

JAKE SPOLANSKY FALLS INTO DAILY WORKER'S TRAP WITH HIS SILLY WALL ST. BLAST STORY

By MANUEL GOMEZ.

Because of a certain unallocated \$500,000, which it was believed bankers could be scared into handing over to the detective agencies for investigation of "reds," the lives of 30 people were sacrificed and upwards of 200 were injured, on Sept. 16, 1920, in a terrific bomb explosion, one of the most powerful blasts in police history. The explosion occurred in Wall Street, New York, between the U. S. assay office and the home of J. P. Morgan & Co.

The professional Burns and Thiel "body-snatchers," with their hired gangs of dicks, flinks and stool-pigeons, got the \$500,000, and several hundred thousand more. Three-fourths of all the detectives in the country, both public and private, were employed on the case for many months.

Of course "clues" were reported every day and "leads" were turned up in unnumbered thousands. But no one was ever brought to trial, or even indicted.

Blast Still Is Mystery.

Officially the Wall Street bomb explosion is still a mystery. The only thing the department of justice professes to know about it—after all its arrests and bustle of activity—is that it was the work of "reds." This was the explanation adopted by the authorities at the beginning.

It was the theory the private detective agencies wanted it to adopt. It was the theory that served the purposes of ex-Attorney-General Palmer. It was the theory that loosened up those Wall Street dollars.

Now the Labor Defense Council, which is co-operating with the DAILY WORKER in the publication of the present series of articles, has been gathering information on the Wall Street bomb explosion for some time. This information explains why the affair remains such a perplexing "mystery" to the government "red" hunters.

It also shows up the latest fraud of that amusing villain, Jake Spolansky, published in yesterday's issue of the Chicago Daily News. As a matter of fact, Spolansky has fallen into a DAILY WORKER trap. Ever since the beginning of his stories in the News, the DAILY WORKER has been waiting for him to touch upon the Wall Street explosion, and thus give us the most favorable opportunity for contrasting his lies with the real truth concerning this gigantic attempt at frame-up.

The Sleuths Were Away

The explosion occurred at a time when the force of dicks usually on duty in the financial district was at its lowest ebb (a circumstance which radicals could not possibly know, but which must have been well known to everyone in the detective service). J. Pierpont Morgan, for whom the bomb might have been presumed to be intended, was sojourning in Europe. His partner, Thomas Cochrane had left town for a few days. The late Henry F. Davison, another member of the firm, was not in the building.

No "red" conspiracy has been discovered in connection with the affair because there was no "red" conspiracy. It was a detective conspiracy, and the bomb was planted by an employe of the biggest private detective agency in the country.

Profitable employment for detectives was needed. Immediately following the explosion, the New York Times printed testimony by Frank Francisco, one of the investigators for the department of justice, in which he "called attention to the fact that the explosion occurred just one day after the 'Red Squad' of the department was disbanded." "This squad," continued the Times reporter, "had been active in running down bomb plots since early in the war and the last 40 members were taken from the work yesterday, Mr. Francisco said."

Tells of Rail Strike.

The origin of the affair takes us back to the great railroad strike of the previous year. A slush fund of \$2,500,000 had been raised by prominent bankers interested in transportation, for the purpose of breaking the strike, not too much being said about the means to be used. More than \$500,000 of this was still untouched when the strike collapsed. It re-

WINTER OF HOWLING BLIZZARDS, SNOW AND SLEET ON THE WAY

WASHINGTON, Oct. 22.—The United States is due for the heaviest winter in years if the well-known "law of averages" works out.

In spite of the assertion of the United States weather bureau that long distance forecasting is impossible with the present knowledge of meteorology, officials admitted today that an old-fashioned winter is overdue.

Not since 1917 has the country suffered a really bitter cold spell, according to the records. Following that season there were comparatively mild winters which indicate that December, January and February will be a grand polar celebration.

Heavy snow, howling blizzards, plenty of sleet and biting cold waves—these are a few pleasures in store for the country this winter, if the unofficial predictions come true.

mained in the hands of Kuhn, Loeb & Co., who held it in trust for the joint bankers' committee.

Through activities in connection with the strike, William J. Burns, the prosperous super-dick, knew of the existence of that \$500,000. It disturbed him. He could not rest for thinking about it. And slowly the thought began to dawn upon him that if Wall Street could be scared sufficiently, the bankers, with a ready fund at hand, would be eager and willing to spend their money for the purpose would also fall in, he figured, with the policy of the department of justice, which was at that time whooping up sentiment for its "red raids."

The whole thing finally took shape as a scheme involving Burns, Thiel and several other important detective agencies. The stakes were big and there was room for all.

Information in support of this was presented to the Illustrated Daily News, of New York early in 1921, by Albert Balanow (alias Bailin), ex-federal dick and Thiel operative—the same Balanow who testified to detective agency frauds at the time of the Michigan Communist trials, in which Foster, Ruthenberg and their comrades were defended by the Labor Defense Council. The Illustrated News declared it considered that "the accusations of Balanow are of sufficient importance to warrant a thorough investigation by official representatives of the public and of the government."

According to the information given to the Illustrated News, Balanow was informed of a possible Wall Street bomb the day before the explosion. On September 15, 1920, a detective agency manager told him to go to Milwaukee and make a report from that point in writing to the New York chief of police. He was to explain that he had met a Russian by the name of Lechovitsky, an agent of the Soviet Government in this country, and that the latter told him he was here to cause bomb explosions and create outrages. He was further to report that Lechovitsky told him that at a certain meeting of radicals in New York city plans were completed to place a bomb in Wall Street and to cause an explosion there.

