VOL. 1, No. 7

SATURDAY, JANUARY 9, 1937

SOCIALISTS ENROLL TROOPS FOR SPAIN

Automobile Showdown

mands Conference With G. M.

DETROIT.—With the eves Detroit the issue of unionization neared a show-down this week as officials of the United Auto Workers asked the General Motors Corpora-lity. plants and a pledge of complete support from the Committee for Industrial Organization of the union's efforts to secure recognition from the

General Motors has retaliated by a flat refusal of recognition from President Alfred P. Sloan, an anti-strike injunction against Homer Martin, union

A conference of union delegates of Strategy" and backed the ultimatum of the union leadership.

The Board has been authorized to call a general auto strike if it deems it advisable. 40,000 workers are out and 135,000 more are likely to be affected by this week-

A letter from Pres. Homer Martin of the United Auto Workers sent to Mr. Wm. S. Knudsen, executive vice president fo the General Motors Corporation, declares that "bona fide collective instrument for the establishment of satisfactory relationship be-

LETTER CITES ABUSES

fect, calls attention to the failure of efforts to negotiate settlements of local strikes with the plant managers; flagrant discrimination against workers for union affiliation: widespread dissatisfaction with the speed-up system; job in security through the absence of proper seniority rules; and abuses of the present piece work systems of pay. The letter likewise stated. "In addition to these points we have mentioned, there are many and working conditions that we wish to take up with you in this general conference."

Shortly after receiving the communication from the United Auto Workers, Mr. Knudsen met with President Martin and Secretary George Addes of the United Auto sen that the union is awaiting a Workers, Mr. Knudsen advised formal written answer since the Mr. Martin that the union should matter of a general union agreetake up alleged discrimination ment, not simply local problems cases and grievances with the is involved, and since only through plant managers or, if necessary, the general managers having jur- officials and of union representaisdiction in the location involved. tives can collective bargaining be

Union Asks THE TENTH WEEK OF THE WEST COAST MARITIME STRIKE

The maritime strike is in its tenth week. With Congress going into session this week, the clamor for Federal Martin Again De- legislation to deal with the strike is increasing. Enormous pressure is being brought to bear to force a settlement. It is vitally important for the workers to take stock of the situation and to appraise the new developments correctly.

Victory is within the grasp of the workers, and has of American Labor turned to been for the past three weeks—ever since the new negotiations began between the shipowners and the unlicensed groups. If the workers see things as they really stand, and act accordingly, the victory will become a real-

the General Motors Corporation for "an immediate general conference" for collective bargaining purposes. This request follows a rapid increase in union membership in General Motors

The west coast ships have been tied up tight as a drum for nearly ten weeks. There hasn't been a break in the ranks of the workers. This remarkable demonstration of the workers' power and solidarity is the main factor in the situation. It fully entitles the unions to count on a favorable settlement and to calculate every move on that basis. able settlement and to calculate every move on that basis.

The resumption of negotiations with the unlicensed groups—whose demands were the main bone of contention—showed a weakening on the side of the bosses. The agreement offered to the Sailors' Union yielded all the basic points. By this the bosses abandoned their fundamental position which caused the strike. That was the time for all the unions to press forward, and demand direct negotiations on the basis of the concessions offered to the Sailors. The failure to do this, and still worse, the effort to discredit the Sailors' agreement, only injured the at Flint Sunday created a "Board position of the strikers and delayed settlement. More 'politics" of this kind will be very costly indeed.

Now, with Congress convening, and the hue and cry for legislative interference growing louder and more insistent, there is grave danger to the workers in shifting the scene to Washington. What the unions want and need is direct agreements with the shipowners which recognize their fundamental demands.

Such an agreement has already been offered to the Sailors. Despite all propaganda and poppycock on the question it contains the best and most thorough-going provisions for union recognition and control of hiring ever put on paper in this country. Read it and see for yourself. Ask anyone to show you a better contract covering these basic points anywhere. The Sailors' agreement is the key to further negotiations and a victorious settlement.

the Sailors the shipowners have disarmed themselves be-The letter, which followed an fore the fundamental demands of the other unions on the

Now is the time to push direct negotiations on this

Now is the time to press with all force to settle the strike on union terms in San Francisco, not on the terms of politicians in Washington!

Offers Self for Sale

Jacksonville, Vt.: William Edward Bird, unemployed, advertised other grievances affecting wages in a Boston newspaper today, offering himself to science as a human guinea pig for \$2,500. I have to tide my family of five through the winter somehow, he

a general conference of company

Mexican Labor Stands For The Right Of Asylum

eration of Mexican Workers (C- ence is one that places Trotsky TM) has repudiated the attempt on the left of the Confederation. to utilize it against the admission of Leon Trotsky to Mexico. Cer- ful illustration of the resistance tain officials of the Confederation of genuine labor bodies to the under the control of the Com- Stalinist effort to force down munist Party had protested strong- their throats both opposition to ly and with the usual Stalinist political asylum and the latest arguments against Trotsky's admission. He was labelled a "Fas | While CTM officials still stomach | had already endorsed the strike, in- | west area were being made at eist murderer" and the officials promised a fight to the finish the People's Front as a "defense against asylum in Mexico.

A storm of protest from inside and outside of the Confederation followed this announcement. Labor tempt to label all revolutionary bodies throughout Mexico passed Socialists as "Fascist mad dogs." resolutions favoring asylum and welcoming Trotsky as a consistent fighter for the working class So overwhelming was this view- reported in the Mexican Labor point that Toledano was unable to secure a majority in the executive of the CTM.

OPPOSITION ABANDONED The most recent statement marks a complete abandonment holder of that right which it conof active CTM opposition to siders one of the most valuable Trotsky's admission and of the conquests that international law "Fascist" line of attack on him. can boast. The CTM thus leaves The only remnant of the original the responsibility of Trotsky's policy of the CTM and that of ernment, where it properly be-Trotsky differ; but it is now longs."

MEXICO CITY. - The Confed- | frankly admitted that the differ-The entire incident is a powertheory of "Trotskyite - Fascism." against Fascism," they have resupplementary poisons — the at-

> STANDS FOR ASYLUM The final statement of the General Confederation of Workers, as News, "states categorically that it is not opposed to the right of asylum and that on the contrary, it has always been and will continue to be the staunchest up-

RUBBERWORKERS

ORGANIZATION

DRIVE IN L. A.

LOS ANGELES .-- As part of a Organization campaign to organize are responsible for sweeping adthe mass production industries on vances all along the line. the west coast, the International Rubber Workers' Union has opened offices in this city.

ternational union, predicted 100 per copies of Steel Labor. cent organization of the thousands | Every representative of the S

Grillo is one of many CIO orcoast. Most of these men will reschore line. main until the workers in the basic ndustries are won for labor under the industrial union banner.

Canadians Back

day night when the Trades and were to speak. Labor Council voted unanimous neers and the Fishermen's Union.

Silicosis Victims Awarded Damages

victims of silicosis, brought by the Miners and Metal Workers Industrial Union against the American Smelting and Refining Company.

ailment continue to get worse.



Advancing 'White Collar' Program Is In Midwest

Progress Recorded In Organization Drive In Chicago Area

CHICAGO. - The organization drive of the steel workers is taking the Chicago-Calumet district general committee for Industrial by storm. Aggressive union tactics

A flying squadron of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee descended on the Carnegie-Illinois Steel Corp. South Works plant Frank Grillo, secretary of the in- here and distributed some 14,000

of California Rubber Workers W. O. C. in the Carnegie-Calumet within the year in a speech before area, together with volunteer the Los Angeles Central Labor workers, was on duty at the halfdozen entrances to the huge plant, which extends for a mile and a ganizers recently sent to the west half along the Lake Michigan

OTHER PLANTS

Later in the same day smaller flying squadrons posted themselves at Republic Steel and Wisconsin Steel plants in the same area and handed out several thousand more papers. Each paper Waterfront Strike carried a pasted leaflet announcing an S. W. O. C. mass meeting The official backing of organized at which Congressman R. S. Mclabor was thrown behind the Van- Keough and Van A. Bittner, recouver waterfront strike last Tues- gional director of the steel drive,

Meanwhile, additional reports endorsement. Many local unions of progress throughout the midthe Stalinist quack medicine of cluding the Lumber and Sawmill Chicago headquarters. Seven new Workers, Brotherhood of Railway charters for lodges in the Amal-Carmen, Piledrivers and Bridge gamated Assn. of Iron, Steel & fused to swallow one of its chief Builders' Union, Stationary Engi- Tin Workers sent the total in the midwest district close to the hundred mark.

At St. Louis, the S. W. O. C. signed a contract with the management of the Sterling Steel Co. providing for a large number of improvements in working condi-MEXICO CITY.—The Board of tions, together with a 5 per cent Conciliation and Arbitration has wage raise. The pay boost is in decided the case of eleven miners, addition to a 10 per cent raise announced in mid-November.

Profits of the American-Hawai-

Strike In L. A.

"Thrifty Drug Stores" Hear From the Men **Behind Counters**

Something in the way of a

milestone in union organization has been reached when that most backward of labor groups, the white-collar workers, actually go city, Los Angeles. The Los Angeles Pharmacists' Union, Local 840, is on strike at all thirty of the chain of Thrifty Drug Stores in Los Angeles. The strike is under the leadership of T. G. Jakeman, vice-president and presidentelect of the union.

According to Jakeman, the

pharmacists are asking for a 48hour week rather than the present 54 to 75-hour week for all of \$40 a week with time and a half for overtime, two Sundays and 15 evenings a month leave, equal salaries for men and women pharmacists, registered pharmacists for storemanagers, and recognition of the union. The Thrifty stores were selected for the strike because the union considers that it has its best case against them, not only with regard to their treatment of all their workers, but also with regard to their observance of drug

This is the first strike of whitecollar workers in Los Angeles and the membership of the union is, as a whole, inexperienced in strike that fact and learning fast. So far from the ballot; (3) Establishthey have drawn blood to the ment of a state police; (4) Estabextent of a nice, thick injunction lishment of a border patrol to pre- had become desperate. Their and a Red Squad man on duty at vent certain people, particularly inevery store.

Employers are attempting to recruit scabs, but Los Angeles strikes by state and municipal em the Association of Commerce put unions are aiding the strikers ployees; (6) Prohibiting the em- forth this last minute effort to tually concludes the Epic ride on with help on the picket line and relief contributions.

Pacifist Talk And War-like Actions

creases were being made by the own war machine.

key to further negotiations and a victorious settlement. By conceding the hiring hall and other basic points to Announced

ures at Issue Before Legislature

SAN FRANCISCO. — In view of the opening of State | 18 a tax of liverise to sell newson strike in that backward labor Legislature Sessions, Ernest papers, books, or magazines. This Besig, Northern California has not been enforced. We don't director for the American news boys who sell the Times Civil Liberties Union, has an- Picayune or the New Orleans nounced the 1937 Legislative to hold over workers to prevent

The ACLU will concentrate support on five measures: (1) Repeal such proportions that a capitalist of the criminal syndicalism law; newspaper, The St. Louis Post (2) The appointment of an As- Dispatch, recently sent a reportpharmacists, a maximum salary sembly committee to investigate er to the city, to investigate convigilantes and the denial of civil ditions. He spent a week here liberties in California; (3) Optional and the outcome of his visit was drill to replace compulsory R.O.T.C. a full page feature article in the at the University of California; (4) Dispatch. It was afterwards Municipal responsibility for per- copied by the Milwaukee Joursonal injury suffered by mob and nal. public meeting places.

