

THE CHALLENGE OF YOUTH

WAR PROPAGANDA
How the American 60 Ruling Families use . . .
THE PRESS
THE MOVIES
THE COMICS
THE RADIO
THE ADVENTURE MAGAZINES
ADVERTISING
all the devices of propaganda to drag us into war.
(SEE PAGE 3)

Jobs, Not Guns!
NOT ONE CENT TO DEFEND WALL STREET PROFITS!

VOL. III, No. 17—DECEMBER 1, 1939

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

Price 2 cents

BIG BUSINESS LEADERS BLAME U.S. JOBLESS YOUTH FOR WAR DRIVE 'Liar' Is Answer of Youth Spokesman

The Last Time We Died for "Democracy"

Once again let us see—what did the last war "to make the world safe for democracy" mean?

In Human Lives

Of the 65,000,000 enrolled in military forces, there were:

"Missing"	4,000,000
Seriously wounded	6,500,000
Otherwise wounded	14,000,000

TOTAL CASUALTIES 34,500,000

In Goods and Dollars

Total cost: \$40,000,000,000. The United States contribution might have provided, says Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler, enough to give each family a \$5,000 house—on a \$500 plot—with \$1,000 to furnish it.

United States Steel profits skyrocketed from \$77,075,000 in 1912 to \$478,204,000 in 1917!

The workers everywhere paid—and still pay—for the bosses

Fun for the Kiddies-- In Wartime Style

ROCKABYE BABY

On the tree top
When the wind blows
The cradle will rock
When the bough breaks
The cradle will fall
And down will come baby
Cradle and all.

No, you don't want to sing that song to the children of England anymore. That won't help Chamberlain and Churchill win their bloody imperialist war.

No, that lullaby—of peace and love—that is of the past, forgotten. Now the English boys and girls will be given miniature war toys, not lullabys.

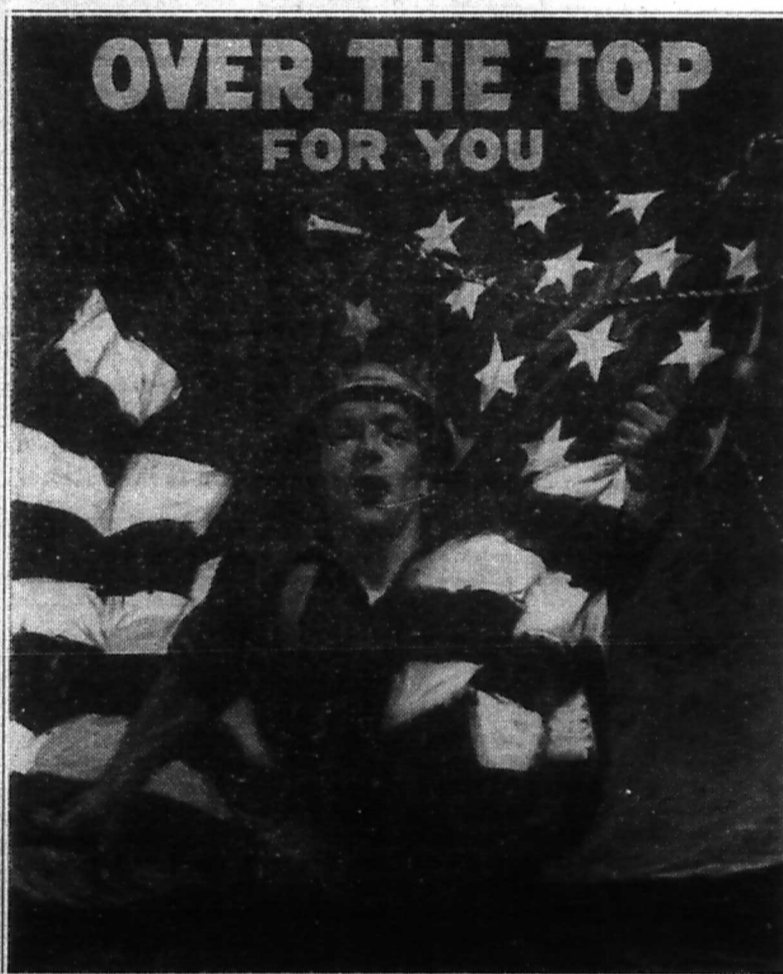
They will be given mechanized war toys which realistically copy the Western front. That is how

England builds its "new civilization" of Democracy, Freedom, and Culture—let the kids grow up in an atmosphere of a toy Maginot line so that later they'll be ready to face the real one.

The toys are noisy and realistic. There are "big guns" that throw wooden shells with a high degree of accuracy, balloon barrages, airplanes, automatic mobile tanks, anti-aircraft batteries and spark-spitting machine guns.

The British boys, wearing his tin helmet, will work out war strategy on a whole section of a battlefield laid out with trenches. The realism will get its final touch by miniature nurses to take care of the wounded—and the dead.

SUCKERS BAIT



This is a picture of a poster used during the last war to recruit American youth into the army that was fighting to make the world safe for the profits of the Ruling 60 Families.

It is also a picture of a poster that will, in one form or another, be used by the government in Washington, which represents the Ruling 60 Families, if we allow it to continue on its present drive toward war.

The propaganda mills are working at full blast. Tons and tons of lies, of filth, of deceiving propaganda are being churned

(Continued on Page 3)

AN EDITORIAL

The report of the "American Youth Commission"—we use quotation marks because they do not represent American youth—is really important.

This commission speaks for American capitalism. It is worried about American youth—not because it wants to give them jobs. (It never worried about that before, nor did it do anything about it.)

It's worried because American youth represents a great force of potential revolt—what it calls "its dangerous nature."

And it knows damned well that American capitalism can't find a real solution to the problem of unemployed youth.

So these clever shyster lawyers, paid to think up bright apologies for the bosses, pull a fast one.

They say that the unemployed youth represent a drive toward war. Do you get it?

The economic system of the Youngs and Harrimans can't provide for youth. It leaves them starving on the streets without jobs.

