

WHY?

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Allied Intervention, Inc.

Darlanism is dead! Gone are the intrigues of fascist collaboration which marked the Allied administration of North Africa, or at least, that is what the latest press releases would have us believe. With the occupation of Sicily, the Allies have begun to administer occupied territories in accordance with plans formulated by the "leading" military and political minds of Britain and America. The machinery of administration set up in accordance with these plans has been labeled AMG (Allied Military Governments). Their achievements have met with almost universal praise, although one correspondent of the *N. Y. Post* admitted that, "Anyone examining the complexion of AMGOT in Sicily will find it possible to doubt whether encouragement of democratic habits by some, at any rate, of those charged with its direction, will be its most outstanding achievement."

In spite of the praise lavished on AMG, it seems to us that this plan like all the others sponsored by the Allied governments holds little, if any, hope for the workers of the world. The primary aim of AMG seems to be centered in holding the occupied territory in a grip of "benevolent" rule as a preventative against revolutionary activity on the part of the Sicilian workers, and to reinforce the system of social, economic, and political inequalities. An even more dangerous aim of AMG seems to be the first step in the organization of an international police force necessary to put into effect the controls envisaged in the Atlantic Charter, namely, the control of markets and sources of raw materials. Startling though this statement may seem, its confirmation lies in the philosophy which created the machinery and selected the personnel for AMG. We must bear in mind that "... this project, conceived and nursed in Washington and worked out in cooperation with the British, has fulfilled all its expectations." (Herbert Matthews, *N. Y. Times*, August 2, 1943).

Even before discussing the actual workings of AMG in Sicily, let us see how and why this project was born. The creation of military governments in occupied territories has always been part

of army routine. Today, the powers, methods and duties of military governments are specifically set down in the U. S. Field Manuals 27-5 and 27-10, which are in large part the work of Major-General Allen W. Gullion. According to the manuals, the general in command of the theater of operations has full control of the military government. For the sake of efficiency, the actual power of administration is delegated to the Officer in Charge of Civilian Affairs (OCCA), who thus has complete legislative, executive and judicial authority. To assist the OCCA there is a staff of specially trained Civilian Affairs Officers (CAOs).

Those in power know quite well that the success or failure of their post-war plans depends on the efficiency of the OCCA and his staff. For quite some time plans for the selection and training of CA Officers were discussed, but again Major-General Gullion came to the rescue with the creation of the School for Military Government at Charlottesville, Virginia. On the surface the school seems harmless enough. Select men, chosen from among the leading officers in the army, the most promising business and political leaders, are drilled in the study of the language, national characteristics, history, customs, natural resources and industrial installations of the various nations which are to be occupied. In view of certain other factors in the training of these men, we cannot help but feel that there is a deeper motive for such schools.

We cannot delve into the minds of the Chiefs of Staff, and the politicians who collaborated with them for the creation of such a training program. What we can do is remember that for many years these same men have admired the efficiency of Hitler's administration and organization "in waging war and peace."

Among the supporters of the School for Military Government is Colonel Herman Beukema, Professor of Economics, Government and History at the U. S. Military Academy at West Point. Col. Beukema is in a position to gauge the trends in the thinking of military leaders. It is interest-

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LAW AND JUSTICE

Is the personification of humaneness and fairness, Dame Justice, merely the symbol of the powers that be? If so we must immediately remove the myth of the blindfolded arbitrator of the pros and cons, the right and wrong, and the good and the bad.

August is a fertile month for thoughts about justice. How can those of us, who know, forget August 22, 1927, the day of the execution of those two idealistic individuals, Nicola Sacco and Bartolomeo Vanzetti? The sixteen years that have elapsed have in no way minimized that flagrant miscarriage of justice. Sacco and Vanzetti, the poor cobbler and the poor fishmonger, were the unfortunate victims of a penal code that does not allow for active differences of opinion. The history of the Sacco and Vanzetti case is available to all, in both fact and fiction,* and we do not intend to dwell on it any longer. Suffice it to say that all fair-minded people, since then, of all political denominations have candidly admitted that justice was not meted out to Sacco and Vanzetti; that they did die in vain despite some of Vanzetti's last words:

"If it had not been for these things, I might have live out my life talking at street corners to scorning men. I might have die, unmarked, unknown, a failure. Now we are not a failure. This is our career and our triumph. Never in our full life could we hope to do such work for tolerance, for justice, for man's understanding of man as now we do by accident. Our words—our lives—our pains—nothing! The taking of our lives—lives of a good shoemaker and a poor fish-peddler—all! That last moment belongs to us—that agony is our triumph."

Yet people maintain that law is just, especially our law. Historically, United States law is based on English or common law. This law form as distinguished from Roman law was based supposedly on tradition as opposed to preconceived codification. In essence, there is very little actual difference in the execution of both forms of law today. Law is law, and the individual as a potential law-breaker receives no personal consideration. The man who steals because he is hungry is as guilty as the chronic kleptomaniac but will receive a harsher sentence than the clever embezzler. A clever and competent lawyer will manage to get a less severe term for his client usually as guilty as the poor devil for whom a state lawyer has been appointed. Try to imagine how many people would have escaped the hangman or the electric chair if Clarence Darrow had been their lawyer.

Today, there are several hundred young men in the federal penitentiaries for refusal to comply, in one way or another, with the specifications of the Selective Service Act. Legally, such people are guilty of breaking the law. But in the name of fairness and real justice do such people deserve incarceration because they are principally opposed to participation in a war which was not of their own making, or because they do not believe in killing? Justice is incompatible with law!

