

# FIGHT

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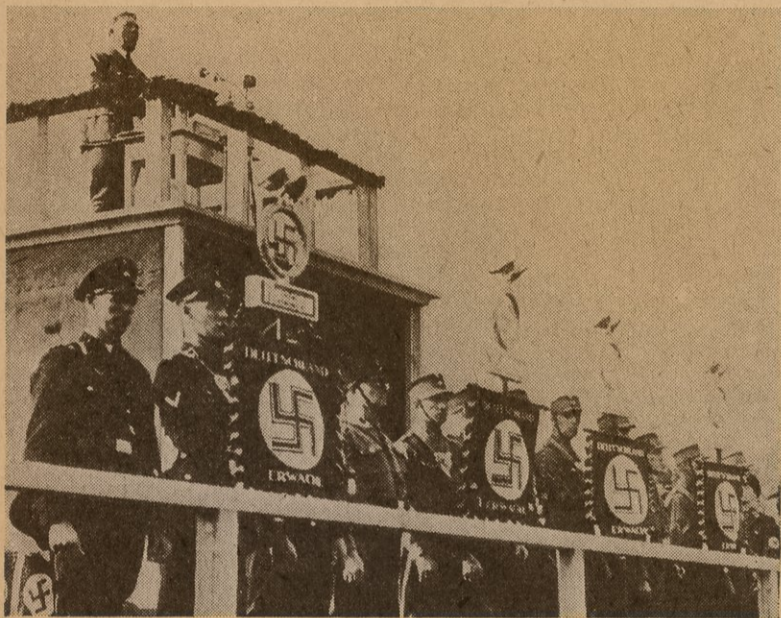
DECEMBER

1934

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AGAINST WAR AND FASCISM

## WAR OVER THE SAAR



War in the Saar? Top (LEFT) Hitler opening his campaign to have the Saar district join Nazi Germany. (RIGHT) Young coal and iron workers of the Saar in a demonstration against joining Nazi Germany. (CENTER) Map of the Saar. (LOWER) Catholic, Trade Union, Socialist and Communist leaders greeting a meeting of 80,000 Saar workers where they urged that in the coming plebiscite they vote "no" on joining Hitler Germany



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112 East 19th St., New York, N. Y.

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# The DESTINY of the SAAR

By LOUIS PERIGAUD

*Executive Secretary, World Committee Against War and Fascism*

*Monsieur Perigaud, who recently returned to France after six weeks stay in the U. S. A. and Canada, was formerly a member of the Central Committee of the French Socialist Party (1932-1933) and a member of the Administrative Council and contributing Editor of "Populaire."*

**T**HE MOST crucial situations in the international field today are in the Far East, Austria and in the Saar. In these places three developments may soon give capitalism a pretext to unleash a new world conflict.

Among the evils stemming from the Treaty of Versailles, the condition existing in the Saar today is probably the most critical. The statesmen who drew up the Treaty, most of whom have died, must bear the sole responsibility.

On the rich and valuable soil of this territory, which is entirely industrialized, live 800,000 people whose racial origin, language and customs are German. Having been forcibly torn away from the German nation, they must choose in January whether they rejoin Germany or remain as they are.

## Coal and Iron

Beyond the fact that the inhabitants of the Saar furnish an important market to French and German capitalists, there is still the more significant fact that these capitalists are engaged in a life and death struggle for control of those raw materials which are a desirable asset in time of peace and an absolute necessity in time of War. The Saar possesses rich coal and iron mines. The huge foundries can produce all the steel necessary for War.

The political implications of such a situation are complex. From a revolutionary point of view the problem demands an independent,

working-class republic of the Saar. But at present the only concrete result obtained would be to cement the alliance between French and German capitalism against any expression of the desire for autonomy. Naturally, for us in the ranks of the working-class, there can be no sentiment in favor of the Saar being returned to France. Should we advocate this, we would be guilty of helping to enslave a new minority, thus providing a fresh triumph for French imperialism. The Treaty of Versailles has already enslaved so many minorities that the world can well be spared the enslavement of another.

The Saar really belongs in the heart of the German community, and if Germany were a free country we would not have to hesitate a moment over the problem. Unfortunately Germany is not free. Sixty million people there are suffering under a regime of torture and indescribable misery. Under the circumstances, who would be willing to cast almost a million more human beings under the heel of that regime?

The *status quo*, i.e., supervision and administration by a commission of the League of Nations, is not in itself a solution. The day will come when a Workers' and Peasants' Republic of Germany will quite naturally include the Saar. At present, however, the only immediate solution is the extension of the existing administration under the League. While it is admittedly no more than a temporary answer to the problem, it is the only one that we can justifiably sanction.

## Hitler vs. United Front

Hitler, of course, is making desperate efforts to guarantee in the Saar territory a victory which will cover up his internal failures. The people of Germany have not been informed of his numerous defeats in foreign diplomacy. He is spending millions of dollars for propaganda

in the Saar and is trying to win the population over by threats and demagogy, an art in which he is a past-master. But in these efforts he is only beating his head against the united front that has risen in the Saar.

Those who form the united front (all working-class organizations and their sympathizers) do not control the use of millions of dollars, but they have thousands of devoted followers, and these are more precious than wealth. The purpose of the united front propaganda is to show the exact nature of the Nazi regime and what would become of the Saar under Nazi rule.

A year ago the situation was extremely confused. The blind egoism and greed of the French capitalists had pushed the people of the Saar into the arms of Hitler, and it required our utmost efforts and the most vigorous kind of united action to clarify the situation. For this reason it was with great joy that we brought together on the same platform Socialist, Communist and Catholic speakers, who revealed to 80,000 listeners the plans of the Nazis and the exact state of affairs in Germany. And so we await with confidence the results of the plebiscite on January 13th.

What will Hitler do if the Saar refuses to rejoin Germany? This will be the pressing question of the near future. What move will be made by the French capitalists, who covet the Saar territory and who have invested enormous sums in its industries?

For the present both Hitler and French capitalists are watchfully waiting for an excuse to seize the country before the plebiscite. French capitalism claims that the Nazis are preparing a drive; the military chiefs have outlined the campaign. Hitler, remembering D'Annunzio's "trip" to Fiume a few years ago, is not losing any time in his plans to seize the Saar.

The Versailles treaty must create another "buffer state." To-morrow or the next day may turn the Saar into a battle-field out of which only two small groups, German and French capitalists, can derive profits.

## We Will Protest and Fight

Our position is clear. Neither France nor Germany has a right to penetrate the Saar, and we will protest and fight this move as we did when Poincaré occupied the Ruhr. France and Germany will find us on the side of the working class of the Saar in its struggle for the right to live and for the right of self-determination. Our fight against Fascism is to save the Saar from a Fascist regime.

Our struggle against War is a struggle against anyone, or any class, initiating a new slaughter. We are not living in 1914. We have learned many things since October 1917, and we will utilize these practical lessons in good time.



# PROFITING BY DEATH

By SLATER BROWN

*This is the second in a series of articles on famous munitions makers. A third will appear in the next number of FIGHT.*

## 2. DU PONT

LAST SEPTEMBER, when the Senate Munitions Investigating Committee was making certain armament manufacturers howl with rage at being forced to disclose the enormous profits they had amassed during the World War, people down in Washington began saying, "Just wait until they put the Du Ponts on the stand. What they made during the War and how they made it will put all other testimony in the shade." But when the great moment arrived, when the three Du Pont brothers: Irénée, Lammot, Pierre along with Cousin Felix arrived to tell their tale, something happened. Before these powerful and sinister figures, whose political prestige not only dominates their native state of Delaware but controls large sections of the federal government itself, the investigation collapsed. The four Du Ponts sat blandly before the Committee smoking cigars and smiling happily as if they had all just swallowed the canary.

And the powerless committee, upon whom pressure had been brought to bear even by the Secretary of State himself, sank into oblivion with hardly a gurgle. It had run into something even more explosive than the TNT the Du Ponts had manufactured during the World War.

### From Little Acorns

The Du Pont family is a comparatively old one in this country. It has been engaged in the manufacture of explosives ever since E. I. Du Pont de Nemours decided way back in 1802 that one of the most profitable businesses under an acquisitive society was manufacturing explosives for imperialist Wars. Inspired by visions of fattening off the slaughter of human beings he erected a powder factory in Wilmington, Del. It was a small factory then, but the War of 1812 came opportunely and the original Du Pont, supplying all the gunpowder for the American troops, quickly amassed a fortune which started the Du Ponts along their corpse-strewn way toward wealth and power.

Ever since that time the Du Ponts have been the chief source of military explosives for the United States. They supplied the government during the Civil War, the Spanish War and, of course, during the World War. From a modest beginning of only a hundred thousand pounds of powder a year they have during the last century and a quarter increased their production to such a degree that at the time of the Armistice their plants were capable of producing annually 893,000,000 pounds of high explosives. In carload lots, to express the figure graphically, this amount would extend along a track for two hundred miles.

Enough, to use another figure, to annihilate the entire human race.

### Corpses Into Gold

When the World War began the Du Ponts wasted no time in enlarging their factories and taking every advantage of the slaughter proceeding in Europe. They dispatched their high-powered salesmen to sell their high-powered explosives, jacked up their prices 25 percent higher than those applying to foreign business before the War, and began to rake in the foreign gold. It is impossible to learn how much the Du Ponts earned during the period before the U. S. entered the War, but we know that in 1916 the company was protesting a munitions tax of \$13,157,055 to the government. At that time the company was offering 100 percent dividends on its common stock alone.

But the Du Ponts' real profits began when the U. S., prodded into War by those capitalists who were casting an envious eye at the

supplied the Allied armies with 40 percent of the explosives, could boast that the total amount of explosives manufactured by them had reached the stupendous sum of 1,466,761,219 pounds.

Meanwhile, making the profits safe for the Du Ponts, 347 workers had been killed in the Du Pont Plants.

### In Time of Peace

At the present time the Du Ponts are busily occupied with their own family scandals, divorces, the Fascist *Liberty League*, and the manufacture of rayon, paint, rubber goods, cellophane, etc., etc. They announce through their press agents that at present only a small percentage of their profits is derived from the manufacture of explosives, but it is an open secret that practically every one of their sixty different plants in twenty-two different states could be transformed into munitions works almost over night.

