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Demos Keep Wage--Hour Bill Buried

By A Special Correspondent

Nearly five years after the N.R.A. and three years since the Supreme Court unanimously wrung the neck of the Blue Eagle, national maximum hours legislation is still in the talking stages.

With the continuation of depression conditions, the premium on sweat shop wages and hours will rise as it did between 1929 and 1938 but there will be no national legislation to check or control this development. Congress has recommitted the very inadequate wages and hour bill which finally got before it. It is tight locked in the House Labor Committee with the reactionary Democratic Rules Committee watching the door to be doubly sure it does not come out.

A Weak Bill

The measure as amended by the reactionaries was highly unsatisfactory. It had a disguised provision for a North and South wage differential which drew its teeth as far as some of the worst offenders among employers are concerned.

No definite adequate machinery for its enforcement was specified. It did not allow for setting of minimum wages above 40c. per hour. It would not permit maximum hours to be prescribed below 40 hours per week.

Sad enough a picture when one realizes that it was organized labor's determined agitation for the 30 hour week five and six years ago which drove Roosevelt to devise the idea of wages and hour control in the N. R. A.

Labor Divided

Nevertheless, if the wages and hour bill were as full of loopholes as the Queen Mary is of port holes, the general effect of a ceiling over hours and a floor under wages would be temporarily good from a labor and partial recovery angle. The labor movement was divided and presented two bills instead of one. The reactionaries were united and had a feeble bill to shoot at.

Organized labor would do well to unite not only on a wages and hour bill in this congress but on the old demand for the thirty hour week to set a standard by which their friends of the New Deal and otherwise can see how far short a friend falls of being a "brother" in politics. The wage and hour bill can rise again. Only labor can raise it.

WHY WORKERS GO WITHOUT FOOD

The League of Nations has a "Disarmament" Department. This department has just issued a Yearbook for 1937. According to the figures published in this book \$7,100,000,000 (gold dollars) were spent by all countries for increased armaments in 1937.

WORKERS' HOMES VS. BATTLESHIPS



Standing on the roof of their old home in Chicago, a mother and her child look at the new Jane Addams apartments where they will soon live. The administration of the local project, composed of Hull House officials and social workers, reports that the method of selecting tenants will be copied from the system used by the Socialists of Vienna, whose homes were attacked by fascist hordes four years ago Feb. 12.

The project was estimated to cost \$7,000,000 and it will house 4,000 people. President Roose-

velt's naval program calls for the expenditure of \$533,000,000 at the rate of \$70,000,000 for a single dreadnaught, or ten times the amount expended to house 4,000 people.

In other words, the money spent for one battle ship would house 40,000 people in modern, sanitary homes. The working class of the United States must act to prevent the useless expenditure of vast sums for offensive war purposes.

"HOMES FOR WORKERS—NOT BATTLE SHIPS!" is the ringing slogan of the Socialist Party.

CIO Outvotes AFL In Labor Elections

By a Special Correspondent

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The figures for National Labor Relations Board elections covering the period November 15-December 15, 1937 have just been released and are published in full in the AMERICAN FEDERATIONIST for January.

In view of the recent attacks on the C. I. O., the stories that the A. F. of L. is now growing faster than the C. I. O., the general impression created by press reports that the C. I. O. is declining, these figures present a very interesting picture.

A total of thirty-six cases are covered by the report, involving 16,859 workers. Elections in the various plants resulted in 12 certifications for the A. F. of L., 19 for the C. I. O., 4 for independent or company unions. One case remains unsettled. Of the 12 A. F. L. certifications, 8 were uncontested by the C. I. O. Only four were won in contests with the C. I. O.

The C. I. O. on the other hand, secured only 9 uncontested certifications, and won an additional 10 in contests against the A. F. of L. In other words, in contests between the two, the C. I. O. was victorious more than 70% of the time, while the A. F. of L. won less than 30% of the contests. In such contests the C. I. O. obtained 3,932 votes and the A. F. of L. 1,606.

The comparisons of total vote is even more significant. Including both contested and uncontested elections, the A. F. of L. polled a total of 2,193 votes against 6,696 for the C. I. O.

National Convention Socialist Party To Be Held at Kenosha

CHICAGO, ILL.—The National Action Committee of the Socialist Party voted this week to hold the regular biennial Socialist Party convention at Kenosha, Wisconsin, early in April.

The decision followed an invitation submitted to the Party by the comrades of Kenosha.

The National Action Committee has submitted the following temporary agenda for the guidance of members and branches of the Party:

1. The capitalist crisis in the present period.
2. Imperialism, War and Militarism.
3. Labor Party.
4. International Relations.
5. Labor Policy.
6. Press.
7. Youth.
8. Organization and Finance.

Further details will soon be transmitted to the members of the Socialist Party by the National Office. The entire membership of the Party is urged to discuss and prepare resolutions for consideration of the National Convention.

Would Stop Business with Japs

WASHINGTON.—Rep. Rich, Pennsylvania, introduced a resolution in the House January 17, demanding that the United States suspend all commercial intercourse with Japan pending conclusion of its hostilities with China.

The A. F. of L. victories are in plants employing 2,667 workers, the C. I. O. victories in plants having a total of 9,367 workers. In the 8 uncontested victories secured by the A. F. of L. it obtained a total of only 587 votes. The C. I. O., on the other hand obtained 2,761 votes.

Illness Among Workers Rises With Poverty

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Illness increases as income decreases, reported the United States Public Health Service last week, as it published results of the National Health Survey, a WPA project.

The most comprehensive in American history, this survey covered the winter of 1935-36, during which it conducted a house-to-house canvas of 800,000 families, including 2,800,000 individuals, in 84 cities and 23 rural areas of 19 representative States. It found that:

Illness among those on relief was three times as great as among higher income families.

Jobless Suffer

Two persons on relief in 1935 were disabled one week or more for every person disabled in both the middle and highest income groups.

Only 1% of the illness in relief families received bedside care from a private nurse, compared with 12% in families incomes of \$3,000 or more.

Chronic disabling illnesses in the relief group are 87% higher than in the highest income groups and the report stated, families "just above the relief level experienced an illness rate lower than the relief population."

"It is apparent," declared the Public Health Service in analyzing the report, "that inadequate diet, poor housing, the hazards of occupation and the instability of the labor market definitely create immediate health problems."

Miners' Confab Meets

WASHINGTON, D. C.—President John L. Lewis' oratorical voice boomed throughout the chambers of the Rialto theater here January 25, as he called 2,000 delegates to order to convene the 35th consecutive convention of the United Mine Workers of America.

The organization of the convention and selection of various committees that will report on credentials and numerous resolutions occupied the initial two day's session.

Foremost of the business before the convention were treason charges filed against William Green, President of the A. F. of L., and a U. M. W. member, by local unions from practically every state in the union.

Green's Status

The status of Green will be determined by the committee on grievances and the action of the delegates. He is charged with dual unionism because he issued charters to the mine company unions of the Southwest and the Progressive Miners of Illinois. Green's general hostility to the C. I. O. is also under fire.

Green was not present at the convention. He was reported to



JOHN L. LEWIS

be at Miami, Florida, attending a meeting of the A. F. of L. Executive Council.

Immediate progress towards more amicable relations between the two trade union centers—the C. I. O. and A. F. of L.—hinges to a large extent on what the action on Green's case will be.

Futura at Stake

If the A. F. of L. head is disciplined, either by expulsion or suspension, it will continue if not increase the bitter rivalry which has marked the American trade union scene in the past three years.

Among other important matters to come before the convention are resolutions on technological replacement of manpower, the armament and war problem, political relations and specific problems confronting the coal industry.

The convention marks the 48th anniversary of the formation of the United Mine Workers of America.

Germans Face Hard Winter Under Nazis

WASHINGTON — Germans under the Nazi heel have a difficult time of it this winter, according to dispatches from Berlin.

The butter shortage, the dispatches indicate, will reach its high point late in February, in March and in early April. Whale oil margarine, lard and animal fat will be thrown on the market as substitutes.

In addition, it was indicated, there will be a shortage of German pork next autumn and winter. Because of the difficulties in obtaining feed last fall, sow breeding fell off 22%.

Due to a drop in the bread grain crop to 1,500,000 tons below the five year average a governmental decree was issued requiring the inclusion of at least three percent potato flour in bread, the rougher milling of wheat and an admixture of other grains.

In addition, the Nazis have decreed that bakers must not sell loaves less than 24 hours old. It was discovered that fresh bread is eaten quicker than stale bread and that a new loaf produced fewer slices. Therefore bakers must let the bread get stale before selling.

Political Arrests Grow In Bulgaria

SOFIA, Bulgaria—This semi-fascist country of five million people seethes with political persecution. In 1937 there were 4,487 trials held against 5,241 defendants. Out of more than 8,000 arrested 2,388 were sentenced to long prison terms. One hundred and forty-two were mere youngsters.

The fascist coup d'etat of 1938 brought with it a sharp increase in the political persecution campaign the government has conducted against working class and liberal groups for many years.

Agenda For Recent L.S.I. Meeting

BRUSSELS, Belgium — The Labor and Socialist International executive committee held a special meeting here on January 16 and 17. No complete report has yet been transmitted to the CALL but the following agenda guided the meeting:

1. Report of the secretary.
2. War intervention by fascist nations and the internal situation in China, Spain etc.
3. Organizational questions and relations to other international organizations.
4. Specific questions in various countries.
5. Miscellaneous.

Seaman Head Dies

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Andy Furuseh, 83, president of International Seaman's Union (A. F. L.) died here January 22. An Old Guard of the trade union movement, Furuseh died after serving the seamen for 51 years.

Mrs. Leon Blum Dies

PARIS, France—Mme Therese Blum, wife of former Premier Leon Blum, died January 22 of complications following two serious operations.

RUMANIAN DICTATORS



King Carol of Rumania (left), with his fascist premier, Octavian Goga, posed after dissolving parliament. They have ordered a referendum which sounds democratic but the latest reports are that the duo are tampering with the ballots. Goga only pulled 9% of the total votes cast in the last national elections.

Jewish Socialist Bund Builds Big Labor Movement

A correct Socialist program—intelligent, militant, and uncompromising—which responds to the needs of the Polish Jewish masses in struggles along with their comrades of all countries has been fruitful to the Polish Bund both from the standpoint of numbers and influence, is the encouraging report made by Comrade Jacob Pat of Poland to the SOCIALIST CALL.

Comrade Pat, an associate editor of the "Volkzeitung," is lecturing in this country in behalf of workers' education movement of the Polish Jewish masses, in which the Bund, a Labor and Socialist International affiliate plays a significant role.

The Bund enjoys a remarkable influence among proletarians and its prestige, built through many struggles of the Polish masses, is felt among the folk movement—the peasants and lower middle classes, Pat said in an interview.