Then this economic system—capitalism—prepares its drive toward war—for the purpose of the bosses, not the people; for the purpose of

(Continued on Page 2)

"Owen D. Young is a liar when he says that American unemployed youth are a driving force toward war," declared Nathan Gould, national secretary of the Young People's Socialist League (4th International) and author of "Youth Want Jobs," the YPSL pamphlet which gave a 3-point program for Jobs for Youth. "Furthermore," declared Gould, "Young, as the mouth-piece for the ruling class offers a rotten solution to the problem of unemployed youth. Youth cannot live on \$400 a year. If Owen D. Young thinks so, let him try it first."

In a widely publicized report issued last week, the "American Youth Commission"—composed exclusively of adults—declared that if a large number of unemployed youth continue to exist in America, they would act as a potential drive towards American entry into war. The report of the commission—headed by Owen D. Young, until recently President of the billion dollar General Electric corporation—said:

"The continued pressure of unemployment on youth, in the midst of a war boom, will add to the degree of drifting into active participation in the war."

(Continued on Page 2)

At Least Some People Make a Living

The report of the "American Youth Commission" recommends the "bold" plan of giving youth jobs at wages of \$400 per year—\$7 per week.

Let us see for a moment what some of these gentlemen of this "commission" make a year in salaries. This does not include profits on investments. . .

(1) Owen D. Young, when president of General Electric—a mere \$235,000 per year.

(2) Major R. E. Wood, of Sears Roebuck Co.—only \$100,000, just \$35,000.

Don't you think it's rather generous of such obviously underpaid fellows to advocate a wage of \$400 per year for American youth?

The CHALLENGE Is in Danger--It Needs Your Help!

This issue of the CHALLENGE of YOUTH is being published by straining every effort and utilizing all the credit we have left. THE TWICE-A-MONTH CHALLENGE of YOUTH IS IN DANGER OF SUSPENSION. The CHALLENGE of YOUTH is in a financial crisis resulting from non-payment of debts by the Units and Divisions and a virtual cessation of efforts to obtain new or renewed subscriptions. The total bills outstanding amount to the enormous sum of \$422.12 and there are close to 400 subscriptions that have ex-

pired and not renewed. These are the problems which we must meet squarely if we are to CONTINUE the publication of the paper.

The National Council of the Young Peoples Socialist League, recognizing the crisis of our press, is instituting a drive to maintain our paper. We are not asking for new donations but just for FULL PAYMENT OF THE BILLS OUTSTANDING and a DRIVE TO GET NEW AND RENEWED SUBSCRIPTIONS. (See "Challenge Brigade", page 2, for details).

This drive and the Anti-War Fund Drive ends January 15th. At the LLL meetings that will be held at that time the awards for these drives will be announced.

PAY THE CHALLENGE DEBTS IMMEDIATELY SO THAT WE CAN CONTINUE PUBLICATION!

GET SUBSCRIPTIONS! FULFILL ALL OBLIGATIONS AND QUOTAS!

IT CAN BE DONE! IT MUST BE DONE! IT IS NOW UP TO YOU!

CATHOLIC YOUTH AGAINST WAR

The students of Catholic colleges in the nation, generally considered the most conservative are overwhelmingly opposed to the United States entering the war in Europe, according to a nation-wide survey of Catholic student opinion conducted by America, Catholic weekly.

More than 54,000 students in 141 Catholic colleges answered the five questions concerning the United States and war.

Over 97% of the students declared themselves opposed to the entry of America into the war. However, when the students were asked whether they believed America would eventually enter the war, a plurality of them—45%, with 26% doubtful—said yes.

To make their anti-war sentiments concrete, over 75% of the Catholic students polled said they were in favor of a national referendum before allowing the country to declare war.

Conscientious Objectors

The most significant test came however on the final question. When asked what course they would pursue in case America were actually involved in a war, the significant number of 36% answered that they would be conscientious objectors!

The significance of this poll is obvious. Despite the conservative educational systems of most Catholic colleges, a large number of Catholic students refuse to have any part of an imperialist war. It is obvious, of course, that they are not revolutionary Socialists. But they are not patrioteers, either. And their pacifism—their desire to avoid any participation in a war—lays the groundwork for development to a real and lasting anti-war position: the Socialist struggle against boss war.

It is that task to which the Y.P.S.L. (4th Int'l.) will devote itself—not only the Catholic students, but all the youth must be won to struggle against imperialist war.

Want Seven Dollar Wage for Youth

(Continued from Page 1)

The commission advocated Federal expenditures as a method of finding "useful employment" for youth.

It indirectly admitted the existence of a serious danger to the continued existence of the capitalist system in America—which danger served as the stimulation for their suggestions—by saying:

"There is all the more reason for strengthening this weak point in the national fabric (the existence of unemployed youth as a threat to the boss class system—Ed.) as soon as possible, now that its dangerous nature is evident."

This danger of youth revolt, the commission declared, necessitated some form of aid, lest it get out of control.

The report of the "American Youth Commission," besides its reactionary politics on the war question (See Editorial—adjoining column—Ed.) contains proposals to "alleviate" the economic conditions of youth.

This report, written by America's leading Coupon Clippers, proposes a wage of \$400 for government youth projects as adequate to solve the problems of youth. This wage, it declares, also should include the "necessary" administrative expenses for carrying out such a government program. On the basis of previous "New Deal" programs for youth, this program would probably cut into the proposed wage by about \$35. Thus, these Coupon Clippers declare themselves for a wage of about \$7.50 per week for American youth—far below even the present skimpy handouts of the NYA and infinitely below the generally acknowledged level for adequate upkeep.

NOTE
If your wrapper carries the key number **26** your subscription expires with this issue. Mail in your renewal at once so that you will receive the next issue without interruption.

'Sure, I'm Against War, But What Will You Do if Japs Attack'

QUESTION: "I am against war, too, but what would you do if Japan or some other nation invaded the United States?"

