

## INTERNATIONAL LABOR DEFENSE

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### Soldier Vote Crisis

### During Next Week

The Senate-House Conference on the Soldier Vote Bill has come out with a "compromise" which will mean, if it passes, that less soldiers and sailors will be able to vote than could cast ballots if no new law were enacted. Senators Lucas and Hatch, conferees, have refused to go along with this gigantic election steal by die-hard Poll Taxers and reactionary Republicans. The bill consists of 30-odd pages of complications, red tape, and restrictions on the votes of the armed forces.

The people can't go along with it either. The Conference report will come to the House and Senate during next week, perhaps Tuesday. Which means if you haven't wired your Senators and Representatives during this current week, you'd better do so the minute you receive this letter, demanding a real soldier vote bill along the Green-Lucas model.

If, in spite of the rising wrath of the people, the Unholy Coalition insists on passing a bill which deprives fighting men and women of the vote instead of facilitating balloting for them, there is every indication the President will veto such a measure. Watch your newspapers. There won't be an hour to lose then, to wire your demands that the veto be upheld, and a real soldier vote bill passed.

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### Mead Promises March

### Action on Poll Tax

Senator Mead of New York has promised that H.R. 7, the Marcantonio anti-poll tax bill, will be brought up on the Senate floor for action before the end of March. It's none too soon. In April Congress is expected to go into a series of three-day recesses to allow members to go home for primaries and state conventions. Congress is unlikely to sit in any serious manner from then until after elections. So the last two weeks in March is the latest possible time for action by the Senate on H.R. 7.

Wire Senator Mead urging him to make sure he doesn't permit any further stalling. Wire your own two Senators telling them to work for passage of H.R. 7--and no tricks! Watch the development of the battle on the Senate floor and every day if necessary get a hundred wires sent to the Senators from your state demanding they stick to the fight through hell, high water and filibuster until H.R. 7 is passed--and no tricks! Consult the leaflet we sent you February 18, which outlines winning strategy for H.R. 7.

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### Dies and May in

### Anti-Negro Move

Representative May of Kentucky last week issued a blast against a pamphlet which the army was distributing, which taught the scientific and gospel truths about the races of mankind. Its statements that Negroes are the intellectual equals of white men, given equal opportunities, and vice versa, outraged him. The army promptly withdrew the pamphlet, planned to destroy 55,000 copies.

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Representative Dies immediately climbed on the anti-democracy bandwagon with an announcement his committee was going to investigate the "Communist theories" of which Rep. May complained. In line with Dies Committee attacks on Christopher Marlowe, Elizabethan playwright, as "a Communist", there was a suggestion that he might subpoena John Hancock and 55 other "un-American" suspects who signed and put into circulation a document known as the Declaration of Independence, which makes the flat statement that "all men are created equal."

But the set-up is by no means funny. May's fulminations and the prompt and wrong reaction of the army are a serious danger signal. They are in line with the action last week of the lower house of South Carolina's legislature. A majority of that body passed a resolution saying that "white supremacy" was the policy of the state, and they pledged their lives, fortunes, "honor" to maintain it "in war and in peace." Which translated means practically they would rather lose the war than give Negroes an even break.

It's very serious business. Representative Andrew J. May is chairman of the House Military Affairs Committee. He should be swamped with protests against his action. Copies of these protests should be forwarded by the senders to their own Representatives.

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## SPECIAL ATTENTION: NEW YORK SUBSCRIBERS

Status of AlbanyLegislation

The Hillburn Bill, introduced by Assemblyman Hulan E. Jack, forbidding racial gerrymandering of school districts, has passed the Assembly, is now before the Senate Education Committee. Write to Senator Ed. Young, chairman of that committee, urging action. Write to your own State Senator, urging him to work and vote for the Jack Hillburn Bill.

The Stuyvesant Bill, also introduced by Mr. Jack, to outlaw discrimination in semi-public housing, has been sent to the Assembly Rules Committee. Mr. Jack will attempt to blast it out by a motion on the House floor next week. Write to both your Assemblyman and your Senator urging their support of this measure.

There are several bills for a State FEPC. Write to your Assemblyman and your Senator demanding action on one of them before the legislature adjourns.

THE NEW YORK LEGISLATURE WILL ADJOURN MARCH 23 AT THE LATEST.

Action by two houses is necessary for two out of the three measures here listed, with very little time to go.

YOUR ACTION MUST BE FAST TO BE EFFECTIVE.

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