

# FIGHT

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AGAINST WAR AND FASCISM

## 20 YEARS AFTER



**A**UGUST 4, 1914!

The world was involved by the masters of the world, in a slaughter match. Killing, maiming, destroying. Famines, orphans, widows. The workers, farmers, clerks, teachers, engineers, propagandized by the press, church, school and all the other agencies owned, controlled and influenced by the masters of the world were herded into the trenches to fight—for what?

Democracy—we were told in the U. S. A. So we were told in 1914-1918. The masters of the world who own all the machinery, factories, banks, land, press, and who run the governments of the world made the World War and the "peace" that followed.

*What have the masters of the world done since the "War to end War" has ended?*

They gave us the Versailles "peace" pacts . . . the disarmament conferences and *more armaments* . . . the War in the Far East and in Latin America . . . the world crisis with millions upon millions of unemployed . . . bullets for ex-servicemen who fought for that Democracy . . . the N. R. A. and the government's support of company controlled unions . . . trade wars . . . Great Britain with its policy of setting Japanese and German imperialism against the Soviet Union.

And finally they gave us Fascism!

Fascism with its destruction of trade-unions and working class parties, with its low standard of living, with its growing unemployment, with its terror against all who dare raise their voices, with its burning of books and destruction of all that is best in our culture, with its chauvinist program against Jews, Negroes and all national minorities, with its drive to put woman "back in her place."

Today the masses in Germany are commencing to move. Hitler was forced to disarm his own men. Hitler could not trust his own battalions who slowly were turning against the German imperialist government. Hitler is moving in the direction of War. Hitler in murdering a few of his own friends and leaders was not merely aiming at them. Hitler was and is afraid of the masses of the German people who are getting ready to strike.

Imperialism everywhere is moving in the direction of War.

Today, on the twentieth anniversary of the World War, we, the workers, farmers, professionals and all opponents of War and Fascism, must and shall defend our right to live—

By working towards the stopping of the manufacture and transport of munitions, especially now to Japan and Latin America.

By opposing chauvinism in all its forms.

By fighting for the right to organize and strike.

By demanding the transfer of all War funds to Unemployment Relief and Insurance.

By fighting against imperialist War before it starts and after it starts.

August is anti-War month.

Organize! Demonstrate! United Front against imperialist War and Fascism!



# FIGHT

AGAINST WAR AND FASCISM

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## OFFICER'S ROW

By JOSEPHINE GARWOOD

WHEN army officers get home sick for the days of their youth they play the West Point song on the victrola. I remember hearing it in the living-room of the commandant of a post and listening to the words, "The Corps . . . the Corps!" Meanwhile I stared at an American eagle woven into a rug on the floor. The bird glared helplessly at the ceiling. The colonel was wearing the dark red West Point ring, and I remember this too, for it indicated that the wearer had greater social prestige than an officer who had only won his commission during the World War. An officer's wife once remarked in my presence, "So-and-so has a lot to live down. He came from the ranks."

I mention this ring because for me it symbolizes the artificial life in those ugly, red, two-family structures that usually look over the parade grounds—officers' row. What goes on in these prim, official villages that are hermetically sealed from American life?

### Class Lines

When I was fifteen my father had a job supervising the "Earn While You Learn" schools that were installed on army posts to teach English to soldiers who irritated their officers by not understanding orders. For two years, until the Harding administration decided that the soldiers could get along without even this poor substitute for education, we lived on posts in officers' quarters.

Rank is the keystone of the officers' social life. Its demarcations constantly give rise to petty conflicts that, in the isolated atmosphere of a post, become major scandals. Here is an example that kept many tongues wagging for weeks.

The general's wife was a nervous old lady who terrorized the whole post. One day a lieutenant bought a puppy that barked and whined all night long. The general's wife complained to the general, who informed the

young officer that he must keep his dog quiet or shoot him. For several nights the lieutenant sat up sleepless, vainly trying to keep the dog silent. To no avail. He was then ordered by the general to kill the dog, and unwillingly did so.

As the general found it difficult to keep his wife amused, every young officer was cordially invited to play cards with her. When my father was invited he was quietly warned to beware, for one must always let the lady win, and, as she set very high stakes, it was terribly expensive.

Lower down on the scale come the non-commissioned officers, who are not allowed to take part in the social life of the higher ranks. A handsome sergeant at the post I have been describing, following a custom often practised by commissioned officers, married a very wealthy woman—in fact a millionaire. Here was a problem. The wife arrived with many servants and installed herself at the post with a tremendous splash. Would money prevail over the "code?" The ranks weakened a little but finally held firm. No one called on the newcomer, and she lived in solitary splendor.

### Are Soldiers Cattle?

As for the soldiers, they are regarded as mere domestic animals, herded into barracks, and treated as unclean, very much as Negroes are treated by the rich whites in the south. No member of an officer's family ever thinks of them as anything but a servant. Making yourself personally useful to the officers is the chief means of promotion from the ranks. On one post there was a fine chap, a Greek, who was a skilled cabinet maker. He built beautiful cabinets for the colonel, who kept him so busy that he had no chance to sell his work to other officers. Showing his pieces to his friends, the colonel used to boast, "We'll never let this fellow go. We'll keep promoting him!"

At one place the soldiers did not drill but

devoted all their energy to serving the officers. Every member of the privileged caste had a soldier detailed to be his cook, and, if he had children, another to act as nursemaid. For this work they received no pay whatsoever.

On army posts the soldiers mow the lawns, bring up coal to the kitchen, wash the floors, and in general are treated like slaves. If any dispute arises the soldier is always wrong. "I never consider that a soldier's word has any value," a major once told us.

At that time the officers considered themselves martyred because Washington had instituted a system of promotion which involved physical fitness. They therefore felt obliged to indulge in various forms of sport, while the soldiers kept fit by doing their hard menial labor. For instance, one year the soldiers worked for months building a huge swimming pool. After this difficult task was accomplished they were only allowed to use it for a few hours a week, and then only very early in the morning when the officers would still be snoring. The rest of the time the pool was filled with frolicking officers, trying to reduce their waist lines by fancy diving.

### The Officers' Man Friday

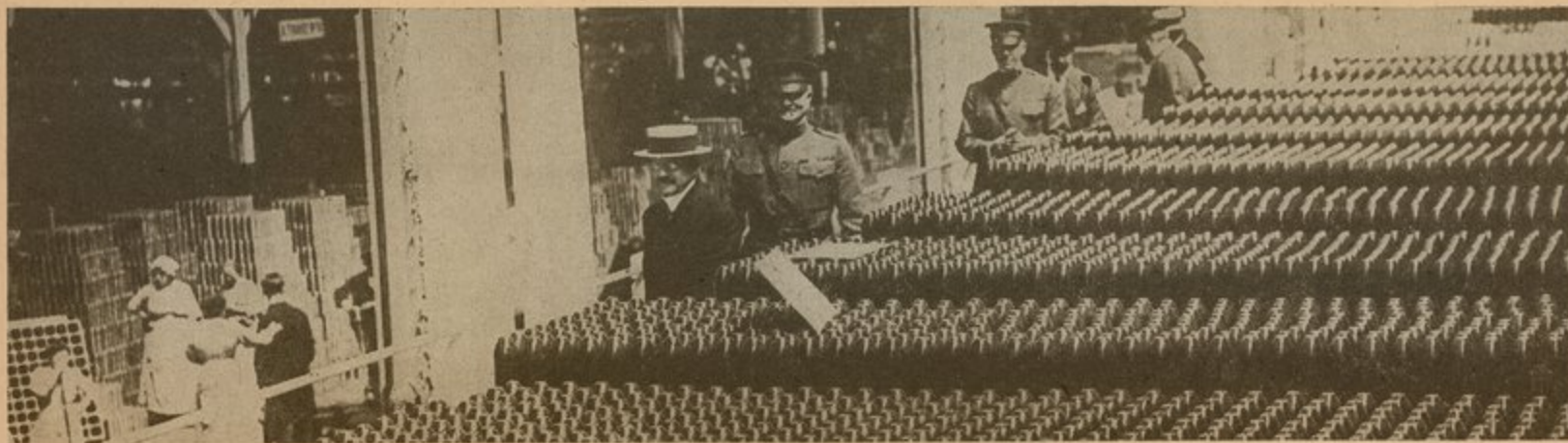
Capitalism makes intolerable demands on a soldier. He is expected not only to shoot down his fellow workers at home and abroad for the sake of profits, but he is also obliged to make his superiors as comfortable as possible, by polishing floors, spading flower gardens, and pushing baby carriages around the parade ground.

## SONGS! SONGS!

THIS IS the last call for the anti-War and anti-Fascist song contest announced in the June issue of FIGHT. The judges of the contest are Aaron Copland, Charles Seeger, Isidor Schneider and the editors of FIGHT. The prize is a round trip ticket to the SECOND U. S. CONGRESS AGAINST WAR AND FASCISM, held in Chicago, September 28, 29, and 30.

