Fate Of Spain Depends On International Workers' Action

Workers Of The World

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SATURDAY, DEC. 5, 1936 V harf Rats - - - By Carlo

Real Issue At Tampa

Ultra - Conservative Stand Showed Craft Union Impotence

The fifty-sixth annual conven tion of the American Federation of Labor closed at Tampa without were almost completely ignored although thirty times the number of workers actually represented at the convention remain unorgan ized. Last day resolutions dealt petty legislative reforms which are the Executive Council' substitute for militant labor action Ultra-Conservative

Even on legislative matters th tone of the convention was ultra conservative. Proposals for constitutional amendment or congressional action to curb the Supreme Court was turned down and the whole matter buried by referring it to the Executive Council. The thirty-hour week campaign was damned with faint praise and is likely to be completely shelved in line with the do-nothing policy of present leaders.

In spite of unanimous condemnation of the King-Conner-Ramsay rame-up by the California State rederation of Labor the A. F'. of by referring the case to the Ex-

The C. I. O. emerges from the onvention stronger than ever. An- and shotguns are patrolling the nouncement of a weekly newspaper, increased organization mented by ranchers armed with work and early prospect of affiliation of the powerful typographical union were chief C. L.O. picketing. developments of the week.

As on all other issues, the Tampa convention dared not take Union and Phillipine, Mexican, a definite stand by either expel- Japanese and native American ling or reinstating the C. I. O. un workers are working together on ions. The reason in this case is that either action means an end, to the sinecures of Green, Woll of "the boys" is that the steel be forgotten in an effort to break made and all go back to work organization drive will fail and the strike. The reason for this is that, out of the defeat of thou-that agriculture is California's bigsands of workers, Lewis can be gest money maker and the entire brought in line and the good old financial ruling class has concen-

A.F.L. Evades "Split Strike" Is New Maneuver Of Shipowners

> Scheme for Partial Settlement Is Scheme To Undermine Morale and Cut Down Mass Strength of Picket Lines

The fifth week of the Maritime strike has been marked by continued efforts of reactionary officials of the I.L.A. and I.S.U. to break the strike on the east coast and by new maneuvers of the ship-owners in San Francisco to undermine the solidarity of the strikers by partial agreements to bring about a "split strike" with one part of the and I.E.U. to break the strike on the east coast and by

Armed Deputies And

Pickhandle Squads

Patrol District

The strike is under the direc

Boss Violence

the strike committee,

Joseph P. Ryan, president of the Ban Pickets In .L.A., continued to act as strike breaker-in-chief for the shipown rs, but help came to the east Celery Strike coast strikers from a new source when French dock workers re-At Stockton fused to unload American ships which had been loaded on Ryan's

The main strategy of the west has been to smash the unions piece-meal according to the motto: 'Divide and Conquer." First they offered a separate settlement to STOCKTON, Calif.—"Keep those the Longshoremen, hoping thereby pickets out of here," ordered Sher- to isolate and crush the sea-faring iff Harvey Odell in the latest of unions and then deal with the California's many agricultural con- I.L.A. later. The solidarity action flicts. More than two thousand of the longshoremen balked this

"SPLIT STRIKE" STRATEGEM Now, it appears clear, that er owners which would put part of the seamen back on the ships while others walk the picket line. The purpose of this maneuver is

smash the strike. Although even the capitalist From all indications the strikers the craft union soft spots. The wel- or "untoward incidents," the en- are aware of the danger of these fare and future of American labor tire area bristles with employers' moves and are strong for the idea played no part in the decision. As armaments. Just as in Orange of sticking together and standing a matter of fact the last dim hope County and Salinas every law will pat until a general settlement is

> DANGER OF "SPLIT STRIKE" A "split strike" which would give the outward appearance of a partial victory would in the present situation be calculated to represent the opposite in actuality. The strength of the workers on strike is in their numbers, their solidarity and mass strength. As

long as the strikers hold solid and united on the picket line, and no ships move, the strike is effective and the morale of the strikers un-The bosses are counting on a partial settlement, putting some

flat-footed for the ship-owners and of the strikers back to work, to tiations with the Steam Schooner owners to submit all proposals for ratification to the general strike committee of the Federation indicates that the "split strike" strategem will not work.

Tobacco Pays More Dividends Than Wages

The rapid mechanization of the tobacco industry during the present century has been accomplished by an increase of over 100 per cent in the proportion of unskilled workers and an influx of women workers. Most of the time since 1899 real wages have remained below the level for that

The American Federation of Labor's attitude toward the unionization of unskilled workers as well as the powerful opposition of the tobacco trust has contributed

In this mechanized industry mere subsistence wages are being paid while the productivity of labor has been many times multiplied. More than \$1,500 per work er over the average earnings of \$600 has been paid in dividends

Noted Publicists Form Committee To Defend Trotsky

Norman Thomas and Nation Editors On Body to Fight for Right of Asylum For Famous Revolutionist

NEW YORK.—The American Committee for the Defense of Leon Trotsky has been organized to help obtain for Trotsky his rights of asylum and to aid in the formation of an International Commission of Inquiry to examine all the avaliable evidence in connection with the Moscow

The following statement has been issued by the Com-

mittee of which Norman Thomas, John Dewey, Freda Kirchwey, Suzanna La Follette, Devere Allen, Edmund Wilson, Louis Adamic, Prof. E. A. Ross of Wisc. University, Joseph Wood Krutch, H. M. Kallen, James T. Farrell, Prof Wm. H. Kilpatrick of Columbia U., Max Eastman, Sidney Hook, Inez Haynes Irwin, James Rorty Prof. Paul F. Brissenden, Vincent R. Dunne, John Chamberlain, Benjamin Stolberg, Louis Hacker, are among the members

A Prisoner in Norway "The Norwegian Government Trotsky to prosecute his libel suit against the Norwegian Communist and sky has been a virtual prisoner of the Norwegian police. Police guard him night and day; his mail order not only deprives him of road the last remnants of his democratic rights of asylum-but closes means of anexoring the

series of persecutions against Trotsky in recent months from diverse quarters. On August 5th a band of fascist invaded Trot- Labor Hater "Advisor" sky's home at Honefoss on the pretext of discovering incriminating evidence of illegal activities. Soon after came the Kamenev-Zinoviev trial at Moscow and the charge that Trotsky, in collusion with Hitler's Gestapo, had plotted sioner Landick in charge of ocean policies which made the old Buthe assassination of leading Soviet

Strange United Front

to be completely false and contradicted by all the ideas and actions of his forty years in the revolutionary movement. He stated his readiness to appear before an independent commission and present his refutation of the charges.

"Submitting to the pressure of a note from the Soviet Foreign Office on one hand and the campaign of the Norwegian Fascist press on the other-both demanding Trotsky's expulsion from the country-the Norwegian Government replied by interning Trotsky and placing him under his present prison regime

"Trotsky filed a suit for libel against his accusers of the Communist and Fascist press as the one means left open to him of presenting his case to the world. He has retained M. Puntervold, one of the most eminent of Norwegian advocates as counsel.

Demands Right of Asylum 'The American Committee for the Defense of Trotsky protests tion of the Guild as a collective against this outrageous violation of democratic rights by the Norwegian Government and demands that the full rights of asylum be have been established for the edirestored to Trotsky. The most | torial staff and reporters-also elementary notions of justice for the photographers. dictate that this world-famous revolutionist should be given the fullest and freest opportunity to state his case."

The Committee is preparing a pamphlet for publication-a compilation of world liberal and labor opinion on the trial entitled, "Voices on the Moscow Trial."

It will hold a mass meeting on Friday evening, December 18, the date on which Trotsky's term of Board indicates the prospect that asylum expires, at Center Hotel the cases will continue to remain (formerly Hotel Delano) 108 W. there. 43 St. Suzanne La Follette will be chairman and Norman Thomas one of the principal speakers.

the committee can be sent to its | ployees of long standing. The disoffice at Room 921, 22 E. 17th St., missal was obviously intended as will not pay the rent or source.

Frame Striker In Texas

HOUSTON, Texas-Lester C. L. Lord, militant leader of striking seamen in Texas ports has been framed on a charge of "robbery by assault" in this city.

Select Jury In Frameup Trial of King

Anti-Labor Prejudice And Press Hysteria Shown In Case

A jury of six men and six wom en has been selected for the trial of Earl King, E. G. Ramsay, Frank This action is J. Conner, and George Wallace. framed on a charge of murdering

The anti-labor prejudice of the Judge and the press hysteria in these parts indicate that the ultra is censored; he is deprived of all reactionaries would like to make secretarial assistance. This latest of this case another Mooney rail-

Earl King is secretary and the other three defendants are memgrave accusations made against ion. The State Federation of Labor and almost every labor body in the State has condemned the charges as a false and vicious effort to discredit and attack the maritime organizations

To Maritime Commission

WASHINGTON, D. C.-General mail contracts and subsidies.

"Trotsky declared these charges reau under Secretary of Commerce plenty to say in the policies of the

Of Siege; French Labor Aids order number four of the Maritime ing in mail contracts. His ap-Commission appoints James Craig pointment indicates that the new Peacock as advisor to Commis-commission will follow the same reau one of the worst in Washing Peacock was the director of ton. It seems that Roper's Dethe notorious Shipping Board Bu-partment of Commerce will have

Roper. He was constantly under "independent" Maritime Commisfire for the graft and racketeer- sion. Settlement Ends Strike Of Seattle Newspaper Guild

The strike of the Seattle News-stepped in to aid the Newspaper paper Guild against the Post-In- Guild at the very beginning of sive and renewal of the campaign telligencer has been settled and Hearst has announced the appointment of John Boettinger, son-inlaw of President Roosevelt, as the future publisher of the Seattle

The P-I's resuming publication s the culmination of a long and hard-fought battle between the Newspaper Guild of Seattle and the Hearst interests. In many circles it is considered a victory for the Guild despite the official claim from San Simeon that "this in no way involves the recognibargaining power for the major part of the employees." Never the less minimum wage standards

DISCHARGED WORKERS VICTIMIZED

The entire staff is returning to work, with the exception of the two members of the Guild whose dismissal for "incompetancy and insubordination" precipitated the strike. Their cases are still resting with the Labor Relations Board. Past experience with this

Members of the Guild struck the P-I several weeks ago as a if the day laborers of the Fourth result of the dismissal of two Estate are gradually waking up Contributions for the work of members, both competent em- to the fact that the "glory" and a terroristic attack on the Guild. clothes. But there is a tip for all in Spain. Several threats were made pre- workers in the fact that the Seviously to the effect that mem attle strike inspired the San bership in the Guild would auto- Francisco papers—The Chronicle matically cause dismissal.

LABOR SOLIDARITY

the strike. Mayor Dore of Seattle, for political reasons, saw fit to take an active part in the strike and to rise to the defense of the Newspaper Guild and it's striking membership. The Seattle Labor Council placed the P-I on the "unfair

list. Among the developments of the strike was the reactionary attitude of the so-called "liberal papers" such as the Scripps-Howard chain, including the San Francisco News. The keynote sounded by these champions of the "people" was not to settle the strike on reasonable terms but "what right has anyone to stop a paper from being published?" There were many cries raised about the freedom of the press and all that tommy-rot. The "pro-labor" papers saw at a glance that their basic interests lay with the filthy and despicable Hearst and not with the strikers.