ANSWER: First: all this ballyhoo about the Japanese invading the U.S., is part of a lying propaganda campaign on the part of the boss-controlled press to scare the American people into support of Roosevelt's huge expenditures for the Army and Navy—money which should be used for WPA jobs, unemployment relief and slum clearance.

Military experts have proven once and for all that no country could successfully invade the United States. Moreover, a war between the United States and Japan would be conducted not on U.S. soil, but on Chinese and (or) Japanese soil, with the U.S. using the Philippines as a base.

But even if it were true that a foreign nation could conduct a war

QUESTION: "What would the Y.P.S.L. do about it?"

Well, the Y.P.S.L. up to the last minute before the outbreak of war tries to explain to people that the war is not in their interests, but in the interests of a handful of Big Money Men like Morgan and Du Pont. If, when the war started, there were enough people in this country who were wise to the real reasons behind the war, the Y.P.S.L., together with the Socialist Workers Party, would help the people to organize to take over the factories and shops and run them for the interests of the workers, and to form a Workers and Farmers Government to replace the present Morgan-Rockefeller Government. This Government would try to reach the Japanese soldiers to tell them to revolt against their oppressors just as the Americans had done.

Suppose, on the other hand, at

on United States soil, would that be good and sufficient reason for the workers and farmers of this country to support the U.S. Government in the conduct of such a war? The Young People's Socialist League says NO!

The first question a young fellow must ask himself is: "What would this war be fought over?" Japan would be fighting to protect her Empire in China and the United States would be fighting to protect and extend its interests there. You and I, having not a single penny invested in China, unlike Morgan and Rockefeller, have no reason to support Morgan and his crew in their war to safeguard their investments in China.

QUESTION: "What would the Y.P.S.L. do about it?"
The outbreak of such a war, the American people were completely fooled by the boss propaganda and supported the War. Then it would be foolhardy for an individual here and there to try to offer resistance to the draft authorities by himself. But the Y.P.S.L. would continue to work against the War. At a proper moment the workers and soldiers could establish a Workers' Government.

Summing up: Once the workers take over the factories, they have something to defend; once the farmers expropriate the bankers who own their land, they have something to defend. Once the workers and farmers together set up their own Government, they will defend it with their lives. But so long as the Sixty Billionaire Families run this country, so long as the average man doesn't own enough land to bury a cockroach in, he's got nothing to defend.

SOCIALIST STUDENTS POLL LARGE VOTE

Polling the surprisingly large vote of 484 first votes in the elections of City College Legislative Assembly, the Socialist Anti-War Party, which ran on a Fourth Internationalist platform, came out first among the radical parties participating in the school elections recently. The Legislative Assembly is empowered to take political attitudes in "the name of" the student body.

The 2 other "left-wing" parties ran far behind the Socialist Anti-War Party which elected all five of its candidates. The Stalinist group, the "Communist Anti-War Party," polled 330 votes, while the "Youth Committee Against War" polled 360 votes.

The Socialist Anti-War Party ran on an outright Fourth Internationalist platform, pointing out that only the working class struggle for socialism could really end war. The total vote for the Socialist Anti-War Party was a gratifying response to this platform.

Old Man's M-Day Planned in War

Even the older men won't escape M-Day. Says a British banker: "A middle-aged man can drive a tank as well as anyone else. In the next war the oldest people should drive the fastest mechanized units. Science has made war a much more suitable occupation for middle-aged men than it was in 1914."

EDITORIAL—

(Continued from Page 1)

protecting the investments of the Youngs and Morgans. But they place the blame, in advance and not too openly yet, on the unemployed youth.

WHAT THEY WANT

They want to be in the position to be able to say: No, we imperialists didn't cause this war; it was the drive of unemployed youth looking for a solution that dragged us into the war.

We say: they are liars, plain and fancy and unmitigated liars. The troubles of American youth are caused by the boss system and the boss government, which doesn't give us a chance to live.

But American youth, by and large, isn't so dumb that it thinks its problems can be solved by entry into war. American youth does not want war. The Ruling 60 Families want war.

We, American youth, resent this rotten attempt of the boss class to palm their war-mongering moves off on us.

We intend to fight them to the limit, to smash their rotten war-making system.

That is our answer to the 60 Families and their "youth commissions."

FREE SPEECH FOR BROWDER

What is our attitude toward the recent step of Harvard University in preventing Earl Browder, Stalinist leader, from speaking?

This question has been asked of us by a number of young workers who desired to know how, in view of our severe denunciations of the Stalinists, we could attack the arrest of Browder on a patently phony charge and the subsequent refusal to let him speak.

We hold no brief for Browder. We believe that Browder and his Stalinist cronies are themselves responsible for their present difficulties. Their support yesterday of "liberal" capitalist politicians paved the way for their suppression today.

But we believe that it is the job of the workers to drive Stalinism from their ranks—not the job of G-Men or Harvard University.

An attack today on the right of Browder to speak is an attack on the genuine revolutionists tomorrow.

Let Browder speak—in Harvard and in Yale and Dartmouth where he was subsequently invited by student groups. Let him expose himself by defending Stalinism before the students.

But let's fight for the right of any working class group—no matter how degenerated—to speak. And that includes Browder.

Struggle of Czech Students Reveals Resentment of Workers

When the history of the actions of the European working class against the 2nd World War is written, the students of Czechoslovakia will occupy a place of honor. For they were the first organized group in Europe to demonstrate in large numbers and through militant actions their opposition to "their" government.

And a number of Czech students have paid with their lives for daring to demonstrate against the Hitler government. Several thousand Czech students have been arrested and sent to concentration camps.

What is the significance of these revolts?

The Nazi officials dub the revolts as the work of "Trotskyist Communists" in communiques as early as October 27. This is rather doubtful, despite the heroic anti-war

struggle being carried on by the Czech Trotskyists.

Spontaneous Action

Much more likely is it that the revolts are spontaneous nationalistic movements of the students without clear organization or even clear aims. But the really important thing is that the workers of Prague responded to the call of the students and, according to newspaper reports, it was necessary for the Nazis to fire on the workers' districts with artillery to quell the revolts.