How about the new and improved treatment of criminals? After all, claims the naïve observer, if we have more laws to break today, we can spend our terms in comfort in our model prisons: Westbrook Pegler calls the Federal Penitentiary at Danbury, Conn., a country club. Let such innocents be reminded that jail is still jail and that the loss of personal freedom is usually more important than a well balanced diet; and that the prison guard, as someone has very aptly remarked, is a very low form of animal life. The treatment the obstinate prisoner receives today is no more humane than that dished out in prisons of yesteryear. The human being is punished as a criminal whose spirit must be broken.

A case is before us now that we feel should be publicized in "WHY?" It is the case of two conscientious objectors, Stanley Murphy and Louis Taylor who left their C.P.S. camps and were sentenced to two and a half years at Danbury. From the very beginning of their jail term they refused to comply with prison regulations and went on a hunger strike as protest against the conscription law and the regimentation of prison life. They broke their fast when informed that it would be made easier for the other C.O.'s to obtain paroles. With the refusal of Murphy and Taylor to accept paroles for themselves, they were both transferred to the Federal Prison Hospital at Springfield, Mo. (primarily, a mental hospital) supposedly to prevent a possible breakdown of morale at Danbury. The following excerpt from a letter Stan Murphy smuggled out to his mother speaks for itself:

"On one occasion, I witnessed an inmate placed in a strip cell (bare cells with a hole in the floor instead of a toilet, where men were said to have been placed without clothing for weeks and months at a time and often beaten). He, being as I was

*BOSTON by Upton Sinclair; WINTERSET, Maxwell Anderson; THE LIFE AND DEATH OF SACCO AND VANZETTI, Eugene Lyons etc.

given to understand temporarily deranged, did by breaking the glass pane in the door and by butting against the walls do himself considerable damage. No attempt was made to remove him before he severely injured himself. But he continued until the attendants saw fit to thrust a powerful fire hose through the cell door and train it full upon him until his strength to resist had gone. It is my impression that he was also beaten and then only removed. I myself have experienced the strip cell and the monotonous diet, as I told you. I did not tell you of the beating I received on Tuesday, August 3. As you know, I have from the beginning made clear the position I took and still hold on the matter of work. It was known to the men in charge of 10-B, and the Warden, Dr. Cox. None the less, on this Tuesday two attendants opened the door of the strip cell and threw in a pair of pajamas which I put on, and they took me to the shower and told me to emery-paper the shower stall. I replied that I was not able to do so. Then they summoned another attendant from the outside and said they would make me do it. With the arrival of the outside attendant, the business started. The first blow to the jaw must have dazed me, for the next thing I knew, one man had both arms around my neck, choking and dragging me along the floor, while another kept kicking me in the stomach. After a while they let up and said to throw me back into the cell and let me rot there. During this time, Lou had been removed to L-1-East, and one attendant told me it was the practice there to beat men three times a day. Later an inmate managed to tell me that Lou asked him to tell me that they had beaten him badly. I have not been able to see Lou nor get direct word to or of him, but I have reason to believe that he has resumed the hunger strike and is not being forcibly fed. I wish you would do everything you can to find out his condition and to get someone to visit him. I cannot too strongly emphasize the necessity for bringing to the public attention the state of affairs seemingly general here."

It is ironical, is it not, that we are engaged in a war against totalitarian governments? The excessively cruel sadism of German Concentration camps is very much present in our prisons, right here in the good old U. S. A. Some of our pacifist friends from the War Resisters League think that this form of terror can be eradicated by writing to the politicians who rule us. They forget that the politicians are an inseparable part of the governmental machinery that creates the law and the inherent injustice of law. The fight for justice is a much broader fight than a mere letter writing campaign; it is intrinsically part of the universal struggle of man against all forms of artificially created mores. Freedom and justice will reign only when we have done away with man's rule over man!

—G.A.

NO DEFENSE!

Today, August 30th, American democracy had a field day. Twenty-seven United Mine workers received six months' suspended sentence and were put on probation for three years after pleading "No defense." They were charged with the violation of the Smith-Connally War Labor Disputes Act by instigating strikes in government operated coal mines in western Pennsylvania during June and July. Their counsel, Harry A. Estep asked for leniency, stating: "The men had not realized the seriousness of their action, and have learned their lesson. I think they all regret what they have done." Judge Schoonmaker, in addressing the court said, "The United States is engaged in a global war which calls into the service of this country not only the soldier but the whole citizenry. . . . It behooves every citizen to obey the law." Judge Schoonmaker also warned the miners, "To refrain from any act impeding or retarding the production of coal during the war."

Last June and July these self-same miners electrified the country by their militant stand and action in the face of intense opposition. The leaders of the U.M.W. took a position with the critical opposition and ordered the miners back to work. They refused to do so in spite of the concentrated fury of the capitalist press and the selling out of their position by the apologetic labor groups who had given away both their right of expression and their right to strike. At that time, the strikers realized the nature of their protest, and expressed themselves by refusing to abide by the compromises of John L. Then, they did not regret their action, in spite of what their lawyer says, for at that time they knew what they wanted and held out for it.

Somehow or other it is hard to imagine these self-same miners, who fought so intensely for decent wages and working conditions, appearing in court and saying, "No defense", but that is the story as it stands. However, it is not hard to understand why this happened. You see, these miners were not experienced union men taking orders from the Big Shot (John L.). They were rank and filers who acted of their own accord. They were men standing alone; men with big families and small bank accounts; men used to the pits, not professionals used to the way of the courts; men sick at heart, lacking the support of their own class; men sold out by their fellow

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The Automotive Union

From Sit-Down to Roland Jay

Since the outbreak of the European war, Detroit has been the center of an ever-widening and ever-expanding industry, the automotive industry. Originally confined primarily to the production of automobiles and trucks, the automotive industry now includes within its scope the tremendous aircraft, artillery and ammunition industries. Instead of producing sedans and limousines, the auto plants produce tanks, planes, guns and shells; but the essential problems of the auto workers remain the same as when they produced articles of luxury rather than sinews of war.