Associated Farmers, including:

(1) Compulsory fingerprinting of all automobile drivers; (2) Removal of proscribed political parties digents, from entering the state; (5) Prohibiting organization and ployment of alleged illegal enkeep employment records.

United States in her army, navy and air forces.

In a recent article appearing in really exists, or that Roosevelt's ian Steamship Company and sub the Santiago, Chile, press, the sincerity can be questioned, the seventeen. The eleven workers are to re-sidiary companies during the "practical" statesmanship of Pres- article concludes that the South ceive immediate compensation of month of October 1936, according ident Roosevelt is praised, point- American countries must utilize 2,000 pesos, with the additional to the Weekly Commercial News ing out that while pacifist dec- the same statesmanship, adoptposition is an insistence that the presence in Mexico to the gov- right to institute further claim amounted to \$253,750.03 after larations were being made in ing every peace proposal, but the strike, the small business Party can take its turn at acting against the company should their bloated salaries of officials had Buenos Aires tremendous in never neglecting to build their men, grocers, bakers, butchers

The Line-up In Spain - - By Carlo Now Enlisting For Western Division Of Debs Brigade

Socialist Party Calls for Volunteers to Fight Against Fascism With Spanish Workers For Socialist Spain

The Socialist Party of California is calling for voluneers to form a Western Column of the Debs Brigade, intiated by the New York organization of the Socialist Party for service in Spain. The Brigade is to sail as soon as possible to join forces with the workers of Spain in their heroic fight against the fascist foreign regions and for a Socialist Spain.

Full Swing special engineering or technical skill, aviation and artillery experience or distinguished constant In Gulf Port records. Questionnaires will be furnished on request to Socialist locals and out of town applicants.

By Louise Stevens Jessen Since last April, when the ons of the American Revoution staged an anti-red cialist Party and within a few banquet in New Orleans, this days more than two hundred specity has been the center of cially skilled combatants had some of the most vicious red-been chosen. First sailing from baiting in the entire country. New York is scheduled for Janu-The activities have taken the ary 19. The American Column form of strike breaking, per- will join the famous International secution of individual Socialists and Communists, efforts to curb academic freedom at Tulane University, and the passage of city ordinances which make it practically Throughout the country the ministration wishes to pre- been immediate and entities vent such assembly.

cil making it necessary for any group wishing to hold a public meeting to pay ten dollars for a permit. This law has not been enforced against churches, parent teachers organizations or civic and educational clubs as yet. It was invoked when striking seamen were meeting in their A.C.L.U. Lists Meas- own hall. When a hundred and thirty-six strikers were recently arrested, one of the charges made against them was "illegal

Slipped into the same ordinance is a tax of five-hundred dollars expect it to be enforced against Item. The law is a splendid club program of his organization. them from selling labor and Socialist literature.

The reign of terror has reached

sored by such organizations as the fact that they were in their own taxes. hall for which they are paying rent did not prevent the police ley Jones, Democrat, as speaker from booking them on this ablof the House brings a ghostly resurd charge. When they were minder of the once mighty Epic brought to trial in Recorder's Court, all were dismissed.

It seems that the ship owners ships were loaded with Christmas cargo. The New Orleans Steamed before Dec. 25. Their efforts

were unsuccessful. The crew of Del Sud, Mississippi Shipping Co. joined the will be safely and sanely liberal Denying that any contradiction strike this week. This brings the at the present sessions. The Demnumber of struck vessels up to ocrats can go a long way in this

> by the Association of Commerce, will be used to woo labor votes is making every effort to break (Continued on Page 2)

Red Hunt In Francisco Socialist Headquarters at 236 Van Ness Avenue. Men in person or write at once to San will be chosen on the basis of perience or distinguished combat records. Questionnaires will be locals and out of town applicants. All applicants must pass a thorough physical examination.

OVER 200 ENLISTED The Debs Brigade was initiated Brigade of Workers from all countries who are fighting on all Spanish fronts against Franco's Moors and Hitler conscripts. Eastern Headquarters is at 21 East Throughout the country the sponse to the Socialist Call's an

RESTRICTS PUBLIC ASSEMBLY expedition has been appealed for. In August an ordinance was Westerners who cannot thempassed by the commission coun-selves join the Spanish workers

LETTERS FROM RECRUITS Letters are pouring in from many sections. Typical extracts

follow: Sullivan County, N. Y .- "I am a striking seaman, formerly & Staff Sergeant in the Regular Army of the United States. I was a radio operator and in charge of artillery engineers office-a graduate of U.S. Coast Artillery School-my age is 33, excellent physical condi-(Continued on Page 2)

Ghost Of Epic Walks Again In Legislature

William Mosely Jones Rides Democratic Tiger-Inside

The California State Legislature began its fifty-second session at Sacramento Monday of this wigilante victims (the present law RAID STRIKE HEADQUARTERS week. The Legislature with a Remakes a municipality liable merely | On Dec. 23, strike headquarters | publican Senate (25-15) and a for damages to property); and (5) at 321 Chartres St. was raided Democratic House (47-33) has a Extension of the use of schools as and over three hundred men were glorious opportunity for passing arrested and booked with "loit- the buck and rolling up political The Union will not only organize ering." When taken to the Third records without danger of making support for civil liberties measures Precinct Station, twenty-five and any change which will affect the but will fight a host of red-baiting thirty men were jammed into steady process of the rich getting and restrictive measures, spon- cells ten by eight in size. The richer while the poor get—sales

The election of William Mosemovement to "win Socialism by calling it production-for-use, and capturing the Democratic Party." Epic is gone, and Jones, former Epic leader, takes the Speakership with the blessing and proship Association with the help of gram of super-reactionary Senator William Gibbs McAdoo. This virintimidate the strikers in the the Democratic Tiger. Epic is trants, and requiring employers to hope of getting the cargo unload- not only inside, it is so thoroughly digested that both ex-Epics and McAdoo-ites share the same smile.

Indications are that the smile direction, since they are sure of While Big Business, represented a Senate veto. These "records" next year so that the Democratic California safe for capitalism.

Socialists Support Red Hunt In Wow Enlisting For Workers' Alliance In Gulf Port Marches on Capitol New Orleans Rosses Red Hunt In Western Division Western Division Of Debs Brigad

By FRANK N. TRAGER Labor and Organization Secretary of the Socialist Party

The Socialist Party of the United States has instructed its state and local organizations to give all possible aid to the unemployed and WPA workers in their demonstration against the Roosevelt administration on January 15, in Washington, D. C. The Socialist Party officially endorses the "On To Washington" mobilization of the Workers' Alliance of America, which will begin right after the first

War Issue

Patriots at A.S.U.

Convention

CHICAGO.—Rout of the

popular frontist "Student-

Labor Party" advocates and

a stalemate on collective se-

ings of the American Student

Union convention just ended

from a hundred and fifty schools,

now on their way home by foot

and car and in a specially char-

tered train and buses, repre-

sented a balance of forces between

The major fight developed on

patriotic speeches yet delivered

by a Young Communist in this

DEFEATED 136-99

PLAN HUNGER STRIKE

Anti-War Strike, the convention

hour hunger strike simultaneously

and liberals on the other.

the ASU constitution.

The

four hundred delegates,

of the year with a series of na-xevery important city of the country and will wind up with a mass meeting and a parade through Fight Over Washington on January 15.

Struggling against mass WPA lay-offs, these workers and members of the Workers' Alliance are now feeling the full brunt of the Roosevelt policy which, despite vague promises during the first administration and before the present election, has consistently sacrificed the interests of workers everywhere to those of the class the president represents. The threat of reaction, which was supposedly defeated in the election of Roosevelt, has become a tragic actuality in the lives of so many thousands of families since November 3.

The Socialist party, during the campaign, repeatedly warned curity marked the proceedagainst the policy of the lesser evil by which many workers' or ganizations and progressives gave their support to the Roosevelt boom, under the illusion that the smiling president would better protect them than Landon.

The unemployed in the Workers' Alliance can afford to have no illusions about the relief policy of Mr. Roosevelt. In March, 1934, when they demonstrated in Washington to prevent the wholesale dismissals of the CWA (they then called themselves the Eastern Federation of Unemployed the supporting resolution to the Leagues) they were refused a Oxford Pledge not to support any hearing by Mr. Roosevelt and war waged by the government, were forced into a period of vir- after the pledge itself was overtual starvation until the WPA whelmingly reaffirmed as part of went into effect in the fall of that year. Then the great humanitarian herded them on jobs with wages ranging from \$19 to \$93 a month, which undermined the union scale of wages.

The unemployed launched the vigorous Workers' Alliance as a national organization in the - ... Stelalist David Lasser as national president. This organization has succeeded in unifying the ranks of the unemployed, securing the endorsement of organized labor, and since its inception has defended the interests of the unemployed abroad: "we want to stop them with attorneys and witnesses to and relief workers throughout the by the pressure of bread and but "defend" themselves against these

Time after time they have gone to the White House with legitimate protests and with constructive policies but not once has Mr. Roosevelt seen fit to confer with the leaders of this workers' organization despite the fact that they represent the duly recognized collective bargaining agency of workers engaged on projects in 44 states of the union. Roosevelt found time to meet with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, National Manufacturers' Association. United States Bankers Association, but never to meet with the organized unemployed. The last time they tried, in October, 1936. they were summarily arrested by the White House guards.

The Socialist Party of the United States urges the workers out against this foretaste of war mass meeting was held on the and all friendly farm groups to hysteria. They insisted on pointsupport this demonstration. And ing out that advocacy of collection of Red Hunters was formed. fascism with all their being. The in giving support to the demands tive security logically led to sup- The purpose of the organization proletariat, bitterly oppressed even of the Workers' Alliance the So- port of armaments, militarism, is to eliminate the hated and under the most liberal democracy cialist party reminds workers and eventually war. This they dangerous color from the entire will make the greatest of sacrifices everywhere that if they had some remnant of hope in the "liberal- in the face of the large bloc of agreed that the first bits of red brings untold destruction of human ism" of Mr. Roosevelt, they must change that hope and place it of League of Nations lovers who red pencils used by professors struggle through their own economic organizations, and as rapidly as possible through their own independent, working class, political organization.

Socialist Book Shop Periodicals, Books, Pamphlets and Newspapers of the work-

ing class movement. 236 VAN NESS AVE. San Francisco One Flight Up

Mail orders promptly filled. Catalogues on request.

\$1.00 for One Year in Clubs of 4.

New Orleans Bosses Conduct Reign Of Terror

(Continued from Page 1) and others are daily sending bread, meat, canned goods, etc. to strike headquarters. On Christmas Day, several restaurant keepers invited the seamen to a free

COLLEGE PAPER SUPPRESSED When the Tulane Hullabaloo, campus student weekly, attempted reprint a part of the Post Dispatch article, the presses were ordered stopped, and six hundred copies already off the press were destroyed. The University authorities piously deny that there is any censorship of the Hulla-They also deny that books on labor problèms have been removed from the shelves of the li-Socialists Battle With brary. The fact remains that new books and pamphlets ordered by the department of economics have not been cataloged although they have been in the possession of the librarian for some months. Dr. Clarence Bonnett, head of the department of economics, tells a news reporter that when he inquired why the books which he ad ordered were not on the helves, the librarian stated that she had been ordered not to place them in circulation. When interviewed, the librarian stated that his was a mistake, that the long ielay in cataloging these particular items was the normal proredure. All we know is that the ooks are not there.

