

RED RADICALISM HAS PLANTED A

# SOAPBOX

VOL. I NO. 2

January 30, 1939

IN EVERY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION -W.R. Hearst

O IT'S ALL IN THE SYSTEM

O FLYING HIGH

O FOR WOULD BE TEACHERS

O THE UNIVERSITY CRACKS DOWN



Permit #517

THE "DEMOCRATIC FRONT" IN LATIN AMERICA

IT'S ALL IN THE SYSTEM

FLYING HIGH

American capitalism, torn by the internal contradictions be-setting every capitalistic nation, is competing in every portion of the globe for outlets for surplus capital and products unmarketable at home. Big business faces the menacing shadow of mass unemployed millions whom industry can never re-absorb. ("The general level of production must be raised at least 40% above the '29 all-time peak to re-absorb all able-bodied unemployed."-Hopkins)

Because of this the government credit structure mounts toward top-heavy heights. The administration is unable, except by huge "pump-priming" involving heavier and heavier tax-loads, to balance mass purchasing power with production, prices and profits. The American ruling class, therefore, prepares for its inevitable and desperate bid for survival through the military subjugation of its imperialist rivals.

It is the role of Roosevelt to best prepare the nation for this task. That is why, regardless of opposition on domestic policies, his foreign policies and naval and military expansion program have received almost unanimous support from Big Business and its press. For these are the living heart of his program.

While this or that group of special capitalist interests, as a matter of principle, howl at every work relief appropriation or act dimly favorable toward labor, to a man they vote for the biggest dent in the national budget, the War appropriations (two billion), which in 1939 are by far the largest in the peace time history of this nation.

Roosevelt is perfectly aware that the successful pursuit of his imperialistic policies necessitates the support of every section of the working population.

I have just a slight suspicion that many University students (young, healthy, normal-and above all, the complete social moron) have welcomed President Roosevelt's expressed desire to divert N.Y.A. appropriations into further channels of militarization. Yes, indeed, there's quite a romantic tinge to this flying business, and twenty-thousand officers and gentlemen protecting democracy are not to be sneezed at. However, there's only one fly in the ointment. I quote without further comment from the New York Times: "Ways and means of formulating a democratic program to match Nazi Germany's system of training youth in aviation was the keynote of the National Aeronautic Association's annual convention which opened here (St. Louis) today." A.S.U. members please take note. Fascist uniforms are a marvelous thing to behold, but damn easy to shoot at..

\*\*\*

---

...an interesting note

From 1789 to 1920, 78 percent of U.S. revenue went for wars or the military machine. In 1920, 93 percent of the money spent by the U.S. went to pay the cost of past or future wars. In 1927, 80 percent of money spent by the U.S. government went for the same purpose. -Stuart Chase

And in 1939 Roosevelt is out to beat this mark!

---

So he seemingly "be-friends" the workers in small things the better to betray them in great. And so it is that eventually the unemployed will be employed---as cannon fodder. The ruling class prepares to receive dividends on every dollar spent for relief. These dividends will be exacted in support for the Roosevelt War program. Every concession to the unemployed, every slightest social reform bears a price tag, "TO BE PAID IN FULL IN THE NEXT IMPERIALIST WAR."

### THE UNIVERSITY CRACKS DOWN

It has long been clear that the University Administration, responsible as it feels to the Regents, is actually another arm by which our "60 families" reach and influence the youth. As such it is loath to permit any real democracy on the campus. Such democracy might, and probably would, interfere with the regimentation of students in the ROTC, and contribute to their enlightenment on the real predatory nature of "American Democracy".

The latest evidence of the Administration's function is just appearing in its plan for the reorganization of the ASUC Peace Committee. Now it is quite true that the Peace Committee has never done much, and that which it has done was not really directed toward the mobilization of student opinion and action against ROTC or against the War plans of the Roosevelt government. Still, the Peace Committee was to some degree, at least, a student agency. We hear that Pres. Sproul is proposing the following set up for the April Peace meeting. Three persons are to be appointed by him, three by the Academic Senate, and three to be students. The only result can be a complete stifling of independent student expression of opinion--or independent student action.

The Administration's ruling on Step Rallies is another case in point. True, the rally conducted last fall by the A.S.U. was quite undemocratic. Yet, does this justify the Administration's throttling of such rallies? Or did they use this incident as an excuse to prevent future militant demonstrations on more "embarrassing" questions? The trend was clearly shown even earlier when Pres. Sproul ruled that he and no one else would decide what outside speakers should address the students.

