HIUOV TO MORELLEIN

Jobs, Not Guns!

NOT ONE CENT TO DEFEND WALL STREET PROFITS!

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Twice-Monthly Organ of The Young Peoples Socialist League (Fourth International)

Price 2 cents

# STOP THE WAR-MAKERS DRIVE AGAINST LABOR, YOUTH RIGHTS

YPSL Calls for Armistice Anti-WarDemonstration on Campus

### FIGHT THE BOSSES WAR NOW-YPSL CALL

The Young Peoples Socialist League AFourth International has issued a call to the students of America to participate in antiwar demonstrations on or about Armistice Day, November 11. The text of the call follows:

ARMISTICE DAY is here. Armistice Day-The day to commemorate the "end" of one imperialist butchery-finds us on the brink of another. NOW is the time for students to unflinchingly oppose any and all attempts to sacrifice our lives in another imperialist massacre. This Armistice Day must find students solidly united in a militant antiwar struggle!

THIS IS NOT OUR WAR

The workers and youth of Europe have been plnuged into a war, which is neither of their own interest nor of their own choosing. The War is an Imperialist War. It is a conflict between two camps of Cap-

The first camp-England and France-fights for the perpetuation of the status quo: their "right" to exploit the workers at home and the colonial people abroad in India, Asia and Africa.

The second camp-Hitler, aided by Stalin-fights for its right to share the plunder by redividing the world.

We stand for the third camp in this war!-the camp of Debs and Liebknecht, the camp of working class struggle against all the cap-

italist countries as the way to end war. We call upon the American students to act against the attempts of the Roosevelt adminisration to drag us into war. We call for a fight against lifting the embargo as a fight against a concrete step taken to drag America into the war! We repudiate the Stalinist youth and the American Student Union

which they control. We brand their newly found discovery that this is an imperialist war as a fraud. It arises only as a result of the need to follow the twists and turns of Stalin's policy. Yesterday in the service of Allied imperialism, today in the service of Hitler! We refuse to act as the agents of EITHER imperialist camp.

We call upon the students to demonstrate against the war and 1. YOUTH AND THE WAR American involvement in it. Down with the war!

United States government in any war it may undertake.

2. LET THE PEOPLE ON WAR!

3. ALLOW YOUTH TO VOTE AT 18-"Old enough to die, old enough to vote."

4. CONDEMN BOTH IMPERIALIST CAMPS—The camp of Cham-

berlain-Daladier-Roosevelt, and that of Hitler. 5. OPPOSE ROOSEVELT'S M-DAY PLANS-No military dieta-

torship.

JOBS NOT GUNS-We can't eat battleships.

AGAINST LIFTING THE EMBARGO-The first step to war. ROTO FUNDS TO NYA-Drive the War Department off the

9. THE MAIN ENEMY IS AT HOME-Fight the war-makers and the system that breeds them.

YOUNG PEOPLES SOCIALIST LEAGUE (4th International)

### British Revolutionary Youth Stand Firm In Opposition to the Imperialist War

The Challenge has just received, the September issue of "Youth For Socialism," published by a revolutionary youth group in London, which, while not formally affiliated to the Fourth International of Youth, is a very close and sympathetic group.

Our English comrades came out with a courageous and firm revolutionary statement denouncing the war and pledging a fight to the finish against it.

Says "Youth For Socialism" to the British Youth: "British and German workers have no reason to slaughter one another. Let us turn upon our real enemies, the German and British capitalist class. . . . Working youth, capitalism can only continue to exist on your bones. The sole way out for the youth lies in the overthrow of capitalism and workers power and socialism. Our path lies in building up the revolutionary socialist youth which alone can lead us from the nightmare of war which hangs over



### SHACHTMAN GIVES FIGHTING PROGRAM FOR YOUTH'S NEEDS

The following Platform of Youth Demands has been endorsed by "Imperial Wizard" (read: Imperial George Lyman Paine and Max Shachtman, candidates of the Socialist Nitwit) attempts to smear the prohibiting any student organiza-Workers Party for the City Council from Manhattan and the Bronx. YPSL in his lead article of the

The youth of America-like the youth of the countries at war today Cross." thing to gain from the 1. SUPPORT THE OXFORD PLEDGE-Refuse to support the imperialist camps to re-divide the earth. No matter which side wins, totalitarian dictatorship will triumph.

The Wall Street banks are trying to involve the United States in the war of American imperialism. Unless the youth of the nation is reconciled to becoming cannon-fodder in an imperialist war, it must fight with the Young Peoples Socialist League for the following:

(Continued on Page 3)

### Coughlin Calls for World War Against the Workers

In the October 23 issue of "Social Justice," the pro-Hitler and anti- port President Roosevelt's drive working class line of Father Coughlin has received a new and clearer against agitators. And that is why youth have been indicted in the expression than ever before.

"Social Justice" prints a letter from one of Father Coughlin's "ad- says the "Imperial Wizard." In unemployed leaders have already mirers" who asks why Coughlin has supported Hitlerist imperialism as opposed to English and French imperialism.

The editor of "Social Justice" answers with an article which shows clearly the pro-Hitler line of the Coughlinites-but which also shows that the basic loyalty of the Coughlinites is to America's 60 Families, retell the history of the KKK as of the Communist (Stalinist) Par-

Writes the editor of "Social Jus-"Nazism, with its Hitler, arose as a defense mechanism against Communism. There is no question but the rise of Hitler stopped an invasion of Russian international menace of Soviet ple who have to overthrow Stalin Russia, Christian England and

Christian France talked of an al-Germany."

What Coughlin wants is clear. Protestant, Gentile Americans. . ." Communism into Germany, and so He wants a "holy" crusade against for a time saved Christian civil- Soviet Russia, together with Hitization in western Europe. How- ler. Now we have time and time ever, instead of hailing a deliverer again made clear our unalterable California. Yes, we repeat that ion organizers to leave town. and instead of forming a Christian opposition to the Stalin bureau-challenge. We will fight every atalliance with Germany against the cracy ruling in Russia but the peo-

(Continued on Page 3)

### Block the "Blitzkrieg" **Against Labor Rights**

While all the papers are howling about a military "blitzkrieg" (lightning war) in Europe, a less noticed but at least as important "blitzkrieg" is taking place right here in America: the drive of the bosses and the government against the rights and civil liberties of the workers and the youth.