The Du Ponts practically own the state of

October 6, 1934

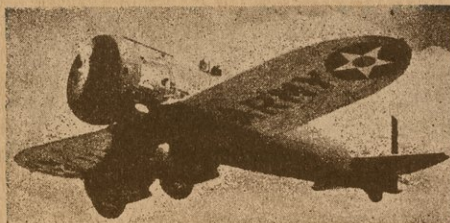
THE CHINA WEEKLY REVIEW

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*The U. S. A. in China!*

*A private American airplane concern advertising in a Shanghai paper the sale of War planes. A news story in the same paper broadcasts the fact that a special pursuit pilot has been given a "short leave from the United States Army to demonstrate in China" these airplanes*

## A WASP WITH A STING!



STANDARD FIGHTER FOR THE UNITED STATES ARMY AIR CORPS SOON TO BE DEMONSTRATED

BOEING FIGHTER P-26

IN CHINA

BOEING AIRPLANE COMPANY, INC. UNITED AIRCRAFT EXPORTS, INC.

HAMILTON HOUSE

SHANGHAI

This airplane is manufactured in Seattle at the Boeing Airplane Company's factory, located in Seattle, Washington, U.S.A. which is one of the largest in the world. Established in 1916, the Boeing Airplane Company started building fighter airplanes in 1921 and to date 1175 of these single seater fighter airplanes in 1921 and to date 1141 of which have been delivered to the U. S. Government Air Corps. A total of more than 1800 airplanes of 56 different types have been constructed including models which have earned international fame in both military and commercial fields. The Boeing Airplane Company is represented in China by Leslie A. Lewis of United Aircraft Exports, Inc. and Wallwood E. Beall, a sales engineer who has recently arrived from the Chinese Government by Mr. Beall and a special pursuit pilot, Edward Dorsey, who has been given a short leave from the United States Army Air Corps to demonstrate in China the new type of military tactics of which this airplane is capable.

Du Ponts and other War profiteers, began passing out fat contracts for explosives and other War materials. Business for the Du Ponts increased by leaps and bounds. The Du Ponts again expanded their plants, delivered flaming patriotic speeches to their workers and began raking in American dollars hand over fist. Their profits reached astronomical figures—more than 60 million dollars annually. When the War ended the Du Ponts, who had

Delaware. They are largely responsible for the notorious corporation laws. Through a holding company they control the only two daily newspapers in the state and their political influence has filled the state legislature with their friends and well-wishers, while their vast estates, built on the corpses of slaughtered soldiers, are larger, more expansive than, perhaps, the combined areas of all the soldier graveyards in Europe.



Steel workers in W. Virginia signing up in their own union in a demand that the steel barons recognize them in place of the company union created by the bosses

## COMPANY UNIONS

By **ROBERT W. DUNN**

Director, Labor Research Association

ON THE 4th of October this year, *Nemeth & Adam, Inc.*, manufacturers of Ladies' Hand Bags of 303 Fifth Avenue, New York, and Konkoma, Long Island, wrote a letter to the Secretary of Commerce, Washington, D. C., which read as follows:

Gentlemen:

We would like to form a company union, and wish to obtain some information concerning by-laws, registration, legality, etc.

We would greatly appreciate your help in furnishing this information. Thanking you for your courtesy, we are

Very truly yours,

This, we assume, is a fairly typical letter. Hundreds like it have been received by various branches of the federal government since June, last year, when the *National Recovery Act* was passed. With the passage of that act, and its famous section 7 (a), company unions have shown a remarkable increase throughout the country. Hundreds of new ones have been set up. In many cases company-sponsored athletic associations, mutual aid associations and factory clubs, which had previously nothing to do with "collective bargaining," were overhauled and transformed for the purpose of stalling off real trade unions and operating under the provisions of the N. I. R. A.

A recent study by the *National Metal Trades Association* shows that out of 94 metal companies with company unions, employing 218,625 workers, 75 of the companies (79.6%) employing 198,005 (90.6%) of the workers have set up their company unions "after N. I. R. A." "These facts," says the report of the N. M. T. A., "indicate that there has been a tremendous increase in the number of plans in operation in the plants of our members since the N. I. R. A."

Why all this development of company unions

since N. I. R. A.? The answer to this question reveals the basic purpose of these yellow agencies. Under section 7 (a) "collective bargaining" is recognized, but what kind and through what agencies is not indicated. The companies, of course, saw immediately that when trade unions threatened to enroll their employees, some kind of "collective bargaining" would have to be offered in its stead to keep the workers under company control and away from the influence of "outside agencies." Those companies that already had company unions in their plants were assured by John L. Lewis, president of the *United Mine Workers of America*, and a member of the Labor Advisory Board of the N. R. A., that "There is nothing in Section 7 that will destroy the company union as it now exists in any plant."

The fancy-salaried personnel men have, of course, written hundreds of thousands of words expressing the "philosophy" of "employee representation." We have read a good part of this sickening nonsense and it resembles in essence the phraseology of the Fascist "labor leaders" in Italy or Germany today. Note, for example, the words of H. C. Metcalfe, who as an authority on "personnel relations" and as vice-president of the *Continental Baking Co.*, tries to formulate the "line" of company unionism in such phrases as the following:

A spiritual integration of men and management.

Perhaps this is the finest flower of employee representation—loyalty.

A solvent for ill will and destructive friction.

But when we dig through this verbiage we find that company unions exist primarily to: (1) help the employer control his workers while giving them the pretty semblance of "participation" or some "avenue of self-express-

sion"; (2) help the company increase its profits by smoothing the process of exploitation including wages graded downward to the lowest levels possible; (3) stop the trade unions.

### How It's Done

There is no room here to elaborate on these points which have been fully developed in our *Company Unions*. Neither is there space to describe the various types of company unions or the differing forms they assume in different industries. The most common type is the one which begins when the workers are informed by the company that they must vote for "delegates" or "representatives" to a committee which will then go into conference with a committee representing the company to discuss various matters—none of which are of vital importance. Pressure of "loyal workers" (often professional "operatives" of detective agencies) and of bosses is applied to all workers in order to get out a big vote in the initial election. The slate of the company is, of course, the one from which the voter can pick. No matter whom he chooses as his "representative" he has chosen a "company man." If the majority of workers in the plant can be coerced into voting in the election the company then announces to the press that the majority of its employees have "endorsed the plan."

Elections are usually held once a year. In order to be eligible to vote in the election, or to be a delegate in the joint committee, certain restrictions are frequently set up such as American citizenship, a certain age requirement, an "educational qualification," a certain period of work in the plant. Everything is done to insure that the committee does not get "out of hand," that is, out of the control of the company which pays the piper and calls the tune.

Then after all the palavering in the "joint conference," which may meet, say once a month, the company has the final say. Even if by some miracle the "joint conference" should vote for a wage increase, the company's board of directors, representing the capitalists who own the concern, have the final word. If they say the wage advance is "inexpedient at this time" there is no wage advance.

In actual practice, however, hardly any company unions have anything to do with such crucial matters as wages. As Walter C. Teagle of the *Standard Oil of New Jersey* and Chairman of the *Committee on Industrial Relations of the Business Advisory and Planning Council of the Department of Commerce*, put it in a recent leaflet on employee representation, "Actually, the meetings deal largely with safety measures, sanitation, efficiency of operating methods, and small matters for which work [and here Mr. Teagle gives the game away quite naively, *R. W. D.*] the employer would have to pay others if it were not handled by these representatives."

### Who Has Final Say?

The employer gives up no essential rights under the company union. Discipline and discharge remain in his hands. His voice is final on everything.

It should be specially noted that the larger companies have been the chief users of the

(Continued on page ten)

# WAR GASES

IN THE TABLE below are listed some few of the War gases, among the hundreds and perhaps thousands that are known today, and their effect upon human bodies. It will readily be seen that these are not special products, but those used daily in the various branches of the chemical industry, or at least quickly transformable into such and are not the death gases customarily made in War plants.

Gases attack the human body in many different ways. Chlorine burns the lungs, the phosgenes attack the ramifications of the pneumo-gastric nerve and cause the filtration of a serum into the lungs, so that the victim is drowned in his own blood. He keels over, his thorax dilated, a bubble of foam at his lips.

Often the person who has been gassed is unaware of what has happened to him. Then after several hours suffocation starts and he dies a slow, agonized death of an oedema of the lungs. Other gases pass through the gas-masks, excite the nerves of the nose and cause such violent sneezing that the mask is lifted up.

Nitro chloroform brings on violent vomiting.

Tetra ethyl lead causes insanity.

Yperite, or mustard gas, causes terrible burns on the skin and mucous membranes. A piece of land that has been gassed with

yperite is dangerous for months afterward, for the heavy vapor continues to lie stagnant just above the surface of the ground.

A chemist in his laboratory is the master of any of these products, but the man who is caught in the vortex of aerial and chemical warfare is fighting an army of demons, each one attacking some part of his organism. Not only is he without the chemist's arsenal of antidotes and other protective devices, but he finds himself set upon simultaneously by steel, fire and smoke.

Aero-chemical Warfare means the mobilization of the chemical industry in the service of capitalism's need to slaughter.

Imperialists have accepted the struggle against chemical warfare without a murmur, light-heartedly, in fact. That is because they keep in their grasp the "peaceful" industries which automatically become War factories when need arises.

But the War makers rejected with horror the proposal of the Soviet Union delegation to the Disarmament Conference to confide the regulation and control of chemical warfare "to committees of workers in factories, and to their unions." At this point the imperialists showed their true colors.

Chemical science can bring greater well-being to the whole social body, but chemical Warfare will disappear only when War disappears, when the system that engenders it will have been defeated.



