbit with the signing of a "mutual-assistance" treaty with Latvia under which Russia is to get naval and air bases and a free hand in the event of a threat in the Baltic area by "any great European power." Sweeping demands similar to those already extorted from Estonia and Latvia were also made to Lithuania and Finland, if it ever comes, will have nothing, and a regulation "mutual-assistance" pact with the former was momentarily expected. Russian expansion took a southward turn as well last week with the report that it was demanding pacts with its Balkan and Black Sea neighbors that would include a naval base at the Rumanian port of Constanta and the right of troop transit thru the Balkan counto Germany. It means simply that gratify its desires for territory and tries. The tug of war over Turkey continued, Ankara still standing fast

Myth of "High" Wages in War

44 PALANCED against the wage boosts [that came in the World War] was the kiting of living costs. Purchasing power was only 3% higher in 1917 than in 1890; whatever slight and transitory gain labor achieved in the war boom was canceled by a wave of strikes (more than 7,000 in the war years) and the union-smashing drive and depression that followed the Armistice. . . . The boom spawned union-busting and bread-lines. Labor's war was not ended in 1918; it had only begun." - Ernest L. Meyer, New York Post, Sept. 16, 1939.

CIO Textile **Union Asks** Wage Raises

New York City. N immediate and "substantial" A increase in wages to offset increased living costs for 160,000 workers in the woolen and worsted industry was asked last week by the Workers Union of America, an affiliate of the C.I.O.

Emil Rieve, president of the union, and Sidney Hillman, chairman of the Executive Council, announced that the request for upward revision of wages would be followed by similar requests covering more than 1,000,000 organized and unorganized workers in other branches of the textile industry.

"The rising cost of living mean a real reduction in the buying pow er of labor and wage increases must balance this development," Mr. Hil!man and Mr. Rieve declared in ioint statement.

The Executive Council of the C.I.O. group voted to notify the American Woolen Co., the Princeton Worsted Co., the Berkshire Woolen Co., the Kent Manufacture ing Co., and the Arlington, Uxbridge, Stevens and Pacific Mills of its desire for immediate wage con-

Borah Scores In Debate on **Neutrality**

(Continued from Page 1) ity into the situation, Senator Tobey, a supporter of the arms embargo, proposed that the question be broken down into two parts-first, the arms embargo, and secondly, the belligerents, etc. The latter part could be adopted immediately by a large majority and put into effect without delay, while the issue of the arms embargo could be discussed separately and at greater length. No vote had been taken on this proposal as the week ended but Administration leaders were violently against it, fearing that such a division of the question would almost certainly mean the defeat of the President's plan to kill the arms embargo because it would free the issue from all irrelevant circumstances.

against what were termed "excess

sive" Russian demands. In order to cast a cloak of "legality" over its implausible "neutrality," Moscow last week announced that it was trying to lease three vessels from Scandinavian countries to ship timber and other supplies to Great Britain "despite the German contraband list." This action was, of course, taken in agreement with

At Panama City, where the Pan-American Conference was drawing to a close, the delegates adopted a "Declaration of Panama" establishing a "safety zone" around the Americas, running in some places 600 miles out to sea, in which belligerent vessels and beligerent acts were to be banned, greatly to the advantage of the Allies which possess colonies in this "protected"

Military operations were almost at a standstill thruout the week. An undeclared truce was virtually in

The first court decision on the constitutionality of the Fair Labor to discourage price rises and wild-Standards Act was handed down cat plant expansion. But whatever last week. The act was found con- is done will have to be done immestitutional by a federal district diately, by the special session of court in Puerto Rico.

I.A. Wins in Hollywood Studio Vote

By J. D'OAKES

Hollywood, Cal. N its September 2 issue the Work ers Age exclusively predicted that the I.A.T.S.E. (stagehands) would win the election from the Stalinist United Studio Technicians Guild by a ractio of 2 to 1. On September 20, the election was held. The I.A. won and it won by a little better than 2 to 1.

By rights, the Stalinists should now give us a respite from their antics but I hold no such sanguine hopes. The studio workers have already lost about a million and a half dollars because of the Stalinist interference with the signing of new anti-anti-Semitic. This is demonsagreements which will boost wages from five to ten per cent. The electricians union has brought

forth a proposal for a studio trades It is further demonstrated in the council to be chartered by the A. F. of L. This is an excellent step and solini's son-in-law and Leni Reifenwill fill a long-felt need. Despite stahl. Whereas the representative of their former agitation for such a Italian fascism was elaborately council, the Stalinists have already feted by Hal Roach and the Holly laid plans to sabotage it thru the painters local, which is the only A. F. of L. local they strongly influence. They also dominate the policies of several independent guilds such as Executive Council of the Textile the Writers, the Directors and the Set Designers. Like high-priced actors, neither writers nor directors can possibly be considered workers. But, of course, it is such who give the most ardent support to the

Hollywood, which, according to the Hollywood Tribune of August 14, is a "world-respected center of are beginning to have qualms of political and intellectual activity," doubt and it looks as the the heavily has been the scene of an ebullient subsidized weekly Hollywood pseudo-left movement. Ostensibly Tribune is in financial trouble.

War Boom

Peril Grows,

Profits Rise

SIGNS of "economic dislocation" due to the European war, or,

caused by Japan's war purchases.

Zinc is up about 50% from the year's

low; copper, almost 25%. Metal pro-

duction is also skyrocketing; steel is

ished steel, there has been a rise of

in the price of scrap steel, now \$23

a ton, compared with \$14.25 in May.

American leather tanners have step-

ped out of the hide market, unable

to buy for manufacturing require-

taken over have forced the price of

hides up 20% in less than a month

All the aspects of a traditional in-

flationary boom are present: in-

creasing activity in expectation of

pressing demand and higher prices.

War orders have not yet been placed

to any significant degree. New pro-

duction is for inventory in expecta-

tion of these orders and, of course,

nomic system will be hopelessly en-

my and our involvement in war

greatly facilitated. If they don't

come in the volume expected, we will

be in for a terrific deflationary re

action. A stage will soon be reach-

eventually American involvement,

will be the hope of large sections

of business. There are already indi-

cations aplenty to warn us. Consider

this startling sentence from a Chi-

cago news dispatch of September

the grain market a body blow to-

Unless action is taken immediate-

lv. it may soon be too late. Several

methods are open to Congress to

halt the incipient war boom. The

best and most effective would be to

establish peace-time quotas in ex-

ports to belligerents of anything

that can enter into their war needs.

This would effectually spike all pos-

sibility of unhealthy war expansion

with its inevitable consequences in

terms of war involvement and ulti-

mate depression. Another way would

be to enact new excess-profits taxes

Congress now under way.

due to the European war, or,

Washington, D. C.