In every section of the country, reactionary groups of vigilantes and professional patrioteers have begun a drive against the

KKK STUNG BY

tack on "The Challenge of Youth"

of the Klan's anti-Negro, anti-Sem-

up and down our backs.

The article ends up by mock

ing the YPSL Challenge to the

tempt of this fascistic, labor-hating

hatred against the workers.

**YPSL EXPOSE** 

civil rights of the workers and youth. These drives have in almost every case been aided by the government.

Under the disguise of "an emergency situation" caused by the war, and through a vicious drive by the Dies Committee against labor, the government is preparing for M-Day-the day when Ameri-LOS ANGELES The Ku Klux ca enters the war and when all Klan has raised its filthy head in liberties of the people are killed by the latest issue of its rag, "The a military dictatorship planned for Fiery Cross," to issue a violent at- America.

### Hit Workers Rights

and the Young Peoples Socialist Here are a few of the specific League. Touched to the quick instances of the drive against about the expose which the CHAL-LENGE ran in its August 1st issue workers' and youth rights:

(1) On the University of Chicago campus, issuance of leaflets has itic, and anti-labor campaign in been banned. The administration of the farm area of California, the Chicago has also passed a ruling tion from protesting an adminis-September issue of "The Fiery tration ruling unless the approval of the faculty advisor is first obtained!

The article in the August 1st (2) At the Commerce Center of CHALLENGE had described the City College of New York, all copy attempts of the KKK to spread to appear in the student newspaper terror against Mexican laborers in must first be censored by an adthe town of Azusa, an agricultural ministration official.

center. This it had done by the (3) At Columbia University a process of an attack on all "fornaval ROTC unit is being set up. eigners", Jews, Negroes, Mexicans. (4) The administration of the In its paper, the KKK—the most University of California at Berkenotorious of all organizations ly has decided that no motion picpreaching race hatred in America tures may be shown by the camsuddenly took on the appearance pus student groups.

of an innocent little lamb. All that (5) At Cornell University, sevit was trying to do, says "The eral large youth clubs were for-Fiery Cross," was to urge Amer- bidden use of the large rooms icans to have meetings and to sup- because it wasted electricity!

(6) In Minneapolis, a number of the CHALLENGE got so mad, WPA "conspiracy" trials. Several fact, says the Inferior Lizard, been found guilty. Their great there are "shivers of fear" running crime was leading the workers in a fight for relief.

It would be a waste of space to (7) In New York, the candidates the outstanding agent of race and ty have been ruled off the ballot on religious intolerance in America. a ridiculous technicality. The Manliance with the Ghengis Khan of Suffice it to quote from one of its hattan candidate of the Socialist the Kremlin to once more smash leaflets: "The KKK, a national or- Wrkers Party, George Lyman ganization of native born, white, Paine, has likewise been removed from the ballot.

(8) In Sevierville, Tenn. a mob KKK in the agricultural area of of 100 "vigilantes" order two un-

This drive against the rights of the youth and the workers must be gang to raise its head and spread stopped. No M-Day in America No blackout of workers rights

# "LEON TROTSKY PRESENTS" -- A Profoundly Brilliant Defense and Exposition of the Basic Principles of Marxism

LEON TROTSKY PRESENTS THE LIVING THOUGHTS OF KARL MARX — Longman, Green and Co. (184 pp. \$1.00. Hard cover.)

By IRVING HOWE

Only a few years ago it was the fashionable thing in American intellectual and student circles to pose as a Marxist. In the early 30's this had become something of a fad, like psychoanalysis or miniature golf. With the advent of the Roosevelt administration and its New Deal program and with the appearance of the Second



World War in which America would participate in the name of "democracy," Marxism lost much of its "glantour" to the "young thinkers" and they soon came to the profound discovery that it was . . . obsolete.

It is against this background of American intellectual life-the trend away from Marxismthat Leon Trotsky has written his introduction to a condensation of Marx's masterwork, Capital. Suffice it to say at the outset that Trotsky has written an amazingly compact and skillful summary and defense of Marxism. It is the purpose of this article to present the highlights of Trotsky's argument and to provide one or two notes of background for the reader of Trotsky's essay who, because he is unacquainted with the works of Marxism, may find the essay too compact.

### Two Great Names

If nothing else had happened in the 19th century, it would be noteworthy as the century in which the last great superstitions of mankind had been destroyed.

Darwin and Marx-these are the two great names of the century! Darwin established the fact that man had not been "created" in seven days, but had developed over a long period of time from a lower form of animal life. Darwin koked for the solution of the problem of the origin of man, not in any mystical conversations with Heaven or any beliefs in ideas determining man's development. Darwin looked for the answer to this question in the actual, material conditions of life. He freed science of mystery and superstition; he based it upon actual human ex-

Marx did the same for what is called social science: the economic and political development of mankind.

Trotsky summarizes Marx's achievements on this score in a few sentences:

"Having established science as cognition of the objective recurrences of nature, man has tried stubbornly and persistently to exclude himself from science, reserving for himself special privileges in the shape of alleged intercourse with supersensory forces (religion), or with timeless moral precepts (idealism.) Marx deprived man of these odious privileges definitely and forever, looking upon him as a natural link in the evolutionary process of material nature; upon human society as the organization of production and distribution; upon capitalism as a stage in the development of human society."

Into these few remarkable sentences, Trotsky has packed the entire Marxian method. Let us try to restate the matter in simpler and more detailed form.

### The Philosophy of Idealism

Most pre-Marxian thinkers had been what is called idealist philosophers (idealism is not here used in the sense of struggling for a worthy goal). These thinkers said that society develops according to the will of a supernatural being or according to certain moral laws which exist forever. What did this philosophy come to in practise? It always meant a defense of conditions as they were, no matter how bad they were.

Why? Because if the thinker was one of those who believed in a supernatural being, then he would say that all that was happening was according to the will of that supernatural being and that the only way to change things was to pray. If the thinker was one of those who believed in timeless moral concepts as guiding the world, then it was hopeless to change the world; what was necessary was to purify the individual in harmony with those concepts. This was the theory of idealism.