LIBERALS UNDER FIRE The Coalition of Patriotic Soieties Inc. which is the group esponsible for the orgy of red the Socialists and militants on baiting and labor persecution in the one hand and the Communists the city, is at present directing its attention against liberals on the faculty of Tulane University and Newcomb College. It happens that there are several professors, mainly in the departments of history and sociology, who have dared speak and write on the subject of tenant farming Leading off for the uncomfort- in the South, who have attended liberal and pacifist meetings, who able liberals, James Wechsler, have taught classes of workers Communist editor of the ASU organ, reported for the minority in without receiving pay for their services, and have even done one of the most brazenly socialsuch "un-American" things as to

country. "We want to stop the to read "Das Kapital."
Fascist aggressors," declared The Louisiana Coality The Louisiana Coalition of Pa-Wechsler, referring to those coun- triotic Societies, Inc., has solemntries cut off from colonial booty ly drawn up formal accusations by the stronger imperialist na- against these professors, and the tions and hence driven to Fascism professors have been forced to for increased exploitation at home appear before the board of adand belligerency for markets ministrators of the university

travel to Russia as a tourist and

"crimes. ter backed up by boats and guns." STUDENTS HIT BACK The "boats and guns" Wechsler The fact that the board of adasked students to support were those of the bigger powers and ministrators is not supposed to their puppets, whose huge colonial administer anything but the funds empires make it possible for them of the institution, and the further to afford "democracy" at home fact that the Coalition of Patrioand the status quo internationally. tic Societies, Inc., is a self appointed board of censorship over The speeches upholding Wechsthe opinions and actions of teachler's stand were made almost exers has not prevented the univerclusively by Communists. The sity board from listening to the pacifists and patriots found them absurd charges, and subjecting such able servants, that they themselves hardly had to take the a degrading and humiliating ex-

perience. The only effective protest so Molly Yard, Jefferson Campbell, one of the most powerful weapons of the masses. and other leading figures, stood in the world, ridicule. A recent campus, where the Tulane Coalidemonstrated so irrefutably that vicinity of the university. All to fight against fascism, which social-patriotic Communists and to go must be the red ink and life and values. were able to muster 99 votes be removed from the library. Esagainst textbooks with red bind-

Poinsettas are in full bloom at the campus and snip off all red with the nationwide campus dem- buds. Red haired students will onstration, proceeds from food be required hereafter to become savings to go to anti-war work. platinum blondes, and all co-eds It also endorsed the national must eschew red finger nail polmarch on Washington for the ish.

American Youth Act, which will Incorporate Two Vigilante Groups

During December two vigilante groups filed incorporation papers with Secretary of State, Frank C. Jordan. On December 7, America's Civic Better Business Bureau filed aggressive, the most vicious, and incorporation papers for "The Vigi- the most useful of all is the Amerlantes." The group describes itself ican "Communist" Party. If we say as a patriotic organization which is that the war danger is the greatest sworn to uphold in a "lawful and danger facing the American proorderly manner" the provisions of letariat, we may also say that the the federal constitution.

On December 9, the "Civilian present period consists basically in Army of Bluecoats, Ltd.", was in- recruiting the masses to support to any war which the U. S. govern- support of the coming war only to corporated. It emphasizes plans to the U. S. government in a war on ment undertakes. Any such war the extent that it strangles and recombat radicalism, and in its ex- the side of the Soviet Union. pressed purposes also lists activi- Every strategy of the C. P. is ties in behalf of pensions, stricter strictly subordinated to this everimmigration laws, and the deporta- present objective. In point of cold ism — this revolutionary class- treacherous maneuvers and hypotion of alien disloyal to the estab- fact, we can only understand their struggle policy against war-and critical "advice" to the Socialist lished government.

Of Debs Brigade

Socialist Party Calls for Volunteers to Fight Spain, Against Fascism With Spanish Workers For Socialist Spain

(Continued from Page 1)

Los Angeles, Calif.—"Just a line to let you know I want to be in the 1st Brigade to fight for the Madrid Government. I made Chief Petty Officer in a short while in the U.S. Government during the World War and will be a great help in my

line for Spain.' Milwaukee, Wis .- "I am thirty-two years of age, have been Socialist all my life, emigrated from Germany in 1923, participated in the Ruhr rebellion and am a tool and die maker with considerable experience in guns, rifle scopes and ballistics. Am a member of a rifle club, do all the reloading of ammunition and testing. Am also an expert rifle man (U. S. Army Medal) and do the coaching of all new members in rifle shooting in our club.'

Whitewater, Wis. - "I have been doing free lance work in the design and reconditioning of aircraft and engines-in addition to regular participation in general flying activities. For your further information I am 30 years of age, started flying in 1925 on World War surplus equipment."

Washington, D. C .- "I was very much interested in your announcement of the formation of a Socialist column for Spain. There are two of us here in Washington who are ready to go now. I am going down to Richmond this week but they are old service buddles of mine who are experts in their line, radio, machine gun, flying, etc.

"And finally, may I organize my own company. I know darned well that I can line up enough ex-Marines alone to prêtty near make a company. How about it? That's not important, just an idea. The important thing is how soon?" New York, N. Y .- "Three and one-half years, 1906-1909, Czar-

ist army sharpshooter." Brooklyn, N. Y .- "During my sojourn in China, I went through more actual combat experience than the average soldier got in the World War. I have always had a very definite hatred for the fascists. My father was a personal friend of Eugene Debs. When I saw the article in the paper announcing the "Debs Battalion," it struck a responsive chord in me immediately. I am an expert with the rifle, automatic rifle, and the bayonet. I have photos to substantiate the above statements."

CALL OF INTERNATIONALISM These men understand that the war in Spain will go far toward deciding the fate of the workers in all countries for many years to come. Workers' victory in Spain can stop the fascist surge which has bathed Italy, Germany and Austria in workers' blood. It can open a new and far more hopeful period in the world drive which began when Karl Marx wrote the

fateful words: "Workers of the world unite! You have nothing to lose but your chains - you have a world to gain!"

The Debs Brigade is answering that call. Enlist or send your contribution TODAY!

GREATEST DANGER

War and the War Mongers

By WILLIAM TAUBIN

In 1917 we entered the World War to make the world safe for democracy-we were told. As an aftermath of that war, the "den ocratic" system has disappeared in many European countries.

but for profit—not for the "nation behave these days? united" but for the rulers of the 1. The C. P. itself is shoved into nation, the capitalists. When they the

the instructors of the college to the catchword to mislead the chains? Very true—but what about assistant of the war mongers.

Arrayed against them, Socialist far to all of the red baiting has masses which lie most fruitfully and militant students including come from the students of Tu-awaiting the new-style dema-Soviet Union. Harold Draper, Albert Hamilton, lane. They are making use of gogues? The anti-fascist sentiments

HATE FASCISM

The workers loathe and despise

bosses to know just such things. ruling position supply them with all the needed avenues of information—but, at the same time, it In connection with the Student this season in New Orleans. A places at their collective disposal "scissors brigade" was organized the most variegated supply of asvoted to undertake a pacifistic 24 whose duty it will be to go about sistants - conscious and unconscious. The politicians of the big capitalist parties, headed by Roosevelt-may be said to be their direct representatives. But a far greater service is given them by their agents in the ranks of the opborites, et al.

"AT YOUR SERVICE"

Of these three groups, the most work of American Stalinism for the

entire political line if we realize Stalinism fears its spread and must Party,

We see clearly today that the that it flows from the above prelast war was fought not for ideals mise. How does Yankee Stalinism

set out to dragoon the masses into job as that of a "left-wing" of a their slaughter-fest for profits, they coalition of the workers and libclothed that objective in the eral capitalists in defense of the noblest and most unselfish of "status quo" nationally and interideological raiment; they deliber nationally. In view of the immiately and calculatingly exploited in nence of the next war, it would be the basest fashion the progressive, "ultra-leftist" to strike out for the humane sentiments of the power—the best thing is to safeguard what we have by uniting Now, a new and greater war is with any and all who care to join in preparation and the workers us. But what does the American must ask themselves: What will be working class have to lose-but its masses and who will be the new the Soviet Union? The workers have that to lose, says the C. P. What sentiments abound in the Therefore, let us join hands with "our" government and "defend" the

LEAGUE KOSHER

2. The League of Nations and "collective security" are resurrected. The myth of the "aggressor" nation is sedulously revived and nourished by the "communists." All of Lenin's teachings on this score are trampled into the dust-"conditions are different now. the true role of Pacifism as a smoke-screen for war preparation and a deception of the masses is The capitalists are well aware of hidden and pacifism is represented where it belongs: in a militant desperately clung to a "way out to correct examination papers. All the anti-fascist sentiments of the as a mighty "weapon" against imof war under capitalism," they books with red bindings are to masses. It is the business of the perialism, and an index by which to judge the "allies" of the workagainst 136 which defeated the pecial vigilance must be exercised Not only this, not only does their ers. Independent working-class action becomes "utopian"-Stalinist realism makes use of "every means to the end," including the state apparatus of capitalism. Thus, the supposed interests of the Soviet Union are used to justify this departure from the teachings of Marxism on the state.

FLAG WAVERS

The Communist Party is today the most blatantly patriotic of all pressed class itself. These latter parties. It lives only to rescue the come under three main headings: Stars and Stripes from the hands (1) The Trade Union Bureaucracy, of the reaction. It placates, woos (2) the "Communist" Party, (3) and mollifies the liberals and tries Old Guard "Socialists," Farmer-La- to drown its red-tinted past in torrents of chauvinist phraseology. It appeals for unity with all who care to see the light. It beckens the arch-demagogue, Townsend, and looks with sheep's eyes at Coughlin-at the same time its attacks on the Socialist Party increase in vileness and fury.

The reason is not far to seek. The Socialist Party alone has fight it. Stalinism can succeed in openly stated: We stand opposed dragooning the radical workers into can serve the interests of one class moves the influence of revolutiononly, and that is the ruling class.

Spanish War Is Subject Of Erber Talks

ialist League who recently returned from several months in was scheduled to speak under the auspices of the Cook County Socialist Party and YPSL, Idroit in Chicago on "What I Saw up per month. That's the only in Spain.'

Comrade Erber was sent by the going strong. Young People's Socialist League as a delegate to the Anti-War selves from their holiday lethargy Conference at Brussels. Belgium, this week with some of the re and from there he went to France sults as followswhere he spent a little time meetnowever, was spent in Spain Spanish workers against the Fas- we'll send them toot-sweet. ist rebellion.

January 8, Comrade Erber was billed to speak at a mass meeting held under the auspices of the Young People's Socialist League in the City Club of Cleveland. His subject for this meeting was Behind the Spanish Struggle." California Socialists and YPSL nembers are making plans to tour Comrade Erber through this state as soon as possible.

Butte Labor Calls Lay-offs "Inhuman"

BUTTE, Mont.—Characterizing he WPA lay-off in Montana as inhuman", the Butte Trades and Labor Council condemned the national administration's relief policy in a telegram sent to the State's representatives in Washing, and to Harry Hopkins.

The telegram reads: "Slashes n WPA inhuman. Unions deplore Federal action and register our bitterest condemnation. We urge vou to have National Administration modify its former order curtailing employment."

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So in making out your budget from now on, include us Thursday, January 7, at the Cafe on your list for a contribution of anywhere from two-bits

Our sub-getters aroused them-

Tied for first place we find ing the workers and learning John Williams of Clovis, New about the political lineups in that Mexico and Helen Ekerold of Rivcountry. A major part of his time, erside, California. Both of you are entitled to an original of Carlo's where he was an eye-witness to drawings, comrades. So let us many of the struggles of the know which one you want and

> In second place is our erstwhile San Francisco official circulation booster. Raoul Leon whose brace of subs was paid with in U. S postage. Raoul also holds the proud distinction of having boost ed the San Francisco bundle to 1,500 copies. Looks like Frisco has the edge on Los Angeles Tch, tch.