In December, 1936, the American labor movement, government, and public, not to say the owners of the auto factories, were variously delighted and stunned by the news that the auto-slaves had adopted new tactics in their long, and thus far ineffective, struggle to break the power of the open-shop motor companies. By the brilliant sit-down strike against General Motors, and by the equally scintillating victory over the Chrysler Corporation a few months later, the auto workers broke the back of the autocratic automobile moguls. From then on, it was only a matter of time until the third of the Big Three, Henry Ford, would be forced to capitulate.

The auto workers had waited long for the Detroit employers' citadel to crack. During the 25 years since the auto industry had become big business, the auto-workers had been the victims of savage exploitation, particularly in the form of inhuman application of the vicious Taylor system, under which piece-work rates were jammed down to the starvation level. Hundreds of thousands of workers streaming to the relatively new city of Detroit sought employment and relief from the miserable poverty of dying Mid-West coal fields and the barren lands of the South. No serious effort had ever been made to organize the industry. The feeble efforts of the Communists and the IWW to enter this industrial fortress were easily beaten off; the AFL did not even have an auto workers' union.

The 1929 depression hit the auto capital with more force than any other single place; hundreds of thousands were thrown on relief, Detroit threatened to become a ghost town. The 1933-1936 period was marked by hopeful efforts to organize, first in the spontaneous rebellions centering around the Briggs Body plant in the spring

of 1933, in which the IWW played a large part, and later under the "protection" of the New Deal's famous Section 7 (a). But Bill Green ran true to form, collaborating with the government in a compromise whereby Braintruster Leo Wolman was established as head of the infamous Auto Labor Board, from which eminence he could help the auto companies (with the exception of Ford, who told them all to go to hell) reorganize their company unions.

The formation of the CIO gave the auto workers their big boost, and the sit-down victories gave the CIO the impetus it needed. The coal miners' militancy played a powerful role in this epic struggle, though CIO President Lewis was watched with a critical eye by migrants from the coal regions. But it was not John Lewis who led the sit-downs. Nor was it the unlamented Homer Martin, United Automobile Workers' president, who repeatedly urged the strikers to evacuate the plants so a "peaceable" settlement could be worked out along lines agreeable to GM and Chrysler.

The workers ran this strike. The rank and filers organized it brilliantly, displaying amazing ingenuity in seizing and holding the plants. Using an essentially syndicalist weapon, the auto workers scored what was probably the greatest labor victory in American history.

But though the strike demonstrated that even the worst of the open-shop industries could be organized, the fight was far from over. Everyone knew the workers would get higher wages, an end to the speed-up, and all the benefits a powerful collective-bargaining agency can secure. But there is something more to a union than winning the first victory.

The UAW had, as we mentioned, a president. Homer Martin ex-preacher from one of the more benighted sections of southern Illinois; Homer Martin a nonentity of ability who happened to be in office when the sit-downs broke. He reaped the profits, as did Jay Lovestone, who had come off second best in his battles with Bill Foster in the CP and who soon became the man behind the throne, guiding the every move of the ambitious but bewildered Martin.

The Communists, naturally, would have none of a Lovestonized Martin; the progressives in the union wanted to boost out their president, who insisted that sit-downs in violation of the joint agreement must stop. Walter Reuther, opportunistic, career-minded Socialist union-politician,

and Dick Frankenstein, who had managed to be an officer of all the many NRA and post-NRA auto unions (not excluding Father Coughlin's), both had their eyes on the president's office. So desperate was the fight that followed that Martin lost his head. Perhaps he realized Lovestone had made a better bargain by capturing him than he by using Lovestone. One of his more fatal mistakes was drawing a pistol on a rank and file delegation visiting him at the prosperous union offices in the expensive Griswold Building in Detroit.

The result? Mix in all the incompatible ingredients—including John Lewis, who still had his hand in—and you get a compromise. His name was Roland Jay Thomas; for understandable reasons, he prefers to be known as R. J. Thomas. The Martin-Lovestone machine was gone; Homer sought a desperate refuge in the AF of L and with Henry Ford, while Lovestone retreated to New York oblivion. But Roland Jay's name might as well be Homer Martin, for instead of a hysterical gun-toting preacher, the auto workers now hire the services of a man who, his detractors suggest, uses adenoids for brains.

The situation remains dynamite. In the background of the precarious Thomas machine, operated by the former newspaperman, Edward Levinson of the N. Y. Post, lurk the ambitious Reuther and Frankenstein, amassing power for the day one or the other will have the confidence in his strength to push Roland Jay aside and challenge the other for leadership. Also in the background is the force of the Association of Catholic Trade Unions, represented in the union particularly by Dick Leonard, the man who ran the Ford organizing drive.

Not to be forgotten in the picture are the thousands upon thousands of Ku Klux-minded southerners with which Detroit teems—and they are daily pouring in for the war jobs. They have no love for Catholics or “niggers” or foreigners, all of whom abound in the busy city on the Detroit River. And the riots of recent months are but an omen of darker things to come.

The rank and filers generally run a bad second to their ambitious leaders. But they have never altogether surrendered the syndicalist weapons with which they licked the corporations in '36 and '37, and in the plants where they still use the slow-down and the quickie strike they have splendid conditions in addition to the high wages which, in the present high-tax and high-cost conditions in the war cities, mean little enough. Nor has the UAW leadership yet succeeded in fasten-

ing on the auto-workers anything like the Lewis dictatorship in coal or the Murray dictatorship in steel.