"Balanow gives what he declares is the street number where the alleged fictitious meeting was supposed to have taken place," continues the Illustrated News, "and a list of men of Russian origin who were supposed to have been present at the meeting. He declares this meeting was fiction and the man Lechovitsky also a fictitious character. That the purpose of the announcement to the police chief was to cause publicity and to stir up the country that detectives might be employed."

Scramble for Wall Street's Gold.

In the scramble for Wall Street money that followed, department of justice operatives did not scruple to play the game of the detective agencies. There is plenty of evidence of a mutual understanding all around.

The Labor Defense Council is in possession of a facsimile letter, on the stationery of the Thiel Detective Service Co., in which T. J. Cooney, then manager of the "radical department" of the agency, writes to one of his men in Chicago, as follows: "Please note copy of the attached letter to Mr. Seib. I met Mr. Seib

through Mr. Sculley of the department of justice in New York. Seib is now in the Intelligence Department and advised me that certain bankers in New York have suggested an investigation of the radical movement.

"I believe it would be advisable for you to see Mr. Seib and have a talk with him. Don't tell him too much, but give him enough information to convince him that this service could handle the investigation at New York better than anyone else. You might telephone him and make an appointment, or if you cannot find his telephone number, drop him a note, and tell him to advise you how you can get in touch with him. Simply sign it No. 81 and do not give him your name or address. You might give him a phony name to write you under.

"Please let me know the result of your interview with him."

Here we have proof of double-dealing on the part of government agents Seib and Sculley, who have on the face of it, already taken the first step toward using their positions for private gain.

The copy of the letter to Seib, referred to in the communication printed above, is also in the hands of the Labor Defense Council. It is marked "private," and extracts from it are given below:

"I do not expect to be in St. Paul for sometime to come, but if you or some of your connections expect to be in that vicinity soon, please let me know, and I will give you a note to Mr. Baldwin, our St. Paul manager. . . Should you succeed in lining up the Radical work you mentioned, I am inclined to believe that an organization such as ours, could handle it better than any other organization, as we are in touch with the situation and have men whom we can depend upon. An arrangement could be made to handle it for so much per day per operative. The rate per day would be ten dollars and expenses. Should the man in New York communicate with you, he will do so by saying, he is No. 81."

During all this time, our friend Jake Spolansky, recently graduated exposé of the "reds," was in government employ, and selling government information regularly to the Thiel agency at the somewhat startling rate of \$25 a day. Jake has always had a keen eye for the shekels.

Spolansky's Latest Explanation.

Now Spolansky comes out with the "only reliable solution of the Wall Street bomb," which is revealed in the Chicago Daily News "for the first time." His story is simply that some "red" did the job, but the "red" has not yet turned up, although one of his "accomplices" is already under arrest—only the accomplice does not know it. Neither does anyone else, we might add.

Some disinterested parties have endeavored to explain the Wall Street blast as an accident, due to the explosion of a powder wagon. But this story appears to the Labor Defense Council to be as without foundation as Spolansky's assertion that "anarchist-communist" (!) bomb-throwers attended the Bridgeman convention of the Communist Party in 1922. Powder wagons do not parade up and down Wall Street and explode in front of J. P. Morgan & Co.'s offices.

Binghamton, N. Y. Comrades Report Many Achievements

(Special to the Daily Worker)

BINGHAMTON, N. Y., Oct. 22.—The language branches here, the Czechoslovak, Ukrainian, Russian and Lithuanian report progress in their campaign for organizing the unorganized.

The Lithuanian branch has mobilized its entire membership for red mobilization week. Each member contributed 50c to campaign literature for distribution. Other language branches are following up the work begun by the Lithuanian comrades. The Lithuanian branch has also donated \$10 to the party's campaign fund. To the party's call for industrial registration our members responded one hundred per cent. Comrade Sullivan, organizer of District 4, reported at our last meeting.

There is a splendid field for work among the Polish and Italian workers which the City Central Committee is taking the initiative in drawing into the party fold. Two new branches, one Polish and one Italian will soon be organized here.

PLENTY OF TRANSIT PROFITS ARE S

Mayor Dever's subway building plan contains the following proposals:

A subway in Clark street, from extending west in Chicago avenue to O to Jefferson street.

An "L" line on Milwaukee avenue with the subway.

An "L" line in Blue Island avenue, connecting with the subway at Jefferson street.

Numerous later extensions of the "L" line.

Construction of initial part of system with the city's \$40,000,000 traction fund.

The Insult Plan.

Forty miles of extensions to the present "L" system. Would have city build subway under downtown district and if it does not desire to do this the "L" company offers to do it.

LUTHERANS HAD BETTER HURRY OR THEY WON'T BE NEEDED IN CHINA

Lutheran delegates representing 1,382,903 members of 5,353 united Lutheran churches thruout the United States assembled here today for their biennial settlement of problems of creed and conduct in conformity with the 39 theses of Martin Luther which were nailed to the church door at Wittenburg 400 years ago.

The questions before the convention, range from the proposal to buy an entire mission field in China to the contemplated banning of moving picture theatre organs in churches and the employment or "jazz" organists to operate them. The attitude of the church on pacifism, on the younger generation and on specific church conduct also will be set forth.