The Associated Press reports 10,000 workers and peasants murdered in the recent uprising in Spain, 10,000 wounded and injured and 20,000 imprisoned

(ABOVE) A woman leader of mine strikers in the Asturias marches proudly at the head of the column after she and thirty-two others were arrested in the forest near Les Branoseras

NAME OF GAS	DANGEROUS DOSE	EFFECTS ON MAN	INDUSTRY
Chlorine	150 millionths in volume	Destruction of lungs	Javel water (bleaching preparation used in laundries)
Phosgene	20 mmg. per cubic meter	Strangulation by acute oedema of the lungs	Dye industry
Diphosgene	50 mmg. per cubic meter	Strangulation	Synthetic Drugs Dye
Chloracetophenone (tear gas)	45 mmg. per cubic meter	Causes painful and excessive weeping	Perfume industry
Lewisite	several mmg. per cubic meter	Causes violent sneezing and toxic blistering	With 20 to 30 similar products with an arsenic base prepared for the pharmaceutical industry
Paranitrophenyl	2 mmg. per cubic meter	Causes violent sneezing and toxic blistering	Pharmaceutical industry
Nitro chloroform		Violent vomiting	Manufactured industrially as an anti-explosive for gasoline, etc.
Yperite (mustard gas)	100 mmg. per cubic meter	Burns skin and mucous membranes. Slow death	Has been manufactured industrially as an anti-explosive for gasoline, etc.
Tetra ethyl lead		Powerful poison, passes through clothing and is absorbed by skin	Pharmaceutical Dye
Hydrocyanic acid (Prussic acid Vincenite)	Fatal dose, .03 gr.	Paralyzes nerve centers	Various chemical industries
Oxide of carbon (carbon monoxide)		Violent poison which attacks red corpuscles	

# AMERICAN YOUTH CONGRESS

By WALDO McNUTT

**W**HEN A YOUNG lady by the name of Viola Ilma called the first *American Congress* a few months back she hardly foresaw the role that this gathering would play. Her plans, carefully mapped after a visit to Hitler's Germany, an interview with the Hitler youth "leader," and several discussions in Washington, called for the setting up of a *Central Bureau of Young America* which would co-ordinate all youth organizations under a common program. The common program was to be an extensive system of work-camps for all youth with a five year apprenticeship, during which youth was to work for glory instead of wages—a "spiritual renaissance," according to Viola Ilma, in reality Hitlerism in America. But the lady's plans were made without a consideration of the desires of her prospective followers—American Youth.

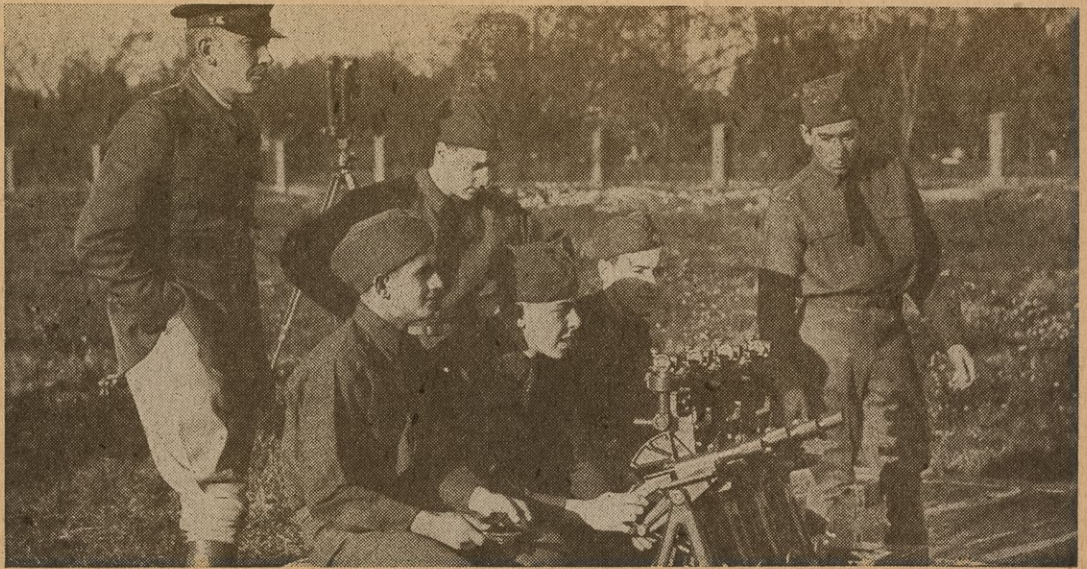
## Hitler's American Defeat

The *Congress* went through with a bang. But the bang was so loud that it resulted in Miss Ilma and her very small group of followers fleeing and leaving the most impressive united front of youth to forge a real program. The Committee set up at the first *American Youth Congress* was composed of the Y. M. C. A., church groups, *Young Peoples Socialist League*, *Young Communist League*, etc., etc. Elizabeth Read, of the *National Student Federation of America* was elected chairman; the writer, of the *Student Y. M. C. A.*, vice-chairman.

The Committee, profiting by the Ilma fiasco and realizing its important mission, is now planning a second Congress of American youth to be held in Washington in January. Miss Ilma dreamt of being a female edition of Hitler. She imagined that the delegates called together would submit to her as to a Pied Piper of Hamelin. She therefore disregarded the most elementary democratic rules. People who represented no one, but were good friends of hers; unknown and gullible authors who paid ten dollars; organizations specially created for the occasion all were represented. Organizations with tens of thousands of members like the Y's national student organizations, like the *Student League for Industrial Democracy* also got one delegate. In the *Youth Congress* now being planned delegates will be allowed on the basis of one to every hundred members. Whereas bars were set up at the first *Congress*, no one will be kept from the one to be held in Washington. There will be no surprise rules sprung on the delegates the day they arrive.

## For Work, Life and Play

The *Second Congress* is being prepared through intensive activity throughout the en-



Under direction of an army officer, Harvard students go through gun drill

tire country. Regional Congresses are being prepared. New organizations will be reached with the program which found such favor a few months back. It is a program full of promise. The resolution dealing with War and Fascism is similar to that of the *Youth Section of the American League*. There are points against child labor, for government unemployment insurance, against the Civilian Conservation Camps, for full wages for young workers, against militarism in the schools. It is a program that will not meet with much favor on the part of Washington officials. And that is one of the reasons why Washington was picked as the meeting place of the Congress. After discussion by the delegates, Representatives and Senators will be presented with the cold facts. They will be visited and urged to listen to the needs of American youth. Delegations will call on the President, the various congressional leaders and will seek to swing them for a real program designed to get at the ills of the system that causes millions of young people to go idle.

On the subject of War the Congress plans to bring before its gathering members of the Nye Committee that brought to light the international munitions racket and to probe even deeper into the "bloody munitions" international. On this subject youth above all others has a right to speak out in bold terms.

## The Lines Are Forming

As these plans go forward Viola Ilma is still struggling for a hold on American youth. She continues to put forward her reactionary plans. But she finds the opposition which she thought pure "New York radicalism" crushing her elsewhere. Miss Ilma called for a Youth Conference at Rutgers College in New Jersey. Here her spiritual adviser was Bernarr McFadden, the purveyor of newspaper filth. Again progressive youth stole the Conference and had it join to the coming Washington gathering.

She has now announced her intention of moving west in the hope that among the corn-stalks things will run smoother. The first step she says is a conference in Davenport, Iowa. The youth that smashed her Hitler program in the East will do the same in the West. There

can be no let-up in the fight against Fascism. The Ilma movement is a definite attempt to turn American youth into Fascist channels.

The aggressive attack against these Fascist tendencies coupled with the aggressive program to be put forward at Washington in January is crystallizing the ideas of American youth in the struggle for a better life.

## ATTENTION, WASHINGTON!

**D**R. BENJAMIN RUSH, signer of the Declaration of Independence and surgeon in the Revolutionary War, wrote:

"Let the following inscriptions be painted on the sign which is placed over the door of the war offices:

1. An office for the butchering of the human species.
2. A widow and orphan making office.
3. A broken bone making office.
4. A wooden leg making office.
5. An office for creating public and private vices.
6. An office for creating public debt.
7. An office for creating speculators, stock jobbers and bankrupts.
8. An office for creating famine.
9. An office for creating political diseases.
10. An office for creating poverty and the destruction of liberty and national happiness.

"In the lobby of this office let there be painted representations of all the common military instruments of death; also human skulls, broken bones, unburied and putrefying dead bodies, hospitals crowded with sick and wounded soldiers, villages on fire, mothers in besieged towns eating the flesh of their children, ships sinking in the ocean, rivers dyed with blood and extensive plains without tree or fence, or any other object but the ruins of deserted farm houses. Above all this group of woeful figures, let the following words be inserted in red characters, to represent human blood: NATIONAL GLORY."

# SAAR COAL AND IRON

By **CARLTON BROWN**

**O**N JANUARY 13th the people of the Saar will vote by districts on these three points: (1) union with France; (2) union with Germany; (3) maintenance of the provisional régime established in 1919 by the Versailles treaty.

France was granted the right to use the Saar mines in reparation for her own mines which were damaged during the War. The loss of the Saar would create a great industrial crisis in France, since the provinces of Alsace-Lorraine alone consume 18 million tons of coal annually and only produce 4 million tons. If the plebiscite favors the return of the Saar to Germany, that country must repurchase the mines owned by the French Government. In the event of non-payment at the end of a year, the mines involved will be liquidated. The French Government has covertly expressed its fear that if the plebiscite is unfavorable, it must sacrifice its Saar mines at a price fixed by arbitrators.

## In Defense of Property

Apart from the French Government's interest in the Saar coal mines, there must be considered a group of powerful French industrialists who own important rights in the Saar iron works. These magnates are determined to retain their control of the Saar or fight Germany in the attempt. They are resolved to come out winners in the plebiscite by means of propaganda; and if this fails, then by force. They have formed a conspiracy to keep France in the Saar at all costs. In the effort to defend their own profits, they have secured control of newspapers in the Saar, they have subsidized the most vicious kind of propaganda, and, finally, they are encouraging agitations which can have only disastrous consequences. It is significant that the head of this conspiracy, M. Théodore Laurent, vice-president of the *Comité des Forges* of the Saar, who has subsidized the press campaigns and stirred up agitations which must inevitably result in a bloody conflict, is himself a manufacturer of munitions.