### RULES

1. All songs, words, and music must be original and based mainly on American conditions in relation to War and Fascism.
2. Simple language.
3. Quatrains.
4. Short terse refrain, if possible, with FIGHT AGAINST WAR AND FASCISM as the theme.
5. Music must be within comfortable singing range—neither too high nor too low.
6. Avoid difficult intervals.
7. Every entry must come in six copies.
8. Words and music must reach office SONG CONTEST, c/o FIGHT, 112 East 19th Street, New York City, by August 15th.
9. The judges reserve the right to cancel contest if material received is not found suitable.



General Pershing inspecting a munitions plant in France during the World War

# "WAR BABIES"

By HARRY ROSS

"WAR BABIES" is a term applied by speculators in the money marts of Wall Street to stocks that grow fat on War. Steels, explosives, oils, airplanes, etc., are so considered by the boys who make fortunes trading stocks and bonds in the largest legalized gambling den in the world—the New York Stock Exchange.

As gamblers and parasites, the speculators have no illusions about War. They know that Wars are not waged to save democracy or to find such an ethereal object as the Holy Grail. They also know that Wars are not planned by munitions manufacturers. True, they realize that munitions makers benefit by Wars; but so do the boys in Wall Street, and the meat magnates, and the sugar trust, and the wheat speculators, etc.

## Capitalism and Imperialist War

For these gamblers, realists that they are, know that wars are staged by the imperialist nations for the express purpose of devouring colonies and smaller nations so that they may serve as added outlets for the sale of surplus goods, and also for the purpose of destroying surplus commodities—cotton, wheat, steel, oil, etc.

A clearer picture of this may be gained from the financial section of *The New York Times* during the World War. Its news sections and editorials were highly colored, to put it mildly, but if one turns to the financial section a different picture of the reasons for War may be gleaned.

What do you suppose happened on the Stock Exchange when all hope of peace disappeared in 1916? You're right—stocks advanced. Was there talk of peace? Stocks broke. What do you think happened to the Stock Market when, led by the Bolsheviks, the workers, peasants and soldiers wrested Russia from the ruling classes and peace was in the heart of every soldier on the Eastern Front? Right again—there was a panic on the Big Board.

A day after War was declared in August, 1914, the Stock Exchange was forced to close.

It reopened on December 12, 1914, and this is what the financial editor of the *New York Times* wrote that day:

The opening was marked by enthusiasm. . . . The basis of their [the Wall Street boys] satisfaction was a decidedly strong market from beginning to end. . . . American Smelting gained 3½ points; U. S. Rubber 4½, and Bethlehem Steel 2 points.

When President Wilson sent an army into Mexico to steal rich oil fields on the pretext that he was hunting "bandits" who were killing "defenceless women and children," this is how the financial editor of *The Times*, writing on March 11, 1916, interpreted intervention:

Specifically and generally the prospect of the United States sending an armed force into Mexico to put an end to the activities of the bandits in Northern Mexico was accepted yesterday as a helpful development from a stock-market point of view.

In the same issue, under the heading, "History Repeats Itself," the financial editor wrote:

Just after the occupation of Vera Cruz in April, 1914, when the late General Huerta handed his passport to Mr. O'Shaughnessy, President Wilson's delegate in Mexico, there was an upturn in shares of Mexican securities on the New York Stock Exchange. Mexican Petroleum rose in two days from 60 to 64½ in appreciation of American intervention. Yesterday, upon announcement of the second invasion of Mexico by the U. S. troops, Mexican Petroleum rose about 4 points, closing strong at 105¼.

Although troops were sent to put down the "bandits," the stock market "appreciated" the fact and responded accordingly.

## Panic in Wall Street

In the winter of 1916, President Wilson sent a peace note to Germany. As a result, the Stock Market cracked wide open. U. S. Steel, Bethlehem Steel, U. S. Rubber, Goodyear,

Standard Oil of New Jersey and other "war babies" broke as much as 30 points over a week of heavy selling. The boys on the Street were panic-stricken at the thought of peace.

The financial editor of *The Times*, in the  
(Continued on page twelve)

## COST OF WORLD WAR

### DEAD:

26,000,000.	
SOLDIERS KNOWN DEAD .....	10,000,000
" MISSING .....	3,000,000
CIVILIANS .....	13,000,000
WOUNDED .....	20,000,000

### ORPHANED:

9,000,000	
FAMINE-STRICKEN CHILDREN	34,000,000
DECLINE IN BIRTHRATE.....	12,000,000

### WIDOWED:

5,000,000	
HOMELESS REFUGEES.....	10,000,000
INFLUENZA DEATHS .....	15,000,000

### WAR BILLS:

DIRECT—	
U. S. A. ....	\$40,000,000,000.00
ALLIES .....	100,000,000,000.00
GERMANY, ETC. ....	60,000,000,000.00
	\$200,000,000,000.00

INDIRECT—	
PROPERTY LOSSES	\$37,000,000,000.00
LOSS IN PRODUCTION .....	44,000,000,000.00
LOSS TO NEUTRALS	2,000,000,000.00
CAPITALIZED VALUE OF LIVES LOST .....	67,000,000,000.00
	\$150,000,000,000.00

Grand Total .....	\$350,000,000,000.00
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# WAR and TEACHERS

By LeROY E. BOWMAN

*Child Development Institute, Teachers' College,  
Columbia University*

IT IS more than a coincidence that teachers' salaries are reduced, many teachers are dismissed, and the whole educational scheme of a nation is crippled during a War, or as is now so clearly evident in this country, at the mere threat of War. The underlying reason is that teaching or schooling is by its very nature fundamentally opposed to War. The two cannot live together in the same civilization.

Schooling is the device of a civilized people to give to its developing citizens the culture of the world and the chance to grow into an ever-broadening circle of human relationships. It is a process primarily and in any ideal sense, a process altogether of socialization. It belongs to an era in which economically men are growing more and more interdependent, in which the material things we have and the institutions we evolve, must be based on the theory and practice of working together.

War is an anachronism in a time like this, a relic of barbarism. It was a justifiable means of survival for oneself and his tribe in a tribal age when men were sustained by the things of nature they could take directly. To exist then required the fighting off or killing of those who would take the food one's own tribe needed. For individuals or even civilization itself to exist today requires that we work together to produce and distribute all the things we need.

## Agency of Imperialism

War is a "throw back" to a primitive type of relations between people. Hence at its approach the institutions which are of a higher or later development, such as schools, are emasculated or perverted. The perversion most usual is a twisting of the institution from the purpose for which it is organized to one fitting the primitive nature of War. So the school is made an agency of regimentation at threat of War, since regimentation on an elemental level of group action devoid of individual thinking, characterizes the tribal state of social evolution.

The greatest need is to realize what the function of the school is and to organize teachers' efforts within the class room to perform that function. Outside the class room it devolves on teachers to organize to see that their prime function in society is allotted to them, not a primitive and anachronistic task better not performed—such as the glorification of War, of War heroes, of warlike attributes and murderous passions. The idealization of War has persisted in history as taught in schools, as



*Two Fascist dictators in confab just before the recent Nazi terror. (LEFT) Hitler. (RIGHT) Mussolini*

well as in the presentation of civics and government, because there is a natural lag of peoples' attitudes behind the demands of a changing world. Men and women whose ancestors and traditions are those of fighting do not adopt ideals of a more peaceful kind quickly, despite the fact that devotion to peace is the only sure way of social survival.

It is at this point of the analysis that the school becomes of the very greatest importance. For it is necessary that a nation develop through the schools those attitudes and ideals in its future citizens that will serve to further national welfare and prolong the very life of the country. Hence there is an absolute need at the present time that the schools be used to educate children into habits of cooperation and into determination for peace. The school is historically, logically, necessarily the instrument of socialization, of growing personality, of a reaching in abstraction of each young mind into relationship with all other human beings. Anything short of this process is not education in a modern world.

## Closed Schools

War, threat of War, more dwelling on past Wars, restrict the growth of the mind, narrow the realm of social development, and implant exactly the opposite kind of attitudes from those which will be required in adult life. It is not without reason to look at the vast numbers of schools closed in some of the states and conclude that schools will teach the ideals of cooperation and the cooperative commonwealth or there will be no schools.

If War is reversion to the primitive tribal ways of dealing with human beings, Fascism well might be described as an effort to prevent

any socialization. It is an effort to "freeze" the classes in their present relative positions. The effect of it on schools is much the same as War; it sweeps out the whole purpose of education when it abolishes the hope and urge of growth into a more socialized individual and state.

## Fight War and Fascism

It is only a fight for self preservation that will lead the teacher openly or covertly to fight War and Fascism and anything or anybody connected with them. It would be only self-preservation that ought to lead the state to require of teachers that they inculcate ideals of peace and practical habits of the widest conceivable cooperation.

# U.S. WAR BUDGET • 1934 •

THE FOLLOWING table is taken (except where indicated) from the Annual Report of the Secretary of Treasury on the state of finances for the fiscal year. This report speaks louder than words and illustrates how an imperialist government spends more than two billion dollars a year for the killing of workers and farmers—while millions go hungry and homeless, without schools, and lacking in all the things that make up life itself.