In opposition to these thinkers, there grew up a school of thinkers in England-led by Bacon,

Hobbes and Locke-who said: Man does not live as the image of ideas. No, for all human knowledge is furnished by the human senses, and therefore all our ideals and concepts are but the images and pictures of the real world. This philosophy of materialism (materialism here means, not selfishness or miserliness, but merely reference to the actual material conditions of life) was the starting point of Marxian thought.

### Marx Adapts Materialism

But Marx did not accept it as it was. For in the above outlined form—it should by the way be remembered that all this is greatly simplified -it is a static philosophy. It says: there are things, and ideas are images of those things, and that's that. This does not allow for the idea of

Marx added to the materialist concept the ideas of an old German thinker, Hegel. His idea was: nothing remains stationary; all things move; motion is the basic law of life. And conflict is in turn the basic law of motion.

It is on the basis of the above ideas that Trotsky sums up the Marxian method as follows:

"Marx's method is materialistic, because it proceeds from existence to consciousness, not the other way round. Marx's method is dialectical because it regards both nature and society as they evolve, and evolution itself as the constant struggle of conflicting forces."

Trtosky then proceeds to show that on the basis of these concepts, the study of political economy is not the study of "eternal laws" but study of the laws of one economic system: in this case, capitalism.

Trotsky then proceeds to a brilliant summation of Marxian economics. In a few brief pages he packs in the entire economic system of Marx.

#### The Law of Labor Value

The fundamental law of Marxian economics, he tells us, is the law of labor value. Here is Trotsky's statement of that law:

Society has at its disposal a certain reserve of living labor power. Applied to nature, that power produces products necessary for the satisfaction of human needs. In consequence of division of labor among independent producers, the products assume the form of commodities. Commodities are exchanged for each other in a given ratio, at first directly, and eventually through the medium of gold or money. The basic property of commodities, which in certain relationships make them equal to each other, is the human labor expended upon them-abstract labor, labor in general—the basis and measure of value." In brief, the value of a commodity is determined by the amount of socially necessary labor in it, and its price fluctuates, according to market conditions, about that value.

One commodity, however, is the basis of the growth of inequality under capitalism. That is: labor-power. When the boss purchases the laborpower of a worker, he hires him to work for a day. At the end of a certain time, the worker has produced enough value to equal his wage. But he does not quit work. He works a full day. This process is called, by Marx, surplus value. The value produced during the rest of the day is the source of the accumulation of wealth on one pole and poverty on the other under capitalism.

Trotsky then proceeds to show how capitalism leads to the growth of large scale industry, of monopoly control of industry and of the concentration of wealth into a few hands. He marshals a large number of facts from the American scene to prove his point, and engages in a delightful polemic with the N. Y. Times, the acknowledged organ of American capitalism.

### **Trotsky Answers His Critics**

We now come to a fascinating section of Trotsky's essay: the section in which he answers those "thinkers" who say that Marxism is out-

These anti-Marxians have three arguments. ARGUMENT No. 1: "Marx's theory of increasing misery has been proven false. Everyone knows that the conditions of the workers today are better than 50 years ago." You have, no doubt, frequently run into this argument.

Trotsky answers this as follows: The theory of increasing misery means that, as the productive facilities of civilization expand, the share of the workers, in relation to the share of the capitalists, will decrease. This is an obvious fact. The standard of living of the masses has not kept pace with the growth of productive facilities. This, then, is a relative decline of the masses' standard of living. But we live now in a period when there is an absolute decline, even in relation to years ago, in their standard of living. As Trotsky writes:

"With 6 percent of the world's population, the United States holds 40 percent of the world's wealth. Still, one third of the nation, as Roosevelt himself admits, is undernourished, inadequately clothed and lives in subhuman conditions. What is there to say, then, for the far less privileged countries? The history of the capitalist world since the last war has irrefutably borne out the so-called 'theory of increasing misery'."

ARGUMENT No. 2: "Marx said that as the crisis of capitalism develops the middle class would decline, most of them becoming workers. This has not happened.'

This argument is really a play on words. The old middle class of small business men is rapidly disappearing. Trotsky quotes the U.S. Government statistics to this effect. What has grown somewhat, and still exists, is the so-called new middle class: clerks, technicians, etc. But these are merely the hired dependents of capitalism. They play no independent role in capitalist life, as did the "old" middle class. Here, too, Marx was right.

### The Crisis of Capitalism

ARGUMENT No. 3: "Marx said that capitalism would suffer a violent collapse. This has not

This argument appears absolutely ridiculous today. Trotsky points to the last twenty-five years-from the first to the second World War -and asks: has this been a period of peaceful development in which the difficulties of capitalism were "ironed out" or a period of crisis and catastrophe? To merely pose the question is to answer it.

Capitalism has two methods of trying to overcome this crisis: Fascism and the New Deal.

"Fascism," writes Trotsky, "bases its program on the demolition of labor organizations, on the destruction of social reforms, and on the complete annihilation of democratic rights, in order to forestall a resurrection of the proletariat's class struggle. The Fascist state officially legalizes the degradation of workers and the pauperization of the middle classes, in the name of saving the 'nation' and the 'race'-presumptuous names under which decaying capitalism figures."

Trotsky then devotes a considerable section to

the New Deal.

The New Deal tries to overcome the problems of capitalism by indulging in a liberal spending program, giving a few sops to the farmers and workers, while granting large sums to the capitalists. This it does-or rather, did-in order to increase purchasing power and extend production. But the Roosevelt government contradicted itself, says Trotsky, by offering premiums to the farmers . . . to decrease production! The New Deal is the last attempt of the richest capitalist country in the world to save itself from death in a "liberal" fashion. Unless the Socialist revolution sweeps the whole mess away, Fascism is the next point on the agenda.

T.otsky then indulges in a sharp polemic with Secretary of Agriculture Wallace on the applicability of Marxism to America. Wallace had imputed to Trotsky ". . . a dogmatic thinness which is bitterly un-American." Trotsky shows that the reason that the opportunist spirit of Jefferson, to which Wallace appeals, was vibrant in times past was that America had a rich, expanding economy.

