

Timely Topics

By Norman Thomas

A Warning to Hoover—A Real Labor Victory—What Hope in the Democrats?—The Illinois Miners' Opportunity—France at the Conference

HUGHES GOES ON THE BENCH

It is a national misfortune and may be almost a national calamity that an amiable conservative like Taft should be succeeded as Chief Justice of the United States by an aggressive, self-righteous, conservative and believer in the sanctity of property rights like Charles Evans Hughes. But it is an immensely encouraging thing that progressives found themselves in an unexpected but spirited attack on his confirmation in the Senate. What is still better is that Senator Norris and others talked so frankly about the Supreme Court. It is the sober truth that as it is now constituted it is the chief obstacle to peaceful social progress by political action. It is nonsense to say that our judges merely interpret the Constitution and the law and that ability and honesty are all that is needed and their social point of view is all important. A progressive Senator had no more reason to vote for the confirmation of Hughes as Chief Justice than for Hughes as President. The overwhelming preponderance of his acts as judge and as lawyer place him on the side of the most rigorous interpretations of property rights. He will surely be on the side of the men responsible for the Baltimore traction decision, a decision which had everything to do with the economic theory of the judges and little to do with law or the Constitution as is proved by the fact that the three ablest judges dissented. Indeed, with all his reputation for personal honesty Mr. Hughes brings back to the Supreme Court bench a very obtuse sense of social ethics. Of this he gave what should have been final and sufficient proof by appearing for the Interborough Rapid Transit Company in a case that was too weak even for the Supreme Court—and this although the company's case turned in large part upon the interpretation of the meaning and applicability of the law passed on Mr. Hughes' recommendation when he was Governor of New York. If one is an optimist one may hope that the fight on Mr. Hughes will not only strengthen progressivism all through the United States but will be a warning to Mr. Hoover on future appointments.

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CONGRATULATIONS TO THE DRESSMAKERS

A REAL victory has been won by the workers in the dressmakers' strike in New York City. They have not on paper won better hours and wages so far as the union shops are concerned but they have struck what may be a mortal blow at sweatshops by compelling jobbers to deal only with contractors who recognize the union, observe union conditions and belong to the association of contractors, which is one party to setting up impartial machinery for enforcing the agreement. These terms are similar to terms in the cloak and suit industry. On the part of the jobbers the new conditions are frankly experimental. The power and solidarity of the union can make them final and can see to it that paper agreements are not nullified by the competition of unregulated sweatshops. The strike was very short. The workers had the sympathy of the inside employers who cannot stand competition with sweatshops, a good deal of friendship from the public and a very benevolent interest on the part of state and city officials. This is good as far as it goes but no union ever really won anything as a favor that it was not strong enough to defend by its own power. What has happened marks a great stride forward in the remarkable comeback of the International Ladies' Garment Workers. But no one knows better than the workers that other victories are still to be won.

THE HAITI COMMISSION

PRESIDENT HOOVER has said some good words about getting out of Haiti but the commission which he has appointed, with the exception of William Allen White, scarcely commands the confidence of anti-imperialists. American Negroes are justifiably disappointed that the President has not appointed one of their number on the commission proper. Mr. Moton of Muskego is only to investigate education. The reason Mr. Hoover assigns is the opposition of America's puppet, President Borno of Haiti, to one of his own race on the commission. That is not a good reason.

THE DEMOCRATS KEEP IN LINE

THOSE who believe that the Democratic Party may yet be made an instrument of progressive policy are asked to observe the following matters:

1. The number of Democratic Senators who voted to confirm Mr. Hughes. Among them were Senators Wagner and Copeland of New York State.
2. The way in which Democratic Senators always vote for tariffs to help products in their own state in spite of their general theories. Lots of times it's hard to see how the tariff will help even the special interests of their states.
3. The failure of men with as fine records as Senators Walsh and Wheeler of Montana to fight the Montana Power Company which wants a long lease on the Flathead River. The Montana Power Company is part of the trust. It is allied with the Anaconda Copper Company. It already has undeveloped power resources, but it wants the enormous power on the Flathead River besides. The Federal Commission which has this matter in charge is not doing its job well and yet the Montana Senators are putting up no fight. Local interest seems stronger than progressivism. It is absurd to say that one is for a general policy of public power development if in each particular case one is willing to make an exception for some favored private corporation.