BAD LUCK FOR BOSSES

of a newspaper a living wage. And "romance" 'of the newspaper game and News-to sign an agreement

Situation Remains Precarious As German And Italian Recognition of Fascists Makes Issue International

Spain's proletarian armies more than held their own as the siege of Madrid drew to the close of its fourth week. The lines around Madrid held the fascists at bay, while flank and rear attacks on fascist lines forced Franco to divert to endangered points more and more of the troops previously facing Madrid. After months of unexplained passivity on the Biscay sector, since San Sebastian

was surrendered intact to the xfascists, a large-scale offensive has finally opened against the fascist Socialists forces in this area. This offenon the Aragon front forestalled Franco attempts to bring up additional troops against Madrid. SITUATION STILL PRECARIOUS

Spain's Proletarian Armies

Hold Madrid In Fourth Week

But Madrid remains situated precariously. For four weeks its only connection with Valencia and Barcelona has been a single motor highway over which all supplies tion of women and children is proceeding at a snail's pace because the single highway must be On the few occasions in the last uperiority in aircraft.

The real fate of Madrid and all

conviction that Hitler and Mussolini's recognition of Franco's regime has committed them ir-Germany and Japan, with Italy as \$38,000. silent partner, is a decisive step in preparing for open intervention

DIPLOMATIC MANEUVERS (Continued on page 2) To Organize Aid To Spain

MINNEAPOLIS. - Minneapolis Socialists have proposed to the National Executive committee of cause it was reported to be a must come. Hunger stalks through the Socialist Party the setting up Madrid's tenements, and evacua of an organization which will fur-This organization, tentatively

used mainly for military purposes. called the Friends of the Spanish Workers, would aid their Spanish two weeks when weather per brothers by shipments of arms, mitted planes to go aloft, it was money and other necessities, by seen that the fascists still hold agitating for mass working class support of the Spanish working class, by presenting the issues of Spain, however, will be settled this war to American workers who on the international arena. All are woefully hazy on this subject but in a crisis is nowhere to be serious observers concur in the and by rendering to the Spanish workers any other aid possible.

GROUND WORK LAID Pending the setting up of this revocably to a fascist victory in organization nationally, Minneapo-Spain. Fascist Italy and Germany lis Socialists have laid the ground It is unfortunate indeed to force are moving with caution at the work for setting up a local branch. slave driving, labor-hating editors moment, first testing the relation It is expected that the Minneapoto grant decent conditions for the of forces in Europe to determine lis branch will serve as a model members of the staff. It is doubly how speedily they can come to for future organizations. It will unfortunate to have to pay those Franco's aid, but their shipments be a broad membership organizaemployees who are the very life to Franco continue. Confidential tion, patterned closely on the pilots. The military pact between raising in this area alone over

tion of any organization set up to fused them. a'd the Spanish Loyalists, considering any aid better than none, we French and British diplomatic hold that organizations which pri- flagrant propaganda of the other advertisers distribute their antireactions, to Hitler and Mussolini's marily are of a petty bourgeois papers that the 40,000 workers labor propaganda.—And all in the recognition of Franco and to the character, whose prime concern is are stubbornly forcing the innowith the local Guild. To make Japanese pact have demonstrated the defense of Spanish (capitalist) cent "public" to a Christmas with-It is to the eternal credit of employers, including publishers, to the hilt the contentions of democracy, are not sufficient to out cheer. The News instead takes this 1936 festival of merchants— is popular with legislators but the the longshoremen, loggers, team- listen to reason the strike is the revolutionary Socialists that the enable the Spanish workers to up the cry of the "Gloomy Yule" the ghost of a fear that "there conquer their enemies.

days of craft union defeatism re-trated in the fight to prevent organization in the fields. Choosing The "Lesser Evil" Of The Capitalist Dailies

By CRARY TRIMBLE Choosing "lesser evils" seems to be a characteristic American pastime. Selecting that capitalist sions when the "least worst" is the only choice.

A newcomer to San Francisco, this victim chose the News, be-"liberal" paper and because it carried the beacon light of the Scripps-Howard chain which was degree of honesty in presenting

Defining the "Liberal"

Numerous vain attempts have been made to define the "liberal." One of the best efforts so far describes him as "one who sits on the fence and spits on both sides, found." Change this only a little, and we have the prostitute press which "in a crisis goes to bed with the advertisers."

Witness the News-a liberal paper which sings a daily hymn for "peace on the waterfront." Their

and sheds crocodile tears over the ain't gonna be no Santy Claus." all Americans are suckers.

"killing of Santa Claus." Pious Like Anything

rag which will give the least unwilling to side with the work create the effect of a break in the poisonous misinterpretation of the ers, the liberal press is forced to ranks. The stand of all the unions day's news is one of those occa- take the middle course which in a which have been conducting negocrisis inevitably amounts to hypo-

Not satisfied with piosity, and perhaps a little afraid the public may not get the point, the liberal News goes in for jingoism in the best Hearst manner. The bug-aboo that rarely fails is dangled once reputed to represent a fair before the reader: "The foreign lines are scooping the cream of the passenger trade." (And our advertisers, dear reader, don't like skimmed milk.)

Poisoned Ink To unload columns of propa ganda that can do nothing but poison the minds of the public against the demands of the mari-

time workers is expected of the Hearst press. Such propaganda is the more dangerous when it drips off the pen of a snivelingly selfrighteous servant of the "peepul' -the liberal press. Deliberate hypocrisy has a con-

sistency which is its own be-'peace" propaganda expresses trayal. A paper with a liberal more concern for the pocketbooks reputation is accepted as gospel to the failure of an effective orof the Christmas-trade vultures by the faithful followers of lib- ganization. than for the welfare of the work- eralism . . . confusion and betrayal alike are swallowed with holy sources confirm reports that Ger- Friends of Soviet Russia which tion—let alone emphasize—the intelligent people and causes them it is nothing short of a calamity many is shipping not only arms gave such splendid service in the fact that union representatives to examine the issues for thembut hundreds of artillerymen and early period of the Russian crisis, have offered various peace pro- selves; where the Los Angeles posals, some of them actually Times furnishes comic relief with yielding concessions to the ship- its apoplectic hysteria on all la- during the worst part of the de-While Socialists hail the formal owners who have repeatedly re bor issues, the News—with its pression. sweetness and light formula -At no time does the "liberal" dishes out opiates, and acets as News attempt to counteract the the medium through which the

name of Christmas!

celery workers are involved in the strategem. strike in the Terminus district. The entire district is barricaded and three hundred deputies armed with tear gas and riot guns, rifles the "liberal" news, weep and wail about the strike and beat the highways. The guard is suppledrums for a settlement, an effort pickhandles. Even an airplane is used to prevent the workers from

tion of the Agricultural Workers obvious: to undermine the morale of the strikers and pave the way

for an onslaught in 1934 style to

impaired.

year.

Idaho Sales Tax Beaten

BOISE, Idaho-The state sales tax went down to overwhelming defeat in a referendum vote of general vote indicates that not

L. A. Socialists Build In Action

LOS ANGELES. - Over seven arity with the strikers. For exmonths have passed since that ample in Harbor City close to San memorable day in April of this Pedro members of the ILA and year when three thousand agri- the Shipyard workers union joincultural workers struck in Los ed on the picket line. Angeles County against the miserable wage of 20 cents an hour. ganization, the Non-Partisan La-That splendid struggle victorious in the gaining of union recognition tempted to dictate strike policy, tine workers in Florida were reand wage increases all along the secured capable legal defense for vealed in a graphic report to the line, set off a wave of agricultural arrested workers and raised such American Federation of Labor strikes that occurred first in mass support that in Los Angeles

north to Salinas. the scab-herding Red Squad fired men and their families. at unarmed workers' wives and CLASS STRUGGLE STRATEGY children. In Orange County the California Highway Patrol joined with vigilantes to tear-gas and terrorize striking workers' camps. In Salinas the forces of "Law" mobilized a vigilante citizen army whose purpose it was to coerce and intimidate the lettuce strikers. But on all fronts splendid fought against almost unbeliev, terms. As a result of this strike able odds—terror, vigilante and the powerful Japanese growers aspolice, and hunger.

L. A. STRIKE SUCCESSFUL In only one instance, however, serve in many respects as a model perience that the Socialist Party of strike technique. In the first place real support was obtained from the official trade union movement. Committees of these indeport. Many unions in addition and otherwise showed their solid-struggle.

Secondly an active defense orbor Defense, which at no time at-Orange County and then swept County over two hundred workers McCallister, socialist organizer in were freed. The NPLD supplied Florida. Brute terror was unleashed the bulk of relief during the weeks against the agricultural workers in of the strike: food stuffs, clothing can, head of the Jacksonville secall of these strikes. At the Battle and cash that helped to preserve tion of the National Association of Dominguez Hill, vigilantes and the excellent morale of the union

The strike strategy was built around a sound class struggle basis which above everything else contributed to the success of the strike in L. A. County. The "flying picket squads," made famous great advantage here. The scabs the shacks at night and listen in courage and militancy were shown were swept off the fields, and the on the part of the workers as they bosses compelled to come to

sociation was cracked wide open. One of the most significant factors in the strike was the emergin Los Angeles was the strike ence of the Socialist Party and waged successfully. Only there the Young People's Socialist were union men recognized and League as a militant organization wages increased. And only there engaged in mass work. From the was working-class militancy first days, young Socialists appearcoupled with correct leadership ed on the picket lines, raised cash which spells the difference be- and food relief, obtained publicity tween success and failure. The by means of a strike bulletin, Los Angeles strike of CUCOM slept, fought and went to jail with (Union of Mexican Agricultural the strikers and devised strike Workers), led by hard-hitting and strategy by suggestions and guidintelligent union progressives, can ance out of the accumulated ex-

represents. By working side by side the workers in their struggle, the Socialist Party gained immeasurably pendent striking unions (who are in the esteem and confidence of applying for AFL affiliation) ob- the unions. A number of the most tained substantial financial sup- militant members have joined the ranks of a party which has proven aided by exerting mass pressure itself in the test of the class

the Labor vote for Roosevelt. Sev-

tarian, purist and De Leonism, but

this point of view had little sup-

port from the bulk of the dele-

gates as it so clearly clashed with

all their recent experiences in

In the evening, a resolution on

the Farmer-Labor Party was

N.E.C. by Comrade Thurber,

Cuyahoga County Secretary, as a

Report On Organization

party more effective.

John Newton Thurber gave the

Comrade Thurber dealt at

which will work under a common

building up full time functionaries,

people who would devote all their

time to party work. He main-

A lengthy discussion followed

dealing with the many technical

and organizational problems of

ary State Convention and that the Ohio.

their various localities.

Ohio Active Socialists Meet In Conference at Cleveland

of the key Socialist members of issues were at stake. The speaker Ohio gathered in Cleveland on stated that R was therefore impos-Saturday, Nov. 14 at the Slovenian sible and absolutely unthinkable Auditorium for the Ohio Active for the Socialist Party to take the Workers Conference. Among the lead in the launching of a Labor delegates present were such well Party or a Farmer-Labor Party. known field workers as Meagley "If such a party is actually estaband Selander of the Toledo Work- lished," Cochran stated, "we can ers Alliance, Thurber and Dulleau then decide as a practical quesof Cleveland, Pollok and Preis of tion whether to affiliate with it American Federation of or not, based upon considerations Teachers, Raymond of the Cincin- of how we can best advance the nati Central Labor Union, Coch- interests of the workers and exran, General Organizer of the M.E.S.A., Widick, editor of the their ranks." United Rubber Worker, Salume A very spirited discussion folof the State Executive Committee lowed the report, with delegates the Workers Alliance and Comrade of the Workers Alliance and many from almost every part of the of the workers active in the vari-other comrades active in the vari-other comrades active in the various phases of the class struggle. gates related experiences from

The conference took on par- the field where local Farmer-Laticular significance, as it was held, bor Parties had been formed prior shortly after the Ohio state organization failed to get on the ballot in the recent elections and was, in a sense, an expression on the part of all leading Ohio Socialists that some fundamental changes in program, in ideas and in organization were necessary if the Socialist Party is to develop and advance.