"America was free of 'dogmatic thinness' only because it had a plethora of virgin areas, inexhaustible resources of natural wealth and it would seem, limitless opportunities for enrichment. . . . the material conditions which made

up the basis of 'Americanism' are today increasingly relegated to the past. Hence the profound crisis of traditional American ideology. . . . America developed economically not in accordance with the principles of Jefferson, but in accordance with the laws of Marx. . . . the teaching of Marx is far more permeated with new 'Americanism' than the ideas of Hoover and Roosevelt. . ."

Socialist United States of Europe

Trotsky ends his essay with the following stir-

ring words: "Partial reforms will do no good. Historical development has come to one of those decisive stages when only the direct intervention of a new regime. . . . The contradictions which rend Europe and the entire world asunder will find their natural and peaceful solution within the framework of a Socialist United States of Europe as well as in other parts of the world. Liberated humanity will draw itself up to its full height."

Trotsky has in the past shown his ability in the field of complex theoretical applications of Marxism. In this essay he shows the many sided nature of his genius by his defense and exposition of the most basic principles of Marxism.

It is an essay which every revolutionary youth should read. It is also an excellent introduction to Marxism to those youth not yet acquainted

The book also contains an adequate condensation of Marx's Capital.

Technically, the book is excellent. Firmly bound, beautifully designed, it is a pleasure to look at as well as to read.

The translation of Charles Malamuth is smooth

### LIVING THOUGHTS of MARX Edited by LEON TROTSKY

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RUSH SUBSCRIPTIONS

CHALLENGE of YOUTH 116 UNIVERSITY PLACE NEW YORK CITY



### Report on the YPSL Plenum

MEETING OF THE NATIONAL Evaluation of the Past Work and COUNCIL Y.P.S.L.

plunged the world into a catastrophic blood bath gave special sig-nificance to the meeting of the anti-war youth fighters gathered at were: the National Plenum of the YPSL held in Philadelphia October 14th and 15th, 1939.

Present at the meeting were 19 members of the National Council, including the Socialist Workers Party representative and 34 invited observers who participated in the proceedings.

### KEYNOTE ADDRESS

The keynote address dealing with the question of the War and our tasks was delivered by the Party representative. It was stressed that only the working class can stop war by fighting their enemies at home and establishing a Workers government. As long as there was a capitalist regime in America with Roosevelt as the representative of American imperialism, the United States participation in the war is inevitable.

THE TASKS OF THE ANTI-WAR FIGHTERS

Perspectives for the Coming Period The imperialist bandits having In Light of the War Situation.

The main points that were INTO THE STREETS: This is

a continuation of our past efforts to get the League into the streets in a dramatic way to spread our propaganda and agitation to wide masses of youth with greater effect. This is especially important NOW when we must INCREASE our antiwar agitation and point to the correct road in the fight against

INTO THE FACTORIES: This slogan stresses the fact that the League must become more and more an organization whose basic ranks are composed of young workers. By this slogan is not implied that our excellent work among the unemployed or student youth is slackened.

INTO THE NEGRO NEIGH-BORHOODS: This has been one of our points of emphasis in the past in order to change the composition of the League. It has been carried out partly by some sections. But The next report, entitled 'An at the present time it must be-

come a special point of concentration. The Negro youth as the white have all to lose by the war and nothing to gain. But even in times of peace they are the worst treated section of the 'Locked Out Gen-

MARXIST EDUCATION: The majority of our members, being in the League less than a year, have not had the Marxist training of many of the older comrades, though they are better educated than other youth, even those belonging to organizations. It is important to educate our comrades by practical participation in the class struggle and by study so that they will be able to act and analyze problems as revolutionists. Connected with this question was the related problem of more concentrated effort being made in training comrades locally fo rleadership.

### THE CHALLENGE OF YOUTH

From January 1939 to June 1939 we had reestablished the Challenge as a regularly appearing monthly paper. At the April Plenum we decided to raise a \$500 fund for the establishment in July of a Twice-Monthly. We went over our set figure and received \$600 for the establishment of the twice monthly. Since July 1, 1939, we have had a regular appearing twice - a month paper. No other working class youth organization in the United States but ours can bosst of this fact. The problem of expansion, financial responsibility was stressed. This is especially important in this period when we must keep our BEST weapon of propaganda going full blast.

### KEEP SONS OUT OF CCC IN FEAR OF WAR TANGLE

The mothers of America are on the war path-against war. In its last issue, the CHAL-LENGE commented on the dr.ve of the Michigan mothers to keep their sons out of the CCC because they don't want their boys to be connected with any agency that might lead their boys to war.

Dispatches from New Jersey te.l the same story. According to the New Jersey CCC office, there is a "holding back such as we have never seen before" from enlisting in the CCC. The difficulty in making placements, declared Dr. William Ellis, head of the Jersey CCC, stems mainly from the parents of the boys. Parents come to the offices of the CCC and remembering the last war obstinately refuse to let their sons go to the CCC.

The mothers are right-absolutely! The boys of America have a place at home, building a decent society which will take the place of the misery and want we have today, and not going across to fight for the profits of the 60 Families.

## Socialist Workers Party's Fighting Program for Youth

Max Shachtman Addressing Campaign Rally



## Negro Youth Must Participate In United Struggle Against War

By J. R. JOHNSON

Negro vouth of this generation face a difficult task. All things con- ular series which will be printed sidered, few groups in the population have so many adjustments to in the CHALLENGE on the probmake in a world rocking beneath their feet and tumbling about their lems of Negro youth. The author heads. Before the first World War, the American Negroes were in their welcomes all opinions from readgreat mass an agricultural people. During the war there began the ers and any information which great migration which brought millions of them from the South into they may have on the questionthe industries of the North.

also began to take greater part in en this generation of Negro youth Southern industry. Thus the post- harsh instruction in the realities of war generation of Negro youth politics. gained its first footing in the coun-

of meat on them.

hit. The latest generation of Negro youth, particularly in the North, are the children of parents bitterly disappointed in the expectations North and prospects raised by the boom. They have been plunged into the crisis and capitalism shows them no way out.