A plebiscite favorable to the sovereignty

of France would play directly into the hands of the industrialists who have been exploiting the rich Saar mines since the Versailles Treaty.

## Hitler at Work

German capitalism, by means of propaganda and terrorism, is making a desperate attempt to swing the Saar plebiscite in its favor. Germany has promised to take over the whole output of the Saar district and even sink new pits in Warndt. The radio and the Fascist newspapers are daily repeating these promises. If the Nazis gain control of the Saar, they will have to sell 5 million tons of Saar coal annually, if they are to live up to their promise of continued employment for the people of the Saar.

Can they do it?

Before the War the natural market for the Saar coal was South Germany, in addition to Lorraine and the Saar itself. In the year 1913 the total sales of Saar coal to South Germany amounted to 2,214,568 tons. In 1920 the *Ruhr Coal Syndicate* commenced to oust the Saar coal from the South German markets. In 1933 the sales of Saar coal to South Germany had been forced down to 495,872 tons. Despite the fact that the Saar coal was ousted from South Germany, 210,000 miners, 48 percent of the number employed in 1913, were dismissed in the Ruhr district, while in the Saar only 8,769 miners, 24 percent, were dismissed.

The following table shows the development of the markets for the Saar coal:

	TO FRANCE	TO GERMANY
1913.....	1,045,163 tons	4,717,934 tons
1931.....	3,479,472 "	863,220 "
1932.....	4,041,518 "	914,221 "
1933.....	3,980,004 "	947,922 "

In addition, 153,000 tons of German Ruhr coal were imported into the Saar district in 1933, as compared with 98,000 tons in 1932, and none at all in 1913. This increased import of Ruhr coal into the Saar was due to

the policy of the *Ruhr Coal Syndicate*, which in 1933 reduced the price from 13.15 marks per ton to 12.50 marks. The cost had to be borne by the Ruhr miners, whose wages were cut and working conditions worsened.

The Fascist-controlled press of the Saar promises prosperity to the Saar metal workers, if they come under German sovereignty; yet in a neighboring district in Germany, in the Opel factory alone, 8,000 metal workers have been dismissed. In addition, there are plans under way to send 100,000 miners of the Ruhr compulsorily to East Prussia to work on the land.

## For the Status Quo

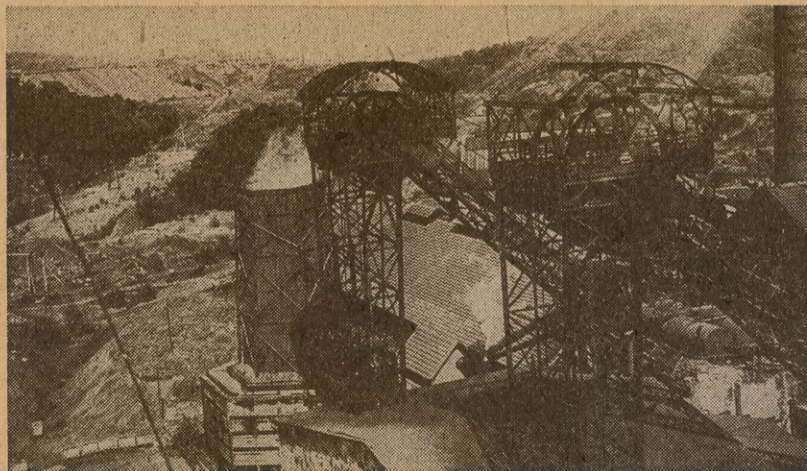
The Nazis, in their attempt to gain control of the Saar, are free with their promises. The facts indicate conclusively that if the Saar becomes German its products will have to be scrapped, its people thrown into unemployment.

In spite of the unusual terror created in this district by Hitler and his Nazi machine, the working class population is organizing and fighting for the status quo. They are uncompromisingly opposed to the Hitler Nazi régime, as these workers have a living example in Germany of what happened to their organizations and their standard of living under Fascism. Only recently, out of the 800,000 Saar residents there came to an anti-Nazi meeting more than 80,000 workers representing a united front in the Saar—Catholics, Communists, Socialists, etc. This united front stands against the return to Germany as long as Hitler's party is in control. They favor Point 3. They say, "Let things stand as they are. We will fight both German and French capitalism."



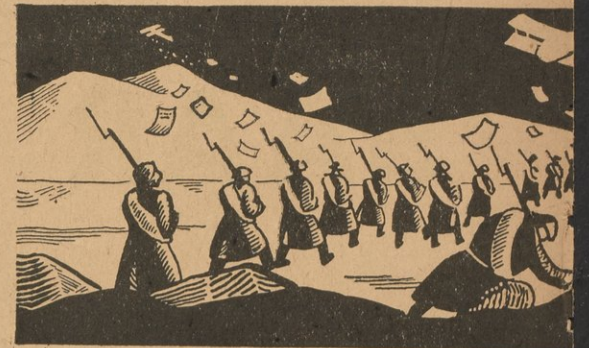
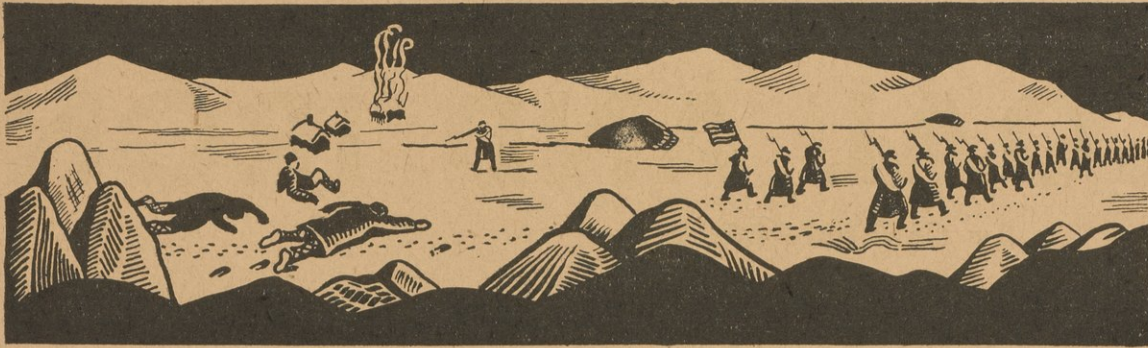
*Coal into Blood!*

*Will Hitler declare War to gain for the Nazi régime the valuable coal and iron areas in the Saar?*



## JOHN STRACHEY

Treasurer of the British Anti-War movement and author of "The Coming Struggle for Power," will give his initial lecture in the U. S. for the support of FIGHT, under the auspices of the *N. Y. City Committee of the American League Against War and Fascism*. The subject will be, "Storm Over Europe." Mr. Strachey's lecture will take place at Mecca Temple on the evening of December 28th.



"Then came Arctic Winter. Dark depressing Arctic nights. Frozen Fingers. Slaughter. And more leaflets. (You soldiers hold the

# Soldiers in Revolt

By RICHARD STUART

"PROCLAMATION: There seems to be among the troops a very indistinct idea of what we are fighting for here in North Russia. This can be explained in a few words. We are up against Bolshevism which means anarchy pure and simple. Look at Russia at the present moment . . . Bolshevism has grown upon the uneducated masses to such an extent that Russia is disintegrated and helpless, and therefore we have come to help rid her of the disease that is eating her up. We are not here to conquer Russia but we want to help her and see her a great power. When order is restored here, we shall clear out, but only when we have attained our object, and that is the restoration of Russia."—Proclamation issued to the troops of the Northern Expedition by the High Command of Archangel.

"The Government of the United States has never recognized the Bolshevik authorities and does not consider that its efforts to safeguard supplies or to help the Czechs in Siberia have created a state of war with the Bolsheviks."—Cablegram State Department, Washington, D. C., to David R. Francis, American Ambassador at Archangel, September 27, 1918.

"Under the guise of combatting 'Bolshevism' the peasant population has been mercilessly annihilated; entire villages have been burned down and looted, and men, women and children have been slaughtered."—Report of the Special American Delegation to the Far Eastern Republic on the results of intervention to "give aid to the Russian people."

"I have heard an officer tell his men to take no prisoners, to kill them even if they came unarmed, and I have been told by the men themselves of many cases when this was done. I saw a disarmed Bolshevik prisoner, who was making no attempt to escape and no trouble of any kind, and was alone in charge of three armed soldiers, shot down in cold blood. The official whitewash in this case was that he was trying to escape."—Ralph Albertson, Y. M. C. A. Secretary with the Northern Expedition in his book "FIGHTING WITHOUT WAR."

"It has always been a cardinal axiom of the Allied and Associated Powers to avoid inter-

ference in the internal affairs of Russia . . ." signed, G. Clemenceau, D. Lloyd George, Woodrow Wilson, V. E. Orlando, Saionji.—Allied and Associated Powers to Admiral Kolchack, September 26, 1919.

"You soldiers are fighting on the side of the employers against us, the working people of Russia. All this talk about intervention to 'save' Russia amounts to this, that the capitalists of your country are trying to take back from us what we won from their fellow capitalists in Russia. Can't you realize that this is the same War that you have been carrying on in England and America against the master class? You hold the rifles, you work the guns to shoot us with, and you are playing the contemptible part of the scab. Comrade, don't do it!"—From a Bolshevik leaflet written in English and scattered over the invading American lines.

I

To the south of Archangel as far as two hundred miles, the invading forces of the Allied Northern Expedition into Russia were fighting the Red Army. On Armistice Day, 1918, American forces met the Bolsheviks at Toulgas in a bloody battle. With bullets came leaflets. The War was over. But was it? The Allied command said no.

## Rank and File Speak Up

The French soldiers decided to quit the Front, command or no command. They marched back to Obozerskaya in a militant mood. "The War is over in France," they cried. "We're through. Down with War!" Ninety were arrested. Soon after a large unit of the Slavo-British Allied Legion, composed principally of Russians conscripted by force, went over to the Bolsheviks. A mutiny by another unit of this same legion at Alexander Nevsky Barracks in Archangel was put down by American machine-guns with tremendous bloodshed. The High Command was worried. Messages were dispatched with haste to London. Winter was setting in and ice would soon block all reinforcements.