A comrade whose name cannot be published, of Toronto, Can ada, comes through with a juicy order and says "Congratulations on the paper. It it certainly re freshing to read after being del luged with all sorts of Stalinist papers here in Toronto."

And we have to mention an other Canadian comrade in Mont real, who is active in the Co operative Commonwealth Youth Movement and in the unemployed and trade union movement of that city. He not only increases his bundle order (and pays in advance) but also says "Labor Action is sure a great paper and it certainly puts across the message of revolutionary Socialism.'

Charlie Beckett of Chicago plunks down cash for a bundle of sizable proportions and promises "I'll do the best I can to build up a circulation and appreciation of Labor Action."

offices in the new Socialist head- the war-time boom. quarters at 236 Van Ness Ave. in San Francisco. Due to the increase in the amount of work to good for scrap only, and less than necessary.

ment, and this week we hope to gency.

The Action Army

By FRANK STERN

By now many of you have received our communication Ernest Erber, National Chair concerning the sustaining fund that has been set up to han of the Young People's So- keep Labor Action on a firm financial basis. The importance of a regular sustaining fund can not be over-esti-

> thing that will keep Labor Action be able to buy a desk for the editor and for yours truly. Already

we have acquired an addressograph, some variegated filing equipment, a few rubber stamps and a secretary.

In order to make all this pos-. . . in order to keep the new headquarters going . . . in order for the machinery of publication and distribution to run smoothly we must have adequate finances. Send in your contribution now and become a regular contributor to our sustaining fund.

And get plenty of subs and undle orders to help build Labor

Living Costs Forge Ahead of Wages At An Alarming Rate

Living costs are forging ahead of family income at a rate that cannot be ignored by conservativé économists.

The Northwestern National Life Insurance Company disclosed this week that during the first week in December whole sale food prices jumped 8.7 per cent, while rent, clothing, and other essentials continued their advance on a wide front.

Meanwhile, the company said, average earnings are falling with a shrinkage of \$2.21 in the average family income during the third quarter.

Reclaim Scrapped Ships for Navy Use

WASHINGTON. - Digging into the scrap-heap of the old Shipping Board's reserve fleet-long rot-We're cutting down on the ting at their moorings-the Maribackslapping this week to let you time Commission will dry dock in on some news. Labor Action in navy yards all but four of the has moved to a spacious suite of 197 ships hurriedly built during

These ships, many of which were condemned in the past as be done this move was absolutely 40 considered fit for commercial use, will now be put in dry dock in preparation for their use as We have also added and are naval auxiliaries, or for utilizastill adding to our office equip- tion in case of a national emer-

The California Youth Bill

By FRANK STERN

In 1935 the American Youth Congress, a united front of progressive and radical youth organizations in the United States, drew up a bill called the American Youth Act in which were listed the x-

demands of a locked out generation of youth for a minimum of economic security. Though organizations of young people with memberships running into the millions appeared at an open congressional hearing on the bill to urge its adoption, the Roosevelt - controlled legislative machine took no action. Though many powerful trade unions sent representatives to Washington to point out the necessity for ameliorating the plight of young people, the liberal capitalist government paid no heed.

Roosevelt and Youth

Instead of an American Youth Act, which takes into account the needs of youth and points out the necessity of maintaining trade union standards, Roosevelt created the National Youth Administration, a bureaucratic alphabet combination which at times doles out a few pennies to needy students without taking into account the thousands upon thousands of young people who are not in school and who need

Roosevelt also created the Civilian Conservation Corps which is nothing but a chain of forced labor camps stretching across the country in which young men are forced to work for a dollar a day under the threat that if they do not do so their families will be dropped from the relief roles. But even worse than that is the open declaration of Roosevelt's war department that the CCC camps are to be used to train recruits for the army and that mili-

ary socialism. This is the objective But this is anathema to Stalin- behind all their vicious attacks,

tary drill and regulations will be enforced at all camps.

Force Down Standards

The effect of these two government agencies, the NYA and the CCC is to force down the accepted union standards of wages by using young people to do work for almost nothing that would ordinarily be done by trained workers at union rates. This condition is a club over the heads of the trade union movement and a potential source of organized scabbery. In contradistinction to the gov-

ernment setup the American Youth Congress posed the American Youth Act. This died in the Congressional Committee. However, in order to obtain some relief for the youth a California Youth Bill has been drafted and will be presented to the California legislature in January. The Business and Professional Department of the YWCA is responsible for the present draft of the California Youth Bill, and it is surprising to note that the demands listed in this bill are lower than the minimum requirements set by the American Youth Acts, and that instead of exposing the role of the National Youth Administration as one which lowers union standards, it invites NYA co-operation.

A Dangerous Tendency

The Young People's Socialist League is the only organization behind the California Youth Bill which exposes the treacherous role of the government and its betrayal of the unemployed youth. The tendency in the youth movement and in the American Youth Congress to pat the liberals on the back and to "play ball" with the government -a tendency fostered by the Young Communist League—is a dangerous one. It should be fought by all organizations really interested in presenting to the legislature a bill which makes adequate demands for youth and

which embodies the principle that the bill should be administered by the youth organizations themselves.

In the preliminary discussions on ways and means of getting a California Youth Bill passed, many young people, obviously under the influence of the Young Communist League, proposed that a committee be sent to Sacramento to "pull strings" and carry on a lobbying campaign among liberal legislators. The Young People's Socialist League is ready, anxious, and willing to co-operate with all youth organia zations in a real fight for a California Youth Bill. But we demand that this bill maintain at all times the standards set in the American Youth Act. And we insist that the only way to get action out of the capitalist legislature in Sacramento is by carrying on extra-parliamentary activities for the bill. By mass demonstrations of youth, by pressure from the organized labor movement, by petition campaigns and other such devices the young people can make known their

Futility of Lobbying Lobbying and pussyfooting win nothing. The only thing it can gain is the "good will" of the capitalist class who are ready and willing to make promises. If the youth take action the legislators will have to give more

than promises; they will have to

give relief.

needs and their demands very

plainly to the fat-bellied boys.

The Young People's Socialist League wishes to take this opportunity to invite all organizations of youth and all trade unions to participate in the drive for youth legislation in California and in the United States. You have but to write to the YPSL, 236 Van Ness Ave., San Francisco, California, and all information including copies of the draft bill and the American Youth Act. will be forwarded to

The pressing need for such legislation is apparent. A powerful and active united front with proper leadership can wring concessions from the capitalists. It is your duty to participate in this

"LABOR ACTION" Official Weekly of the Socialist Party of California 236 VAN NESS AVE.

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DEBS' HISTORIC SPEECH AT CANTON

The Leader of American Socialism Spoke Against Imperialism War

(Sunday afternoon, June 16, 1918—in the midst of America's participation in the World War -Eugene V. Debs stood up at Canton, Ohio, and delivered his historic speech against the war. With the world on the verge of another imperialist slaughter it is well to remember what the grand old revolutionary fighter said and did in 1918. The speech is reprinted here from the pamphlet, "The Heritage of Debs," published by the National Office of the Socialist Party.—Ed.)

DEB'S HISTORIC CANTON SPEECH

Sunday Afternoon, June 16th, 1918. (The speech as printed in this pamphlet is an abridgement of the original. Omissions consist of local and out-of-date references and repetitions.)

Comrades, friends and fellowworkers, for this very cordial greeting, this very hearty reception, I thank you all with the fullest appreciation of your interest in and your devotion to the cause for which I am to speak to you this afternoon. (Applause.)

To speak for labor; to plead the cause of the men and women and children who toil; to serve the working class, has always been to me a high privilege; (Applause) a duty of love.

I have just returned from a visit over yonder (pointing to the workhouse) (Laughter), where three of our most loyal comrades are paying the penalty for their devotion to the cause of the working class. (Applause.) They have come to realize, as many of us have, that it is extremely dangerous to exercise the constitutional right of free speech in a country fighting to make democracy safe in the world. (Applause.)

Can't Jail A Movement

I realize that, in speaking to you this afternoon, there are certain limitations placed upon the right of free speech. I must be exceedingly careful, prudent, as to what I say, and even more careful and prudent as to how I say it. (Laughter.) I may not be able to say all I think; (Laughter and applause) but I am not going to say anything that I do not think. (Applause.) I would rather a thousand times be a free soul in jail than to be a sycophant and coward in the streets. (Applause and They may put those boys in jail -and some of the rest of us in jail-but they can not put the Socialist movement in jail. (Applause and shouts.) Those prison bars separate their bodies from ours, but their souls are here this afternoon. (Applause and cheers.) They are simply paying the penalty, that all men have paid in all the ages of history, for standing erect, and for seeking to pave the way to better con-

ditions for mankind. (Applause.) If it had not been for the men and women, who, in the past, have had the moral courage to go to jail, we would still be in the jungles. (Applause.) * * *

Compromise Brings Trouble

There is but one thing you have to be concerned about, and that is that you keep four-square with the principles of the international Socialist movement. (Applause.) It is only when you begin to compromise that trouble begins. (Applause.) So far as I am concerned, it does not matter what others may say, or think, or do, as long as I am sure that I am right with myself and the cause. (Applause.) There are so many who seek refuge in the popular side of a great question. As a Socialist, I have long since learned how to stand alone. (Applause.) * * *

I never had much faith in leaders. (Laughter.) I am willing to be charged with almost anything. rather than to be charged with being a leader. I am suspicious of leaders, and especially of the intellectual variety. (Applause.) Give me the rank and file every day in the week. If you go to the city of Washington, and you examine the pages of the Congessional Directory, you will find that almost all of those corporation lawyers and cowardly politicians, members of Congress. and misrepresentatives of the masses-you will find that almost all of them claim, in glowing terms, that they have risen from the ranks to places of eminence and distinction. I am very glad I can not make that claim for myself. (Laughter.) I would be ashamed to admit that I had risen from the ranks. When I rise it will be with the ranks, and not from the ranks. (Applause.) * * *

Capitalist Press Lies

They who have been reading the capitalist newspapers realize what a capacity they have for lying. We have been reading them lately. They know all about (Laughter.) Would they be sat-

the Socialist party . . . except what is true. (Laughter.) Only the other day they took an article that I had written - and most of you have read it-most of you members of the party, at least-and they made it appear that I had undergone a marvelous transformation. (Laughter.) I had suddenly become changed -had in fact come to my senses: I had ceased to be a wicked Socialist, and had become a respectable Socialist, (Laughter) a patriotic Socialist-as if I had ever been anything else. (Laughter.)

What was the purpose of this deliberate misrepresentation? It is so self-evident that it suggests itself. The purpose was to sow the seeds of dissension in our ranks; to have it appear that we were divided among ourselves; that we were pitted against each other, to our mutual undoing. But Socialists were not born yesterday. (Applause.) They know how to read capitalist newspapers: (Laughter and applause) and to believe exactly the opposite of what they read. (Applause and laughter.)