Youth Are Restless

poses a certain education on them. concretizing their militancy in an The crisis has brought the white international organization. and Negro workers together. The organization of the CIO with hundreds of thousands of Negroes, has been a great object lesson.

with the rape of Ethiopia by Ital-

With the development of indus-

No generation of Negro youth, therefore, is so ready to take its The Negroes shared in the cap- part in a powerful youth move-Then came the crisis of 1929, has been made much easier for the interesting. The Negroes were the first to be YPSL in 1939. How best to take

advantage of this? Need for Knowledge

What we require is the knowlraised by the migration to the of the Negroes in our community and of the Negro situation as a whole. Despite the broadening of accept their lot with the fatalism of elder generations.

Furthermore, Negro youth have been living in a world which im-

International events, beginning particular problems with which the of combination can be expected. bankruptcy of capitalism presents ian Fascism, have not only stirred the Negro youth. Once we make ourselves familiar with the Negro FIGHT AGAINST THE problem, the question of approach is solved. Today the Negro youth WAR; JOIN THE YPSL! are ready. The rest is in our hands.

November 1, 1939

NEW YORK, N. Y.

(This article is the first in a reg-

### ASU In Hot Water

Rumours often have a peculiar habit of being true. That is why italist prosperity of 1924-1929. ment, composed of all colors in the the rumours which persist about a They still lived on crumbs and population, as the present. What split in the top ranks of the Amerbones but the crumbs were a bit the Young Communist League ican Student Union between its larger and the bones had scraps found so difficult to do when it be- Stalinist mortgagees and its libergan its great Negro drive in 1929 at tenants, led by Joe Lash, are so

Rumour further has it that Lash, who has never been adverse to unprincipled combinations, is fishing in the troubled waters of the Youth edge of the lives and circumstances Committee Against War, trying to and himself a comfortable bailiwik

The split in the ASU can by no their lives and interests, the Ne- stretch of the imagination be desgroes are still drastically segre- cribed as one between pro and angated. This leads to a habit of look- ti-war forces. It is merely a dis-The youth are restless and dis- ing at the world from their own pute as to which imperialist gang satisfied. They are not prepared to particular point of view. All people to support. Lash still remains

> Exactly how the Lash group could fit into the muddled isola-The revolutionary movement tionist YCAW is not exactly clear. must take this into consideration. But, then, when two groups get We must make ourselves familiar together, neither of which have a with the particular difficulties and clear anti-war line, then any kind But of course all this is merely

#### THE REVETREND WHO LIVES IN THE MOON

Rev. Edward J. Flanagan, founder of Boys Town: I am happy and the whole world should be profoundly grateful that American boys are armed with baseball bats and not rifles, that they are taught to throw baseballs and not grenades, and that they are trainend in the arts of peaceful play and not in the science of artificial murder."

We wonder, where has the good Reverend been living: on the moon? Hasn't he heard of the American military budget, the largest in peace-time history? Hasn't he heard of the plans to militarize CCC and to teach NYA students military flying? Or is Reverend Flanagan too busy making speeches to notice such

(Continued from Page 1) A People's Vote before war can be declared. Let the People Decide! WESTERN UNION over the voting age to 18 years to permit the youth, who will be Lower the voting age to 18 years to permit the youth, who will be

called upon to fight in war, to vote on war. Against a'l appropriations for armaments.

For the protection of all civil liberties in time of war as well as in time of peace.

Against the Mobilization Day plans for a military dictatorship in time of war.

Against the Roosevelt War Deal.

For permanent peace through Socialism. 2. YOUTH AND UNEMPLOYMENT

Mass unemployment has remained the unsolved problem through four years of the "Old Deal" and six years of the "New Deal." A job for every worker, including the young people, can become a reality

only under a system of collectivized and planned production. It is the duty of those responsible for the continuation of unemployment to pay for the maintenance of their victims on a minimum standard of health and decency. This is doubly true in reference to the youthful victims of the crisis-the "locked-out generation" of some seven million youth who are neither at work nor in school. We therefore propose a taxation of wealth to pay for the following:

A. Youth WPA Projects instead of NYA handouts; a 20 billion dollar housing program.

B. \$40 per month to needy college students; \$20 per month to needy ed the Western Union guys to go high school students. Relief bureau certification shall NOT be necessary out and strike was the decision of

C. Transfer the two-billion dollar war budget to provide youth with the then level of 25c per hour. In jobs and a chance to live, instead of guns and death.

D. Restore all cuts in educational budgets. Make federal funds available to state, city, and county to maintain all educational facil-

E. Open the idle factories under workers' control.

F. Increase wages to keep pace with the rising cost of living. 3. YOUTH AND FASCISM

The decay of capitalism has given rise to movement that cater to the backward prejudices of sections of the population in an attempt to rally support for a seemingly anti-capitalist goal. These organizations which the boys — whose average follow the path of Fascist movements of Europe. Their real goal is the age is from 15-17 years display. same—the annihilation of organized labor, the lowering workers' living standards, and the salvation of capitalism by shifting the burden of the crisis to the backs of the working people and farmers.

The leaders of these movements make special demagogic attempts to appeal to the dissatisfaction of youth and to organize the young people into the storm troops of their movement. Unless a bold, fighting movement of the working class, with a program for the solution of the economic problems of youth, appears on the scene, American youth will in their despair, turn to the Coughlins and other imitators of Hitler, in a desperate effort to find a way out of their plight. We propose the following to fight the Fascist menace:

1. Counterpose to the demagogy of the Fascists a thorough program of economic measures to give jobs to youth.

2. Organize Anti-Fascist Defense Guards on a military basis to defend labor organizations and racial and religious minorities in their enjoyment of civil liberties.

The most important measures against war, Fascism, and unemployment proposd in the above paragraphs can only be realized on the national scene. Using these objectives as their guides, however, the candidates of the Socialist Workers Party for the City Council stand pledged to fight for all municipal legislation that enacts any phase of the above program or facilitates its adoption by state and national

# **BOYS STRIKE**

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal.—One of the most significant strikes is taking place in this city-the strike of the Western Union boys who have been out for 2 months demanding decent conditions. The young fellows who are employed by Western Union under absolutely miserable conditions finally made up their minds two months ago that they couldn't stand it any longer; so they went out on strike and they've been out 100 per cent

The thing which finally convincthe company to cut wages below reality, this didn't come to 25c an hour because the boys had to buy bicycles out of their wages. So when the company decided to lower wages even further, the boys just stood up and went out on

The outstanding feature of the strike is the fighting militancy

### BULL--etin

Governor Lehman of New ork believes that there is still great opportunity for American youth under capitalism. He beneves that it is merely a lack of initiative that prevents youth from getting jobs. (In simple English, this means that youth s lazy!)

