

DETROIT LABOR GIRDS FOR CHRYSLER BATTLE

'We Will Protect Our Jobs With Our Lives'

DETROIT—The text of the following letter sent to Governor Murphy by the chairmen of the sit-down strikers in the Chrysler plants here places the responsibility of possible violence and bloodshed squarely up to him. It marks an historic step in the disillusionment of the working class with capitalist "friends of labor."

We sit-down strikers in the Chrysler plants want to state our case directly to you. We want to state it as strongly and as vigorously as possible. And we want you to know that what we have to say is supported by more than 50,000 other Chrysler workers, more than 100,000 automobile workers in Detroit, 200,000 in Michigan and 300,000 in the United States.

First, Governor, we stand four-square behind our leaders who declined to attend your conference Wednesday. If they had had any part in proposing the sort of boards your conference proposed, they would have betrayed us. We have had boards before. They don't work. And we automobile workers who work in the shops know better than any one-else that they don't work. We know that the only thing that does work is collective bargaining. Our employers have refused to recognize the principles of collective bargaining, so we have resorted to the only weapon we have to make them abide by the law.

Parts of your statement last Wednesday—the parts emphasized by the newspapers—called our actions "disorderly and unlawful." We would today have more confidence in you if you had openly and specifically stated the reasons for our actions, which you well know, and have previously described.

We have suffered for years in these shops of the Chrysler Corporation. We haven't been paid wages enough to support our families in decency and health.

We have seen each year an increase in the speed of the line. And still the foreman and gang leaders stand over us and demand more and more production.

Last Summer hundreds of us fell like flies on the job because the heat and speed of work were more than we could stand. And it wasn't until we threatened to strike that the management slowed down the line.

Last Fall thousands of us were discharged in violation of our seniority standing. We had to threaten to strike then to get rehired.

While we were exercising our right to organize, we were opposed by one of the most vicious and unspeakable spy systems ever employed in industry. The Chrysler Corporation retained an agency that hired criminals and ex-convicts to do their filthy work. This is a matter of public record. We were subject to intimidation by foremen and petty bosses. Our members were fired for no other reason than that they had joined the union. These things that they did to us were lawless.

Then when we had built our union in spite of these obstacles the Chrysler Corporation refused to recognize us. And this refusal, Governor, was a lawless act.

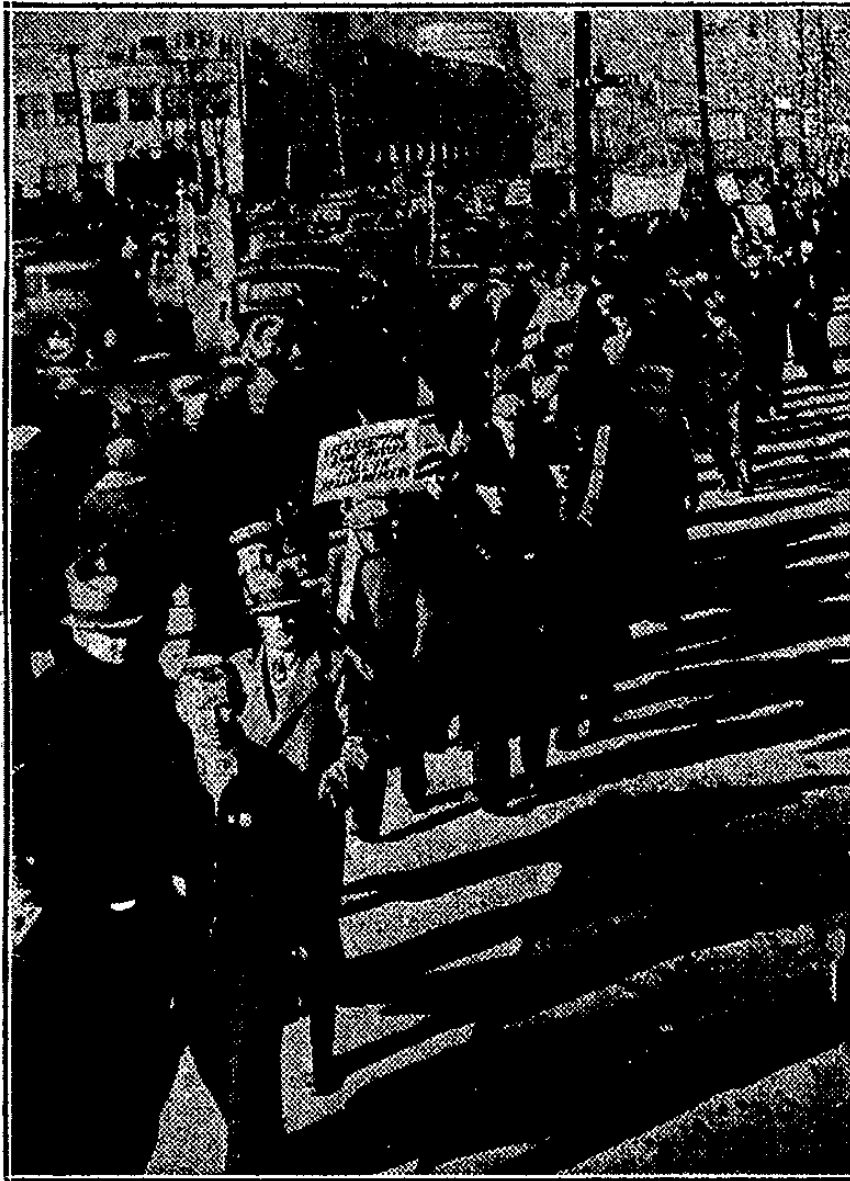
We have many other complaints. We don't feel any better about this whole situation when we know that Walter Chrysler, using the money we earned for him and entirely ignoring our complaints, is unconcernedly vacationing in Florida, that only a few days ago he paid \$1,000 (more than many of us earn in a year) for a case of champagne.

We want to remind you of one other thing, Governor. The same sort of intimidation that Chrysler used against us was used against you and President Roosevelt. Last Fall we received notices in our pay envelopes that very bad things were going to happen to us if we voted for you and Mr. Roosevelt. You know that the very people who fought so hard against your election are those who employ and exploit us. We defied their threats last November and voted for you anyway. We elected you.

We don't intend to leave these plants without a satisfactory settlement. You can do one of two things. You can use your influence to see that our grievances are adjusted. Or you can use the State's troops to try to force us out.

The first way will lead to industrial peace and the elimination of the causes for strikes. The second way will lead to bloodshed and violence and more strikes. We are resolved to protect our rights to our jobs with our lives. The choice is flatly up to you.

Sit-Down Sweeps Country



The militant upsurge of industrial and white-collar workers throughout the country is making labor history. Above, Detroit auto workers maintaining a mass picket line outside of a Chrysler plant while their comrades are inside preparing to resist Governor Murphy's eviction order with their lives, if necessary, as they have informed the "liberal" governor in no uncertain terms.

Below, New York cops forcibly evicting and arresting 56 sit-down strikers in a Woolworth store, most of whom were girls.



Political Struggle Impends

By GUS TYLER

DETROIT—THE sit-downs in this city have broken through the confines of a pure economic issue and are rushing into political spheres.

The fight for wages and hours is turning into a fight for civil liberties, against the brutality of the police, against the Mayor, the police chief—and even the only recently popular Governor Murphy.

During the last week, the capitalist press and the capitalist poli-

March 21, 1937

The Honorable Frank Couzens
Mayor of the City of Detroit
Detroit, Michigan.

Dear Sir:

We strongly protest against the brutality used by the police in the eviction of sit-down strikers. Slugging men and women who are guilty of no other act than trying to improve their job conditions is certainly not the best way to build up respect for law and order. These unlawful raids on defenseless strikers can have no other purpose than that of fostering a reign of terror.

If these terroristic methods are part of a scheme to eventually crush the auto strike, the Socialist Party will join with all organized labor to defeat this attack.

Yours truly,
Socialist Party of Wayne Co.,
Emmanuel Soidler, Chairman.

tionaries have opened the sluice gates of slander against the strikers.

When Governor Murphy appeared upon the scene of the Frank and Seder strike, which tied up a big department store of this city, he scornfully appraised the situation as "a raid, not a strike."

Press Hypocrisy

The hypocritical way in which the capitalist press—liberal and reactionary—have been playing up the gangster scare has momentarily injured part of the popular support for the strike movement. The presence of a few men with shady records in the Retail Clerks International Union has been exploited to the limit. Some of these Detroit papers look like copies of the Rogues Gallery. A couple of pictures are printed and reprinted, until four men are made to look like a myriad army.

These "impartial" papers do not, of course, print the pictures of Chrysler's thugs and spies. They would fill full editions.

The ganging up of the police against the sit-down strikers at Frank and Seder's brought to the

(Continued on Page Twelve)

Texas Oil Workers Gird For Struggle Against Companies

By GEORGE PAPCUN

HOUSTON, Tex.—The drive of the CIO in the oil fields is gaining momentum, especially in the Houston area which is the center of the huge refining, shipping and producing in the United States.

In order to combat the tremendous propaganda and the vicious attacks of the oil companies against the oil workers union the oil workers issued their own militant paper "The Gulf Coast Oil Worker."

The task of the oil workers is made more difficult by the fact that the oil production, refining and distribution is scattered throughout the 48 states of the Union. In this section, according to available figures, 690,000 barrels are handled daily by refinery workers; crude oil shipments from the Gulf average daily; 463,000 barrels to domestic points and 47,000 barrels for export trade.

All of the largest companies are stationed here. Among these are: Humble Oil and Refining Co., subsidiary of Standard Oil of New Jersey; Stanolind Co., Pan-American Co., subsidiaries of Standard of Indiana; Magnolia, Vacuum and Atlantic units of the Standard Oil of New York; the Texas Company; Gulf Co.; Sinclair and Sinclair-Prairie; Shell Corp.; Sun Oil Co.; Pure Oil Co.; Standard of Kansas, Crown Oil Co. and in Louisiana the Standard of Louisiana.

World Oil Center

The Houston-Beaumont-Port Arthur sector is the center of the world's largest oil refining and shipping area. There are at this time nine local unions with thousands of members functioning in this region, which includes the south of the line from Del Rio, on the Rio Grande to Shreveport, La., including the large East Texas field.

The South Texas oil companies on March 17 announced with a big blare of publicity a ten million dollar a year increase in pay to workers in the oil fields earning less than \$5,000 per year. (Not many of them earn \$5,000 a year, or anything near that). This is plainly a counter-move against the oil workers union and the CIO which the workers are enthusiastically supporting. An effort is also being made by these oil companies to give a greater increase in one refinery or field of the same company than in another in order to divide the workers.

One can hardly express in writing the tremendous enthusiasm for unionization shown by oil workers at their meetings, at their job and on the streets. This enthusiasm has become contagious to all other workers in this area.

The latest result of labor activity in the Houston area has been the organization of 700 taxi drivers into Local 349. Drivers receiving from eight to thirteen dollars a week with terrible working conditions, unsafe cabs and long hours delivered an ultimatum which included that the rates be increased 30 to 45 per cent, that two days holiday with pay be given each month and that the union be recognized. Seventeen companies in answer to this ultimatum locked out the drivers on March 19. Eight minor companies signed the agreement. The lock-out has thrown 450 taxi drivers out of work.

The Socialist Party in Houston is extending its activities rapidly. Roy Burt, national executive secretary of the party, will inaugurate the drive of the party officially at a meeting April 12, at 8 p. m. at the Houston YWCA auditorium corner of Rusk and Austin. Comrade Burt will speak on "The Trends in the Labor Movement and the Sit-Down Strikes."

An effort is being made to get

Gov. Murphy Hit By Labor As Pro-Boss

By FRANK MARQUART

Thundering a unanimous "Aye," 2,000 sit-down strikers at a mass meeting inside the Dodge main Plant supported a resolution censuring Governor Murphy's anti-labor attitude.

Warning the strikers in Detroit that he will not hesitate to use force if need be, this "friend of labor" is at last showing on which side he stands.

Emphasizing the need to enforce respect for public authority, the Governor said not a word about the Chrysler Corporation's flagrant violation of the National Labor Relations Act.

Worse than this warning to the workers, however, is the Governor's move toward anti-strike legislation. Two bills were introduced into the Michigan Legislature on March 18. One bill makes it a felony to participate in a sit-down strike. The other would make it a felony to engage in a sit-down during negotiations.

Dangerous Bill

The danger of these bills becomes apparent when it is pointed out how the companies use negotiations for the purpose of stalling off the workers until the favorable time for pulling a strike is past. Because Palmer, the introducer, is the Democratic floor leader in the Senate, it is believed the bills were sponsored by Murphy.

Committee Anti-Labor

The "Strike Committee" which the Governor selected to handle the strike situation in Detroit is one well calculated to please the bosses.

Burt to speak in Galveston, Texas. These meetings will be held in connection with a tour of Burt through the Southwest and through the oil fields. Other meetings will take place in other parts of Texas.