Why should a Socialist be discouraged on the eve of the greatest triumph in all the history of the Socialist movement? (Applause.) It is true that these are anxious, trying days for us all -testing days for the women and men who are upholding the banner of labor in the struggle of the working class of all the world against the exploiters of all the world; (Applause) a time in which the weak and cowardly will falter and fail and desert. They lack the fibre to endure the revolutionary test: they fall away; they disappear as if they had never been. On the other hand, they who are animated by the unconquerable spirit of the social revolution; they who have the moral courage to stand erect and assert their convictions; stand by them; fight for them; go to jail or to hell for them, if need be-(Applause and shouts) they are writing their names, in this crucial hour-they are writing their names in fadeless letters in the history of mankind. (Applause.) * * *

Wipe Out Militarism

Are we opposed to Prussian militarism? (Laughter.) (Shouts from the crowd of "Yes. Yes") Why, we have been fighting it since the day the Socialist movement was born; (Applause) and we are going to continue to fight it, day and night, until it is wiped from the face of the earth. (Thunderous applause and cheers.) Between us there is no truce-no compromise.

But, before I proceed along this line, let me recall a little history, in which I think we are all interested.

In 1869 that grand old warrior of the Social revolution, the elder Liebknecht, was arrested and sentenced to prison for three months, because of his war, as a Socialist, on the Kaiser and on the junkers that rule Germany. In the meantime the Franco-Prussian war broke out. Liebknecht and Bebel were the Socialist members in the Reichstag. They were the only two who had the courage to protest against taking Alsace-Lorraine from France and annexing it to Germany, And for this they were sentenced to 2 years in a prison fortress charged with high treason; because, even in that early day, almost fifty years ago, these leaders, these forerunners of the international Socialist movement were fighting the Kaiser and fighting the junkers of Germany. (Great applause and cheers.) They have continued to fight them from that day to this. (Applause.) Multiplied thousands of Socialists have languished in the jails of Germany because of their heroic warfare upon the despotic ruling class of that country. (Applause.) * *

Parasites At Home

I hate, I loathe, I despise junkers and junkerdom. I have no earthly use for the junkers of Germany, and not one particle more use for the junkers in the United States. (Thunderous applause and cheers.)

They tell us that we live in a great free republic; that our institutions are democratic; that we are a free and self-governing people. (Laughter.) This is too much, evan for a joke. (Laughter.) But it is not a subject for levity; it is an exceedingly serious matter.

To whom do the Wall Street junkers in our country marry their daughters? After they have wrung their countless millions from your sweat, your agony and your life's blood, in a time of war as in a time of peace, they invest these untold millions in the purchase of titles of brokendown aristocrats, such as princes, dukes, counts and other parasites and no-accounts. isfied to wed their daughters to honest workingmen? (Shouts from the crowd, "No!") To real democrats? Oh, no! They scour the markets of Europe for vampires who are titled and nothing else. (Laughter.) And they swap their millions for the titles, so that matrimony with them becomes literally a matter of money. (Laughter.)

Scoundrel's

Refuge These are the gentry who are today wrapped up in the American flag, who shout their claim from the housetops that they are the only patriots, and who have their magnifying glasses in hand, scanning the country for evidence of disloyalty, eager to apply the brand of treason to the men who dare to even whisper their opposition to junker rule in the United States. No wonder Sam Johnson declared that "patriotism is the last refuge of the scoundrel." He must have had these Wall Street gentry in mind, or at least their prototypes, for in every age it has been the tyrant, the oppressor and the exploiter who has wrapped himself in the cloak of patriotism, or religion, or both to deceive and overawe the people. (Applause.)

I know Tom Mooney intimately as if he were my own brother. He is an absolutely honest man. (Applause.) He had no more to do with the crime with which he was charged and for which he was convicted than I had. (Applause.) And if he ought to go to the gallows, so ought I. If he is guilty every man who belongs to a labor organization or to the Socialist party is likewise guilty.

Mooney's

What is Tom Mooney guilty of? I will tell you. I am familiar with his record. For years he has been fighting bravely and without compromise the battles of the working class out on the Pacific coast. He refused to be bribed and he could not be browbeaten. In spite of all attempts to intimidate him he continued loyally in the service of the organized workers, and for this he became a marked man. The henchmen of the powerful and corrupt corporations, concluding finally that he could not be bought or bribed or bullied, decided he must therefore be murdered. That is why Tom Mooney is today a life prisoner, and why he would have been hanged as a felon years ago but for the worldwide protest of the working class. (Applause.) * * *

Who appoints our federal judges? The people? In all the history of the country, the working class have never named a federal judge. There are 121 of these judges and every solitary one holds his position, his tenure, through the influence and power of corporate capital. The corporations and trusts dictate their appointment. And when they go to the bench, they go, not to serve the people, but to serve the interests that place them and keep them where they

Our So-Called

Democracy Why, the other day, by a vote of five to four-a kind of craps game-(Laughter) come seven, come 'leven-(Laughter) they declared the child labor law unconstitutional—a law secured after twenty years of education and agitation on the part of all kinds of people. And yet, by a majority of one, the supreme court, a body of corporation lawyers, with just one exception, wiped that law from the statute books, and this in our so-called Democracy, so that we may continue to grind the flesh and blood and bones of puny little children into profits for the junkers of Wall Street. (Applause.) And this in a country that boasts of fighting to make the world safe for democracy! (Laughter.) The history of this country is being written in the blood of the childhood the industrial lords have murdered. * * *

How stupid and short-sighted the ruling class really is! Cupidity is stone blind. It has no vision. The greedy, profit-seeking exploiter cannot see beyond the end of his nose. He can see a chance for an "opening"; he is cunning enough to know what graft is and where it is, and how it can be secured, but vision he has none—not the slightest. He knows nothing of the great throbbing world that spreads out in all directions. He has no capacity for literature; no appreciation of art; no soul for beauty. That is the penalty the parasites pay for the violation of the laws of life. * * *

Suppression Helps Us

Every move they make in their game of greed but hastens their own doom. Every blow they other and to cut one another's all the zones that girdle the

strike at the Socialist movement reacts upon themselves. Every time they strike at us, they hit themselves. It never fails. (Applause.) Every time they strangle a Socialist paper they add a thousand voices proclaiming the truth of the principles of Socialism and the ideals of the Socialist movement. They help us in spite of themselves.

Socialism is a growing idea; an

expanding philosophy. It is

spreading over the entire face of the earth. It is as vain to resist it as it would be to arrest the sunrise on the morrow. It is coming, coming, coming all along the line. Can you not see it? If not, I advise you to consult an occulist. There is certainly something the matter with your vision. It is the mightiest movement in the history of mankind. What a privilege to serve it! I have regretted a thousand times that I can do so little for the movement that has done so much for me. (Applause.) The little that I am, the little that I am hoping to be, I owe to the Socialist movement. (Applause.) It has given me my ideas and ideals; my principles and convictions, and would not exchange one of them for all of Rockefeller's blood-stained dollars. (Cheers.) It has taught me how to serve -a lesson to me of priceless value. It has taught me the ecstacy in the hand-clasp of a comrade. It has enabled me to hold high communion with vou. and made it possible for me to take my place side by side with you in the great struggle for the better day; to multiply myself over and over again; to thrill with a fresh born manhood; to feel life truly worth while; to open new avenues of vision; to spread out glorious vistas; to know that I am kin to all that throbs; to be classconscious, and to realize that, regardless of nationality, race, creed, color or sex, every man, every woman who toils, who renders useful service, every member of the working class without an exception, is my comrade, my brother and sister -and that to serve them and their cause is the highest duty of my life. (Great applause).

Hearts With Russia

Yes. my comrades, my heart is attuned to yours. Aye, all our hearts now throb as one great heart responsive to the battlecry of the social revolution. Here, in this alert and inspiring assemblage (Applause) our hearts are with the Bolsheviki of Russia. (Deafening and prolonged applause.) Those heroic men and women, those unconquerable comrades have by their incomparable valor and sacrifice added fresh lustre to the fame of the international movement. * * * The very first act of the triumphant Russian revolution was to proclaim a state of peace with all mankind, coupled with a fervent moral appeal, not to kings, not to emperors, rulers or diplomats but to the people of all nations. * * * When the Bolsheviki came into power and went through the archives they found and exposed the secret treaties -the treaties that were made between the Czar and the French government, the British government and the Italian government, proposing, after the victory was achieved, to dismember the German Empire and destroy the Central Powers. These treaties have never been denied nor repudiated. Very little has been said about them in the American press. I have a copy of these treaties, showing that the purpose of the Allies is exactly the purpose of the Central Powers, and that is the conquest and spoilation of the weaker nations that has always been the purpose of war.

Wars of Plunder

Wars throughout history have been waged for conquest and plunder. In the middle ages when the feudal lords who inhabited the castles whose towers may still be seen along the Rhine decided to enlarge their domains, to increase their power, their prestige and their wealth they declared war upon one another. But they themselves did not go to war any more than the modern feudal lords, the barons of Wall Street go to war. (Applause.) The feudal barons of the middle ages, the economic predecessors of the capitalists of our day. declared all wars. And their miserable serfs fought all the battles. The poor, ignorant serfs had been taught to revere their masters; to believe that when their masters declared war upon one another, it was their patriotic duty to fall upon one an-

throats for the profit and glory of the lords and harons who held them in contempt. And that is war in a nutshell. The master class has always declared the wars; the subject class has always fought the battles. The master class has had all to gain and nothing to lose, while the subject class has had nothing to gain and all to lose -especially their lives. (Ap-

War Makers Make "Peace"

And here let me emphasize the fact-and it cannot be repeated too often-that the working class who fight all the battles, the working class who make the supreme sacrifices, the working class who freely shed their blood and furnish the corpses, have never yet had a voice in either declaring war or making peace. It is the ruling class that invariably does both. They alone declare war and they alone make peace.

> "Yours not to reason why; Yours but to do and die"

That is their motto and we object on the part of the awakening workers of this nation.

What a compliment it is to the Socialist movement to be persecuted for the sake of the truth! The truth alone will make the people free. (Applause.) And for this reason the truth must not be permitted to reach the people. The truth has always been dangerous to the rule of the rogue, the exploiter, the robber. So the truth must be ruthlessly suppressed. That is why they are trying to destroy the Socialist movement; and every time they strike a blow they add a thousand new volces to the hosts proclaiming that Socialism is the hope of humanity and has come to emancipate the people from their final form of servitude. (Applause.) * *

Hate Only The System

We do not attack individuals. We do not seek to avenge ourselves upon those opposed to our faith. We have no fight with individuals as such. We are capable of pitying those who hate iis (Annlaiise) hate them; we know better; we would freely give them a cup of water if they needed it. (Applause.) There is no room in our hearts for hate, except for the system, the social system in which it is possible for one man to amass a stupendous fortune doing nothing, while millions of others suffer and struggle and agonize and die for the bare necessities of existence. (Applause.) * * *

It is the minorities who have made the history of this world. It is the few who have had the courage to take their places at the front; who have been true enough to themselves to speak the truth that was in them: who have dared oppose the established order of things; who have espoused the cause of the suffering, struggling poor; who have upheld without regard to personal consequences the cause of freedom and righteousness. It is they, the heroic, self-sacrificing few who have made the history of the race and who have paved the way from barbarism to civilization. The many prefer to remain upon the popular side. They lack the courage and vision to join a despised minority that stands for a principle; they have not the moral fibre that withstands, endures and finally conquers. They are to be pitied and not treated with contempt for they cannot help their cowardice.

An Eternal Obligation

But, thank God, in every age and in every nation there have been the brave and self-reliant few. and they have been sufficient to their historic task; and we, who are here today, are under infinite obligations to them because they suffered. they sacrificed, they went to jail, they had their bones broken upon the wheel, they were burned at the stake and their ashes scattered to the winds by the hands of hate and revenge in their struggle to leave the world better for us than they found it for themselves. We are under eternal obligations to them because of what they did and what they suffered for us and the only way we can discharge that obligation is by doing the best we can for those who are to come after us. (Applause.) * * *

The heart of the International Socialist never beats a retreat. (Applause.)