In Kodish a Bolshevik orator penetrated and at Emtsa bridge addressed the troops stationed there. He spoke perfect English. He spoke of the Armistice and called upon the

troops to stop fighting. Then a Scotch soldier and an American soldier, who had been prisoners of the Bolsheviks, spoke on behalf of the Bolsheviks. The officers had told the soldiers that all prisoners captured by the Bolsheviks were promptly done away with. Here were soldiers telling of the hospitality and good treatment they had received. British soldiers began to sabotage orders. Discontent was in the air. Bolshevik leaflets urged the soldiers to arrest their officers. The officers were losing sleep.

Then came Arctic Winter. Dark depressing Arctic night. Forty-five and fifty degrees below zero. Snow clogging in rifle breeches. Frozen fingers. Slaughter. And more leaflets.

## Hunger and Whiskey

The commissary transport broke down. The principal ration was frozen canned corn beef. The result was skin diseases and dysentery. The medical officer of the First Battalion reported one third of the troops on active duty should be sent to the hospital. But there were no replacements. Back in Archangel two hundred miles from the Front, two hundred miles from the icy pine and tundra waste, officers, diplomats from England, Serbia, Finland, France, Bohemia, old Czarist Russia, Poland, held afternoon teas, receptions, matinees, banquets, dances. The British G. H. Q. had brought with it 600 surplus officers and 40,000 cases of the best Scotch whiskey. The officers were to command the tens of thousands of Russians who would rally to the cause of the Allies in the name of patriotism. It didn't work out that way. A limited number of peasants were conscripted by force, but there was still a large supply of surplus officers.

Then there was the new Russian Government to which the United States had sent an Ambassador. It had been formed in London (not in Russia) and through the courtesy of the British Government transported to Archangel. It was composed of *cadets*, *Minimalists*, members of the *People's Party* and *Social Democrats*, and its first official duty was to call for intervention "in the name of the Russian people."

## American Soldiers Rebel

By February the troops at the Front became more and more restless. For whom and what were they fighting? For the capitalists, Bolshevik leaflets told them. No satisfactory explanations had been made by the High Command. Perhaps the leaflets were right. At Toulgas the American soldiers threatened a





Drawing by M. Pass

rifles, you work the guns to shoot us with. Comrade, don't do it!) That soldiers should think proved tragic—for the War makers."

"walkout" unless assured by the officers of immediate relief. At Kodish a company of British refused to fight further. A mood of rebellion surged through the ranks of the Allied troops.

Then in March came the incident in Archangel. Soldiers who had watched their officers in a busy round of gay parties, who had seen the empty whiskey cases piled high behind the officers' clubs, were called upon to make ready for the Front. At Smolny Barracks, American soldiers refused to move. Before the barracks stood a convoy of sleighs ready to take the troops and equipment to the railroad station. Inside the soldiers sat.

A large Y. M. C. A. hall was procured and the soldiers assembled. Colonel George W. Stewart, Commander of the 339th Infantry, surrounded by officers, read that *Article of War* which pronounces death as the penalty of mutiny. Deep silence followed. The Colonel looked at the soldiers before him and asked, "Are there any questions?" A soldier rose. "What are we here for, and what are the intentions of the United States Government?"

The Colonel had no answer. Those who wished to disobey the command, however, were asked to step forward. No one moved. The officers heaved a sigh of relief. The soldiers went back to the barracks and started packing in silence.

But the authorities were worried. News of the rebellious mood of the troops had reached official circles in the various Allied capitals. At this time whole companies of Russian conscripts went over to the Bolsheviks at Skenkurst. But the French, American and English troops, too, were discontented and restless. They were increasingly raising embarrassing questions, making demands, and disobeying orders. It was apparent that Bolshevism was not being confined to Russians. The American Government decided on withdrawal. The British sent reinforcements, but after a number of incidents where British officers were shot by their own men, the British, too, abandoned the Expedition.

Imperialism withdrew still covetous but unstrung from the horrible experience of inordinate workers in uniforms. That soldiers should think proved tragic—for the War-makers.

# "They're My Boys"

By PAUL PETERS and CHARLES R. WALKER

From a play called "The Third Parade," based upon the bonus march to Washington, D. C.

## SCENE IV

**A**N OFFICE in the White House. A small gilt table and three chairs—that is all you can see. General Harcourt, superintendent of police, is in uniform, arguing bitterly with Secretary of War Hurley. Harcourt is tall and direct, composed. Hurley is a prissy man, pompous and explosive. Sitting back, chewing a fat cigar, and watching both men with arrogant appraisal, is Mills, Secretary of the Treasury.

Hurley—(Standing, shaking a finger at Harcourt across the table). There are five thousand of these tramps in the city now. By the end of the week there will be fifty thousand of them. Do you realize what that means? Fifty thousand hoodlums and malcontents; here in Congress. Why, that's the makings of a rebellious army. If some radical agitator struck a spark in that tinder-pile, Good Lord! There's no telling what would happen. We'd all have to pack up and get out of here. And you're encouraging them. You're urging more to come.

Harcourt—(Patiently, as if he has explained before) Mr. Secretary, that's not so. You know I've sent telegrams to Governors, Mayors and railroad presidents all over the country urging them to discourage the bonus marchers.

Hurley—As soon as they get here you start feeding them.

Harcourt—I can't see them starve, can I? They're my boys, you know. Many of them soldiered in France under me.

Mills—(Removes his cigar; blunt) Come, come, Harcourt. You're not talking to the newspapers now.

Harcourt—Hungry men are dangerous, Mr. Secretary. How would you people in the Treasury Department like to see these men go red?

Hurley—And what's more, you went to the National Guard and borrowed sixteen tents from them.

Harcourt—You wouldn't let the War Department give me any.

Hurley—(Throwing up his arms) The War Department give you any! My God, why should I?

Harcourt—You want them to sleep out in the rain, do you?

Hurley—I don't give a damn where they sleep as long as it's not in Washington, D. C.

Harcourt—I surely hope you don't think the Police Department wants them here.

Hurley—I don't know what the hell the Police Department wants. You're a new one to me, Harcourt. I've never seen a police chief like you before. First you announced in the papers you wouldn't let them in. Then you backed down and said, "All right, boys. You can stay 48 hours, but that's all." Well, the 48 hours are up. Now where the hell do you stand?

Harcourt—Now I suppose you'd like me to shoot them?

Hurley—I'll tell you this much, Harcourt. If the Police Department can't handle this situation with a firm hand, then By God! the War Department will. (He bangs his fist on the table.)

Mills—Now wait a minute. Sit down. Let him talk.

(A pause)

Mills—Smoke? Harcourt?

(Offers him a cigar)

Harcourt—Thanks. (He cuts off the end and lights it.)

Mills—What's your game, Harcourt?

Harcourt—I wish I could convince you gentlemen that I want the same thing you want. I want to get these men out of here. There's only one question of difference. And that is, how?

Mills—Exactly.

Harcourt—It seems to me that what the administration is forgetting is the power of public opinion and the press.

Hurley—(in contempt) Agh, the press!

Harcourt—All right, I agree. The press can be handled—up to a certain point. But public opinion's another thing. You start pulling this rough stuff too crudely and I'm here to tell you you're going to put your foot in it. I know. One of my men beat up a little Communist vixen when they held that demonstration in front of the Japanese Embassy last spring. And you know what happened.

Hurley—Nobody's going to object to your beating up a few Communists.

Harcourt—These men aren't Communists.

Hurley—What about those Reds from New York and Michigan?

Harcourt—They're veterans. What's more, they're out of jobs and they're broke. It just

so happens, Mr. Secretary, that some fifteen million people in this country are in the same boat. Now whether we in Washington like it or not these fifteen million are pretty damned sore about conditions in general. And if you've got any idea that they're not behind these soldiers 100 percent, you're mighty mistaken.

*Hurley*—That don't make them any less dangerous. If they're not Bolshevik now they've got the makings of them.

*Harcourt*—They'll go Bolshevik a damned sight quicker if you drive them out of the city with force. Somebody's got to tell the President he can't do that here. I've tried to, but he won't listen to me. This is the national capital, gentlemen. You can shoot hungry people down in some parts of the country; but Mr. Secretary, it looks bad in Washington, D. C.

*Hurley*—What do you mean; shoot hungry people down? Why, that's the—

*Mills*—Now wait a minute, wait a minute. Take it easy, will you? (A pause. *Hurley* snorts and paces up and down. *Mills* gets up, puffs at his cigar a minute, and then turns crisply on *Harcourt*) Look here, *Harcourt*. These men are embarrassing the President. This is an election year and the administration doesn't want them here. What's more, this business of descending on Washington and expecting the government to feed a horde of shiftless men is setting a dangerous precedent. Let a thing like that once get started and there's no telling where it will end. The treasury's got troubles enough already. It's your job to get them out of here.

*Harcourt*—That's just what I'm trying to do, Mr. Secretary.

*Hurley*—I'll be damned if I see it.

*Mills*—How?

*Harcourt*—A young fellow named Rivers came to see me the other day from Oregon. He's ambitious, this Rivers is. He wants to be commander of the bonus army. So I made a deal with him. He's to have the title and all the honors; but though he may not know it, Rivers isn't going to command this army, gentlemen.

*Mills*—Who is?

*Harcourt*—I am.

*Hurley*—How do you figure that out?

*Harcourt*—Rivers is my tool. He'll do what I tell him to or get out.

*Mills*—Suppose the men object to this?

*Harcourt*—They won't. They won't have anything to say about it. We're organizing 500 M. P.'s with clubs down there under police control. Besides, I've got my spies all over the place. Nobody can make a move that I won't know about beforehand. The first man who sounds off—out he goes. That will take care of the Reds: I've got that all arranged. What the police can't do legally, the M. P.'s can.

*Hurley*—But the rest of them—how will you get them out?