Labor and the Law = by Joseph Elwood =

LABOR ISSUES FACING SUPREME COURT

SELDOM has the Supreme Court of the United States, at the beginning of any term, had so mony problems in labor relations before it as it will face when it assembles this month for its 1939-1940 sessions.

These cases, numbering about 20, involve, among other issues, the sufficiency of evidence on which findings of fact by the National Labor Relations Board are made, bargaining demands, appropriate collective - bargaining

units, the status of a contract when an employer fails to comply with an the contracting union changes its af-N.L.R.B. order. filiation, recognition of a union cer-Other important questions before

tified without election, limitation of the court are: picketing, and the right of a union 1. Is it unlawful for an employer to bring contempt proceedings when to exact from a union a pledge not to seek certain terms in the future, anti-fascist, it is in reality merely such as, for example, an undertaking not to seek a closed shop for three trated in the fact that the Hollywood Anti-Nazi League is called

2. Is an employer required to recognize a union which the N.L.R.B. finds as having a majority status without an election?

differing receptions accorded Mus-3. When workers, thru their union, have a preferential-shop contract with an employer and then change their affiliation to a new union, may the employer discharge them and employ persons affiliated with the original union?

4. Do workers retain their employment status upon participating in an 'economic" strike as distinct from an "unfair labor practise" strike?

5. May the courts review a Labor Board decision establishing a bargaining unit and certifying a representative in such a unit?

6. May the courts enjoin a runoff election directed by the Labor

been supporters of the Hammer-and-Sickle - that-Walks-Like-a-Swastika Board? 7. May picketing of one union be enjoined despite the Norris-LaGuardia Anti-Injunction Act when a rival union has brought the matter of representation before the Labor

> The answers to these questions, of major importance to the whole labor movement, will become known in the coming months. Watch the Supreme Court!

Three partners, doing business at

Charlotte, N. C., were indicted on

September 28 for violating the Fair

Labor Standards Act. Inspectors

testified that at least one worker

was being paid wages of one (1)

workers receive more than 12 cents

Who can say now that this isn't

One Cent An Hour!

Washington, D. C. from the Wage and Hour Division cent an hour and that none of the 25

In protest against the abolition of prevailing wage rates, thousands of approaching 90% capacity. On fiin- ers went on strike on W.P.A. pro-A. F. of L. construction-trades workalmost \$5 a ton, based on a new rise in July. In New York City alone, more than a score of projects were closed down. But all efforts to get an early decision from the Justice Department on the legality of continurest of the Pittman bill, involving to buy for manufacturing requireing to pay prevailing wages on old "cash-and-carry" for all trade with relief law, failed.

Attorney General Murphy's belated decision is interpreted here as a move to head off efforts to revise the 1940 Relief Act at the special session of Congress. Administrator Harrington has not yet acted on the Attorney General's ruling

nomic system will be hopelessly entangled in the European war economy, and our involvement in war **Neutrality**

28: "Peace talk from Europe gave Hon. Robert F. Wagner

time and again for keeping America out of war.

The responsibility of the Senate of greed?

Murphy OK's Union Rates On WPA

such and not Anti-Fascist League.

wood aristocracy, Leni did not se

It is axiomatic that the struggle

against fascism should include

fight against all phases of anti-

Semitism but to make the struggle

against anti-Semitism the exclusive

basis for the fight against fascism

s to weaken and betray that fight.

With Stalin and Hitler playing

footie under the Polish table, some

of the glittering luminaries who have

much as get inside a studio gate.

A FTER delay of two months, Attorney General Murphy in other words, the beginnings of a that W.P.A. Administrator Harringdangerous war boom, are already ton is free to restore prevailing clear on the business horizon. Scrap wage rates on work-relief projects steel is at the highest point since initiated before June 30, when the the 1917 peak, which in its turn was new relief law barring these wage rates was passed.

of mounting prices. If these orders come as expected, the American eco-

(We publish below the letter sent by ed in which American markets will the Lower Manhattan Branch of the react downward at every hint of I.L.L.A. to Senator Wagner urging him peace and when a long war, and to vote to strengthen the Neutrality Act and to support the war-referendum proposal. Similar letters should be sent by all readers of this paper both as individuals and thru their organizations. -Editr.)

> United States Senate Washington, D. C.

THE Lower Manhattan Branch of the Independent Labor League of America has gone on record circles that an army man will be the

At the present time we feel this aim can be best achieved by maintaining the present arms-embargo rope, F. D. R. is spreading army conclause of the Neutrality Act. We trol even over the Wage and Hour feel that our neutrality position Division! should be further strengthened by removing any discretionary powers at this time is indeed great. Are we from the President. In line with to repeat the fiasco of 1917 with this, we favor a war-referendum its untold human suffering and deamendment along the lines of the gradation? Or shall we steer a clear original LaFollette-Ludlow Amend- course of peace and positive con-

the "land of opportunity"? ... Two More Wage Committees

Two more industry committees were recently named by the Wage and Hour Administrator, both in branches of the apparel industry.

Committee No. to define and recommend minimum wage scales for employees in the knitted-outerwear industry, consists of 18 members. The employee representatives include David Dubinsky, president of the I.L.G.W.U.; and Louis Nelson, manager of the New York Knitgoods Workers Union. Committee No. 8, charged with the same duties for the industry comprising knitted outerwear and commercial knitting, has 24 members, among whom David Dubinsky and Emil Rieve, president of the Textile Workers Union of America, a C.I.O. affiliate, are to be

found. The total number of workers employed by the industries to be surveyed by these committees is estimated at 100,000. Wage recommendations by the new committees will bring up to two million the number of workers covered by industry-commitee determination.

Spreading Army Control

By the time these lines appear in this paper, Elmer F. Andrews, the Wage and Hour Administrator, may have been ousted from his post. It is generally understood in official new wage-hour boss.

At a time when labor relations are being geared to the new industrial situation created by the war in Eu-

struction in a world torn with wars

Announcing Two Special Courses:

1. AMERICAN LABOR FACES THE WAR: Background and Problems A series of lectures on the fundamental economic, political

and labor problems raised by the war in Europe. Among the lecturers will be: Jay Lovestone, Bertram D. Wolfe, Lewis Corey, Jim Cork and Will Herberg.

TUESDAY-8 P. M. (BEGINNING OCTOBER 24) 10 Sessions—Course \$2—25c Single Admission

2. CURRENT EVENTS: The World In Crisis

FRIDAY-8:15 P. M. (BEGINNING OCTOBER 27)

JAY LOVESTONE A critical examination of the most important national and international events of the day.