## War Budget

War Department.....	\$765,000,000.00*
Navy Department .....	337,000,000.00**
Interest Public Debt.....	725,000,000.00
Salaries and Expenses..	85,773,000.00
Army and Navy Pensions .....	319,230,000.00
Military and Naval Insurance .....	123,000,000.00
Civil Service Retirement and Disability Appropriated Fund.....	20,850,000.00
Government Life Insurance Fund .....	70,890,000.00
Adjusted Service Certificate Fund .....	50,000,000.00
Hospital, Roanoke, Va...	1,865,000.00
All others .....	3,985,000.00
	<hr/>
	\$2,502,593,000.00

\* N. Y. Times, Feb. 7, 1934.

\*\* Foreign Policy Reports, April 11, 1934.

# RAILROAD LABOR

By LEN DE CAUX

Washington Correspondent, Federated Press

Mr. Len De Caux was formerly Assistant Editor of the Locomotive Engineers Journal.

**"A**RE THE railroad Brotherhoods opposed to War?

"We most certainly are; we'd do everything we could to prevent another one."

"Would you call a strike to prevent the shipment of munitions?"

"We couldn't do that, of course; that would be a violation of our contracts."

This actual interview of a foreign student with a Grand Lodge official of one of the transportation Brotherhoods rather puzzled the student, but it fairly accurately reflects the attitude of leaders of a labor group that could do more than others to upset plans for the next War.

## Rank and File against War

Anti-War sentiment is stronger and more wide spread among American railroad men than among any other group; although operation of seniority rules over a period when railroad jobs have been almost cut in half, has raised the age level of those still holding jobs to the point where it would be their sons rather than themselves who would be mobilized for cannon fodder. But parental instinct joins with memories of the vague pacifism of political movements in which the organized railroaders have played a leading part to make anti-War slogans popular among them.

This sentiment, however, is as unorganized as it is undefined. In its present form it represents little more than a puff of wind blowing against that oncoming juggernaut, the War machine.

If the railroad men are little aware of their strategic power to prevent War (and are deliberately kept unaware) the same cannot be said of the powers that be. In all War preparations, the authorities know, the "loyalty" of transportation workers is almost as essential as that of the armed forces.

Railroad labor is therefore accorded the sort of special attention as is given to government employees. Emphasis is placed upon dependability and long-service, and pension and other provisions are made to insure them. Legislation to prevent railroad strikes is a first concern of any foresighted government.

Ominous perhaps of conscious War preparations is the special consideration given by the recent Congress to both railroad pensions and anti-strike legislation—particularly when this is placed in the setting of big navy and other War plans and the whole N. R. A. trend to organize national life almost on a War footing, in conjunction with an aggressive foreign policy.

In many countries, even before they have reached the Fascist stage, railroad strikes are forbidden by law, just as are strikes of government employees. In the United States that point has not yet been reached, but legislation

has long been on the books which in practice has the same effect. The Railroad Labor Act has established a procedure that virtually eliminates the possibility of any but "outlaw" strikes.

## What Congress Did

The arbitration features of this act were still further strengthened by the Dill amendments adopted by the last Congress and signed by the president. Sponsors of these amendments emphasized that they were designed to prevent strikes that still were possible under the act.

In regard to pensions, railroad workers are now placed on a similar footing to government employees. In place of the old and undependable company pensions, to which workers did not contribute, a government-controlled pension plan has been enacted, the expenses of which are to be shared by the workers and the companies. Control of pensions gave the companies a whip which they frequently used to discourage and break railroad strikes; this whip has now been placed in the hands of the government.

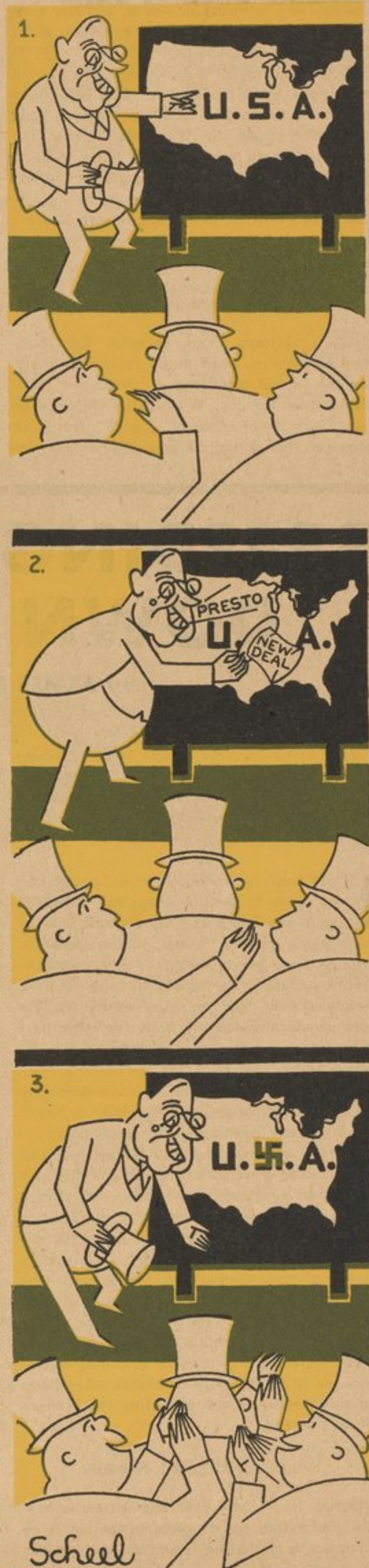
When the next War comes—and possibly before—the railroads will almost certainly be taken over by the government, as happened during the last War. The government's railroad "Czar," Federal Coordinator Joseph B. Eastman, has long been an advocate of government operation, if not ownership, and he frequently drops hints that this is what the future holds in store. To keep railroad labor in line and on the job during wartime is too important a task for the government to leave to chance in other hands.

One of the sops granted to rail labor to win its complacency with the last world slaughter was "union recognition." Under government administration, union membership was swelled as never before. But like the wage sop (offset by increased living cost) this sop didn't last long either.

Once rail labor had been prevented from "taking advantage" of War conditions, wages were slashed again and the companies were given every encouragement to break the backs of the unions as they did in the big shopmen's strike. Only the most strategically placed of the unions, the transportation Brotherhoods, were tolerated or encouraged any more, and company unionism was thrown like an entangling net over as many other groups of rail labor as possible.

The ground is already being cleared for similar maneuvers to ensure rail labor discipline in the next War. The above-mentioned amendments to the Railroad Labor Act not only strengthen arbitration and anti-strike features of the act, but they include more strongly-worded clauses against company unionism than before.

How these clauses will be applied in practice remains to be seen, of course. The wording of the original act did practically nothing to check an unprecedented growth of company



unions—and company unions in industry generally has flourished as never before under Sec. 7A of the N. R. A.

But too obviously "kept" unions are a weak reed upon which to lean in time of serious trouble, as many employers have found to their cost. The closer the War clouds draw, the more willing the government is likely to be to employ trade union leaders as its lieutenants and "recruiting sergeants," just as during the last War—and rail labor will receive this attention sooner than almost any other group of workers.

Railroaders in Action

When German labor defeated the Kapp "putsch", the railroad men's refusal to carry the troops and munitions of monarchist reaction decided the day. When British labor, with its "Councils of Action," checked the War plans of British imperialism against the vic-

torious workers' revolution in the Soviet Union, railroaders who refused to transport munitions against their Russian fellow-workers were a deciding factor. When Fascist reaction attacked Austrian labor, bombarding women and children in their apartment houses, the failure of rail union leaders to call an effective general strike did as much as the government's guns to make possible the bloody enslavement of the Austrian workers.

American railroad workers may play just as decisive a part in preventing or making possible the next War and the growing menace of Fascist slavery. The powers-that-be are taking every precaution to ensure the "loyalty and discipline" of rail labor, no matter what our rulers or would-be rulers plan. What are the foes of War and Fascism doing to enlighten these workers to their real interests and their real power, and to make them, not passive tools of imperialist intrigue, but active fighters against imperialism and all its plans?

Flag Days, patriotic demonstrations, more militaristic Armistice Day speeches.

Teachers, than whom no other group in the past has been so amenable to autocratic control, a group now working at starvation wages, are gradually becoming aware of the danger. But as a group they are not yet ready to abandon the clinging hope that somehow, somewhere, somebody will and come to their aid. They are not yet ready to strike out for themselves against the common enemy.

Protest and Action

The South, with its feudalistic traditions, its race prejudices, its inherent distrust of class movements, is flirting dangerously with Fascism. The schools are definitely being lined up.

Are there enough fearless individuals and organizations effectively to stem the tide by protest and action? I wonder!

BREEDING FASCISTS DOWN SOUTH

By JAMES M. SHIELDS

Author of "Just Plain Larnin'"

The writer of this article is Supervising Principal of Elementary Schools in Winston-Salem, N. C., and former President of North Carolina Elementary School Principals Association.

IN MY book, "Just Plain Larnin'," an attempt was made to picture a typical industrial city of the South and the attitude held by its various groups toward public education. Public schools were shown to be mere machines for propagating conformity to the existing social-economic system. Any efforts on the part of educators to use them for other purposes were quickly ground under the magnates' heels.