Workers in the Houston area can communicate with the Socialist Party by writing to Box 2321, Houston.

Wounded



Andre Blumel, secretary to Leon Blum, who was twice wounded during the pitched battle between Fascists and workers in Clichy, France, last week.

White Collar Workers Map Union Drive

NEW YORK.—Four powerful white collar unions have joined in a Call to over 30 AFL white collar and professional unions for a conference to take place on Saturday, April 17, 1937 at 2 P.M. at Hotel Claridge, 160 West 40th Street. This conference may be historic since it is expected to inaugurate the widest and most thorough organization drive of white-collar workers in the history of the labor movement.

Recent events in steel, auto, textile, rubber and other industries have ploughed deeply into the white collar group. There are approximately 10 million who can be so classified, of which over one million are located in the New York area. Success in the basic industry has created a tremendous ferment, which it is contemplated can enable the labor movement to win this important group, who play a vital role in commerce and industry.

Union Backs Call

The four unions signing the call are, the American Federation of Musicians, Local 802; the American Federation of Teachers, Local 5; the Bookkeepers, Stenographers and Accountants Union, Local 12646; and the A.W.P.R.A. Council of the American Federation of State, County Municipal Employees, expect a wide and enthusiastic response.

The Newspaper Guild of New York, the American Federation of Actors and, Local 1250 Department Store Employees Union, have announced their intention to participate in the conference.

'Armed Force' Threat By Bosses As Union Drive Moves South

By ED MITCHELL

JACKSON, Miss.—From sources high in state politics, comes a report that the State of Mississippi will tolerate no sit-down strikes; also an announcement that State Troopers will be used in any strike called by the CIO, which recently announced the beginning of an organizational drive among textile workers in Mississippi.

Labor Aims To Make Chi. A Union City

By RUSSELL CLOUD

CHICAGO.—Breaking through the stagnation of years, the Chicago labor movement has suddenly blazed with a mounting wave of strikes in which at least 20,000 workers in every industry have demonstrated a new confidence and determination to gain union recognition as well as their demands for shorter hours and higher wages.

Five thousand taxi drivers continue to hold the spotlight, after two weeks of fierce struggle and armed conflict with the police on dozens of occasions. Negotiations for settlement have just begun, after a violent reign of terror on the part of the "Yellow and Checker bosses."

The outcome is not yet decided, but the spirit and militancy shown by the cabbies during the strike in which they broke into and overturned cabs, beat up scabs, and smashed every attempt to put cabs back on the streets in face of machine-guns and armed slugs, has become the common denominator for workers in offices and factories throughout the city.

Socialists Active

The brutality of police terror against the taxi strikers was protested at a mass meeting held by the Workers Defense League where the threat of acting Police Commissioner Prendergast to "smash the Midwest Taxi Drivers Union" was denounced by union and Socialist Party speakers.

Joe Jacobs, Douglas Anderson, and Harold Gibbons, chairman of the Socialist labor committee, assisted by a dozen young Socialists, have been active in the leadership of the strike.

In radio three strikes are in full swing with probable settlements this week. The United Electrical and Radio Workers Union has been signing Postal Telegraph messengers and clerks who struck spontaneously last week in preparation for another strike and union recognition. In the large radio plants there is increasing ferment with the strong possibility of thousands of workers being involved in a sit-down that will center the attention of the entire country on Chicago.

Union Gains Mount

Heineman silk and Wilson Sporting goods have just been settled involving 2700 workers with minor concessions and general dissatisfaction. Union gains have been increasing and both plants will be tied up solidly within the next month.

A sit-down among the egg-powder girls was led by Young Socialists. The shoe-clerks forced five and ten dollar increases throughout the city due to the growing strength of the Retail Shoe Clerks Union.

Other strikes in which the Socialist Party and the YPSL have played a prominent part are, M. Block and Sons lockout, sheet-metal plant, Rothberg and Schneider Bros. Co., Chicago Mail Order House, Guardian Electric

During recent months numerous sweatshops, seeking to escape unionism in the East and North and to exploit cheap sharecropper labor, have taken advantage of Governor White's "balance industry with agriculture" program. White's plan provides free factory buildings, no taxes, and assures the employer of "no labor troubles."

Garment Shops Go South

According to Meyer Pearlstein, Southwestern director of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, the garment workers union is concentrating on the South and within 18 months expects to have half the industry organized in Mississippi.

Pearlstein recently made public his plans for organizing southern garment workers stating "We have 25 or 30 organizers in Kansas City now waiting orders to go into Mississippi."

"We will ask a \$12 minimum and a 40-hour week," as compared with the existing wage of three to ten dollars per week.

Last week a high Mississippi State official told John Breazeale, United Press correspondent, that "armed forces will eject sit-down strikers," should the CIO use this tactic.

STFU Offers Aid

With the CIO's drive soon to be underway in the textile and garment industries, largely scattered among small villages near the plantations, the Southern Tenant Farmers' Union, militant organization of sharecroppers and agricultural laborers, is offering its cooperation in efforts to unionize the South.

Southern industrialists, largely dependent on cheap sharecropper labor, fear unionization of agrarian workers into the Southern Tenant Farmers Union. In Mississippi, as elsewhere in the plantation region, factory-owners and landlords endeavor to complicate the situation by stirring-up racial strife.

The Southern Tenant Farmers Union, however, continues to expand its organization among all workers in agriculture, irrespective of race or color; constantly winning larger numbers to the cause of unionism, who in the past have served as potential scabs and greatly hindered organizational work among southern industrial workers.

walkout, Handy Button Co. Agnini-Singer rhinestone factory, and Rothchild's men furnishings.

These are but the beginnings of even more significant conflicts that will take place within the next few weeks. The workers are learning and proving their strength in bitter strike struggles that promise to turn Chicago into a union town.

WATCH THE WRAPPER

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New York Station—WABC

Spanish Workers See Italian Fascists Rout Turning Point of War

By SAM BARON
Special to the Call

VALENCIA, Spain.—This city, seat of the Loyalist government, is going wild with enthusiasm as radios blare forth fresh reports of the utter rout of the Italian Fascists troops northeast of Madrid by the People's Army. Everybody here, from the humblest peasant to experienced army officers, feels that the turning point of the war was marked at Guadalajara and that the sweep of the Loyalist troops to Saragosa, which has been in Fascist hands since the first week of the war, will prove irresistible.

The People's army has proved itself against experienced Italian soldiers. The four divisions which had tried to reach Madrid from the Northwest consisted almost entirely of Italians. And in numbers the Fascist troops were superior to those of the government.

But the soldiers of the workers and peasants of Spain had that which was worth many divisions of Fascist troops—that burning and deathless idealism which I have seen and felt everywhere I went in Spain.

Air Raid

Several days ago Fascist planes visited Valencia between three and eight in the morning. Their objective seemed to be about a mile and a half from where I was stopping. The damage they did was slight.

That was the first attack. Shortly after a second squadron of Fascist planes swooped down on the working class section just as the men were going to work and the women were leaving to do their morning shopping, and poured bombs down on them.

What important military advantage is gained by slaughtering defenseless and harmless women and children I cannot say. But this I know: every time those Fascist butchers pull a stunt like that they mould, in blood, the unquestionable spirit to fight to the death against Fascism. Comments I have heard all about me after that raid plainly show that those bombs have sown seeds of impassioned hatred which Franco's murderers will never be able to overcome.

It was such spirit, that and the vision of a new society, which was in the main, I think, responsible for the rout of the Italians.

Italian Vs. Italian

One thing stands out in the Fascist defeat. The spearhead of the drive against Mussolini's troops was none other than the famous Garibaldi Battalion, that section of the International Brigade which consists of Italian anti-Fascists, among whom are a number of Americans. The work of the Garibaldi Battalion is greatly appreciated here and every tongue sounds their praise.

There is grim justice in the fact that the Italian anti-Fascists played so important a part in the crushing defeat of Mussolini's troops. A number of Italians have deserted from the Fascist divisions and have joined the ranks of the Garibaldi Battalion to fight against Mussolini on Spanish soil.

Several days ago I received a first hand account of the fight on the Guadalajara front from Frank Tinker, an American aviator fighting with the Loyalist forces near Madrid. Tinker participated in the rout of a division of Italian Fascists on March 13.

Rout Of The Fascists

As we sat in the lounge of the Hotel Ingles, he told me of how, with a squadron of Loyalist airplanes he sighted the Italian division advancing on the road to Guadalajara. The Loyalist planes circled above and dropped four

bombs each. Each bomb scored a direct hit.

Then the planes swooped down, machine-gunning the invading Fascists and turning their retreat into a rout. The fleeing Italians abandoned a large number of tanks, machine guns, armoured motor cycles and other equipment, including one container of poison gas.

Tinker comes from Arkansas. In a typical Arkansas drawl, he went on to tell me of how during the retreat of the Italians in wild confusion, Fascist Fiats and Capronis flew up and engaged the Loyalist planes in an air battle in which the Fascists were ignominiously defeated.

It is such fighters as Tinker, men who are making the supreme sacrifice in the great cause of the international solidarity of labor, that makes victory so certain. The ranks of the International Brigade include workers of many countries, workmen and women like those enrolled in the Eugene Victor Debs Column from the United States, whose enthusiasm for workers' democracy serves to make unbeatable the morale of the heroic Spanish people.

Brihuega Falls

Hourly, as I stated in the beginning of this dispatch, additional news of the utter defeat of the Italians reached us. Brihuega has fallen to the advancing People's army and town after town is being taken on the Aragon highway.

The stores and munitions which have fallen into Loyalist hands is beyond immediate calculation. It is said that two million rounds of cartridges, cannon of all kinds, tanks, hand grenades, rifles, machine guns, food, clothing, and other supplies which the

Loyalist troops sorely need have been discarded by the Fascists in their mad panic.

As this is being written, the People's army is still on the march, meeting with little resistance. Our enthusiasm is keyed for anything. On to Sigüenza!

In Valencia

Now for something about the conditions in this city, which since the siege of Madrid has become the headquarters of the government.

A day after the air raid I mentioned earlier, it was impossible to see any change in the lives of the people. Just as many people swarming about, laughing and happy and determined. Just as many working class and revolutionary songs—and just as many hot political arguments.

A friend took me around the city. At the docks I found many commercial ships, which plainly showed that the stories I read in the United States about Loyalist shipping being completely bottled up are false.

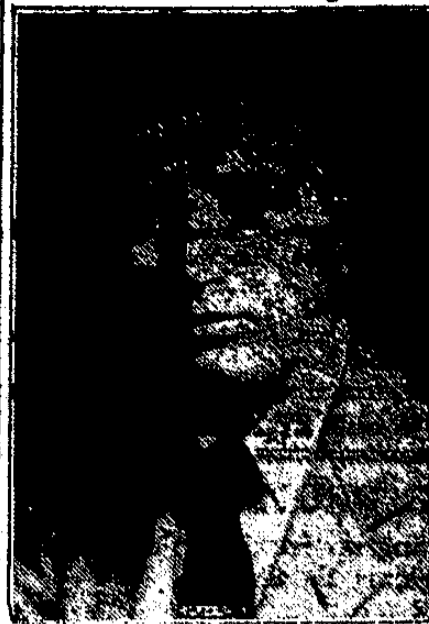
The hovels in which the workers live are as miserable as anything I have seen. They gave notice that they would not endure it any longer.

Political Set-Up

The trade union and political set-up was at first confusing. There are three, or should I say four, trade union organizations.—Socialists, Communists, Syndicalists, Anarchists. The Socialists and Communists merged into the UGT. The move was initiated by the Socialists who are in the vast majority. The Anarchists and Syndicalists are in the CNT and are quite strong.

The political scene, presents the Socialist Party, the Communist Party, the FAI which is the

Party Secretaries



ROY E. BURT (left), national executive secretary, and FRANK N. TRAGER (right), national labor and organization secretary of the Socialist Party, which meets at a special national convention this week-end in Chicago. It is expected that the convention will improve and strengthen the party structure.

Socialist Convention Gathers in Chicago

CHICAGO—The role the Socialist Party will play in the next year will be determined at a special national convention of the Party which will meet here Friday through Monday.

The convention was called after the last elections by the National Executive Committee of the Party in accordance with the Constitution. Because it is a special convention, it will act only on those matters laid before the national executive committee.

The Convention Call, issued in November by the NEC, declared that facing the Party were "important problems on which more definite organization policy must be formulated. Therefore in order to consider the application of Socialist principles and program to the present time and to formulate plans for meeting conditions that will confront the Party in the coming years, the NEC calls a special convention."

The committee laid two main problems before the convention in its call. These were: (1) work with other organizations, and (2) reorganization of Party machinery to carry out new emphasis.

The first part was subdivided into three sections: (a) the activi-

Anarchist national political organization, and the POUM.

Posters are used by all of these groups for public announcements, at times individually, at times joint statements agreed upon beforehand. Posters are changed very often, several times a week.

The economic set-up is interesting and important. All commercial enterprises are under government or workers' control, varying in degree.