The students themselves can do very little. But their revolts signify the deeper, more significant rumblings among the workers. And once the workers of Europe move into action, then the mighty empires of Hitler, Chamberlain, and Daladier will crumble into the dust.



By the Business Manager

We have always dedicated our column to the hard-laboring, long-suffering enthusiasts who ring doorbells and gather subscriptions that the CHALLENGE may live. At this time it is opportune to add a gleam of light to their eyes, new energy to their youthful limbs... a bit of Socialist competition to spur them on.

We have another, a more serious purpose. From issue to issue during the last three months we have been printing warnings. With this issue we reached the limit of our credit. We owe money to the printer for several issues. Unless we can liquidate our debt the next CHALLENGE does not appear. Below we are publishing the list of Units and their debts. We expect every Unit and Division to liquidate its debt no later than January 15th. But we must ask for more. All sections must immediately send substantial payments so that we can pay our bills to the printers. Unless this is done we will not have the December 15th issue.

Account	Outstanding
Akron	\$ 5.00
Berkeley	3.60
Boston	6.50
Chicago	57.76
Cleveland	16.03
Columbus	7.25
Detroit	2.60
Flint	1.20
Fresno	.40
Los Angeles	15.20
Lynn	1.00
Madison	.90
Minneapolis	26.08
Newark	29.78
New Brunswick	2.70
New York	181.68
Oakland	2.00
Philadelphia	18.90
Reading	3.48
San Diego	2.46
San Francisco	14.80
St. Paul	4.65
Toledo	.25
Youngstown	17.90
Total	\$422.12

Another serious problem is the expiration of almost half of our subscriptions with the previous two issues. Unless they are renewed our circulation will drop below the minimum necessary for publishing the CHALLENGE. But we want more than renewals. We want to better our past subscription list, to expand our influence and the size of our paper.

And so today we initiate a tremendous drive for subscriptions, a drive to make each of our sympathizers a subscriber, to create a periphery of five sympathizers to a member, to build a mailing list of thousands in addition to our bundle orders. BY JANUARY 15th WE WANT TO OBTAIN AT LEAST 700 SUBSCRIPTIONS.

We publish below a list of the Units and Divisions and the number of expired subs in their section and their quota of subscriptions to be obtained in this drive.

No. expired Subs	Quota of Subs to be renewed	Total Subs to be obtained
Akron	8	15
Berkeley	4	15
Boston	15	30

Chicago	78	120
Cleveland	—	10
Columbus	—	10
Detroit	5	5
Flint	—	3
Fresno	8	15
Los Angeles	24	45
Lynn	3	6
Madison	—	7
Minneapolis	11	20
Newark	33	40
N'w Brunswick	—	10
N. Y. C.	99	190
Oakland	—	6
Phila.	18	35
Reading	—	2
Rochester	25	25
San Diego	1	3
San Francisco	9	18
St. Paul	10	15
Toledo	8	10
Youngstown	10	15
Misc.	30	30
Totals	399	700

We want every member of the League to participate and we have an incentive for each and every one. From now on until January 15th when the drive ends members of the YPSL will have the opportunity to earn cash and win prizes in the largest subscription contest the CHALLENGE has ever conducted.

Everyone is invited to participate! Here are the prizes and the number of subs needed to get them.

1st Prize—Recording of Leon Trotsky's speech to the meeting in celebration of the 10th Anniversary of the founding of the 4th International (two records.)

or...
A complete set of the works of Lenin.

2nd Prize—Leon Trotsky's History of the Russian Revolution (one vol. edition.)

or...
Harold Isaac's History of the Chinese Revolution.

3rd Prize—C.L.R. James' World Revolution. (Minimum of thirty subs required for 1st, 2nd or 3rd Prizes.)

TO ANYONE GETTING 20 SUBS OR MORE—Choice of

Fascism and Big Business (Paper cover); Living Thoughts of Marx presented by Trotsky; Stalinist School of Falsification; Third International After Lenin; Russia Twenty Years After by Victor Serge.

TO ANYONE GETTING 10 SUBS OR MORE—Choice of

Any 3 Pioneer Publisher's pamphlets PLUS a cash prize of fifty cents to every participant who buys a book of 10 gift certificates (10 25-cent yearly subscriptions) and pays for the book in advance—\$2.00.

Any kind of subscription counts: renewal, yearly or half-yearly sub, a special offer sub of any kind... Yearly with Fascism and Big Business—85c. Yearly with Leon Trotsky's Living Thoughts of Marx—\$1.00. One year gift subscription—25c.

SPECIAL: To the unit getting the greatest number of subscriptions, a small hand printing press.

LET'S GO OVER THE TOP FOR THE CHALLENGE. In the next issue we will publish the score.

CHALLENGE OF YOUTH

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Propaganda: Lie Factories Work Overtime to Drag Youth Into New Imperialist Slaughter

WARWAVES OVER THE AIRWAVES

By WILL PHILLIPS

There's nothing that serves more grist to the war-makers mill than professional "peace" propaganda—especially on the radio.

The latest, most dangerous is the McCall magazine program. They've picked up a dramatic idea, full of great potentialities.

Each week they get together a "representative" group of young people from one city—and they discuss the problem of war.

Sounds like a good idea. But listen to the program sometimes. A slick-tongued "representative" of McCall's opens the program. He gurgles with platitudes about "we all want peace" etc.

Youth Talk
Then the young people begin to talk. For a few minutes, it sounds intensely dramatic; ideas clash; give and take of ideas, of viewpoints; young men and women saying what they think about war, about the things that affect them most.

Then suddenly, if you're really listening alertly, you see through it all. Suddenly it dawns on you how artificial, how faked the whole thing is. There are many kinds of ideas presented, many different viewpoints. There's even a "radical"—very phoney, of course.