They are pressing forward, here, there and everywhere, in

globe. Everywhere these awakening workers, these class-conscious proletarians, these hardy sons and daughters of honest toil are proclaiming the glad tidings of the coming emancipation; everywhere their hearts are attuned to the most sacred cause that ever challenged men and women to action in all the history of the world. Everywhere they are moving toward democracy and the dawn; marching toward the sunrise, their faces all aglow with the light of the coming day. These are the Socialists, the most zealous and enthusiastic crusaders the world has ever known.

History

They are making history that will light up the horizon of coming generations, for their mission is the emancipation of the human race. They have been reviled; they have been ridiculed, persecuted, imprisoned and have suffered death, but they have been sufficient to themselves and their cause, and their final triumph is but a question of time.

Do you wish to hasten the day of victory? Join the Socialist party! Don't wait for the morrow. Join now! (Applause.) Enroll your name without fear and take your place where you belong. You cannot do your duty by proxy. You have got to do it yourself and do it squarely and then as you look ourself in the face you will have no occasion to blush. You will know what it is to be a real man or woman. You will lose nothing; you will gain everything. (Applause.) Not only will you lose nothing but you will find something of infinite value. and that something will be yourself. And that is your supreme need-to find yourself-to really know yourself and your purpose in life. (Applause.) * * *

You need to know that it is your duty to rise above the animal plane of existence. You need to know that it is for you to know something about literature and science and art. You need to know that you are verging on the edge of a great new world. You need to get in touch with your comrades and fellowworkers and to become conscious of your interests. your powers and your possibilities as a class. You need to know that you belong to the great majority of mankind. You need to know that as long as you are ignorant, as long as you are indifferent, as long as you are apathetic, unorganized and content, you will remain exactly where you are. (Applause.) You will be exploited; you will be degraded, and you will have to beg for a job. You will get just enough for your slavish toil to keep you in working order, and you will be looked down upon with scorn and contempt by the very parasites that live and luxuriate out of your sweat and un-

If you would be respected you

have got to begin by respecting

yourself. (Applause.) Stand up

squarely and look yourself in

the face and see a man! Do not

Socialists Are Men!

allow yourself to fall into the predicament of the poor fellow who, after he had heard a Socialist speech concluded that he too ought to be a Socialist. The argument he had heard was unanswerable. "Yes," he said to himself, "all the speaker said was true and I certainly ought to join the party." But after a while he allowed his ardor to cool and he soberly concluded that by joining the party he might anger his boss and lose his job. He then concluded: "I can't take the chance." That night he slept alone. There was something on his conscience and it resulted in a dreadful dream. Men always have such dreams when they betray themselves. A Socialist is free to go to bed with a clear conscience. He goes to sleep with his manhood and he awakens and walks forth in the morning with his self-respect. He is unafraid and he can look the whole world in the face. (Applause and laughter) without a tremor and without a blush. But this poor weakling who lacked the courage to do the bidding of his reason and conscience was haunted by a startling dream and at midnight he awoke in terror, bounded from bed and exclaimed: "My God, there is nobody in this room." (Laughter.) He was absolutely right. (Laughter and applause.) There was nobody in that room. How would you like to sleep

in a room that had nobody in it? (Laughter.) It is an awful thing to be nobody. That is certainly a state of mind to get out of, the sooner the better. **

(Continued Next Week)

The Party At Work

Palo Alto Plans Big Drive

Glen Trimble, State Secretary of the Socialist Party of California, is scheduled to speak at the first meeting of the organization drive being launched by the Palo Alto local. Comrade Trimble will

Cowan At Forum On Agriculture

A sensational expose, giving deganization campaign of the growers of California, will open the regular Sunday evening Forum program of the Socialist Party of San Francisco at the new headquarters, 236 Van Ness Avenue, Sunday, January 17, at 8 P. M. Walter Cowan, Vice-president of the State Federation of Labor. will give the facts and documentary proof showing that a thoroughly organized and well-financed campaign is being planned against agricultural union organization.

It is particularly important at this time that these facts be heard by trade unionists in every field and by all interested in the organization of labor for collective bargaining. This campaign by the growers is only an opening delegates to the State Office not wedge in a concerted drive to stifle union organization in this your nominee is qualified and that

This Forum is open to the pub- the nomination.

lic. Questions and discussion will be permitted. Admission will be 15 cents. Unemployed workers will be admitted free.

Initiated by the New Year's

San Francisco

Eve party, the Socialist Headspeak on "The Future Facing the quarters of San Francisco is now Socialist Party" at 8 P. M., at taking on the appearance of a 915 Channing Street, in Palo Alto, busy Socialist center. Office Wednesday evening, January 13, equipment for the Local, State Office, and Labor Action editorial and business departments have been moved into the four front offices this past week. Paint buckets are being replaced by files, literature supplies, and gentails of the vicious anti-union or- eral party material which are being sorted and arranged, so that work can go ahead to develop the headquarters into a thriving center of Socialist activity on all fronts. The large hall, fully equipped for dances, parties, and meetings is available for rental to unions and other organizations. Everyone interested may inquire at 236 Van Ness Avenue, where the hall is located, or call HEmlock 7986.

> All mail for the State Office Labor Action, or Local San Francisco should be adressed to 236 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco.

Locals-don't forget to get nomlater than January 20. Be sure he will accept before you send in

Western States Federation Of the Socialist Party

Red Special "Takes" Texas

Leaving Oklahoma, where organization work and meetings re sulted in renewed activity and effectiveness in Tulsa and Oklanoma City locals, the Red Special sound truck, piloted by Douglas Anderson, is now covering the

nain centers in Texas. With all but a brass band of welcome, the Red Special held a triumphant first meeting in Dallas Saturday, Dec. 26, where, writes Comrade Anderson, "they blocked off an entire street for us in the middle of the down-town section, and for one hour we held forth." The sound equipment was "tuned in" on a recording of the International, and when the crowd rathered. Comrade Anderson spoke at length about the Socialist Party program and organization. On Sunday, December 27, Comrade Anderson spoke at an evelocal in Dallas. Plans were to January 20. hold street meetings in Fort

Worth on the following day, and in the evening to assemble party members and sympathizers for a meeting to re-organize and activize the local there. The Red Special was due in Waco Thursday, December 31, where, after conference with the State Labor Secretary

are to be laid for the rest of the stay in that state. The tour of that state will probably include Antonio, Houston, Beaumont, San Angelo, from whence the Red Kansas. Special will probably go into New Mexico via Clovis. Party members interested in the

project of enlisting Footloose Labor Action Rebels to take the road for Socialism, should be interested to know that the Red Special carries, besides Comrade Anderson and his wife, their eldest daughter-aged ten! The Western Fedouthful addition to the personnel of the Red Special. We hope she enjoys her adventure and that this will be for her the initiation nto a lifetime of activity for the Socialist cause. If the truth were known, there are probably a lot of comrades who envy her-both for the opportunity to be one of the pioneers in the rebirth of Socialism in the west, and for the years of youth and activity she has ahead of her.

The Federation tour of the Red tins, appoint someone from your Special has been well started. state or local to be Labor Action Comrades in the west are urged to watch for the coming of the Red Special" and cooperate in Action.

manently valuable to Socialist organization and growth in the

every way to make its work per-

Kansas Issues Call for **Delegate Nominations**

In preparation for the special National Convention in March, Kansas has issued a call to all locals to send in their nominit tions for delegates not later than January 20. Nominees, if eligible, will be given until February 1 to accept. The State Secretary will send out to the membership a compilation of all acceptances by February 10, and the votes must be cast and in the state office not later than March 1.

California is following a ilar procedure, as announced in a previous issue of Labor Action, but locals are again reminded that they must get acceptances from delegates BEFORE they send ning Forum of the Socialist Party in nominations not later than

> Other states in the west are advised to set the machinery in motion for election of delegates so that they will not lose their representation at the convention by default.

State Secretary of Texas, plans Re-elected in Kansas H. R. Rentfrow, 2715 N. Early.

Kansas City, has been re-elected the following cities: Austin, San Labor Secretary for trade union work of the Socialist Party in

Kansas Greets

From the December issue of The Kansas Socialist": -- "The California comirades have braveheartedly started a weekly newspaper, Labor Action. Several is eration is honored to have this sues are now oft the press, and the material contained therein make the paper worthy of our best support. It should be of particular interest to those whose work keeps them in close contact with labor unions and the problems of the unemployed."

If your state or local issues

bulletins, please see that the Federation Secretary receives a copy, If you do not have regular bulleagent, responsible for getting news from YOUR state into Labor

SENSATIONAL EXPOSE How California Growers are Organizing Against AGRICULTURAL WORKERS Facts and Documentary Proof Will Be Presented

HEAR **WALTER COWAN** Vice-President State Federation of Labor SUNDAY, JANUARY 17, 1937-8:00 P. M.

INTERNATIONAL HALL 236 Van Ness Avenue

Questions and Discussion

Auspices: San Francisco Local Socialist Party Admission, 15 Cents Unemployed Admitted Free

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SATURDAY, JAN. 9, 1937

Capitalism—At All Costs!

The seventy-fifth Congress is in session. With a 5 to 1 Senate and a 3 to 1 House of Representatives, President Roosevelt has a free hand and ample power to secure whatever program he desires.

The first item on that program will be legislation to prevent private shipment of arms to the regularly elected Spanish Government. Germany and Italy are pouring troops into Spain. The Governments of Great Britain and the United States are aiding them by using all possible means to bar workers' efforts to answer the Fascist international attack by Socialist international defense.

This they do in the name of world peace and liberals and pacifists applaud. How wilfully blind they are! Roosevelt makes no pretense of pacifism. He is interested only in choosing the wars of his class. The billion a year spent for armament, the ROTC and the CCC, the "patriotic" education of the nation's schools are all directed to that end. The government makes no secret of its plans for universal mobilization of workers, liberals, and pacifists alike in the war it is preparing for.

The move to block arms shipment to the workers of Spain has nothing to do with peace. It is the declaration of the United States Government that Fascism in Spain is preferable to the threat of Socialism there; that capitalism-fascist or democratic—is always capitalism and must be

On this ominous note the seventy-fifth Congress opens. Let workers beware! What is true of Congressional attitude to Spanish capitalism is a thousand times more true of capitalism here at home.

Suspended?

The A. F. of L. Convention is gone and forgotten. The pages of the press are filled with labor news, but it is not the stodgy "releases" of outworn labor press services in Washington that accounts for that.

The news of American labor is the steady march of the organization which the Tam- | fore us.

\$185; handkerchiefs, \$15 each.

Let's go down and stock up.

Butch. Or maybe that first crack

Whitesburg, Kentucky, news

Mem: Judge Harlan yesterday sen-

tenced Birdie Lee Thurmond to

Oakland, Calif., news item: The

Rev. Robert Rehkugel has launch-

ed a movement, the Suicide Pre-

vention Society of America, Inc.,

to create a nationwide organiza-

The Reverend has a fighting

heart, indeed-for he is going up

Offhand, I'd say the best pre-

Los Angeles Times editorial:

coast committee for the ship-

will total \$12 million dollars ...

Total dividend payments by Gen-

Still one for us and a dozen for

vention for suicide would be a

strong fighting trade union and

unemployed movement.

public purse.