Since the writing of the book, developments throughout the South, and especially in North Carolina, have accentuated this situation greatly. The ever-present threat of Fascist control of the public schools has become a reality. By legislative enactment the schools of North Carolina are now uniformly operated on a starvation budget raised from a 3-percent sales tax and administered by a politically appointed state Commission. All schools have reduced their curriculum to courses featuring only the three R's. Furthermore, the industrial barons, through their Fascist henchmen in the legislature, have made it almost impossible for any community to impose other taxes for the purpose of supplementing this meagre school program.

Southern Peasant Schools

During the present year this system is rapidly eliminating any freedom in the choice of curricula, textbook and program. All schools

must conform to a set ultra-conservative pattern. The wealthy send their children to private schools, but the poor must depend on these "peasant schools," as the public system is being called.

It is easy to foresee the next steps—the foisting of mass worship of Big Business upon the coming generation. The careful selection of poisoned textbooks, of teachers, all adapted to that end; the unlimited spread of propaganda in the form of Preparedness Weeks,

What does it cost to kill a man in a modern War?

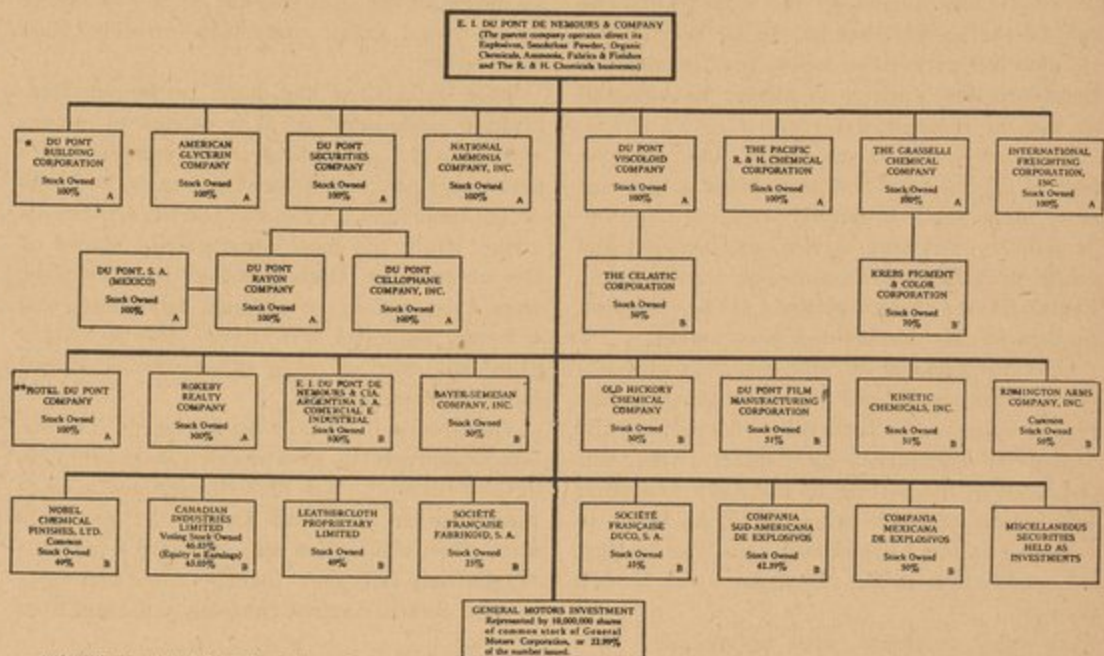
Around \$25,000.00, according to official figures based on the total cost of the World War and the number of people killed therein.

If all the workers of the U. S. were employed at N. R. A. code figures (40 cents an hour, 40 hours a week in the "better" codes) it would take them just about 10 years to earn enough to pay for the last War.

Cost of the World War:

Table with 2 columns: Unit (Per day, Per hour, Per minute, Per second) and Cost (\$215,000,000.00, 9,000,000.00, 150,000.00, 2,500.00)

The dead of the World War, soldier and civilian, standing shoulder to shoulder, would make a solid wall around the entire boundary of the United States.



\*—Own and operate only the du Pont Building at Wilmington, Delaware. \*\*—Operate only the Hotel du Pont at Wilmington, Delaware.

(A)—Companies included in Consolidated Balance Sheet. (B)—Companies carried in Balance Sheet as Investments.

Principal Subsidiaries and Stockholders of E. I. du Pont De Nemours & Company, one of the largest munitions makers in the U. S. A.

# NEGROES <sup>IN</sup> THE WORLD WAR

## A PERSONAL RECORD

By EUGENE GORDON

**M**OST of the 2,290,527 young Negroes who were in the late World War were, I believe, idealists. Certainly I was. I mean that we were idealists in the sense that we believed our fighting in the War would be the beginning of a new era for us as Negroes. Here was our chance at last, we believed, for us to convince our country of our right and our fitness to serve her. Having convinced her, we should expect her to reward us with such a share of her precious democracy as would fully repay us. Our great country, we young idealists felt, needing us in her crusade against the Hun barbarian, would show her appreciation when, her democracy having been preserved in a world now made safe for democracy, we came back singing songs of victory. We thought of this fighting for our country's honor in much the same heady and romantic way that a boy emerging from adolescence thinks of fighting for his best girl. We thought of it as something priceless and very beautiful; as of something very abstract.

It was something very abstract, as later events proved. How many of us went through the process of disillusionment that I did, I do not know. But my own experiences, I feel, are a fairly accurate reflection of the experiences of hundreds of thousands of others.

### In Training Camp

In the spring of 1917 the War department finally acceded to the pleas of the Negro bourgeoisie and made provisions for training Negro officers. The training camp at Plattsburg, N. Y., had been running for some time, and a number of Negro youths had tried to get in. It was "not the policy of the War department," however, to train Negroes and whites together, regardless of the terrible danger in which democracy stood. The invariable answer to these pleas was, therefore, that the War Department was sorry that no provisions had been made for training Negro officers; that, until such provisions were made, the Negroes would simply have to serve as enlisted men.

With the aid of Negro politicians the Negro upper class succeeded at last in having a camp allotted to them for training their young men as officers. It was located some ten miles outside the city of Des Moines, Iowa, the site of unused regular army barracks. The camp was opened early in the spring of 1917. It closed that autumn, commissioning a whole battalion of Negro captains, first lieutenants, and second lieutenants. It was "not the policy of the War department" to commission Negro field officers—that is, officers above the rank of captain. There were, incidentally, a large number of men among them who could have readily served as colonels. These men were from the 24th and 25th Infantry and the 9th and 10th cavalry, Negro organizations officered by

whites. The one Negro colonel from the 10th Cavalry, Charles Young, a graduate of West Point, was not allowed by the War Department to go to France. It was "not the policy" to permit members of an oppressed national minority to command large armed bodies of their kind.

The lesson of Ft. Des Moines was not fully comprehended by all those who received it.

Loading the belt

with bullets at the Martin Machine-Gun plant, New Haven, Conn.



Many of these men did not question the War Department's so called policy in jim crowing them. Those who did, feeling that it was better, for the moment, to submerge their resentment in the hope of witnessing genuine democracy after the War, silenced their questionings and waited.

If the Negro graduates of the Ft. Des Moines training camp thought that, having been made "officers and gentlemen" by virtue of being commissioned in the United States army, they would enjoy the rights and privileges of the white officers, the enlisted men of the 92nd Division had no such illusion. As a matter of fact, few of the Negro officers thought that their being commissioned would lift them to that status of "gentleman" that their rank was supposed automatically to imply. The enlisted men, whether Negro or white, were simply a group of automata controlled by their snobbish officers. The Negro soldiers, owing to their extra disabilities as members of an oppressed national minority, suffered not only the humiliations and general hardship common to enlisted men; they suffered also the additional humiliations and hardships of being "black" enlisted men.

### In France

From the very moment of our reaching the village of Passavant, Haute Saone, we enlisted

men were conscious of the effect of the government's propagandists. The French villagers, the workers and the peasants, flocked out to see us assembled in the square. Those among us who spoke a little French made immediate friends among these people, who had already gone through four years of the War. We learned from them that they had been warned by our white billiting officers, who al-

ways preceded us on our entering a village, where we should be quartered while training, that they must have nothing to do with us.

Why they asked?

Because, explained the officers, the Negroes might be spoiled. They are not used to being treated as equals of the whites in the United States. If you treat them as your equals, they might take advantage of your mistaken kindness. "Niggers can't be trusted," the white officers told the French workers and peasants who wanted to be friendly with us.

All this was simply rumored until the Fourth of July, 1918. On that day we were all marched to the square in the center of Passavant. There, under the ancient trees, grouped around the ancient village fountain, mingling with the young French men and women and their elders, we listened to Col. James A. Moss as he made a speech first in French and then in English. He was from Louisiana, and could speak French like a native. Those of us who understood French knew that he told the villagers the same thing that a few minutes later he told us.

