

WORKERS OF NEW YORK! Stop the Fascists!

**PICKET MADISON SQUARE
GARDEN, MON., FEB. 20, 6 P. M.!**

The fascists are mobilizing at Madison Square Garden Monday night. Hitler's German-American Bund gangsters, Poley's Silver Shirt team and Coughlin's mob of labor-baiters have hurled a brazen challenge at the workers of New York.

Wrapping themselves in the cloak of patriotism and "Americanism", the fascists prepare to spew their anti-labor and anti-Jewish poison throughout New York City.

These gangs have already gone too far. They must be stopped.

What are you going to do to stop this murderous crew?

We must not let this filthy, creeping slime get a foothold in New York.

Gather in front of Madison Square Garden Monday by the thousands!

Be there at 6:00 P.M. sharp!

Let the fascists feel the anger and the might of the working class—

Get out and picket!

Don't wait for the concentration camps—Act now!

On to Madison Square Garden Monday Night!

Issued by the
SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY (Fourth International)
116 University Place, New York City



22,000 NAZIS HOLD RALLY IN GARDEN; POLICE CHECK FOES

Record Detail of 1,700 Cuts
Off the Area to Protesters—
Thousands in Vicinity

SCUFFLES OCCUR OUTSIDE

BUND FOES PROTEST POLICING OF RALLY

Charge Brutality in Handling
of Pickets—Mayor Praises
Men for 'Splendid Job'

INQUIRY ON NAZIS URGED
Legion Leader Sees U.S. Laws
Violated by Local Group—
Disturber Fined \$25

an·ti·fa A massive Nazi rally happened in Madison Square Gardens in New York City. There were 100,000 antifascist protesters. Guess which side the police were on?

NEW YORK TIMES, 1939:
“A FORTRESS IMPREGNABLE TO ANTI-NAZIS”

In late February 1939, roughly 22,000 people gathered at New York City's Madison Square Garden for a rally, which included a 50-member drum and bugle corps and a color guard of more than 60 flags. Six and a half months before Adolf Hitler invaded Poland, New York City's Madison Square Garden hosted a rally to celebrate the rise of Nazism in Germany. Inside, more than 20,000 attendees raised Nazi salutes toward a 30-foot-tall portrait of George Washington flanked by swastikas. Then mayor of New York, Fiorello H. La Guardia, considered shutting it down and not allowing it to happen, but said: “Our government provides for free speech, and in this city that right will be respected. It would be a strange kind of free speech that permits free speech for those we agree with.”

“Police attacks on anti-Nazi demonstrators were expected. ‘We have enough police here to stop a revolution,’ Police Commissioner Lewis J. Valentine boasted to the press, as he surveyed his ‘blue legions from the Eighth Avenue entrance to the Garden just before the meeting began at 8 o’clock.’

The speaker was interrupted by a Jewish-American man named Isadore Greenbaum who charged the stage in protest. Police and the vigilante force quickly tackled him, and proceeded to beat him up on stage. The crowd cheered as they threw him off stage, pulling his pants down in the process. Police charged Greenbaum with disorderly conduct and gave him a \$25 fine, about \$450 in 2019 dollars.

At the time the rally took place, Hitler was completing his sixth concentration camp; and protesters—many of them Jewish Americans—called attention to the fact that what was happening in Germany could happen in the U.S. “Don’t wait for the concentration camps—Act now!”