

By ARNE SWABECK

May First meant a busy day for all of our available speakers and for most of our Party units. In Chicago alone seven meetings were held with a total attendance of about 3,325, distributed as follows, according to reports made by the speakers. In Carmens Auditorium about 1,500 present. This relatively small number seems to be due to the fact that so many language units had their separate celebrations. Although we all may agree that this is not a good practice and that every effort should rather have been centralized into making one or two large meetings, many foreign speaking workers are yet inclined to prefer to go to meetings where their own language is spoken. For all future purposes no effort should be spared to centralize all such activities into one united movement. This meeting, as already reported was held under the auspices of the United Front Committee made up of unions and workers' political parties.

The Czecho Slovak units held their celebration jointly with the Bohemian Trades Council and affiliated unions, about 500 present. The Scandinavian branches had a combined meeting and entertainment with about 400 present. The Lithuanian branches had about 250 present at their meeting, the Rumanian branch about 100 and the Italian branches held a joint celebration with Italian speaking labor unions, branches of the Italian Socialist Federation of the S. P., I. W. W. and Syndicalist groups, about 300 present. In Pullman the branches succeeded in arranging a very inspiring meeting in co-operation with several workers fraternal societies, which brought an attendance of about 275.

In Milwaukee not more than 200 workers attended the May Day meeting which shows that our members there yet have a great deal to bring the Party in closer connection with the masses. The unions co-operated in this meeting. In Waukegan, Ill. a good meeting was held with about 250 in attendance. Racine and Kenosha, Wis., each had their celebrations and each attended by about 100 workers. In these two cities also a real effort by our comrades is needed. However by pointing to some cities let us not forget that much greater activity is needed throughout the whole District. In Joliet, Ill., for instance the attendance was smaller yet than in its former two places mentioned. In the little mining town Toluca, Ill. on the other hand more than 200 miners came together in a very inspiring celebration.

The local post of the American Legion in Toluca became very peeved when they learned that a May Day Celebration was to be held and issued special notification to their membership to be ready for any emergency as, in their opinion it could only be a terrible disloyal bunch which would dare to celebrate May First as a Labor Holiday, and they warned the "public" lest another Russia or Mexico should be established in the old U. S. However the miners enjoyed their day off by listening to the truth about the great democracy, "for the few," which the Legion is struggling to uphold; and the dear "public" seemed to have full confidence in the assurance given by the Mayor, a miner elected by the miners, that it would do everybody a lot of good to attend that meeting.

Down in Judge Cory's Kingdom some small accidents happened. In Hammond our unit held a joint May Day Celebration with the Central Labor Body, the Machinists Union and the Farmer Labor Party with about 100 workers in attendance. In South Bend, Ind., our speaker, who was sent there to awaken the slumbering masses was given the address of a junk shop instead of a hall, with the result that the masses are still slumbering and the speaker swearing at all organizers who do not make proper arrangements for meetings.

In Gary, Ind. about 150 steel workers came to listen to the Workers Party speakers, while a number of links crowded the corners of the hall and the blue wagon was stationed at the front entrance. Before the meeting came to an end the links suddenly remembered that here was again an opportunity to vindicate their usual record and the speaker Moritz J. Loeb, the Secretary of the Labor Defense Council, Mrs. Loeb and P. Omelian, who was to speak in Russian were given a free ride in the blue wagon to the bastille. The next day bail had been secured for all three and they are again back on the job.

Two of our speakers were invited to address May Day Celebrations held by the Joint Board of the International Ladies Garment Workers and one of their affiliated local unions.

Special literature had been furnished in advance to all these meetings

By GEORGE MAURER

May Day United Front Meetings were held in Chicago as follows: Mass Meeting at Carmens Hall and in Pullman. Language meetings by the Bohemians, Scandinavians, Lithuanians and Italians. W. P. speaker addressed two meetings of Ladies Garment Workers. See report of May Day meetings in District No. 1 elsewhere in this issue.

Chicago branches and comrades are now settling down in earnest for steady propaganda for a real Labor Party, Amalgamation and a Workers Government,—distributing literature on the subject and advocating in unions and everywhere, these needed fighting instruments of the working class. Some of our comrades report favorable action already taken by their unions on the referendum sent out by the T. U. E. L. and on the call for the Labor Party Convention on July 3rd. Delegates who favor a real federated Labor Party are being elected.

The V. of L. subscription campaign is over with many hundred new subscribers. The N. W. English branch holds the record with 25 new subscribers. The D. P. English branch has got 20; the Karl Marx Scandinavian 23. Chicago friends of the Voice can make up for lost time by selling the 25c tickets (including a 13 weeks' sub.) to the Cannon Lecture from now to May 20th. Let us see what branch will sell the most of these ticket-subscriptions for the Voice for May 20th lecture.

May is the month for the drive for union and T. U. E. L. membership and for subs. to the Labor Herald. Already, May 3rd reports are in of Chicago branches getting members to join a union, subs. to the L. H. and resolving to push industrial work—as a May substitute for spring fever. The general City Meeting of the T. U. E. L. May 23rd at Wicker Park Hall, 2040 W. North Ave. All W. P. members who are in unions are to be there. May 30th, Decoration Day is the big T. U. E. L. picnic at Chernauskas Grove.

The D. P. English branch had a few members who insisted on the importance of leaflet distribution. As a result they spread over 10,000 Party Programs (helped out in territory not assigned to them even) and 5,000 May Day manifestoes—from house to house. Other branches have done almost as well. Still others have yet to be heard from.

James P. Cannon will give his great lecture on "Russia Out of the Shadows", on Sunday evening, May 20th at Wicker Park Hall. This is an excellent lecture to bring sympathetic workers to.

The following night, May 21st, Comrade Cannon will address all Chicago W. P. members on the Fourth Congress of the C. I.—at Imperial Hall, 2409 N. Halsted St. He has a vital message for all members.

Remember the dates, May 20th, May 21st, May 23rd and May 30th. Join a union, join the T. U. E. L., get subscribers, sell some tickets, come to the meetings. See that your branch gets Programs and distributes them.

With the Ruthenberg conviction, members are expected to take out the L. D. C. lists and get donations with renewed vigor.

Next meeting of the City Central Committee, Chicago, Tuesday May 15th at Workers' Lyceum.

Denver Women Spurn Russ Soviet Film on American Legion Advice

DENVER, Colo.—The Womens' Club of this city had a contract with the Friends of Soviet Russia for the showing of the film "Russia Through the Shadows" in Denver. On the advice of the American Legion the Womens' Club broke the contract and refused to have the picture shown as intended.

The action of the Womens' Club was taken, it is stated on information supplied by the Americanization Committee of the American Legion, of which Garland W. Powell is director.

The Friends of Soviet Russia threaten to sue the Womens' Club for breach of contract. The scabby American Legion is gradually fulfilling the purpose for which it was intended. The millionaires that started it did not waste their money. Yet Gompers supports this movement and gives it the official blessing of the American Federation of Labor.

and a great quantity disposed of. Many May Day Buttons with the slogan For Amalgamation, A Labor Party and A Workers Government were also distributed as well as the Workers Party May Day manifesto.