### "Remember You Are a Negro"

He told us that we must remember who we were; that we must be careful not to betray the confidence of our country and the people at home placed in us. Indeed, he said little

2<sup>nd</sup> U.S. Congress  
against war  
and fascism







M. PASS



**SEPT. 28-29-30**  
**CHICAGO ILL.**

else. His whole speech, lasting more than three quarters of an hour, was an exhortation to us to remember who we were: to remember that we were Negroes who were not accustomed at home to being treated like human beings. "Be careful," he cautioned, "not to take advantage of the ignorance of these simple French people." He almost wept as he pointed out the injustice we should be doing these

"simple French people" if we responded humanly to their very human treatment of us. "Your folks back in the United States expect you to live up to our traditions; they expect you to do nothing that would make them hang their heads in shame."

What did he mean? He meant simply that the United States Government and the War Department expected the oppressed Negro in

France to remember that he still belonged to an oppressed national minority. He meant that if the Negro for a moment forgot who he was, he would be quickly reminded. We frequently "forgot," and as frequently we were reminded.

#### Arrests—Court-Martial—Prison

After the armistice, when the white troops were permitted a degree of relaxation and the white officers were permitted to go to school in Paris and London, the Negro troops and their black officers were kept as busy drilling as before the armistice. Order followed order from general headquarters; orders restricting the movement of Negro soldiers within the areas they happened to be occupying; orders forbidding Negro soldiers from entering the residential sections of the villages; orders threatening arrest and court-martial to Negroes who were seen talking to French civilians; orders hinting at execution of Negroes against whom charges were brought for associating with French women. That these orders were not merely idle threats was proved in the number of arrests and convictions of Negroes during the period between the armistice and our sailing for the United States. It has been proved also that a number of these arrests were instigated by "white officers and gentlemen" who were forced to compete with Negro enlisted men for the favors of French women.

I had been commissioned a second lieutenant while in France, so on the return trip occupied the quarters of an officer. Should add that they were the quarters of a Negro officer. The boat was the *White Star Olympic*, and it carried, at the same time, a large number of white bourgeois civilians, among them being the capitalist Charles Schwab, who had made millions in the War. I think it was on this trip home that the final blow was given to our youthful idealism—such a shadow of it as still remained with us. There were 50 Negro officers aboard, all traveling first class. We were segregated not only with respect to sleeping quarters, but were given a separate dining room and assigned waiters who would serve us only. A committee was elected among us to take a complaint to the ranking officer aboard, a general whose name I do not now recall. He simply shrugged, and said: "But what's the matter with that private dining room? Why, Charles Schwab himself has often been served there. I think you're lucky, if you ask me."

#### "I Serve Notice"

The loyalty of the Negro troops has always been unprecedented, say the politicians and the War makers at the approach of every new slaughter. As an ex-serviceman, I serve notice upon these slinking vultures that my disillusionment ended long ago; that my role in the next War will be like that of thousands of other ex-servicemen: to help our fellow workers, put up for slaughter—to fight for the only kind of democracy that is genuine democracy: the democracy that the workers and poor farmers can enjoy under their own government.

**"PEACE  
ON EARTH,  
GOODWILL  
TOWARD  
MEN"**

— Adolph Hitler



From *Der Gegen-Angriff*

## PARIS CONGRESS

**T**HE AMERICAN League Against War and Fascism announces the following delegates elected in the U. S. to the Women's International Congress Against War and Fascism meeting in Paris August 4, 5, and 6.

**NEW YORK:** 271 delegates from shops, cultural organizations, trade-unions, churches, synagogues, etc., representing 180,000 women elected Martha Johnson, Negro laundry worker; Mary Palermo, needle trades worker, member of the *International Ladies Garment Workers Union*, and Clara Bodian, head of the *United Council of Working Women*.

**CHICAGO:** Two delegates were elected at a very successful conference here. Mabel Byrd, Negro social worker, recently resigned from the N. R. A. in protest against jim-crow, and a young stock yards worker.

**DETROIT:** Dorothy Ida Kunca, auto worker, employed in General Motors.

**LOS ANGELES:** Anna Barnett, member of *Ladies Auxiliary, International Longshoremen's Association*.

**MILWAUKEE:** Mrs. C. M. Barr, member *Women's International League for Peace and Freedom*.

**NEBRASKA:** Under conditions of local terror the conference of 400 delegates elected Mrs. Maggie Pritschau, member of *Farmers' Holiday Association*.

**PENNSYLVANIA:** Conference in Pittsburgh with representatives from *Ladies Auxiliary, United Mine Workers of America, McKeesport Tin and Plate factory, Westinghouse, Y. M. C. A., Women's International League for Peace and Freedom* and other organizations, elected Mrs. L. R. Jackson, Negro, President of a local of the *Ladies Auxiliary of the United Mine Workers*.

**BIRMINGHAM:** Despite the terror, the Sharecroppers Union elected one of their most active members.

**BOSTON:** Mrs. Jessica Henderson

The **NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE** of the League elected as its representatives: Miss Dorothy McConnell, Mrs. Lucille Milner, secretary of the *American Civil Liberties Union*, Mrs. Lola Maverick Lloyd, Ella Reeve Bloor and Mrs. Dorothy Chertak.

The following organizations have also chosen delegates: *Macedonian People's League* elected at their national convention Olga Bachvarova, a worker in an Akron rubber plant; *Finnish Working Women's Clubs* elected a textile worker from Boston, and the *Office Workers Union* is sending one of their members who has been very active in anti-War work.

A number of other women have been credentialed as observers at the Congress.

# WAR CLOUDS OVER JERSEY

By RICHARD STUART

*The writer of this article, whose business it is to travel daily throughout New Jersey, is well informed on the industries of that state.*

A DISTANT tom-tom beat. A muffled blast. Silence.

It was eleven o'clock at night. My neighbors were talking across the yards, excitedly questioning from open windows.

The blast again.

I went out on the back porch.

"There. See? Over there!"

The sky lit up once, twice in sharp outline, then two dull distant roars followed.

"That's over by South River," I said.

"And Parlin."

"What the devil is it?" Already it began to dawn on me.

"It's one of them ammunition plants," Mr. Turek volunteered.

"Oh Gott!" echoed Mrs. Schneider from a second story window.

"That's bad."

"Bad is right. They've got a large night force over there. At both Hercules and Du Pont."

The tom-tom beat again.

The next day I scanned the papers. It wasn't until afternoon that Turek informed me it was fireworks from a local celebration at South River.

"Them plants have us on the jump all right. I almost hope that Tony doesn't get a job when he looks for work at one of them places. Yet that's where the jobs are these days."

The following day I came across an item in *The New Brunswick Home News*:

PARLIN, June 14.—Ernest F. Theonges, new superintendent at the Hercules Powder Company here, yesterday told a *Home News*

reporter that business at the plant was better than usual at this time of year.

The new superintendent showed the curve of production used by the Hercules Powder Co., and showed how sales at this time are higher than normal, despite the usual seasonal decline in the late spring months.

## War Industries in Full Blast

And that is merely repeating an old story. All over Jersey's Raritan Valley as far west as Bound Brook down to its mouth and up along the Arthur Kill into Newark Bay, the production indicators in chemicals, explosives, ammunition, metals, aircraft engines, and shipbuilding are rising. New construction. Expansion and yet more expansion. An intoxicating but dangerous crescendo is being played. Prosperity?

At the Du Pont nitro-cellulose plant at Parlin, building after building is being erected at record speed. For the past year there has not been a day in which two building were not in the course of construction. The latest is to be a \$200,000 power plant. Mixing houses, a filtering plant, a casting building each fulfilling

a purpose, expanding with a market in an industry that has a market. Still more are contemplated.

At Bound Brook is the Calco concentration on its way towards becoming America's greatest chemical unit. Month after month it grows. New buildings rise, more men are hired, night shifts introduced. The workers make no bones about it. It's ammunition and explosives they're making and they don't particularly relish the fact—but it's a job and they're damn few outside the War industries.

With the Raritan Ordnance Depot (Arsenal) as a focal point, this section is one of the most important in the key War-Industries state. (New Jersey is first in naval ship building, explosives, aeroplanes, chemicals—has the largest smokeless powder plant in the world, the largest dynamite plant in the world, the second largest copper refinery—ranks third in oil refining.) The Army is busy dredging harbors and rivers in the region as never before, and with P. W. A. money.

## Sewing Machines

Just west of Bound Brook, the Singer Sewing Machine Co., stakes out for buildings on its newly purchased property at Finderne. From sewing machines to what? Not long ago it was reported that the Singer research laboratories were making extensive experiments in the manufacture of aircraft engines and machine-guns. A sewing-machine factory, too, can expand.

Phelps-Dodge Copper Products builds at Bayway. \$500,000.

