

FIGHT

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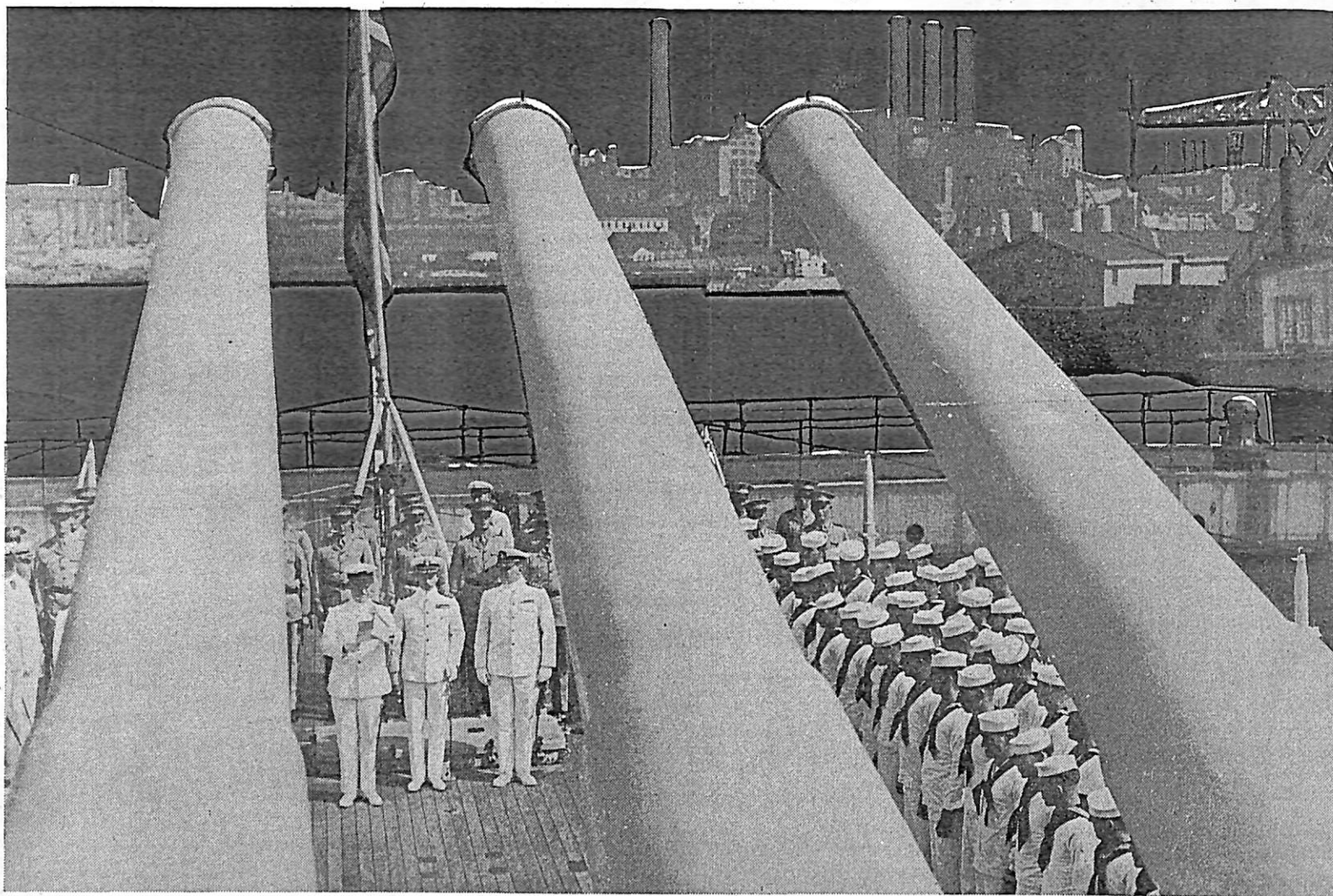
MAY

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AGAINST WAR AND FASCISM

GUNS ARE READY



The guns are ready. Thousands more are being forged. We, the workers and farmers, are the targets. Arms factories are working overtime; already the dividends on mass murder are being paid to a few stockholders while millions of workers and their families lack food, clothing, fuel and shelter for the crazy capitalist reason that there is too much food, clothing, fuel and shelter to go round.