The first step was to determine which workers' organization was to be given control. This was done on the basis of how many of the workers in that particular place belonged to any given organization and so you find most of the stores, banks, etc., controlled by the UGT and quite a large number jointly by the UGT and CNT.

Workers Control

Buildings are also under workers control. Certain industries have been socialized. The barbers are socialized. The cafes are mostly run for the workers employed there, and if the profits are large a percentage is turned over to the government on a voluntary basis.

There is one cafe on the corner here which has the most modern equipment, including an American bar, which was built for the wealthy in the town. It was completed a day before the revolt broke out.

You should see it now. All day long jammed with workers and soldiers, with the workers employed inside in complete control. It does your heart good to see it!

ties and tactics of the SP with respect to labor unions, cooperatives and other economic organizations; (b) the relationship of the SP to Labor Parties; and (c) the relationship of the SP to other organizations.

The second section was divided into four parts: (a) creation of a Party press, defining the relationship between the Party and the SOCIALIST CALL and the American Socialist Monthly; (b) finances; (c) revision of the constitution to make the Party more unified and efficient in its activities and fitted to new functions; and (d) consideration of machinery for making the Socialist anti-war, anti-Fascist position more effective.

All meetings of the Convention will be held in the Exhibition Hall of the LaSalle Hotel here. The program follows:

FRIDAY, MARCH 26

5:30 A.M. to 12:30 P.M. Executive secretary's report. Election of committees.

2:30 P.M. to 6:00 P.M. Work in Mass Organizations, Labor Unions and Unemployed. Reporters: Frank N. Trager, Franz Daniel, Powers Haggood, Vincent Dunne, David Lasser. Discussion from the floor.

8:00 P.M. to 10 P.M. Farmers organization. Reporters: Chester Graham and H. L. Mitchell. Discussion from the floor.

SATURDAY, MARCH 27

9:30 A.M. to 12:00 N. Labor Party. Reporters: Max Raskin, Alice Hanson, Albert Goldman, Norman Thomas. Discussion from the floor.

2:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M. United Front and Peoples Front. Reporters: Harry W. Laidler, Andrew J. Blemiller, Glen Trimble, Herbert Zam. Discussion from the floor.

8:00 P.M. to 10:30 P.M. Anti-War and Anti-Fascist Activity. Reporters: Gus Tyler, Devere Allen, Paul Porter. Discussion from the floor.

SUNDAY, MARCH 28

9:30 A.M. to 12:30 P.M. Fraternal greetings. Meeting of Resolutions Committee. Miscellaneous business.

2:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M. Party Structure and Constitution. Reporters: Roy E. Burt and Arthur G. MacDowell. Discussion from the floor.

8:00 P.M. to 10:30 P.M. Committee reports.

MONDAY, MARCH 29

9:30 to 12:30 A.M. Committee reports. Convention business.

2:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M. Convention business.

8:00 P.M. to 10:30 P.M. Convention business.

Barbara's Headache



Barbara Hutton, whose millions were produced for her by the toll of thousands of girls like these at miserable wages and long hours, has something else to think of now besides the best candidate to serve as her next husband. Woolworth girls in New York and other cities are defying police terror in their courageous struggle for better conditions and wages.

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BEWARE OF WAR PROPAGANDA

Beware of those who are stirring up fervor for an imperialist war under the guise of a fight against Fascism.

A week ago Monday, March 16, the Jewish Labor Committee and the American Jewish Congress ran a demonstration against Hitlerism that packed 22,000 New York workers into Madison Square Garden.

John L. Lewis, Mayor LaGuardia, Hugh Johnson were among the speakers. But the orator who aroused the audience most was Frank Bohn, son-in-law of Secretary of Commerce Roper, pre-war Syndicalist and Socialist, later a pro-war "patriot."

Bohn's oratory was arousing; it sounded militant and it won applause. Be warned: Frank Bohn's speech at Madison Square Garden was dangerous propaganda for imperialist war.

We are not discussing Bohn's motives; they may have been the purest. The effect of his speech was to prepare the ground for a war by the government of the United States against Nazi Germany.

We Socialists insist that Fascist dictatorships can be overthrown only by armed force—the armed force of workers. That is why we are active in support of the Debs Brigade, American contingent of the international volunteers fighting Fascism in Spain.

But we denounce the idea of depending on the armed forces of capitalists and capitalist states in the delusive hope that they will help to fight Fascism.

A capitalist state can use its armed forces only to defend its imperialist interests or to crush the working-class. It can use denunciation of Fascism only as a slogan to rally support for imperialist war.

What did Frank Bohn say that was so dangerous?

He began by comparing Nazi Germany of 1937 with Imperial Germany of 1914. Let us recall that Bohn left the Socialist movement in 1917 in order to support the World War.

"Hitler will strike," he continued, "as the Kaiser struck, in the belief that Great Britain will stay out of the war. A British declaration of purposes, a proclamation of unity with her natural allies, is just as essential to peace today as it was during the last week of July, 1914."

Bohn is spreading the dangerous illusion that peace can be preserved through the action of the British government, most powerful imperialist nation in the world. This attitude means that, should war break out on the European continent, Bohn will urge the British Empire to declare war on Germany.

It also means, and Bohn further implied, that he would demand that the United States declare war on Germany if the powder-keg of Europe explodes.

"In this crisis," he declared, "the American people cannot remain morally neutral. If Hitler and Mussolini slay the Republic of Spain, they will wipe out France. France comes next. My friends, I am glad you are shouting: 'Never!' Stand as one man for France!"

That would have been enough, but Bohn was thorough: "We ask you Americans all throughout this land to face the facts. It was James W. Gerard, our American ambassador to Berlin in 1915, who said to me in May, 1915: 'We shall have to face them arms in hand.' . . . I beseech you to recognize the truth. The time is not tomorrow, the time is today."

Bohn climaxed his speech with a chauvinistic appeal for the unity of the English-speaking world:

"If the English-speaking world will stand up now and take a stand, take her stand with Spain and France and point the finger at Hitler, you will not have to wait for Hitler's guns to shoot. That man can be destroyed by the public opinion of humanity."

To judge from his speech, Bohn does not believe that "Hitler can be destroyed by the public opinion of humanity." He believes that war will come, and that the United States ought, sooner or later, to declare war on Germany. That is the unavoidable conclusion to the logic of his speech at Madison Square Garden.

We protest not simply against an individual, Frank Bohn; we protest against pro-war propaganda under the guise of a fight against Fascism.

It is tragic that a demonstration against Fascism should be used to arouse support for American and British imperialism against German imperialism. It is unfortunate that the committee that planned the rally did not more carefully ascertain the contents of the speeches to be delivered or choose the speakers more judiciously.

General Hugh Johnson, well-known strike-hater, was another speaker. He took pains to lump Communism with Fascism in every one of his denunciatory paragraphs. And one of the sponsoring organizations was the American League against War and Fascism, dominated by Communists.

Now, if you'll excuse us, we remember the time, a little over three years ago, when the Communists broke up in bloody rioting a demonstration against Austrian clerical-Fascism sponsored by the Socialist Party and New York trade unions, on the grounds that Mayor LaGuardia and the "Fascist" Matthew Woll, vice-president of the American Federation of Labor, were scheduled to speak.

"NEUTRALITY"



For a Solid Labor Front by 1940

To the Editor:

I enjoy the CALL more than any other paper I read. I am a Socialist through and through. I feel that we have a better chance than ever before if we will just keep working and never give up.

The Cause needs money. America is in an upheaval. Many do not know what to think or believe. They will be more receptive and responsive to the justice of Socialism. If all "workers" all individuals and groups, who believe Capitalism, is the main trouble would only combine for 1940 and beat capitalism, they could later fall back into their various organizations, if they so desired.

Capitalism is our common enemy. We should advance for 1940 with a solid front.

EMIL P. STEARN'S
Brandy, Virginia.

For a Disciplined Socialist Party

To the Editor:

Your statement in the last issue of the CALL about the Communists is perfectly correct. But I feel that a correction to your statement is necessary.

You state: "The Socialist Party believes that questions of policy within the working class should be settled by debate and logic." True, but not enough! I would say, "and by a democratic vote in the working class organization."

It is impossible to "settle" any question by debate and logic alone; it is necessary that a decision, resolution or declaration accepted after the debate is over, should become the rule by which party members should be guided in their actions. We need discipline in our party, and more so, self-discipline!

The National Convention must call to order all those members who consider the party as a free debating society!

The resolutions and declarations of the Convention in Chicago must become the law of the party, until a free discussion of the accepted principles will be declared by the national executive committee.

And above all let's stop the

hair splitting and theorizing! We have a big job to do—we must build the party, locally and nationally, if we want to survive as a party at all.

S. KLEINMAN
Detroit.

Music to Our Ears

To the Editor:

The CALL is doing splendid work and deserves all possible support. The editorial a few weeks ago on the subject of racketeering labor union officials and their lawyers was trenchant, straightforward and most commendable.

S. JOHN BLOCK
New York.

United Front At Mecca Temple

To the Editor:

The boozing which I. Amter, who I believe is state organizer or state chairman of the Communist Party, received at Mecca Temple Sunday night at the Italian Anti-Fascist mass meeting to aid Spain showed the resentment of the audience against this flagrant breach of a united front and the unjustified attack on Norman Thomas. The speech of Amicus Most of the Socialist Party, who spoke before Amter, was a clean and inspiring talk, quite in keeping with the spirit of the united front.

I am neither a Socialist nor a Communist, but a radical who thinks the united front is the only hope of mankind. For that reason Amter's uncalled for attack on Thomas made me sick at heart. Is this the sort of tactic the Com-

munist mean by united front? If it is, they will find it a boom-erang.

M. J. MILES.
New York.

Backed by ALP, He Votes Against Child Labor Ban

NEW YORK — Paul Mercier, Oneida County Assemblyman from Utica, who in the last election ran on the Democratic ticket and was endorsed by the American Labor Party, voted against the Child Labor amendment when it was on the floor of the State Assembly.

Mercier led the move for a referendum on the issue in an effort to put off a vote by the legislative body. This failed, and on the vote's being taken, Mercier cast his vote against the elementary demand of labor for the banning of child labor.

The moral: The ALP to be a genuine independent party of labor, must have its own clear program and its candidates responsible to itself only.

MOSCOW BUILDS

MOSCOW (FP)—New construction just approved includes 400 new apartment houses, 73 schools, over 20 miles of street car lines, 612,000 square meters of asphalted streets and dozens of new nurseries, kindergartens, movie theatres, hospitals and maternity homes.

Join The Socialist Party

For information fill out the blank and send it to the Socialist Party, 549 Randolph St., Chicago, Ill.

NAME
ADDRESS
CITY STATE

World Socialism

By HERBERT ZAM

Just now the French capitalist press is in the throes of a wave of enthusiasm for Leon Blum. He has finally convinced French capitalism that he has no intentions of taking any "socialistic" measures. As the capitalists see the new policy of the Blum government: "It decided henceforth to pursue a liberal course in economic affairs and to govern in the name of the entire nation, and no longer for the working classes." Thus, if Blum, in the first few weeks of office gave some indication of concessions to the workers which would enable them to live a little better than under Laval (the 40-hour week) and thereby frightened the capitalists a bit, he has certainly managed to reassure them thoroughly since then. When this reassurance, the new financial policy, the rearmament loan, are lined up alongside such acts by the government as the threat to use warships to break a strike of miners and railwaymen in the North, the use of troops to break a strike of native miners in Tunisia, it is obvious that the capitalists have, indeed, nothing to fear at the hands of Blum.

FRENCH BOSSES DON'T FEAR BLUM

There are three very good reasons why French capitalism should be so enthusiastic over the new Blum financial policy: First, because the loan of ten and a half billion francs (approximately half a billion dollars) authorized by parliament, is to be used for "national defence"—that is, for the building up of a more powerful army and fleet to defend French imperialism against its competitors.

Secondly, because the terms of the loan are very satisfactory from the point of view of the capitalists; it carries a high interest rate and is amply guaranteed.

The first issue was oversubscribed on the first day, and the second one also. Many holders are selling their interests in other spheres in order to buy these government bonds. On this wave, the entire loan will be completed in less than a week, whereas the government had expected to take a month.

Finally, the capitalists understand that this rearmament loan is really only the first slice of a gigantic expenditure, which will create a "boom" in industry, particularly in the war industries, and will give them an extensive period of prosperity, at the expense of the workers, of course. The New York Times writer states: "The feeling in financial circles is that this reversal by Premier Blum will be durable because the government will long have need to seek the CONFIDENCE OF THE MONEYED INTERESTS." It is no wonder that the press headline on the new Blum policy is: "French Capitalists Are Buoyed by Blum."

CAPITALISTS USE RADICAL FRONT

This is not the first time, of course, that the capitalists have been almost as enthusiastic about a "Socialist" government as about an ordinary capitalist one. In fact, a so-called "Socialist" or "labor" or coalition government is a regular device employed by the capitalists at moments when the stabilization of capitalism cannot be carried through by the bourgeoisie itself without help from the ranks of the working class.