The conference in every way has great significance for the Socialist Party nationally, if only for the fact that, it was held just prior to the New York meeting of the N.E.C., which will in adopted by the conference by a fully lead and organize the work augurate the pre-convention dis- vote of 35 to 3. This resolution ing class for the successful recussion period of the special con- is now being submitted to the vention.

Report On Farmer-Labor Party a report from Bert Cochran of of the Socialist Party on this and lead the working class Cleveland on Socialism and the vital issue. Farmer-Labor Party.

In his address, he pointed out that all the experiences of the post-war European period as well as all of the teachings of the Marxist classics point conclusively to the fact that only a revolutionary party can mobilize and lead the working class to the defeat of reaction and towards the establishment of a workers state; belonging to these organizations that a Labor or Farmer-Labor Party if established in America, discipline. He also emphasized the can by all practical considera- necessity in the Socialist Party of tions of American politics be nothing more than a national extension of the American Labor Party of New York and with tained we would thus be enabled ressentially the same program and to build a firmer structure, personnel; that such a party could greater cohesion and discipline not solve any of the basic needs and great devotion and sacrifice of the working class and was towards the achievement of our

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In Florida

Report to A.F.L. Convention Shows Virtual Slavery

A state of peonage and terrible exploitation of the Negro turpenconvention at Tampa by Frank and France are concerned.

McCallister and Dr. C. F. Dunfor the Advancement of Colored People, visited a camp at Mac-Clenny, thirty miles west of Jacksonville. November 15.

"Negroes Held in Slavery' Workers there "stated categorically that all the Negro people in this community were held in slavery. None is allowed to leave the in the drivers' strike and the tex- place. The owner has two stool tile general strike, were used to pigeons who . . . even slip under

on the conversation. "Any desire on the part of the inmates to escape is effectively thwarted. Men may suffer beatings, their lives may be threatened if they attempt to leave. By a system of camps which surround the community they are able to head off any fleeing slave

"The turpentine workers are forced to toil from day light until they can no longer see at night. They receive 50 cents to \$1. A very few receive as much as \$1.25

Commissary Racket

"They are forced to purchase their supplies at the commissary owned by Knabb. Prices at this commissary are almost double regular retail prices. For example, white bacon, which can be bought in Tampa stores for 15 cents per pound, costs 25 cents a pound in Knabb's commissary.

"Six pounds of plain flour cost to cents in the commissary and the same grade can be bought for 24 cents at the retail stores. When the wages of the turpentine workers are translated into purchasing power it is easy to see that many of them are working for 25 cents a day.

"One man spent \$2 outside of he commissary a little while back, and he was told that his pay would be held up until he pur-CLEVELAND.—About fifty-five | bound to betray them when vital chased all his goods at the commissary.'

> An informer reported the investigators' presence to the commissary clerk, whereupon, since they 'could see a small cluster of white men gathering," they left.

headquarters be located in Cleve-

Sunday was devoted to a deledo gave reports on the Unem-

the feeling that Ohio had in a with the peak WPA relief load of sense inaugurated the pre-convento the national elections and how tion discussion period—a period all of them had wound up their which should result in the necescareers by joining the Non-Partisary clarification to build te Sosan Labor League and corraling cialist Party into the revolutionary kota, Wisconsin, Michigan and Nevanguard of the American braska, with possibly even more eral delegates attacked the report workers. on the grounds that it was sec-

> Resolution On Farmer-Labor Party

The resolution of the conference on the Farmer-Labor Party fol-

WHEREAS, only a revolutionary Socialist Party can success sistance to the onslaughts of fascism and reaction and

WHEREAS, only a revolution-The conference was opened by recommendation for the position ary Socialist Party can mobilze towards the establishment of a workers state, and

WHEREAS, a Labor Party or report to the conference at the Farmer-Labor Party can by its second session on proposed or nature and every practical conganizational changes to make our sideration of American politics be nothing more than a reformist party and is therefore incapable length upon the necessity of of solving the fundamental probbuilding trade union and unem- lems facing the working class ployed committees of all comrades today;

> Therefore be it resolved that the Socialist Party, as a party cannot take the responsibility of launching a Labor or Farmer-Labor party and further

Be it Resolved that whether the Socialist Party, as a party, is to joint the Labor Party once it is formed or not to join such a sideration which can only be deactually formed.

Ohio state and the Socialist strong revolutionary party which, tained striking expression in the bers.

directed trade union and unem- ideas and program.

Negroes Held Spanish Workers In Peonage In Florida Still Hold Madrid

(Continued from Page 1)

ning to send some effective ma- develop into an irrepressible mass terial aid to Spain. Will such movement. aid continue and will it grow to proportions sufficient to make victory possible, is the question. MISDIRECTED APPEALS

The French Government declared to the Soviet Ambassador that Soviet shipments made eral conflict arose over Spain. munist Party to a policy of naional defense, proves to be worth- workers themselves. less at the first crisis. Nevertheless, the Communist press

Soviet and Spanish workers. be the mainstay of Madrid's de-

last weeks is the mounting import 'democratic" countries will not ance of arms smuggled into Spain aid anti-fascist Spain. Premier from France despite the Blum Caballero's attempts to bring be- Government's prohibitions. Govfore the League of Nations further ernment agents in Marseilles proof of Hitler and Mussolini's seized six trucks carrying not only armed intervention are being ammunition and machine guns but throttled by both France and also light field pieces. French Britain. Thus it is clear that military planes have disappeared Germany and Italy have a free from military airports. Thus it hand in Spain, so far as Britain appears that the revolutionary French workers, who are in the The big question mark in all majority in the arsenals and calculations is the attitude of munitions plants, are making Soviet Russia which undoubtedly wholesale raids which the Govhas changed its policy in the last ernment dare not publicize for few weeks to the extent of begin- fear that the arming of Spain will

Unfortunately this secret shipping of arms is not being bulwarked by the necessary open political campaign in support of it. is The Socialist Party supports oringing pressure to prevent this, Blum's neutrality policy while the Foreign Minister Delbos having Communist Party interprets the slogan, "Arms for Spain", as meaning a demand upon the Govthe U.S.S.R. responsible if a gen-ernment to lift its blockade. Only the smaller workers' organizations, Thus two years of nursing the chief among them being the P.O.I. Franco-Soviet pact, including the (Workers International Party) is subordination of the French Com- publicly campaigning for direct shipment of arms to Spain by the

COURSE OF SPANISH C.P. An alarming indication of the verywhere continues to make im- unprincipled lengths to which the passioned appeals to "democratic" Spanish Communist Party is precountries for aid against fascism, pared to go in its fight against instead of recognizing that only other proletarian parties is the the international working class is cable from Barcelona published in available as a real ally for the the November 26th issue of the American Daily Worker. Enraged International working class aid at the slogan of an All-Workers o Spain is growing steadily. The Government propagated by the international brigade, formed by P.O.U.M. (Workers Party of Marxrevolutionary workers from other ist Unification), and at that countries, continued this week to party's defense of Leon Trotsky and those executed in the recent fenses, with new contingents of Moscow trial, the Communist or stroy organized labor entirely. We gan in Barcelona, "Treball", is want to keep it on its knees connighly technically-trained revoluactually calling for the suppresstionists pouring across the bordfon of the P.O.U.M. press. At aims are being pursued in the FRENCH WORKERS SHIP ARMS the same time both Communist The most extraordinary develop- and P.O.U.M. ministers sit in the ment of international aid in the Catalonian government.

WPA Orders Farm Relief Cut Dec. 15th

ceiving the same rude awakening from their blissful trust that the the needy be cut off. American unemployed workers are

On December 15 an executive WPA order goes into effect smashseven northwestern states. Farmities. Comrade Meagley of To- Administration projects where follow. their pay will be cut to \$20 per ployed activities and our work in month. Because this latter administration has much less funds to Widick of Akron gave the trade operate with, it is expected that not over 60,000 for the "neediest" The conference adjourned with can be cared for, as compared 324.295 in this area.

Unemployed Bodies Protest The states involved are Minnesota, Iowa, North and South Dastates involved. Local unemployed

MINNEAPOLIS .- Farmers who | Workers Alliance and the Farmvoted for Roosevelt on the im- Holiday Association are protestplication-not the promise-that ing the order, which follows on the he was their "friend," and that heels of the U. S. Chamber of relief would NOT be cut are re- Commerce demand that all fedrai aid to the unemployed and Mass Demonstrations Planned

There is a prospect that many mass demonstrations will be held throughout the affected area to draw this order. The first demon-

who own no share in the statein general—is soon disappointed.

SEATTLE. - Union labor won organizations are waging a vigor- the fifth of five major strikes durous protest against this uncon- ing the last six months this week. scionable order, which will par- The victory which made the score ticularly affect the poorest farm- one hundred to nothing was won ers and the farm laborers. The by the Cracker and Confectionary Federal Section of Local 544, com- Workers' Union over the American posed of WPA workers in the Cracker Company, after a twenty-Twin Cities and the state, the three day strike.

Labor Dictators Too Raw For Enlightened Merchants

by certain officials of the International Seamen's Union, that "enpirates who hold that unless the American worker can be baming out for a purge from the type that can talk in the terms of sumers in the accepted sense. workers government" even while betrayal is perpetrated.

"Merchant's View"

revolution) are themselves cry-should prevail for costs if they are to eliminate the 'chiselers' unions of the old time sell-out whose prices are low, so low that artist and his replacement by the their workers are scarcely con-

In his column in the New York strife of labor regimes is discourened" capitalists to the social un- ready to praise. And the feeling cided when the Labor Party is rest of the country. "With the grows that the government must prospect that labor organization in the end have something to say The main energy must be will be accelerated in this coun- about assuring proper representa- must be won. The strikers' ranks

secretary be elected at the Janu- by a vote of 35 to 3, Cleveland, mary and ill-advised action. that union organization is in some port of every trade union man and "Not a few industrialists are in need of a 'housecleaning.'"

So disgusting has become the entire sympathy with the major brazen type of sell-out practised objectives since they have come to see that their markets depend upon suitable working standards," says Hughes using the old "liblightened" capitalists (commercial eral" argument that in order to preserve capitalism it is necessary to keep the workers satisfied. boozled through new and more "They are recognizing also that a skilfull ways there is danger of wage and working hour 'floor'

A Word for Democracy "To this body of enlightened ex- number more are coming up for ecutives, therefore, the present trial within a few days. The man-Times, entitled, "The Merchant's aging. They feel that the unions has been cited for "contempt" due Point of View," C. F. Hughes dis- should exercise some of the dem- to a radio broadcast on the strike party is purely a practical con-closes the awareness of "enlight- ocracy which they are always so situation.