Capitalism, trying to profiteer on artificial scarcity in a new world of plenty, looks forward to imperialist War, with the helpless, fearful, fascinated anticipation of a homicidal maniac. War creates scarcity; scarcity raises prices; high prices mean big profits. (*Big profits for the big men and high prices for the little men.*) Moreover, War may open up new markets, throw rival imperialist powers

out of certain areas, kill off other competitors altogether.

Meanwhile, world capitalism turns to War of another kind—Fascism. Fascism is War at home against the workers and farmers, with the police, courts and government guaranteeing the profits of the bankers, manufacturers and big business men. (See NRA codes, price-jumping, labor “settlements.”)

Also in the meantime, workers, farmers, white collar technicians and the trained young men and women who have never had a job, wake up to the facts of life under capitalism. Their stomachs, their hearts, their brains revolt against the program of misery and mass murder that is laid out for them. All over the world mass resistance to War for profits is growing.

It must grow faster. Capitalist governments drive to War and Fascism at headlong speed. Only the workers can stop War and Fascism before they start.

Workers, to the streets, to the public square of every town and city in America; farmers, to your meeting houses, your schools, your union sales, your picnic grounds! Talk, organize, demonstrate, protest, fight against War and Fascism. On May First and all through the summer, carry on the fight. It is a fight for a decent life for yourself and your families for sanity instead of murderous insanity, for a workers' peace in a workers' world.

The streets and all public places are your workers and farmers. Use them in your struggles for the whole round earth—for a earth without War and Fascism.



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ing the "chaplain," Frank T. Collins, brandished a huge rope whip, explaining that it was for use on "spies and newspapermen" who got by "the vigilantes at the door."

When you have bought one of the new three-cent postage stamps, did you suspect that it carried insidious Communist propaganda? Ah, that shows how gullible you are, and how badly you need the enlightenment offered by the Silver Shirts! Look closely at that stamp.—you will find "a Russian-type peasant woman, a starving Armenian business man, a Slavic farmer, and a *Daily Worker* mechanic"; worst of all, you will find "*the business man as the only one out of step and [with] only one leg to stand on!*" The exclamation point and the italics are Mr. Pelley's.

This, of course, is only funny; but it is not so funny when he accuses the kidnapers of Mr. Urschel "out at the Western Headquarters City of the Silver Shirts," of being Jews. The names which first occur to the ordinary person in thinking of that kidnaping are Kelly, Shannon, and Bailey; but the ordinary person would not therefore jump to the conclusion that kidnaping is an expression of an international plot on the part of the Irish!

Neither is it funny when the Silver Shirts inform us that "secret control of many of our great canning industries, particularly in the Far West, has been planned by alien enemy agents of America, so that 'at the proper time' fatal disease germs can be introduced into America's canned foods and whole States of our population wiped out." The cannery owners have, I think, grounds for suit on the basis of this libelous statement, which could cause enormous injury to their business.

Pelley's imagination knows no bounds; he has conjured up another fearful spectre of "a plague germ worse than bubonic plague . . . which is said to paralyze and destroy every vestige of human and animal life with 100 per cent fatality within four hours after exposure and infection." This terrible disease, unknown to science, he asks us to "suppose" (note his clever avoidance of direct statement) to have been "perfected" and intensified in virulence by "Soviet specialists under GPU auspices" (apparently unaware that the GPU is concerned entirely with internal affairs in Russia), by means of "protracted experiments on helpless kulaks," while all Communists at home and abroad have been "systematically immunized!" Then he goes on to hint that the outbreak of hoof and mouth disease in the Southwest a few years ago; the mysterious gas cloud which floated over northern France, Belgium, and England in 1931 (which was found to be due to accidental escape from industrial plants) and the sudden death of Dwight Morrow "after attending a Jewish banquet in the Commodore Hotel, New York City," were all due to the machinations of those dreadful Jews and Communists combined!