Purse on them!

the schools now.

million dollars.

them.

against the greatest team in the

world-Misery and Starvation.

tion for prevention of suicide.

about "gentlemen" lets us out.

cisco paper:

quite effective.

those German newspapers.

pa convention tried to bury under a scrap of paper.

General Motors is being "bottled up" and its 69 plants employing 135,000 workers in 14 states may be closed by the time this paper leaves the press. More than two-thirds of the company union officers which the Giant United States Steel monopoly chose as a defense against real unionism have already been won by the aggressive steel campaign. Workers in glass, rubber, textiles, oil and a hundred smaller industries have been inspired to new hope by the power that industrial unionism brings.

The remarkably effective "sit-down" strikes challenge the sacredest of all sacred cows—the right of the employer to use scab workmen in "his" factory. Every report strengthens the belief that the present drive on the economic front is wider and more carefully planned and, therefore, will be more permanent in its results Staff of the government forces, we have was provided by our Rusthan was the great surge that followed the enactment of N.R.A.

For all this the credit belongs to the have been made up of picked men man and Italian aid to General militant temper of the workers expressed and are furnished with the best Franco. The same newspapers dangers of the theory of socialthrough the Committee for Industrial Organization and its hundreds of aggressive

organizers. Who said they were "suspended?"

Still Dodging

Two weeks ago Labor Action published soon as possible. Previously dura challenge by the State Secretary of the ing the Lerroux-Gil Robles gov-fronts? On the Aragon front the Socialist Party, Glen Trimble, to the Com- tified the Sierra de Guadarrama munist Party for a series of open public debates on the following propositions:

1. That the 1936 election policy of the fascists that their plan would suc-Socialist Party advanced the real interests ceed that they gave the story to of American workers, while that of the Communist Party did not.

2. That the trade union policy of the Socialist Party is progressive, that of the eign newspapers, which help the Communist Party reactionary.

3. That the Socialist Party program is the only genuine defense of the Soviet shows their desires but nothing

4. That the "Peace Policy of the Soviet | Surrounding Madrid Union" is a defense of the status quo and a betrayal of the cause of world socialism. cists have had a certain success

5. That the war policy of the Comintern in their tactic of surrounding Mais worse than that of the "Social Democra- drid, but this success of theirs tic" betrayers of 1914.

6. That the Communist Party is opposed on our part. Starting with the to revolutionary unity of the working class. false idea that the civil war would 7. That the Communist Party has aban- not last long, we have neglected doned Marx, Lenin, the class struggle and

world revolution. 8. That the Socialist Party program provides the only road for smashing capital-

ism and winning workers' power. So long as the Communist Party chooses strong pressure on the Central to ignore this challenge, that organization front. will stand indicted on all eight counts and on the additional count of failure to make Spain, but in Europe. Thanks to Our airforce, reinforced by more even the first step toward workers' unity— the European fascist powers, the and better aeroplanes, has flown a full, frank discussion of the problems be- Spanish militarists are able to

PUSHED BY US.

leaders.

I bet our government is recom-

mending a big harvest of corpses

of Cuban labor and progressive

New York news item: Winthrop

tional Bank, urged business and

industry to adopt a code of be-

havior but to keep it unwritten.

Bureau of Agricultural Economics retain control of the hiring halls

Analysis of Spanish Military Situation

Journal of P. O. U. M. Estimates Forces

What has been the immediate

result of the offensive on all

workers are at the gates of

They have entered the Alcubierre

cists back. Desertions of soldiers

coming over to join our forces,

bringing their arms with them,

have become very frequent. At

times there are dozens in a single

day. The proletariat knows where

its interests lie; many of the soldiers who have been obliged to

fight in the fascist ranks are

the sons of peasants who know

that under a workers government

the land they work will be their

On the northern front our of

fensive has broken through the

reinforced columns which were

marching to join Aranda and the

fascist troops in Oviedo. The vic

torious advance of the miners

forces moves like a wave through

At the Southern and Center

fronts around Madrid the militias

have attacked with the help of

armored trains and tanks specially

built by the workers, and have

succeeded in driving back the fas-

cists from various positions which

they had conquered near Madrid.

bombed various strongholds

belonging to the fascists. In this

way we have managed to destroy

almost the whole of the Seville

fascists has been forced and they

have been obliged to attempt

many spectacular feats in order

to save their prestige in the eyes

of their allies. Their immediate

reply has been to drop bombs on

Madrid and Malaga, with the sole

result of injuring a crowd of

women and children in an open

square. These acts have only

many sections of the foreign capi-

talist press. This week they un-

come known, our trade union ra-

structions for concentration. Our

party was the first to issue a call

to arms. The members of our

youth movement marched through

trumpets and a red flag at the

On arriving at Rosas the black-

siderably more useless action.

Breaking Through

the Asturias.

(The following analysis of the The proletarian armies now have come of the Spanish struggle denilitary situation in Spain is restanks, aeroplanes and cannon. printed from "The Spanish Revo- thanks to the untiring efforts of lution," the weekly English bulle the workers and their spirit of tin of the workers' party of Marx- sacrifice. ist Unification (P.O.U.M.), published at Barcelona.-Ed.)

The fascist generals continue to charge the anti-fascist forces with encircle Madrid. According to in- receiving foreign help. They mainformation supplied by the General tain that the war machinery which five fascist columns are operatisian comrades. They know this ing on the various fronts in the to be quite untrue, but make this center of Spain. These columns claim in order to justify the Gerwar equipment with which their and the same diplomats who, up can provide them. Their ambition nied receiving foreign aid, now from the start has been to take Madrid; the fascist generals with modern equipment, at once taken by the Soviet Union to counted on the capital escaping admit the foreign fascist help their control and established stra- and try to justify it. tegic positions for capturing it asernment they had carefully forwith the sole object of advancing on Madrid. So confident were the the press that Mola and his troops had entered the city on the 24th of July. Since that date the fascist press and radio and the forfascists with their lies, have announced the fall of Madrid fifty times. This obsession merely

We must recognize that the fashas been largely due to a lack of discipline and military cohesion those very measures which would have given us the maximum guarantee of triumphing within a short

During these last weeks the fas cist generals have exerted a very Madrid is the principal objective not only of the militarist and fascist reaction in prolong the struggle against the Spanish people by using the most modern and efficient engines of

stood from the very beginning planes belonging to the enemy. the political and strategic importance of Madrid. Precisely for this reason the proletariat of all Spain go to the Madrid front to offer their services as practical proof of their solidarity in the struggle. All the workers' parties and Headline in C. S. Monitor: DI-VERSIFIED CROPS FOR CUBA organizations in Madrid have reached the unanimous conclusion that it is necessary to take the offensive in the center sections to thwart the plans of the enemy. The combatants understand this necessity perfectly and are acting resolutely in accord-

Aldrich, chairman of the Chase Na- Our Offensive

cash.

Last week our big offensive be-Fascist Reprisal gan on all fronts. The only ade-A few days ago the town of quate means of defense is to at-Rosas was bombarded by the rebel tack. Our armament factories cruiser, Canarias. As soon as this If I behaved like business and are working night and day for industry, I'd keep my code unwrit- the front as a reply to the foreign information was received in Figueras, a mixed column was mobaid which the fascist are securing. ilized, composed of elements of the P.O.U.M. and the C.N.T., together with some of the U.G.T.

proletariat in Spain, but throughout Europe. A fascist victory in Spain would mean a fascist future for Europe. Hitler and Mussolini An attempt is being made by realized this long ago; they rethe friends of Spain fascism to alized it in time to foment the military rising before the 19th of July. It has taken Stalin three months to understand this simple fact and Leon Blum has not yet grasped it. In spite of our critiism of the mistaken policy of the Third International, and the ism in one country for the cause fascist allies, Germany and Italy, to the present, have cynically de- of the international working class, we are the first to recognize the that we are attacking effectively importance of the new decision

> Russia has realized that the neutrality pact consisted in practice of allowing the intervention of fascist countries. A fascist Huesca, and their encirclement Europe would menace the existof this city is almost complete. ence of the Soviet Union, Russia cannot stand passively aside when Mountains and are driving the fasher own fate is bound up in the fate of the Spanish proletariat. Henceforth we will fight with renewed courage and optimism, cent years for "masking" activifor help is at hand.

many, Italy and Portugal.

Alliance Wins Concessions In Colorado

Members Increased Ten-fold In Statewide Drive

Socialists holding many of the key positions in both state and local organizations, the Colorado Workers Alliance has multiplied by ten its membership in the state, according to reports to the Alliance State Executive Board meeting at Pueblo

J. Austin Beasley, executive state secretary, Harley Murray, assistant executive and recording secretary, Clifton Johnson, secretary of Workers Alliance, Denver Local one, and William Blue, financial secretary of the Alliance in aerodrome and about sixteen the state, are among the comrades in the State Alliance carry-Our military advance has had ing on the militant and effective great moral repercussions throughfight. Fannie Bradford, Denver out the country. The hand of the Women's Committee.

the State Executive Board meeting line of "unofficially' condeming Bread, Peace, and Liberty'!" the following progress since the the People's Front while maintainlast board meeting in Denver on ing it "officially" at all costs. October 24:

RECORD OF PROGRESS est cities in the state.

dertook a more dashing and con-500 to 5.000.

by the state relief officials after demned the entire policy of the money was exhausted.

stop were followed by unofficial ergetic attitude"-with respect to statements that "those laid off would be put back on soon." This preceded the statements of the

Emergency checks were issued to 164 needy cases reported by the Franco-Soviet pact—a position, he dio in Gerona began to give in- Workers Alliance in Denver with- said, "entirely reconcilable with a

lay-offs and need to thousands ed agreement with Blum's foreign the streets of Gerona with drums, in Denver.

every local.

Delegations to Congressmen and Senators and to State Representa-

SIDELINES

By JONATHAN DOE

nated us. Time was when we mies, overcome our weaknesses years now, though, we haven't pends not only the fate of the direction.

Ever since the Russian Revolution one of our main purposes capitulators, and even sometimes gaged right now in a mass-pressure campaign with Dorothy Par- to hear about "it's always between us and something we want." We call our organization "The League Against We don't really object much to offer us its powerful aid against the criminal intentions of Gerthem because we want a broad united front and not enough people feel the way we do about though, that still stumps us-"us' meaning me and not Dorothy trying now for years to liquidate field we get exactly nowhere.