It was Hilferding who, as minister of finance, put forth the policies and carried them out, to save German capitalism from complete collapse in the worst days of the inflation. Under somewhat different circumstances, Snowden performed the same task in England. Van Zeeland managed to secure the cooperation of Vandervelde and Spaak and de Mann in Belgium, even though Vandervelde belatedly

realized how he was being used.

This column has emphasized before, and will continue to emphasize over and over again: This is the inevitable development of any attempt to operate the machinery of the capitalist state, either by Socialists alone, or by Socialists in partnership with capitalist parties.

The capitalist state cannot be taken over and operated in the interests of the working class, because it is inextricably bound up with the capitalist mode of production, because its very foundations are the foundations of the capitalist system. Every apparent concession to the workers is soon counter-acted by the ability of the capitalists to manipulate in the industrial and financial spheres.

The 15 percent wage increases, for example, which were granted to the workers in the first days of the Blum government, were soon eaten away by the inflation of the franc, without the provision for a sliding scale which Blum proposed but had to withdraw because of the opposition of his partners the Radicals in the senate. Eventually, Blum will go the way of the first Mac-

U. S. Workers Sports League to Take Part In Workers Olympiad

America, for the first time, will be officially represented at the forthcoming Third Workers Olympiad this summer in Antwerp, Belgium, it was announced at the offices of the Workers Sports League of America, 3 West 16th Street, New York City. A large contingent of American trade unionists and members of labor sports teams will participate in the games to be held during the last week of July in Belgium's leading commercial and labor center.

The Workers Sports League is the American affiliate of the Workers Sports International and the International Federation of Trade Unions under whose auspices the Olympiad will be held. According to word from the International Arrangements Committee under the chairmanship of Mr. Camille Huysmans, Mayor of Antwerp, more than 25,000 participants from 15 countries are expected.

Donald government, of the Hilferding government.

Having pulled the chestnuts out of the fire for the capitalists, the capitalists will then consign him to the rubbish heap. The working class will eventually learn that it gains nothing by cooperating with the capitalists in any form; it gains only by constant and militant prosecution of the class struggle on all fronts.

James H. Rand, Jr.: Expert Union Buster And Strike Breaker

By JACK FAHY

Luckiest man in America's Big Business world today is James H. Rand Jr. Fifty years ago in North Tonawanda, N. Y., a son was born to a prosperous manufacturer. They named him James Henry after his father and gently removed the silver spoon from his mouth.

In the half century that has passed since that event Rand worked hard to become one of the nation's most successful business executives. In 1925 he achieved his goal by merging a dozen or more companies into one corporation, Remington Rand, with himself as president. For the next ten years James H. Rand Jr., devoted himself to becoming the most efficient exploiter of workers in America.

Ten days ago the National Labor Relations Board made public a 50,000 word decision ordering Remington Rand to rehire 4,000 workers who were locked out following the strike begun in May, 1936. The decision made the most scathing attack on the labor policy of the company.

Home-Made Violence

When 6,000 workers walked out of six Remington Rand plants last May James H. Rand Jr., set out

to deal with the strikers in his own way. One of Rand's first moves was to cause acts of violence in order to fool the courts and the public into thinking that the workers were irresponsible, lawless hoodlums.

To accomplish this Rand drove up to a group of strikers one day and thumbed his nose while a movie cameraman "snoot" the reactions of the crowd. Another method was to hire out of town gangsters to pose as strikers and then start fights and riots within the workers' ranks.

Rand is fully aware of the value of publicity. He hired Earl Harding to turn out hundreds of skillfully worded advertisements and so-called news stories which misled most of the public. Fake "employee associations" were formed with a "back to work" slogan that attempted to show that the workers were not supporting the strike.

The usual scab supply companies, such as the Bergoff Agency, Burns Detective Agency, and the Foster Industrial & Detective Bureau, were called upon to provide strike-breakers. Rand then called these scabs "loyal employees."

Rand was lucky. He won the strike for his company. After breaking the strike at Ilion he boasted of what he called the "Mohawk Valley formula." The National Manufacturers Association thought it was a good system too and sent out thousands of bulletins telling their members about Rand's methods of smashing organized labor.

When the National Labor Relations Board went after Remington Rand with charges that it had unlawfully interfered with the right of workers to organize as guaranteed by the Wagner Act, Rand was able to delay the hearing from July, 1936 until October. Rand's company obtained the postponements by legal red tape and used the delay to build up company unions. That 4,000 workers were left without jobs meant less than nothing to Rand.

The Remington Rand case is the most important on the national labor front today. The NLRB made its decision; Remington Rand must rehire the 4,000 employees that were illegally thrown out of work.

Uses Same Methods

Today Rand is using the same methods he used in last year's strike. A telegram from company lawyers has been posted in every Remington Rand plant telling employees that "Company attorneys are taking immediate steps to protect the Company's 12,000 factory workers on account of the NLRB decision."

The sudden interest Rand shows for the welfare of his employees in protecting them from the dangers of the NLRB is really humorous after his gangster methods of a year ago. The fake company unions have also wired the Government to say that they are "satisfied with present conditions." Few people are fooled by these phoney moves.

James H. Rand Jr. has issued a challenge to organized labor that will not go unaccepted. Rand's luck is due to turn and he will find it out when a militant labor organization walks into his company towns to lead the workers to a quick, successful strike

What Is the 'Proletariat'?

The following is the third of a series on the "Elements of Socialism." This section deals with the creation of the modern working class, called the "proletariat," and its place in the process of production.

III

BEFORE capitalism could begin to function, it had to have at its disposal a large body of propertyless men and women, who had to sell their labor-power in order to live.

So long as the worker was a serf or an independent peasant, tied to a bit of land, he was not readily available for industrial purposes for factory work. The earliest capitalists did utilize the peasant system in part for their purposes. They let out work to be done by the peasant and his family in their cottage.

But such work could not be the basis for factory production, with its rapid output based upon this division of labor under one roof to be done by the peasant and his family in their cottage.

Drive Peasants From Land

It began in England, with the driving of the peasants from their land by the landlord nobility, who were converting arable land into sheep walks. The rise of wool manufacture, in response to the growth of commerce in Europe, set the British nobility to work producing wool.

As Sir Thomas More so quaintly, yet properly, wrote:

"Your sheep that were wont to be so meek and tame, and so small eaters, now, as I hear say, become so great devourers and so wild, that they eat up and swallow down the very men themselves."

The sheep were truly "devouring the men," taking their place on the land, depriving them of their livelihood and of their homes, reducing them to poverty and death.

"Pauper ubique jacet" (Paupers are strewn about everywhere) cried Queen Elizabeth at the appalling sight in her kingdom.

The poverty stricken masses, driven to begging and stealing, were terrorized with inhuman criminal laws. Men were hanged at the crossroads for trifles, in order to frighten the poor spectators. And, as one wise spectator pointed out, pockets were picked at the hanging.

Such forces were propelling men to seek a home across the sea, in the newly discovered and still unsettled domains of the New World.

Into the Factories

And such forces were uprooting men from their old homes to hurl them into the hands of the new lords of the factory.

During the Reformation this process of converting the simple agricultural lands, worked by many peasants, into sheep walks and bonanza estates run for capitalist profit extended itself to the vast church lands.

During the so-called "glorious revolution," directed against the Monarchy, the Crown Lands suffered in a like manner.

The process was pushed further along the way, by the famous acts of enclosure, whereby through

legal decree the common lands, inherited from old tribal days, were transferred to the hands of enterprising capitalist minded landlords.

As soon as these large chunks of land, which in many instances were owned communally by the people of the community, were taken over by a few lords, they proceeded with the clearing of the estates; that is, literally driving the peasants from the land.

Karl Marx in his "Capital" offers one striking example:

Forceful Expropriation

"As an example of the method obtaining in the 19th century, the 'clearing' made by the Duchess of Sutherland will suffice here. This person, well instructed in economy, resolved on entering upon her government, to effect a radical cure, and to turn the whole country whose population had already been, by earlier processes of the like kind reduced to 15,000, into a sheep-walk.

"From 1814 to 1820 these 15,000 inhabitants, about 3,000 families, were systematically hunted and rooted out. All their villages were destroyed and burnt, all their fields turned into pasturage; British soldiers enforced this eviction, and came to blows with the inhabitants. One old woman was burnt to death in the flames of the hut, which she refused to leave. Thus this fine lady appropriated 794,000 acres of land that had from time immemorial belonged to the clan. She assigned to the expelled inhabitants about 6,000 acres on the sea-shore—2 acres per family. The 6,000 acres had until this time lain waste, and brought in no income to their owners.

"The Duchess, in the nobility of her heart, actually went so far as to let these at an average rent of 2s. 6d. per acre to the clansmen, who for centuries had shed their blood for her family. The whole of the stolen clan-land she divided into 20 great sheep farms, each inhabited by a single family, for the most part imported English farm-servants. In the year 1835 the 15,000 Gaels were already replaced by 131,000 sheep.

"The remnant of the aborigines flung on the sea-shore, tried to live by catching fish. They became amphibious and lived, as an English author says, half on land and half on water, and withal only half on both.

"But the brave Gaels must expiate yet more bitterly their idolatry, romantic and of the mountains, for the 'great men' of the clan. The smell of their fish rose to the noses of the great men. They scented some profit in it, and let the sea-shore to the great fishmongers of London. For the second time the Gaels were hunted out."

Differing Method in Nations

Not in all countries was the proletariat created in the same way. But the end result was the same. By law, by robbery, by importation, by pillage, the independent peasant and the serf were driven from the land, a loose labor supply for capitalism.

With money in its hands, the capitalist class could turn to this destitute class and begin to exploit its power.

What Happened in London

Jack Altman, executive secretary of the Socialist Party of New York City, attended the recent conference on the situation in Spain, which was held in London this month, as the representative of the Socialist Party of the United States of America. The conference was called jointly by the Labor and Socialist International and the International Federation of Trade Unions. His article presented here is composed of letters written while at the conference and is intended only as a factual report of the proceedings. A critical analysis of the conference and of the relationship of American Socialists to the LSI by Altman will appear in a forthcoming issue.

By JACK ALTMAN

The joint conference of the LSI and IFTU on Spain was attended by 200 delegates from 30 countries. I was one of the four non-European delegates present, the other three being Jarblum of the Palestine Labor Party and Dov Hos and Meyerson of the Palestine trade union movement. Mexico was represented by Leon Jouhaux, president of the French Confederation of Labor.

The conference was called to determine in what ways the international Socialist and labor movement could best aid the Spanish working class in their heroic fight against the Fascists. On the platform acting as co-chairmen were Louis de Brouckere, of Belgium, president of the Labor and Socialist International, and Walter M. Citrine of England, chairman of the executive of the IFTU.



JACK ALTMAN

The conference was dominated by the British political delegation of 30 delegates and the British union delegation of 33 delegates. The only other delegations to equal them in size were the Belgium political delegation of 16 and the French political delegation of 13.

Spanish Speakers

After the opening formalities, the Spanish delegation spoke at the conference with a fiery speech that laid bare the farce of non-intervention. In gripping terms, they told of their fight and demanded that the international labor movement replace phrases of solidarity with action. The conference was criticized because it was not an "All-In" conference, including all labor political movements such as the Communists and Anarchists. He finished by suggesting a general strike throughout Europe by labor to show its solidarity with the Spanish brothers.

Pietro Ninni of the underground Italian Socialist movement supported the Spanish proposals in his speech. He demanded a militant of the two Internationals and directly criticized the British Labor and aggressive policy on the part of the Party for its failure to oppose British governmental policy.

Then Jouhaux, the president of the French CGT, spoke. "We want no vague affirmation of solidarity that would be unworthy of us," he told the conference. After declaring for an "All-In" conference, he stated that a specific general strike would be ineffective. The conference and the workers it represents must act quickly, he warned.

"Victory for France is more dangerous to us than bold action on our part," he ended. His speech was disappointing because there was no constructive suggestions to be followed.

Ernest Bevin then spoke in defense of British labor policy. He warned the conference on the united front and said: "Don't try to force it on us because we're the strongest Party and trade union in the Internationals." He defended

Loyalist government, it would follow that they would be made to Franco as well."

Vandervelde

Vandervelde of Belgium, followed and made the most aggressive speech of the conference after that of the Spanish delegates. He said the situation today is so serious that in all probability we will witness the dissolution of the LSI unless a new departure of policy is made.

He further declared that he had listened to Bevin with anxiety. While he appreciated his [Bevin's] English candor, it was like a shower of cold water on their hopes and aspirations. Speaking of unity, he declared that while understanding the feeling of the British toward the Communists, nevertheless there must be unity because the issue of Spain is so big. He appealed for an "All-In" conference and world-wide unity.

On the question of non-intervention, he said: "I disagree sharply with Comrade Bevin. I was on the non-intervention committee and the farce filled me with disgust and I resigned." He attacked the policy of "International Control" and compared it to a proposed solution of the American gangster problem which would "put the gangsters in control of Chicago, Washington and New York." He characterized the "control movement" as "impossible."