Portrait of a Fascist Leader

The guiding spirit of the Ku Klux Klan was an ex-dentist. The moving force of the Silver Shirts is a former writer of lurid fiction for the "pulp magazines." William Dudley Pelley was born in Massachusetts in 1885, the son of a Methodist minister, and spent most of his

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SILVER SHIRTS

By MIRIAM ALLEN DEFORD

Most of us can remember the great days of the Ku Klux Klan—the days when fiery crosses burned and white nightgowns paraded, and helpless men and women, black and white, who had offended the prejudices of the Knights of the Nightie were tarred and feathered and beaten and in some cases shot to death; when whole states were under the power of the K.K.K., and public officials hastened to do their bidding.

It will not be pleasant news to those who recall those days to know that this country is now witnessing the rapid rise of an organization beside which the Klan looks as harmless as a kindergarten. This organization, known as the Silver Shirts of America and the creation of one William Dudley Pelley, is spreading like wildfire from its original home at Asheville, North Carolina, and already has representatives in almost every state of the union.

A lot of us met the early excesses of the K.K.K. with derision, and most of the commentators on the Silver Shirts today are finding in it merely a subject for ridicule. They underestimate the appeal of such an association to the suggestible and bigoted. Chester Rowell, one of the ablest editorial writers in America today, makes no such mistake as to take the Silver Shirt menace lightly. He says:

When the Ku Klux Klan was at its height, its bigotry was at least American bigotry; its prejudices and illusions at least grew out of an American background. But now we have the beginnings of organized intolerance of the same sort, emanating from the same localities and the same sort of people, but definitely inspired from abroad.

Inspiration by Hitler

The great inspiration of the Silver Shirts is Hitler and Hitlerism. Hitler, says Mr. Pelley in his official organ, *Liberation*, is "the only man in Europe who correctly understands the tie-up between Communism and the predatory element among the Hebrews." Communism

and the Hebrews are the two Big Bad Wolves of the Silver Shirts—with the Hebrews a little bigger and worse a wolf than the Communists. Anti-Semitism is the keystone of Mr. Pelley's arch. In one number of *Liberation*, he ran an article by a "Dr." Anna Sloan which "proved scientifically" that our Jewish brethren are not even members of the white race—they are closely related, among other peoples, to the Turks, the Chinese, and the Eskimos!

There is a very simple criterion by which one may discover whether any given person is a Communist or a Jew: Beware of anyone who believes in any liberal movement or opposes War. That is the sure "mark of the beast." Please bear in mind that in this article I am quoting directly from the official literature of the Silver Shirts, no matter how extravagant, wild, or absurd those quotations may sound. For example, according to the Silver Shirts, both Eugene O'Neill (whose father was one of the founders of the Catholic Actors Guild) and George Arliss are really Jews and part of the vast international Jewish conspiracy in which Jacob Schiff was one of Lenin's "right-hand men"! "About forty per cent of the Brain Trust appointees" have "records for Communism." General Hugh Johnson and President Roosevelt himself are really Communists in disguise, or at the very least the dupes of Jewish Communists.

Roosevelt the "Red"

In fact, it was the Jews and the Communists together—really the same thing, says Mr. Pelley—who caused the depression in the first place, for the specific purpose of manufacturing a condition where the president would have to seek a remedy, which they themselves then suggested, and which is known to us as the NRA! "We are against President Roosevelt because he is a tool of the Jew capitalist, and opposed to the NRA because it is the communistic product of Jewish thought," said a spokesman for the Silver Shirts at a recent meeting in San Francisco. At this same meet-