Says the worthy Governor: Broad and unrestricted opporunities still exist for those who have the equipment, the indusry, the vision and the courage to carry on."

We really wonder if the worthy Governor ever TRIED to

### YOUTH TELLS OF RUN AROUND IN **SCHOOLS; DUE TO BUDGET CUTS**

By EUGENE VICTOR

city has free trade schools," I was told. "Go two an hour until my turn came to ennights a week for six months and cer the building. The size of the you can learn a trade. Learn a turnout discouraged everybody. We trade and you can get a job." It had been told that fewer than a now removed that nation as her sounded too simple. I was skepti- thousand would be accepted but own safeguard against Commucal; but I went.

Brooklyn Technical Evening had to get in.
High School is one of the best After regist high this building is furworth of machinery. Corridor after corridor is divided into shops with the most modern tools of production - recently developed lathes, gigantic printing presses, water - cooled spot welding machines—a sight to stimulate the eagerness o fany young apprentice who likes the feel of a machine humming at his touch, subject to

Outside of the school on the evening of Oct. 16th another side of the picture presented itself. Five thousand young workers were lined up along the iron fence at 7:30 p.m. They had rushed through supper and hurridly changed their clothes in order to get there early. They came from all parts of the city and some of them from New Jersey. They had either worked hard all day or walked the streets looking for jobs. Sincere, ambitious, they were here to learn a

### Long Wait

ed on line. October 2nd had orig- at the trade. In cases in which this inally been announced as the date eliminated too few applicants a of registration and postponed at number of years of experience the last minute for two weeks. would be required. The measures This time the line had been forming since 7:00 p.m. and swelled to was sorry. However, there was no-5,000 within an hour. Small groups thing he could do. There was nowere admitted to the building at thing the teachers could do. There machinery.

intervals of five minutes.

I was in that line. I waited for

equipped in New York City. Many ered in the auditorium. The prin- many capitalistic, too?) carry on cipal mounted the platform and their three nished with millions of dollars took his place at the microphon. destroy Hitler, both England and rostrum on which he leaned, he fore even Germany cracks." began his apology.

### **Budget Cut**

The state and city governments had cut eight million dollars out of the educational budget. The The City Board of Education had been faced with the problem of ar ranging the classes to fit the money on hand. Half of the shops which were open last year will be in operation this term, he said. Half of the teachers who were retained last year had been dismiss. ed. There was no money for sup plies. Students would have to pay for their own. There was enough money to run the schools only urtil January. After that it was hard to predict what would happen.

For these reasons it would be aundred of the applicants in the auditorium. Classes would be opened only to those people who How were they received? This could bring letters proving that was the second time they had wait- they were working or had worked adopted would be very severe. He

### Coughlin - -

(Continued from Page 1)

are the workers not the joint robber gangs of England, France and Germany. We would defend the remnants of the great gains which the workers achieved during the great Russian revolution, and which still remain despite Stalin,

"Social Justice" says: "England's zeal to destroy Germany has every one of the boys felt that he nism's invasion of the West. . . If the capitalistic nations (Incident-After registration we were gath- ally, Father Coughlin, isn't Ger-In a quiet voice, as polished as the France will become Communist be-

It is clear, now, that what Coughlin fears above all else is a militant working class. He has no particular objection to England and France, or to Germany. He just thinks that they should all get together to smash the Soviet Union and the workers everywhere. He would have no objection to that kind of war.

We say that Coughlin's position is reactionary to the core. We say: Down with both imperialist camps.

was nothing anybody could do. They would just have to take it.

The boys knew better. There were grumblings and sporadic outoursts of argument as they passed

necessary to eliminate all but a few into the hall. There were talks about a march on city hall, about monbing Mayor LaGuardia, about getting ready for January when the funds run out. Those boys are serious. They want jobs. They want the right to learn a trade They mean business. No budy cutting politicians are going to keep them out of trade school while the government spends two oillion dollars every year for was

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CHALLENGE OF YOUTH

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Young People's Socialist League of America

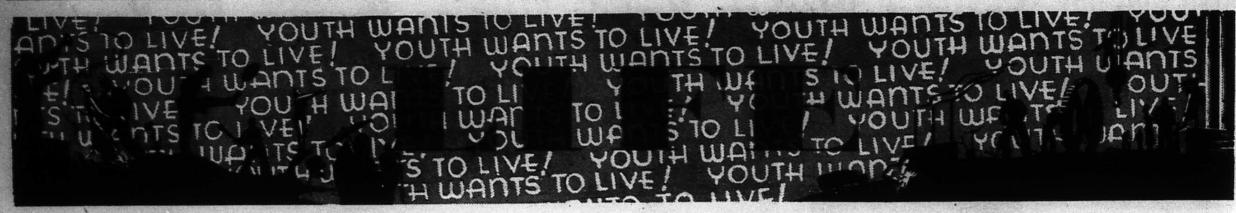
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116 UNIVERSITY PLACE

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"Golden Boy" was a picture I waited for with a real curiosity and interest. I've always liked Clifford Odets and I wanted to see how his play about a fighting fiddler would come out on the screen. It took a bad beating around the heart; but when the fight was over it was the winnahif not quite champeen!

The story remains fairly intact. The central character is a young Italian husky who tosses aside the G String for a pair of ring mittens. His love for the violin and music versus Kid Dough and the glamor (!) of the ring is the real conflict in the picture. He hooks up with a cagy manager. When Joe decides to quit the ring, the manager's "dame from Newark" flirts him back. He discovers her ruse, and when a big-shot gangster steps in and primes him for the topnotchers, Joe patterns himself in the calloused and sharp ways of his new gangster-manager. In his last fight before the championship bout, he kills his opponent and breaks his own hand. All broken up over the accidental death, he breaks with the gangster. The girl (now really in love with him) restores his hope, etc., and leads him back to his family and the violin.