L. A. Clothing Strike Still **Holds Firm**

Campaign of Persecution Fails to Break Workers Ranks

LOS ANGELES. - When the workers of Rosenblum, Inc., struck last August against the arbitrary discharge of two clothing cutters for holding membership in the Amalgamated Clothing Workers' Union, no one believed the strike would last longer than one week. All the skilled workers had left the shop. Production had stopped completely. An immediate settlement was expected.

But outside unexpected influences upset the unions' justified On the day Rosenblum, Inc., contacted the strike committee, proposing an election and promising no opposition if a majority will decide in favor of the union, the labor-hating outfit, known as the Merchants' and Manufacturers' Association, stepped into the breach. The firms vaunted promise was immediately withdrawn. Thereafter the strike against Rosenblum, Inc., assumed a much broader character. The issues became much more extensive. The strike moved out of its original, limited confines. Small as this strike is, in point of numbers, it is a symbol of the long and painful struggle between or-

ganized labor and the open shoppers of Los Angeles. "BREAK EVERY STRIKE" "Our efforts must be directed towards the breaking of every strike, large or small," a prominent official of the M. & M. Association stated recently. On another occasion the same official said: "We do not want to detinually engaged in struggle." Both import California products.

Rosenblum strike. The blame for the undue prolongation of this strike must be in getting subs and taking the big- which break over the week-end placed at the doors of the Mer- gest bundle order - and hand chants's and Manufacturers' As- a scallion to Los Angelse for their first mail Monday morning. sociation. Left alone, Rosenblum, poor showing in building a division Inc., would long ago have settled of ACTION ARMY sub chasers. with the union. Its financial re- (But they sure got the money in sources do not permit a long for the Foundation Fund.) drawn-out conflict. An abrupt curtailment of production should think you get the idea by now. have proved fatal to its business. The firm is engaged in the pro- in order to put Labor Action across duction of clothing on immediate delivery basis. The merchant must in the hands of the Socialist Party have delivery within a few days after placing the order-a condition peculiar to all fill-in markets, such as Los Angeles. With 85 per cent of the working staff out on strike prospects for union recognition were, indeed, very good.

PERSECUTION OF STRIKERS But the opportunity to drive an ing at over 100,000 farmers in force the government to with open-shop wedge into the men's clothing industry looked too altailed discussion of practical field ers on WPA farm relief projects, stration will be held at the state luring to the champions of "inwork, with emphasis upon our now receiving \$40-\$50 a month, WPA office in St. Paul tomorrow dustrial autocracy," the M. & M. ence and financial power of the Socialist warnings during the association was immediately placcampaign as to the danger of ed at the disposal of Rosenblum, farmers and workers trusting Inc. Buyers of Rosenblum gar-Roosevelt are thus being proved ments were "seen" and persuaded prophetic. Roosevelt is the execu- not to press for immediate detive officer of the capitalist state livery. The financial moguls reand the expectation that he ceived a hint to be lenient. The would act in the interest of those legal department of the M. & M. -24 legal stooges-offered its such as the workers and farmers services gratis. "Impartial" judges issued "temporary" restraining orders. Ordinary strike activity was made a violation of a city or menting" in the last four years. dinance, thus shifting the burden

of the taxpayers. Talking to scabs in a peaceful ion members were tried twice for the same offense. Police made hint of the bosses. Strikers were Armed "gorillas" were placed at high wages to skilled tailors. Professional scabs were imported from nearby cities and also from other states. The daily press, particularly the Los Angeles ing Workers' Union.

have already served prison sentences of five days each. Others have paid fines of 50 dollars. A ager of the union, Jack Blumberg,

STRIKERS' RANKS SOLID But in spite of all the difficulties the Rosenblum strike will and shifted towards the building of a upon social policies which obtion for rank and file union memare solid. Peaceful picketing goes on daily. The membership of the Party as a whole. Motions were working within the structure of a last election, developments at the "In the shipping strike here it union is giving whole-hearted sup-Labor Party or outside of it, will American Federation of Labor ses- has been declared without contra-State Executive Committee the retain its independence, its pro- sions last week at Tampa gave diction that the seamen's organ- movement of Los Angeles has obligation to establish disciplined gram and fight unyieldingly and little cause for rejoicing in either ization voted six to one against a come to realize the issue involved trade union committees, and have unceasingly for its revolutionary union or business quarters. The contract that their officials signed, in this strike. The struggle against convention went on record as op- even though better terms had been the anti-union forces, embodied in ployed work. A motion was also Passed by Ohio Active Work- posed to political dictatorship even offered by the shipowners. This, the Merchants' and Manufacturers' adopted that a full time state ers Conference Nov. 14th, 1936, as its own dictators took sum- and other examples make it plain Association, must receive the sup-

The Action Army

By FRANK STERN

The recruits to the action army gave us the bums' rush this week and we're still wading in subs up to the ears and wondering why we ever thought up such a brilliant scheme. But the editorial board thinks it's a good idea so I guess we'll just have to grin and bear it.

The lot of the business manager is not a happy one except when he sees the shekels rolling in from all points

of the compass—so, comrades of the ACTION ARMY, please keep the money and subs rolling in to the great advantage of the movement and to the great joy of the business manager.

The prize recruit this week is Carl C. Neilsen of Mill Valley who sent in six subs and sent the following to the recipients of his bounty: "I'm sending you Labor Action for one year. If you like it you'll owe me a dollar. If you don't like it, give it to some one who does and you owe me nothing." And he further informs us that whatever comes back will be invested in new subscriptions until the money is used up. Our advice is go thou and do likewise.

Chester K. Johnson of Minneapolis kept the setady flow coming in from the newest addition to the Western Federation of the Socialist Party with the promise that "we ain't started nothin' yet." You are hereby appointed first lieutenant in the Minnesota division of the Action Army, Ches. Your new job besides getting subs is recruiting privates.

And from the ranks of the strikers on the west coast we discover new recruits in Seattle and San Pedro, points hitherto unheard from. These buck privates ordered juicy bundles with promises of more to come in both bundles and

Morrill Goddard rings in from far distant Miami, Florida with a brace of subs and a bundle order. Look out Morrill-it's against the Florida Chamber of Commerce rules to

To come back nearer to home we have to pat local San Francisco stories, articles, etc., no later than on the back for a swell job so tar

We could go on and on but we What we need and what we want and make it a powerful instrument is RECRUITS TO THE ACTION ARMY. Jimmy Higginses who will get subs and literature agents who will take bundle orders, rank and MATES IN SCHOOL. filers who will sell the paper and workers who will give to its sus-

LETTER TO THE **EDITOR**

San Francisco, Nov. 28, 1936. Comrades:

Labor Action came in this morning's mail. Have just finished the Editorial section and the report on the "Writers' Congress Comes to Town" . . . and hastily turn to my typewriter to say somebody has opened a window and let in some much needed fresh air. And, oh! How refreshing! I glance out of the window and note, also, that the fog has cleared very considerably!

I'm that "crasy" fellow you met on that park bench. More power to your pen!

Comradely, GEORGE ELLIS.

to build the movement? If so your place is in the ranks of the AC-TION ARMY. Your first job is to see that every member of your branch is a subscriber. Your second to see that YOUR BRANCH TAKES A BUNDLE ORDER EVERY WEEK.

This applies especially to branches and locals west of the Mississippi. The rate for bundles are as follows-Bundles under 100 copies 3 cents per copy. Bundles from 100 to 500, 2 cents per copy. AH. orders must be in no later than Tuesday morning of each week.

We also urge, request, and implore our readers and correspondents to send in all announcements, Saturday. Important news stories will be accepted no later than the

Comrades-Now is the time for action. The Socialist Party in the west is growing as a revolutionary force. Labor Action is needed NOW to help you reach the workers in your community-to help you build your branch.

Join the ACTION ARMY. GET A BUNDLE ORDER FOR YOUR BRANCH and A SUB FROM YOUR FELLOW WORKER IN THE SHOP, OR YOUR CLASS-

Let's do this job right and build Labor Action into the powerful force that it must and should be Are you a comrade who wants in the Labor Movement. ACT NOW.

Wells Calls For Italy Hurries work, with emphasis upon our row receiving \$40.850 a month, where trade union and unemployed activities by placed on the Resettlement morning, and others are sure to Association. The political influence of the

Advocating the assembling of a which he claimed would be the ped the Soviet Government in the mental background of every intelligent man in the world," H. G. grand council last week voted Wells last week told the Royal more guns, more airplanes, more Institution at London that such a warships, and more men for the book would have saved President Roosevelt a great deal of "experi-

of prosecution onto the shoulders first became well-known through and sea forces. his mass production of fantastic manner was prohibited and made tales based on the machine age, a misdemeanor. A conviction on described to his distinguished audia city ordinance carried with it ence the details of his latest in that it has given only bandages, the charge of contempt; thus un- tellectual adventure. All mental a few cans of food, and articles muddles of the past could be end- of clothing, a service for which arrest after arrest on the mere Considering his age, he continued, be censured. The Italians have he did not consider himself as be- openly supported the Rebels with framed by employed provocateurs. ing able to do the job himself. Roosevelt, he claimed, is one of the service of the firm. Paid ads the most interesting figures of his-done nothing beyond speaking were inserted in the local and out tory. "He did not pretend to be a strenuously about the situation. of town press offering abnormally divinity. He was a politician of exof your dictator gods."

"ready to be told and shown." But Italian Council, nevertheless, is Times, printed lying stories about the "bible of world culture" was placing as much pressure upon violence on the part of the strik- not prepared. "This higher brain, the Blum government as possible ers. Everything possible was done this gray matter of America, was to prevent a formal word of ento whip up a vigilante spirit so entirely uncoordinated that it couragement to the Spanish Loyalagainst the Amalgamated Cloth- had nothing really comprehensive, list government now forming at searching, thought out and trust- Barcelona. The Blum govern-A number of union members worthy for him to go upon. The ment has so far joined in pre-President had to experiment and venting arms from reaching the attempt this and that."

Meeting in the dead of night, vast "bible of world culture," after it had contemptuously slaprebels in Spain, the Italian Fascist army. The Italian council openly an-

nounced its intention to whip up the war machine to its highest Wells, an ex-school teacher who fighting pitch, especially the air The Soviet Government has

been at pains to prove that it has not sent any guns or ammunition to the Loyalists, maintaining ed through such a book, he said. not even a capitalist nation would guns and ammunition, but the Soviet bureaucracy has so far Although many French municeptional good will. He was none tions plants, according to the Daily Worker of November 16, When Roosevelt came to office, are sending war equipment to the according to Wells, America was Spanish Fascist Insurgents, the

"LABOR ACTION"

Spanish Loyalists.

Official Weekly of the Socialist Party of California ROOM 334, 628 MONTGOMERY STREET SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

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The Notebook of an Agitator

Deeper Into the Unions—The Party Must Go to the Masses—Building the Party In Action

Not the least of the reasons for the renewed vitality throughout the nation have turned and firm, healthy growth of the Socialist movement in toward California and toward San control whatever and which held phase of labor militancy, not only This is merely the barest out-California is the newly developed activity of many of its Francisco in particular. For San the city in its grip for the next members in trade unions and the increased attention the Francisco is the center of the five years. party as a whole is devoting to this field.

tion. And that is what is needed fends anybody and which nobody and no direction," Effective revoever thinks of taking seriously.

It takes a fighting organization tice in all their activity. to make a revolution, and the Engels fought on the barricades union work.