An outstanding instance of the continuing rebelliousness of the rank and file, aside from frequent use of direct economic action, was the outcome of the dues-increase referendum in the winter of 1942-1943. The delegates at the 1942 International convention, balking at their leaders' proposal to increase dues from \$1 to \$1.50 a month, were persuaded to submit the question to referendum. Fortnight after fortnight a full-page of the eight-page United Automobile Worker blared the officers' propaganda for the dues-increase; opponents of the increase were denounced as **company men**; the workers were not allowed to use the paper's columns to answer.

Although the officers arbitrarily extended the referendum several weeks, the increase was voted down two to one. Even with an advantageous method of counting the votes (the locals voted as units), a press of its own, and the inertia favoring an administration, the Thomas crowd, supported by Reuther, Frankenstein and all the ambitious ones, were defeated. It was a rank and file victory.

But the auto workers have a long pull ahead of them, a fight whose difficulty will be magnified by the great influx into the industry of women and non-industrial workers who belong to the union only because they have to, who know nothing of the auto workers' struggle to organize. GM, Chrysler, Ford and the other auto companies comprise one of the most powerful capitalist blocs in the country. But the auto workers have made a good start, when they clear their repudiated officials they will take a big step toward improving their excellent record.

—FRANK LANHAM

NO DEFENSE! *(Continued from page 3)*

workers. These men stood alone fighting the battle for the whole working class, and instead of appreciation for their efforts they received the recriminations of their class brothers who stood shoulder to shoulder with the boss and charged them with playing into the hands of the Fascists. These same 'class brothers' stood idly by while American fascists passed the Smith-Connally bill under which these twenty-seven miners are now being persecuted.

Sad to relate, it was their own fellow workers who changed these active, militant miners into a group of silent beaten men, whose only answer to the court was, “No defense.”

—D.K.

The Italian Scene

IS FASCISM CRUMBLING?

On July 25th, the world was informed that Mussolini had been deposed by the King of Italy assisted by a few officers of his army.

Of course, everyone was happy to learn that Mussolini — the first Fascist Dictator of our times — had been removed, but very few were naive enough to believe that his removal meant the end of Fascism in Italy. It was only a crack in the preposterous attempt made by the ruling classes of the world to resurrect state absolutism and ancient slavery — a crack that could be mended easily and was mended in fact — at least temporarily — by his successor, Marshal Badoglio, and the King, his master.

The dictator is a man who dictates, not one who is dictated to; a man higher than whom no power exists, not one who is responsible to others; a man who can remove anyone from office at will or whim, but can not himself be removed except by sheer force of arms.

Mussolini was not such a man, and never has been. For more than a score of years he has paraded up and down the length of the Italian Peninsula waving the trappings of dictatorship; but during all that time he was just the servant of the King, answerable to him, to last in office as long as it pleased the King — and no longer. His removal seems to have been a quite simple affair. The King told his truculent hangman that his services were no longer required, and the Duce went into oblivion — probably in more or less gilded jail — without heroics. No arms were required, no resistance was opposed, no bloodshed occurred. This ferocious murderer, by proxy, of thousands of Italian workers, was carried away from the royal palace — and from the stage of history — on an ambulance — symbol of mercy and immune to violence even on the battlefields.

This closing scene of Mussolini's political career destroys forever two legends which have found many believers — sincere and otherwise — especially abroad. The first of these legends claimed that Mussolini had been elevated to the rank of Duce — of leader and dictator — by a revolution

of the Italian people aiming at conquest and empire. The second, that the "moronic little king" was a mere puppet — a prisoner in a golden cage — in the hands of the omnipotent Duce. As a matter of fact there was no revolution; there was only a coup-d'etat engineered by the ruling class, to which the king connived, against the Italian people who always hated Mussolini and his Fascist gang. And the King has always had the upper hand — from the first day when he called Mussolini to power in 1922, against the will of the people and Parliament itself, to the last moment when he sacked him.

It must be understood that when one speaks of the king, more than the person of the ruler or his immediate family is meant. The monarch himself may be a moron, an idiot or anything else. The King is something more than a human being, he is an institution, he is the symbol of the State — the figurehead of those interests and classes which support it. In Italy, therefore, the King represents: the Court circle, the armed forces, the higher clergy of the Catholic Church, the upper capitalist class. These are the groups represented in the Italian political setup, by the King. Victor Emmanuel does what these groups want him to do. He might be an idiot, but he is bound to be the greatest power in the country as long as they support him. He might, on the contrary, be a genius, but he could not reign a single day without their support. His personal and family interests are tied and merged with their class interests. His future is bound to theirs... until they will find it necessary to sacrifice him — in the same way that, together, they sacrificed Mussolini — in order to save their own skins, riches and privileges. In this sense has the King always been Mussolini's boss: because the privileged classes who surround him wanted a dictatorship to hold in chain and slavery the Italian people, for their own benefit.

What, then, caused the King to get rid of Mussolini when he did?

Self-interest of course, and his self-interest is, above all, of a domestic nature. External war is

naturally a serious matter, but after war comes peace, and in order to make peace with the United Nations he must remain the King of Italy.

