She Was ‘Soul of the Workers’

By ART SHIELDS

“Gone is the soul of our movement,” said the soul of our movement,” said an old worker told me as we come from America, shipyards many years ago. My friend was a saloon fisherman then. But he had walked through life's construction camps. And almost everywhere he went there was a battle for a union, and often a battle to free the worker. He never ceased in every strike. And in almost every strike, I heard the voice of Elizabeth Gurley Flym

I've met hundreds of Elizabeth Gurley Flynn's rank and file friends in the East as well as the West. I've met them in the mining camps of Western Pennsylvania, in the north towns of New England, and the great ports of New York. And everywhere they love her as their sister.

And today—this August Sunday—our Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, in the workers' columns, is 65. And this year marks down in the calendar of Labor, for the life story of Elizabeth Gurley Flynn is in part of the history of the American class struggle.

"I was 50 years ago next Jan. 31 since Elizabeth made her first la houme in St. New York, or a girl of 15. She had developed into a family that was extra-or dinary stimulating. Her father, Tom Flynn, who I came to know well, was one of the founders of the Irish Social Federation here, and a brilliant champion of the American workmen and the people of Erin. And, wise, kindly, another—Gurley Flynn—a native of Ireland and a distant cousin of James' of the same name.

From her mother Elizabeth got her love for the people, the most precious possession a Com munist can have. And it is no wonder as a round of workers, workers and wives and kids, they are her folk, and she is their. And I've never heard her complain about any group of rank and file workers, either in public or private speech, since I first saw her in Paterson, N. J., long ago.

That day I could never forget. It came in the midst of the great strike of 1919. Several thousand workers from a dozen nationalities were rebelling under the banner against foul shop con ditions. The cops were chasing and killing. There were hundreds of arrests and Elizabeth herself was facing a long prison term.

But the fight went on, and the dynamic leadership of Big Bill Haywood, the great western minister, and Elizabeth and Carlo Tresca, an Italian-language speaker, I was able to arrive one Sunday when the two were away on fund-raising trips. And the biggest outdoor meeting I had yet seen was under way in the Socialist club of Halt-

Elizabeth Gurley Flynn in 1906, organizer for the I.W.W.

Four Years Ago He Said: "The U.S. Is Not Germany!"

So wrote the warning of the grave dangers which the United States holds for our workers. "We Communists say even at this late hour that World War I is not inevitable, and that the United States must not repeat the tragedy of Hitler Germany. We say that the United States is not Germany. We Communists are the only one to be achieved. But it is not enough merely to ignore the fact. We work to destroy it systematically."

The Editors

...In the struggle, our re sistance is on the same plane as the resistance of the American workers. But our strength is in the workers, the workers. They are the strongest force in the world. They are the greatest force in the world. They are the greatest force in the world. They are the greatest force in the world. They are the greatest force in the world. They are the greatest force in the world. They are the greatest force in the world. They are the greatest force in the world. They are the greatest force in the world. They are the greatest force in the world. They are the greatest force in the world. They are the greatest force in the world. They are the greatest force in the world. They are the greatest force in the world. They are the greatest force in the world. They are the greatest force in the world. They are the greatest force in the world. They are the greatest force in the world. They are the greatest force in the world. They are the greatest force in the world. They are the greats
In his annual message to Congress, on January 4, 1934, President Roosevelt formulated the freedoms for which the democratic forces of the world were fighting against fascists. We produce here excerpts from that speech:

* "A MEN do not live by bread alone, they do not fight by annihilation. These, when men are our enemies, and these behind them who build our defenses, must have the stamina and courage which come from an unshakable belief in the message of life which they are defending. This mighty action which we were calling for cannot be based on a disregard of all things worth fighting for.

The nation takes great satisfaction and much strength from the things which have been done to make its people conscious of their individual stake in the preservation of democratic life in America. These things have strengthened the fibers of our people, have raised their ideals, and strengthened their devotion to the institutions we make necessary to protect.

For there is nothing mystical about the foundations of a healthy and strong democracy. The basic things expected by our people of their political and economic system are simple. They are:

1. Equality of opportunity for men and for others.
2. Jobs for those who can work.
4. The ending of special privileges for the few.
5. The preservation of civil liberties for all.
6. The enjoyment of the fruits of scientific progress in a world and constantly rising standard of living.

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

These are the simple, basic things that must never be lost sight of in the turmoil and uncomfortable congruency of our modern world. The inner and outer strength of our people and our whole democratic world can be built only on the solid foundation of these simple principles.

We in this country, have been one of the most successful examples of American capitalism. Elizabeth, took an active part in the defense of Sacrco and Vanze, and Sculls, and the Scotch women, the Rosennbergs and many more. I can hardly believe that any of us would ever be able to forget the housing crisis which has caused such stress. We are now beginning to see the fruits of our efforts to make the future a better one for the millions of Americans who live in this land.

As we look to our future, we must remember that the road ahead is not easy. It will require courage, vision and dedication on the part of all Americans. But we have come a long way in the fight for freedom. Let us continue to work together for the benefit of our country and the world.

Ours is a time of challenges and opportunities. We must be ready to meet these challenges and seize these opportunities. The future belongs to the brave and the strong.

During her half-century of work and struggle in the labor movement, Elizabeth Flynn has devoted her many activities, has all ways paid close attention to the defense of political liberties during the dark days of the Nazi regime. As a result, she has been exiled and now lives in safety in England. Elizabeth Flynn's opposition to the dictatorial regime has been recognized in many countries. She has been honored with many awards, and her name is a symbol of courage and determination.

Elizabeth Curley Flynn and Tom Moscow

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Nelson's book, just published, is one of those that can be chosen to go along with a sub. The others include Harvey Mayer's "False Witness"; Meridel Levison's "Crusaders"; Walter Lamberts' "Sons of Liberty"; Arturo Vergara's "The Red Moon Bull"; and Virginia Gardner's "Rosebery Story."

Meridel Levison's "Crusaders," also just off the press, is a fine example of what the Daily Worker can mean to its organizers of the middle west. Written in her usual beautiful style, it gives a complete picture of the crusade against the class struggle for the next move in the class struggle.

Lamberts, who, as a young man, has been acclaimed as one of the finest poesy turned out by a contemporary American, Lamberts is a critic and an active supporter of workers' defense.

The others on the list are too well-known to need further description. See special blank

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