

# 18 N. Y. Bankers Paid for Pro-War Ads, Says Wheeler

## Senator's Speech Before Michigan Democrats Swings Between Roosevelt and Anti-War Position

(Special to the Sunday Worker)

FLINT, Mich., June 15.—Senator Burton K. Wheeler of Montana, speaking before 1,000 delegates and visitors at the Michigan State Democratic Convention, warned "the people of America against being stampeded into abandonment of American neutrality at the urging of Wall Street and Europe."

Wheeler declared that recently in New York City, eighteen American bankers met in secret session and planned to whip up an hysteria that would drag America into war on the side of the Allies. Active forces in this plot to drag America into the war, said Wheeler, were Thomas Lamont, of the pro-ally House of Morgan, Frank Polk, prominent Morgan attorney and a high ranking attorney working for the British Embassy.

"These were the people responsible for the huge campaign of advertising," said Wheeler, "that today throughout the country serves as a medium of whipping up war sentiment among the people."

Here Wheeler without mentioning it undoubtedly referred to William Allen White's advertising campaign for war to the Allies. These were endorsed by President Roosevelt the other day in Washington. Wheeler in his opening remarks on the war question, faced with an unusually large press table, felt ill-at-ease and startled many with an open declaration that "I feel sure that I speak for 95 per cent of the American people when I say that our hearts go out to the Allies."

### INVASION REFUTED

He then followed this up with a plea to "protect our shores against a possible invasion by Hitler."

In the next breath he contradicted himself by quoting from the Senate Naval Affairs Committee that there was little chance of invasion by a foreign power. Obviously he felt that there was a contradiction as he immediately rushed back to his anti-war line, saying:

"We must prevent the New York and Washington newspaper columnists from dragging us into war with their whipped up hysteria."

He then declared he had read an

# 18 New York Bankers Paid for Pro-War Ads, Sen. Wheeler Charges in Mich. Speech

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article recently in a Pittsburgh paper written by a James Warlberg, a banker who said that America ought to go to war.

"This Warlberg belongs" said Wheeler, "to the family of international bankers, the Warlbergs, who with Thyssen, the German banker, built Hitler."

Then declared that in 1924 Sir John Simon, leading British imperialist, then Chancellor of the Exchequer, made a speech advocating that "Germany should be armed for the peace of the world."

### THEIR "BLUNDERS"

"Now they want us in America" continued Wheeler, "to save them from their blunders, and the thing that they built up." He did not

mention the reason British Imperialism built Hitler and the planned attacks on the Soviet Union.

When he spoke against war Wheeler received tremendous applause. Only scattered applause came when he became pro-Ally in his statements.

A large number of CIO leaders were present at the meeting attending the convention as regular delegates. Most of them had little favorable comment for Wheeler's speech as they felt that he had done a very bad job of mixing his anti-war sentiments with a definite leaning towards the pro-Ally position of the Roosevelt administration.

### SEEMS TO RETREAT

Wheeler made no mention of breaking with the Democrats if

"the President led the country into war." Many observers present thought that he had considerably backwatered from his statements of several days ago, when he threatened to leave the Democratic Party if it became a war party. President Roosevelt was assured the support Saturday of Michigan's 38 votes at the Chicago convention as Michigan Democrats made ready to elect their delegates.

A new feature of a Democratic convention was seen here when a labor caucus was organized under the leadership of R. J. Thomas and Richard T. Frankenstein, UAW-CIO leaders both of whom are delegates here and to the national convention of the Democrats.

Some of the labor delegates are planning to place before the con-

vention a strong anti-war resolution, a condemnation of the use of the Sherman anti-trust laws against labor, and other points of the CIO legislative program.

The convention went on record supporting Murray D. Van Wagoner, state commissioner for their candidate for Governor against Governor Dickinson in the 1940 elections.

Van Wagoner, a colorless machine politician is bending over backwards to get the support of Michigan's organized labor movement. So far Michigan Democrats have made no selection for senatorial candidate to run against Vandenberg.

During the last week several locals have endorsed R. J. Thomas—UAW-CIO president for U. S. Senator. Thomas when reached today was non-committal.