The Basic Organizations

mentary and basic organizations ist idea can penetrate the masses The militant activist who carries the banner into the mass organization and takes his place on the firing line in their struggle is the

the others occupy the cheering section in the grand stand. Nothing is more absurd and futile than such a party. Auxilliary organizations can and should be formed organization of activists with the bulk of its members-everyone trade unions and other mass organizations of the workers.

Theory and Practice

At this point we always come to the old moth-eaten and utterly ridiculous contrast of theory and unions has opened a path for the tect scab drivers. Daily battles in San Francisco. In those years, hope which followed the N.R.A. on every question. nor profit in such a debate, for no doubt that the near future scabs and police throughout the growing rapidly among the milit- generation of militants to action, cisco labor in the past two years the theory of Marxism, as Engels holds great successes for the party city. The actions of the city ant, class conscious workers. Even It was on the water-front where is built upon the best militant explained many times, is a guide if it follows that path.—J. P. C.

The Election Campaign

The turn toward trade union work means the turn toward new life for the Socialist party in the west. It vigilantes, its hounding of agrieconomic strength in San France great open shop center of the political and social opinion. There means reconstructing the organ- to action. Let muddle-heads argue cultural labor and its continued cisco to a point never equalied West. ization on a proletarian founda- which comes first and which is first of all if we are to be a nuisance and futilitarian the mis- bol of reaction and injustice. ganized trades, San Francisco was real force in the class struggle named "Marxist" who mulls over Since 1934 that city has emerged 100 per cent closed shop and in and not a mere club of well theory in a vacuum is tied by the

place to build it is inside, not in his youth. Marx, the formulator sify it to serve their own ends, the resultant shortage of labor outside, the broad labor move- of the theory of the proletariat, attempt to explain this situation was over, it was to sell out even ment. That means, primarily, the devoted an enormous amount of as a miracle accomplished by a the building trades workers again trade unions. We still have a time to the practical work of orlong way to go to complete this ganization in the First Internal group with a particular social and politicians who dominated both necessary transformation of the tional and remained a revolutionpolitical philosophy. What has been done so ary war-horse till the day of his far and it is all to the good— death, sniffing the battle from Francisco Maritime and other of the city) and the Labor Counis, after all, merely dabbling. We afar. Lenin was a thinker and a workers since 1934 for a decent cil as well as the Union Labor. will not really get down to busi-doer. And Trotsky, the greatest standard of life and work is not Party-built up fortunes, during ness until we devote nine-tenths revolutionary man of action the rendered less heroic because it their days in office by developof our time and attention to trade world has ever seen, elucidated has its roots in a long tradition ing the sell-out game into a fine problems of theory on a military of militant struggle. Wave after art. train in the heat of civil war.

The trade unions are the ele- Purposeful Activism

The purposeful activism of the reactionary leadership, sometimes educated socialist must be directed sweeping on and resulting in defimedium through which the social primarily into the trade unions nite gains for the workers, have ized and by special agreement precisely because they are the swept through the San Francisco with the utility interests from immediate connecting link with a labor movement throughout its which they accepted huge bribes, broader circle of workers and history. As early as 1850, during the utility employes in particular, the party must go to the masses. therefore the most fruitful field the days of the gold rush, the were left strictly alone in their

When the socialist idea is carists, and takes root there, a of Chinese coolie labor during a instituted the famous graft proseand grow in militancy and solid rather than on the bosses. The their unions. Much of the energy arity and effectiveness in their

and steadily draws new proletar- bor became a powerful-factor in movement in San Francisco was town." In actuality, the closed ian recruits into its ranks. In the city's industrial life. the trade union struggle the party | Teamsters' Strike eligible, in fact-rooted in the tests and corrects itself in action. Of 1905 It hardens and grows up to the

revolution.

SAN FRANCISCO - THE STORM CENTER

Militant Traditions Survive In Insurgent Labor Movement

organized labor movement in a lutionists unite theory with prac-

wave of labor militancy, sometimes beaten down, sometimes diverted into "safe" channels by Francisco. In 1877 occurred the fa- themselves. Finally, Fremont ried into the workers' mass or mous Sand-Lot Riots in which Older, who later fought for the ful Building Trades Council had ganizations by the militant active the workers, incensed by the use freedom of Mooney and Billings, profound influence is exerted upon period of unemployment and mass cutions which ended the political these organizations. They be misery, were led-or rather mis- careers of some of the labor tives of the 1920's, running the come more aware of their class led-into taking out their resent- ezars. interest, and their historic mission, ment on the exploited Chinese them still kept a strangle-hold on At the same time the party gent of San Francisco unemployed fighting, not only the encroache gains strength from the live mass joined Coxey's Army in the march ments of the bosses but these two years for the purpose of en-

And the "Liberal Press"

Since the waterfront strike of litical machine run by the labor | "playing ball" with the corrupt | west. San Francisco labor had 1934, the eyes of militant labor leaders, in collusion with public building trades leaders. The Mc-come back! On July 16th. it

state which for years—because of lowing the earthquake and fire of its criminal syndicalism laws, its 1906, organized labor built up its Los Angeles was expanding as the conceivable shade of working-class prosecution of Mooney and Bill- before or since in the history of as the scene of an aggressive lather building trades particularly. meaning people which never of vulgar activist who is "all motion bor struggle that has rocked the wages soared. The Union Labor entire country. Many who are not Party had to render some service acquainted with San Francisco's to the organized workers during labor history and others who this period, though when the rush single leader or by some single and again. The hard-hoiled labor the Building Trades Council The heroic battle of the San (whose president became mayor

Group As labor leaders they made no attempt to organize the unorganseamen went on strike in San repeated attempts to organize Unfortunately many of '80s and '90s were packed with of the labor militants in the next labor struggles. A large contin- few years had to be expended in contact, finds a constant coron Washington during the 1893-98 enemies of the working class dorsing their candidacies for rective for tactical errors under depression. But it was not until within. By 1920, the strength and office. In name, at least, San the impact of the class struggle the early 1900's that organized la- solidarity of the trade union only a memory.

Beginning around 1909, the In the year 1905 came the great up and down the Pacific Coast. level of its historic task as the Teamster's Strike, portrayed by making great organizational inworkers' vanguard in the coming Jack London in The Valley of the roads, not only in the Northwest Moon. During this strike, Phelan, lumber camps and the California New Generation The trail-blazing work of the the "reform mayor" placed city agricultural fields, but also among Of Militants demagogues, there was built up instinctive radicals without any time strike of 1934, regalvanized build upon them; not to ignore the "Union Labor Party"—a po-genuine labor philosophy—were the labor movement of the entire them nor tear them down.

utility interests, racketeers and Namara confession, engineered by startled the nation by a General gamblers, over which labor had no Lincoln Steffens, ended a definite Strike, on the Pacific Coast, but through line of San Francisco's labor past. out the nation. For the next five Thousands of clean-fighting work-In the years immediately fol- or six years, labor was intent on ers have contributed to that rec-

Tom Mooney

Framed World War, San Francisco's "civic shoremen. It was during the strike that followed that the late Caploads of pickets to the hospital." the culinary unions and the musicians also struck. Mooney tried a sneering reference to "Wobbly to organize the street-railway employes and was framed, together with Billings, on the charge of Mooney was convicted. The million dollar fund, raised by the Chamber of Commerce to break the waterfront strike and to fi-theories of the I.W.W., which acnance the Mooney "investigations," marked the beginning of complete employer solidarity on the Pacific Coast.

outs that marked the close of the war period, the maritime workers honest fighters the labor movestruck again, but in the absence of any solidarity among the water- and many of its principles and front unions, they were completely crushed. By 1920, even the power-Labor Council, with an iron hand -although militant opposition was practically non-existent-lunching Francisco was still "a strong labor shop was a myth. The unions existed on sufferance because they I.W.W. fought their labor battles were no longer a menace to the

by the wayside, discouraged,

socialist activists in the California policemen on the trucks to pro- the maritime workers, particularly. The wave of organization and do not see eye to eye with us There can be took place between union men, the Socialist Party was also aroused both the old and a new authorities turned the attention the anarchists gained a foothold the militant tradition had been traditions of the past. Labor of the workers to political action. in the San Francisco labor moves strongest, that the first suc- Action honors all groups and in-Upon this resentment and its ment and strangely enough, some cessful battle against the old dividuals who contributed to those manipulation by a few crooked of their most active labor men leadership was staged. The mari-traditions, it is determined to

is a tendency today among many who are ignorant of that record to believe that "labor militancy" was born in San Francisco two Just before America entered the | years ago. The Communist Party, peace" was shattered by the long- newly converted "fellow-travelers" who know only what they are told, would have us believe that it was actually born in Party headquarters, with Sam Darcy acting as mid-wife. As a result, they greet every manifestation of militancy While the longshoremen were out, on the waterfront that does not

> Those who have assimilated the great lessons of the World War count for its downfall. But at the same time the young generation of labor militants must be taught to respect the tradition of the old I.W.W. It included in its ranks ment in this country has known, tactics have contributed im-

measurably to the modern strug

gles of American labor.

Honor Great

a "Wobbly."

Tradition fearless struggles they conducted in the textile centers of the East the lumber and harvest and mining regions of the West, and along the waterfront of the entire nation. The Wobbly tradition, like is part of labors priceless heri tage.

It will never be the policy of Labor Action, nor of revolutionary Socialists generally, to sneer at those who conducted the struggles of the past-in San Francisco or elsewhere-no matter what their social philosophy; nor to hear slander on those honest and aggressive working class leaders who

The resurgence of San Fran-

The Party At Work

San Francisco **Moves Forward**

Having reached the lowest depths during the period 1934spring 1936, the Socialist Party of San Francisco was beginning to stir, with a few grumblings at first, and then with the bang of a small fire-cracker,

When reincarnation was just at its beginning, before it could be Socialist Party was to play, the campaign came with all its complications. Despite the overwhelming Roosevelt sentiment the Socialist Party forged ahead during the campaign,

In the two month period precedng the elections the Socialist Party held six large meetings dealing with labor, international and political questions. During that same period over 80,000 pieces of literature were dis tributed, 4000 people composed audiences for Socialist speeches, 4000 additional individuals were tactics," or dub every labor militthrough mail and Socialists spoke ant who disagrees with that line to a great many organizations ranging from Labor unions to the

The Socialist Party of San Francisco was responsible for printing the Western Socialist, the State Campaign paper; and distributing more than 15.000 copies in San Francisco alone.

Because of the valuable results of Socialist activity in the past tew months, the State Executive Committee found it advisable to move its offices to San Francisco. In addition Labor Action is a direct outgrowth of the accomplishments of San Francisco

Partly because of its revolutionary principles and the application of those principles in trade union activity, the Socialist Party of San Francisco during its political campaign gained tremendously, not in the number of votes, but in its newly acquired labor base.

Honor National Secretary

On December 12 in Chicago, the Socialist Party is holding a Fare tion for the strike which may be well Dinner and Reception for called very soon if negotiations Clarence Senior, who is retiring fail. Union demands are 90 per from the office of National Secretary because of ill health. All locals are urged to send and a half for overtime.

greetings to Comrade Senior for this farewell Reception. More important, however, we urge all locals to find ways and means of raising a sum of money to be sent for the purse which is to be presented to Comrade Senior on December 12.

Comrade Senior has literally given his health to the Socialist Party. He has faithfully served the locals and state organizations throughout the country for eight years. He has cheerfully born the brunt of financial worry and has any financial security for himself. He has kept the organization together through some of its most trying years. The purse will be presented to him so that he may go to some dry climate for a long rest to regain his health. Locals, please take action immediately. California has benefited a great deal by the co-operation of Comrade Senior who has assisted us immeasurably to re-vitalize our state organization.