For Workers' Aid

I then spoke for the Socialist Party of the U.S.A. My main emphasis was on the need for "workers' aid" and no reliance on capitalist governments. The resolution I proposed covers the main outlines of my speech. I told the Conference what had been done in the United States to aid Spain, the raising of funds, food, men, etc. After telling them of the Eugene Victor Debs Column and of our support for it, I objected vigorously to any policy of control which would place the International Brigade on the same level as the conscripts of Mussolini and Hitler. My speech was well-received by Pivert, Zyromski, Otto Bauer of Austria and Dan and one or two others.

Zyromski of France

Zyromski of France, followed. He supported Blum and said that he was not antagonistic to him; that he agreed thoroughly with the line of the LSI and the IFTU since the outbreak of the revolt and asked only for two things from the conference:

1. Stopping of intervention for Franco.

2. Freedom for the Spanish government to purchase arms. He claimed that France had been "less hostile" to Spain than any other government except the Soviet Union and Mexico. The forms of carrying out the decision he left to Jouhaux.

S. Grumbach of France, then, made a 100% defense of the policy of the Blum government. He warned, however, that "if the present development in Spain being carried on by Italy and Germany continue, French Socialists will reconsider their policy. We cannot do much now. But in case our program fails, we will have to consider calling another such conference." He ended by apologizing to the Spanish delegates for being able to do so little.

Wire Caballero

After a short and militant speech by Albarda of Holland, we were presented copies of the resolutions. I cast my vote for a resolution moved by Ninni in the form of a telegram to Caballero. This resolution follows:

Largo Caballero,
Prime Minister,
Valencia.

The International Conference on Spain called at the request of the Spanish General Confederation of Labor by the Interna-

The Conference Resolution

The following resolution was passed by the joint conference of the LSI and the IFTU with the Spanish delegation abstaining and Altman of the U.S.A. opposed:

The Conference convened by the LSI and the IFTU at the request of the Spanish comrades, meeting in London on March 10-11, 1937,

Greets the Spanish people which is conducting with such courage its fight against the combined forces of Fascism, and is defending at one and the same time its own liberty and the liberty and peace of Europe and the World.

From the very beginning of the conflict the two Internationals have never ceased to denounce its character before world public opinion. Events have shown that their fears were only too well-founded. Today it is evident to all that we are faced with a deliberate aggression by Fascist Italy and Germany against Spain, and that, as President Azana has so correctly stated, Spain is engaged, not in a civil war but in a war of national liberation.

Not only have the Fascist Powers supplied the rebels with arms and munitions, in violation of their undertakings, but they have also supplied them with the aviation in which they were lacking, also perhaps with naval forces. They have even landed large contingents of men, armed and already formed into detachments, amounting in all the strength of several army corps. The fact that these men have been termed "volunteers" in no way alters the character of the crime which has been committed against international law.

Moreover, whilst Spain has been thus attacked, in obvious violation of the League Covenant, not only has it not received in any form the help which it was legitimately entitled to expect, but it has been deprived of the ordinary right of procuring in the free market those articles most indispensable for its defense. The two Internationals have always protested against such a state of affairs.

II. An attempt is now being made to correct the obvious disadvantages of a system which in practice does not deserve the name of "non-intervention," by a system of "control." Guided by past experiences the two Internationals are not convinced that the present measures will improve the situation. In the absence of the will to cooperate by the Fascist Powers considerable time will be necessary to get together the corps of observers whom it is proposed to have on board the ships, and during the whole of this time the rebels continue to receive supplies whilst those of the Government will be stopped. The gap through Portugal is very imperfectly blocked.

We protest against the fact that the Non-Intervention Committee has entrusted the surveillance of the Mediterranean coasts of Spain to the German and Italian fleets, which are collaborating so decisively with the rebels. If experience should prove, as is probable, that these measures do not succeed in stopping the support given to the rebels by the Fascist Powers, it will be the duty of the organizations affiliated to the two Internationals to press by all the means in their power for the application of a policy assuring to Spanish democracy the possibility of procuring by free commerce all the means necessary for its defence.

III. The presence of foreign armies under the guise of volunteers

in Spain is a violation of national sovereignty and a challenge to the Democratic powers. It is proposed to repatriate all foreigners at present fighting in Spain. The position of the genuine volunteers, inspired by a high ideal, who are fighting in the International Brigades for the liberty of the peoples, is very different from that of the troops whom the Fascist dictatorships have placed at the disposal of Franco.

Nevertheless, the Spanish Government is willing to accept the withdrawal of all foreigners fighting in Spain. But this withdrawal could only be effected if it were truly simultaneous, if the true number of Italian and German soldiers serving were determined as the result of a thorough investigation in which all sides were heard, and if the measure also covered the Moroccans who are also foreigners, namely, subjects of the Sultan.

IV. Every day shows more clearly that the Spanish problem can only be solved, that peace can only be re-established and that a general conflagration can only be prevented by remaining faithful to that policy of collective security through the League of Nations which the two Internationals have never ceased to defend. The will to war of the Fascist Powers is daily becoming more apparent. Each success they meet with strengthens them in this purpose. The only thing that can give them pause is resolute action of the peaceful peoples. Peace is their common good, peace is indivisible. They must safeguard it or restore it together.

V. The two Internationals are fully conscious of the duties of solidarity which the circumstances impose on them. They will shirk no sacrifice to fulfill these.

They have always given the Spanish comrades their enthusiastic and unreserved moral support. They have given them material support in every possible form. They will do their utmost to make this support greater still. But they remind all their affiliated bodies that the most valuable service we can render to those engaged in the fight to the death, in a cause which is our cause, is to rouse that world public opinion on which, in the last resort, the outcome of this conflict depends.

The aggression was possible because this public opinion was ill-informed or lukewarm. It is because this public opinion did not give sufficient support to the favorably disposed Governments, because it did not bring the necessary pressure to bear on the Governments which were unfavorable, that the policy advocated by the two Internationals has met with so little support. It is for the peoples to put right a state of affairs that has become dangerous. Socialist and trade union propaganda has already met with considerable success. People are beginning to understand the situation and are uneasy.

This is the moment to redouble our efforts. If each of our affiliated organizations does its whole duty the victory of our Spanish comrades can be made more sure, can be brought about sooner, the peace of the world may yet be saved.

tional Federation of Trade Unions and the Labor and Socialist International, which has brought together in London the delegates of the Labor movement of the whole of Europe, in greeting you greets the legitimate Government of Spain, the people of Spain and the people's army, which, in heroic Madrid, in Oviedo and Aragon and on the other fronts, is fighting for the liberty and independence of Spain against the insurrectionary military and against the aggression of international Fascism.

In accordance with the terms of its resolution the Conference gives you the assurance that in the days and weeks that are to come the entire forces of the workers, grouped in affiliated organizations, the whole of the Socialist masses are to be called

upon to participate in an energetic campaign on behalf of Republican Spain.

In the vote on the resolution, mine was the only vote cast against it. I was asked to make it unanimous. I then arose and made the following explanation of my vote.

"I am opposed to the resolution for the following reasons:
1. It does not go far enough.
2. I have no illusions about 'Control or Non-Intervention.'
3. I cannot for the Socialist Party of the U.S.A. accept Section IV which relies on the League of Nations and collective security. Only working class action can help Spain and prevent war."
The Spanish delegates abstained from voting on the resolution. The conference then adjourned.

Class War In Chicago



A scene at Randolph and La Salle Streets, heart of Chicago business section, after a street battle between striking taxicab drivers who have organized for a decent living and the scabs and police who are trying to smash the strike.

Scabs Chased From Reading By Workers

READING, Pa. — Entering the third week of their sit-down strike, the hosiery workers of Berks County are still sitting tight. Many developments have taken place in the past week, foremost among them, the arrest of 41 alleged strike breakers, picked up by the city police on suspicion.

These men were imported from Philadelphia, and reported that they were sent here to work in a "silk mill." Efforts are being made by the Hosiery Workers Union to have the LaFollette Committee of the U. S. Senate intervene to find out who hired the strangers to come to Reading, some of them admittedly as "guards" and "watchmen," and who retained the attorneys, who in Judge Schaeffer's Court in Berks County on Saturday obtained the release of the 41 on writs of habeas corpus.

Upon their release from prison, the "strangers" were chased out of the city by the strikers.

Efforts were made to carry out an injunction against the sit-downers by mill owner Bill Bitting, of the Rosedale Mill, an ex-Ku Klux Klanner. But the Hosiery Union was one jump ahead, taking out an injunction against this injunction in the U. S. Superior Court, in Philadelphia, on the theory that a worker has a property right to his job.

Last week several thousand CALLS were distributed to the strikers in the mills who eagerly read news of their own strike, and that of the sit-downers in the Middle West.

United Youth Committee Asks Slander of Erber Be Probed

PHILADELPHIA.—The United Youth Committee, which is touring for the Spanish Youth Delegates, unanimously passed a resolution at the request of the Young People's Socialist League asking an investigation of charges made against Ernest Erber by Samarro at a Chicago banquet.

Samarro, speaking in the name of the Unified Socialist Youth of Spain, attacked Ernest Erber, national chairman of the Young People's Socialist League, as an enemy of the Spanish government

at a public banquet in honor of the Spanish Youth Delegation in Chicago. It is obvious that Samarro had been coached by members of the Young Communist League.

Erber rose at the banquet and made the following statement:

"I am prepared to leave both this table and the banquet hall but cannot do so without a statement on behalf of myself and my organization. I was invited to sit at the speakers' table by the committee in charge, both by mail and by phone. I am sure that Mr. Samarro has never seen me before in his life and since he does not read English, has never read anything I have written. He has obviously acted upon statements that a group who desire to exploit this occasion for political purposes have seen fit to tell him.

"My organization is part of this committee. We have participated in its work. This incident will in no way deter our efforts in behalf of the joint committee and the Debs Column which the Socialist Party is aiding. We will continue to assist the Spanish people in their struggle for freedom."

Ernest Erber has recently been in Spain as representative of the Young People's Socialist League. Since his return he has spoken on many platforms with official representatives of the Spanish government. Perez, Spanish consul in Chicago, spoke on the same program with Erber some time ago and began his speech by stating that he had little to add to Erber's remarks and continued to laud Erber's remarks.

BERKOWITZ RESIGNS AS EDITOR OF ASM

After serving as managing editor of the American Socialist Monthly, originally the American Socialist Quarterly, in volunteer capacity, without compensation, for more than five years, Anna Berkowitz has handed in her resignation.

The Quarterly was originally founded by David P. Berenberg, Haim Kantorovitch and Anna Berkowitz. Two years later it became the official theoretical organ of the Socialist Party.

Anna Berkowitz resigned several months ago, but agreed to serve until the completion of the present volume, which has just come off the press.

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Unionists Issue Call For United May Day

NEW YORK.—A call for a united May Day Conference has been sent to all trade unions and working class political parties in the city by a Provisional May Day Committee.

Local New York of the Socialist Party has endorsed the conference and has appointed Brandon Sexton, Amicus Most, Murray Gross, and Herbert Zam delegates.

The call to the conference reads:

Labor in New York City is looking forward to celebrate May Day as the great and traditional day of labor solidarity and united working class demonstration against the force of reaction.

May Day, the great holiday of labor, born in the struggle of the American workers for the eight-hour day, will in 1937 reflect the gigantic upsurge of the trade union movement in America and the mighty battles for unionism and a better life for the millions of unorganized workers. Millions of unemployed have no wage income. Other millions almost starve on public works and public relief. May Day, 1937, will reflect the great struggles of the unemployed and labor generally to halt the attempts to further impoverish the millions of unemployed in this country. The marching columns of labor this year will raise high the banner of protest against the forces in American life seeking to perpetuate the dead hand of the Supreme Court on labor and progressive legislation.

May Day, 1937, is coming when the mad powers of capitalism throughout the world—Nazi Germany, fascist Italy and militarist Japan—are still threatening to plunge the world into another bloody war. These fascist maniacs have already instigated the slaughter in Spain, whose people are now fighting so heroically to defend their liberty and the liberty of labor throughout the world. On May Day labor will demonstrate for peace and for solidarity with the heroic people of Spain.

Let us, therefore, in New York City celebrate May Day, 1937, in a manner worthy of its great American traditions. Let all labor organizations without regard to differences that may still divide us, unite in a mighty demon-

stration in behalf of our common interests, in a demonstration against the system of fascism, war, exploitation, and oppression. Let May Day, 1937, demonstrate the militancy and the new spirit of unified struggle already permeating the entire American labor movement.

In order to organize a May Day demonstration on such a united basis, we are taking the initiative in calling a

UNITED MAY DAY CONFERENCE

for Saturday afternoon, April 3rd, 1 P. M., at the Webster Hall, 11th Street, between 3rd and 4th Avenues.

All organizations of labor of whatever character or political tendency they may be, trade unions, political parties and fraternal organizations, are invited to this conference. We appeal to your organization to send delegates to this conference. Every organization is entitled to two delegates.