Italians have never resigned themselves to the fascist yoke. Their struggle against fascism never ceased. From the moment the fascist conquest of Italy started, during the Fall of 1920, by the black-shirted squads — organized by Mussolini, paid by the propertied class, blessed by the Catholic clergy, armed by the royal army, and abetted by the so-called constitutional Government of the day — many and many Italians have fought valiantly and died in order to stem the tide of the bloody conspiracy. Many thousands lost their lives. Tens of thousands went to jail and to the concentration camps in the Mediterranean Islands or elsewhere. Well over a million were forced to take refuge in other countries beyond the mountains or beyond the seas. Many more were executed either legally by the fascist tribunal for the defense of the dictatorship, or illegally by the bloodthirsty hyenas unleashed upon the Italian people by His Majesty's Ministers. The hate of the Italian people for their tyrants was such that they refused to fight in all the kingdom's external wars: in Spain as well as in Lybia, in Greece as well as in Ethiopia and Sicily. (Of course the Fascist conquest of Ethiopia, in 1935, was primarily an aerial and chemical war of the Duce's own praetorian guard, without risk or danger). The revolutionary ferments of the Italian people were becoming so alarming, lately, that last June no less a personage than the Pope himself held a meeting, in one of his City's squares, in order to preach to 25,000 workers assembled, against the temptations of revolutionary agitation.

Mussolini and his shining hierarchy of fattened gangsters had basked in the pomp and glory of the dictatorship. For twenty years they had gloated over the misery and slavery of the people. They had boisterously claimed for themselves all the responsibility for the suppression of liberty, the enslavement of the workers to their masters and of the whole country to Nazism. They had earned the hatred of the people. At the news of the dismissal of Mussolini and his immediate gang, the people would most certainly exult with joy and might even forget, for a moment, the guilt of the King, his court, his generals, his prelates and his capitalists.

At any rate, the King had no other way out. Either he hold to his Duce and to the alliance with Hitler, and face certain disaster at the hands of the Italian people as soon as they would take matters in their hands; or break with Mussolini and the Axis, and throw himself at the mercy of the United Nations. If, in so doing, he might not persuade the Italians that he was their liberator from the scourge of Fascism, he could at least count upon the rulers of the United Nations to give credit to such a piece of fiction, and above all, to suppress for him any rebellious attempt by the people.

We all remember, in fact, how quick the rulers of the United Nations were to execute their part of the trick, and how they hurried to blast the danger of "chaos and anarchy" in Italy.

But the plan did not work. Italians know their fascists. It is not easy to bulldoze them with fiction. Of course, they hailed the passing of Mussolini from the political scene with a great display of joy. But they did not forget his accomplices who remained in power. They know Badoglio and his royal master; and all the fascist scum for whom they operate: the Grandis, the Federzonis, the Volpis, the prelates and generals.

Thus, for several weeks we heard distant echoes of what was happening in Italy. The people had taken to the streets. The workers were striking — for peace, immediate peace. In Milan the jail was besieged by angry crowds demanding the release of the political prisoners. Fascist headquarters were destroyed. Fascist leaders were executed by the people themselves. The situation was fast getting out of hand. The soldiers of the regular army refused to shoot against the people.

The new fascist government of the kingdom had to crush the incipient rebellion by the fascist means it was so well used to. And relying on Nazi forces to preserve its power, it resolved to continue the war on Hitler's side.

Thus the revolution of the Italian people was again crushed — for the time being.

But they have let the world know they cannot be duped by the strategic retreat of the King and the ruling classes.

Mussolini has faded away, and his removal is but a crack in the monstrous construction of nazi-fascism. Its liquidation will certainly come in the near future.

To many Italians of the younger generation Italy without Mussolini is something new. But

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O LORD SEND US AN AIR RAID!

Henceforth, whenever there is a night air raid alert in Rome, "the clergy and faithful may take some liquor," the Vatican radio announced, as recorded by the U. S. Foreign Broadcast Intelligence.

"Prudence and moderation are recommended in the use of this privilege," the broadcast said.

N. Y. Post, August 14, 1943.

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WE CAN CONQUER COMMUNISTS BY CONVERTING THEM

Our Sunday Visitor, August 15, 1943

The Rev. Eliot White, 71, long the stormy petrel of the Episcopal diocese here, explained today that he and his wife were joining the Communist Party because they felt its teachings more nearly approached those of the Church.

New York Post, August 20, 1943.

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POST WAR PLANNING

WAR'S PSYCHOTICS AIDED BY CLINIC

Men who find it hard to resume their place in civilian life after being discharged from the army for psychiatric reasons will be helped through a clinic program inaugurated by the New York Hospital in Co-operation with the Selective Service system and social agencies.

The clinic, announced yesterday by Murray Sargent, chief administrator of the hospital, has been in operation since August 19 and receives patients every Thursday.

N. Y. World-Telegram, August 31, 1943.

SHIPOWNERS OFFER SEA SUPREMACY PLAN

A 10-point program to assure American supremacy in shipping after the war today has been offered the Maritime Commission by the American Merchant Marine Institute.

Major points in the program call for:

1. Ultimate transfer of all government-owned merchant ships to private owners.
2. Seizure of Axis trade routes for the U. S.
3. Creation of a reserve shipping pool of at least 5,000,000 deadweight tons to be kept idle for future emergencies.
4. Increased U. S. participation in foreign, tramp and indirect shipping, particularly in carrying American goods abroad.
5. Continuation of the Maritime Commission's expansion program.

N. Y. World-Telegram, August 31, 1943.

PLANS FOR PALESTINE

A special committee to start an immediate study of postwar reconstruction planning was formed today by the American Jewish Congress at the Hotel Waldorf-Astoria.

Dr. Nahum Goldmann, member of the executive of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, told the conference that as far as the Arabs are concerned, "an understanding will be reached, once the Arabs realize that in the light of Jewish tragedy and the necessity for solving the Jewish problem, the world has a right to ask them to make the concession of not claiming Palestine as an exclusive Arabian country."

If they refuse "to come to an understanding," he said, it will be up to the United Nations "to pass judgment, to define policies and to lay down rules for a just settlement of conflicting claims."