Score Election Victory

In the September Warsaw municipal elections, the Bund emerged with a decisive victory. Out of 50 representatives elected to represent 350,000 Jewish people, the Bund succeeded in electing 20 of its candidates as compared with 6 Zionists. The other 24 representatives came from twelve separate groups. The Communist and Zionist movements are losing ground.

At Lodz—a textile center and the second largest city in Poland—a united front of the Polish Bund, the Polish Socialist Party, and the Socialist Trade Unions captured a majority of the seats in the municipal council.

"These recent political victories," Comrade Jacob Pat declared, "were possible only because the Bund followed a clear cut class struggle program, not a People's Front policy."

At this point Pat recalled that the Polish Bund delegation attending the 1934 Paris Congress of the Labor and Socialist International voted with the American delegation who stood for a firm policy of revolutionary socialism as against reformism.

"We have not lost faith in the common ideas we shared with our American comrades at that Congress," he remarked.

Socialist Education

Workers' education is spread through 200 schools in 150 cities and towns. There are 20,000 pupils attending these schools which are taught by more than 1,000 teachers. Scattered throughout Polish industrial and agrarian centers are 800 Bund libraries which serve tens of thousands of people. There is also a Bund children's sanatorium at Warsaw.

The schools teach Socialist

philosophy, theory and general working class education.

A children's organization, something along the lines of the Falcon group in America, has a membership of 12,000. It is affiliated with the Labor and Socialist International.

Poland was gripped with a fascist threat to take power in November 1937, but it was successfully averted by a wave of general strikes of workers and peasants. The Polish Bund formed a united front (not a People's Front) with other Socialist groups and trade unions; a delegation warned the President that if this coup were successful the workers and peasants would take over power and maintain order in Poland.

Masses Face Fight

"The present government has liberalized its policies somewhat," Pat said, "but nevertheless the danger of conflict between the proletariat and fascists is acute. Soon the great issue of a workers state or a fascist state will be decided by the Polish masses."

"The government's policy on the war question is very uncertain because it occupies at the present time a centrist position. The masses are sympathetic to Paris and Washington. The Polish Bund, however, is committed to struggle against all imperialist policies of all capitalist and fascist governments."

"Physical persecution of the Jews has decreased," Pat averred, "but economic and political reprisals still flourish not only against the Jewish middle class but against the Jewish workers. Workers have organized *Zelbst Shutz* (self-defense group) and powerful strike movements against pogroms."

Workers Suffer

"The condition of the Polish working class is very bad. The general world crisis and peculiar national economic conditions have caused much suffering among the workers and peasants. The case of the coal miners is particularly a deplorable one. About 50 percent of the coal miners are unemployed. Poland cannot consume all the coal produced and in recent years she has lost much of her coal markets. Miners are compelled to eke out a living by digging around the old workings of the mines and peddling bits of fuel in sacks," he said.

"The government has an un-

French Popular Front Deserts Working Class

Again. Again the French Cabinet topples. Again the French "Popular Front" Cabinet moves to the right.

Elected by the masses to satisfy their hungry will the Popular Front cabinet got off to a showy start almost two years ago. Blum, a Socialist, was premier. All the parties of the "left" were united. Wages were increased; hours were cut.

Very quickly, however, the will of the masses was frustrated by the stony opposition of capitalism, which the Popular Front government refused to destroy. Prices went up, wiping out wage increases. The forty-hour laws were revised to allow for longer hours. More and more the government used clubs, instead of promises, to break strikes. And finally Blum was demoted to vice-premier.

Blum in Doghouse

And now, Blum finds himself in the political doghouse, put there by the bourgeois Radical-Socialists. He has no place in the cabinet. His party refuses to permit his participation in a cabinet which can only continue to do increasing injury to the cause of the workers.

The new cabinet pledges to bring about social and political peace. It will bring social peace by compulsory arbitration of industrial disputes: the beginnings of a capitalist dictatorship over the trade unions. And how will it bring political peace? One recoils from the thought, for just a little while ago the big Popular Front advocates were hailing the leaders of the Radical-Socialists as sincere opponents of Fascism.

Left Fumbles

"Frustration" is the word that best characterizes the present mood of the French masses. Whither shall they turn? The parties of the 'right' failed them; bringing crisis and poverty. And now the parties of the 'left' have failed the French people, pushed into the background of government after fumbling issue after issue.

Even more frightening than the high-sounding talk of the Radical-Socialists about compelling "social and political peace" is this mood of frustration. Out of such despair does a Fascist movement grow.

It is not the mere shift of Cabinets that distresses the French masses. "The French are used to shuffles of cabinet," writes Anne O'Hare McCormick from Paris. "The discouragement comes from the persistence under all political shifts of the same problems, no nearer solu-

employment insurance plan which gives the workers 12 to 16 weeks special benefits but after that the unemployed receive only groceries and soup. This form of relief is woefully inadequate and the workers are compelled to root for their existence."

Flood Mines

"The coal companies have flooded their inactive mines in order to stabilize prices and normalize the market supply. At one coal mine the workers became indignant and staged a sitdown strike and demanded that if the mine were to be flooded it would be flooded with them in it," Pat reported.

"There are around 6,000,000 peasants without land. Instead of jobless we call them earthless. Their plight is indeed a tragic one."

Comrade Pat said the Polish Bund would continue to organize and educate the masses to the end that soon there will be a proletarian regime in Poland.

Pat is to spend three weeks in Chicago as part of his national tour.

(New York Times, 1/15/38.)
Class Struggle Acute

Or as Eduoard Daladier put it: "Governments change, problems remain."

And the foremost of these ever-present problems is—the class struggle.

The Popular Front Government rests upon the theory that it is possible in a capitalist class society, resting upon the exploitation of man by man, to rule in the name of all, peacefully adjudicating economic differences within a calmly composed nation. A pretty theory! And how unfortunate that facts refuse to abide by it.

The masses who put the Popular Front in power in the Spring of 1936 did so because they wanted a government that would change things, that would sweep aside the old rubbish. They wanted a new broom!

Workers Strike

To make the sweep clean, the workers struck. "A majority of the country wanted new men and new methods," wrote P. J. Phillip. When the cabinet was formed, however, the people "seemed to get just the same men and the same methods. That is the explanation of the direct strikes." (Times, 6/7/36.)

"The strikes, in a manner disquietingly like that of Petrograd, 1917, or Italy just before Mussolini's advent, occupy factories, raise red flags and hold their managers prisoner. Has another French Revolution started?" asked Frank C. Hanighen in August. "The conservatives believe, so." (Current History 8/36.) "What is not yet certain whether what is happening is reform or revolution." (Times, 6/12/36.)

Blum's Role

The capitalist class quaked. But in his first appearance as premier before the French Senate, Blum "gave the country assurance that his government would assure order in the streets and that it would deal with fomenters of trouble." (Wireless, 6/13/36.)

Yet, somehow the class struggle continued, in the same militant manner as before, expressing the mood of the masses for a radical change. So Roger Salengro, Minister of Interior, repeated Blum's threat more concretely: "If tomorrow further farms and factories are occupied, the government will put an end to such actions by all the means at its disposal." (Times, 7/8/36.)

The next day, French bosses clamored for the government to "keep its promise." Salengro replied that he would use "armed force with care" if other means failed.

And thus, "with care" of course, Roger Salengro "ordered strikers to leave a newspaper distributing plant" in the town where he is mayor. (A. P. 8/1/36.)

Hike Living Costs

Yet, somehow, three months after the strike wave had begun the class struggle still continued. It continued despite, and in part because of, economic victories: forty hour week, 7 to 15% wage increases. It continued because bosses were not keeping their agreements and—

Because the prices of milk, bread, fruit, corn, wheat and garments had jumped. Within the month, the price of bread had climbed four times. (Mathews in the Times, 9/7/36.) The index of food prices had risen from 495 in March of 1936 to 514 in June to 525 in August to 562 in November, according to the General Statistical Bureau of France.

This meant new strikes, more sit-downs. The government sa-

Working Class Philosophy Workers' Homes

By Joseph M. Coldwell

Howdy, comrades! Last week we discussed the wage phase of the class struggle. I hope you mulled it over with your shopmates and got some of them to start thinking as wage workers. The big trouble with many of us is that while we have a champagne appetite we have only a lager beer income.

How often have we listened to an oratorical gymnast give us a word picture of the wonderful opportunities in this country for each and every one of us if we would only work hard and save our money. Many of us swallowed the bait, hook, line and sinker. We started saving our money, put it in a bank and began reading real estate ads. We had mental visions of a nice little house in the suburbs, with a garden, and a few chickens, all our own.

On the outskirts of many cities real estate agents organized what they called "land developments." Lots were sold, houses were built, and mortgages were made. Many wage and salary workers thought they had achieved the dream of a lifetime. THEY OWNED A HOME. At least they thought they did. How often have one of your shopmates asked you to come and see their new home, and you went. If you were young and had a steady job you had a mental picture of THE GIRL meeting you in a home like that. Truly, this is a great country, if we could only keep the damn foreigners out, you thought.

Life by Installments

Then along came the depression, banks failed, jobs and positions were lost. Other jobs or positions could not be found. If you lived in a tenement or a furnished room, it was bad enough. At least all the landlord could do was to put you out for the nonpayment of rent. But how about your shopmates who had bought houses on the mortgage and installment plan?

All their savings went toward the first payment on the house and lot. Their wages or salary went for living expenses, taxes, interest and installment payments on the mortgage. When the interest and the installments could not be paid, the mortgage was foreclosed. Then what happened?

Now, don't laugh, but at this particular period of American history RED FLAGS flew from many houses, the police dared not pull them down. Don't be silly, it was not the red flag of the revolution, it was the red flag of the auctioneer, waving in the breeze, under the protection

of the law. The houses were being sold, they were not being destroyed, they only changed hands. The banks who could not occupy them, now owned them. The only thing that was destroyed were the hopes, ideals and homes of those who really thought this was a wonderful land of opportunity.

Workers' Lost Homes

Unless you have lost a home under similar circumstances you cannot realize how hard it is for a man and wife to sing "My Country 'Tis of Thee" while the red flag of the auctioneer is flying over what they had so fondly hoped would be their home. During the past few years this scene has been enacted over millions of homes and farms in this land of the free and home of the brave.

The so-called Home Loan plan did not save many homes. It was only those who could make monthly payments on the mortgage that got loans from the Federal Home Loan Corporation. I know several persons who were unemployed who could not get loans. Many persons got rich buying houses that were sold under foreclosure of mortgages. Values of real estate dropped, but the banks always got their money.

A Mule Kicks

If anyone tries to tell you that the way to become rich is to be thrifty and industrious, to work hard and save your money, just laugh at them and ask them how rich is a mule. The mule, the share-cropper, the tenant farmer, are all in the same boat as far as riches are concerned, but some one will feed the mule before they will let it die of starvation. If you lost your job, how many weeks could you live before you had to seek charity? Just mull that over with your shopmates and then look up the income tax and salaries paid to executives of companies, then if you still talk about my job, and my shop, and my boss, just look in the mirror and you will see an animal whose ears are not as long as a mule's, but who does not know how to kick like a mule.