*Harcourt*—I've got control of their funds. To the rest of them we'll be friendly, keep the food thin on them and bide our time. Once Congress has voted on the bill—and you know how they'll vote—it will be easy enough to convince them how futile this whole thing is, and send them home. Meanwhile I've got them sewed up tight down in the mudflats



Drawing by Paul Gerchik

"Why that's the makings of a rebellious army. If some radical agitator struck a spark in that tinder pile, Good Lord! There's no telling what would happen. We'd all have to pack up and get out of here."

of Anacostia: three miles from the capital, surrounded by an embankment, a river, a drawbridge, and two battleships. It's going to take time, gentlemen. But any other course, I warn you here, will be disastrous.

(Continued from page four)

company union, for it helps them to control large masses of workers who otherwise might fall under the influence of the trade union movement. The corporations that now operate company unions are the big ones, the most representative ones, the companies that produce for War, that already have their allocations and "educational orders" on file for Wartime production. Bethlehem Steel, U. S. Steel, Youngstown Steel, Wright Aeronautical, General Motors, Goodyear Rubber, International Harvester, Chrysler, Pennsylvania Railroad, du Pont, General Electric, the Big Four packing trust, Standard Oil—these are examples of companies that over a period of years and many of them long before the N. R. A. developed, have developed the fine art of fooling their workers with schemes of "employee representation."

In 1932 the National Industrial Conference Board found that 63% of the membership—if it can be called such—in the company unions which they surveyed, was in companies employing over 15,000 workers. And the recent survey of the National Metal Trades Assn. shows that the great majority of workers covered by company unions in the metal industry were in eight plants of 5,000 and over. In fact 174,026 out of 218,625 workers in company unions surveyed by the N. M. T. A. were in these eight plants.

Not only have the big companies in the basic

industries set the pace in the introduction of extensive systems of company unions. All the leading trade and employers associations have given them their strongest endorsements. Some of them, such as the National Association of Manufacturers, have issued special booklets dealing with the technique of setting up a company union. They advise their members to consult with them about the special situation in their plants before attempting to establish one of these schemes.

### Company Unions=Fascism

Fascist seeds are easy to plant in company union soil. In fact, the employers that have introduced them have frequently expressed the underlying principles of Fascism in the labor field. As we have noted, they talk of the "community of interest between capital and labor." They speak of themselves as the true "leaders" of their workers in whom they try to develop the most abject company and patriotic loyalty. They combine their honied words about "spiritual integration" with the most ruthless application of spy and blacklist systems and call on the police powers of their government to smash strikes, prevent picketing and restrict the operations of trade unions.

Every enemy of War and Fascism should join in the fight against the company union. The employers hope through the medium of the company union to destroy labor militancy and to keep it loyal to the profit system and to the War machine used to protect U. S. imperialist interests. So when we fight the company union, working within it as we must in some cases in order to turn it into a real union, we are lending very real help in the fight against War and Fascism.

# The New Deal In Canada

By BARNEY CONAL

**M**OST AMERICANS still seem to picture Canada as a rather liberally treated colony of England's, a vast and for the most part frozen territory sparsely settled and of little significance among the world's nations. Yet the truth is that Canada is a young, wealthy and increasingly important capitalist country.

Canadian capital controls 24 billions of its estimated national wealth of 30 billion dollars; and American investments are four billion dollars to Britain's two and a quarter billion. Add to that the fact that there are few if any capitalist countries where finance-capital has developed monopoly to the intense and taut degree that it has in Canada. Forty banks have been merged into ten and of these three control 70% of the banking business of the country. The same holds true for all the business and financial establishments of any importance—directorates interlocking like a Chinese puzzle.

## Monopoly Capital in Action

When the crisis began to waste Canada, the perpetration of N.R.A. codes must have seemed a ridiculous gesture to those in power. There were no anti-trust laws to revoke, there was no excuse for the pretense of corralling an industry already controlled by a few financiers. When the masses began to complain of the pinch, the conservative financiers' government of Prime Minister Bennett (himself and five ministers of his cabinet millionaires) resorted to direct action. It poured its political program into the already fixed monopolistic mould of the country's economic structure. As elsewhere there were enough convenient coercive measures lying dormant within the democracy's laws to fit the critical moment. (There were sections 98 and 501 of the *Criminal Code* and sections 41-42 of the *Immigration Act*. The unemployed, of which there were soon one million, the foreign born trying to circumvent starvation, the growing militant unions, were suddenly confronted by the LAW.)

## The Birth of the Terror

On charges of disorderly conduct, vagrancy, watching and besetting, interference with traffic, acting suspiciously, houses were searched, picket lines smashed, women beaten and vicious prison sentences imposed in Montreal, Rouyn, Noranda in Quebec, in Toronto, New Toronto, Hespler, Stratford and many other towns in Ontario, in Vancouver, in Alberta—from one

end of the country to the other. Under section 98, the eight most trusted leaders of the militant workers were given long prison terms, and others incarcerated in that most vicious of all Canadian dungeons, the Bordeaux prison in Quebec. Under sections 41-42 of the *Immigration Act* thousands were deported.

## Labor's Answer

Still the most typical false-face of Fascism—its political and economic demagoguery—had not been donned. And this followed only after the attempt to smash the militant unions had proved itself a failure. Instead of disappearing these unions had trebled. The conservative government found itself confronted by an ever swelling flood of militancy that was organizing the farmers and threatening to engulf even the sedentary contractual unions. Even the large class-stunted Catholic unions of Quebec province showed signs of cracking. And in the first half of 1934, when unemployed demonstrations, hunger marches and strike after strike swept the country, while at the same time even the middle class voters were seen to be swinging from the Tweedledum of the Conservative Party to the Tweedledee of the Liberal Party, then even this most forthrightly reactionary of parliamentary governments saw the neces-

made Canadian workers wary. But at the same time, everywhere, so that it was not difficult to see the relationship, Fascist organizations appeared alongside the code. The *National State Party*, the *Parti National Social Chretien*, *Knights of Confederation*, *Blue Shirts*, *Swastika Clubs*. In the streets of Winnipeg, Brown Shirts marched on a workers' demonstration. In the small industrial towns of Ontario organized hoodlums attacked workers' meetings and employers terrorized and fired employees who hinted at the remotest interest in unionization.

## Issues Are Clear

Thus, in Canada, with its small population and its vast sweep, the crystallizing Fascism was unable to camouflage itself behind numbers or within the intricate labyrinths of a large middle class. The issues are clearly visible and Fascism's roots in the already closed economic dictatorship easily discernible. Everywhere there are signs that the workers are seeing through the demagoguery of the codes and the purport of shirted and uniformed and employer-run organizations. The Fascist attack in Winnipeg was smashed in the streets by the workers.

A United Front of 60 organizations repre-

*Tweedie and Snapper  
Great Britain launches  
another of its great,  
new type submarines  
at Chatham. "Snapper"  
is seen sliding down  
the ways, after being  
christened by Lady  
Tweedie*



sity of going around the bog. In province after province codes sprang up establishing official minimum wage laws, giving superficial official sanction to collective bargaining, and clamping down government-run arbitration boards.

But it was a little too late. American disillusionment with the N.R.A. codes had already

senting 150,000 members have already organized the *Canadian League of Youth Against War and Fascism*; and a huge congress held on October 4th and 5th organized the adult workers and professionals from coast to coast. Imperialist Canada has to reckon with masses who have become rapidly enlightened and are becoming increasingly militant.

# NEWS from the FRONT

MILWAUKEE, Wis.—More than ten thousand workers joined the United Front anti-War, anti-Fascist demonstration here on Armistice Day in front of the new court house. Sponsors of the demonstration included the Federated Trade Council, American League Against War and Fascism, Communist Party, representatives of the Socialist Party, of labor, veterans' and liberal organizations.



An *Associated Press* dispatch from Berlin reports:

"Propaganda Minister Joseph Goebbels, who eighteen months ago sanctioned the burning of some of the world's classic literature because it offended Nazi sensibilities, today asked Germany to support authors whom National Socialism approved. Dr. Goebbels said: 'As a people we have become poor in material things, but we are rich in inexhaustible things of the German mind.' . . . The Nazis now choose the six best books of the month—without exception biographies of Nazis, or histories of Nazis . . . Berlin's many book stores seem empty of customers. Attendance at libraries has dropped considerably."



Chicago, Ill.

Brothers:

Inclosed find \$2.50, the sum I pledged as delegate at the Congress in support of the League. I am a member of Bakers Union No. 2. Upon report after the Congress we decided on getting monthly 20 magazines (FIGHT) and give \$5 as additional part of Congress expense. I will also act for more individual subs for FIGHT upon my return from Springfield.

I remain an Active Delegate,

JOE RUBY



The Socialist and Communist Parties in Trumbull County, Ohio, united in the recent elections supporting the Socialist county ticket and the Communist state ticket. The joint announcement, signed by Fred Wilson and Albert Beatty for the S. P. and Joe Dallet and John Steuben for the C. P. reads in part: "The terrible experiences of Germany and Austria, where a divided working class was temporarily defeated by the Fascist armies of capitalist reaction and all the labor organizations were declared illegal, has opened the eyes of workers everywhere. Either we unite our forces now in common battle against the common enemy, or we must experience in America the horrors that our German, Austrian and Italian brothers have undergone." Joint meetings were held in Warren, Girard, Niles, Youngstown and other cities in Trumbull County.



Rockford, Ill.

Dear Sir:

The Rockford delegates are already working on a program for immediate future work to organize the League in this territory and this Union has pledged its moral support. We remain with best wishes for the League,

EDGAR PEDERSEN,  
Secretary, Bricklayers Union,  
Local, No. 31.



Special New York *Times* correspondent in Brussels writes:

"The newspapers announce that there will be no more 'war games' over crowded cities in Belgium. The recent simulated gas attacks here led to demonstrations against war. . . . The gas attacks created a kind of a panic and have made war increasingly unpopular in Belgium instead of popular, as was intended. . . ."



Drawing by Mackey

Two Bankers! (LEFT) Frank Belgrano, Jr., San Francisco banker who headed the vigilante committees in the recent longshoremen's strike, now chosen as Commander of the American Legion. (RIGHT) Rudolf Hecht, ally of Huey Long, elected President of the American Bankers' Association

Bessemer, Alabama.