Course Fee \$2-25c Single Admission INDEPENDENT LABOR INSTITUTE 131 West 33rd Street, New York City

Special Performance — Age Benefit

"Salvation"

A Magnificent Play by Sholom Asch

Friday Evening, October 20, 1939

YIDDISH ART THEATRE

Tickets available at Workers Age office, 131 West 33rd Street

Appeal to Colonial Peoples of the World

Anti-Imperialist Centers Urge Militancy

(We publish below an appeal to the colonial peoples of the world issued by the British Center Against Imperialism and the International African Service Buro, with headquarters in London, on the very eve of the war, August 29, 1939.—Editor.)

7 0 the oppressed and exploited masses of the British Empire, and all peoples under the heel of imperialism thruout the world:

You, the most oppressed and exploited, will soon be called upon to take part in a war which threatens the slaughter of millions of men, women and children. Ruin, misery and devastation unparalleled in history. endanger humanity. Yet, at the conclusion of the war, the mass of the people will still remain in their present conditions of abject poverty. War is no solution for their problems.

Even if agreement is reached between the rival imperialisms, it will only delay for a short period the threatening conflict. The next issue will be the colonial question.

We are told that the war is to be fought to save Poland from Hitler. This is a lie. If a battle is waged, it will be to prevent Hitler from overrunning Europe and stealing "their" colonies.

This is the truth that they dare not tell!

If those "democratic" nations are so concerned with defending smaller nations against aggression, why did they stand aside and allow Mussolini to attack the defenseless Abyssinian people after having promised them assistance? It is to mislead you that our imperialist masters are asking you to join up and fight for "democracy against fascism."

"DEMOCRACY!" What do you know of democracy in the Empire? In 1914, they called on the masses in the "Mother Country" and in the Empire to fight for "democracy" and "self-determination." Millions died on Flanders fields, in Palestine, in East, West and South Africa. For what? More slavery, more oppression, more exploitation!

You in the Empire! What rights, what liberties, what democracy have you in the "glorious" Empire of Britain, France, Belgium, Holland, Portugal, etc.? They have robbed the masses of their land and broken up their civilization. They segregate you in your own country, pen you in reserves and locations like cattle, make you carry passes like common criminals, and then pay you starvation wages. In the West Indies, you are still denied the most elementary rights of human beings. You asked for bread, and they gave you hot lead!

The colonial masses in war as in peace can have only one aim, one goal: INDEPENDENCE! And we summon you in whatever country-India, Ceylon, Burma, Palestine, Africa-all peoples who fight for this end, to unite against the war-mongers, both "democratic" and fascist, and all those who at this hour pledge in your name your lives in defense of the imperialists. They do not represent the real aspirations of the colonial peoples struggling for liberty. Be vigilant and watch the traitors in your own ranks!

We denounce the whole gang of European robbers and enslavers of the colonial peoples. German Nazis, Italian fascists, French, British, Belgian and Dutch "democrats"-all are the same- imperialist bandits whose common aim is the enslavement of humanity thruout the world!

To the workers of Britain we appeal also. You must unite in the struggle of the colonial peoples against the common enemy, who is in your own country. To white and black the solution is the same: Organize and be ready to seize the opportunity to overthrow the enemy.

For complete economic and social liberation of the colonial peoples! Down with the imperialist bandits!

Workers of all lands, unite!

BRITISH CENTER AGAINST IMPERIALISM INTERNATIONAL AFRICAN SERVICE BURO. London, August 29, 1939.

Killing Neutrality Under The Guise of "Revision"

Administration Is Not Honest With The People

By JOHN T. FLYNN

THERE ought not to be very much difficulty about a neutrality act among men who honestly desire neutrality. The whole trouble comes from the fact that a powerful apply to all. group, headed by the President, does not want neutrality. They want an aet which will enable them to take sides in the European war and want to call such an act a neutrality act.

The President is reported to have told his Cabinet that the government must be honest with the people and that it must tell them the truth during this war. That is wise consel. But, when men say they want some kind of neutrality act and use that word and that demand as a cloak to get legislation to aid one of the belligerents, they are not honest with the people and they are not telling the truth.

There are many men who believe we should take sides—that we should put our economic resources and our munition resources at the disposal of England and France. Very well, then they should say so openly, plainly, and they should present the arguments they have for that course.

That would be dealing honestly. But to pass an act which is called a neutrality act and do it for the purpose of ending neutrality is a course which will get those who pursue it into a bad jam in history when the story of the deception is made

CASH-AND-CARRY AND ARMS EMBARGO

Neutrality means very plainly that we will not take sides. We have industries here which manufacture sky-high by floating as well as anall sorts of goods. We purpose to sell those goods to anyone who has the money to buy them. Also we will sell them to warring nations that have the ships to carry them away. We demand cash, and we insist the goods shall go on other ships than shipped shall vest in the foreign

Friends of England and France say that is unfriendly to them. It are sailing; but—and remember this Ships will return to the bone-yards credits and of loans here. But that cannot be helped. We cannot risk follow. Let Curran and the Commu- to strike. Strike when no ships sail. the peace of this nation by having nist Party—whose waterfront face our ships and our cargoes bombard- he is-take heed. ed, thus drawing us into war. We cannot take the chance of our country getting too big a profit interest in the war. Hence we want cash-andcarry as to all goods outside of munitions and arms.

buyer when they are loaded aboard

Munitions and arms we should not sell at all. This is said to be unfriendly to England and France. But that is not true. That will be the one provision which, on no account, can be called unneutral, for it will

A neutrality law which forbids the sales of arms and provides sales of other merchandise for cash to be shipped only on belligerent ships will, in effect, be enormously favorable, as it works out, to the Allies. They can buy food and clothing and limit of their resources, because they have the money and the ships, but Germany cannot.

But, once we abandon these principles because we wish to give every possible aid to the Allies and withhold every possible aid to Germany we are abandoning neutrality, and those who counsel this course should tell the truth to the American people and avow openly and honestly that they are against neutrality and for throwing our weight to the side of the Allies.

(These paragraphs are from the September 20 issue of the New York World-Telegram.—Editor.)

Curran Tries To Head Off Seamen

(Continued from page 2) issue"! With the wires bringing us news every day of ships being blown chored mines, Curran hasn't a "clear-cut issue"!

Curran continues: "I say, accept the 25% offer now and move the ships . . . and if we think the situation is getting more dangerous (!) then we can tie the ships up again." ours and that title to the goods This sort of argument I have heard, too, from shipowner agents in the cannot absorb all the transatlantic past. Curran echoes it; the Communist Party repeats it, like the bab- British and other shipping usually bling parrots they are; and the ships on this run. Then what will happen? will limit their purchases because it __the Manhattan sent its ultimatum | and the number of seamen on the will deprive them of the benefits of to Curran forty miles off the coast beach will increase. Then, I have no of France, and other crews will doubt, will be the time for Curran

> THE SHIPPING BOOM AND AFTER

Here is an angle these misleaders booming at the moment. Ships are ly that.