Artificial Stuff
But it's all so artificial, so obviously staged. Always these young people come to an agreement on the basis of meaningless platitudes which are formulated by McCall's "representative." None of these young people seem to think enough about their ideas to continue fighting for them after the "representative" has his say.

And the "representative" usually comes to the right conclusions—for the 60 Families. Sure, we're against war, but if we have to defend ourselves from Japs, or if we have to defend democracy—the same old line which always serves as the prelude to war.

This "peace" program serves the purposes of the war-makers just as much as the reactionary skits—"American Family Robinson" is the most notorious example—in helping to drag the youth into war.

Y.C.L. Continues Pro-Hitler Line

On the 20th anniversary of the once revolutionary Communist International of Youth, this organization published a manifesto in Moscow which shows again the role of the Stalinist youth throughout the world as tools of the Stalin-Hitler diplomatic policy.

The manifesto bristles with condemnations of the imperialist war. But it then places the responsibility for the continuation of the war on England and France—which is a lie, for the responsibility for the war rests on the shoulders of all the imperialist countries of both sides. The Stalinists are very tender toward the role of Germany in the war; "partners can't be choosers," is their motto.

As the N. Y. Times rather pointedly puts it: "A long article contributed by G. Lensky, a member of the YCL, might suggest that the author is ignorant of the struggle against fascism, which has filled similar articles on prior anniversaries, for the word fascism is not mentioned. Instead the article refers vaguely to the struggle against 'reaction'."

Just as on International Youth Day the Stalinist youth omitted attacks on Hitlerism, so they do it again. The tongues of the Stalinist bureaucrats are infinitely flexible. As soon as Stalin reaches diplomatic agreement with an imperialist power, they are ready to act as the bootlickers of that power.

Pulp Story Magazines Serve War Propaganda

The following item appeared in the Writers Digest:

"Sir: We are accepting pulp fiction dealing with the present European war. The former ban on anti-German stories has been lifted. For **Air Adventures** we would like air-story writers to make their heroes English, French, or American adventurers. For **Fantastic Adventures** and **Amazing Stories** we will welcome stories dealing with Nazi intrigue in the United States.

Even for those people who read such important magazines as **Fantastic Adventures**, it seems that there is no peace. Even they will have to be pumped full of propaganda to prepare them to "do or die" for the profits of the Ruling 60 Families.

High Pressure Army Recruiting

High pressure sales methods, open and unabashed, are the latest techniques used by the government to get young men to volunteer for the army.

An army announcement, boasting of the large number of recruits gained during the summer and autumn, declares that this recruiting record is due in great part to the use of modern advertising methods. Thousands of billboards have been released throughout the country to advertise the advantages of army service.

Movies Lead Propaganda Parade In Effort to Glamourize War

By HOWARD SILLS

"The KAISER—The Beast of Berlin. If you're a red-blooded American with real fighting spirit, you'll cheer like mad over this startlingly daring expose of the real Kaiser. If you're pro-German, stay away and gnash your teeth in wild but impotent rage."

The above is a movie ad for "The Beast of Berlin," playing in the Broadway theatre in 1918. It is typical of the hysterical war propaganda of the time.

Despite the fact that the movie was by no means a perfected technique during the last war, it was one of the main propaganda devices used by the government to drag the people into war.

Even before America entered the war, the movies were churning out propaganda pap—**The Battling British, England's Menace, The Kaiser Challenges**—which was obviously inspired by British imperialism. These pictures were raw and crude—full of jingo atrocity tales about the Germans, but painting the British in angelic hues.

A CONFESSION

One of the producers of the time, J. Stuart Blackton wrote about his picture, **The Battle Cry for Peace**:

"It was propaganda for the United States to enter the war. It was made deliberately for that purpose. . . . It went out as a call to arms."

When America finally entered the war, a special Division of Films was set up by the "Committee for Public Information" whose job it was to propagandize the American people into fighting for the investments of the Ruling 60 Families.

Now came the great splurge. Every picture had one motive and one ending—the flag. No matter how hammy your hero, no matter how stilted the heroine, no matter how crude and blatant the war propaganda; if you had the flag waving in the breeze, you were sure of success.

For **Freedom of the World, Safe for Democracy, The Battle Cry for Liberty**—these were some of the jingo pictures.

And it must be admitted that the movies were very effective—for the Morgans. Writes Lewis

(Continued from Page 1)

out by the publicity boys of the capitalist government to build up that atmosphere of hysteria needed to make the youth ready to die for Wall Street's profits.

At the head of this great propaganda machine, which is driving toward American entry into war, is . . . President Roosevelt. Yes, F.D.R.—the slick orator with the sweet smile. He is at the head of the government which spends billions for war and cuts relief; a government which pledges to come to the aid of Canada, a warring power, if it is "attacked"; a government which lifts the embargo in order to help its allies, England and France and to grease the wheels of American war industry.

LIES! LIES! LIES! That is how they try to entice the youth into their war for boss profits.

"It is a war for democracy," they tell us. What democracy? England, which suppresses millions of colonial slaves in every part of the earth? France, which suppresses more millions and institutes a fascistic military dictatorship at home? America, which prepares the dreaded M-Day plan for military dictatorship in case of war? NO! They fight for profits, markets, raw materials—all for the benefit of the Coupon Clippers; not for democracy!

"It is war against Fascism," they tell us. Again they lie! Who was responsible for the rise of Fascism in Germany if not England and France, the perpetrators of the Versailles Treaty? Who really believes that Chamberlain and Daladier fight against Fascism?

Beware of the capitalist lie factories! Watch out for their vicious, lying propaganda! Don't be misled by their glib, "noble" language!

Remember one fact—no matter WHAT they say, the capitalist governments fight ONLY for their profits, ONLY for themselves as opposed to the interests of the working people.

DOWN WITH THE BOSS WAR!
AGAINST BOTH CAMPS, THE ALLIED IMPERIALISTS AND THE HITLER IMPERIALISTS!
FOR THE THIRD CAMP, THE CAMP OF THE WORKERS EVERYWHERE WHO FIGHT FOR LIBERATION AND FREEDOM AND PEACE!