#### HERO FACED WITH CHOICE

The ending falls just as flat and unbelievable as that. It comes as so much Hollywood pastry after a film that had lots of meat to it. In the play the two characters roar off to death in the fighter's flashy automobile. The new ending is out of joint with the tragic conflict and confusion that is Joe Bonaparte. The entire plot is based on the fact that Joe must choose between the poverty and insignificance that so often go with a life in music and the quick money and fame that his fists can bring. The entire picture develops out of this conict: the sharp, fast giddiness of silk shirts, night clubs, and the cheers that follow the winner are pitted against the old father who saves to buy his son the cherished violin. Joe made his choice the ring but the ending of the pitcure attempts to let him have is cake after he ate it.

William Holden, a handsome newcomer, plays the leading role of the Paganini with the left hook. Inexperienced and stiff in parts, he brings real feeling to those scenes where the young artist is forced to a choice. Adolphe Menjou is sharp and crisp in his part. Barbara Stanwyck surprisesshe is actually "adequate." Joseph Calleia almost walks away with the picture as a gangster so mean that he's cute! Best performance was Lee Cobb as the old Italian father.

Individual scenes were well played and directed but they were not patterned into a well paced, tension-developing whole. Too many scenes were played for the stage. Result a stiff and choppy enert at times.

Odets barely escaped with the decision.

### THE TRUTH WILL OUT

Says Secretary of War Woodring: "Franklin Delano Roosevelt has the toughest job any man ever had in his efforts to keep the confidence of the great bulk of people in the Profit system. He is the strongest protection for the way of life

OUR FUTURE?

Says Aubrey Williams, NYA administrator: "We know that the vast majority of the children born in the last 25 years will never rise above a hand-to-mouth existence, that all their steps from the cradle to the grave will bedogged by poverty, sickness, and insecurity." To say nothing about war.

### I Am Interested—

Please send me more information on the aims and activities of the

Y. P. S. L. 116 University Place New York City

## The Story of the Socialist Youth With Scissors Movement During the Last War And Paste ...

By Willi Munzenberg

an account of Munzenberg's expe-

It is quite evident that we, freethinking youth, could not work iong with this group of religious "Socialists." The split became a what the tasks of the revolutionary struggle against war were. The path which Karl Liebknecht had taken in Berlin and which was proc.aimed by the Italian Socialist youth was more acceptable to us han the sermons about love which we.e preached by Ragaz.

In addition to this, the war causel a number of political emigres to come to Switzerland from Gerwho came to Switzerland shortly now. moved, in February 1915, from Chartinoff, and others. Leon Trot-

### Revolutionary Books

These books soon cured us of the have a common fatherland. remnants of any social-religious liquidated by the proletarian rev-

Clipped from

Time Magazine

(This is the third installment of Party of Switzerland held its con- We raised a whole series of degress in Bern on October 31st and mands that concerned the conduct riences in the Swiss and the In- November 1st. I took part in the of the Social Democratic Party in ternational Socialist Youth move-proceedings as the representative our own country. In our organ, ments during the last world war, of the Socialist Youth and travel- "Free Youth," we carried on a translated from the German as led to Bern with Walter Stoeckers, sharp criticism of the army, pubpublished in the book "Die Dritte who was staying in Switzerland at I shed special numbers devoted to foreign comrades.

cisively for national defense. There democratization of the army, a dewas not a single grouping that mand we still thought feasible at could carry through a fight on an the time. tact with the political groups in internationalist, anti-patriotic, and foreign countries and received anti-nationalist position. The repfrom them an understanding of French-speaking sections of Switz- after the war, which took place erland, Naine and Graber, opposed in Bern on Easter Day, 1915, was national defense, but not from a mainly concerned with the quesrevolutionary internationalist posi- tion of war, particularly national tion, but rather from the stand- defense and anti-militarism. The point of a French patriotic opposi- Congress adopted the following tion to Germany. The Party Congress decided to ask the Swiss National Assembly to demand the coordination of the efforts of all neutral powers to attempt to bring an Democratic Party of Switzerland many, Russia, France, and other tion appears really naive and ture a leaflet to the recruits and

### Opposition Forms

The Party membership was came a group of Bolshevik party hardly satisfied with the results a compilation of verdicts of the remembers like Zinoviev, and some of the congress. Opposition groups people who worked with their began to form everywhere. The group, like Karl Radek, Bronski, group of Paul Pfluger, which stood asked to have the Party press for the defense of Switzerland unsky also came to Zurich in the au- der all circumstances, was defeat- these lines than it has in the past tumn of 1914. I soon learned to ed in Zurich. The centrist group of and to ask the Party fraction in know him personally during a trip Grimm also failed to receive a from Zurich to Lausanne. His majority here. A resolution sponcok, "The War and the II Inter- sored by the grouping around national" (published in America Fritz Platten, the religious social- fuse to comply with these requests, under the title of "Bolsheviki and ists, the youth, and similar ten-World Peace"), which appeared lengies was accepted. Although it about the same time, was eagerly cil not yet say anything about tion to take over the fulfillment of studied and discussed in our ciranti-patriotic position. The resolution took the position that the capitalists and proletarians did not the Party leaders at the time, it

The youth organization carried thoughts. The lessons of Lenin's on a sharp anti-patriotic propagan-Bolshevik pamphlets and articles da and were everywhere in the vanwere of extraordinay assistance to guard in the struggle against naus working out a politically and tional defense. We found that it theoretically clear program. We was not sufficient to demand of the now recognized, even if not too German, French and English Soclearly, that the war could only be cialists that they vote against war credits and said: that which we demand of others we must do our- vene the historic conference of in-Our position on the anti-war and selves. We, therefore, demanded a ternationalist youth organizations anti - militarist struggle became clear rejection of every aspect of in Bern in 1915.)

sharper. The Social Democratic national defense in Switzerland. the time, and a number of other the many cases of mistreatment of soldiers in the army and the de-The Party congress came out de- fense guards, and demanded the

#### Congress Meets

The first congress of the Socialresolution:

"The delegates of the Socialist Youth organization of Switzerland request the leadership of the Social countries. Among them was Lenin, laughable when we remember it those now in active army service. The leaflet should put forth the demand of the Party program for a democratization of the army and cent court martials.