And, just between ourselves, the State Office has extended to Comrade Senior an invitation to spend his vacation in Southern California. Any comrade in the southern area who would like to have the honor of furnishing hospitality to Comrade Senior and his wife and baby please communicate immediately with the State Office. Comrade Senior has not given us a definite answer as vet, but we hope that if we can assure him of place to stay we can persuade him to visit us. How about it?

East Bay:

Comrades in East Bay are lookng for a new headquarters, and mey hope to find a suitable loca-The State Convention of the Socialist Party will be held in Berke-

ley, February 20-22.

San Diego:

Comrade Dick Fraser is actively assisting the Federation of Agricultural Workers' Union in their efforts to organize the workers and win union conditions in the tomato crops, particularly in the area south of San Diego. Comrade Fraser is assisting with defense and educational work, in preparacent closed shop; 40 cents per hour minimum; 8-hour day; time-

Western States Federation Of the Socialist Party

TENTION: We want to build up a real column of western news. Please appoint someone in your local to be responsible for sending news to the Federation Secretary, Crary Trimble, Room 334, 628 Montgomery Street, San Francisco, so that we will have weekly reports on local Socialist activity throughout the west. Special news of labor struggles, organization drives, unem-

ployed and agricultural labor organization work should be sent as special articles. Make Labor Action "the Voice of Socialism in the West." Dead-

line for material is Saturday of each week, but especially important news will be used if it arrives in the first mail Monday morning.

"Red Special" Starts Tour

GOOD NEWS! The Red Special sound truck is due to start on its lars to tide them over, that tour of the states in the Western amount is considered "income" by Federation. Starting with a meet- the ever-so-wise dispenser of ing in Saint Louis, Sunday, De- "State Aid," and is deducted from cember 13, Comrade Douglas And- the \$30 monthly ration. One comerson and his wife will spend rade made a scientific budget about ten days (according to ten- and cutting as close to the line as tative plan) in Joplin and the area covered by southeastern Kan- amount left to "eat on" was SEVsas and northeastern Oklahoma, ENTEEN CENTS A DAY. There after which it will be routed is still work to be done, in spite through the states of the southwest on its way to the coast. A later issue of Labor Action

will give more complete details. Recruits for Footloose Rebels should start sending their names RIGHT AWAY so they may be prepared for follow-up work on the

labor organizer both in the min- from double pneumonia. ing and garment industries. He has been an active Socialist, member of the State Executive Com- Committee, Comrade Peterson took mittee of Illinois, and is now a a leading role in labor struggles, national organizer for the Socialist in workers' education and in the

Greetings From Utah

Comrade Locke of Salt Lake City writes: "Ever since I re- tuberculosis sanatarium, Carl Petence held in Colorado last Sep-intensive study of Lenin's and with the splendid agenda out-end, he followed with passionate The Communists take part in lined. I feel that we, here in the interest the development of the

LOCALS IN THE WEST AT- the west, lies the future of the party, and that the kind of a party we should have will largely depend on the courage and convictions of its membership and its vision. . . . May I say in conclusion that I am greatly encouraged with the spirit that is being manifested by the comrades in California. The result of the election seemingly has not blunted their courage, and their determination should be an incentive to all the rest of us to do likewise."

'Security" From Lincoln, Nebraska, we re-

eive news of local activity in spite of "Hoover-Rooseveltian Depressive-Prosperity." Unemployed workers who are "old enough" receive "State Aid Assistance," affectionately termed by some as an 'Old Age Pension." They are supposed to receive the magnificent sum of \$30 per month, but if a friend or relative has been so unwise as to give three or four dolpossible on all expenses the of the Roosevelt landslide for "se

Death of Carl Peterson

The Socialist Party of Minnesota reports with deep sorrow the death of Carl Peterson of Willmar. Comrade Anderson has been a who died Sunday, November 20,

Besides being a member of the Socialist Party State Executive militant Farm-Holiday movement in the western section of the state. He was one of the promising revolutionary leaders of the younger generation.

During his confinement at a erson was devoting himself to an The workers and farmers of Min-

To me it seems that here, in brothers and two sisters.

If socialists ever had any illu- to get the announcement of any sions about that section of the socialist event in the News— Lining Up the Youth for the Next War

sions about that section of the Socialist event in the Newscapitalist press which calls itself though the Chronicle frequently "liberal," the recent presidential prints such notices. On the other campaign should shatter them for hand, the News gives space alall time. The boycott of Socialist most weekly, to the meetings of man of the Young People's So- formulate any protest whatever. In class youth of Germany, to the mixture of bourgeois, pacifism, news and announcements in the the little Socialist Labor Party, cialist League, attended the World the United States, these invita- anti-Fascist martyrs, and to all Stalinist betrayal and religious papers supporting the President, the almost extinct Proletarian Youth Congress at Geneva and tions served the purpose of se those being tortured to this day piety had taken up four sections and particularly in the Scripps Party and other minor radical publishes his findings in an illu-curing the attendance of the in the concentration camps. And of the commission. I used the Howard chain throughout the groups of a purely academic na minating article in the November liberal youth movements. "The this is being said by people who three minutes to denounce the orcountry, was so obvious as to ture. We do not complain against issue of "Challenge," the official Fascists are going to Geneva. Be accuse the collaborators of Lenin ganization of the Congress in its elicit comment even among non- such announcements. We merely organ of the Y.P.S.L. All revolu- cause of this, we must be repre- of working with the Gestapo, and entirety especially in regard to radicals. The hovcott was made all the more striking by the space that the paper's policy in such Comrade Erber for the resolute Fascist delegation so that we can given the activities of the Communist Party, and the lengthy and respectful quotations from the sideration. The same is true of upon this perfidious gathering in Socialist League of America took speeches of Mr. Browder.

course, completely logical from the liberalism. viewpoint of "liberal" journalism. The Socialist candidates were conducting a straight-forward fight opposition, it may expect an everagainst both Republican and Democratic parties. The Communist Party not only based its campaign on the slogan-"Keep Landon Out of the White House at All Costs." but actually encouraged its best LABOR ACTION in California. known trade-union leaders and its "fellow-travelers"—like Heywood Broun, Mary Van Kleeck and

others-to whoop it up for Roose-

velt. Its services to the Demo-

first-page box listing all the po-

Democratic press.

out the campaign.

Permanent Armies

cratic ticket were rewarded by the fore election, the News carried a last slaughter broke out.

litical broadcasts for the following the experts add enough men in munists, Father Coughlin, Dr. to bring the total to 8,200,000.

similar broadcast notices through- fodder. During the past four months it tion that such organizations serve Fascist youth movements of Ger- people in favor of peace. I can the floor. Finally, they solemnly than the betrayals of the social deeply concerned as to its future. is survived by his parents, three has become practically impossible as "valuable adjuncts."

chronicle the fact as an indication tionary workers are indebted to sented there with a large anti-who murder them en masse. matters is determined not by stand he took at the congress and throw them out of the Congress." "news sense" but by political con- the searching light he has thrown The leaders of the Young Peoples the Hearst press, but the Hearst his article in "Challenge." In view the Communists at their word and Such discrimination was, of press makes no pretence to of the timely importance of the sent me to Geneva. However, As the Socialist Party becomes with in full.—Editor.)

the only party of revolutionary growing resentment among the about the events in the World tion, the Communists officially deliberals, the communo-liberals and Youth Congress, the latest stage plored this on the Congress floor. their press. The answer is oblin the political degeneration of vious—a militant Socialist and Stalinism and the bigger demon- munist League of the Soviet Labor press. We begin with stration of how the nations are Union, Kossariev, declared:

In San Francisco, the Daily Europe or the National Guard and tionary Barcelona during the last News could not very well ignore R.O.T.C. in the United States two weeks. the campaign visit of Norman or the territorial forces of Great | The World Youth Congress has Thomas, though it accorded it less | Britain, military experts of the | been the fruit of the illicit relaspace than it gave to the candi- League of Nations recently re- tions between the Young Comdates of the moth-eaten Socialist leased tabulations showing that munist international, which still Labor Party which was not even permanent armies of the world are waves the banner of Lenin, and on the ballot in California. But the larger than in 1914 immediately the International League of Naradio speeches of the Socialist can- | before the World War broke out. | tions Society, which displays that | didates were completely ignored in . The standing armies of the of Woodrow Wilson, Lloyd George its daily features of political world now number 7,600,000 as and Clemenceau. The illegitimate broadcasts. On the Saturday be- compared to 5,900,000 before the child of this union has acquired

To the armed forces upon land, progenitors. day-including those of the Com- the military navies of the world Townsend and Lemke. There was Such youth organizations as the position that the Congress that the latter felt a profound no mention of the national broad- those existing in Italy where chil- was one of struggle. The League regard for the working-class youth casts by Norman Thomas, George dren as young as eight years are of Nations Society wanted the of Germany? This can be ex-Nelson and Daniel Hoan—although given military training and bear Congress to be a replica of the plained in only one way: it means the radio editor received these arms are not considered by the League of Nations and that, like that Kossaries recognized the Naannouncements both from KGO League's experts as "permanent" the latter, it should confine its zi as the representatives of the and from the Socialist Party, just and so are not included in their results between discussion and young workers of Germany, and

They note briefly in the tabula-

By ERNEST ERBER

preparing for war with slogans of peace. I do not at all feel that we will not allow anything inclined to speak about that hash | to be placed in the way of our of political confusion, mixed with Bigger Than 1914 political treason, which took with all clarity what are the Without including such semi- place in Geneva, particularly since military organizations as the vari- I have been breathing the clear, ous armed youth organizations of fresh proletarian air of revolu-

the worst characteristics of its

Invite Fascists

League of Nations Society held estranged the Communists, and as he had received and ignored estimate of the world's cannon mutual agreement. Due to this, felt that their presence (that of they had to invite everybody, and the Nazis) was indispensable in included official invitations to the a world organization of young sessions before they granted me crime a thousand times worse ber of the Socialist Party who is He was thirty-two years old. He

article we are reprinting it here when the Fascist youth move liberals, but Frenchmen, Englishments refused to attend the Congress because the Communists I can only write reluctantly had participated in its prepara-The secretary of the Young Com-

"We must solemnly promise unity for peace. We must see weak points of the youth movement of our times and face them openly. Certain leaders of the Socialist Youth League have boycotted this Congress because they did not want to meet with the delegates of reactionary organizations. This position estranges us, the revolutionary Communists. We feel a profound regard for the German working-class youth and we judge their presence indispensable in a world organization of youth against war." (From the official resume of the speech.)

What did Kossariev mean when he stated that the refusal of the Neither the Communists nor the Socialists to join with the Fascists many and Italy. The Communists not find words to describe this gave me three minutes to state patriots of 1914.