N. Y. World-Telegram, August 31, 1943.

QUOTE

ISN'T CARDINAL LAVITRANO ENOUGH?

"In looking over the list of officials being sent to guide, if not rule, an overwhelmingly Catholic country like Italy, we note the absence of practicing Catholics among our representatives. It would seem not only practical and fair, but intelligent and profitable, for the United States to send some representatives who understand the religion and appreciate the culture of those whom they are to direct. Assuredly those of left-wing tendencies, who adhere to secret societies, who nurture hatred for all that Christ's Church represents, will be of no more value in bringing peace and settling difficulties than the egoistic and parrot-like sensationalists who, over the radio and in the press, are constantly annoying decent Americans with their screaming of hollow slogans."

Our Sunday Visitor, August 15, 1943.

PAGING AMG.

"... the accomplishments of American free enterprise in industry and agriculture are most impressive. It would seem that contracts for reconstruction jobs in occupied territories ought to be awarded to private corporations on condition that they utilize to the maximum the existing local resources and manpower. Such a policy would also prepare American industry for its part in postwar foreign trade."

Karl Brandt, "Problems of Invasion and Occupation," *Foreign Affairs Magazine*, July 1943.

SEEKS PEACE ARMY OF MILLION A YEAR

Chairman May (D., Ky.) of the House Military Affairs Committee announced today he would press for immediate enactment of a universal postwar military training law designed to train 1,000,000 men a year for active military service.

In addition to one year of compulsory military training for all youths between 17 and 21 years, Mr. May's bill will propose a one-month refresher course each year for succeeding generations of American youths.

He said the United States must carry a big stick after this war and renounce any proposals for disarmament.

He described his post war conscription plan as a "cheap method" of maintaining a secure peace.

N. Y. World-Telegram, August 31, 1943.

* * *

WHAT PRICE GLORY?

A purchasing agent who requested a supply house send him a new catalogue received this reply:

"The only part of our catalogue we are still certain about is the line that says, 'Established in 1885.' All other information and prices have been withdrawn."

The Business Education World.

—UNQUOTE

NEGRO TEACHER TESTS UNEQUAL SALARIES

A Negro teacher in the Atlanta public school system has filed suit in Federal Court here challenging the constitutionality of the city practice of paying Negro teachers lower salaries than white teachers.

The suit was brought against the Board of Education and Willis A. Sutton, superintendent, by Samuel L. Davis, "individually and on behalf of others similarly situated." He has been employed for 13 years in Atlanta schools.

Davis asserted that "defendants over a long period of years have consistently pursued and maintained and are now pursuing and maintaining the policy, custom and usage" of paying Negro teachers and principals less than white teachers and principals, both "possessing the same professional qualifications, certificates and experience, exercising the same duties and performing the same services."

N. Y. Post, July 30, 1943.

A THOUGHT FROM INDIA

"America and Britain are very great nations, but their greatness will count as dust before the bar of dumb humanity, whether African or Asiatic. They and they alone have power to undo the wrong. They have no right to talk of human liberty and all else, unless they have washed their hands clean of the pollution."

My Appeal to the British, Mahatma Ghandi.

* * *

DEMOCRACY'S ARMY IN ACTION

"Sirs:

On leave in Los Angeles, I had opportunity to investigate the zoot suit feud. . . . I could find nothing to distinguish the behavior of our soldiers from the behavior of Nazi storm troop thugs that roved Berlin in mobs bent on beating up outnumbered non-Aryans."

Time Magazine, July 5, 1943.

THE ITALIAN SCENE (Con't. from page 9)

they, as well as the surviving citizens of the older generation, know exactly what they want: a country without dictators and sub-dictators terrorizing the people from one end to the other; a country where bread and freedom are the common heritage of all; where the bloody executioners of the dictatorship have disappeared from circulation; where the thieves operating under the protection of the state have disgorged their booty; where an overbearing bureaucracy, guilty of conniving with the tyranny and of executing its infamous decrees, is thrown out of its niche and sent to do useful work; where priests, bishops and cardinals cease to fatten at the expense of the people, spying on them, preying on their fears, cultivating their superstitions, poisoning the minds of their children — and begin to mind their heavenly business by abstaining forever from meddling with politics, schools and civil life; where, finally, there is no king to prey on public resources, to protect a host of idlers in shining uniforms, of capitalists idling in luxurious villas, of bankers, industrialists and landowners conspiring to exploit and enslave the workers.

This is about all that the unhappy people of bleeding Europe want — and if the ruling classes of the United Nations do not like it, they may as well prepare — as soon as they have won the war against the Axis — to fight another war against its victims.

—MAX SARTIN

Allied Intervention, Inc. (Continued from page 1)

ing to note what he says in an article entitled "School for Statesmen," *Fortune*, January, 1943. The theme of the article is that the administrative and executive leaders of today are not sufficiently well versed in the study of Geopolitics as the only hope for winning the war and the peace. "In the study of Geopolitics lies the substance of lasting peace." He deems it necessary for the Allied governments to have at their disposal at all times "... an inventory of every resource, human and material" that each nation can muster. This will not only guarantee the nation's invincibility in war, but can be used to control such resources to guarantee "equable access for all." This plan is not new with Colonel Beukema, for he says it is exactly the same as the plan advocated by the German general staff, and Karl Haushofer's Institut für Geopolitik at Munich. To realize these controls it is necessary to train the future administrators and executives along the lines of geopolitical thinking. That is why the School for Military Government is an excellent beginning, but, of course, it must be developed still further. Nowhere have the personnel of the School for Military Government disavowed that they are training men along the lines of Nazi Geopolitics.

