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county jail where, it is understood, they will be given the option of accepting employment on farms in the county or going to jail for 6 months. . . The sheriff's office indicated it would continue the drive until the labor needs of the farmers have been met."

Last fall in California 20 Migratory Workers' Camps were formed at strategic places near farms, mines, factory and lumber districts, for the confinement of laborers under military discipline. Scattered Migratory Workers' Camps have been reported in other states, as well as plans for establishing them in every state in the union.

RELIEF RETRENCHMENTS

Relief will be cut by about 50% for the coming fiscal year. Roosevelt has asked for only \$2,100,000,000, compared with \$4,880,000,000 last year. There is no guarantee that all of even this sum will be used, for there was about \$1,000,000,000 unexpended of last year's appropriation. This sum carried forward actually appears in the advertised budget for relief for both years, giving the impression that \$4,880,000,000 was the figure for last year (whereas \$3,880,000,000, was actually used) and added to this year's budget, raising it to \$3,000,000,000. The A.F. of L. estimates the unemployed now at 12,626,000; the Labor Research Association, 16,658,000. Roosevelt, having ended all direct relief and transferred federal funds to work relief, now promises to cut 700,000 off work relief.

High spots on the relief map:

BIRMINGHAM, where 75,000 to 80,000 cut off direct relief, face starvation, and where health officer has warned of disease resulting from children raiding garbage piles.

OMAHA, where 27,000 denied relief are given apples, and where the farmers of the county are unable to obtain prices for farm produce sufficient to enable them to haul to market.

HARRISBURG, PA., where 275,000 on WPA jobs are scheduled to be fired June 1.

NEW YORK CITY, where 40,000 will be dropped from WPA.

DETROIT, where 16,000 WPA workers are to be dropped.

A survey of such relief as is available, made by the American Association of Social Workers recently, shows in some states allotment for a family of 5 to be \$2.25 for 2 weeks.

U.S. MILITARY DEFENSE BUDGET

The largest peace-time military defense bill in the history of the country passed the Senate by a vote of 53 to 12, on March 23, 1936. To the \$545,226,318 recently voted by the House, the Senate added \$66,136,286. The size of the Army is to be increased by 15,000 men and 1,300 officers, bringing our enlisted strength up to 165,000. The present enlisted strength is 118,750.

The bill also provides for an increase to 30,000 in the number of citizens at C.M.T.C. camps, and an increase of 51 units of the R.O.T.C., with provisions for the training of Medical Corps units.

BIG BUSINESS ARMS!

According to "evidence now before a group of U.S. Senators, major American industries recently made large secret purchases of tear gas, guns and ammunition in anticipation of labor troubles." This information was obtained from the files of Federal Laboratories, Inc. of Pittsburgh who, together with Lake Erie Chemical Co. of Cleveland, sell 90% of the tear gas used. They serve 17 governments, city and state police, militia, strikebreaking agencies and industrial corporations.

Federal Laboratories provided San Francisco with \$30,000 worth of gas during the general strike. The Toledo Auto-Lite Co. bought \$8,000 worth, while a \$100,000 sale of ammunition went to the steel companies of Pittsburgh and Youngstown, Ohio. Some of the other big companies which provided themselves with ammunition against strikers were: The Weirton Steel Co., the Cudahy Packing Co., and the H.C. Frick Coke Co. of Pittsburgh which spent \$3,391 for riot guns, shells, and grenades.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTORS DROP CODES

Of 3,507 firms holding government contracts, 1,480 or 42.2% have cut wages since NRA was declared unconstitutional. Of the same group, 1,309 or 37.3% increased hours. In the machinery industry, 187 firms having government contracts did not maintain code wages and hours. Of this group, 79 firms cut wages and increased hours while the remainder did one or the other. In the textile industry, 109 firms out of 376 with government contracts, slashed wages and increased hours, 78 did one or the other. In the fuel industries (petroleum and coal) 14 firms of 38 with government contracts, cut wages, increased hours or did both.

The above survey, suppressed by Secretary of Commerce Roper, was made by a committee appointed by President Roosevelt. The report reveals that most of the 44 industries studied have lengthened the work week from 4 to 8 hours since the abolition of the NRA. The report also discloses that workers in well organized industries have suffered less from the invalidation than those in either unorganized industries or in industries with company unions.

THE VERMONT STRIKE

On October 16, 1935, when a notice was served in Danby, Vt. that in the future quarry men and finishers would work only 3 weeks out of 4, there was a spontaneous walkout. By November 4th, 400 to 600 men from 5 towns were out on strike. Their demands were: a 25% wage increase and recognition of the Intl. Quarry Workers Union. Prior to the strike conditions were as follows:

The average weekly wage was about \$13.00 for a head of a family (6-8 children per average family). Some workers averaged from \$5.00 to \$7.00 per week. The wage scale was $37\frac{1}{2}\phi$ per hour. From these wages deductions were made for rent, light, water and insurance. The resultant pay checks often were as low as \$2.00, \$1.00, and even \$.02.