Dear Brothers:

The delegate to the Second U. S. Congress from the Women's Auxiliary Local No. 3, of the International Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers Union has been terrorized so much since she returned that she has failed to make her report to the union. She told friends that certain people put guns in her face and threatened her if she dared to report. We want you to send the Congress reports registered to the secretary of. . . . Also will you please send a bundle of FIGHT to. . . . Please keep the addresses secret because it will mean terror against these people.

Fraternally,

X. Y. Z.



Chicago, Ill.

Dear Friends:

Please turn over \$2 of the enclosed money order to the League. Perhaps this Committee thinks that such pledges are only for encouragement or rather false alarms, that the pledge would be forgotten. We carry on its work!

A SERGEANT OF THE ILLINOIS  
NATIONAL GUARD



BRAZIL—In spite of being driven underground, the Brazilian Committee movement against War and Fascism held a Congress at the end of September. A national rally of the Fascist Green Shirt organization held on October 21st in Sao Polo was broken up by a mass demonstration of workers.



Paris, France.

Dear Comrades:

We call your attention once more to the tasks of the nation-wide campaign in favor of the heroic Spanish combatants and their families.

Thousands of militants have been killed in the struggle or assassinated after it. Thousands of insurgents have been wounded and imprisoned and tens of thousands of families are starving and freezing to death because whole cities and villages have been destroyed by the bombardment. Twenty-one heroic Spanish and Catalonian insurgents have already been sentenced to death by the court martials.

We must stop the hangman's arm. We must help the Spanish anti-Fascists. Telegrams and letters should be immediately sent to the Spanish government to prevent the execution of the prisoners and to urge their release. Deputations must be organized to the consulates and embassies of Spain. . . .

Yours fraternally,

HENRI BARBUSSE

# U.S. WOMAN in GERMANY

By INEZ BARR

THE CASUAL tourist in Nazi Germany will only see the beauty and charm of the countryside and it will fill him with joy. He will find it hard to believe the atrocity stories, the frightful conditions of political prisoners and of those held in hostage.

However, it will not be long before the charm turns to fear.

At the request of the American delegation to the *Women's International Congress Against War and Fascism* held in Paris last August, I was designated to make an inquiry into conditions in Germany. In every session of the *Congress*, the largest and most representative gathering of its kind ever held, almost constant reference was made to women held as hostage prisoners in Germany. The *Congress* finally passed a resolution providing that a delegation of American women be sent into Germany to inquire into the facts.

I was chosen, I am sure, only because first of all I had come from Milwaukee where a large percentage of the population is of German ancestry, and secondly, while not of German blood, I had been quite outspoken in my faith in German culture.

During the World War, we in Wisconsin had known the full impact of anti-German propaganda and had become completely disillusioned as to the stories of atrocities. We had come to realize that they were but part and parcel of the War psychology, deliberately planned to inflame the people of one nation against the people of another. I can say honestly that I went into Germany hoping to find that the reports made at the *Congress* were not true.

I confined my inquiry into just a few of the outstanding cases of the many mentioned. Our delegation had been instructed to examine those cases only in which women, held as political prisoners, could by no stretch of the imagination be accused of anti-Nazi activities; women who were confined in the concentration camps as hostages for former members of the Reich, or former political leaders.

## The Case of Frau Biemler

A case that aroused much feeling in our delegation is that of Frau Biemler who has been in prison eighteen months. Her husband was a Communist member of the Reichstag from Munich. I met him in Paris; he had escaped from prison and was in great mental anguish, for his wife had been imprisoned immediately upon his escape.

She had been put into a dungeon, beaten, tortured, starved and had suffered all the indignities that accrue to those thus held. Her sister, who had become alarmed at her absence (like others she had been taken in secret), began to make inquiries. For such a serious offense she, too, was arrested and put into a concentration camp. The young man to whom

she was engaged to be married began to inquire about her in turn and he, too, was arrested for this and put in another concentration camp.

Frau Biemler's two children were left to shift for themselves. The girl, twelve years old, works in a grocery store for twelve marks per month, about six dollars; the boy, nine, is in a school that has all the earmarks of a

like her. Unless we do our part I feel that we become party to their suffering and probable death.

## A Former Hitlerite Speaks

One Sunday afternoon we sat beside the grave of a young man who had been tortured to death. He had been a teacher and a polit-



*Women in the home?*

*German women being trained for War by the Hitler régime*

reform school. He cannot be released to anyone, much less go to his father in Paris. Frau Biemler was a good wife and mother, according to even the present German standards, for she did not take any great interest in politics or in other activities outside her own home. She is held hostage for her husband who, if he returns to Germany, she has been told, will be shot. Her husband, in great mental anguish, does not know what to do. We all urged him to remain in Paris, hoping we could have his wife released, his children given back to him. At present there does not seem much chance for Frau Biemler to be released.

## A Wedding Present

We investigated the case of a young woman, twenty-eight years old, who on the arrest of her fiancé, a member of the Reichstag from East Prussia, hurried to Berlin and was permitted to marry him in prison. Immediately after the ceremony she was arrested and put into a cell in the same prison, and as a wedding present, suffered the horrible experience of seeing him shot. He was marched into the courtyard of the prison, after which she was brought out into the yard to see him killed. She is dying of tuberculosis. Her hair is gray. She is a pitiful sight. She, too, may remain in prison unless we women, the world over, put pressure upon the German government to release her and thousands of others

ical organizer, a youth who gave his life for having the courage to believe in and work for a new social order.

His story is the story of thousands of youth. It came from the lips of his mother. She holds herself responsible for his death and for the misery of present-day Germany.

She had believed Hitler, his promises of economic security, of a new social order, a place for Germany in the sun, its restoration to a powerful place among the family of nations. Her son tried to show her and thousands like her that a Fascist dictatorship would destroy everything. But she broke with him and voted for Hitler.

With tears streaming down her face and her lips trembling she begged us to carry her message to America, to build a united front now while there is time, to forego our political, social and religious differences and to unite now against our common enemy—War and Fascism. Unless you do, she said to us, you will have the united front we now have, in concentration camps and in cemeteries.

## The New Inquisition

The blanched faces, the fear stricken eyes of those who in whispers undertook to tell the story of life under Fascism gave birth to a full realization of the tragedy of the German

(Continued on page fourteen)

# TOYS and GAMES

By Dr. W. M. SCHOLL

The writer of this article, author of a book on religious beliefs, is a biologist interested in the origins of customs which led him into a study of the antiquity of play. Dr. Scholl is well known for his collection of ancient games and toys and is the inventor of a game called REV, which depicts the modern struggle of classes.—EDITOR.

Children are very sensitive to suggestion. The toys and games of children establish many of their mental reflexes; these in turn condition basic reactions in later life. Militarists have applied this fact for ages. What is more typical of the old War lord than his delight in watching children play with soldiers? Automatically the child reaches for and wants to handle his hero's old sword or gun. Somewhere along the line, this complex gets automatically associated with the child's national flag. The thing is so commonplace that most persons never think about it.

The pre-Egyptian militarists applied the principle for their own profit when they glorified the early game of *The Sacred Way*, meaning via the battlefield, from which practically all board games have evolved. The later Scandinavians applied it when the victors kicked the victim's head around a field and called out the children to watch and laugh, the old game of *Skael* or skull, from which evolved football, and the later practice of striking the head with a War club or bat, the fore-runner of baseball.

## War Propaganda for Profits

The organization of millions of people for imperialist War is fed from many sources. Wars are inseparable from competitive politico-economies; and the powers of such economies know this. They are the first to patronize nationalistic, jingoistic organizations. The rest is relatively easy for them. When other competing profit-powers threaten their own existence, it is only necessary to start feeding publicity designed to create fear, hatred, enthusiasm and glorify defending "one's" country. Even the sex element is applied by idealizing nurses and sweethearts on posters.

Right now, the U. S. A. is in the early stages of such a militarist campaign. And, apparently, toy makers are quick to sense probable demand for War toys and that such will be glorified. Recently I visited several toy fairs, and one of the sales leaders involves a whole new array of miniature War implements, soldiers, dolls dressed like nurses. Marketing experiments have already been made. Hundreds of thousands of dollars are being spent for new military toys for the Christmas season. Indeed one firm I know of

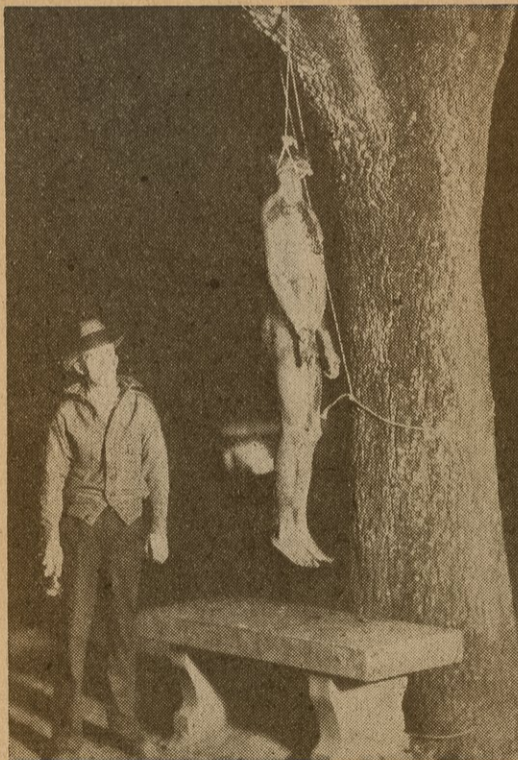
spent \$30,000 for new, modernized War toy moulds.

## Class Struggle in Games

All toys and games may be divided roughly into two categories: games to escape reality, and realist games. Every realist game symbolizes some politico-economic condition existing at the time of the game's invention. A history of realist games is a history of politico-economic evolution.

Primitive individualism is symbolized in early *Mah Jong*. The player using tiles hopes to build a wall symbolizing security by mastering the "dragons" symbolizing beasts and by mastery of the "winds" symbolizing natural forces. Philosophical refuge regarding what you cannot possibly get, is symbolized by understanding the use of the game's "flowers."