"The Party leadership is also campaign more energetically along the National Assembly to fight for these aims.

"Should the Party leadership rethe congress instructs the Central Committee of the Youth organiza-

This resolution appears today to be quite tame, but in the eyes of appeared to be already uncompromisingly revolutionary. The most cheering section of the resolution was the resolve of the youth to carry out the tasks themselves if the "old ones" refused.

And the youth fulfilled their

(The next installment will deal with the measures taken to con-

SOCIETY NOTE

DETROIT-Society circles of Detroit enjoyed a novel entertainment when the American Hunting Dogs Association put on a banquet for 100

The dogs sat down at four large tables and were served an excellent three-course dinner prepared by expert dieticians.

#### AIN'T IT THE TRUTH?

Says President Roosevelt: "Private business. and the utilities in particular, need have no fear over the New Deal programs."

#### NOTES ON THE UPPER CLAWSES

Says social leader Elsa Maxwell: "So utterly and irrevocably dead is the art of conversation in what Cholly Knickerbocker calls 'Cafe Society' that I make it a point to have two orchestras at my parties because the twelve minutes rest the musicians union insists on is long enough to kill any party. Nobody wants to listen to anyone in Cafe Society; and if the truth were known, almost nobody in Cafe Society is able to talk." Lovely people in Cafe Society, eh?

#### HERE'S A GUY THAT'S WAKING UP

From the 'Voice of the People' in the New York Daily News: "Imagine a Park Avenue dame asking me to work for her for six days a week for \$5 while she spends \$20 for a single hat. And Mr. Roosevelt wonders why we go on relief. I'll say it's mutiny."

### IN THE BEST CIRCLES

When Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt showed some women friends through the White House, she pointed to the absence of all small decorations. "We put away all the small things," the First Lady explained, because "we discovered visitors. sometimes even high ranking diplomats, are not above pocketnig a Ming vase as a souvenir." Well, these diplomats didn't get where they are by picking on such small stuff as Ming vases. They lift those to keep in practise.

### A TRIBUTE FROM AN ENEMY

Says Lord Beaverbrook, reactionary English publisher, "The only section of the Left who can consistently oppose the Government is the Trotskyists. . ."

### THE RISE OF AMERICAN CULTURE

The Los Angeles Museum of History, Science and Art has as one of its priceless possessions one of Dorothy Lamour's Sarongs. It also contains Charlie Chaplin's shoes and Mary Pickford's curls.

### BULL-etin

The Board of Directors of the National Manufacturers declares "its unalterable opposition" to war and pledges the organization to make "every effort to maintain peace."

### I LOVE MY BOSS . .

Says Alexis Carrol in his book, Married Love: "Love is the only cement strong enough to unite into a nation the poor and the rich, the weak and the strong, the employe and the employer."

### BROWDER JUMPS THE GUN

Said Earl Browder at the University of North Carolina: "If the Soviet Unin ever makes a pact with Nazi Germany, I'll become president of the Chamber of Commerce." Well, why don't you keep your promise, Earl?

### WE HATE TO RUB IT IN, BUT . . .

Said the September issue of the Young Communist Review: "If Nazi Germany attacks Poland, the Soviet Union will break the pact." By helping Hitler invade Poland?

### LAND OF PLENTY

A United Press dispatch from Lincoln, Nebr.: "A 51 year old world war veteran has solved the problem of human existence. He carries a butterfly net and is thus able to catch 250 grasshoppers daily which he eats raw."

### WE JUST HAD TO REPRINT THIS ONE

From the bulletin of the Wisconsin University Young Communist League: "Some people have the idea that a YCLer is politically minded, that nothing outside of politics means anything. Gosh, no. They have a few simple problems. There is the problem of getting good men on the baseball team in the spring, of opposition from other ping-pong teams, of dating girls, etc. We go to shows, parties, dances and all that. In short, the YCL and its members are no different from other young people except that we believe in dialectical materialism as the solution to all problems."

# "I note in your last week is-

sue that Ambassador Page was so busy the first few days of the World War that he was unable to take a bath for 3 days, and that some other aristocrat admitted he did not mind the people just so they did not approach him from

time working in a spruce series. camp I did not have an opportunity to take a bath for 3 months, and after the thing got going I was so busy in the front-line trenches with the Canadians that I was unable to take a bath for six weeks, and neither did I change my sox or underclothes for the same reason.

We seem to be a necessary ballydom. evil, stench and all, at times.

Missoula, Mont.

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### ANNOUNCEMENT

SL's have a word for it, too-An- door neighbor, when he told Ju-I was so busy about that ti-War Olympiad—the first in the lius that he could get him a job.

> What are we talking about? It's the November 12th fracas which will include—
>
> the November 12th fracas which of trouble." He'd just been will include-

> tween the Erber Ebullient Ends fish peddler. And what future starring Bone-crusher Ernie, the did a 22 year old fellow have as a terror of the Trembling Terpischo- fish peddler? reans and Gould's Burlesque Bolsheviks, featuring the set - backs alive, although badly injured. He

at the present time.

Time: Nov. 12, 11:00 a.m. Place: Entrance to Alley Pond, State Park, Queens, N.Y.

### Death In the Afternoon

NEW YORK-He'd been told that story too often. Naw, he didn't believe that bull anymore. He had "lots of trouble," and he wanted to finish it all. So just before he was getting

'y to jump from the 4th floor of his house on 156 East 177th NEW YORK—The Greeks had a Street, Julius Lapp didn't listen word for it—Olympics. The YP- to Mr. Hendrickson, the next Julius had heard that one before!

Julius had recently suffered a hanging around without much to 1. A heated football fracas be- do, occasionally working as a

Julius was "lucky." He's still and wrong ends of Bolshevik foot- lies in the hospital wondering II, at times.

JOE BUSH

Cluding the "Reactionary foot race" and a special relay, the naget him a job. Maybe you have and wondering what he's going ture of which cannot be divulged to try to commit suicide to get a

JOIN THE YPSL!