Please select your delegates as soon as possible and return the enclosed credential blank to the temporary headquarters of the Provisional Committee at Room 1002, 125 West 45th Street, New York City.

FORWARD TO A UNITED MAY DAY DEMONSTRATION!

A. Phillip Randolph, President, Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters; Chas. J. Hendley, President, Teachers Union, Local 5; Frank McGrath, President, Joint Council No. 26 Greater New York Boot and Shoe Workers Union; Louis Weinstock, Secretary-Treasurer, Painters District Council No. 18; Ben Gold, Manager, Furriers Joint Council of New York; Frank Dutto, Secretary-Treasurer, Bakery and Confectionery Workers International, Local 87; Charles Blank, Joint Board Suitcase Bag and Portfolb Workers Union; Geythan Lyons, Trustee, Marine Cooks and Stewards Union of Atlantic and Gulf; Brandon Sexton, Workers Alliance of Greater New York; Harry Gerwitzman, International Pocketbook, Ladies Hand Bag and Novelty Workers Union; Sam Kramberg, Secretary-Treasurer, Cafeteria Employees Union, Local 302; Alexander Hoffman, Manager, Journeymen Tailors Union, Local 1, A.O.W. of A.; Max Perlow, Manager, Furniture, Woodworking Division Local 76B.

Personal

Dear Red: Please get in touch with us at once. We have begun building CAMP THREE ARROWS, the cooperative colony. Write immediately for information, 112 E. 19th St., N.Y.C.

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CALL Drive Achieves Its Best Week

By the Business Manager

A grand spirit of determination to face the world with a united will for Socialism seems to be sweeping the party.

This last week-end the second birthday of the CALL was celebrated in New York. Although there were all sorts of other meetings which forced us to have our meeting at a poor time, and most comrades had to go to several other affairs that day, and despite the fact that we really had only one week to promote the affair, we had a successful celebration.

Most encouraging feature of the meeting was the spirit of Socialist solidarity demonstrated by every person present. Our speakers were discussing the current situation in the labor movement and the relations of Socialists to this. Here, in relation to this most

important question, militant unity was the keynote!

\$1 Each

Coming in the wake of a week replete with attacks on our party unity, which have reached a new level for animosity, boldly displayed in successive issues of the Daily Worker, Communist daily, our comrades demonstrated emphatically that we resent any attempts at domination of this kidney. With a representative of the Political Bureau of the C. P. sitting in the balcony, an audience of active party members and sympathizers donated what amounted to nearly \$1 each to the CALL, and cheered enthusiastically to James Casey's bold declaration of party solidarity.

Not alone the New York meeting gives evidence of this thrilling spirit. During the past week and a half there has been a steady flow of letters from rank and file members from over the country which voice a new determination to support the party organization and the party press. This is indeed a most wholesome sign for the welfare of the party as we gather for the special national convention.

Fourth \$2

Readers throughout the country who have been following the CALL Drive closely will be thrilled to know that our faithful New Hampshire comrade, 75 years old, and with practically no income at all, has sent in his fourth \$2 contribution of the Drive.

This faithful comrade in New Hampshire has had heart trouble, is living alone on a deserted old farm off the main road, in back of the woods out of sight and hearing of any one, in a house that was never finished and is all open on the inside except the kitchen, which he has finished off with old curtains, newspapers, canvas, pieces of pulp wood grocery boxes and a ragged old bed comforter.

Revolutionary Ardor

This spirit of revolutionary ardor indicates a new devotion to advancing the welfare of the CALL. The staff of the CALL dedicates itself to producing the most effective Socialist organ it can. It relies upon the enthusiastic support of its army of backers for a steady flow of new subscriptions, of renewals, of bundle orders, and of contributions.

Our crisis is not passed financially. We have come through a close period and succeeded in meeting some pressing obligations. The response of our comrades and friends was most encouraging. Keep up the good work!

The Drive shows the best week thus far! The New York meeting, together with the loyal support of a lot of comrades throughout the country (look where California stands on the list now!) brought in \$371.56 this week. This is a mark to shoot at next week!

Statistics for the week: Reported last week, \$1,478.73; Sent in this week, \$371.56; total thus far in the drive, \$1,850.29; must be raised in this Drive, \$10,000.

The standing of states and districts thus far in the Drive are:

State or City	Quota	Sent	P.C.
California	150	\$ 86.25	59.33
Boston	300	170.00	56.67
Oregon	50	21.00	42
Pittsburgh	200	75.00	37.5
New York State	400	144.34	36.07
New York City	2600	875.40	33.66
Detroit	150	48.85	32.57
New Hampshire	35	8.00	22.8
Illinois	300	71.00	23.66
Cleveland	150	35.00	23.3
Kansas	50	11.50	23
Maine	40	8.00	20
New Mexico	30	6.00	20
Ohio State	150	22.25	14.87
New Jersey	400	64.31	16.08

SOCIALIZATION REMEDY FOR BOOTLEG MINERS

This is the second of two articles on the bootleg mine situation in the Southern Pennsylvania anthracite fields. The writer was a former bootleg coal miner.

Two weeks ago he told how the miners were forced into bootlegging coal in order to keep from starving when the owners closed down the mines. In this article he outlines a solution for the problem.

By EDWARD PINKOWSKI

The solution of the anthracite and bootleg coal problems is much more complicated than appears in the present state of affairs and requires more than attempts at adjusting the conditions of both industries.

The problem lies in putting a large number of men in other industries so that the wages of each miner will at least elevate his standard of living. The same amount of coal is being produced as in 1890 but with 40,000 less miners. They are now permanently unnecessary.

Something can be done if there is a recognition of the needs of these men and a willingness to deal with it constructively. Anthracite miners are unable to sell their mining knowledge with ease in the Western hemisphere, because hard coal is largely produced here where the same miners have built homes and established a social life.

Reforms Needed

In the efforts to discover a possible approach, some things are apparent, such as regular work at shorter hours, decent wages, end of preventable acci-

dents, safeguarding of collective bargaining. For the rest everybody differs.

Governor George H. Earle, on an inspection tour of both bootleg and legitimate mining operations, charged that the operators are not working 50 per cent of their mines in the Southern section of the anthracite region. Only 57 of the 115 mines in this area are being operated today. He further stated that 85 per cent of the anthracite resources are owned by seven companies.

Any approach to the problem of the bootleg coal industry is a problem of anthracite and must be considered as such. The proposal to absorb the majority of those engaged in the independent coal traffic to legitimate mines will cure the source of that malady, but that it will lower the standard of living is sure.

If there is a program to be offered, it must be one which strikes deeply at the franchise of private ownership of the coal resources. It must not ask for community spirit but for confiscation of some of those who have too much. It must, and must alone, deal with the structure of anthracite development over a period of a century.

A short time ago a Grand Jury in Schuylkill county returned indictments for coal bootlegging. Among them they indicted a father of eight children whose only means of subsisting was by picking coal on the property of the Lehigh Valley Coal Company.

Nationalization

The nationalization of the coal industry not only brings about a higher standard of living, but also curbs the rise of

- Fascistic aspirations.
- The plan of nationalization that might be adopted could include:
 1. A Secretary of Mines in the Cabinet.
 2. A Federal Commission of Mines, to control budget and policy on the basis of continuous fact-finding.
 3. A national mining council, to administer policies, with miners, technicians, and consumers represented.
 4. The safeguarding of collective bargaining through joint conferences.
 5. Freeing production management from wage squabbles and sales problems, by making wages the first charge against the industry and therefore making wage measurement one of the functions of the Federal Commission under the principles of collective bargaining, which will be safeguarded by an independent joint wage scale committee.

UMWA Once For Plan

This plan was adopted and proposed by the United Mine Workers of America in 1922. Today it is torn apart by the smooth workings of the mine foremen agreement usually with members of the mine committee.

Only when socialization is introduced will the miners be able to reap the fruits of the coal resources provided by nature.

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With The Party

CONNECTICUT

Delegates to the National Convention from Connecticut have been elected as follows: Devere Allen, Wilton; Philip Brainard, Waterbury; Walter Davis, Hamden; Victor Harris, Hartford; Collin McIntyre, New Haven; Abraham Perlstein, Hartford; Harry Rosen, Hartford; Celia Rostow, New Haven. Alternate: Lois Raymond, Hartford.

Local Bridgeport reports that the Fiesta mentioned in this bulletin last month was a great success, both financially and in terms of creating friendly relations with Spanish-American groups. A profit of about \$1,000 was made and will go to the Spanish Loyalists. As a result of the affair there is a possibility of forming a Spanish branch. Those interested in working with Spanish organizations should get in touch with Al Read, RFD 4, Bridgeport.

Phillip Brainard of Waterbury, is now a full-time organizer for the International Union of Mine, Mill, and Smelter Workers, a CIO affiliate. The organization of Connecticut brassworkers will be his special job.

A Workers Defense League branch is being organized in Hartford.

KANSAS

Whiteside and Hager have been elected delegates to the national convention and Ida A. Beloff alternate. Glenn Miller has been elected to fill a vacancy on the state executive committee from the 5th district.

MISSOURI

Comrades at Maplewood (St. Louis County) are planning a party for the benefit of the CALL to be held within the next few weeks. Frank McClelland of Maplewood is in charge.

NEW YORK

Registration of the entire membership in Local New York is now going on.

The following May Day Committee was appointed by the executive committee and is drawing up plans for participation in a joint May Day Parade and demonstration: Gross, Tyler, Baron, Laderman, Laidler, Delson, Zam, Crosswaith, Randolph, Most, Sexton, Barshop and Bright. The Action Committee consists of: Most, Sexton, Gross and Zam as the Labor Secretary.

The city executive committee has tentatively elected the following Youth Committee Hal Siegel, chairman; Morris Cohen, Brendan Sexton, Phil Heller, Vivian Miller, Ruth Schecter, Joseph Carter.

The 25th Annual Dance of the YFSL will be held at the Central Opera House, 67 St. and 3 Ave., April 3.

Brookwood Labor Players will present a program of labor plays and

skits at the Young Circle League Auditorium, 22 E. 15th St., April 3.

Jacob Bernstein will speak on "A Lawyer Looks at the Moscow Trials," at the open forum of the Bronx Free Fellowship, Boston Rd. and E. 172nd St., Bronx, March 28 at 8 p.m.

Social and Dance for the aid of the women and children in Spain will be held by the Italian-American Committee to Aid the Spanish People, March 26, at 107 McDougal St.

Package parties to aid the striking laundry workers will be held by the East New York District of the party, Sunday, March 28, at Debs Center, 459 Hopkinson Ave., and at 626 Sutter Ave., Brooklyn.

OREGON

Mohroe Sweetland, state chairman of the party, was legislative representative of the groups working for the repeal of the Criminal Syndicalism Act. The groups included the Oregon State Grange and the Oregon Federation of Labor. The act was repealed by a wide margin.

In 1934 the Socialist Party of Oregon, under old-guard leadership, announced that it was seceding from the national organization because of the Detroit declaration of principles which, they alleged, would make them liable under the Oregon Criminal Syndicalism Act. When the party was reorganized under loyal leadership last year it immediately undertook a policy of militant and determined opposition to the act. There is every reason to believe that if the old-guard policy of supine surrender had been followed the law would still be in effect.

BROOKWOOD GRADUATES NINETEEN STUDENTS

KATONAH, N. Y. — Nineteen young industrial workers and farmers from 13 widely scattered states graduated from Brookwood Labor College. Included in the young men and women who graduated are garment workers, textile, hosiery and auto workers, teachers, and a group of professional actors preparing for work in the labor theatre.

Louis Moon, party member in Ohio, organizer for the Workers' Alliance and prominent in organizing workers in the Miami Valley and Dayton, O., area, was taken ill about two weeks ago from sheer exhaustion and over work. He was sent to the Dayton State Hospital and there despite the best medical care, he died after ten days.

The national office and the entire party mourns this martyr to the working class cause and sends our deep and heartfelt condolence to our comrades, his parents.

Progressive Bloc Sweeps Local 22

New York.—The entire progressive ticket was swept into victory by an overwhelming margin in the elections of Local 22; International Ladies Garment Workers Union. Local 22 is the second largest local union in the country, having more than 30,000 members, and has for years taken leadership among progressive labor forces.

The progressive and left wing groups united on a single slate. Charles Zimmerman, who ran for manager of the union on the united ticket, was unopposed. He received 14,596 votes.

Murray Gross, state labor chairman of the Socialist Party, and most prominent Socialist on the united ticket slate, received 12,263 votes for business agent. The slate received more than 80 per cent of the votes cast.

Bag Makers Score New Jersey Victory

NEWARK, N. J.—A telling blow was delivered to Governor Hofman's threats of violence against attempts to organize labor in this state by the quick victory won by the Suitcase, Bag and Portfolio Workers Union, of which Murray Baron is manager.

A flat ten per cent wage agreement, a five-day, 40-hour week, minimum pay were among the concessions won from the Belber Bag and Trunk Co., one of the largest outfits in the industry.

