

CONVENTION FOR WHAT



American Student Union Convention
December 27, 1938

Delegates and Friends:

You are attending a convention whose ostensible purpose it is to mobilize American students behind a program for peace. In the next few days you will discover, if you haven't already, that the predetermined statements of this convention have nothing in common with the fight against war.

You will be asked, for example, to hail the Lima Conference as a bulwark of peace and democracy. The delegates to this conference came from 21 governments, all but a half dozen of which are military dictatorships. The President sanctions these dictatorships, so long as they accept "advice" from Washington, in order to establish Wall Street hegemony in the lands below the Rio Grande. To fulfill this policy an enormous armament program has been formulated by the Washington Administration. At the very same time the relief program is being cut. That explains why this conference, which is supported by Alf Landon, cannot be supported by the student movement.

BIGGER ARMAMENTS MEAN CURTAILMENT OF EDUCATION, SLASHES IN RELIEF, CUTS IN WPA, RETRENCHMENT OF LOW-RENT PUBLIC HOUSING!

You will find as the convention proceeds that its official statements and program were predetermined by the Young Communist League machine that dominates and rules the A.S.U. And you will find that these machine-made resolutions will echo the Communist Party's support of Roosevelt's armament program and the Lima Conference.

If you sincerely oppose war, the militarization of youth, the R.O.T.C. and the Roosevelt super-armament program; if you want to fight for the passage of a war referendum amendment and the American Youth Act, your place is not in the A.S.U., but in the new center of genuine anti-war forces--the Youth Committee Against War, whose convention is now taking place in Columbus, Ohio.

All those who are earnestly concerned about war and fascism must realize that fascism is a product of the economic decay of capitalist society, and that the roots of the international conflicts of the day are to be found in the present social and economic order. You must also realize that our main enemy is not somewhere in Europe or Asia, but here at home--American-bred poverty, oppression, racial discrimination. It is therefore necessary that the student movement ally itself with the mighty forces of Labor in their struggle for real economic progress and a better world. In the forefront of this struggle for social progress--for a Socialist America and a Socialist World-- you will find the Independent Labor League of America.

Read the WORKERS AGE
and YOUTH FRONTIER

...Visit the Rivera Murals,
21-panel Portrait of America
at 131 West 33 Street

Sincerely,

YOUTH SECTION
INDEPENDENT LABOR LEAGUE OF AMERICA
131 West 33 Street, New York City