THE REVOLT OF THE MINERS

NOT for a long time has anything more potentially significant for the American labor movement been done than the issuing of a call for a miners' convention to oust John Lewis and reorganize the union. The lead, of course, has been taken by the Illinois organization. Their legal ground is the failure of Lewis to provide for the renewal and replacement of the Constitution which expired by its own limitation almost a year ago. The signers, Messrs. Walker of Illinois, Brophy of Pennsylvania, Howatt of Kansas, Adolph Gerner, two Ohio officials and others make an impressive case against Lewis whose failure is written in the collapse of his organization in all the soft coal fields except Illinois. Now the question arises: what will the response be? And what will the A. F. of L. do? Will Green, himself a former secretary of the miners, stick to Lewis and try to outlast this movement?

Even that question is less important than the ability of the new movement to furnish the energy, intelligence, devotion, and idealism without which the miners and indeed the American labor movement cannot be saved. Mere proof of Lewis' failures or crimes will not be enough. Frankly, the Illinois administration has some explaining of its own to do on various matters and must turn over a new leaf. But if this call for a convention rallies men who know that neither the miners nor any other group of workers can win victories so long as unions are cursed by politics, deference to big business, laziness and devotion only to the per capita tax but only by hard and often dangerous work, clear thinking and resolute action when it may inaugurate a new epoch in American labor history.

THE UPHOLSTERERS' UNION AND RACE DISCRIMINATION

THE A. F. of L. declares that it exists among other reasons "to abolish race distinctions among workers." Most Negroes don't believe it. And in spite of the hospitality of some unions they have reason to doubt it. For instance, local 70 of the upholsterers still refuses to let a Negro named Jones—to whose case Frank Crosswaith and I called attention weeks ago—get even temporary work under his former employers. He was as willing as any white worker to join the union and has been excluded solely because of his color, cut off from his trade, deprived of his living, in the name of solidarity of the workers! Local 70 is one of our strong Tammany unions but it isn't as politically shrewd as the politicians in dealing with Negroes. So far the general officers neither of the upholsterers nor of the A. F. of L. have brought any effective moral pressure to bear. They deny they have legal power. There has been talk of an appeal to the courts. But there are dangers in this. I should far rather appeal to the conscience of labor, to its own professions, to its sense of justice. Or if that won't work to its self interest. To exclude Jones from the union is to invite Negroes to hate the labor movement and to fly to the service of the bosses who are fighting the union. What could be more dangerous to labor than for Negroes to line up with the employers?

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Department of Social Insurance To Aid Aged And Unemployed Urged by the Socialist Party

Anti-Lewis Miners Call Convention

Fishwick, Brophy, Walker, Howatt and Adolph Gerner Among Signers of Springfield Call

(By a New Leader Correspondent)
SPRINGFIELD, Ill.—The fight by the Illinois miners on the leadership of John L. Lewis has reached the stage where a call has been issued for "an international convention of mine workers" on March 10th in this city. The rehabilitation of the union, the adoption of a new constitution and ways and means for ejecting Lewis from the Presidency of the United Mine Workers of America are the purposes of the convention as announced by the Illinois Mine Workers.

The call, which is signed by twenty-two prominent miners, most of them noted for their progressivism, was issued from the offices of the local miners' paper, "The Illinois Miner," which is edited by Oscar Ameringer.

Gerner Among Signers
Progressives were impressed by such names as those of Alexander Howatt, John Brophy and Adolph Gerner, Oral Daugherty and August Dorchy, all of whom signed the call. John Walker's name was also attached to the call. Walker who is President of the Illinois State Federation of Labor, at one time was a member of the Socialist Party, but since has been regarded as extremely conservative.

If Walker is now willing openly to ally himself with the anti-Lewis group, the pressure from the rank and file of the mine workers in his State must have been strong. Harry Fishwick, the President of the Illinois Mine Workers, (District 12, U. M. W. of A.) is also a signer of the call.