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Jobless Ask Wage Boost

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The Workers Alliance of America, in a letter to President Roosevelt strongly urged the President to make an immediate increase in the monthly wages of 2,200,000 workers.

The letter, signed by David Lasser, national president of the WAA, who conferred with President Roosevelt ten days ago on the relief and WPA situation, bases the request for the increase on the rise in the cost of living since WPA wages were originally fixed and the increases in wages to workers in private industry.

Indicating to President Roosevelt "a large increase in the number of strikes and other actions on the part of affiliated groups on WPA jobs," Lasser stated that "these protest actions are bound to increase tremendously, especially when the WPA workers see the meager income further cut by rising living costs and see workers in private industry winning wage increases by their strike actions."

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Laundry Workers Fight Sweat Shops

NEW YORK.—More than 1,000 men and women from 30 laundries in East New York, Brooklyn, walked out last week determined to wipe out sweat shop conditions. Noah C. A. Walters, prominent Negro Socialist in the city, is taking a leading part in the strike. The Workers Defense League is in charge of legal work.

The strike is of special significance because it is the first attempt in many years to organize one of the most exploited sections of the working class in the city. The strikers are demanding a 25 per cent increase in wages and a 40-hour week. The workers are being organized by Laundry Workers Union, Local 280.

Norman Thomas and Frank R. Crosswaith, chairman of the Harlem Labor Committee, have addressed enthusiastic mass meetings of the strikers.

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Consumers' Cooperation

By BENJAMIN WOLF

After being kicked around for over six months in government offices, the report of President Roosevelt's Committee of Inquiry on Cooperative Enterprise has been announced as soon to be published by the WPA. It was not until a good deal of publicity had been directed at a rumored suppression that the announcement was made.

The Committee, appointed last July to study European cooperatives, visited Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Finland, France, Great Britain, Ireland, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland. Russia, which has one of the largest of cooperative movements, was not included in the itinerary for an unspecified reason.

The report is understood to be embodied in a 400 page volume with a 317 page appendix and is confined to factual and explanatory material.

Weak Recommendations

Under separate cover, the committee made several weak recommendations to the President. They recommended (1) a similar survey of cooperatives in the United States (2) the creation of an agency to give information, research and an advisory service to consumers cooperatives, and (3) that "steps should be taken to assure consumer cooperatives credit parity."

It is reported that, contrary to rumor, there was no fundamental disagreement among the members of the committee. When it is remembered that Robin Hood, who denounced anti-capitalist tendencies in the movement at the last cooperative congress, signed the report as a member of the committee, it may be taken for granted that the report will tend to confuse the fundamental anti-profit-system nature of the cooperative movement.

In fact, in discussing the relation of the movement to the profit system, the committee made the following curious observation, "In essence, cooperative enterprise is at one and the same time a competitor of, a check on, a par-

tial substitute for and a supplement to private business enterprise. This four-fold relationship appears in every aspect of consideration of cooperative enterprise in Europe."

Advantages Of Coops

In addition, the committee found that cooperatives encourage family budgeting, thrift and savings, that they hold down or reduce retail prices, that they help stabilize industry by its known demands for production and that they spread economic knowledge and democratic spirit among the population.

The Cooperative League appears to be not over enthusiastic about the report. Dr. J. P. Warbasse, President of the League, characterized the findings as "very valuable" in that "the recommendations based on the report will help to put cooperatives on an equal footing before the law with private-profit business."

However, it should be pointed out that it is extremely doubtful that even the weak recommendations of the committee will be enacted as laws, if we may judge from the way the report was kicked around.

The committee consisted of Jacob Baker, Leland Olds, Charles E. Stuart, Robin Hood, Clifford V. Gregory and Emily C. Bates.

MURDER

Two Spanish trade unionists, Leonico Martinez and Jose Cavalheiro, recently deported by the Brazilian government to rebel ports, were murdered on their arrival, according to information received by the American Committee for Protection of Foreign Born. Thirty other Spanish and Portuguese anti-Fascists are held in Sao Paulo awaiting deportation.

Books

Militant Labor In An 'American City'

By JOHN NEWTON THURBER

"AMERICAN CITY, A RANK AND FILE HISTORY." By Charles Rumford Walker. Farrar & Rhinehard, \$2.50.

In medieval days the most wealthy barons in Europe in many cases were those who had captured some pass on the primitive highways, some mountain pass along the road, where they levied exorbitant charges on all the commerce which passed by. In capitalist society masters of capital have established themselves through monopolizing some mountain pass of modern industry, some bottleneck through which all trade must pass. Most American fortunes are based on such monopolies.

One of the most powerful of the American capitalists of that group which was studied two years ago by Matthew Josephson in "The Robber Barons" was James J. Hill, master of transportation of the Northwest. The prairies of Minnesota and the Dakotas were peopled by immigrants. The forests, the mines and the fertile agricultural lands were the basis for a tremendous expansion. But in control of these was the railroad master, Hill. The heart of his railroad network was in the twin cities, Minneapolis and St. Paul. He controlled the bottleneck of the Northwest empire.

Minneapolis

This great northwestern area has come through a most rapid development. In less than 75 years it has been transformed from unpopulated prairies into a wealthy empire, has reached its zenith and gone into decline. Minneapolis, the heart of the empire, reflects this development.

Charles R. Walker has undertaken to study this development in a "biography" of an American city. He has attempted to trace the historic backgrounds, to study sociological developments, to evaluate political tendencies, interpret the whole spirit of the city with its sharply clashing social forces as they were uncovered by the two outbreaks of civil war in the strikes of the General Drivers Union No. 574 in the spring and summer of 1934.

No student of social trends can afford not to give close attention to this book. No labor leader or rank and file member can afford not to study the details of the union preparations and strategy in that 1934 civil war. And particularly significant is the point that not until an economy has passed its zenith can labor organization effectively assert itself, can a class conscious labor movement surge forward. Even before the crisis of 1929, Minneapolis had passed its zenith.

Labor in Minneapolis was in eclipse in an open shop town during the ascendancy of the empire builders, Hill, and his successors.

Tradition of Militancy

Yet Minneapolis and Minnesota have a fine tradition of progressive

labor action. Charles A. Lindbergh, sr., exemplified this tendency before the war. Minneapolis radicals have a consistent record as "left-wingers." Van Lear, Socialist president of the Machinists Union, was elected mayor of Minneapolis in 1916.

"When the Socialist party, after the war, was split," Walker writes, "and its left wing throughout the world declared for the Communist International, almost the whole of the Minnesota Socialist party was found in the left wing and went Communist. In 1926 this revolutionary group played an active part in the politics of the Farmer-Labor party until they withdrew in 1924.

"A second split occurred in the world revolutionary movement in 1928. The Left Opposition of the Communist International led by Leon Trotsky was expelled from the Communist parties in all countries. Once more the majority in the Minnesota party were found to be in the left wing and this wing included several of the ablest trade unionists in the labor movement in America. This group of so-called Trotskyists in Minneapolis, as in other cities, in the spring of 1936 entered the Socialist party, where they have since been active."

Class Struggle in Midwest

It is with the activities of these militant left wingers that his book is concerned. The story of the emergence of the Coal Drivers organizations, the building of the General Drivers Union, the application of industrial union principles, to what might otherwise have been a craft union, and the life and death struggle which No. 574 waged against the Citizens Alliance in 1934, is the story of the application of strict Marxian class-struggle policies to labor organization.

Every new venture of the Drivers as they have extended their organization in Minneapolis has been met by attacks from the Communist party. Every union victory has been branded a "sell-out."

Despite the presence on the stage of this book of such characters as James J. Hill, Floyd Olson, Charles A. Lindbergh and others, the outstanding character of the book, the outstanding figure of the labor movement of the Northwest, is Vincent Ray Dunne.

Working Class Leader

"The truck drivers leaned heavily on V. R. Dunne in the crisis of civil war in 1934," Mr. Walker writes. "It had been his fore-

sight and his organizing ability which had been crucial in building the union. For that reason and that reason only, he had the fate of the city in his hands . . . The workers knew Ray Dunne as a good organizer. They followed his leadership and many of them, if the occasion offered, would be quite willing to die for him . . . Son of a worker earning his own living from the age of eleven, a Wobbly at fourteen, a revolutionary Marxist from the time he was twenty, his life, as well as his philosophy, taught him that workers 'must rely only on their own organizations.'"

The social dynamic generated by the success of No. 574, followed by its successful fight with the reactionaries of the AFL, has revitalized the labor movement of some six or seven states. The Dunnes and their comrades are called as far as Chicago and St. Louis for help. They have given freely to all sorts of unions. They have developed a secondary and a rank and file leadership which can and does take their place and carry on when necessary. This all flows from the strict application of class struggle tactics in union organization.

Where James J. Hill stood in a key position of power in the days of rising capitalism in the northwest, there stands the General Drivers union in Minneapolis in key power, with control of the labor forces of transportation to the markets of Minneapolis as a new day prepares. As Minneapolis workers flocked into the Socialist party in 1936, they sent their most able strategist, V. R. Dunne, rank and file leader of No. 574 into political work as state organizer for the party.

Open Shoppers Try To 'Bind' Unionists

By A. F. ELLER

DALLAS, Tex.—Unable to railroad pickets to jail through court trials, open shop interests are now attempting to bind striking members of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union with injunctions.

Two jury trials of pickets at the Sheba Ann dress factory resulted in verdicts of "not guilty." In each case the jury was out less than five minutes. These trials convinced open shop Southwest Dress Manufacturers' Association that they would get nowhere in their attempt to break the strike by arresting strikers every day.

The firm seeks to limit the Union to one picket, who shall bear no sign or other notice of a strike, and who must report to the strike-bound firm before going on picket duty.

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REBEL ARTS PLAY STIRS LARGE AUDIENCE

'Brave and the Blind' To Be Seen Again April 4

THE BRAVE AND THE BLIND, a play in three scenes by Michael Blankfort. Produced by the Rebel Arts Players; directed by Emmanuel Raices. At the Labor Stage Theatre, 106 West 39th Street.

By SAMUEL ROMER

Take out a thick red crayon and draw a heavy bold circle around April 4 in your calendar. For that's when you'll get another chance to see "The Brave and the Blind," the Rebel Arts first major dramatic production. The play is good, the acting is good, the production is good. And there can be no higher praise for either Michael Blankfort or the Rebel Arts Players.

On the fiftieth day of the siege of the Alcazar, civilian Rebel sympathizers who had sought refuge with the military in the fort are losing hope. They face certain death unless Franco can come to the rescue. The sound of the pick in the underground tunnel, as Loyalist soldiers prepare to lay the dynamite, preys on their mind and when the Loyalist loud-speaker brings them the promise of life on surrender, they resist no longer. But their end is death by the rifles of their own military who, with the fatalism of the professional soldier, tolerate no compromise.

Disillusioned

Where propaganda fails, these civilians who follow the fortunes of Franco are disillusioned of the Fascist ideal through their own experience. Poor and rich, pious Catholics all, they learn that the Fascist forces are defenders of nothing except the vested interests of wealth and greed. Even the church is not holy; the firing squad kill a priest who dares give holy union to a Loyalist sympathizer.

The play is studded with brilliant character work. The acting is on a high plane of amateur excellence; at no time does the speedy tempo of the play lag. The play is but half the performance. The first part is given to a recital by the Rebel Arts Chorus. To those who have heard the Chorus before, this is word enough.

THE CAST

JOSE, Edward Lawrence; FERNANDO DIAZ, John Fyle; AURELIO MARTINEZ, Joseph G. Glass; ESTEBAN TORO, Civil Guard, Sid Steinman; PEDRO DELUCA, Civil Guard, Alfred S. Belskin; JUAN CASTRO, Marc Crain; EUPHEMIA, Aurelio's wife, Helen L. Baker; DOLORES LORENZANA, Sylvia B. Kall; LORENZANA, her father, Milton E. Weinstein; "COCKTAIL," Beatrice Shulman. DOMINICA CASTRO, Juan's wife, Dorothy Bachrach; DON ANTONIO GOMEZ, Dwight Marfield; BERNARDO CASTRO, Philip Sobotko; COLONEL JOSE MONTFRA Y SANCHEZ, M. William Hellman; LIEUTENANT LARA, Jesse L. Wolerstein; DR. ALVAREZ, Steve Stern; CORPORAL GONZALEZ, called POLIO, Joel Barnes; JESUS GARCIA, Jack Abrahams; FATHER MANUEL, Jack Barry; OFFICER, Irv Gortov; FABELLO BARRIOS, Sid Lash; FATHER CARLOS, Chester Wayne; SOLDIERS, Irv Gortov, Jesse L. Wolerstein; Sidney Pearlman, Julius Kaplan and Albert Lehrer. Directed by Emanuel Raices. Tech-

'Tsar to Lenin' Is Result of 15 Years of Effort

During the early days of the revolution, Lenin was standing on a balcony of the Kshesinska Palace, in St. Petersburg, watching a demonstration beneath him. A camera man asked Lenin to pose, but was met with a refusal. "Film them," said Lenin, pointing to the masses, "for they are making history."