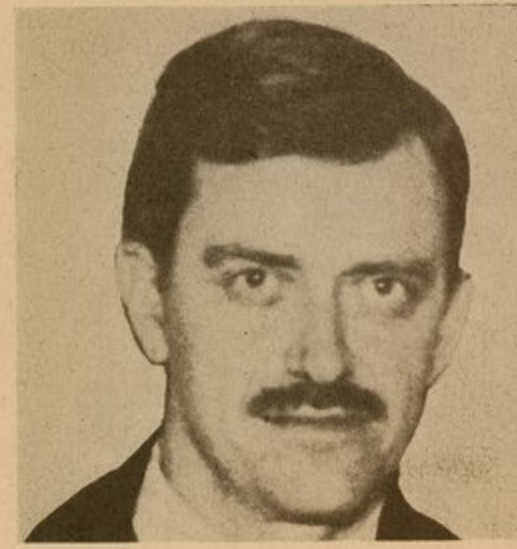
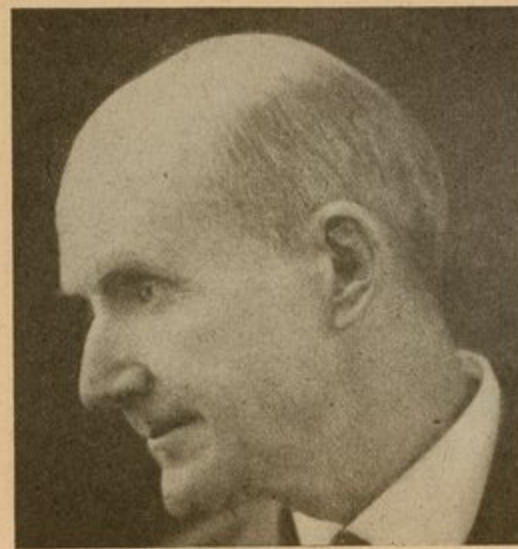
Graselli Chemical Company completes a plant addition near Linden. \$500,000.

Titanium Pigment (a National Lead subsidiary) buys the closed Salpa plant at Spots-

(Continued on page fourteen)



A few of the War prisoners during the World War at Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas



Three working class leaders who were imprisoned by the government during the World War for their anti-War activities. (LEFT) Wm. D. Haywood. (CENTER) Eugene V. Debs. (RIGHT) Earl Browder

# ROOSEVELT VISITS HAWAII

By SAMUEL WEINMAN

*Under direction of Labor Research Association, the pamphlet, "Hawaii, A story of Imperialist Plunder," written by the writer of this article, has been published by International Pamphlets, 799 Broadway, New York City. The cost of the pamphlet is ten cents and may be obtained by writing to the above address.*

**W**HY DID President Roosevelt visit Hawaii?

Did he go there on the cruiser *Houston* to inspect all its highly advertised charms, its glamour, its romance? Did he go there to see them riding the surf boards along the beaches of Waikiki, to listen to the strumming of the ukuleles, to watch the hula-hula dancers weaving through the palms in their grass skirts? Or was there something on the islands that appealed to him more? Something that might interest a former Assistant Secretary of the Navy, an authority on naval fortification and a president who is determined to build the biggest navy this country has ever seen?

## What He's There For

Hawaii, as any Naval officer will tell you, is the cross roads of the Pacific. It is the most important naval base in that ocean. Practically all ships traveling east or west must stop off at Honolulu to take on fuel and supplies. From the point of view of naval strategy it is in a key position, a fact which military and naval experts appreciated as far back as 1875.

So it's not very difficult to understand what our President is really visiting Hawaii for—our President who is so preoccupied with building up a Navy-Second-To-None—is to in-

spect Pearl Harbor, just outside of Honolulu. For it is the President's intention to develop Pearl Harbor into the most powerful, the most modern, the most impregnable naval base in the world.

No matter what form the imminent War on the Pacific assumes, Pearl Harbor will be a decisive factor. No wonder that Roosevelt is keenly interested in Hawaii.

## A Key Position for Imperialists

Frequently military, naval and aerial maneuvers (pleasantly referred to as "war games" by the daily press) are conducted with Hawaii as the base of operations. Last January, six high-powered, radio-equipped U. S. naval planes hopped from San Francisco to Honolulu in the first successful mass flight across the Pacific. On the day the planes landed *The New York Times* quoted Commander McGinnis as "much pleased with the flight as a demonstration of the possibility of flying any number of squadrons from San Francisco to Honolulu in a time of national emergency. It was also announced that "fuel consumption figures were of military importance and officers declined to discuss the question."

Pearl Harbor is "one of the world's mightiest naval base," according to *The New York Evening Post*. Its equipment includes a large drydock and repair shops, a naval air station, reinforced concrete wharfage, a large oil supply depot, an ammunition depot, a submarine base, and a marine reservation near-by.

Roosevelt's N. R. A., under the cloak of "public works," has appropriated \$10,000,000 to strengthen Pearl Harbor. It is estimated that an additional \$100,000,000 is necessary to complete Roosevelt's program there.

It is no mere chance that Hawaii's repre-

sentative in Congress, U. S. K. Houston, is a graduate of the U. S. Naval Academy and a retired naval commander. Houston's chief job in Congress is to look out for the imperialist's needs in Hawaii as a strategic naval outpost.

## War in the Air

*The Inter-Island Airways, Ltd.*, of Hawaii, claims to be a commercial project. In 1932 the governor of the islands boasted in his report that "development of airports has been the principal work of the aeronautical commission. The airports on all the principal islands are in fine shape now." A population of 380,000 in the mid-Pacific does not require a highly developed air-transport system. Congress has been asked to subsidize *Inter-Island Airways* because the planes and landing fields can easily be converted into weapons of War.

The University of Hawaii has a compulsory Reserve Officers Training Corps to teach "military science and tactics." Hawaiian high schools also have R. O. T. C. units as well as Boy Scout troops.

President Roosevelt will doubtlessly be highly pleased with the gigantic War apparatus he finds in Hawaii. And his trip will probably inspire him with a few more bright ideas to develop Pearl Harbor into an even deadlier agent of destruction in the imperialist slaughter now hovering over the Pacific.

(Continued from page three)

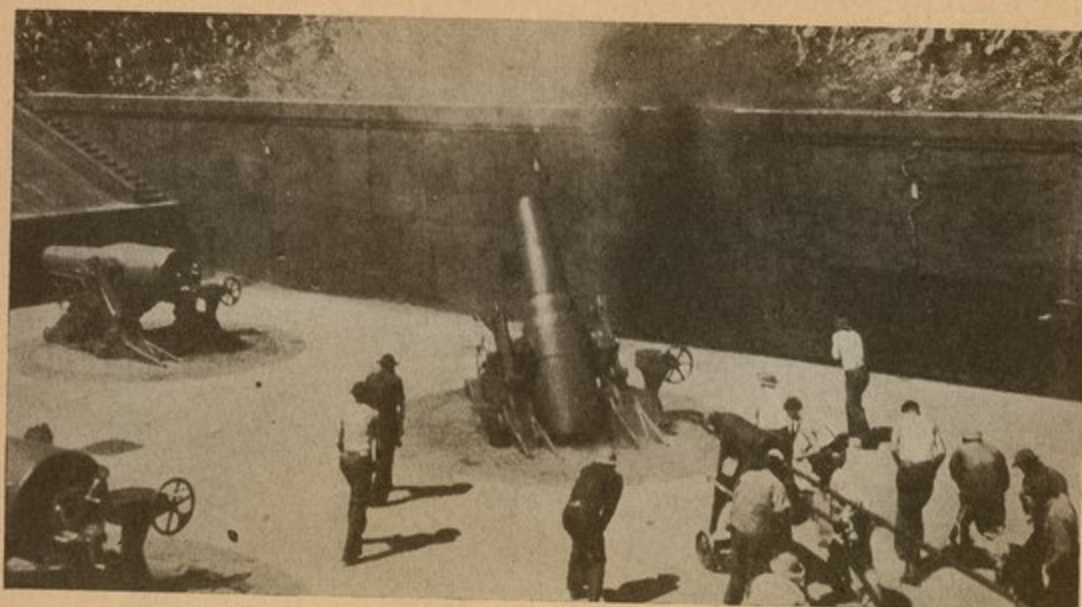
issue of December 13, 1916, wrote, "What all the world knew must come some time, a formal proposal for peace in Europe took the markets by storm yesterday." On December 15, the financial section of the same newspaper had the following to say, "The speculative public joined Wall Street in selling stocks on an enormous scale yesterday, the secondary wave of liquidation as the result of Germany's move for peace bringing about substantially greater declines." On December 17, when heavy liquidation in stocks and bonds continued, this same commentator wrote, "Has the peace movement of the Central Powers taken the speculative snap out of the war stocks?" That week U. S. Steel broke 40 points.

## Heart Failure

The October revolution in Russia scared the Wall Street boys out of their wits. It took them quite some time to digest the news, but when they did they sold heavily. It was one of the severest breaks in Wall Street.

This is how the financial editor of *The New York Times* on November 9, 1917, interpreted the debacle:

After a firm opening and an hour of fairly well sustained strength, the Stock Exchange



President Roosevelt inspects Hawaii, a U. S. A. possession. (ABOVE) Twelve inch mortars at Fort Ruger (Hawaii), the most powerful port in any of the United States possessions. These modern guns use smokeless powder which accounts for the fact that so little smoke is visible in the photograph



Armed police on the Seabrook 6,000 acre farms in New Jersey where hundreds of agricultural workers struck and won their major demands

once more suffered a wide break yesterday following the receipt of the news of the overthrow of Kerensky and the announced intention of the Maximalists to propose an immediate peace with Germany. The declines that occurred in the following hours were as large as any that have been seen in the recent period of violent liquidation. Steel common broke  $7\frac{1}{2}$  points, etc. . . . The Russian news was so discouraging that it was not fully credited for a long time in well informed quarters. It was pointed out by bankers conversant with the situation in Petrograd that there is no party in Russian politics strong enough to bring about peace, even if the people desire it.