Colonel Beukema in his enlightening article has shown how the personnel to be used by the "democratic" nations is being trained. To assist the CAs trained at Charlottesville, Virginia, special bodies of non-commissioned officers and military police are being trained along these same lines at Fort Custer, Michigan.

To us all this means but one thing: America and Britain are continuing the same policy of deceit and tyranny they have always used to maintain their economic and political power intact. The democracies have nursed and nourished the fascist regimes to prevent the overthrow of the status quo. Only when the fascist regimes in Germany and Italy seemed about ready to devour the political and economic domination of England and America did the democracies see fit to declare war. To rally the support of the millions of workers who are doing the actual fighting and dying, the democracies have raised a banner of anti-fascism, bread and liberty. They have promised these things not only to their own populations but to the peoples held under the heel of fascism. The democracies know very well that the millions of people who fight in the war and in the undergrounds of Europe are inspired by a real

anti-fascist spirit, and they also know that if the workers really achieve bread and liberty, it will mean the destruction of the old economic and social privileges. Therefore, while millions of workers are engaged in the fight against fascism on the battle fronts and in the undergrounds, the democracies are preparing the chains with which to strangle these aspirations.

The policy of saving their own skins explains the democracies' philo-fascist trickery in North Africa. Today they are better prepared to carry on this same deceit, for AMG is a more polished instrument. With these facts in mind we can understand the working of AMG in Sicily.

While the Allied armies advanced into Sicily, they were hailed as liberators by the majority of the Sicilian peasants and workers. Town after town capitulated without a struggle. In the hearts of most of the population was anger at the rulers who had reduced them to starvation, not only the rulers who were far away in Rome, but the local politicians and officials who had systematically robbed them. The people know who the fascists are! Did AMG use the cooperation of the people in ridding Sicily of fascism? Oh no! In their anger the people might remember only too well who had made them suffer, and they might have swept away the whole rotten trinity of monarchy, fascism and catholicism. What AMG wanted was a community docile, free from "anarchy and revolt." They wanted to establish lines of communication and transportation for the armies and that was all. So, they simply declared the fascist party non-existent, and *suspended* the power of the crown, but used the same officials who had worked for the fascist party and the crown to maintain "order." Men and women who had always fought fascism or who had spent long dreary years in fascist dungeons were not allowed to engage in political activities, but the fascist officials who threw away their fascist party badge as the allied armies marched into town are the defenders of law and order. The municipal guards, and carabinieri, traditional servants of the monarchy remained intact. In other words, in a very "democratic" fashion some food is thrown to the people and the whole rotten bureaucracy of fascism abetted by the Servants of God (priests, bishops and cardinals) is used to prevent the people from taking possession of their rights.

The OCCA in Sicily is none other than Lord Rennell of Rodd, banker, soldier and diplomat.

As a partner in the firm of Morgan and Grenfell, he is among the chief financial backers of Italian fascism. He is also a manager of the Bank for International Settlement at Basle, the only place in the world wholly untouched by the war. Daily, within its hallowed corridors the representatives of British, American and Fascist Big Business go about their work in complete serenity and accord. With such a record Lord Rennell of Rodd did not need the Geopolitical training given to his CAs. His background as an upholder of the aristocratic rights and privileges, and as a representative of the international democratic-fascist plutocracy suits him well for the work he must do in Sicily.

The plan of the democracies is quite evident by now: AMG—the iron hand in the velvet glove—will establish “law and order” in occupied territories using any and every method, benevolent or violent, to break the revolutionary spirit of the workers. With their special geopolitical training the administrators will then proceed to break ground for greater and more integrated economic exploitation by the American and British bankers and industrialists.

And still the war goes on. Millions of workers die and kill and when it is all over we will find that instead of bread and liberty, we will be paid with lead and slavery.

Let us look facts in the face. The real fight against fascism must, of necessity, be revolutionary, and it is suicidal to sit quietly and hopefully while “legalistic revolutionists” a la Churchill and Roosevelt plan for a new world order. The peoples of the world are restive. Twenty odd years of fascist experimentation have proven that the desire for liberty cannot be crushed. The cracks in the fascist regimes are many, but the bullets that fly in Denmark, Milan and the Balkans strike terror not only in the hearts of Hitler and his henchmen, but even in the hearts of the “democratic” leaders.

As revolutionists we must continue to expose the political machinations of all AMGs and philo-fascist bureaucracies for what they really are, so that the stirrings in Europe, Asia and America are not drowned in blood and wasted in useless effort, but become the initial impulse in the struggle for the realization of a free society.

—VIDA

Supported by voluntary contribution. Make monies payable to A. Goodfriend.

Tsk! Tsk!

What Will Murray Say?

Today, when union ideals are being prostituted, when the old militant preambles and statement of policy are being hastily skipped over by the collaborationist stooges that make up union leadership, we rejoice in any sign of militant action and thought. There has been brought to our attention the earnest fight and consequent victory of Local 456 of the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America (CIO), which has just won a hard uphill struggle to organize the wealthy Westinghouse plant in Jersey City. Much of the success of this struggle must be attributed to the militancy of the union membership and their understanding of the basic principles of mutual aid. We quote the following excerpt from a statement of policy in their local newspaper, **The U. E. Dynamo**: “Unity of outlook among the rank and file will inevitably follow, unity which will promote a militant, direct course of action.

“All unity mutually enjoyed through the maintenance of sound directional policy which educates in terms of mutual need, mutual understanding and mutual appreciation.”

The successful culmination of the organizing campaign brought direct and immediate results. The Westinghouse company layed off three hundred men. Of course, the most active union members were among the first to go. The union has insisted on the reinstatement of most of these men. But the fight still goes on for the company fired the editor of the local's newspaper on trumped up charges of subversive utterances attributed to him.