The cameraman filmed the people, just as hundreds of cameramen in Russia at that time were grinding a crank on the most momentous occasion in all history. Official photographers of the Russian empire, of the Soviet, of the general staffs of the various armies of intervention, adventurers, news-reel men, all over Russia, were recording these events as they rapidly occurred before their vigilant lenses. Hundreds of thousands of feet of film were taken. Most of this data was shelved in the film libraries of the world. After fifteen years of research this material has been collected.

At the Filmarte Theatre under the title of "Tsar to Lenin," this important document of the most significant period in recent history, is now on view. It is an authentic, invaluable account which shows the struggle and conflict which accompanied the birth of the new Russia. It is not biased either in its editing or commentary. On the contrary the treatment given "Tsar to Lenin" was dictated by history.

In regard to the recent controversy this film has provoked, Max Eastman, its compiler, writes: "If my film lives fifty years you will not hear any accusations of "Trotskyism" directed against it. Neither will your grandchildren. It is not my regard for Trotsky, it is my regard for the opinion of those grandchildren that guided me. I want my film to stand up as long as anybody can see the pictures and be impressed with them as reliable, unbiased and true history." —L. N.

nical Director, Sidney Pearlman; Assistant, Jack Abrahams. Stage Manager, Rose Goldstein. Business Manager, Eita Meyer. Sound effects by Rebel Arts Sound Division, Edgar Zane, director.

In 'Beethoven Concerto' at Cameo



V. Vasilev who can be seen in the new film about artists and musicians in the Soviet Union. At the Cameo Theatre.

'Seventh Heaven' At the Music Hall For Easter Week

A new version of "Seventh Heaven," the silent film of which nearly 10 years ago became one of the greatest box-office successes of all time, has been booked by the Radio City Music Hall and will be shown on its screen beginning Thursday, March 25, as its Easter Week feature presentation.

Simone Simon and James Stewart are starred in the roles of Diane and Chico which Janet Gaynor and Charles Farrell created for the screen in the original production of the famous romance. Supporting the two stars is a cast which includes Jean Hersholt, Gregory Ratoff, Gale Sondergaard, J. Edward Bromberg, and Mady Christians.

"Seventh Heaven" recreates the story of the lovers of Montmartre, Chico, the vaillant tender of the subterranean sewers, and Diane, the shy little street waif, parted by war in Paris of 1914.

It was first presented as a stage play on Broadway by John Golden at the Booth Theatre in October, 1922, after two years of try-outs and rewriting. The Janet Gaynor-Charles Farrell picture version was made in 1927 under the direction of Frank Borzage.

there were 4,245 initiations. Claims paid in the past year amounted to nearly three quarters of a million dollars bringing the total amount paid out since 1884 to \$20,746,946.58. Reserves of the Fund were \$3,853,747.04.

BOYCOTT THIS FILM!

Readers of the CALL are urged to boycott the UFA film 'Amphitryon' now being shown at the Belmont Theatre on West 48th Street. Upon investigation it was discovered that this film was produced by L'Alliance Cinematographique Francaise, which is closely tied up with the Nazi controlled Tobis Films.

WORKMEN'S FUND

The Workmen's Sick and Death Benefit Fund recently made public its annual report for 1936. Solvency was shown to be highest of any year in the history of the 54 year old organization. Total membership was 48,091 of whom 8,475 were women. During 1936

STAGE

STAGE

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AT THE FRONT



By **NORMAN THOMAS**

VICTORY IN SPAIN

The world's best news of the week unquestionably comes from Spain where the Loyalists have not only repulsed Franco's new drive on Madrid but more than regained the ground he had taken. What is of most significance, however, is the evidence that the Italians, who certainly form a large part of Franco's force, have no heart for fighting.

This is not only significant for Spain but for the whole world, including the underground movement in Italy itself. It may be that the defection of Italian conscripts fooled into fighting in Spain will nullify the arrogance and hypocrisy by means of which Mussolini has coolly defied the non-intervention agreement. Franco's hope—and for a while it looked like a good hope—of taking Madrid was based wholly upon this kind of foreign intervention not blocked by corresponding help for the Loyalists.

The capture of Madrid would, of course, not mean at any time the end of Loyalist resistance. In the long run in guerilla warfare the Loyalists would win. But the capture of Madrid would be a great blow. (It was this, by the way, that I said in substance some time ago in Akron which has been, I am told, the basis of various misleading Communist attacks upon me.)

It is also good news that Russia is again expressing concern about a situation which menaces her national defense by encouraging Fascism. Perhaps even the British Labor Party will begin to speak up against the hypocrisy of this type of non-intervention.

Anyway, the evident improvement of Loyalist forces in military skill, plus the dislike Italian conscripts feel for their jobs, gives us all great hope for the future.

McREYNOLDS BILL IS VICIOUS

As we Socialists have insisted, at best mandatory neutrality is not a sure guarantee of peace though it may be the best line to force upon our capitalist government.

Neither the Pittman bill which has passed the Senate, nor the McReynolds bill which has passed the House, is written as Socialists would write it; but the Pittman bill is the better of the two not only because it does not give so much discretion to the President, who under the McReynolds bill can take steps that may force the United States into war without even consulting Congress, but also the Pittman bill does not contain the outrageous clauses of the McReynolds bill which would make it a crime for lovers of liberty and foes of fascism to send aid directly to the Spanish government in the shape of food and medical supplies. At least that part of the McReynolds bill should be defeated in the Conference Committee between the Houses.

THE GREAT STRIKE IN DETROIT

It is Monday night and these words will not reach even the earliest of my readers before Thursday. I am writing in New York and the Chrysler strike is in Detroit. It is therefore absurd for me to try to discuss authoritatively the right tactics for men to follow in leading a great strike who know far more than I can of the morale of their own workers, the sympathy of other workers, and the general state of public opinion.

There are some things, however, worth saying about the sit-down strike now that middle class opin-

ion seems to be definitely hardening against it. Of course, it represents a greater challenge to property rights than previous forms of strikes, although all strikes have challenged property rights. Frankly, we Socialists rejoice in that further challenge to property rights.

Repeatedly I have suggested to critics of the sit-down strikes that the workers might well agree as a matter of tactics to turn the factory over to the owners, but only to the owners, not to other workers or strike breakers. It would be entertaining to watch the stockholders in the Chrysler Company trying to run the assembly line. In these factories the workers are investing their lives. Sit-down strikes have heretofore been orderly, not destructive of property—more orderly, indeed, than some American strikes before this method was adopted.

The frequent middle class comparison of a great factory to a private home with the owner enjoying the same rights in both is absurd. It is fantastic for a writer like Raymond Clapper in the Scripps-Howard press to suggest that it is only a short step beyond occupying Mr. Chrysler's factory to kidnapping Mr. Chrysler!

That shows a kind of confusion between the property rights of owners and their personal rights out of which only trouble can come. If today the sit-down strike is illegal so were all forms of strikes until after the workers had made law catch up with reality.

From the workers' standpoint, the only question about a sit-down strike is its efficiency in the light of all factors, including, of course, a proper allowance for the kind of reaction that it invites. Certainly it is not a weapon to be

used arbitrarily by a handful of folks, but it can be used by a disciplined union.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CIO

The CIO is to be congratulated on its admirable plans for a real organizing campaign among the textile workers. More power to it!

The workers of America are to be congratulated on the good sense the rank-and-file of the unions are showing in not following the bitter tactics of the AFL hierarchy. In city after city central labor unions are showing a determination to stay together. In the North Jersey organizing campaign which

Targets For Franco



Refugees leaving Madrid receiving food from soldiers aboard the truck. It is the defenseless women and children who have suffered most from the Fascist murder squadrons.

is going so well, it is highly gratifying to observe a desire of the AFL and the CIO committees to work together.

This sort of rank-and-file insistence on unity may neutralize the effects of John Frey's flirting with company unions and William Green's insistence upon disciplining the CIO unions by driving them out of the central body.

CAPITALISM CAN'T PLAN

According to the experts of the Brookings Institution, the hope of the future for capitalism in America is to have an increase of production, and hence of business, with a low price level but high wages. When capitalism does that it ought to be easy for mathematicians to square the circle.

In some form the problem suggested will continue even into a transition stage of Socialism. The problem, how much do I get and how much do I pay, will challenge the best efforts of social planning. Under capitalism it is inevitable that price rises will go far to nullify on the average the gains in wages. These gains will not be primarily at cost to the profit takers. Moreover, these rising prices, including stock market performances, justify the fear that numerous government officials have expressed concerning inflation.

It is particularly significant that the prices of commodities useful for war and rearmament are soaring so high. Chairman Eccles is right in believing that taxes should be raised partially to meet the situation, but the Administration may find that harder to bring about politically than to crowd through the President's proposal concerning the Supreme Court.

AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION

Justice Hughes, Brandeis, and Vandeventer in their letter to Secretary Wheeler pretty effectively disposed of the President's argument that to expand the size of the Supreme Court would add to its efficiency. It is to be questioned whether the President ever really believed that it would. What he really wants to do is to liberalize the Court, and that's worth doing, although the method he chose is not without some drawbacks.

But even if the Court is liberalized the constitutional problem and the danger of judicial supremacy will not be removed by having fifteen judges instead of nine. The Constitution to be moderately

workable in the years that lie ahead requires not an enlarged Court primarily but at least three amendments: one to bring about proper popular election of President and Vice-President; one to make the Constitution easier to amend, and one to give Congress definite power without interference from the Court in the field of social and economic legislation.

FOR A UNIFIED SOCIALIST PARTY

Concerning our Party Convention in Chicago, it is too late to say anything but this: Rarely have Socialist delegates had a greater opportunity to act constructively to help build a party which must be built.

There is plenty of agreement to enable loyal Socialists to go forward, and the Party ought to know how to deal with those who stand in the way. We can have an inclusive party of Socialists with liberty of opinion and of discussion, together with agreement on the things that most demand unity of action. It is for that that we must work.

PARDON TOM MOONEY

Tom Mooney requests telegrams to the Assembly and Senate of California in support of a Memorial from the Legislature addressed to the Governor demanding his pardon. The Assembly voted a legislative pardon. The Senate, following advice from the Attorney-General to the effect that it had no power to grant a legislative pardon, refused to concur in the Assembly's action.

A Memorial from both houses of the Legislature would mean much in ending one of the greatest wrongs in America, a wrong symbolic of the failure of the working class to secure justice for one of its own.

A.P. DESPATCH IN ERROR

Any of you who saw the Associated Press despatch of Chicago quoting me to the effect that "security cannot be found in a democracy" ought to know that I never said it but rather the opposite. I discussed the kind of democracy which would give us worthwhile security as against war, exploitation, etc. The Associated Press in response to my protest has sent me a copy of a release which it has sent out correcting this misquotation.

Detroit Labor Girds For Chrysler Battle

(Continued from Page One) fore again the spirit of labor solidarity that grips this city. The auto workers threw a battalion of a thousand pickets into action.

Staff of Battle

From strike situation to strike, the auto workers have been moving about acting as the general reinforcement army. They are becoming a trusty staff of battle for the entire Detroit labor movement.

An ordinarily inexplicable set of circumstances led to the eviction of the Frank and Seder strikers. Frank X. Martel, president of the Detroit Federation of Labor, stepped into the Frank and Seder battle to push through a most amazing sort of armistice. He requested the auto workers to quiet down in their picketing. He then announced that he would begin negotiations with the employers. He requested the strikers to leave the plant, to submit to police questioning, and to leave everything in his hands.

Martel then proceeded to issue a public statement white-washing the arm of Frank and Seder. He ordered the workers to return as if nothing had ever happened. And then Brother Martel, strangely, produced no agreement or benefits for the workers in the shop.

Sit-Downers Ousted

This was the first ouster of sit-downers in Detroit. Joint responsibility for this failure is placed upon the shoulders of the Governor, the Mayor, the Police chief, and the still unexplained actions of Martel.

The police are attempting to

carry this "successful" work into other fields. The Newton Packing Company workers were evicted, but only after the display of a new brand of police brutality.

The refusal of the public officials to stop this new wave of reactionary brutality is sweeping the minds of the strikers here clear of any illusions about the "liberalism" of their politicians. As one responsible strike leader told this writer:

"Murphy is afraid to show his face before the strikers right now."

In self defense against the anti-strike actions of the state, the auto strikers are moving to take their fate into their own hands.

Union Call

The Auto Workers' Union issued a call declaring:

"Automobile Workers are determined that strikers in small plants shall not be the victims of police brutality.

"Detroit workers are not going to be slugged and black-jacked out of their civil rights.

"Protect the Right to Strike! All Out, Show Labor's Strength."

Auto workers' officials have thrown the fear of a general strike across the bosses of this city. Should police brutalities continue, the workers are resolved to use their newly organized strength to paralyze completely the entire business world of Detroit and to go out into the streets to fight for their civil rights.