So long, I'll be with you next week.

Social Parasite



This is James H. R. Cromwell, world's richest husband, by virtue of his marriage to Doris Duke, tobacco heiress. He made the headlines last week because he proposed that the tax on incomes and estates be replaced with a national sales tax.

Ford Agents Organize Liberty Legion Local

ST. LOUIS, Mo.—A local of the Liberty Legion—a company union, vigilante outfit—has been organized here by agents of the Ford Motor Co.

Thurlow H. Grey, Dearborn, Mich. (Ford's home town), very aptly showed how the liberty part of the Legion was supposed to work. He handpicked the officers, wrote the local's by-laws and gave the misled members a cut-and-dried constitution.

The Legion has been organized to combat the CIO. It is committed in advance not to adhere to decisions of the National Labor Board when they see fit.

Employees of the Anheuser-Busch Brewery and Liggett and Myers Tobacco Co. answered the Liberty Legion by voting to boycott Ford products.

Workers' Alliance Sues San Antonio Police

SAN ANTONIO, Texas.—For seriously injuring members of the Workers' Alliance and systematically destroying its headquarters last June, a \$37,500 damage suit has been filed against San Antonio police.

Named in the action are Mayor C. K. Quin, Police Chief Owen Kilday, Police Commissioner Phil Wright and four members of the police force.

The suit followed a raid on Alliance headquarters. Gov. James Alford charged the attack an "act of vandalism" and threatened to send state police to San Antonio in event of a similar outbreak.

The American Civil Liberties Union is active in the case.

Sign Contract

HOUSTON, Tex.—A new contract with newspapers publishers has been signed here. It provides for two cents an hour increase and a seven day week of seven and one half hours daily.

"ford Pledge" at Temple University as well as plans for the organizations of a committee on a city-wide scale. Among the campus leaders participating in the organization work at Temple are Ben Rigberg, President of Historical Honor Society; Bella Rubin, President International Relations Club; and Harry Harris, Managing Editor of the "Temple News."

Michigan Reports

Ann Arbor, Michigan, reports the formation of "A Michigan Committee for the Oxford Pledge." Some of the delegates from the University of Michigan to the recent Christmas convention of the Student Christian Movement were prominent spokesmen for the Oxford Pledge. Chairman Buck of the Committee is Chairman of the Peace Council of the University of Michigan.

Socialist, Pacifist, Communist Argue Collective Security

By BILL HOLLISTER

PHILADELPHIA, Pa.—"We have come to a stopping place in the fight for socialism. The fight of the American worker today is not for socialism—but against fascism." These were the opening remarks of Joseph Starobin of the staff of the New Masses, speaking for the Young Communist League at a Yipsel symposium January 16. The symposium, entitled "Can Collective Security 'Stop War'?", presented three views: Communist, Socialist and pacifist.

Starobin continued: "The question of Roosevelt's militarism is not as timely for the workers as is the enforcement of the Wagner Labor Act. Workers alone cannot stop war. I believe in international working class action, but today that is not enough. Even if labor was 100 per cent organized, it would need the aid of capitalist governments to maintain peace. What happened in 1914 does not apply today. Lenin must be revised.

"Don't ask me what I would do in time of war," he added. "I don't want to discuss it. I want to discuss what I will do today."

Speaking for the Socialists was Phil Heller, educational director of Local 155, Knit Goods Workers, New York. He attacked Starobin's position as the height of scholasticism, which attempted to divorce the present from both the past and the future. "What peace are you interested in maintaining—the peace of the victorious robber nations? Is this the peace which American workers are to go to war to defend? You mention capitalism. But have you forgotten there is such a thing as imperialism?"

Yes, Why?

Heller thus opened his speech with a series of direct questions to Starobin (none of which were answered). Heller continued: "If you, comrades, support collective security as a force for peace, why should you oppose the anti-war movement? Why do you oppose the Oxford pledge? Picking up a Communist leaflet he asked, "Why do you say here that the Panay, cruising along the Yangtze on its mission of saving American refugees, was ruthlessly bombed by the Japanese? Why not mention the three Standard Oil tankers, whose protection was the real mission of the Panay? If you are for peace, let us get together on a program today to fight American war preparations and hysteria such as this."

A Pointed Question

"I do not think you want peace," Heller continued. "In my union we have a slogan, 'War Funds for Unemployment Relief.' Will you support that?" Starobin called the present world situation unique in history. Because of the menace of fascism, he said, workers in democratic countries must support their capitalist governments in a war against fascism. "The mass pressure of workers on their governments will guarantee against fascism at home."

Speaking to the students, Starobin (who was ousted from CCNY for opposing the ROTC) said: "In 1934 we supported the Oxford Pledge because it was a pacifist pledge and it was timely to seek pacifist support. Today the Oxford Pledge has no value. It is like any organism that is born, flourishes and ultimately dies."

(In rebuttal, Heller asked if this departure into the field of natural sciences referred to

Communist opposition to capitalist wars.)

Pacifist Speaks

Speaking for the pacifists, Dr. Eugene Schaal of the American Friends Service Committee, said that he was for collective security "under a world government" but not in the sense of opposing nationalist police forces advocated today. Bitterly attacking the loss of democracy in wartime, Schaal said, "If you're going to fight for democracy you must use democratic methods to do so. If war comes, I am convinced fascism will come with it."

Turning to the Soviet Union, for which he once had great hope, Schaal stated: "If I were a private citizen in Russia today, I might as well be living under fascism. Communism, practically speaking, has meant fascism to those who live under it. I like Communist ideals but they have meant nothing to Russian citizens."

During the question period, Starobin remarked: "The French Popular Front has saved the French workers from fascism." Asked about the suppression of colonial revolts in Morocco and elsewhere by French troops under the Popular Front, he said: "Those revolts were sponsored by Moroccan capitalists and fascists."

Cites Revolutionists

In reply, Heller pointed out that this was the philosophy of Plekhanov and Luxemburg, not of Lenin. The colonial policy of the Bolsheviks was to free colonies first from imperialist exploitation, though it might mean siding temporarily with the capitalist class of those colonies. In Morocco, the recent revolts were engineered by a well known revolutionary party which only two years ago the Communists were supporting.

At the close of the meeting it was announced that Norman Thomas would speak in Philadelphia February 10 at several important meetings, on the war question.

C.I.O. Textile Union Signs Pa. Contracts

NEW YORK—Agreements between the T. W. O. C. and several outstanding Silk and Rayon Manufacturers of the State of Pennsylvania were announced this week by Emil Rieve, Acting Chairman of the Textile Workers Organizing Committee.

These agreements are with the Duplan Silk Corporation for its Berwick, Kingston and Wilkes Barre plants; Hess, Goldsmith and Company for its plants at Kingston and Wilkes Barre; the Columbia, Pa., plant of the Columbia Silk Mills; the Duryea, Pa., plant of the Duryea Silk Mill; and the Micanoga plant of the Kerstetter Silk Throwing Company, were signed today by the Union and the Employers.

These agreements followed a series of negotiations initiated last August. The Textile Workers Organizing Committee was declared to be the sole collective bargaining agent in these plants, as a result of a series of elections held during the months of September, October and November.

Dentists Join C. I. O.

HOUSTON, Tex.—A union of dental mechanics is being organized here. It will affiliate with the C. I. O.

Youth Anti-War Notes

By AL HAMILTON

The Youth Committee for the Oxford Pledge announced this week the circulation of 50,000 copies of "An Open Letter to American Youth." Calling for a revitalization of the anti-war movement, the open Letter declares: "Within recent months the unity of the youth peace movement has been seriously threatened. Those threatening that unity have forgotten the nationalist and imperialist basis of war, endorsing a conflict of good, democratic, peace-loving nations against bad, fascist, war-loving nations in the name of collective security, democracy and peace. In various national youth organizations the rift has appeared. Armistice Day Calls this year (1937) have not been anti-war calls. Abandonment of the Oxford Pledge and of the fight against R. O. T. C. and American military preparations impends . . ."

Signers

Some of the leading signers of the open letter were K. Brooke Anderson, Director of Religious Work, Brown University; Fay Bennett, California District Organizer, American Student

Union; Charlotte Bentley, Student Enrollment Division, War Resisters League; Robert Burgess, Chairman, United Student Peace Committee of New England; Burns Chalmers, Chaplain, Smith College; Harold Chance, Student Peace Service; Robert Saffron, Pitt News, University of Pittsburgh; Molly Yard, College Secretary, American Student Union; Frank Littell, Chairman Social Action, National Council of Methodist Youth, Hugh Thompson, Student Christian Movement.

Circulate Petition

The first campaign that the Youth Committee is launching is the building of a Committee of 10,000 for the Oxford Pledge. In line with this drive against the war danger, the Youth Committee has likewise started a petition drive addressed to the President to "Stop Militarization of America!" Material on both of these drives can be obtained by writing to Youth Committee for the Oxford Pledge, 242 East 14th Street, New York City.

Philadelphia Active

From Philadelphia, comes word of the formal organization of a "Youth Committee for the Ox-

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LYNCHING AND LYNCHERS

Reactionary Southern solons have a peculiar habit of saying many stupid things. A choice puff of hot air comes from Louisiana. Senator Ellender, while fighting the Civil War all over again, said regarding the Anti-Lynching bill:

"Political equality will lead to social equality, and that will lead to the downfall of civilization."

Civilization, like liberty, is a very much abused word. Politicians have filled the records of congress with reams of references to things civil, civilized, civilizing—and civilization. Civilization has often fallen, collapsed, surrendered and been destroyed, according to spellbinders who care and know little of its meaning.

That the Federal Anti-Lynching act would violate states' rights, and that lynching in the South is on the decline, are two flimsy arguments which have been monotonously repeated by Senators who persist in refusing to permit the bill to come up for a vote.

Federal regulation of state relief and agricultural problems is fine, but Federal regulation of simple decency to prevent marauders and slimy gangsters from mutilating, torturing and murdering Negroes is a violation of states' rights. States' rights was the cry raised when progressives sought to abolish child labor. It was the cry when minimum wage and hour legislation was proposed. States' rights, like property rights, is a convenient tool with which diehards scuttle and emasculate reforms beneficial to the masses.

That lynching is on the decline does not stand up in the face of the facts. "There were ONLY eight lynchings in 1937," we are told. Well, there were ONLY eight lynchings in 1932—but in 1933 there were twenty-eight; 1934, fifteen, and 1936, twenty. There were fifty-seven Negroes lynched in five Southern states between 1933 and 1937.

Most of them were perpetrated under cover of darkness in open connivance with authorities.