### How to Stop War

For once Wall Street was fooled. There was a party in Russia strong enough to bring about peace. For a party led by workers and farmers can bring about peace. This has been proved in Soviet Russia where the workers and peasants did away with capitalism — the breeder of Wars. And War can be wiped from the globe if the workers and farmers of other lands follow the example of the workers and farmers of Soviet Russia.

Labor Research Association reports:

E. I. du Pont De Nemours & Co., for the first quarter of 1934, had net income, after all deductions for fixed charges, of \$11,628,154, as compared with \$5,480,515 a year ago, more than a 100% increase this spring. Company paid dividends of \$7,168,491 during this past quarter. Accumulated surplus stood at \$177,296,510 on March 31, 1934. In May, it declared an increase of 60c a share (per year), bringing the dividend to \$2.60 on 15,000,000 shares of common stock (\$20 par).

## On the Farm

By BEN FIELD

THE COWS mill around the gate. But the farmer and his young son are in no hurry to go milk.

The old man lifts one foot heavily from the muck. "They've stopped us, stopped us cold. We can't fight foreclosures. We can't strike. All is laid down on the job. The Holiday leaders won't fight. We was innocent, innocent men. Now we got to do as we're told. The government must be obeyed. If not, you get shot."

Repressed bitterness thickens his tongue. "We built the country. But we have nothing to say how it runs."

The boy sits on the wagon-tongue, his cloddy hands in his lap. He watches his father.

"The farmers rough-housing Judge Bradley didn't amount to a pinch of nothing. Just think of a Judge saying the court was his to do what he pleased with! We don't blame the farmers who showed him for what he was. But my boy here, he was in Sioux City with a load of hogs when it all happened to Bradley. All the same they arrested the boy and gave him a ride on a truck he never had before. I was on my way to South Dakota then. I turned back. They held him till they got me."

The boy helps out his father. He tells how he was indoors that cold evening when the militia knocked the doors open and upset beds, "We had a couple of hundred young pigs, just farrowed, and other sows was farrowing. I was the only one home to take care of them. No, they wouldn't give me a minute. . . ."

The father says, "They was looking for one man and they come with a dozen bayonets like we was the biggest criminals. Talking of being brave, our leaders laid down on the job. Told us to disappear. The chairman of our county Association, he said no penitentiary

would be big enough to hold him. A stinking goatshed did. True as I'm standing here 'twas a goatshed. The tincan soldiers couldn't even dig holes for the posts and to put wire around. The farmers had to do it."

They held him 12 days, charged him with being one of the ringleaders. The army fished up a club somewhere and said blood was on it. The dickens was so scared out of one farmer that he spilled the whole cheese. The farmers were quizzed again and again "to soften them down."

He knocks his hand caked with weariness and despair against his haunch. "One way or the other, it's the same. Crops are poor, nothing to brag on. One day barley's up, the other day it's down. That's what they do to us. Most of the farmers here are renters, and they got one foot in the road already."

The talk about agitators is a lot of wind. "Only farmers was in this, fighting to keep our homes and keep stuff off the roads in the strike. We got to live. Governor Herring said he'd never declare martial law in Iowa. He said us fellows was doing right. Then he slaps the martial law down. They say he owes the bankers money and they had him by the nose. The banks here are mostly closed up. We don't need them now they got all our money. There was the county agent. He was sure spitting fire against the farmers. We got rid of him. That saves us \$4,000 a year. But the whole court-martial cost our county \$7,000. They take it out of our own hide to buy the whip to beat us down."

A horse trots towards the gate for his night feed. Looks like a stallion.

The old farmer makes no move. "All our horses look that way. I like to see people feed good. I like to see animals feed good. All our farmers here are the same. Most of them belong to the Masons, Odd Fellows, Elks, they go to church. They're honest. But I don't know what the world's a-coming too. I got a daughter lives in town. Her husband runs a bakery wagon. He tells stories about children going naked, children eating bread hard as stones. He tells stories of rooting in slop pails I wouldn't allow to my hogs." He sighs.

The swollen cows are bawling to be milked. But father and son make no move to go milk.

### ATTENTION

ON PAGES EIGHT AND NINE, YOU WILL FIND A DRAWING IN THREE COLORS IN RELATION TO THE SECOND U. S. CONGRESS AGAINST WAR AND FASCISM, TO BE HELD IN CHICAGO, SEPTEMBER 28, 29, AND 30 OF THIS YEAR. PLEASE POST THIS ATTRACTIVE POSTER IN YOUR CLUB, UNION, LEAGUE, GRANGE, OR ANY PLACE WHERE PEOPLE WILL SEE IT. IF YOU WANT ANOTHER COPY OF THIS NUMBER OF THE MAGAZINE, SEND 5 CENTS IN STAMPS TO FIGHT.

# MUNITIONS

(Continued from page eleven)

wood worth \$200,000. Builds another plant at Sayreville near-by. \$2,000,000.

United Lead and U. S. Cartridge Co. (National Lead subsidiaries) make bullets at Maurer near Perth Amboy.

At Cartaret, the United States Refining Co., is reported to be exporting refined and scrap metals to Japan.

The newly formed Lawrence Engineering and Research Corp., with a navy contract takes over the closed Radio Electric Clock factory at Linden and experiments with an air-cooled Diesel aircraft engine.

Crucible Steel Corp. at Harrison makes shells and heavy ordnance.

Pollack Manufacturing Co. of Kearney. Powder containers for the navy.

Diehl Manufacturing Co. of Elizabeth (Singer subsidiary). Navy ship engines.

Federal Shipbuilding and Drydock Co. of Kearney. The ships themselves.

## And the Government?

C. W. A. labor, now E. R. A. (forced labor for food orders with 10c an hour "bonus") "improves" the Raritan Arsenal. P. W. A. money finances over \$1,000,000 worth of construction at Fort Monmouth. P. W. A. money for Lake Denmark Naval Ammunition Depot. E. R. A. labor for Picatinny Arsenal, Fort Hancock, Lakehurst Air Station. The National Guard receives bids for the 113th Infantry Armory in Jersey City, \$1,000,000. P. W. A. money. Heartened, Rutgers University, too, applies for a loan to build an armory. Plans are completed for over a \$1,000,000 worth of new construction and repairs at the Raritan and Picatinny Arsenals.

And so it goes.

Other sections of the State merely repeat the same story. A story of increased armaments, increased War preparations. Money for War. Forced labor for the unemployed. Plenty for imperialist destruction. Crumbs and crocodile tears for the workers, farmers, and the masses of the people.

At Keystone in Trenton. Heavy bombers. Wright Aeronautic Corp. of Paterson. 280 army-aircraft engines. \$1,705,733. P. W. A. money.

At Camden's N. J. Ship-building and Drydock Co. More battleships.

## Related War Industries

17,000 raincoats for the army to the Eisner Clothing Co. of Red Bank (while the employers were fighting organization of the workers as promised by the N. R. A. and strike leaders still sat in jail at Freehold for defying an injunction).

Johnson and Johnson, surgical supplies and

cotton, builds new factory buildings at New Brunswick.

National Adhesive builds at Dunellen.

Merck Chemical Co., medical supplies, builds at Rahway.

But clock factories, brick factories, dress factories, candy factories, terra-cotta plants and linoleum factories are closed or operating with negligible forces.

Speed-up, War, dividends are merged in the boiling caldrons of the mixing machines. Dynamite the product. And death.

Almost simultaneous with the announcement of Hercules Powder Company that earnings in 1933 were \$2.79 per share as against 24 cents in 1932, four workers were blown to bits at its Kenvil Smokeless Powder plant in northern New Jersey. Both the Parlin and the Kenvil plants are now on night shifts.

And less than a month after a mixing machine at the Parlin Du Pont plant went up killing a worker and injuring another, Du Pont announced an increase of 15 cents a share quarterly or a yearly dividend of \$2.60 as against \$2.00. That was the middle of May 1934.

## Clenched Fists

No explosion like Black Toms or the Morgan explosion near South Amboy. No quadrupling of earnings. Not yet. But the populace smells it coming. Like my neighbors they have the jitters. Bankers and business smell it coming too. Sitting back comfortably, they watch, watch with narrowed eyes, watch international relations, watch world trade, watch the markets. Above all investments. Manipulate. Instruct. Prepare. Order. The populace is apprehensive. They must do the fighting. They shake their heads. For whom?

Fists close!



Drawing by Louis Lozowick

"Hostile capitalist countries openly prepare for War against one another . . . at the same time joining rank against the Soviet Union, the land of the workers . . ."

## From ROMAIN ROLLAND

"**W**HOEVER rebels against him (Hitler) loses his head."—  
Goering, Reich Air Minister  
and Hitler's Chief Aid.