THE WAR MACHINE AT WORK



Health Insurance Laws **Face Congress Session**

Wagner Program Center of Discussion

ity program.

bill stems directly from the action

by Congress creating a social-secur

As far back as 1934, the Commit-

But the more advanced features of

Briefly this is what S. 1620 pro

Medical care for the medically

areas and among individuals suffer-

ing from severe economic distress.

sources, are unable to obtain neces-

The Senate Committee recom-

the state expenditures as are in ex-

cess of \$20 a year per individual el-

igible for medical care under the

Disability insurance: The Senate

Committee, noting that the "total

both temporary and permanent, is in

It is also proposed to assist the

states in the construction and im-

provement of general hospitals and

those intended for mental and tuber-

culosis cases with a first-year ap-

Other features of the bill cover-

ing increased state and local public

health services and expanded aid for

maternal and child welfare programs

have to some extent already been

Another measure which may see

action at the next regular session of

Senator Wagner, which would pro-

propriation of \$8,000,000.

the Social Security Act.

sary medical care.

proposed plan. . . .

MAJOR PROVISIONS

By ARTHUR GREEN

Washington, D. C. N response to widespread demands that something be done about the tee on Economic Security, appointed suffering, economic loss and depen- by President Roosevelt, had develdency brought about by ill-health in oped the lines along which a national low-income families, Congress early health program would implement the this year set its Senate Committee social-security program. Parts of on Education and Labor to work. that original health plan are incor-The Committee, with Senate Bill porated in the Social Security Act, 1620 before it, heard scores of wit-| which makes grants to states for nesses testify on the pros and cons maternal and child welfare and enof Senator Wagner's keystone for a ables the United States Public national health program. Then the Health Service to spend millions of Committee, favorably impressed, re- dollars in expanding its research ported to the Senate that at the next | program and aiding state health auregular session, it would send to the thorities. floor an amended bill.

Health legislation, therefore, is an the program—medical care for those important part of Congress's unfin- unable to obtain adequate profesished business. Not only will it be sional service, construction of hospifaced with proposed legislation to tals and compensation for temporary aid the states in improving health and permanent disability-have still conditions and services in the United to run the gauntlet of Congressional States, but it will also be asked to debate. consider the establishment of insurance systems against wage losses resulting from temporary and perma- OF PENDING MEASURES nent disability.

Senator Wagner, sponsor of social-security legislation, is not the only member of Congress interested medicines and other things to the in setting his colleagues to work on the national health front. Senators Capper and Lodge and Representative Treadway also sponsored health legislation at the last session of Congress, and indications are that they will again press for action at the coming session.

> SENATOR WAGNER'S PLAN CENTER OF PROGRAM

S. 1620 undoubtedly will be the hub around which all of the Capitol debate will center. Senator Wagner's

being taken out from the bone-yards where they have lain for goodness knows how long. They are all running. Shipping is good. The shipowners make money, and plenty of it. But, in a short while, the Americans now stranded in Europe will have returned, and the Neutrality to be made in respect to so much of Act in Congress will have been passed, and this act will prohibit any American ships from sailing the North Atlantic or any other war zone. Then what? Many ships will follow the example set by the Standard Oil and hoist the Panamanian flag on the masthead, hire its crews from England and continue in the British trade thru the blockade. Where will that leave Curran and the American seamen?

In so far as American transatlantic service is concerned—that is, ships flying American flags on this run-there simply will be none. Certainly, the South American trade ships even if it does add the former We did precisely that in 1921 and what happened to the seamen as a achieved thru Congress's revision of result of the loss of that strike is

Is this what Curran has in mind? Whether it is or not, his present Congress is an amendment to the conveniently forget. Shipping is policy will inevitably lead to precise | Social Security Act, sponsored by

now history.

Lewis Rift With Hillman Is Rumored

(Continued from Page 1) ment in war until they can elect a Republican President.

WHAT AN

Many Congressmen here are titions (mimeographed) from the Middle West which reads as follows: "PEACE CHEST, NOT WAR CHEST

"Twenty years ago we, our country, made a great mistake. The United States, at that time, lent Britain and France billions of dollars, and they in turn paid our manufacturers that money to make guns and shells and other things that are being made to kill men. Now we grant that this was a fine stroke of business and yielded a handsome profit, but most of us are still paying for it, and some of us lost our lives. It was good business -for a few. But we who paid have a better proposal. We believe that of the United States contributed 75c in cash to a fund which would be ditions. paid over to the manufacturers and

needy: For the first year, \$35,000,000 would be authorized to provide federal grants-in-aid to the states to enable them to extend and improve but after all, it would be cash on the judices. medical care, especially in rural line. It would represent our united effort as a nation, paying for our lives. Its moral effect cannot be ex-More specifically, it is proposed to extend medical care to the following two large groups: (1) to those for whom local, state or federal governments, jointly or singly, have almoney is collected, the manufacturready accepted some responsibility thru the public-assistance provisions the Unknown Soldier and return imof the Social Security Act, thru the mediately to a joint directors meeting, at which they should fight it work-relief programs or thru provisions of general relief; (2) to those out across the table how much each who, tho able to obtain food, shelter and clothing from their own re-

"We, the undersigned, each signithe purpose outlined above.

"When this petition is filled, mail mended that "no federal grants are it to your favorite congressman. (Just his name and Congress of the sets of leaders. United States, Washington, D. C.) It might help him."

vide that individuals who meet certain qualifications and who become permanently disabled would receive loss of earnings among gainful disability benefits calculated roughly workers on account of disability, on the same basis as the old-age insurance monthly benefits. excess of \$1,000,000,000 a year," rec-If Senator Capper remains true to

ommended a first-year appropriaform, he will undoubtedly once again tion of \$10,000,000 to assist states in introduce a bill similar to S. 658, setting up and maintaining prowhich he offered to Congress at the grams designed to alleviate economic last session. This is a proposal to loss caused by temporary disability. give federal financial aid to states New hospitals and health centers: setting up health systems. Another plan for health insur-

ance, H.R. 9847, was introduced by Representative Treadway. Unlike most of the other measures, this plan would create a direct federal system to handle employer-employee contri butions, in return for which the in sured worker and his dependents would be able to obtain a physician's care, laboratory services and necessary drugs and medicines.

SPREAD THE WORKERS AGE

Unemployment Up In Britain

66**▼** ONDON, Oct. 2.—The war has increased Great Britain's unemployment problem. Unemployment increased by 99.236 from August 14 to September 11, eight days after the war was declared, the Labor Ministry announced today. This brought the total un-

employed up to 1,330,928. The decline of jobs was attributed to the curtailment of hotel services, entertainment and sports events because of the war."-New York Herald-Tribune, Oct. 3, 1939.