The race issue is always one good barometer by which one can measure the decency, if not the intelligence, of people. Lynching will not be stopped by merely passing a bill by congress. Lynching is a product of Southern capitalist, semi-feudal economy. The exploitation of Negro and white workers is more brazen in the South, but not necessarily more intense than in the North. The solution to the problem of both Negro and white workers is one. United organization is the first step. Action is the second. But ultimately the solution lies in Socialism, because Socialism would destroy the economics which breed racial antagonisms.

The Anti-Lynching bill has provoked national discussion. That by itself is a real contribution insofar as it has served to focus the interest of the workers on a problem which glaringly reveals that capitalism and civilization are not the same.

'UNCLE ABNER'

Does your home-town paper carry the cartoon feature called "Uncle Abner" in which a witty old rustic makes sarcastic remarks about relief loafers, high taxes and so on?

If so, you'll probably be interested in knowing that it is propaganda bought and paid for by the National Association of Manufacturers.

And Uncle Abner is just a small cog in a big machine, a powerful machine developed by business interests to influence the thinking of American workers and farmers.

This propaganda machine includes a radio program, a clip-sheet issued to hundreds of weekly newspapers and a mat and boiler plate service going to 1,500 publications. A bale of leaflets, posters articles for plant papers, films, editorials and material for "industrial relations speeches" are also passed out by the N.A.M.

Fountain head of all this propaganda is the Educational Record Service at 475 Fifth Avenue, New York, according to the Guild Reporter. This is also the headquarters of the Six Star Service, which provides "Uncle Abner" and others mats and the clip-sheet. The Manufacturers, who deny being daddy of Educational Record Service, also issue scads of press material from their own offices in the Investment Building, Washington, D. C.

The sad part of it is that small town editors, eager to get material for nothing, gobble up these features, but the next time "Uncle Abner" takes a crack at progress just remember that he may be the voice of the modern N.A.M. but he speaks from a day that died with the horse and buggy he drives.

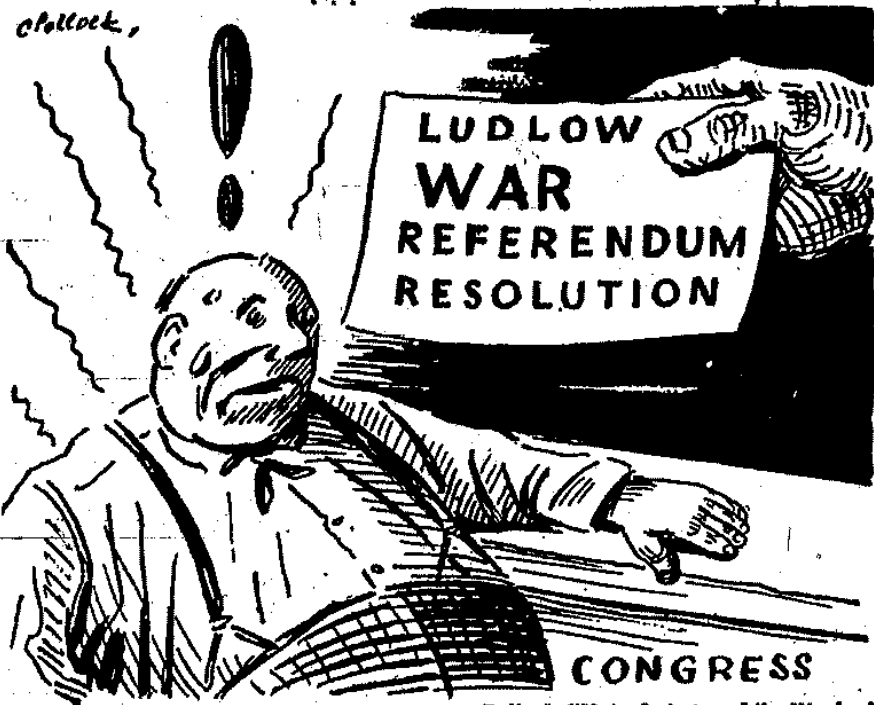
A President Without Postage!

President Roosevelt—Woodrow Wilson No. 2 (remember how he led us in the last war!)—has a lot to say when his pet war scheme is threatened by the Ludlow amendment.

On the Anti-Lynching bill? Well that's another matter for Mr. Roosevelt. There will be no letter from him calling upon the Senators to halt their disgraceful filibuster.

One hundred and twenty languages are spoken in Europe: 80 million speak German; 70 million Russian (Asiatic Russia not included); 47 million English; 41 million Italian; 40 million French; more than a million speak a variety of 105 languages.

GET GOING, OLD BOY



Pollock "United Automobile Worker" This is one kind of security we want to collect.

Workers' Forum

Mexican Situation

NEW YORK CITY.—The article in the CALL (Jan. 15) dealing with sympathetic strikes in various cities of the State of Vera Cruz, Mexico, was somewhat erroneous. Your headline, "Mexican Labor Unions Wage General Solidarity Strikes," lends approval to a matter you nowhere make clear.

The struggle in the factory of Coacalapan is an inter-union struggle between the present dominant CTM* and the once dominant CROM**. The reason the factory is closed is that CROM workers have done damage to the power system and are preventing its repair, as they control the majority in the city of Orizaba.

Now, as to your article "Mexican Workers Debate Plan for Political Party." It is not a new party but a new label for an old party—the bureaucratic party of Cardenas known as the PNR*** which Cardenas wants to be known in the future as the Workers and Soldiers' Party or People's Party. At present the party is financed by contributions of government employees. Cardenas wants to broaden the base of financial support by making the unions and agrarian organizations also contribute to it. The CTM elected 33 delegates to the National Chamber of Deputies on the PNR ticket in the last election. This to me means that it is actually in the party, their leaders' claims notwithstanding. —S. Fanny Simon.

*Workers' Confederation of Mexico.

**Regional Confederation of Labor of Mexico.

***National Revolutionary Party.

Education

TACOMA, Wash., Jan. 16—The best attended meeting we have had here was last night's debate on "Socialism vs. Capitalism." Interest was keen and the question period extended half an hour after the usual closing time. This was an answer to those who hold that the workers cannot be interested in fundamental Socialist economics and philosophy. Why should they not be increasingly interested, as their faith in capitalism vanishes? Half a page devoted to such teachings would be the CALL'S most valuable feature. —Robert J. Pearsall.

Dad Crokin Writes

STAUNTON, Ill.—I consider our class duty as Socialists is to aid all labor movements of a progressive character. We must be true to our principles and continue to advise all workers in mass production industries to join industrial unions. We must urge these workers, too, to join a political party which has in its platform the abolition of the profit system. I am enclosing a dollar for copies of the CALL. —James Crokin.

COMMENT BY TYLER

NEW YORK.—The third issue of the CALL was a wow! Keep it up and there can be nothing but a chorus of praise for it.

—Gus Tyler, former editor SOCIALIST CALL.

A COMRADE'S ADVICE

WACO, Texas — Our branch was assessed \$3 towards moving the CALL. Enclosed you will find a check for \$3.25 for this purpose.

I believe if the people knew what Socialism really is they would want it. Therefore I hope the CALL will devote more space to tell the people what Socialism is. I wouldn't devote so much space to the unions. The unions can never give the workers full justice. It is only a makeshift.

The Socialist movement is generally spoken of as the class struggle, but I put it on a higher plane; I call it a movement to benefit every individual—the richest and poorest would benefit. Yours for education, —John M. Killough.

From an Activist

PORTSMOUTH, Ohio. — Enclosed you will find one dollar for a sub. I pledge to get one dollar every week for a sub in order that I may do my part to make the CALL self-sustaining. I hope the CALL grows to be a power to educate the workers and do its part to bring about the co-operative commonwealth. —Ed Rankin.

100 New Subs

VERONA — Congratulations on the new SOCIALIST CALL. We like the sections called "Workers' Forum" and "Party Activities Over the Country." We in Pittsburgh will push the CALL up to a 100 new subscriptions within the next two months. —M. P. B.

Favor Ludlow Bill

BREESE, Ill. — The men of this small mining town who served in the army during 1917-18, are for the Ludlow amendment. A special resolution adopted by the American Legion Post No. 252 declared for the "right of the people to declare their desire to declare war."

Ohio C. I. O. Conference

COLUMBUS, Ohio — A state convention of all C. I. O. unions in Ohio will be held in Columbus on February 26 and 27, according to announcement by John Owens, regional director of the Committee for Industrial Organization, at his office in Columbus.

Relief for Sailors

HOUSTON, Tex. — A delegation from the National Maritime Union visited Mayor Fonville and demanded that the city take steps to provide relief for unemployed sailors.

SQUIBS

BY GENE LOMAN

NEWS FLASH!

WHILE Roosevelt, the white hope of little business, was trying to make his peace (or piece) with big business also, while G-men were third-degreeing the confessed murderer of kidnap-victim Charles Ross, while 30 top-ranking oil company officials were being convicted for conspiring to raise oil prices, while Tokyo was protesting Russia's arrest of 24 more Japanese, while the rebels were launching another desperate drive against Teruel, while all these things were going on, over the wires and into the linotype machines of the nation's greatest papers flashed the news all America had been waiting for: Joan Blondell is expecting the stork!

ADD to this the fact that 1,134 new picture magazines have been started in the last month and you have a couple of juicy morsels for some future Gibbon declining (and falling) the American empire.

"NO one need look at 1938 with uncertainty," says Henry Ford.

No one, that is, with a few million in the old sock.

LUCKY NUMBER

THE new Russian parliament convenes.

- First day: Stalin.
- Second day: Stalin.
- Third day: Stalin.
- Fourth day: Stalin.
- Fifth day: Stalin.
- Sixth day: Stalin.
- Seventh day: Stalin.
- Eighth day: stalled—adjourned.

TO OUR CRITICS

You're right, this column could be a lot better. And one way to make it better it to send in items you pick up the course of the day: jokes, puns, anecdotes, verse and whatnot. Anything light or satiric is grist for our mill. Now fire away—and don't wait till you see the whites of their eyes. Simply address Squibs, care of the Call.

OUR hats are off the man who has conducted the longest sitdown strike on record—18 years. For just that long Marcus Graham, anarchist-editor of Man, has refused to provide the Labor Department with details of his birth, so they can't deport him (as they've been trying to do since 1919) for they don't know where to send him!

From Across the Sea

WARSAW, Poland—We thank you sincerely for your address to our party on the occasion of its 40th jubilee.

The celebration of this jubilee stirred the whole Jewish population in Poland. It became a great manifestation for socialist ideas. It proved a very close connection of our Party with the largest Jewish masses as well as with the Polish and international Socialist movement.

This affirmation of international solidarity with our Party was particularly helpful in the present moment, when our Jewish population has to stand the continual attacks of ferocious anti-Semitism and when our country fights against the fascist reaction.

Your contribution to this affirmation has been particularly appreciated by our comrades. Therefore we repeat: Thanks.

—The Polish Bund.