(Ernest Erber, National Chair- took notice of this but did not | act of treason to the working- | the revolutionary position, after a

Suppress Revolutionaries

As the Congress had to be a model of the League of Nations. the delegates did not represent their organizations. They were men or Americans. Each national delegation had to work as a unit and adopt its decisions in delegation meetings, and insofar as possible, express; before the Congress solely the opinion of the majority. In other words, the minorities could not express their position, except inside their own delegations, could not make their voice heard in the Congress. The president of the Congress was appointed by the League of Nations Society, just as were the presidents of the commissions.

fect parliamentary fortification so the League of Nations in a war that the voice of the revolution- against any nation which intended ary minority could not be heard! to disturb the "status quo" estab-It was said at the Congress lished by the treaty of Versailles. that the old generation could not In this way was a Congress for solve the problem of international peace converted into a Congress relations and that it was up to for war. the youth to do it. Despite that, Youth was fooled into supporta large part of the Congress was ing the last war because they filled with speeches by repre- believe the pious phrases of the sentatives of the old generation statesmen of 1914. Woodrow Wilceived your report of the conferwho gave the youth the fruits son made the American youth beof their long years of experience. lieve that the United States was tember I have intended to write Trotsky's works, to better fit him-The worst of it was that what fighting a "war to end war"—a and tell you how pleased I am self to play a part in the strugthey expounded to the youth made "war to make the world safe for with what was accomplished and gles of toilers. Up to the very up a conglomeration of so much democracy." confusion and stupidity that al-

ideas than when they came. "Shocked" By Erber

silencing the minority viewpoints. This shocked them into granting me another five minutes to finish

my turn. I then pointed out as best I could in the short time at my disposal, that collective security is nothing but a pious phrase employed by the imperialist powers satiated in the last war. to defend their booty. I declared that faith in the League of Nations and in collective security harnessed the peoples to the war chariots of their respective governments. I finished by making an appeal for the independent action of all peoples wanting peace, and above all for the independent action of the working class of the world.

The Congress approved the whole political line of the League The highest body of the Congress, of Nations Society and the Young the discussion round-table, was Communist International. It decomposed of representatives of the clared itself ready to support the national delegations. What per- majority of the adminstrators of

most all those attending left the the preparations for new mass Rocky Mountain region, now have Spanish civil war and the prog-Congress with more confused imperialist slaughter with full the nucleus of a real and mili-ress of local strike struggles. recognition of the Consequences tant Socialist movement and one of their actions. Their deliberate that can and should receive the nesota have suffered a real loss I had to wait through four preparations for betrayal are a enthusiastic support of every mem- in the death of Comrade Peterson.

LABOR ACTION

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SATURDAY, DEC. 5, 1936

Hands Across the Sea

The ocean is wide, but the outstretched hands of international labor solidarity made a bridge across it last week. The French Dockworkers' Union refused to unload cargo from American ships that were loaded through picket lines on the orders of Joseph P. Ryan, head of the I.L.A. and erch-scab and traitor to the cause of labor.

Press reports state leaders of the French Dockworkers' Union told United States embassy officials they were participating in an international demonstration against American shipping. At Havre, Bordeaux and Marseille stevedores refused to unload American ships that sailed from the United States after the Maritime strike began. The United States liner Washington, held up hree days at Havre, was forced to sail for Hamburg with 600 tons of cargo which was to have been discharged at Havre.

fors of the founders, proclaimed the docine of internationalism during the black

Always and everywhere the mark of the true representative of the interests of the vorkers is the unyielding stand for internitional co-operation and international org nization. Nationalism spells defeat and eath for the labor movement. Interna-

Honor and gratitude to the French workers! Let us not forget their brave gesture as their own struggle for life and freedom rushes to its approaching revolutionary climax!

The "Socialism" of Blum

You cannot serve the interests of the

of French imperialism.

Blum went into office with the declaration that he would make no effort to execute a socialist program. He played a shabby role during the strike wave that coincided with his entry into office. Then he initiated the infamous "neutrality pact" which deprives the Spanish workers of ary policy?

arms while the fascist beasts are freely supplied. Now he is coming out with a bill to outlaw strikes and strangle the French workers in the noose of compulsory arbitration.

Every worker has a right to ask what this procedure has to do with socialism as we understand and advocate it. Blum is acting like an ordinary bourgeois democrat in office. The name "socialist" is only a deceptive label to make it look different.

All In the Family

We have heard and read about great social wars and upheavals which have blasted long-standing friendships and rent families asunder, setting father against son and brother against brother. But it took the great championship battle of progress vs. reaction in the 1936 election to produce an opposite and kindlier result and show that civilization and good will, as well as progress, are marching on and exerting their beneficent, humanizing influences over the hearts of men even when they stand (in a manner of speaking) at daggers drawn.

We refer, of course, to the happy culmination of the electoral battle of the century in the almost simultaneous announcements of the engagement of the president's son, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jr., to Miss Ethel Dupont and the engagement of the president's son-in-law, John Boettinger, as publisher of Hearst's Seattle Post-Intelligencer.

By these two mixed marriages, which are announced right on the heels of the election campaign, there is to be read a dramatically-timed rebuke to those overzealous partisans who, lacking the gentlemanly poise and social graces of their masters, took the slogan "Defeat the Hearst-Landon-Dupont Combination at all Costs" too literally and too seriously and even wanted to keep on shouting it after the order had gone out: Cease firing! We have met the enemy and they are ours (or we are theirs)!

Certainly the president, who comes up smiling as the father-in-law of a Dupont and the son-in-law of Hearst, has shown an aloof superiority to those mad fanatics of history who allowed political disputes to split individual families in twain. Instead of that he binds the warring families together. Instead of narrowing down he broadens out. What a heaven-sent leader for the American People's Front!

Only one small point troubles us. If Roosevelt stands for Democracy and Peace and Dupont stands for War and Hearst stands for Fascism, what does the family combination of the three stand for? Maybe the League Against War and Fascism can take up this question at its next symposium on "Reaction Has been Defeated.-What

People's Front, Fascist Version

Is there no limit to the lengths to which the Communist International will go, in its false and reactionary search for "allies" outside the camp of the workers and the toiling masses?

But now comes an almost-unbelievable nights trying to catch up to the "party line." move: a "People's Front" with fascists on the basis of a fascist programme!

"In order to facilitate the fraternization of all Italians, in order to unite all the efforts for freedom in the country, the Com- bor fakers, the Bank of America, of the Socialist Party toward an munist Party of Italy declares that it adopts | Jim Farley and Earl Browder, uncompromising socialist position as its own the fascist programme of 1919, most of the American working the best means of strengthening Says Britain Needs which is a programme of freedom, and is class has once more been kidded the forces of labor and of revoludetermined to fight for it."

This paragraph is from a Resolution of ism was a "blow against reaction." the Central Committee of the Communist In spite of the heroic single-Party of Italy, published in the Internation- handed efforts of the Socialist to the Communist International and al Press Correspondence, No. 48, October Party, the united front support of its branch offices in the various 24, 1936.

Communist workers! How long are you tionary action by American work- workers inside and outside the going to put up with such a false, reaction-

Forging A New Weapon - - - By Carlo



An Appeal To Communists For Revolutionary Unity

To the Central Committee and Rank and File Members

By GLEN TRIMBLE

ment of Central Committee, Communist Party, U. S. A., to that of all revolutionary Socialists the Socialist Party. Very generously the Stalinists tell us I make this appeal. what the issues of the day are and then spend about one lutionary Stalinism. Cut yourselves thousand words warning us against the "Trotskyite gan- loose from the apron strings of grene that is eating up our vitals," "undermining our trade the Comintern. Grow up to a revounion work," and generally sending us to pot. The state-lutionary stature and a revolutionary with a state-ary freedom of choice. Only a ment winds up with an invitation for united action (after world march toward Socialism in we have washed ourselves clean) on certain fundamentals every country can be a genuine such as the "building up of an American people's peace defense of the Soviet Union. We movement." Its mighty nice of the Communist Party to must save both the Soviet Union take time off from Smedley Butler and Franklin D. Roose- and the American working class \$3. velt to worry about plain folks like us. As a member of present leaders The Communist parties have made a the Socialist Party since way back when all Socialists, not Comrades, unite with us on the "People's Front" with Roosevelt through just 'Trotskyites' were gangrene and social fascist be-basis of this program for the the American Labor Party. They have join- trayers of the working class, I think it only fair to return building of a truly revolutionary down in history for one thing pion of the oppressed because of ed with the "democratic" capitalist party of the favor by a little friendly advice to the Central Comof France to maintain "order." And so on. mittee and all the poor rank-and-filers who have to sit up one great, immediate need here and everywhere is that workers of the most vicious frame-ups of the mos ed with the "democratic" capitalist party the favor by a little friendly advice to the Central Comparty of American workers. The

> forts of Old Guard Socialists, mis- united revolutionary action. These guided labor leaders and plain la comrades see in the rapid march into thinking that a victory for tionizing its consciousness and the Democratic Party of capital- struggles.

The great task of the moment is to help labor, not only in Amer- trols it has demoralized, wrecked realize that it is the ONLY class fibre of the party membership. understand that it must win its has capitulated to the League of friends from farmers, students and Nations and to the whole cesspool the middle-class on the basis of of capitalistic diplomacy which al-Labor's own program for a world lowed Italy to plunder Ethopia and ruled by those who do its useful Spanish Fascists to mow down work. Capitalism is outworn, rot workers deprived of arms by a ting, dying; any concession to treaty signed by the Soviet Union. it or its middle-class supporters It has given support to war appledges the workers to curing the propriations and compulsory mili-

This brings us forcefully to the pledging its parties in capitalist question of the united front be- countries to support of their govtween all workers and parties ded- ernments in war even before the icated to the overthrow of capital- slaughter is begun. ism and an end to wage-slavery.

front against Hitler in Germany Unity of action is called for and allowed the German working everywhere, in every nation, class to be crushed without orderamong all workers for the final ing or striking a blow. Today in Whereas Coolidge and Hoover ism, the breeder of war and Fasc pare to return a nation preserved trol.

Rangoon, Burma dispatch: Baf- mobilizing the support of the as did Noske and Scheidemann in from a business view-point but Second-Rate Biography fled and irate postmasters have American workers for the Spanish the Germany of 1918. Today in from a military view-point they asked the homicidal natives to workers in their glorious strug- America they seek to dissolve the are faster than the ships of other please discontinue the practice of gle for a Socialist Spain. May we militancy of the workers on the From Berlin: The Reich food sending human heads through the unite in lending aid to that rap-political field into Farleyized, idly growing, army of Spanish false labor parties, and on the in-It DOES sound a bit messy. transform what is now only a de vocacy of steadily more reaction-They ought to have better taste. fensive fight against Fascism into ary officials and policies. All this After the war starts, he said, it a mere sob-sister writing about most notorious labor frameup in rounds that sugar is to be made They ought to mail the whole a triumphant offensive for a vic- the Stalinist bureaucracy is now is much more difficult to build her boss, though she often acted American history depends upon torious worker's Spain!

Declaring that it was almost Unfortunately the invasion of impossible to find a really good counter-revolutionary Stalinism in-British seaman today, Edmund H. Watts, chairman of Watts, Watts, & Co. Ltd., managers for the this illusion has set back the day sections of the world has done British Steamship Co., Ltd., bemoaned the fact that when the new world war starts this will be a vital weakness to the British

> Bitter Fight He outlined the bitterness of the present conflict between the present world merchant marines for trade and maintained that Great Britain in this fight loses every day. Consequently, according to. Watts, the merchant marine is getting in such condition that it will be ineffective in war as compared with the modern ships of other nations. He quoted statis-

tics to prove his contention. In the last war Great Britain occupied a strategic position in naval battles through her control of coal bunkering stations. Now the development of fast oil-burn the press" became so much mud to international onslaught on capital. Spain the minions of Stalin pre- ing ships has removed that con- throw in the eyes of the public

by workers arms back to the It is called for most urgently in greed of capitalist exploiters just he pointed out, is uneconomical Child Labor Amendment. nations. Most of them are oil-

SIDELITIES

By JONATHON DOE

Fair Enough Miami employers propose fingerrant employes to protect their Miami being what it is—a vacatheir molls, utility magnates, bankpresidents and other crooks, why not simplify matters by moving just one step farther? Merely finger-print the guests for the protection of the waiters, bus-

boys, maids, etc. Your Nose Knows

Whispering

The more we examine the subolfactors of great wealth."