And what is the A.S.U.C. Peace Committee going to do about this new measure which deprives it of even those mutilated functions which it previously performed? If ever there was a time for it to prove that it really is a student agency, now is the opportunity. Protest strenuously against the proposed ruling! If it goes unheeded your only recourse is to take the April meeting outside the Gate and joining hands with other anti-war groups make it a real, militant, student controlled meeting!

Remember, during the last "War to Save Democracy", the University Administration became the recruiting agency through which students were whipped into a war frenzy that knew no logic, reason, or understanding. The purpose of education is to find the correct analysis and solution of a disease, not act as its carrier.

\*\*\*

---

#### LITERATURE SPECIALS LIMITED QUANTITY

	<u>Formerly</u>	<u>Now</u>
--	-----------------	------------

Decline of American Capitalism -Corey...	\$4.00	\$1.30
World Revolution C.L.R. James ...	3.50	2.75
Russia Twenty Years After -Serge...	2.50	1.75
Case of Leon Trotsky (paper bd...)	1.50	1.00)
Stalin School of Falsification -Trotsky...	2.50	2.00

---

In Jan. issue - NEW INTERNATIONAL  
"Intellectuals in Retreat"  
Political analysis of some of the recent critics of Bolshevism: Sidney Hook, Max Eastman, Eugene Lyons, Ben Stolberg, and others.  
NEW INTERNATIONAL and SOCIALIST APPEAL for sale at Dan Whelan and Sather Gate Book Shop.

PUBLISHED BY THE YOUNG PEOPLES  
SOCIALIST LEAGUE  
STUDENT SECTION  
OF THE  
SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO  
P.O. BOX #488  
Berkeley, California

THUMBNAIL PICTURE  
OF LATIN AMERICA  
(see map)

- Number of countries..19
- Democracies..... 4 (Chile)  
(Mexico, Costa Rica, Columbia)
- Dictatorships.....16
- Main exploiters  
United States, Britain, Germany
- Chief U.S. interests  
in Latin America.  
Mines---Peru, Mexico  
Oil --Venezuela, Columbia  
Sugar--Cuba, Puerto Rico
- Largest corporations in L.A.  
United Fruit Co.  
Anaconda Copper  
Standard Fruit  
American Sugar Refining  
Armours  
Standard Oil of New Jersey  
General Electric  
General Motors  
Ford Motor Co.  
American Smelting & Refining

Capital investment  
Close to six billion dollars  
(It is estimated that the  
combined investments of L. A.  
and Canada comprise two-  
thirds of all capital in-  
vested outside the country.)  
\*\*\*

Let the gulled fool the toils  
of war pursue,  
Where bleed the many to enrich  
the few...  
Shenstone

FOR WOULD BE TEACHERS...  
(The actual wording of a tea-  
chers' contract in a small North  
Carolina town:)

"I promise to abstain from all  
dancing, immodest dressing, and  
any other conduct unbecoming a  
teacher and a lady.

"I promise not to go out with  
any young men except insofar as  
it may be necessary to stimulate  
Sunday School work.

"I promise not to fall in love,  
to become engaged or secretly  
marry.

"I promise not to encourage or  
tolerate the least familiarity on  
the part of any of my boy pupils.

"I promise to remain in the dor-  
mitory or on the school grounds  
when not actively engaged in sch-  
ool or church work elsewhere.

"I promise to sleep at least  
eight hours each night, to eat  
carefully, to take every precau-  
tion to keep in the best of heal-  
th and spirits in order that I  
may be better able to render ef-  
ficient service to my pupils.

"I promise to remember that I owe  
a duty to the townspeople who are  
paying me my wages, that I owe  
respect to the school board and  
to the superintendent who hired  
me, and that I shall consider my-  
self at all times the willing  
servant of the school board and  
the townspeople, and that I shall  
cooperate with them to the limit  
of my ability in any movement  
aimed at the betterment of the  
town, the pupils or the school."

-Highschool

\*\*\*

ON ENFRANCHISEMENT

The YPSL has already collected  
over two-hundred signatures this  
semester to put the proposal for  
Universal Enfranchisement on the  
ballot.

Not many more are needed so if  
you haven't signed your life away  
get your name on one of those  
petitions going the rounds and  
let's see what the student body  
thinks about the question!