The Vermont Marble Co. is owned by the Proctor family who are dominant politically and commercially around Danby, West Rutland and Proctor, Vt. Although the directors claim to be losing money, "Standard Statistics" show large dividends
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for stockholders. The company is holding \$5,000,000 worth of government contracts. The firm has hired armed deputy sheriffs at \$4.00 per day plus \$2.00 for expenses. \$80,000 has been paid to deputies in 6 months. Before the strike the workers' wages were supplemented by relief (raised by taxes) from the Overseer of the Poor, a Proctor official, but this has now been denied them. The strikers, who live in company houses, are to be evicted April 1.

RESISTANCE TO MILITARIZATION IN THE PHILIPPINES

The entire scheme of militarizing the male population of the Philippine Islands, beginning at the age of 18, is threatened by the resistance of the Philippine laboring class as well as by the Mohammedan Moro tribes in the Lanao province. (From a recent issue of the American-owned Manila Bulletin). The Moros, a nation within the Philippine Islands have always resented the rule of the Manila government, and are refusing to register for compulsory military service. The Manila rulers are wary about arming the Moros, fearing open revolt. The laboring class, on the other hand, are refusing to register because they refuse to provide a cheap native army for American imperialists in "their war against Japan." (From the Kalayaan, an anti-imperialist Tagalog paper) This paper also argues that another objection to this militarization scheme is that "taxation for all this 'defense' will have to be borne by the masses."

GENERAL STRIKE IN SYRIA

A general strike in Syria, France's mandatory possession, was brought about in January, 1936 when the French arrested many of the leaders of the Syrian Nationalist Party which has been active in demanding complete independence from France for its 3,000,000 inhabitants, largely Arabs. Despite the fact that an American commission appointed by Woodrow Wilson after the World War found that about 75% of the people demanded independence, Syria became a French mandate. The Syrians claim that their poverty, with unemployment rife in every part of the country, is due to the high prices of food and utilities, and the continual reduction in wages. Freedom of the press has been destroyed by France and any form of trade union activity is strictly forbidden.

ITALIAN WAR ACTIVITIES

A total of 360,000 men, 30,000 animals, 6,500 motor vehicles and 3,000,000 tons of material have been shipped to Africa by Mussolini in the past year.

The Italian budget for the Navy for 1936-37 is to be 1,609,891,000 lire (\$135,246,088.). This represents an increase of 305,000,000 lire over present budget.

HUNGER IN GREAT BRITAIN

Sir John Boyd Orr, foremost authority on nutrition in Great Britain recently proved that 50% of the British population is undernourished. 4,500,000 people (10% of the population) spend only 4 shillings (\$1.00) a week on food - 9,000,000 or 20% spend 6 shillings - another 9,000,000, 8 shillings.

FASCIST FORCES ORGANIZE

(Continued from March 15, 1936 issue)

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(From Labor Fact Book III, to be published by the Labor Research Assn.)

Better America Federation of California: Operates in So. California. Active in anti-labor campaigns. Circulated letters in 1935 advocating the Kramer Anti-Sedition Bill.

Industrial Assn. of San Francisco: Active in breaking general strike of 1934, organized as "black hundreds". Worked with militia and vigilantes to raid workers' homes, organizations and strike relief kitchens.

American Nationalist Party (Calif.): Spread anti-Jewish literature by posting on telephone poles, etc. in 1935.

Constitution Society of the U.S. (Los Angeles): Formed March 1935. Founded to fight Epicism, Utopianism, radicalism and other "isms". Broadcasts weekly using anti-labor speakers. Cooperates with the Hearst press.

California Cavaliers: Organized early in 1935. Purpose: framing of anti-labor legislation. Supports proposals for suppression of political minorities.

Hollywood Hussars (Calif.): Founded by Arthur Guy Empey to promote "militant Americanism". Claims the movement is backed by "powerful financial interests". Aims to organize armed units in other cities. Has offered services to police to down "public disturbances" - i.e. strikebreaking.

Knights of Columbus Patrol (Los Angeles): Organized in 1936. Semi-military organization authorized by Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce. Holds military and street-fighting drills at stated intervals. Boys "over Boy Scout age" are recruited.

American Coalition of Patriotic, Civic & Fraternal Societies: Includes 110 societies. Organized to "combat Socialistic and Communistic tendencies in the U.S." Recommends deportation of all alien radicals and similar measures.

Allied Patriotic Societies (New York City): Includes 35 societies. Founded 1923. Supports all anti-labor and anti-alien measures.

Hollywood Escadrille & Hollywood Light Horse (Calif.): Similar to Hollywood Hussars.