The Communist Party whisper-

ing campaign is under way. Labor

Action, we hear, is supported by

Protsky out of the royalties from

he sale of his latest book.

Hearst's Examiner and the West-

ern Worker will be coming out

any day now with the headline

"Trotskyite Gold!" And who

knows? Maybe the former com-

mander of the Red Army will

come marching up Market Street.

Our ship news reporter caught

Mr. Sidney Passmore Fishfield as

ne came down the gangplank from

his round-the-world survey of war,

peace, fascism and social credit

"I return with a heavy heart,"

he assured our reporter. "Europe

is an armed camp. War is in-

evitable within three months un-

less the League can be strength

ened and the armament race

stopped. On one side will be the

lemocracies - England, France,

Russia. On the other the fascist

nations-Germany, Italy, Japan.

"Poor, tragic Spain! I could get

The issue is clear-cut . .

"What about Spain?"

The Comrades are all a-jitter,

Interview With a Liberal

In this one gesture of the French workers there is dramatically expressed the leading and most powerful idea in the whole arsenal of labor's weapons, the idea of internationalism. The great leaders and teachers of the proletariat, Marx and Engels, wound up their manifesto of 1848 and compressed their doctrine into the mighty sogan: Workers of the World, Unite! Lenin and Trotsky, the heirs and succesnight of the world war and led the Rusan revolution under that banner.

tonalism is the slogan of liberation.

No man can serve two masters.

working class—which are irreconcilably opposed to capitalism—and at the same time act as the executive officer of the capit list state which, as Engels explained long ago, is nothing but the executive committee of the capitalist class. This historic truth, expounded theoretically by the great socialist teachers and confirmed in practice by the "socialist" betrayers in Russiá, Germany and elsewhere, is once again brought to the fore by the conduct of Leon Blum, socialist premier of the government

Blum's latest performance, reported by press dispatches, was to obtain consent of his cabinet "for a compulsory arbitration bill to combat a critical break between capital and labor." That means, in other words, a scheme to paralyze the workers' movement while the exploiters have free play to grind them down.

I speak the mind of many mem-Associate Editor Addresses An Open Letter

The Western Worker. of November 26th prints a State- pulsion. In their name as well as

Soviet Union.

The Stalinist Course

Everywhere that Stalinism con-

done the betrayers of 1914 in

It consistently opposed a united

As a result of the combined ef- members of your party, favor such

of genuine, independent, revolu- serious damage to the cause of the

The Great Task

incurable, chains them to a sink- tary training in France and out-

For Unity of Action

workers and peasants who seek to dustrial field into support and ad-posed that a new merchant mathusiasms and limitations. Yet habeas corpus.

bers of the Communist Party, its healthier and more valuable memselves, even read or think for themselves, because their slightest deviation from the dictate of the Comintern means immediate ex-

the slogans. Large number of Communists.

CAPITALISM IS THE ENEMY! MARCH FORWARD TO SO-

Although unemployment re serves are huge in Great Britain ica but throughout the world, to and destroyed the revolutionary conditions are so unbelievably bad that no man can be obtained force which can end exploitation, The Stalinist bureaucracy has ex- to work ships, according to Mr stop war, and crush Faseism by pelled, villified and even murdered Watts. He advocated a program fighting for and winning a Social- those who stood out for continued of training men so that Great ist world. We must help labor to struggle for world revolution. It Britain will be able to fight effectively when the war breaks.

burners.

As a solution, Mr. Watts prodoing in the name of Communism. ships, than it is now.

moment one crosses the frontier. printing of their hotel and restau- lina ine what it is to live in a nation in which there is no press guests against crime. A news-but the official press, no party paper columnist suggest that the but the official party, no criticism guests should be finger-printed too of the national leadership on pain s a protection against each other. of imprisonment or death. What mea ning is there to physical well-

are starved and stultified." "Ain't it the truth? You got nto Russia?'

Mr. Fishfield beamed and his tone became slightly reverential. Russia. Indeed. Just in time for the 19th Amfversary Celebration Two crowded weeks! hospitals, new dams, factories. ject, the more the ship subsidies all. Then as a climax, the great and the refusal of shipowners to parade of the Red Army in the pay their sea-faring personnel a Red Square—armed men, marchdecent wage smell to high heaven, ing by the hundred thousand, In fact, with no apologies to the marching for hours past their bewo Roosevelts, we have come to loved leader on the reviewing think of the shipowners as the stand—the biggest standing army in the world, the best equipped, the best fed, the best--

"Spain could have used a few

been so moved by such a spectacle. And to climax those 19 years of struggle and sacrifice, the New Constitution, guarantee ing democracy to the whole Russian people, freedom of speech, of press of assembly-"

"The Opposition Communists ould have used a little of that before they got shot-Mr. Fishfield frowned.

Note On the Class Struggle

ew Anti-Nazi League held in Los Angeles and participated in by various "liberals" and popular frontists, the speakers took pains to assure the audience that the League was not opposed to "Fascism" as such, but merely to "Hiterism." In other words, Mussolini, Pilsudski, de la Rocque and Franco can have the kosher label

as long as they confine their

attentions to labor and radicals. At the same meeting, Irving Thalberg, who had just died, was lauded as "our great progressive leader." (The New York Daily no nearer than Biarritz because Worker eulogized him in the same of the fighting. But I covered vein.) It seems that Thalberg Germany. Of course it is im-didn't like Hitler any better than possible for a stranger to see the he did the Screen Actor's and inside of a concentration camp. Screen Writers Guild. All of this Naturally they put their best foot must have been pretty touching forward and keep such darker to the Hollywood proletarist.

BOOKS and AUTHORS

Review by John Arlington Despite all the romantic trap- but it is not a distorted one. pings with which his life is surour day, the persecution of Tom Hearst on the grounds that

Mooney and Warren Billings. Eyelyn Wells, in her biography, underdog, a great crusader for the shows no appreciation of this cause of the Common People, But fact. She tells the story of Oldar's they will find it somewhat emrole in the Mooney case, to be barrassing to attempt to call Miss sure, and tells it with a good Wells to account for this when a reportorial sense of its drama and few pages farther on she quotes color. But to her the Mooney case Older himself to the same effect. Ships, Men for War is but one of a series of episodes The Fight for Mooney in the life of a great man, a To point out Older's limitations,

This Side of Greatness

The simple truth is that Older of these roles. As editor, crusader, hilosopher, what you will, he was distinctly second-rate. What does it matter that in the San Franeisco graft prosecutions, he drove a bunch of crooked municipal politicians out of office? A new set simply took their place. What does t matter that he devoted a large form and the rehabilitation of exconvicts and prostitutes? He struck no blow at the system which produces them. What does it matter that in the

and sentimental newspaper fraternity, he was looked upon as one of the last representatives of the old school of frontier journalfiction to one of fact, which envisaged the editor not as a worker who had to satisfy the boss, but as an idealist fighting for Justice instead of for circulation? The high-salaried executives and adverising solicitors from the business office moved in anyway and "edi torial integrity" and "freedom of

Completely missing such obvious be classed as a second-rate biogrine be constructed immediately. Miss Wells cannot be dismissed as in this capacity under Older on the Supreme Court's decision.

Fremont Older the Call-Bulletin. She has, with all her shortcomings, a swiftly-mov-Wells, D. Appleton Century Co., book extremely readable, a lively straight-forward story. The result may be a superficial portrait

Radical-minded readers, who Hearst, too, is a champion of the

great editor, a great fighting cru- his inability to think through to sader, humanitarian, prison re- any clear-cut social philosophy, to former, social philosopher, etc. etc. trace his feeble wanderings in the foggy realm of Tolstoyan anarchism is in no way to lessen his did not approach greatness in any stature as a man who in the one acid test of his career rose to the occasion. It took honesty, courage and a tenacious fighting spirit to conduct that seemingly endless battle to free Mooney and Billings. Older had all three of these qualities despite his almost successful effort during his later years to suppress the last in favor of a sentimental, all-embracing Christian tolerance. "Almost successful" is used advisedly. Some chance remark, some reference to a current injustice or local stuffedshirt would occasionally catch eyes of the romantically-inclined him off guard even in his final tired days of Hearst editorship. The gentle, pessimistic, turn-theother-cheek mood would vanish. And with a fine display of forensic fireworks, Older of the old

Bulletin would return to life. Miss Wells' book, merely as a human document, is worth reading. Readers of Labor Action will be able to supply for themselves the social interpretation and perspective that it unfortunately lacks.

No Parole for Billings

SACRAMENTO.—The California n the fight against organization State Board of Prison Terms and The Japanese merchant marine, of underpaid newsmen and the Paroles has decided to postpone action on the application of Warren Billings for parole from Folsom State Prison. The applicapoints. Miss Well's book can only tion which has been turned down twice is now postponed unraphy. It is the work of a loyal til after the Supreme Court rulprotege who shared her idol's en- ing on Tom Mooney's writ of

It appears that an end to the

ple show just how "represen- strikers. ve of the national will" are their oppressors.

intives, it is always a great crime

te arm the people-for then the

By Carl O'Shea

big the gas and grocery bills.

General Franco sez: Bloodshed

would never have come to pass

sentatives of the national will.

sequênces.

Maybe we're all wrong, boys. from wood.

Strike is Wrong.

PEARLS FROM THE PRESS

Deper, a farmer's wife, got tired know anything about. of making payments on a \$1,000 * * * note so she ate it. The creditor asking Sheriff Struble what to about it. That's an idea. The Farm-Holiday might advise its members to chew up all mortgages.

And the unemployed could nib-* * * Let the creditors take the con-

From an ad for the Page Fence Association: We don't expect had not the Socialist government trouble at our plant but we conmmitted the terrible crime of sider it good business to be prearming the people against repre- pared for emergencies. Page Fence gives us day and night pro-

Meadline in the Catholic Work- against talking about finding suber Globe Strikers' Cause is Right stitutes for food. They brand as false the rumor now going the

Maybe there are ways to get | And with shredded wheat being Kalamazoo news item: Mrs. A. union recognition that we don't made from pine shavings-a guy

Letter in The Rotarian: It must the midst of plenty, millions

To capitalism and its represen- mob rule.

starve; with millions in need, laws and tariff walls block distribution.

After that I won't be surprised to find that even the stones have tongues.

tection against the violence of were conceived in the doldrums. ism.

I bet they're talking about union

estate has warned the public mail. body.

be plain to every thinking man est racket is to recover women's that humanity has fallen victim discarded hats from the ash cans, to forces which it has created and refurnish them and sell them as is now powerless to resist. In new.

can't help worrying about slivers. Easy to Believe Dept.: The lat-Dr. William J. Petterson of the U. of Ill.: Genius is determined, not by the position of the planets

tion. The more turbulent the weather, the greater the genius. * * * You can easily believe that your old friend, O'Shea, was given a start in the Great Wind in '97.

at one's birth, but by the weather

during the period of one's incuba-