Beat Up Auto Worker

DETROIT, Mich.—Roy Davis, union auto worker, was beaten Jan. 17 by Ford "service men" near the River Rouge plant while distributing leaflets. The auto workers seek a writ to compel the Ford Motor Co. to respect civil liberties.



AT THE FRONT

WITH
Norman Thomas

FASCIST BRUTALITY

Teruel, Spain is a comparatively small provincial capital of 12,000 inhabitants, which nestles in a valley between high mountains and plateaus. Yet in that town, according to the very reliable correspondent, Lawrence A. Fernswerth, 3000 of the Left were slain by the fascist terror in the eighteen months in which the Franco forces occupied the city. Not only were they slain but on at least one occasion the execution of human beings was turned into a fete. The plaza was decorated, crowds applauded each execution and afterwards the band played and there was dancing.

When one reads things like this one believes that there has been no such thing as progress of civilization or humanity, and then one remembers that the most terrible pictures of war ever drawn were by the Spanish artist, Goya. Yet not to anything peculiar to Spain but to fascism and to the general brutalization of the world following the last war must we attribute this horror. It is another proof that war and fascism are enemies of mankind.

THE WOMEN'S CONGRESS

But the way to fight war and fascism is not to put the capitalist government of the United States into a war which will bring us fascism at home and the brutalization that attends both war and fascism.

I am sorry to see that the Women's Congress on the Cause and Cure of War approved the preparation of the United States "to enter into progressive sanctions which involve economic measures and even the use of military force." Military force means war and nothing else than war in the present day world. It is something, however, that the women, unlike the American League for Peace and Democracy, the American Student Union, and the Communist Party have the honesty to admit openly, namely, that collective sanctions today mean preparation to use military force that is to say, war, and war not by revolutionists but by capitalist governments.

LENIN'S TEACHINGS FORGOTTEN

Something like two years ago I spoke on the platform at a housing conference with Mrs. Roosevelt. Naturally we shook hands and naturally a picture was taken of that act of courtesy. My socialism is plenty strong enough so that I do not have to protect it by discourtesy. Yet this act was lampooned viciously in the Daily Worker.

The other day the New York papers carried a story of a great Communist meeting in Madison Square Garden. An actor read selections from President Roosevelt's speeches and at the end the Communist commentator added: "In these speeches President Roosevelt reflects the immediate aim of the Communist Party for building a People's Front."

That is, the same party whose fanaticism objected to so ordinary an act of shaking hands is now endorsing not the President's wife but the President! It is not Roosevelt who has changed but the Communist Party.

The really extraordinary thing is that the party chose the anniversary of Lenin's death to commit itself to the international policies not of Lenin but of Woodrow Wilson and to a People's Front which involves the class collaboration which Lenin always condemned. History is full of the illustrations of organizations which have rapidly repudiated some of the most important principles of the founders whom they profess to honor, but history contains no record of such rapid and complete repudiation of the important principles of its greatest leader as the Communist Party has given.

THE NEW JUSTICE

Stanley Reed, the President's new appointee to the Supreme Court is an able lawyer, liberal in comparison with his predecessor, Judge Sutherland. But he is no crusader at all for any radical program. Hence the general satisfaction of conservatives with his appointment. The personnel of the Supreme Court now relieves the immediately critical danger that the court will nullify all popular legislation, but by no means does it settle the basic issue of the power of the Supreme Court to act as a kind of supreme Legislature or continuing Constitutional Convention. Roosevelt's handling of this case has given him what he probably regards as a fairly satisfactory court, but it has hurt, not helped, a solution of the basic issue of what ought to be the power of the court.

Mr. Reed's successor as Solicitor General, Roosevelt's pet, Mr. Robert Jackson, is obviously a political appointee who, according to the papers is to be given the prestige of the Solicitor General's office as further help on his road to the Governorship of New York to which Mr. Roosevelt seems determined to elevate him.

Mr. Jackson's record before he took public office put him in no position to claim the Governorship of New York with the support of workers. And I think that what he has done since he has been in office has been pure political opportunism. The processes by which his candidacy for the Governorship are being advanced ought not to recommend him to a labor party with any sense of its own dignity and independence.

BOOKS

Thurman W. Arnold's "The Folklore of Capitalism" (Yale University Press) and Stuart Chase's "The Tyranny of Words" (Harcourt, Brace and Co.) reviewed by Comrade Thomas.

Two books have recently appeared and have already been much discussed which are likely to have considerable and continuing influence upon socialists and the socialist movement. Much of that influence ought to be good. But not all!

The books I refer to are Thurman W. Arnold's "The Folklore of Capitalism" (Yale University Press) and Stuart Chase's "The Tyranny of Words" (Harcourt, Brace & Co.) Both books are absorbingly well written; both books do a swell job of debunking and they are bound to be thought of together because, in the words of Ralph Thompson in the New York Times, they both display "that sort of wholesome heresy and disrespect for absolutes that will mark the emergence of the new Sanity—when and if it ever emerge."

SEMANTICS

What Mr. Chase does is to develop and popularize the new science of semantics which is concerned with the meaning and quality of verbal symbols; that is, words. He shows convincingly how much of what he calls "blab blab" there is in a lot of serious, learned and emotion rousing talk.

Semantics properly developed, in an invaluable aid to science philosophy, economics and government. But semantics does not enable one to dispose so summarily and jauntily of all the problems and theories—biology, economics and politics—which Mr. Chase examines and dismisses solely on the basis of their use or misuse of words. For a great many human attitudes and problems, non rational some of them, the objective "referents"—to use Mr. Chase's pet word—are not easily to be found or precisely to be measured even by the refined language of mathematics.

There are real problems in ancient and modern discussions of free will and determination, the difference between organic and inorganic matter, the class struggle—to take only a few of Mr. Chase's illustrations, are not to be settled in a couple of paragraphs on the basis of a criticism of the misuse of words which undoubtedly has been involved in those discussions.

FOLKLORE MORE BRILLIANT

The thesis of Mr. Arnold's book, which is the more brilliant and original of the two, cannot be so simply stated. Briefly and inadequately presented it is this: Our society as a whole is composed of a lot of smaller organizations—family, business firm or corporation, university, even government itself—all held together by a mass of legal political and economic theories which in reality make up folklore, a mythology which does not stand rigorous intellectual tests but finds its strength as the creed and ritual of society in general, and of its component parts. Since our society is predominantly capitalist Mr. Arnold is concerned with the folklore of capitalism which increasingly becomes inadequate to its social function.

MACHIAVELLIAN TWIST

But Mr. Arnold's really important conclusions are contained in his chapter "Some Principles of Political Dynamics." These principles are organizational. They are supported by a social psychology which is basically anti rational and anti intellectual; in a polite sort of way, rather Machiavellian. Incidentally one wonders whether the manipulator of organizations could really do a good job if he understood as well as Mr. Arnold that the rituals and creeds he was using were folklores. After all, Machiavelli was a failure himself as a practical politician.

To my mind the over praise which has greeted both of these brilliant and useful books is significant of the real danger that they will be used by some intellectuals as an escape from the essential problem of controlling the order in which we live. Any idea of control in the last analysis must be rational to be desirable. Here, I think, Mr. Arnold and Mr. Chase, whose books are being so completely lumped together, really part company. Mr. Chase seems to be seeking a high degree of rationality to be achieved through the right use of words while one of Mr. Arnold's principles of political dynamics is that "institutional creeds such as the law, economics or theology must be false in order to function effectively."

Max Lerner in the Nation of January 8th concludes a stimulating and thoughtful review by saying: "I have no objection to brilliant talk about capitalism as magic, and I get a lot of fun out of it. But I want more light on how capitalism works or doesn't work, and how to control it or displace it. The emphasis of the recent stream of books on the tyranny of words and the folklore of ideas is a healthy emphasis. We need to sharpen our tools, but the basic jobs still remains." To which I say Amen.

The way in which a handful of Southern Democrats has been able to filibuster against the anti-lynching bill makes one doubt the good faith of the Administration of the Democratic Party in wanting to pass that bill. What is the Administration trying to do—get the favor of the Negroes by saying that it wants the bill and keep the favor of Southern Democrats by taking no action to stop a disgraceful filibuster?

There are no longer any arguments being given against the bill. A few Democrats simply go on raving about states' rights, the destruction of the Democratic Party, etc.—most of it utter nonsense. No one is proposing to send carpet baggers into the South by supporting the obviously just proposal that the federal government must at least seek to give protection of its citizens against the hideous crime of lynching and thus remove one of the worst blots upon our American democracy.

Yank Imperialism Menace To World Peace and Liberty

By GUS TYLER

The third great "democracy"—to whom the war-for-democracy believers turn—is the United States. America appears to be, geographically at least, an isolated state, a democracy with no angry neighbors. If America goes to war it will be in defense of ideals and not just national ambitions.

There is little in America's past to justify such a belief. And there is even less in its present.

For decades, America continued to expand by a merciless war against defenseless Indians. Treaties were signed to be torn up, when the white settlers needed new land.

The Mexican war was a ruthless and savage assault upon an innocent and defenseless people in order to make a land-grab.

The Spanish-American War was a thoroughly unjustified invasion of Spanish territories to quench the thirst of American imperialism for possessions outside the mainland.

The constant landing of marines in Latin America with their interference in elections and local revolutions and counter-revolutions was a prolongation of that policy of gentle marauding, of peaceful penetration, which has characterized the growth of the American Empire.

EXPLOIT THOUSANDS

The World War—a war fought, as President Wilson finally indicated—for "commercial and economic rivalries" did not put a stop to this continued development of the American empire. The process went on. So that America is now not the peaceful isolationist some see in it but the greatest financial invader in the world, exploiting thousands of people around the world for American capitalism.

From 1922 to 1929, Wall Street began to export capital at the rate of one billion dollars a year.

Close to fifteen and one half billion dollars was sunk by American capital into foreign investments by the end of 1929.

The world wide crisis, beginning in 1929, did not seriously change this tendency.

"The experience of the early 1930's taught us one lesson," writes the historian Louis Hacker. "That even in a period of sharp crisis foreign holdings were not seriously jeopardized if they were controlled directly. What, therefore, was going to be the characteristic pattern of American imperialism in the immediate future?"

"It was not difficult to predict that it would be the extension of political control over backward areas, to assure the security of our stake overseas and to permit the uninterrupted flow of interest and profits from plantations, mines, railroads and utilities and from branch factories in South America the Caribbean, Africa and the Far East." (The United States, A Graphic History, pg. 158.)

EXPLOIT COLONIAL MASSES

Roosevelt's "good-neighbor" policy has not abolished American imperialism. The "good neighbor" policy, like Britain's new federated commonwealth, is an attempt to exploit the oppressed countries—without the latter's own consent.

This policy of carving the backward nations into Charlie Macarthys for the U. S. requires a neatly arranged tactic of brute force lacquered over with fine phrases. This policy requires the creation of "puppet regimes," which appear to the outside world to be free agents, but which in reality are made to dance at the ends of strings held by the great American empire.