Jacobs in his book, **The Rise of the American Film**:

"The movie, a quick and vital means of communication between the government and the people, became the travelling salesman for war. . . . It imparted the latest 'news,' taught citizens how to help, shamed 'slackers,' and encouraged recruiting. . . ."

REPEATED TODAY

And the same thing is happening today. Perhaps it is a little more slick, a little more subtle—but not too much so. After all, there's a picture on Broadway now which is called . . . **The Beast of Berlin**.

Again, the movie companies are turning out propaganda glorifying British imperialism. If you only went to the movies and never read anything about the history of British imperialism, you'd think that the British ruling class got its empires, not by enslavement and robbery and murder, but rather because of the noble character of men like pasty-face Tyrone Power, who was so charming that all the people of Asia and Africa voluntarily submitted to English despotism.

Of late there has been a whole slew of such pictures—**The Charge of the Light Brigade, Lives of a Bengal Lancer, Gunga Din, Nurse Edith Cavell**—all designed to draw us into the war on the side of England and France.

HOME MILITARISM

But even more dangerous are the flag-waving pictures which directly glorify militarism at home. The many pictures which whoop it up for good old Annapolis or West Point or Carnarvon Military Academy, where the hero goes out to do or die for the honor of flag, country, school and football coach, all tend to whip up a pro-war spirit.

Likewise, with the pictures which take cracks at "foreigners" and "spies." Confessions of a Nazi Spy, for example, while ostensibly exposing Nazi spies (see article on spy scares—Ed.), really was designed to whip up war hysteria.

So we say—watch your step! There's no sense saying: Don't go to the movies because they're full of war propaganda. Everyone goes to the movies. But when you go, take a couple of grains of salt with you. You'll need them.

THE 'FURRIN SPY'—LATEST MODEL IN BOGEYMEN

Are you getting up every night to look for Bogeymen under your bed? Not unless you're absolutely nuts!

Then why are so many people getting excited about this nonsense about spies? They're just political Bogeymen.

Everywhere you go these days some tin-plated politician is prating about spies, about "cleaning them out."

Let's get a few facts straight:

1) Every country uses spies. Every capitalist power, England, France, Germany, America—all send spies into the other countries. They all want to discover the other's military secrets. This includes America, too. You know there's no honour among thieves.

2) That there are German spies here is nothing new, either. They've always been here, and so have spies from every other power. Why the sudden fuss now? Because this spy scare is being used as a propaganda device to "hep up" the

American people, to prepare the hysteria necessary for entry into a war.

The Payoff

3) The payoff is that when the FBI announced its drive against foreign spies, it declared that this work would be done in conjunction with . . . the British Intelligence Service. They'll drive out foreign spies . . . with the help of British spies!

The lesson is plain. This spy scare is a drive to build up a war hysteria among the American people. It's directed against the German spies because the American bosses think that the German bosses are going to be their enemies.

The American workers and youth shouldn't get excited about the spy scares. Don't let it get you down. Don't be diverted by spy scare nonsense. Keep your eye on the ball—the drive toward war by the Ruling 60 Families and the fight of the workers against them.

Comic Strips are Strutting In the Warmakers Parade

By SYLVIA HOBART

I'll bet you never thought that the hands of the Wall Street Coupon Clippers creep as far as your comic strips. Go on, you'd say, it's just these radicals exaggerating things again. . . .

Well, hold on. We're not exaggerating at all.

Now it's true that many comics are really just plain good fun. Who doesn't get a big kick out of Harold Teen and Shadow? And who doesn't love to read about Moon Mullins and his adventures with Lord and Lady Plushbottom? Every normal human being likes those kind of comics. (Not to mention Stokely Stover—whose phoolosophy has affected the English language almost as much as Harold Teen has affected boy's styles and jitterbuggery.)

War Stuff

But there's a different kind of comic strip which may not affect

older people very much but makes a deep impression on the young minds of children. Take the cartoon Sergeant Stony Craig, for example. What crude war stuff! The hero is in the American service and he's after a spy named . . . Herr von Berlin, who talks with a heavy German accent. If the cartoonist wants America to get into a war, why doesn't he say so directly.

Or take Jane Arden, the girl reporter, who sometimes gets involved looking for German spies. Or the most blatant of all, Little Orphan Annie, which isn't so much pro-war as it is anti-labor. About 2 years ago this strip showed striking workers in such unfavorable light that mass protest from readers forced a change.

Even here, in the world of fun for children and grown-up children, the Coupon Clippers have their war propaganda. Get 'em young is their motto.

Spread War Lies for Students

GETTING WISE

Here's a young fellow who's getting wise to himself. Writes Louis McDermott to the New York Evening Post:

"To the Editor:

"Here's one hunk of fodder who's going to enlist in the next war. That is, the one after this one.

"Frankly, I don't care much if future school children never recite pretty poems about how bravely I exploded, and what a touching sight bones made in Flanders Field where poppies blow. I'll stay home and do the reciting. . . ."

In recent years, there has grown up a whole school of intellectuals whose manner of earning a living is to write books urging a "holy war for democracy." One of the main groups at which such books are directed is the student, intellectual youth.

These writers are very well known and very well paid. They make a great appeal to intellectual youth because they speak in intellectual terms.

Thus, such men as Lewis Mumford, Vincent Sheean, Clarence Streit, Hendrik van Loon, have done more to whip the intellectual youth into a war frenzy than almost any other force.