How to Defeat Menace of **Fascism**

By MAX NOMAD

(Concluded from the last issue) ans of Rome crushed the revolt of today. the slaves led by Spartacus.

In modern times, the British could successfully use the Moslems against regime emulated the British example by arousing the poor Moslems in the Caucasus against the rebellious

However, there are situations not prevent the consummation of a fend it stupidly." joint action of all the downtrodden to the discomfiture of their masters.

There is the little known but significant historical example of the general strike of the oil workers of Baku (1903), the center of the Russian oil industry.

Baku had been the scene of frequent massacres perpetrated by the poor Moslem population upon the non-Moslems, particularly the Arture dated some time back before menians. The hand of the Czarist the Stalin-Hitler pact. agents was always behind these outrages.

Mohammedan peasants and laborers steeped in Oriental medievalism and lar steps. the progressive and socialist Armeamused but impressed by signed pe- nians fighting against the governindependence.

the Moslem "rabble" which was as group, resigned in protest, as did ready to blame its misery upon the also almost all the leading officers Armenians as the benighted rank of the Jewish Culture Federation, and file followers of Coughlin are another Stalinist-dominated group. ready to blame their unemployment and insecurity upon the Jews. Killing and robbing their Christian neighbors was a more comprehensible political program for them.

SLOGANS DON'T MAKE FOR UNITY

But things changed as soon as a twenty or thirty different near-Eastit would be much easier on us, and ern races working in the Baku oil struggle for the immediate tangible would satisfy the manufacturers and fields. That strike inspired them with improvement of the lot of the most financiers as well, if every citizen a common purpose of obtaining exploited, the most dissatisfied sechigher wages and better living con-

There was a marvellous unanimity financiers for not dragging us into of sentiment during that struggle. tions of the unemployed—would di-The strike was not marred by a sin-"This fund might not be as much gle altercation among the workers as they would make out of a war based upon religious or racial pre-state governments with the exclusive

The moral of that event for the present situation is obvious. The workers, separated by race, religion, aggerated. Its democratic method prejudices and indoctrination, can- the initial achievements of the C.I.O. cannot be disputed. Every citizen not achieve unity under political slo- It may force many of the pussypays the same and the poor pays the gans, no matter how lofty these may footing labor leaders to present most. We suggest that, after the be. Whenever the abstract question sweeping concrete demands which ers and bankers visit the tomb of up, the bulk of the workers do not satisfy. This would compel whatever think with their own heads.

leaders whom they trust for one real government personnel may occur in son or another. And these leaders the process—to initiate the estabgive those slogans that interpreta- lishment of a planned, socialized tion which best suits their own amfy our willingness to pay 75c for bitions for power. Fighting for such slogans, the workers are merely wasting their strength for the enthronement of various competing

But there can be no misunderstanding as to wages, hours and jobs sadistic would-be-dictators. for the unemployed. When it comes to a clear-cut struggle for these very concrete things, whites and Negroes, status-quo in behalf of greater connatives and immigrants, Gentiles and Jews, Coughlinites and radicals, be fought merely in the name of the may be expected to think, to feel defense of "liberty" and "democand to act the same way and to pre- racy."

Stalin-Hitler Pact Brings **CPD**efections

New York City DEFECTIONS in various sections of the Communist Party and its affiliated organizations indicated last week that the effects of the Stalin-Hitler pact were already beginning to tell.

The first breaks came among intellectuals and those associated with Jewish organizations. Granville Hicks, prominently identified with the Communist Party and the New Masses, resigned last week and stated his position in an open letter in the New Republic. Party leaders had made it clear, he said, that "if I eventually found it impossible to defend the pact, and defend it in their terms, there was nothing for me to do but resign.

"When the party reverses itself overnight and offers nothing but nonsense in explanation, who is likely to be influenced by a communist's recommendations?

"So far as one can judge from all the evidence, the leaders them-THE stratagem of using one sec- selves were completely unprepared tion of the dissatisfied against for what has happened. They were another is old as history. Armed unprepared for it and did not underslaves were used by the patricians of stand it. If they had only said this. Rome to break the movement of im- if they had only admitted their igpoverished freemen led by the Grac- norance, the Communist Party of chi. Armed peasants and proletari- the United States would be intact

"But, instead, they insisted the pact was the greatest possible contribution to peace and democracy the Hindus in India; and the Czarist and offered anything that came into their heads as proof.

"They rushed into print with apologies completely devoid of clarity and logic. Only one conclusion could be drawn: if the party leadwhen even the most deeply ingrained ers could not defend the Soviet mutual hatreds and prejudices can- Union intelligently, they would de-

Another important intellectual adherent of the C.P. who broke his connections with it was Kyle Crichton (Robert Forsythe), who resigned from the editorial board of the New Masses.

Joseph Freeman, one of the founders of the New Masses and long recognized as an outstanding Stalinist writer and critic, also broke with

George Wishnak, formerly manager of the Daily Worker and now That task was a very easy one for an official of the I.L.G.W.U., was the agents provocateurs, as there another who resigned from the parwas no common intellectual or cul- ty last week. M. Epstein and Louis tural bond between the primitive Hyman, prominent Stalinist figures in the Jewish community took simi-

Resignations and manifestations against the Communist Party took ment under the slogans of political place in virtually all of the Jewish democracy and national autonomy or auxiliary and "innocents" organizations. The head of the Jewish Peo-These slogans meant nothing to ple's Committee, an anti-fascist

> sent a solid front against all those who grudge them a better share of the good things of life.

Such a unanimity of thinking and acting cannot be achieved by insisting upon "keeping what we have," nor by concentrating all efforts upon the defense of the existing "demospontaneous strike united all the cratic liberties." Such a unanimity can be achieved only in a mass tions of the population.

That struggle—proceding from the labor unions and from the organizarect its blows both against private concerns and against the federal and demand for a better deal in the matter of jobs, wages and hours.

The momentum of such a struggle may swing the movement far beyond of "liberty" or "democracy" comes private enterprise may be unable to government would be in charge-They follow blindly the political and a swift "radicalization" of the economy. The still far removed from the

dream of complete economic equality, the new configuration would at least remove those miseries which induce so many poor devils to listen to the mendacious propaganda of To put it briefly: Fascism can be

fought only by attacking the present cessions to the underdog. It cannot

Being Honest with the People.....

66THE real inside on the President's message to Congress was that his advocacy of cash-and-carry was a second thought. What he privately favored was repeal of the entire neutrality act and a return to old-fashioned international law.

"He proposed this guardedly at his conference with Congressional and Republican leaders. But with two exceptions (Vice-President Garner and Republican Senator Austin of Vermont), they were cold to the idea and he dropped it.

"Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chairman Key Pittman bluntly declared that the scheme wouldn't muster five votes in the committee. services, hospital maintenance and Senator James Byrnes, astute South Carolinian with a keen knowledge of Senate sentiment, agreed. He declared that any move for complete repeal would scare both the country and the Senate, strongly counseled a com-

"'The fight will be tough enough anyway,' Byrnes said. 'I wouldn't add to the difficulties facing us by asking too much'."-Drew Pearson and Robert S. Allen, in the "Washington Merry-Go-Round" column, Sept. 26,

Workers Age

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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1939.

NO. 41

UNITY IS PARAMOUNT

AS we write these lines, the A. F. of L. convention has already gotten under way in Cincinnati and the C.I.O. delegates are beginning to gather in San Francisco for the opening of their sessions later in the week. It is widely recognized, in labor circles and out, that these two conventions are likely to prove the most significant trade-union gatherings in many a year.

Last week, in these columns, we outlined what we regard as the most important problems facing the two great labor federations in convention assembled-keeping America out of war; profiteering, cost of living and adjustment of wage scales; and peace and unity in the family of labor. Despite the narrow, selfish and short-sighted attitude of certain trade-union leaders in the A. F. of L. and the C.I.O., who think that a war boom "wouldn't hurt the boys," despite President Green's last-minute right-about-face on repealing the arms embargo, anti-war sentiments are so strong and widespread among all sections of the American workers that we can confidently look forward to strong declarations from both conventions on keeping out of war and perhaps also to certain more decisive action. Nor is there any reason to believe that either A. F. of L. or C.I.O. will be behindhand in pushing effective measures to curb profiteering and raise wage scales to keep pace with rising living costs.

But the point we want to make at this time is that however good and proper the decisions at Cincinnati and San Francisco may be, they will certainly lose much of their effectiveness unless some measures are taken to halt the bitter civil war in the ranks of labor. At least some degree of peace and unity seems absolutely essential if organized labor is to realize any of the major tasks which it will set itself at the two conventions this week.

The consequences of disunity and mutual hostility in labor's ranks have been repeatedly stressed and ought to be clearly understood by every responsible trade-union leader. Not only is labor's economic and political strength undermined in the face of a renewed offensive of the employing class, now increasingly backed by the Administration; not only is a spirit of apathy and demoralization encouraged among wide groups of workers, organized and unorganized alike; but public sympathy for labor and its aspirations is being rapidly lost and large sections of middle-class people are being embittered and alienated—something particularly dangerous in this period of nervous tension and war-time strain! It's literally playing with fire, inviting utter disaster, to allow secondary considerations to block the way to labor unity today.

And there is no reason whatever why the ranks of labor cannot be effectively united at this time. The conditions that the A. F. of L. Executive Council has repeatedly offered the C.I.O. in the course of the past year or more are surely such as can be a decade and a half of activity in to cause the member using the word readily accepted, for they definitely recognize the principle of industrial unionism in the mass-production industries and provide sufficient leeway for the full incorporation of the great organizational achievements of the C.I.O. in the united labor movement. In short, there exists no reason whatever—no reason, that is, rooted in the true interests of labor—why the disastrous civil war tasks which still remain. This is no tearing apart labor's ranks should be perpetuated another day.

It is our earnest hope that the conventions meeting this week, ecially the C.I.O. convention in San Francisco, will see things most elementary Marxism of the passed thru the same experiences cialism. especially the C.I.O. convention in San Francisco, will see things this way. If they do not, if they permit the continuation of the brain. Verily, we thought with our self-destructive conflict in the labor movement, the prospects for blood! labor are dark indeed!

THE GROWING SPY MANIA

THE Administration and the supporters of its war policy in the camp of both parties seem determined to drive the country mad, spy-mad. The Federal Buro of Investigation, headed by the redoubtable Mr. Hoover, is out mobilizing hundreds of thousands of amateur sleuths all over the counthy ("civic groups, banks, business houses, railroads and individuals") for President Roosevelt's "drive against espionage and sabotage." A few weeks ago, Mayor LaGuardia called upon local law-enforcement officers thruout the of the Stalinist clique in the Soviet land to throw themselves into the hunt for "spies." In Queens, County Sheriff Fitzgerald now wants to appoint 1,200 "special deputies" to scour pool-rooms and back-alleys for "spies" and "saboteurs." And, passing from the ridiculous to the sinister, certain sections of the ill-famed war-time "Espionage Act have already been revived by the Department of Justice.

The hysteria is spreading, all right. Henceforth, we may expect to find hordes of amateur snoopers everywhere sticking their noses into everybody's private business on the hunt for "espionage" and "sedition." And, of course, it will not be long before tive security." The reading of Lenin every sign of opposition to war, every manifestation of independent thinking, every insistence on democracy and civil rights, will convincing proof enough of the be branded as outright sedition. Those of us who can remember falsity, the un-Leninist approach, of or who have read about the dreadful spy mania in the dark days the Communist International. Tradiof the World War, when official and volunteer snooping created | tionally, it has been understandable such a reign of terror thruout the country, will have some inkling of what we seem to be in for.

Never was a voice of sanity more needed than at the present moment. Here is another task that the growing anti-war movement must take upon its shoulders, for at bottom is not the spy mania intended by its fomenters to whip up a war fever and thus ease the way of American involvement in the European war?

Karl Marx on Poland

66 TOU say in your program...that the 'Czarist yoke oppressing Poland is a hindrance to the political and social freedom of both peoples-the Russians as well as the Poles.' You might add that the violent seizure of Poland by Russia forms the pernicious support . . . of change dictated from the heart and the military regime in Germany and consequently on the whole conti- mind of American labor but from the nent."-Karl Marx, official communication of the International Working changed policy in power-politics of Men's Association to the Russian revolutionists, Narodnoye Dyelo, No. 1

MARCH 3, 1933.

Of Workers Age, published weekly at New York, N. Y., for the 1st day of October 1939.

State of New York
County of New York.
Before me, a notary public in and for the State and County aforesaid, personally appeared Robert Macklin who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the Business Manager of the Workers Age and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management, etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, embodied in section 411, Postal Laws and Regulations.

1. That the names and addresses of

Regulations.

1. That the names and addresses of publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are:

Publisher: Workers Age Publishing Association, 131 W. 33rd St., New York City; Editor: Will Herberg, 131 W. 33rd St., New York City; Managing Editor: Jay Lovestone, 131 W. 33rd St., New York City; Business Manager: Robert Macklin, 131 W. 33rd St., New York City.

2. That the owner is: Workers Age

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REQUIRED BY THE ACTS OF CON-GRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912 AND Macklin, 131 W. 33rd St., New York City. 3. That the known bondholders, mort-gagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other se-curities are: None.

amount of bonts, mortgages, or other securities are: None.