I send the most cordial messages of sympathy to those who have undertaken the cause of defending the victims of German Fascism — and, together with the victims, the highest ideals which sustain the hopes and the heroic efforts of humanity. The barbarous and stupid worship of race which marks the Third Reich is the mortal enemy of the unity of the human race for which we struggle. But the ordeal of blood through which our faith is passing will be its forge. Its persecutors will be broken upon it. Against the despotic obscurantism of Hitlerism, which imprisons and burns books, tortures, and kills human beings, we affirm the universal communion of races and ideas, the General Confederation of work by hand and brain throughout the whole world against the exploiters of the world, the International of struggle against imperialism and Fascism.

The great combat in which we engage will extend beyond the frontiers of one nation. Its battle-field is the whole world, and its stake is the future of the human race.

We must not lay down our arms until that battle is won.

ROMAIN ROLLAND.



# BUILDING the LEAGUE



By **IDA DAILES**  
Assistant Secretary

**A** WHOLE network of City Committees is being established in the state of New Jersey, with John Franklin of Newark giving personal attention and assistance to their problems.

*Union City* held a conference July 19th. At the time of writing, results are not yet available. In addition to mailing out Calls for the Chicago Congress, this Committee has held mass meetings and sent speakers to many organizations.

A Provisional Committee has been set up in *Hackensack* and is proceeding with work to enlarge itself and carry out preliminary work toward establishing a permanent Committee.

The *Bayonne* Section of the League plans its work on a county scale, which will include *Jersey City*, with the ultimate aim of setting up a separate City Central Committee there. **FIGHT** is being sold on the streets of Bayonne, outside of theaters and libraries.

The *Newark* Section has arranged a moonlight cruise for Friday, August 10th, to raise funds for their work and to make new contacts. This Committee also plans to concentrate on street meetings in workers' neighborhoods for the summer months. Already a number of highly successful street meetings have been held. The Committee has started concentration on the *Du Pont* plant in Newark.

A Provisional Committee has started work in *Paterson*, with the aim of establishing a permanent City Central Committee in September.

A Provisional Committee in *Troy, N. Y.*, has been organized. Contact is being made with the head of an important A. F. of L. union and preparations for a series of meetings in and around Troy in connection with the Twentieth Anniversary of the World War are proceeding.

Organization on the Pacific Coast is being extended. In *Portland, Oregon*, a Provisional Committee of Trade Unionists (both radical and conservative), intellectuals, professionals, ministers, unemployed, etc., including a reserve officer of both the National Guard and the regular army, is preparing a local conference to set up a permanent City Central Committee. Results will be reported in the next issue of **FIGHT**.

*Duluth, Superior* and surrounding territory held a conference for permanent organization at the *Duluth Y. M. C. A.* on July 18th. In addition to sending out Congress Calls, a series of four radio broadcasts over **WEBC** was arranged in preparation for the conference.

The *Hamtramck, Mich.*, Provisional Committee held a conference which established a Section of the League. This Conference pledged a large delegation to the Second U. S. Congress to be held in Chicago, September 28, 29, and

30. Further, the conference pledged that "in this work we will use all and every opportunity we can to further propagandize the great work that our central office has started."

Nebraska held a state-wide conference at *Grand Island*, in spite of the fact that 100 delegates were arrested on their arrival. The park arranged by the committee for the combined conference and picnic was occupied by vigilantes who kept the delegates out. A friendly farmer permitted the delegates to meet on his land and Mrs. Maggie Pritschau, a farm woman, was unanimously elected to attend the Paris Women's Congress.

Fifteen organizations participated in the setting up of a united front City Central Committee of the League in *Minneapolis, Minn.* A large mass meeting is planned for August 15th.

A friend in *Combs, Arkansas*, has begun work in his community and expects to develop sufficient interest to send at least one delegate to the Second U. S. Congress Against War and Fascism.

*Tacoma, Wash.*, has set up a broad provisional committee and is preparing to make contacts with organizations in that city. The committee has ordered 1,000 copies of the Manifesto and Program of the League, for use in its work.

A group of intellectual and professional workers has taken the initiative to set up a Section of the League in *Indianapolis, Ind.*

The Women's Committee for the International Women's Congress Against War and Fascism convening in Paris, August 4, 5, and 6, organized by the League Against War and Fascism, has now become a permanent sub-committee of the American League. The local Women's Committees set up in Pittsburgh, Newark, Hartford, Boston, Nebraska, Philadelphia, Chicago, Milwaukee, are permanent sub-committees of the City Committees. In Cleveland and Detroit the Women's Committees will broaden out and become the organizing forces for City Committees of the American League with permanent women sub-committees.

In the four months in which this campaign has been launched we have mobilized thousands of women behind the program of the American League, getting a truly representative American delegation to the Paris Congress from the South, from the North, from the East and the West, women workers from the shops and factories, women from peace organizations, teachers, professional women, etc.

These committees have worked out immediate plans for future activity, centering their work upon the Second U. S. Congress to be held in Chicago this fall.

## YOUTH SPARKS

**T**HE FIRST issue of the *Youth Bulletin* is out. It contains factual material for speeches, news of different committees, organizational advice on how to form a Youth Committee. Copies may be gotten from the National Office.

The Youth Movement Against War is spreading. On the 3rd of August a Youth Congress will open in Canada. In *Toronto*, where the Congress is to be held, a committee of fourteen has been set up. In *Montreal*, a conference included representatives from the Y. M. C. A., Y. W. C. A., Y. M. H. A., Young Peoples Socialist League, German Workers and Farmers Association, Catholic societies, etc.

A delegation from the American Youth Section will bring greetings to the Canada Congress.

Speaking of Congresses, the National Committee of the Youth Section is working towards having delegates from Cuba and Mexico at our Congress in Chicago. In this way we will show our solidarity with oppressed, colonial countries.

The goal set for the Chicago Congress is 1,000 youth delegates. All committees are urged to set themselves quotas in line with this national figure. It is advisable to immediately map out plans for raising funds to send the delegates to Chicago.

*Massachusetts* is developing its activities even during the summer months. In *Worcester*, a Youth Conference was held on July 13. This was one of the steps in preparation for the state-wide conference to be held in September, just prior to the U. S. Congress.

The National Student League has just held a national conference at which anti-War activity was given a good deal of attention. Among the important decisions made was one for concentration on ten institutions where attempts will be made to force the abolition of the R. O. T. C., one of the demands of the Youth Section. The places picked for the fight against militarization of the youth are: City College of New York; University of California, both at Berkeley and Los Angeles; Washington Heights Branch of New York University; Cornell; Wisconsin; Illinois; University of New Hampshire and a high school in New York City.

One of the most dramatic incidents of the Swedish Youth Congress Against War held recently was the appearance of a U. S. sailor from the cruiser *New Orleans*, which was in port at the time. He brought greetings from the men on board and pledged their solidarity in the struggle against War. The day before, the Congress received similar greetings in writing from a group on the ship. They pledged to send their delegates to the U. S. Youth Congress.

There were 200 delegates at the Congress.

Youth Congresses have also been held recently in France, Switzerland and Czechoslovakia. England is to have one next month.

—J. L.

# WORLD WAR

On the 20th Anniversary of the World War...

Have you ever stopped over your daily newspaper and counted the columns of space devoted to War, Fascism, strikes, terror, etc.?

Well, we just did it.

And what do we find right on the front page?

**HITLER'S STORM TROOPS TO BE DISARMED**  
**2 SECURITY PACTS SOUGHT BY FRENCH**  
**GAS BALKS RIOTERS ON JERSEY FARM**  
**NAZI LEADER HERE DEFENDS DRILLING**  
**DOLFUSS WIDENS HIS CABINET POWER**  
**HITLER REPORTED TO PLAN**  
**TRIP ON BATTLESHIP**

We counted almost four solid pages devoted to War, Fascism, strikes, terror, etc., in a single issue of a daily newspaper picked at random from our desk.

We are now living in the most turbulent and important period of human history. Those of us who are conscious of our obligations to ourselves, our families, our class—those of us who are mentally alert—are fighting against the twin evils of capitalism, imperialist War and Fascism. Fighting for a new and better world.

Are you helping in this fight?

Are you helping to educate and organize your fellow workers, friends and neighbors in this struggle?

You can best do it by getting them to join a movement which is world wide in scope, the American League Against War and Fascism.

You can best do THAT by getting them to subscribe to FIGHT.

FIGHT *Against War and Fascism*, 112 East 19th Street, New York, N. Y.

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ADDRESS	ADDRESS
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# HERR HITLER

in another orgy of blood tries to solve his problems. Things are not so easy for him.

We want to make it still harder for him and for the budding Fascism and Fascist organizations in the United States.

That's why the

## SECOND U. S. CONGRESS AGAINST WAR AND FASCISM

SEPTEMBER 28, 29 and 30, 1934  
CHICAGO, ILL.

must be a powerful, organized body against all the forces making for imperialist War and Fascism.

Popularize the Congress. Speak before every organization and group. Get them to endorse the Congress. Get them to elect delegates.

Order copies of the Congress Call. The price is \$4.00 per 1000; \$2.25 for 500; \$1.00 for 250; 50c for 100 or less.

The drawing on the center page of this issue of FIGHT is available in poster form. The poster is larger than it is in the magazine, with space for advertising your local affairs. It is sold in quantities at a very low price. Order your posters now and help popularize the Congress.

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