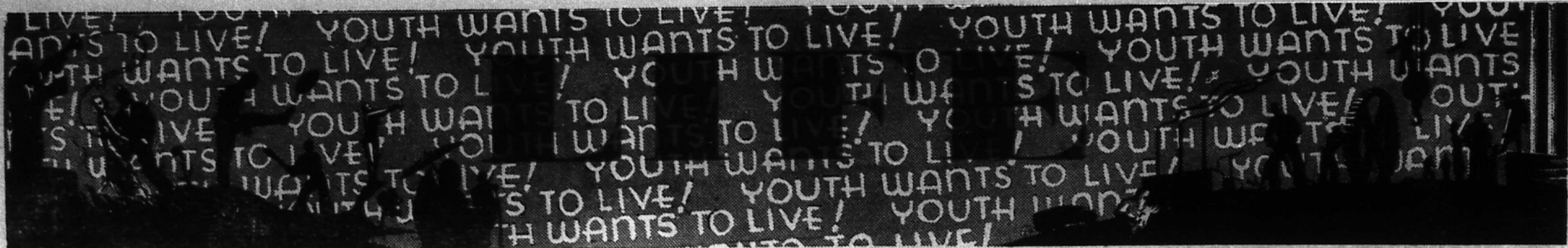
Noble Terms

For they speak in noble terms . . . Democracy, Freedom, the Conscience of Mankind, Against Aggression, World Federation of the People, Liberty . . . all this is about the war of imperialist England and France (and tomorrow perhaps America).

Lewis Mumford in his book "Men Must Act" is a good example. He blandly tosses these terms

about as if it were accepted by everyone that the Allied Powers were fighting for these ideals. It does not occur to Mumford and his friends that England and France might be fighting for imperialist plunder precisely the way Germany is. It doesn't occur to them that the Conscience of Humanity is hardly safe with Winston Churchill. (If it does occur to them, they are very quiet about it.)

Despite all their glib talk and rhetorical phrases, these people by choosing one of the two imperialist camps instead of the workers' camp, line up with reaction and war. That's why American student youth must reject them as an intellectual plague. A skunk by any other name . . .



The Story of the Socialist Youth Movement During the Last War

By WILLI MUNZENBERG
(This is the fourth installment in a series of excerpts from Munzenberg's account of his experiences in the Swiss and the International Socialist Youth movements during the World War. The material is translated from the German as it appeared in his book "Die Dritte Front.")

The collapse of the Second International automatically leads to a decisive collapse of the international relations of the Socialist Youth movement. These relations had never amounted to much more than a poorly functioning international correspondence. There never was a common political program on fundamental matters in the international youth movement. Common international actions were unknown to the movement. There was no instrument to bring about close international ties, like an international newspaper. All the efforts of the period of 1907 to 1914 were limited to publishing a miserable, little bulletin that appeared irregularly. The international secretary at the outbreak of the war was Robert Danneberg, at present (1928) a Social Democratic member of the Vienna City Council.

The international bureau of the youth movement took no position on the war, neither when it existed as an inevitable threat or after it broke out. Danneberg made Kautsky's explanation its own, "The International is founded for the purposes of peace and not for war-time." He proceeded to hang a black-bordered sign on the door of the office of the youth bureau in Vienna which read, "Temporarily closed on account of the war."

Enthusiastic Youth
The International Bureau made no attempts in the months after the outbreak of the war to again build up the international ties between the various Socialist Youth movements. However, the desire and enthusiasm of the socialist youth organizations of the world to enter into relations and take part in an international exchange of views on the question of the war and the position of the Socialist Youth was very great.

We, of the Swiss movement, had established a series of direct contacts with other youth leagues in surrounding countries before the outbreak of war. My tour through Germany had resulted in a stream of mail from the various local groups that I had visited. The contact had never been broken with the central committee of the Italian youth organization and several local groups in Italy after our tour through that country in 1912.

In September, 1914 we began an intensive correspondence with the socialist youth of Norway, Sweden, Denmark, and Italy with the prospect in view of calling an international conference of proletarian youth organizations to again constitute a Youth International.

Approached Bureau
In agreement with the above mentioned youth movements, I, as secretary of the Swiss organization, approached the international bureau in Vienna on November 10, 1914 with the request that it summon an international conference no later than the spring of 1915. The international bureau responded with a post card that left nothing to be desired in its laconic brevity! It voiced inability to act on the matter.

The card said the following:
"W. G.! It is entirely impossible to state at this time whether a congress is possible in the spring of 1915. I cannot therefore take any position at this time in reference to your proposal. With greetings,
Danneberg"

We now knew that it would be impossible to achieve an international discussion and conference through the medium of the bureau and we decided to call such a conference without the endorsement of the bureau. The exchange of correspondence with the international organizations became more intense and led to the agreement of a whole series of groups to participate in a conference in Bern, Switzerland on Easter of 1915.

French Youth
The French youth organization rejected our invitation with the explanation that the Socialist Party

of France had not yet taken a position on international relations and that its own position would have to coincide with that of the party. The central committee of the Austrian youth movement greeted the conference with a letter. The central committee of the local party-sponsored youth leagues in Germany, headed by Fritz Ebert, rudely rejected the invitation and at the same time protested the convocation of the conference.

These youth groups, which were founded in 1909, as youth committees of the Party and trade union movements, were never a part of the Youth International. Despite this, we considered it our duty to invite them to the conference, particularly since their organ "Die Arbeiter-Jugend," had taken an un-socialist and war-mongering position. When the well-known former radical and leader of the South German "Youth Guard," Ludwig Frank, volunteered for military service at the outbreak of the war and fell early in the war on a French battlefield, his voluntary enlistment and death were hailed in "Die Arbeiter Jugend" as a heroic act and an example for the millions of young German workers.

Rejects Conference
"... We will not participate in the international youth conference you have in view. The main point of that conference (i.e., the war—translator) does not revolve upon the youth organization for a decision, but is much more a matter for the Social Democratic parties to consider."

These remarks were a gross presentation of the attitude toward the youth held by the Social Democratic "nurses to the youth movement." It was the attitude that the proletarian youth at the age of seventeen was quite old enough to shed his blood on the battlefield, but was not old enough to concern himself with the question of fighting against the war.

(The next installment will describe the sessions of the Bern conference, including the conflict with the Bolshevik delegation.)



The Negro number of the New International is a production of the first importance for the youth. All youth, white and Negro, should get a copy. Within 16 pages is packed a manual of economic and political knowledge.