4. That the two paragraphs next above, giving the names of the owners, stockholders, and security holders, if any, contain not only the list of stockholders as they appear upon the books of the company but also, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting, is given; also that the said two paragraphs contain statements embracing affiant's full knowledge and belief of the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company other than that of a bona fide owner; and this affiant has no reason to believe that any other person, association, or corporation has any interest direct or indirect in the said stock, bonds, or other securities than as so stated by him.

ROBERT MACKLIN, Business Mgr.

ROBERT MACKLIN, Business Mgr. worn to and subscribed before me this WM. J. MULLER, Notary Public commission expires Mar. 30, 1940.

"PLEASED TO MEETCHA!"



C.P. Member Bares Political Degeneration of Stalinism

Declaration Points to Rising Revolt in the Ranks

(The statement published below was sent to us from Chicago with the following covering letter:

Chicago, Ill.

September 28, 1939. In order to give expression to the widespread discontent which has permeated the ranks of the Communist Party and the Young Communist League, I have prepared this little statement which is herein enclosed. Because of the situation which exists at the moment, I find myself unable to sign the statement, but nevertheless vouch for its authenticity. You may use it or not as you desire.

With comradely greetings,

We are very glad to publish this declaration and we invite other members or supporters of the Communist Party and its organizations to write to us at length what they think of the problems raised by Comrade X. and in this way initiate a free and unhampered discussion of these problems in the columns of this paper. Names, etc., where they are given, will, of course, be treated confidentially.—Editor.)

Chicago, Ill. | in rapid succession. Any mention of TT is no easy task to separate the the word socialism—except if used strong ties which bind one after in the most casual way—was liable the Young Communist League and to be labeled a "Trotskyite." One its junior sections. But it must be need mention very little of the camdone—as hard as the separation may paign of personal attacks leveled be-in order to maintain my own against the author and his friends proletarian sense of respect and in during the expulsion phase of this order to free myself for the socialist | transformation. Only political bank-

Recent events acted as the "insulin shock" to our past period of Communist Party "insanity." The recent Hitler-Stalin pact, the invasion of Poland, and the here-todayand-gone-tomorrow party line only brought to a head what I had long since suspected: that the determination of the political line of the Communist International and its various sections has been largely forged by the internal and external exigencies Union. How else could one explain the flip-flop in Communist Party policy in the United States? 'Changed situations," repeat the Stalinist stooges in ever-increasing monotony—as if changing times in itself is the answer to any question.

Only the necessities of Soviet foreign policy could have been responon the League of Nations would be that followers of the Second International would espouse such viewsviews from which radicals have shied away as from the bubonic plague itself. It was the sincere desire of rank-and-file communists to defend the Soviet Union that led them-in the majority, trained little in Marxist education-to fall for such putrid political ideas.

Recent events show that the Communist Party has again changed its line in regard to the raging imperialist war, but as correct as the line may possibly be, it was not a the Kremlin commissars. No movement can dig deep in the soil of American labor that has its roots in the foreign policy of the Soviet

Besides this more or less basic point, it should hardly be necessary to mention the other characteristics of the Communist movement which have changed little in the last few years despite the barrage of propaganda to the contrary. The Young Communist League is still as undemocratic as it ever was, despite their weak imitation of Stalin's "democratic constitution." The lack of Marxist education has reached a new low; the social character of the organization has been emphasized as against its political character; and the lack of enthusiasm of the membership has been quite noticeable for some time. All these are but results of the political milieu which the Young Communist League has cast about itself as a result of the false political programs which it adopts

-after fifteen years in the organization? It was heartening tho to see the large number of Y.C.L.ers and sympathizers who walked out of the meeting with the expelled comrade, a fact which the leadership of the League is trying desperately to withhold from the entire menibership. Already about a dozen members have signed their names to a petition protesting against the policy of expulsions, and it is now a certainty that many more com rades will be expelled shortly. At this time we would earnestly

that the author was allowed only

before the membership of his branch

desire to join an organization of revolutionary socialists. We are dismayed by the numerous fragments of organizations which would enlist our support, and we call out, as your organization has already done for unity of the revolutionary socialists in one political party. To such an organization we would gladly give our support. At the present we are at work clarifying our to do much of that. We hope, the rupts descend to such low levels sudden conversion, but the final to carry a point which they cannot sooner the better, that we will all be

"Party Line" To Unions

(Continued from Page 1) mocratic front to resist fascism." The mystery of the sudden turn remains unexplained—unless you are evil-minded enough to see connec-

tions. . . .

The convention of the State, County and Municipal Workers of America at which Mr. Quill spoke also dealt with the war in Europe. It took an attitude substantially identical with Mr. Quill's and "emphasized the necessity for keeping the United States out of war and for increasing the economic security of the people of this country.

Again this represented a rather sudden, right-about-face, for, as Milton Levine, a delegate from Local 45, somewhat sardonically pointed out, "this resolution was at variance with the one adopted a year ago at the union's state convention in which support was expressed for 'the democratic nations, Britain and France, against the fascist combination, Italy and Germany." But Quill had been asked to make his those who ran the convention, again following Mr. Quill, did not find it necessary to vouchsafe any explana-

There you have it-a curious sequence of events, curious "coincidences," indeed! But perhaps even the Nation and the New Republic in their present chastened mood will see some connection between the Stalin-Hitler pact in Moscow in August, the change of Communist Party "line" of September 19 and the startling "change of mind" undergone by Mr. Quill and the State, County and Municipal Workers of America on September 30!

STOP THE WAR-MAKERS!

"Keep America Out Of War"

An Appeal of the Independent Labor League of America

5 cents a copy

WORKERS AGE BOOKSHOP 131 W. 33rd St., N. Y. C.

Quill Carries A.L.P. Brands **Stalinists As Enemies**

(Continued from page 1) make himself heard amidst the boo ing and shrieking. Some of the delegates remarked rather appropriately that Potash was now receiving a slight installment of the treatment he had been dealing out to the progressives in his union for many years. Luigi Antonini, state chairman of the A.L.P. and chairman of the meeting, did everything in his power to obtain a hearing for Po-

tash but without much success. Since it proved impossible to divide the resolution, it was voted on as a whole and carried 605 to 94, the latter figure indicating the strength mustered by the Stalinists and their sympathizers.