—D.K.

OFF THE PRESS

We have available for those interested a few copies of each of the following pamphlets:

Trade Unionism or Syndicalism?

by Tom Brown 10c

New Life To The Land, by George Woodcock 15c

A proposed solution of England's food problem.

Objections to Anarchism, by George Barret..... 10c

This is not a new pamphlet but the stereotyped “objections” are so ably dealt with as to make this little book a must for those interested in the subject.

Vote, What For?, by Errico Malatesta..... 10c

Selections from Political Justice

by William Godwin..... 10c

The Wage System, by Peter Kropotkin..... 10c

We also have on hand current and back issues of War Commentary.

Thomas Paine: Revolutionist

"Where Liberty dwells not, there is my country." Thomas Paine could well repeat the above words, and find himself very much at home in the U.S.A. today; for the democracy pertaining here is not such as he envisaged.

Paine's life from the moment he came to this country was one continuous fight against tyrannical rule and high taxes heaped upon the colonies. Speeches, resolutions, riots, and petitions were made. The Boston Tea Party set off the spark, and the resulting battle for complete independence paved the way for the American Republic.

In the fall of 1775 Paine wrote *Common Sense* which was addressed to the inhabitants of America. In this pamphlet he states:

"Society is produced by our wants and governments by our wickedness... The first is a patron, the last a punisher. Society in every state is a blessing; but government, even in its best state, is but a necessary evil; in its worst state an intolerable one... Government, like dress, is the badge of lost innocence; the palaces of kings are built on the ruins of the bowers of paradise."

"We have boasted of the protection of Great Britain, without considering that her motive was interest, not attachment... The phrase parent or mother country has been jesuitically adopted by the king and his parasites, with a low papistical design of gaining an unfair bias on the credulous weakness of our minds... This new world hath been the asylum for the persecuted lovers of civil and religious liberty in every part of Europe. Hither have they fled, not from the tender embraces of the mother, but from the cruelty of the monster."

Common Sense, published on January 10, 1775, was accepted whole-heartedly by the common people of the colonies, but was attacked by the reactionaries.

The pamphlet became "the political bible of the people" and had worked the Colonies to such a high temper that by 1776 most of the States voted for Independence.

The Declaration of Independence was written and the real author was Paine, for the principles were laid down in the manifesto and he was, "hand-in-glove" with Thomas Jefferson while it was being drawn up. But Paine's anti-slavery clause was omitted by Jefferson, because Georgia and South Carolina wanted negro slaves and many northerners were doing a profitable business in the trade.

While the Declaration of Independence was being signed, Paine, was fighting against his native land, writing stirring appeals to prick man's morale and pride in the new coming Republic, to get supplies and money for the down-hearted and disgusted army of Washington.

With the coming of ammunition and financial aide from France, the men again took courage and fought vigorously for the defeat of Cornwallis' army, and finally overcame him in April 1783.

Little did Paine dream that after all his strenuous mental and physical efforts he would be ousted from the fight for the rights of the common man, and by the aristocrats who took advantage of their new-gained independence to set up their regime, which took care, primarily, of their own interest.

The farmers, and workers were forgotten. They soon realized the rottenness of their political leaders, Washington, Adams, and Hamilton, and revolted in Philadelphia and Boston; but in spite of occasional stirrings the people have remained pawns in the games played by the successive plutocratic governments.

After signing of the Declaration of Independence, Paine found himself pushed to the wall. The presence of such an active revolutionary was embarrassing to Washington in his dealings with England. Disgusted, alone and financially embarrassed Paine returned to Europe. There his revolutionary spirit took fire at the outbreak of the French Revolution. He went to France to resume his fight for the rights of man.

On July 14, 1789 the Bastille fell, and in the Autumn of that year, Paine went to work with vigor on his new pamphlet "The Rights of Man."

The frenzy of the Revolution continued, the Jacobins and Girondists were at odds in their fight for power. The king and queen were beheaded; thousands were guillotined, and Paine was imprisoned in the Luxembourg until the fall of 1793 when Monroe had him released.

Paine remained in France for it wasn't safe for him to return to the States. During the period of acute unrest in France, Paine could not forget his first love, the American Republic, and wrote for the American and French Press voicing his disappointment in the way affairs were handled in America.

Paine did return to America unheralded and unacknowledged where he lived alone in a small farm for seven years. As a result of the pamphlets he wrote, during his sojourn in France, he was put beyond the pale by both political and religious sects of the existing society. Even after his death, the resentment continued, for he died unrepentent, persistent in his ideals. Refused burial in any consecrated ground, his bones were interred on his little farm at New Rochelle. He was accompanied to his grave by some of those for whom he had fought all his life. His funeral cortege consisted of two negroes, a white woman and a dog.

Even now, the remains of the revolutionist were not allowed to rest. An erstwhile antagonist turned admirer, one William Cobbett, dug up the coffin and took it to England with the idea of a grandiose state funeral. As can be well imagined this did not take place. The coffin seems to have remained in the possession of Mr. Cobbett during his life time. From then on its locale is vague. It was last traced to a second-hand dealer's store in London. Its final deposition is wrapped in oblivion. In spite of this ignominious end, the spirit of Thomas Paine persisted. And his writings remained as a testament of his entire devotion to what he conceived to be the best interest and happiness to mankind. In the present chaotic state of world affairs it might be well to give thought to the following quotation from Paine's *Agrarian Justice*:

"An army of principles will penetrate where an army of soldiers cannot: it will succeed where diplomatic management would fail: it is neither the Rhine, the Channel, nor the ocean that can arrest its progress: it will march on the horizon of the world, and it will conquer."

C. B.