Besides our liquidating efforts, it at all! we've gone in heavily during reties. Masking right deviations under a leftist phraseology has long been one of our favorite pastimes. new game that beats it all hollow. sport, too. Try them both some

1937 Marches On

big airplane crash in a month

for good luck during the coming year; Carl von Ossietsky has disappeared from his Nazi-guarded Radical lingo has always fasci- hospital bed since expressing his inability to comment on the winused to want to crush our ene ning of the Nobel Peace Prize; literary criticism is forbidden in and all that sort of thing. For Germany; Trotsky is somewhere on the high seas wondering where had the slightest impulse in that he can live in Mexico without inviting assassination by Fascists or Stalinists; perhaps we had better not mention the maritime in life has been that of liquida- strike; and coffin-makers in China We liquidate foes right and are rejoicing as they get ready liquidate right deviators, for the trade in executed opiumliquidate left deviators, liquidate addicts. There is no danger of anyone's dying of boredom during liquidate liquidators. We liquidate the next three hundred and fifty our bad habits, colds in the head, days, especially in view of the ants in the pantry. We're en fact that we now have three radio chains instead of two over which ker to liquidate cellophane be- laxatives. Rapid dissemination of cause, as she so ably points out, news is certainly the crowning triumph of our century. Just think, fifty years ago we would have had to wait over a month Cellophane and Paper-Napkins." to learn what the phrenologist thought of George VI's cranium paper-napkins, but we've included and for that masterly headline which appeared in the S. F. News: "King George Has Head Examined." And it would have been a cellophane. There is one thing, whole month also before we should have heard about the gasmasks made for bees in Czecho-Parker or the League. We've been slovakia, or the white-headed robin in Canada—and swing music our debts, but in that special might have come and gone with-

ered to eat the traditional grapes

Swing, Davie, Swing

Edward the VIII's abdication speech is now available on pho-But recently we've discovered a nograph records. So far the only introduction, before the present It's posing the question. Next to Duke of Windsor speaks his posing models for lingerie ads piece, is the deep-throated strikthere is nothing that is quite so ing of Big Ben. This can easily be much fun as posing the question. remedied however, and give the Posing the alternative is fair transcription the atmosphere of a fresh broadcast every time you play it. First Big Ben, "Bong! Bong!" (Ten Bongs.) Then an announcer: "It is exactly 10 a.m. Happy New Year! We have BULLOVA Watch Time. This prostarted out very well. The third gram comes to you through the courtesy of the BULLOVA Watch took twelve lives; a ten-year-old Company. Spelled B-U-L-L-O-V-A. PUEBLO, COLORADO. - With boy was kidnapped in Washing- Friends and little lads and lassies ton; the Spanish Fascists cele- of radio-land-the King, God bless brated New Year's by bombing 'im! Swing it, Davie!'

Family Quarrel Of The French Patriots

In the Dec. 12 issue of Labor one purpose: to break the major-Action, we called attention to a ity of the People's Front!" "letter" carried in Moscow Izvest- In conclusion, Thorez said: "The Longmont, second oldest local in | ia for Nov. 11, and expressed our | Government policy on the Spanish conviction that it presented an question is not the policy of the

"official" viewpoint, i. e., political People's Front" and the Commundirectives to the French C. P. The ists would abstain from voting Socialist, is chairman of the state entire line pursued by the French against the Government only in Stalinists since that time has con- order "not to break the front Secretary Beasley reported to firmed this to the hilt. It is the which alone can give the people

The reports carried in the Six new locals organized, five the Chamber of Deputies at the of which have a mass member- beginning of this month illuminate earned them the disapproval of ship, and three in the three larg this new policy in the highest degree.

conducted by Delbos, whom these plauded by the entire Chamber. cials that WPA lay-offs would reactionaries praised for his "en-Spain. Flandin is, of course, a great lover of peace, proclaimed himself as such, and in the same breath expressed himself as a wholehearted supporter of the bitter struggle against Communist propaganda within our country. policy, Flandin pledged the Gov-

SPEECH OF THEORY

ernment his support.

Shriver, was roundly booed as he direct or indirect military inter continuing to remain loyal to vention into Spanish affairs . . On the same night, December (Applause from the Communist continued. How long can this "combine the Franco-Soviet pact with an internal struggle against the working class . . .' Flandin (interjecting) ". .

Against communist propaganda . . to undermine the republican regime, under a pious disguise. (Ap-

plause)" Thorez: "Your speech has only lists.

Blum, upon taking the floor, defended his foreign policy as being French press of the proceedings in based "on a simple principle which puts first and foremost the interests of France and the interests of peace." The only possible road is not "to meddle in Span-In the discussion, the floor was ish affairs." He attacked the positaken by Flandin, former premier tion of the Stalinists, pointing out Exertion of mass pressure in and the leader of Alliance Demo- their contradictory stand, and in-Denver to secure an additional re- cratique, the principal party of the sisting that their policy would prelief allotment over the state of Center, which at its recent Con- cisely bring about what they said \$284,000, money that was "found" gress (presided by Flandin) con- they opposed, i. e., military intervention in Spain. The Stalinists reports had gone out that all Blum Government with the sole sat silent throughout the attack, exception of its foreign policy, as while Blum was being roundly ap-

> Before the vote was taken, Duclos rose to make the following

> the Government was sustained in Immediately thereafter the C.P.

issued an official statement vowing its "loyal support to the Government" and explaining away its action of abstention on the He was followed by Thorez, who grounds of refusing to approve "a Blum's Covernment is still being

ONE CONSISTENCY On one question there has been

no change. The Stalinists are as attack against Flandin for seeking loud as ever in their support of national defense for French Imperialism, and miss no opportunity to make their position clear. Thus when at one of the sessions, · the arch-reactionary de Kerillis, When are the communists sin- Franco's champion, arose to ancere? Is it when they express nounce that "if war breaks out, their concern lest we be cut off we will all go, as one man, befrom North Africa, or when they hind our Government, even if it seek to prepare an uprising is the Government of the 'People's against 'French Imperialism' there? Front' of socialists and commu-We cannot allow the communists nists!", he received a long and stormy ovation from all the benches-including, it is reported, the "extreme left," i. e., the Stalin-

A Few Side Remarks On "Public Opinion" -- How It Doesn't Work

By CRARY TRIMBLE

In these days of glorification for "John Public" when the shipowners take down their hair and tell the public think dear old Congress has made The innocent victims of the strike about what fine up-standing Americans they are and how

they want to do right by their should, of course, be cared for at public expense, but to give strik- "loyal" workers; when the Com- Congress answers with a "neumunists are playing up to the trality bill." Yes, the old boys got put the old thinking machinery ers the same treatment-is to enprejudices of the "peepul"-it is really tough with these scrappy to work. The press came out lest courage lawlessness out of the mighty. Daily Doubt, from the San Fran-

PEARLS FROM THE PRESS

By CARL O'SHEA

Advertisement in a San Fran- | Washington news item: The give a darn whether or not they

What dreadful news. Looks like

another tough year for the farmers

and the workers. Yes, this is capi-

Paul Scharrenberg, officer of the

propaganda throughout the world,

strikes on the Pacific and Atlantic

Ya, the maritime workers don't | ten too.

Exclusive Importations for Gen. today forecast a wheat crop in and other union conditions.

tlemen: Silk dressing gowns, 1937 considerably in excess of do-

drink a 3-ounce bottle of castor International Seamen's Union:

oil in his presence. The judge will Manipulation by communism, in the

try the method on hardened crim- design of capturing the Seamen's

inals and believes it will prove Union for the illicit distribution of

That's what comes of reading is at the bottom of the maritime

coasts.

mestic needs.

talism we live under.

cisco Examiner: Last night the owners announced the launching existence for about a year—the United States (where we run of a comprehensive campaign of Institute of Public Opinion—and public information concerning the its discoveries are being printed solve the unemployment problem.) you have been sold down the other places on the coast. A de-What the hell do the gentlemen long blurbs about how wonderful they pay cash. want, anyway. They've got the it is to have a means of finding press, the pulpit, the radio and out what public opinion wants.

We now know what "public But that is at it should be opinion" thinks of a third term These organs of the bosses know for President Roosevelt. We even us and we know them. Between know that "public opinion" overus there is no misunderstanding. whelmingly favors government ownership of all munitions plants New York News item: Wage in | so as to take the profit out of creases and bonuses for workers at dealing in mass production death. the General Motors plant this year | So what?

> OLD STORY Public opinion speaks, and its

eral Motors in 1936 will reach \$195 representatives in Washington continue to represent the boys who paid their fare to Congress.

well to find out just how much Europeans. They put their feet week with news of foreign gold weight that "public" has in infludown on purchase of armaments reserves (or their equivalent) beencing the decisions of the by any warring nation (sh! with- ing piled up in this country to A great new safety valve for aren't going to let these nasty against such time as they may 5 o'clock the next afternoon, the public opinion has now been in nations disturb our peace-loving munitions plants just to help in the San Francisco News with ABSOLUTELY NO - sh! unless

> ownership of munitions plants, does about it. It's a great racket, since left the bay, but continues but the munitions plant owners. don't, and they help finance the election circuses that get out the votes. Public opinion may want public ownership of munitions plants, but the bankers want cash and security, and they know that the representatives are not deaf ning except Sundays, from 6:40 to the boys who put them in p.m. to 7 o'clock. Washington.

A GREAT RACKET

the United States and its little South American brothers safe for something or other, scratch the cobwebs out of your heads and out cash in advance.) We just provide the cash in advance

equipment—sh! unless we get

So now, boys and girls who

Public, at the record of what barracks of the P.O.U.M. in Bar-Public opinion may want public YOU want and what Congress celona. The Italian warship has this capitalist "democracy." RADIO P. O. U. M.

The P.O.U.M. broadcasting stawave length 42 meters. There are broadcasts in English every eve-All comrades who listen in to

P.O.U.M. broadcasts are cordially prisals. Congressmen are looking after invited to send comments and the interests of the United States criticism to this office. It will help all right! There will be no more the organizers to know how the Public opinion calls for public of this war-debt forfeiting in the P.O.U.M. radio program is received ownership of munitions industries. future, We just won't sell fighting in other countries.

cruser were visible. The fascists were not able to land and their bombardment made no victims. At need to provision their armies. warship "Combe Mar Velli" also Pause in your song of triumph, entered the bay. Further forces oh pacifists, and find out how at once set out for Rosas and river again. Look again, John tachment came from the "Lenin"

cruising in the vicinity. The ill-fated action of the faswas meant as propaganda for the tion is Radio Barcelona E.C.P.2, enemy's colleagues in Italy, Germany and Portugal, to show what they thought they could do in reply to our bombardment of Seville. Such acts have no purpose in themselves and only serve as re-

International Issue

fined to one country. On the out | quate relief legislation,

A State membership jump from

Announcements by state offi-

Like a torrent the workers and peasants poured to the scene of attack. As soon as the mad in-National WPA office. tentions of the fascists had be-

> out investigations. Pickets in front of WPA offices in Denver carried the message of (Applause)" Being in wholeheart-

MASS MEETING IN DENVER head of the troops to the cry of, A mass meeting called by Or-"Communists of the P.O.U.M., to ganized Labor groups in Denver was participated in by the Alli- upon taking the platform, launched blockade of the Spanish Republe." ance officially, and a resolution of into an attack against the Nazis, This same policy of "unofficially" shirts of the fascists manning the cooperation with the Trade Unions and lauded the pacifist policy of condemning and attacking the adopted. The mass meeting the Soviets. Then turning to policy of "blockading Spain," and brought 8,000 into the city Audi- Blum, he said, "Communists were publicly calling for a breach of torium. WPA Administrator, Paul and remain the opponents of either that blockade, while "officially"

> 12, mass meetings were held sim- benches. Shouts from the right: last? ultaneously in Colorado Springs Guns and airplanes to Spain!)' and Pueblo, with Alliance state Stung, no doubt, by the jeers of organizer Harry Allander as main the Rights, Thorez directed an speaker in Colorado Springs.

"explained" the lay-offs.

PROGRAM PLANNED

A program of action adopted cists at Rosas, as is now known, by the Executive Board for December and January included: Continued pressure against WPA officials, with mass picketing by

> Continued mass meetings every week, calling on workers to organize to fight lay-offs and inadequate relief.

The struggle taking place in tives and Senators will be sent to Spain is no longer a civil war con- demand enlarged WPA and ade-

SPEECH OF BLUM

statement in the name of the Communist Deputies: "After all that was said here, we should be voting against. Unwilling to break the People's Front, we abstain." With the Stalinists abstaining,

its foreign policy (i. e., on Spains by a vote of 350 to 171.