A resolution was introduced for the withdrawal of Michael Quill as A.L.P. councilman candidate because of his Stalinist affiliations. The resolution was referred to the State Executive Committee. The following day, Mr. Rose announced that Mr position clear on Stalinism and that unless he did so in a satisfactory manner, he would be withdrawn. Mr Quill has since rejected the request of the A.L.P. and taken his stand with the Stalinists. In all probability, he will be withdrawn as a candi-

Two Timely Books:

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Talking It Over:

War Monger-"Prophet"

by Bertram D. Wolfe =

URING the last fortnight," John L. Lewis said in an address delivered on Labor Day, the first day of the present war, "our country has been subjected to an overdose of war propaganda. Patently, an attempt is being made to create the illusion that when war breaks out in Europe, the United States in some fashion will be forthwith involved. Such a concept is, of course, a monumental deception and amounts to a betrayal

The theory of the "inevitability of our involvement" in any war that starts anywhere in the world, is as false as it is mischievous. It is the principal psychological weapon of the war-monger in the preparatory stages of a drive for our entrance. If it gains widespread acceptance, it paralyzes the will of our people to stay out and excuses every act that

"These people ('the inevitablists') say dogmatically-without giving reasons," writes General Hugh Johnson, "that our eventually getting in is 'inevitable'. That alone is the most dangerous war propaganda imaginable. If it is true, it relieves our government from efforts to do the uttermost to keep out. How can it be blamed for getting in if it was inevitable anyway? Furthermore, if it is true that we must get in finally, then any military strategist will tell you that we ought to get in now. It would much increase our chances of eventual victory. That kind of talk

THE FOUNTAINHEAD

WHAT is the main source of this "poisonous" view? The main source of this doctrine is none other than the White House!

The President first advanced the theory of our inevitable involvement in wars anywhere in the world in his public address in Chicago on October 5, 1937. He repeated it in his message to Congress on "the state of the nation" in January 1939; again in an address to his neighbors at Warm Springs, and comment on a subsequent newspaper editorial, in April of the same year; and he has suggested it several times in semi-private talks with members of Congress.

five minutes to defend his viewpoint STALIN, TROTSKY AND ROOSEVELT

W/HOEVER advances this mischievous theory of "inevitable involvement" finds himself perforce in strange and unexpected company. For three years and more, the most energetic exponent of that doctrine was Joseph Stalin, and his then mouthpiece in world affairs, Foreign Minister Litvinov. It was they who coined the very phrases, "collective security," "peace front," "quarantine the aggressors," which were employed in Roosevelt's Chicago speech. It was they who developed, for American consumption and the purposes of American involvement in that intended "peace front" of the "democracies," the peculiar theory so often advanced by their American agent, Earl Browder-the theory that "peace is indivisible." This theory means, if it means anything, that whenever peace is broken anywhere in the world, it is broken everywhere; if any nations get into war-at least any big ones-all of them must do so.

Joseph Stalin abandoned this theory, naturally enough, when he became an ally of Hitler. In changing blocks in the power scramble in Europe, he changed phrases, "theories" and foreign ministers, along with allies. But, as so often happens in the Stalin-Trotsky feud, his ancient opponent picked up the intellectual baggage which he had just unloaded!

On the day war was declared, Leon Trotsky issued a statement from his home in Coyoacan in which the theory that peace was indivisible was brought up to date for war-time. He chided those who did not know that war was indivisible and "who still cherish the illusory hope of remaining outside of the catastrophe." A few days later, in a manifesto addressedown minds, but the time is too short of all things—to Latin America (including that Argentina which had managed to remain out of the first world war!), he wrote:

"Only those who wish to deceive themselves will be deceived; there is not a corner of the surface of the globe that will be spared the war." And on October 3, he dotted all the i's and crossed all the t's in an article written for the North American Newspaper Alliance (New York

Times, October 4): "The German-Soviet pact . . . will greatly extend the duration of the war and bring closer the moment of intervention of the United States. By itself, this intervention is absolutely inevitable. . . . Some people on the American continent expect to conceal themselves behind a paper screen of isolation (the President's own words in connection with the Warm Springs editorial!-B.D.W.) from purely 'European' insanity. Their hopes are in vain. It is a question of the struggle for world domination, and

America will not be able to stand aside. . . . "To make the Kremlin change its policy there remains only one way but a sure one. It is necessary to give Herr Hitler such a decisive blow that Mr. Stalin will cease to fear him. In this sense, it is possible to say that the most important key to the Kremlin's policy is now in Washington."

The cycle is complete. Yesterday, Browder and Roosevelt were telling us that our entrance into war was inevitable; today, Trotsky and Roosevelt are telling us the same thing!

A few weeks ago in this column, we reproached the Trotskyites for the pseudo-Marxist theory of "inevitability" and fatalism. We assumed we were dealing with sincere opponents of our entrance into war and limited ourselves to warning that the doctrine of "inevitable involvement" was theoretically false, refuted by history; that involvement or noninvolvement would depend upon a living struggle which would be paralyzed by the wide acceptance of the fatalistic doctrine of inevitability. We are forced to recognize now that we did not fully understand the direction in which Leon Trotsky was driving. Trotsky has taken up where Stalin left off and, as so often before, Trotskyism turns out to be an inverted

POISON UNDER ANY LABEL

Y/AR, which tests all men and all movements and shows them in their true colors, will settle with Trotskyism as it will with Stalinism. The masses, who cannot put confidence in imperialist war for the solution of any of their problems and must oppose the war which to them spells misery and naught but misery, will have to carry on their struggle in spite of all preachers of "inevitability"-who, closely scrutinized, always turn out to be preachers of "desirability." Their struggle to prevent war is first of all a struggle to defeat their own war-makers and the imperialist objectives of their own ruling class. They can have no use for the prophets, Rooseveltian, Stalinist or Trotskyist, who tell them that that struggle is useless. The theory of "inevitable involvement," we repeat, is poison. And poison, whether in a bottle with a red label or a black or a red-white-and-blue label—poison with any label is just plain poison!

Krivitsky to Address Mass Meeting Here, Oct. 13

New York City. | man Reichstag, will speak on Ger-GENERAL W. G. Krivitsky, formany; Frances Winwar, well-known writer, on Italy; and Harry D. Giuntil recently in charge of its military-intelligence division, will make his first public appearance in New York this week at a mass meeting under the auspices of the Committee for Cultural Freedom. General Krivitsky will be one of several speakers on the general subject of appearance some time ago for the "Cultural Freedom and the World purpose of fighting totalitarianism

The meeting will be held in Town Hall, 123 West 43rd Street, New York, on Friday, October 13, at

The former Russian officer will speak on the Soviet Union's rela-Seger, one-time member of the Ger- | West 33rd Street.

deonse, president of Brooklyn College, will speak on American culture in the face of the world crisis. Arranged by the Committee for Cultural Freedom, the symposium is the first public meeting arranged by that organization which made its purpose of fighting totalitarianism

Tickets for the Town Hall meeting are priced at \$.25, \$.55 and \$1.10. They may be obtained at the offices of the Committee for Cultural Freedom, 2 West 43rd Street, or at tion to the world crisis; Gerhardt the offices of the Workers Age. 131

of all kinds, whether fascist or Stal-