The outstanding article is a study: the Negro in Southern Agriculture, by Robert Birchman. No one has to learn from books that the Negro is oppressed. What is important is how and why he is oppressed. Birchman shows that the Negro sharecropper is in the grip of the plantation-owner to much the same extent that the slave was in the grip of the slave-owner. He shows that often it costs the modern owner less to keep a wage-slave than it cost to keep a chattel-slave. This system of agriculture retards the mechanization of agriculture, and is the prevailing cause of the social backwardness and demoralization of the South.

FUNDAMENTAL ANALYSIS
Birchman bases his analysis on the fundamentals of Marxism. This, and a thorough mastery of his material combine to make a note-worthy study.

J. R. Johnson, in his article, Revolution and the Negro, outlines the little known contributions of the Negro to the great revolutions of the past. The Negroes played a vigorous and important part in the revolutionary destruction of feudalism in France. The winning of independence by the Negroes of French San Domingo, today Haiti, has had a profound influence on the history of the 19th Century. The contributions of American Negroes to the Northern victory in the Civil War are outlined.

Finally, he gives a concise picture of the immense revolutionary potentialities of the 120 million Negroes in Africa today. Johnson draws the inference that if a half-million slaves in San Domingo could have such direct influence and wide repercussions in the revolution of 150 years ago, in the tightly knit world of today, the African revolution of 120 million Negroes will of necessity be one of the most dynamic forces in the destruction of present day imperialism.

George Novack continues his scholarly study of chattel-slavery in American history.

Altogether the youth, whether members of the YPSL or not, would be well repaid by organizing study-groups and discussions to make themselves thoroughly familiar with the facts and ideas presented in this number of the New International.

I Am Interested—
Please send me more information on the aims and activities of the
Y. P. S. L.
116 University Place
New York City
Name
Address
City

WORKERS CIVIL LIBERTIES WAS FIRST VICTIM OF LAST WAR

While the Big Money Men who run this country are counting up the dollars they have already made from the war in Europe, and licking their chops in anticipation of the millions more they will make once they get this country into war, their well-paid stooges in the "propaganda factories" are hard at work whooping it up for the "war for democracy."
They will have to work double time to convince those Americans who remember what happened to democratic liberties during the last War. But for those with short memories and especially for the present generation (who will do the dying in this new War), it's a good idea to review what did happen to civil liberties during the last War.
The Case of Mooney
Everybody knows that Tom Mooney and Warren K. Billings were railroaded to jail for 22 years on framed up charges. But too few

people know that they spent those twenty-two years in San Quentin, at least indirectly, because of America's participation in the last War. The Mooney-Billings case was not simply a part of the anti-union drive of the California bosses; it was also a part of the propaganda campaign to get the American people into the war.
Mooney was not only falsely accused of having thrown a bomb into a Preparedness Parade in San Francisco in 1917, he was also accused of being a "German agent." Tom Mooney and Warren Billings were used as scapegoats to whip up "patriotic" pro-Ally sentiment. They were the first victims of the last "war for democracy."
Lumberjacks
In the summer of 1917, in the woods of the Northwest, the lumberjacks were organizing into the "One-Big Union." They went out on strike for higher wages to meet the skyrocketing cost of living. But

the Lumber Trust, which was making fabulous profits from its sales to the War Machine, wouldn't yield a dollar of their millions to the "IWW anarchists." They let loose a reign of terror against the lumberjacks. Their yellow press accused the strikers of pro-Germanism. The hired thugs of the Lumber Trust raided union halls, beat up the strikers and imprisoned them in "bull-pens" (pre-Hitler concentration camps). The leaders of the strike were sent to prison for the duration of the war. The Lumber Trust broke the strike, and preserved its profits, to the last dime.
Editors Arrested
Meanwhile in New York, the editors of the "Masses," an anti-war magazine, were arrested on charges of sedition. Department of Justice agents were raiding Socialist Halls and Headquarters, suspending and censoring radical publications, arresting known radicals, third degreeing them, deporting them. All over the country, anti-war meetings and demonstrations were being broken up with police clubs.
Every democratic right was violated and spat upon by the boss class and its governmental agents—all in the interests of the "great war for democracy."

With Scissors And Paste ...

COP SEES RED
A delightful interlude occurred in the WPA frame-up trial in Minneapolis when Patrolman Dickinson testified that Oscar and Margaret Schoenfeld, defendants and leaders of the Youth Section of the Federal Workers Section, had led the pickets in singing "a Communistic song."
It turned out the cop was discussing the song "Solidarity."
This song was written long before there was a Communist movement, and has been sung on picket lines from coast to coast.
When this fact was brought out, was that cop's face red!
GETTING WISE
At the same trial in Minneapolis, a clever young worker remarked as he walked into the court: "Hell, how can we expect to get justice in this court? Even the flag is framed."
EVEN THE WHALES CAN'T ESCAPE
One of the latest mine casualties in the English Channel is a fifty-four foot whale. It struck a mine during a severe storm. The explosion tore a huge hole in the mammal's side and it was swept ashore on the Belgian beach.
Looks like there's no peace even for a good-natured whale, either.

WOMEN SHOUT FOR PEACE
Women arose in the gallery of the House of Commons in London on November 21 and shouted, "We Want Peace!" They scattered anti-war leaflets from the galleries until attendants ejected them.
What did a little rough handling mean to them when they knew they were fighting for the lives of their sons and husbands?
CHAMPION LIAR OF THE MONTH
Says Viscount Halifax, British Foreign Secretary: "We (the Allies) are fighting for freedom, we are fighting for peace, we are meeting the challenge to our own security and that of others and we are defending the rights of all nations to live their own lives."
Are you talking about the British empire, by any chance?
OUR MISTAKE—THERE'S A CO-CHAMPION LIAR
Says General Goering about Hitler's war: "We are humane. You should not laugh. I am serious. I really am."
Perhaps you will let a prisoner of one of your concentration camps testify about your humanity, General Goering