Thus, the United States appears, on first glance, to be quite liberal in its treatment of Cuba: giving it freedom after holding it under direct American control for many years. Thus it appears. But, on further investigation one finds that the present blood-thirsty regime of Colonel Fulgencio Batista rests upon American aid, intervention, and support.

Then there is the apparently noble attitude of Roosevelt to the Philippines. Freedom is offered to the islands within a decade. Meanwhile, however American generals are sent to the Philippines, to create an army out of the natives—with the object of holding the islands against Japan.

PAN-AMERICAN CONFERENCE

The recent Pan-American Conference was a most shameless attempt to convert the Western Hemisphere into the most private sphere of U. S. financial and trade influence.

In the name of "peace," Cordell Hull proposed that in the event of a European War, the Western Hemisphere shall sever trade and financial connections with Europe. This proposal was made to South American countries which have a heavy trade with Europe. Should the proposal have been carried, this trade would immediately have begun to swing into the orbit of Wall Street, in the event of a war.

Moreover since it is dangerous suddenly to cut off well established trade and financial agreements, the South American countries would have been compelled even in advance of a European war to shift their lines of business in the direction of Wall Street.

At this Pan-American conference, Roosevelt hailed the great republics of Latin America. He referred to himself and Getulio Vargas, the Hitler of Brazil, as the founders of the New Deal in the Western Hemisphere. He hob-nobbed with, he praised, he joined in common fraternity with half-dozen Latin-American dictators. Just as Britain has been ready to back Hitler (when he served imperialism,) and just as France has been ready to play around with Mussolini, or King Carol (when it served imperialism,) so Roosevelt was and is ready to reinforce the influence of the Mussolinis and Hitlers of Latin America (when it serves American imperialism.)

100,000 Represented At Chicago Labor Party Conference

BY ARTHUR G. McDOWELL

CHICAGO, Ill. — The Labor Party of Chicago and Cook County, largest section of the Illinois Labor Party, held its largest convention here last Sunday with 192 official delegates from 84 organizations, representing 100,000 workers, present and voting.

The largest number of organizations were trade unions including the Joint Board of the International Ladies Garment Workers and Millinery Workers and locals of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers representing the majority of the needle trades, the Pocketbook and Leather novelty workers and important locals of Rubber Workers, Machinists, Carpenters, Furniture Workers and Painters.

The union delegates were fairly evenly divided between A. F. of L. and the C. I. O. with the A. F. of L. slightly in the majority. George A. Meade a Chicago division grievance chairman of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen was elected chairman of the convention. He was elected permanent county chairman of the Party for the coming year replacing D. McVey of the Lathers' Union.

Other Groups Attend

Other important sections of the delegates came from the Illinois Workers Alliance and fraternal organizations like the Workmen's Sick and Death Benefit Society, S. N. P. J. and Workmen's Circle, Jewish National Alliance and Poale Zion. Communist Party forces in the trade union movement (no political parties were seated as such) threw their influence against support of the Labor Party in pursuance of the present Communist policy of concentrating their forces on Labor's Non-Partisan League in order to bind that organization tightly to Roosevelt, the Democratic Party and the Roosevelt anti-Japanese diplomatic and naval policy.

Role of C. P.

The Communist Party forces in the Labor Party convention representing organizations which they do not control (the Fur Workers Union which is in their grip did not send delegates breaking its custom of three years standing) attempted to protect Roosevelt's war preparation program by moving thru H. Lawrence, Daily Worker writer, to strike out of the convention anti-war resolution the endorsement of the Ludlow War Referendum amendment.

They went so far as to charge that the Ludlow amendment was put forth by German Nazis in the United States. The convention indignantly voted down this amendment and its slandering supporters by 123 to 59, only known Communists and a fringe of New Deal sympathetic intellectuals led by Ira Latimer, Chicago Civil Liberties Secretary and college teachers union delegates, supporting this war mongering move.

Support Auto Workers

The convention then emphatically went on record for the four point program recently adopted by the Auto Workers Union; support of the labor consumers boycott of Japanese goods, support of the Ludlow-La Follette amendment, withdrawal of armed forces from China and public opposition to the Roosevelt naval building and militarization program. Congratulations were expressed to President Green of the A. F. of L., the Steel Workers Organizing Committee, the Auto Workers and the National Farmers

Union for their adoption of a similar program.

Negotiate With L. N. P. L.

The convention endorsed a policy of concentrating Labor Party efforts this election on a state wide ticket to get legal standing and on certain selected legislative district contests. After reports of informal consultations of Labor Party representatives with officials of Labor's Non-Partisan League which held a Cook County Conference preliminary to a convention the Saturday before the Labor Party Convention and of about equal size, the convention recommended that the state nominating convention of the Labor Party be held after the April primaries in which the League would have a free hand to see what it could do with its policy of working in the old parties.

Joint Action

There will be official backing from Labor's Non-Partisan for some Labor Party candidates in the fall election according to present indications. The Cook County convention, largest since the foundation of the Labor Party in 1935 indicates encouraging support for independent political action of Labor thru the Illinois Labor Party

Socialists in the machinists, clothing workers and Workers Alliance and other unions have taken an active part in supporting the Illinois Labor Party according to the policy of the Socialist Party of cooperating in every genuine and clear cut move towards independent labor political action.

Debs Column Man Communication Chief Of Lincoln Brigade

CHICAGO.—When the world press recorded the hurling of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade, American section of the International Brigade to aid Republican Spain, into the breach at Teruel, members of the James Connally Club in Chicago met to celebrate the excellent results of the work for loyalist Spain of one outstanding member of that heroic brigade, a member of their club of Irish revolutionaries.

Joseph Patrick R——, one of the expert military men sent to Spain with the aid of the Socialist sponsored Debs Column early in the conflict is now in charge of communications for the entire Abraham Lincoln Brigade, having gained his valuable experience in the Canadian Army and in the struggle for Irish freedom as a member of the Old I.R.A. The work of these highly skilled radical workers like R—— is part of the story of the building of the Spanish Republican Army to the place where it could undertake the skillful offensive against rebel held Teruel and shake the confidence of all Fascists on the peninsula.

Good For Whom?

"The reason the U. S. magazines and newspapers are by and large the best in the world is that U. S. businessmen spend enough money on the advertising to pay a good part of the expense of publishing the quality of the magazine to which the U. S. public is accustomed.—Editor of "Time."

Under Fire



William Green, President of the A. F. of L. and a member of the miners' union, who faces treason charges at the U. M. W. convention for his attacks against the C. I. O.

Socialist Indicted By Kentucky Court

LEXINGTON, Ky. — Frank Kwaliek, Lexington Socialist and business agent of Local 779 of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, and 12 other defendants are to be tried here this month on "banding and confederating" charges arising out a drivers' strike last October.

The statute under which the men were indicted, and which carries a penalty of one to five years for violations, was passed more than 30 years ago and was intended to apply to "night-riders." Since that time it has been extensively used by labor-hating employers to prosecute workers who have the temerity to strike. Under the Kentucky law, almost any picketing may be construed as "banding and confederating" for the purpose of intimidating others.

Senator Shipstead on Roosevelt's Talk

CHICAGO — Enthusiasm for the Roosevelt "collective security, quarantine aggressors and build our navy" program enunciated in the famous October Chicago speech was not shared by such a conservative New Deal Farmer-Laborite as Henrik Shipstead of Minnesota according to a story from Washington.

Shipstead, shown the President's speech before its delivery and asked for his reaction replied that he wished the President would not make the speech. When asked why, he simply said that "It sounds too much like Woodrow Wilson."

ON BARGER LAKE Camp Three Arrows

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NEW YORK CITY

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STYLE

We Ain't Gonna Go

By JUDAH DROB
National Educational Director, Y. P. S. L.

Workers can't be very smart. If they were they might be able to understand how the Soviet Union was able to sell oil to the Italian Navy. Especially when that Navy was helping defend Rome in Ethiopia. And when it was blockading the coast of Loyalist Spain and sinking ships carrying supplies to the anti-fascist fighters.

The workers that I know are shocked. They are awfully dumb. They think that the workers' state shouldn't carry on business with fascists under any circumstances. They are hurt when Russia helps those who are assassinating liberty, destroying workers' organizations, enslaving whole peoples.

Workers really should be required to go to college. Then they would learn all about dialectics and negations of negations that make these things understandable.

Bacon On Knowledge

Bacon said (as you'd have learned in college), "A little knowledge is a dangerous thing." That's the case with workers who just know how to read but can't understand what it's all about.

On their way to the bus which takes them home after work they are handed a leaflet. They see a pathetic picture on the outside page—a ship sinking under the terrific bombing of a fleet of airplanes. The survivors are drowning. The bombs keep pouring down even after the ship is on its way to the bottom. The caption spread all over the picture reads, "Japanese planes dropped bombs on American ships." The dumb fellows say to each other, "That ought to teach ships to stay away from places where they get in dunch." They don't understand at all.

The inner page is decorated with a caricature of a Japanese who looks very ferocious and warlike. He reminds the moronic toilers of the Boche they used to see on posters during the last war.

The leaflet starts, "In Chinese waters an American boat, the Panay is cruising peacefully on its errand of mercy for American refugees." Somebody read it out loud and was greeted by a loud guffaw.

"I saw the movies of that business," said one of the men, "seemed to me the most important thing that boat was doing there was guarding some Standard Oil tankers."

Written By Standard Oil?

"Maybe this leaflet was written by somebody who's a friend of Standard Oil." This was said by a man whose I. Q. is reported to be around the freezing point-32.

The next lines were all in capital letters, introduced by an especially large "suddenly . . ."

Imitating a radio news commentator one of the youngster fellows read, "An eyewitness talking 'without warning a trio of Japanese bombers dived at the American ships unloosing their terrible burden of high explosives. All hands rushed for cover but the bombs rained on them like a hailstorm and fires burst out on the American vessels'."

"Sounds like Willie Hearst to me. I hear he hates Japs."

"Might be those American Legion guys who tried to bust up our strike. They always worry about American ships."

"Me, I'll mind my own business. Let Rockefeller worry about his boats."

"Ignorant, unpatriotic louts! They are unfit to be called men."

"The next day black bordered telegrams were received by American mothers and wives."

Thick and Greasy

"Boy they're pouring it on thick," said the idiot who read this aloud.

"Those sailor boys must have thought they signed up for the duration . . . of the peace."

Workers have a cunning which shows how close they are to things primitive. They began to look at each other with wry smiles on their faces.

"This must have been written by someone who wants to get us to fight the Japs."

"They won't get me. I had enough in the last war. They'll never drag me to the next."

"Look at the way it quotes the President," shouted one of the boys. "This is by one of the big navy boys."

"President Roosevelt in his famous Chicago speech answered that question." . . .

" . . . of how to get us into war . . ." Heckling wretch.

"President Roosevelt knows'."