The hand of the militarist has already been mentioned in the game of *The Sacred Way*. But the farmers whose crops were seized by passing armies found *Via the Battlefield* poor sport for farmers. So the farmers invented



Claude Neal, 23 year old Negro, taken from a Florida jail, tortured and killed

*tau*, meaning robbers or dogs. The board symbolizes their fields; the game still survives as modern checkers. The checker kings were early designated by an Egyptian word meaning sons of she-dogs. Indeed, all early authentic checker games have pieces carved in the form of dogs or dogs' heads.

The Chinese political game of *Choke-choo-hong-ki* endured for centuries, and was used to teach realist conditions at that time, probably an anti-War game although it is a fighting game. It was played with two sides: radicals colored red against conservatives colored blue. It combined play with teaching; the players to be taught were illiterate. They could not even understand each other because of language differences; but all could play and catch the meaning of a game.

Another anti-militarist game is reflected in the Hindu *Sepoys Versus Maharajah*, roughly meaning popular will against the maharajah. But the popular overthrow of their parasites was not quite shrewd enough. So we find *Chatauranga*, far eastern feudalism, on a game board. Traveling westward, it became *esceec-shah*, meaning check (French) the *shah* (Persian), or modern chess.

## Conditioning through Games

Chess presents the Warfare inseparable from competitive states. The game originated in feudal times, and tells a story. The rooks are self-evident strongholds. The knights are the kept militarists, each side of the War being blessed by two bishops, symbolizing existing theologies. But in the earlier forms of chess, instead of bishops were elephants, because in Oriental cosmologies and metaphysics an elephant mounted on a sacred turtle symbolizes contact with gods; the earth is supposed to be carried on the elephant's back. As for the pawns of chess, they are so many serfs or workers conscripted into the military for the benefit of their respective overlords. To those who do not catch the significance of chess, it is straight out and out War propaganda. To others, its meaning is far more profound. The superficial player may say that all War games are just toys; but the fact remains: his unconscious processes become conditioned. Of course War toys do not cause War, but they do help to pave the way for it.



## IN GERMANY

(Continued from page thirteen)

people. As we visited the families of some of the political prisoners (the Hitler government admits that there are 200,000 political prisoners), heard the stories of starvation of torture, of the brutal treatment measured out to those who opposed the Fascist Nazi party, there were times when we felt we had been transplanted to the Spanish Inquisition.

I came out of Germany believing the opposition of the German people is so determined, so heroic that Fascism will be overthrown; that a people as intelligent and courageous as the Germans will some day join hands with us and other nations to build a world of Peace and Plenty for the masses, that the old capitalist order will crumble and disappear. We have now the greatest opportunity ever given a people to speed that day.



# BUILDING the LEAGUE



By IDA DAILES

Assistant Secretary

DU TO THE increased amount of activity on the part of City Committees and the organization of new Committees, it is impossible to give a complete picture of the activities of various sections of the League. Within a few weeks, therefore, the first issue of a *News Letter* will be sent to all City Secretaries, to keep them informed of what is being done in other cities and to carry suggestions for improving and extending their work. All secretaries are urged to contribute material for this *News Letter*, which will be issued once a month.

Five Connecticut cities sent delegates to a conference held in Bridgeport early in November. Lodges of the *Templars* and *Norden*, fraternal organizations, were represented. Tours to reach every community in the state are planned. Congress delegates have been making reports before A. F. of L. unions and other organizations. A program of activity for the winter is under way which should result in real organization in this center of the munitions industry.

The Los Angeles Committee is establishing a Speakers' Bureau, a Research Bureau, classes in social history, and a weekly radio broadcast. A Southern California conference will be held some time in February.

The Regional Conference of the Pittsburgh Committee takes place at the *Irene Kaufman Settlement* November 25th. Dr. Ward will be the main speaker, representing the National Executive Committee.

The Tacoma, Wash., Committee is concentrating its work among the lumber workers. It is reorganizing from a committee of individuals to the basis of a City Central Committee.

Kalamazoo, Mich., has organized a provisional committee with official participation of Socialists and Communists. The Committee expects to get support from trade union and student bodies.

At the time of writing, credentials are coming from many organizations for the *New York City Conference* against War and Fascism to be held November 24th. The main object of this Conference is to popularize the decisions of the Congress, to broaden the scope of activities by drawing in wider masses of the population, particularly the trade unions and workers in the War industries. The Conference will elect a new Executive Committee for New York City. A mass delegation will be sent on November 28th to the Board of Education protesting against War propaganda and military training in the schools.

John Strachey, treasurer of the *British Anti-War Movement*, will give his first lecture of the new season for the benefit of

FIGHT, under the auspices of the New York Committee of the League on December 28th, at Mecca Temple.

Bayonne, N. J., had a city conference on November 6th. They have organized several study groups, plan a card party and dance, for fund-raising purposes, and held an Armistice meeting on November 14th. The Committee is now working to set up shop committees against War and Fascism in the *Standard Oil*, *American Radio*, and *Electric Dynamo* plants.

The Bridgeport branch held an anti-Fascist demonstration on the occasion of the visit of Hans Borchert, German Consul-General, to that city. Seven workers were arrested and a vigorous campaign for their release followed the arrests.

Our Portland, Ore., Secretary writes, "Since I returned we have had a mass meeting with the delegates. We were very successful, as we drew in people that we never had before, and it really looks at last as though we were going to have the united front."

In preparation for the Wisconsin State Conference, our secretary writes: "On the basis of the tours of Mrs. Barr and Rev. Compere, we can definitely count on from 50 to 75 delegates from churches, clubs, fraternal and labor organizations. We have the good news from Kenosha that the *City Trades and Labor Council* and the *Nash Automobile Workers Union* have each elected two delegates to the State Conference. Also wide interest for the Congress has been stimulated in Milwaukee among Socialist circles due to the splendid united front Armistice Day parade."

Among the speakers who accepted invitations to address the conference at the time of going to press are: Dr. Baxter, Socialist mayor of West Allis; Rev. Walter Geske, pastor of the North Milwaukee Presbyterian Church; Morris Childs, District Organizer of the *Communist Party*, and Mrs. Clinton Barr of the *Women's International League for Peace and Freedom*.

Our Toledo, Ohio, secretary writes: "With less than 10 days to secure delegates for the Second Congress, we got a splendid local representation from A. F. of L. locals, mass organizations and liberal groups. Upon our return, we met and completed plans for broadening our committee, arranging a mass meeting, and calling a widely publicized and popularized city conference. Our conference committee includes Socialist Party members; several ministers, now building a church peace conference which we hope to link to our movement; representation from the local chapter of the *Women's International League for Peace and Freedom*; from the local *Parent-Teacher Association*, as well as mass organizations, the *Communist Party*, and a Musteite delegation."

## YOUTH SPARKS

THE PITTSBURGH Youth Committee is working hard for the November 25th conference which will take place in that city. On Armistice Day an anti-War meeting held in that city was participated in by the Alleghany County Youth Council, *United Christian Student Movement*, the Y. W. C. A. and Y. M. C. A. of Pittsburgh University, *Carnegie Institute of Technology* Y. W. C. A. besides other groups. All of these excepting the first have already agreed to send delegates to the conference.

The National Committee has taken steps to broaden the movement which should serve as examples to the various city committees. A few weeks ago a number of settlement house workers were called together to consider ways of building the *Youth Section* in these institutions. Sixteen of them answered the call and set up an executive body of six members. This group is already engaged in concrete activity to test the best ways of approach to each house. Several anti-War meetings have already taken place with clubs formed. The clubs are affiliating with the *Youth Section*.

Following up the achievement of the *Second Youth Congress* in getting to a number of young people's church groups, the National Committee has also turned its attention to building a nation-wide movement in the churches. The *Agenda Club of Union Theological Seminary* in New York is undertaking this as its project for the year. Working under the guidance of the National Committee the members of this club will get out literature for churches, have a speaker's bureau and seek to have youth groups in the churches affiliated with the *Youth Section*.

The Youth Section is also working now, together with the Women's Committee of the League, to set up a Children's Committee. This committee will turn its attention towards getting out literature for children, suggestions for leaders of children's groups on the problem of education against War and Fascism. It will not seek to build children's branches, but rather to co-operate with existing children's organizations.

The last meeting of the National Bureau of the Youth Section has set two major tasks for the next two months. These are the *International Student Congress Against War and Fascism* to be held in Geneva in December, and a drive around the Civilian Conservation Camps. During the last few months newspapers and military magazines have been carrying on an insidious drive to turn the camps into undisguised military establishments. There is talk now of making the camps a permanent institution.

Petitions are being issued demanding that military officers be taken out of the camps immediately and that the boys be given unemployment insurance.

The dues of individual members in the Youth Section have been set at 50 cents per year to be sent directly to the National Office. All members will receive copies of material to be issued throughout the year by the National Office.

J. L.

# THIS WINTER

## The League

## FIGHT

A new Congress will soon meet in the warm halls of the Capitol. For the American people it will be the sixth winter of the crisis. Cold, cheerless and vain tramping for jobs. Scraps of charity food for the millions of unemployed, for impoverished farmers, for their children and wives. Congress will vote hundreds of millions of dollars, not for relief of the sufferers of capitalism, but for enforcing laws that lead to Fascism, for battleships, cannons, gas, planes for another War. Join the American League Against War and Fascism in its fight to turn War funds over to unemployed relief. Defend yourself and those dear to you against Fascism and War by becoming a member of the League TODAY!

Front page news—Fascism and War. Subjects for every day anxiety. The capitalist press is preparing the American mind for the acceptance of Fascism and War as "inevitable." FIGHT informs you of the schemes of the Fascists and War plotters. FIGHT informs you of the progress by the American League in arousing mass resistance to the forces menacing your safety, your life. Tens of thousands are already reading it. Like them you will find it interesting, authoritative and helpful in your desire to stop these scourges. FIGHT is our educator, agitator and organizer. Subscribe to it today! A year's subscription will make a welcome Christmas gift to your friends. Use the coupon below.

### Information Request for Membership in the American League Against War and Fascism

I, the undersigned, pledge my wholehearted support to the fight against War and Fascism. I wish to receive information about activities of the League.

Name.....

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Occupation.....

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