"Just how to do it . . ." You'd stand by and watch the Japs rape your mother, you traitor.

"He correctly diagnosed the malady . . ."

"Sure, he's dosing us with a few extra battleships."

"Yeah," was the last remark on the subject, "It sure sounds like this was written by a stooge for the plague on both our houses."

They all dropped the subject at that point. They never read far enough to discover that the leaflet had been distributed by the Young Communist League to advertise a broadcast by Gil Green, National Chairman of the Y. C. L. and a Lenin-Liebknecht-Luxemburg Anti-war Memorial Meeting.

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BUILDING SOCIALISM

BY ROY BURT,

Nat'l. Sec'y. Socialist Party,
U. S. A.

Note: In the Jan. 15 report under this column we meant to say that Comrade Gus Patterson was elected State Secretary of the Party, not the Workers Alliance.

OHIO

Sandusky reports the organization of a new branch which is being chartered this week. The Executive Secretary will speak at a meeting under the auspices of this new branch, Feb. 6.

Walbridge, Wood County, has a branch which will be chartered this week. The State Office has outlined the following schedule for State Secretary Meagley: Feb. 6—Toledo and Sandusky; Feb. 7—Cleveland; Feb. 8—Akron; Feb. 9—Kent and Massillon; Feb. 10—Columbus; Feb. 11—Yellow Springs; Feb. 12—Dayton.

The "Ohio Socialist" is now being issued under the editorship of the S. E. C. members of Cleveland.

TEXAS

Local Houston sponsored a string quartette last week for the benefit of the Norman Thomas Home for Spanish Children and a labor play entitled "Ninety-Seven Cents" which was presented at a mass meeting of the ILGWU. Approximately \$15 was raised for the Thomas Home at a concert which was arranged by Comrade I. Wadler, a violinist with the Houston symphony orchestra.

Organizer Lambert recently returned from a three week trip over the South during which time he covered centers of labor activity, and talked with a large number of Southern labor leaders. He will report on his trip at the regular bi-weekly meeting of the local, Sun., Jan. 23.

CONNECTICUT

Connecticut S. P. Executive Committee met at Hartford, Jan. 9. W. E. Davis presided. The SOCIALIST CALL quota assigned by the National Office was accepted. It was voted to hold a State Convention of the Party Feb. 20. Comrade San Baron will tour the state—dates have already been arranged for Bridgeport, Hartford and New Haven.

Devere Allen, N. E. C. member, will take part in a debate at the New Haven Forum on Sunday, Jan. 30. His opponent is John DeWilde. Subject: "Sanctions or Neutrality?"

The next meeting of the S.E.C. will be held in New Haven, Jan. 30, 2 P. M.

WISCONSIN

The two broadcasts sponsored by the Party over WIBU, Poyette, and WSMP, Milwaukee, are progressing nicely.

Glenn Turner, over WIBU said: "The city of Milwaukee un-

der Mayor Dan Hoan on the day before Christmas gave the taxpayers of Milwaukee a present of \$600,000 from the profits derived by the water plant owned by the city. Milwaukee has the lowest water rate in the state. Most newspapers will not give this story much space but you will find it in the 'Milwaukee Leader', the greatest Socialist daily newspaper in the U. S."

Edwin Kapp and State Secretary Frank Zeigler spoke at the open meeting of the Racine local, Jan. 24.

The Madison branch held a meeting Jan 10. It was decided to bring Norman Thomas to Madison, Feb. 23. Chas. Rubin reports that a circle of the Young Socialists is being formed on the campus.

Comrades near Milwaukee should try to attend the minstrel show and hard time dance scheduled for Friday, Jan. 28, at the Bahn Frei Hall, N. 12th and W. North Ave.

At the county meeting of Milwaukee, Emil Meyer was elected county Chairman, Eugene Johnson, vice-chairman, and Mrs. Aug. Neitzel, E. Knappe, Fred Wolfer, Michael Katzban and Rudy Beyer were elected to the executive board.

Peter Wartianen of Massachusetts is organizing for the Young Socialists in the Lake Shore district.

THOMAS DATES

Milwaukee, Feb. 21; Kenosha, Feb. 22; Madison, Feb. 23; Chicago, debate with Paul Douglas, Feb. 24.

BURT DATES

L. I. D. Circuit: Subject—"Putting the Constitution to Work". Flint, Jan. 26; Pontiac, Jan. 27; Detroit, Jan. 28. (Comrade Burt spoke at Detroit and Lansing, Jan. 23 and 24.)

Alliance Group Gives Party

NEW YORK—The Progressive Group in the Workers' Alliance in N. Y. C. is taking time off from its campaign to re-commit the W. A. to a militant policy of struggle for the unemployed and to put an end to expulsions and suspensions in the W. A. to give a party.

The proceeds of the "time off" will be well spent to carry out a program to convince the mass of members of the W. A. in the city that they are facing serious times when they will have to fight for the bare right to exist and that in that struggle they cannot afford to put their trust in any liberal capitalist politicians.

Portland Depends on CIO Weekly for News

PORTLAND, Ore.—The CIO "Labor Newdealer" was the only source of news for the people of this city during the strike of typographical workers which halted publication of all daily newspapers. Its six pages were devoted principally to national and foreign labor news.

Attention Chicago!

Norman Thomas, National Chairman of the Socialist Party, will debate Paul Douglas, Professor, Chicago University, in Chicago, February 24 on the subject of collective security as an instrument to maintain world peace. Norman Thomas will speak against Collective Security.

Place and exact time will be announced later. Watch the CALL or contact any section of the Socialist Party in Chicago.



COMING EVENTS

SOCIALISTS TO FETE BARNIE RILEY

Socialists from all parts of New York City will be present at a dinner to be tendered to B. J. Riley by the Socialist Party branch of the 18th Assembly District of Kings. "Barnie" as he is known to the comrades, has been in the Socialist movement for forty years. Back in the 1890s, he joined the S. L. P. and at the formation of the Socialist Party, he joined later to become one of the most active and leading spirits in Kings County. For more than 25 years he has served either as chairman or Treasurer of the Kings County Committee.

The dinner to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the formation of the branch will be held at party headquarters, 267 Schenectady Ave. on Saturday Evening, February 12th at 8 P. M. Already more than fifty subscriptions at \$0.75 per plate have been reserved to fill a hall with a capacity of less than 80 seats.

Sam A. De Witt, former Socialist Assemblyman will be a guest speaker who has just returned from Europe for the evening. Comrade De Witt will speak on "Dark Clouds Over Europe". Reservations are still being accepted and are to be sent to Jesse Gross, Chairman of Arrangements Committee, 234 Rochester Avenue, Brooklyn, New York.

Plan Meeting For Congressman Ludlow

NEW YORK—A large city-wide anti-war meeting is being planned for Congressman Ludlow, Senator Schwelienbeck and others, early in February, at the New York Hippodrome, arranged by the Provisional Committee to Keep US Out of War.

In conjunction with this a button has been ordered which will be ready during the week, which says "Keep US Out of War."

Branches in New York are running a series of local anti-war meetings throughout the city and picketing of stores selling Japanese goods is proceeding everywhere.

Garment Workers Plan Union Sanatorium

NEW YORK.—Tuberculosis, once the scourge of the garment workers in the days when sweatshops flourished unchecked, is again on the increase throughout the country, President David Dubinsky of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, said in announcing plans for the immediate construction of a sanatorium in Duarte, Cal., to be built with union funds.

The large increase in the membership of the union in recent years, he said, helped make the project possible. Contracts have been let for the building of a nine-wing hospital, eight units of which will be used for bed patients, and the ninth for medical, dietetic and nursing services.

The sanatorium will be dedicated as a memorial to Morris Hillquit, labor lawyer and publicist, who was himself a victim of tuberculosis. He played an active part in the union's affairs for many years.

New York YPSL Play NEW YORK CITY.—The Bronx section of the Young People's Socialist League, New York district, is holding a theatre party on Friday evening, March 18, to "One Third of a Nation," a production of The Living Newspaper of the Federal Theatre.

The play, which has received extremely favorable reviews in the New York press, deals with the housing problem in the United States. Tickets may be obtained from the district office of the league, 11 West 17th street, and from members of the Bronx Section Council. The tickets are priced at 55, 40 and 25 cents.

6% Relief

HOUSTON, Tex.—A "six percent" solution for unemployment seems to be in prospect here. The recent Federal census reveals 15,234 jobless here; the city government proposes to put 1,000 idle to work. In addition, there are 7,214 part-time workers.

BUILDING THE CALL

FORWARD TOWARDS 10,000 NEW SUBSCRIBERS!

Good news this week. Rhode Island has gone over the top in the drive. Kentucky followed suit.

Over in the cotton country of Arkansas, 70-year old Comrade McCoy of Jonesboro walks from three to four miles every Sunday distributing copies of the SOCIALIST CALL.

At Staunton, Ill., old Jim Crorkin sent a dollar for advance payment on bundle orders of the CALL.

Comrade Rankin of Portsmouth, Ohio, has already remitted a dollar for each week the CALL has been published in Chicago. "The least I can do for the movement," he writes, "is to send at least one sub every week."

In Cook county another old timer sends \$5.00 for a special order which is to be distributed by younger folks.

Response to the BUILD THE CALL DRIVE is most encouraging. The National Action Committee has decided to make 1938 a banner year for building the Socialist press. TEN THOUSAND NEW SUBSCRIBERS is not just a slogan. It is to be the basis for a program of Party activity.

From now until April 1, the subscription rate will be \$1 a year.

Prepaid subscription cards are now available. Order a batch of them and sell them to your friends and fellow workers.

Special rates on bundle orders run as low as 1c a copy for 500 or more.

Every local and branch should receive a bundle order each week for general distribution.

To put the CALL over the top with energy and enthusiasm and to make it self-sustaining it means that every branch, local, member and reader must work.

The five states which lead in the subscription drive are:

1. Pennsylvania.
2. Illinois.
3. Wisconsin.
4. New York.
5. California.

Chicago Comrades Greet Formation of New S. P. Branch

CHICAGO, Ill. — The Jewish section of the Socialist Party is celebrating the organization of a new Douglas Park branch with a banquet which will be held Sunday, January 30, at 2700 Division street.

Comrade Jacob Pat of the Polish Bund and Comrade Gerry Allard will greet the assembled guests. Proceeds of the banquet will go to the SOCIALIST CALL and SOCIALIST SHTIMME.

Report on the Build the Call Drive to Jan. 20

Ala.	\$ 5.00	—
Ariz.	5.00	—
Ark.	5.00	—
Calif.	50.00	—
Colo.	25.00	—
Conn.	50.00	7.70
Del.	5.00	—
Wash.	15.00	—
Fla.	5.00	—
Ida.	5.00	—
Ill.	150.00	33.55
Ind.	40.00	4.50
Ia.	5.00	—
Iowa.	25.00	—
Ky.	10.00	10.00
La.	5.00	—
Mo.	10.00	—
Md.	52.00	—
Mich.	150.00	25.00
Minn.	10.00	—
Mo.	50.00	—
Mont.	5.00	—
Neb.	5.00	—
N. J.	5.00	—
N. M.	5.00	—
N. Y.	1,000.00	115.00
N. C.	5.00	—
Ohio	75.00	11.00
Okla.	5.00	1.00
Ore.	15.00	—
Pa.	300.00	25.00
R. I.	20.00	20.00
S. D.	5.00	—
Tenn.	10.00	—
Texas	15.00	3.00
Utah	5.00	—
Vt.	5.00	—
Va.	5.00	—
Wash.	25.00	—
W. Va.	5.00	—
Wisc.	700.00	—
Wyo.	5.00	—
Total		255.75

CICERO YOUTH MEETING

A meeting of young people of Cicero, Ill., interested in the Socialist movement will be held at the Jonas Hall, 5510 W. 25th St. on Thursday, Feb. 3, at 8 P. M.

An Important Pamphlet!

"WHY THE C. I. O."

By ALFRED BAKER LEWIS

A 28-page pamphlet which explains the development of the C. I. O. An effective answer to reactionaries and "fair weather" friends who seek to discredit the greatest social force of our times.

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MANHATTAN

VILLAGE BRANCH meets every Thurs. night at 107 MacDougal St. Ellen Loeb, Sec'y, 345 West 13th St. Open meeting every Thursday.

GERMAN BRANCH. Meets second Tuesday of each month, Yorkville Labor Temple, 243 E. 84th St. G. Hoffman, Organizer.

CHELSEA BRANCH. Meets every Wed. at 301 W. 29th St. Victorio Hikim, Sec'y.

BRONX

5TH A.D. Meets every Wed. 7 West Burnside Ave. Harold Reisman, Sec'y.

DETROIT

BRANCH ONE meets every Wednesday, 8 P. M., 1110 West Warren.

CHICAGO

ENTRAL BRANCH, Chicago and Cook county: Open meeting first Thursday of each month; business meeting second Thursday at 549 Randolph St., 4th fl.

CHICAGO WEST SIDE YPSL Circle—Tuesday at 8:30, 3108 Douglas Blvd. Marxism classes same place Sundays at 11:30 a. m.

Why I Favor A War Referendum

By A. F. WHITNEY, PRES.
Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen

I am in favor of the Ludlow War Referendum because I implicitly believe in effective world leadership for peace and democracy. There is no act of government that more vitally concerns the welfare and the very lives of its subjects than that of declaring war. Why should not the principles of democracy be applied to anything which so vitally affects the welfare of the people? The Ludlow amendment would deter warlike nations. As it is now, war is the product of connivance of war lords and over-ambitious statesmen, brought about through secret communications and understandings.

By HOMER MARTIN, PRES.
United Automobile Workers of America

I say it is important and necessary that the La Follette-Ludlow amendment become a part of the Constitution of the United States. I doubt if it will make a bit of difference in the world what I say, but I am going to have the pleasure of saying it to relieve my conscience and secondly to put it on record; that they can lock me up in jail if they want to—as they did Eugene Victor Debs when he told them in 1917 that they were fighting a Standard Oil Co. battle—but as far as I can influence the policies and sentiment and forces of the United Automobile Workers, we are not going to fight capitalism's wars.

By EUGENE VICTOR DEBS
Socialist Leader of Anti-War Forces In 1917-18

I have read some history. I know that it is the ruling classes that make war upon one another, and not the people. In all the history of this world the people have never yet declared a war. Not one, I do not believe that really civilized nations would murder one another. I would refuse to kill a human being on my own account. Why should I at the command of any one else or at the command of any power on earth? I love the people of this country—but I don't hate the people of any country on earth. I believe in internationalism.

BY NORMAN THOMAS,
CHAIRMAN
Socialist Party of the United States

Our power to keep America out of war would be strengthened by the Ludlow amendment . . . it will make the task to declare war harder. The basis of a sure and glorious peace is a federation of co-operative commonwealths. Neither peace nor prosperity is consistent with the perpetuation of the rule on the one hand of the profit system and on the other of absolute nationalism. It is the co-operation for this new basis of world organization which is the co-operation vital for peace.

AUTO UNION MAPS PLANS FOR JOBLESS

By BEN FISCHER

DETROIT, Mich. — The General Executive Board of the United Automobile Workers of America ended a very significant session here this week.

The outstanding accomplishments to date are found in two resolutions—one on war and one on the economic situation. The resolution on war, though rather confused on such questions as defense of American shores and the attitude which labor should take toward "aggressor" nations, nevertheless does outline a four-point program which indicates that the U. A. W. A. will play an important role in the anti-war struggle which is taking form throughout America.

Homer Martin, president of the U. A. W. A., has made plain his intentions of making activity against war a major point in the program of the union. Steps are already being taken along these lines.

Unemployed Program

The resolution on unemployment, adopted unanimously, outlines a five-point anti-depression program:

1. Against Wage Cuts.
2. For Lower Cost of Living.
3. For Adequate Relief.
4. For A Federal Low Cost Housing Program.
5. Funds for Relief and Housing Instead of Armaments.

It also calls upon unions to strengthen relief machinery and to carry on such activities as would improve the relief situation.

Profiteering

The resolution charges profiteering with responsibility for the depression. It also points out that the reduction in government spending, primarily in relief allotments, helped to bring on the depression. Industrialists are charged with an attempt to use the depression against progressive legislation and to weaken the power of the organized labor movement.

A Backward Step

The anti-democratic ban on local union papers was reiterated by the board meeting. The powerful West Side local in Detroit, whose president is Walter Reuther, was ordered to suspend publication of its weekly paper, the "West Side Conveyor." Most of the other local papers have been given up already.

The Communist Party officials campaigned for some weeks to do away with local papers, even though the Unity Causus, which

is labelled Communist by its opponents, had taken a stand for the retention of such papers. An effort to ban local papers had been specifically rejected by the International convention in August.

Though some of the administration forces were not in agreement with this ban, they went along with it and failed to join the Unity forces in fighting against it.

Forced to Comply

The union's executive board was faced with a demand by General Motors that it be given power to discipline union members responsible for what it considers "unauthorized strike action." Under the circumstances, the union was forced to comply with this demand. The failure of the union to take steps against the entire G. M. offensive against the union when the economic situation was more favorable made it impossible now to do anything but grant the company this power.

Since the "unauthorized strike" proposal had been distinctly rejected along with the rest of the contract proposed at the G. M. conference of local delegates in November, Unity leaders wanted the proposal to be submitted to another session of the G. M. conference. The conference had voted for another session within 60 days anyway. But this conference has not been called.

No one questioned the power of the board to take action; what was questioned was the practice of making such a guarantee to the company without the specific sanction of the directly elected representatives of the membership.

Wire Lewis

The following telegram was sent to Lewis with unanimous approval of the board:

"The International Executive Board of the U. A. W. A., in executive session today reaffirmed their unwavering support of and loyalty to the Committee for Industrial Organization. The automobile workers of the nation realize that industrial unionism is the only basis for organization in the automobile industry and the other mass production industries and reiterate their faith in the program of the Committee for Industrial Organization for organizing and maintaining organization within the mass production industries of America."

French Popular Front Deserts Working Class

(Continued from page 3)

on the volcano in deep contemplation of its navel. Some employers decided to have a little fun at Blum's expense: Pierre Thiriez, President of the Textile Industry, challenged Blum to socialize the industry, or—to show more energy in evicting the stay-in strikers. (Times, 9/15/36.) The government, of course, replied Vincent Auriol for the Cabinet, "never will seek to overturn the present social order." (A. P. 9/16/36.) And so the gendarmes got to work.

In Tours, they prevented building trades strikes from "pulling" down workers at the military airfield. (A. P., 9/20/36.) The police "forcibly ejected strikers from a chocolate factory they had occupied." (Times, 10/9/36.) One week later, the government announced that it would "prevent a month old sailors' strike from cutting off necessary supplies." The government would move supplies. (A. P., 10/16/36.) At Tourcoing, workers were driven from factories with fire hoses, "while gendarmes looked on." (Times, 9/27/36.)

Blum Break Strikes

On November 1, Blum showed some real energy. He "called out troops to haul coal to strike-besieged factories at Raubaud and Tourcoing as a walkout of coal transporters compelled several plants to close. The Ministry of War assigned 150 soldiers to aid local authorities in loading and driving the trucks." (A. P., 11/1/36.) One week later, the government banned the singing of the "International" in the navy; sailors to be given a prison sentence for the crime. (Times, 11/7/36.)

The government—and the capitalists—now sat more easily. The situation was "in hand." But the workers were restless. From June to November, retail prices had risen 11%. (A. P., 11/14/36.) And, to cheer the capitalists up, Charles Spinasse, Minister of National Economy, reported that the "end of the upward trend was not yet in sight."

(Continued next week.)

Laborite Elected Mayor

WINNIPEG, Man., Canada.—John Queen, Co-operative Commonwealth Federation member of the Manitoba legislature, was elected mayor of Winnipeg on the Independent Labor Party ticket by a majority of over 10,000. All labor aldermen were re-elected. The new council comprises 11 non-labor and seven labor aldermen.

21 YEARS AGO



Tom Mooney, shown with his wife and mother during the 1916 trial in which he was framed by open shop utility interests for his union activities. His old Irish mother died hoping for her son's release, but his wife, Rena, is still waiting.

Cuban Fascists Use U. S. Free Mail

CHICAGO. — Trade associations in Chicago, and doubtless elsewhere, have received by mail from the Cuban embassy in Washington the New York Herald-Tribune fake news section of Sunday, November 21, 1937, entitled "Cuba Today—Land of Peace and Progress." This section of the Herald-Tribune was actually paid advertising but disguised as news. It was full of propaganda for the present fascist regime in Cuba. The large envelope inclosing the bulky mailing was stamped "Consular Mail FREE" and in the corner the stamp "Embajada De Cuba, Washington, D. C." The postmark was Dec., but the day was smudged.

Infantile Paralysis

Increased By 100%

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Infantile paralysis increased by nearly a 100 per cent in 1937, accord-

Anti-Nazi Worker Released On Bond

NEW YORK—Paul List, 37, wounded veteran of the International Brigade facing deportation to Hitler Germany, has been released from Ellis Island on a \$1,000 bail bond, it was announced recently by the American Committee for Protection of Foreign Born.

The Labor Department ordered List deported to Germany, where he faces death as an anti-Nazi, and the American Committee for Protection of Foreign Born appealed his case to the Federal District Court, which sustained the Labor Department. His case was taken next to the Federal Circuit Court of Appeals, where it is now pending. The Circuit Court set his bail at \$1,000.

ing to a partial report recently made to the nation by the U. S. Public Health Service. There were 8,171 victims reported in 1937, as compared with 4,407 afflictions in 1936.

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