Platform of Those who called the convention has four main planks:

- "1. To establish an international organization of the United Mine Workers of America.
- "2. To adopt an international constitution of the United Mine Workers that will place the control of the organization in the hands of the rank and file by restoring home rule to the districts; and secondly that will prevent the international officers from meddling in the affairs of self-supporting districts, and thirdly, that will place the ownership and control of the property of the districts, sub-districts, and locals in the hands of those who created it.
- "3. To elect international officers of the United Mine Workers of America in accordance with the provisions of said constitution.
- "4. To adopt ways and means to accomplish the complete reorganization of America, to unionize the unorganized coal field and stabilize the coal industry, and for the transaction of such other business as may properly come before such convention.

"And be it further resolved that local unions are entitled to one delegate for each one hundred dues-paying members or fraction thereof, and one additional delegate for each additional one hundred dues-paying members or major fraction thereof (but that no local union shall have more than five delegates), who shall vote the entire membership of such local union, and that groups of coal miners where the organization has been destroyed because of the Lewis policies but who meet the conditions of this call be entitled to delegates on the same basis."

Says Union Has Sunk
Addressed to the "mine workers of the United States and Canada," the preamble of the call declares "the condition of the United Mine Workers of America has at last sunk to a level where only heroic measures can save the organization from speedy dissolution."

"When John L. Lewis took office of international president in 1919 our union boasted over half a million members. All the important coal fields were under its control. The spirit of the membership was of the highest order. The national district organizations commanded large treasuries. The United Mine Workers were the pride of the American labor movement."

"Today the organization is completely wiped out in Kentucky, West Virginia, Alabama, and Tennessee. Of the 170,000 Bituminous miners employed in the great coal

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Reading Socialists to Broadcast Weekly

(By a New Leader Correspondent)
READING, Pa.—A weekly radio educational program for broadcasting Socialist views and principles was launched in Reading on Tuesday at 6:15 P. M. over Station WRAW. The present arrangements are for a 26-weeks schedule with the expectation that they will be continued indefinitely. George M. Rhodes, Howard McDonough, and Raymond S. Hofes constitute a committee in charge of arrangements.

It is the intention of the committee to make the broadcasts of an educational nature rather than a means of campaigning for any particular group of candidates. The Socialists of Reading feel that the city and school officials can demonstrate their fitness for office by their acts as public servants. While many people are enthusiastic supporters of the Socialist officials themselves, too few understand the fundamentals of Socialism.

Depression Growing, U.S. Data Show

Federal Bulletin Does Not Jibe With Official Optimism of President Hoover—All States Are Hit

THE OFFICIAL trumpeters of Hoover "prosperity" within the past week have again entertained the nation with their hopeful melody, the text being taken from the survey of unemployment throughout the country for January which is reported in the "Industrial Employment Information Bulletin" for that month. It is evident from the "Synopsis" which appears as an introduction to the survey by states and regions that this "Synopsis" serves as the basis for the news dispatches from Washington.

Busy correspondents there are not accustomed to read through 25 pages of tabloid size to get the real story. They read the "Synopsis" which is intended to summarize the general trend. The lead for January declares that "All reports indicate that an upward swing to employment is in motion." It admits that there was a "great volume of unemployment during the first half of January, and while there is still considerable unemployment the latter part of the month showed a vast improvement, which will continue with greater momentum until it is believed that within the next 60 to ninety days the country will be on a normal employment basis."

The "Upward Swing"

That is the inspired introduction to the report for January and from which the newspaper correspondents take their cue. A careful reading of the reports from regions and states shows that the "Synopsis" is not justified by the 24 pages of information that follow it.

Keeping in mind the statements that "All reports indicate an upward swing" which show a "vast improvement," the following items are in significant contrast:

Maine.—"Reports from some parts of the state indicated a slight recession in industrial activities during January."

Vermont.—"A seasonal recession in activity, with a corresponding decrease in employment, was reported from many sections of the state."

Massachusetts.—"A seasonal curtailment in industrial activity,

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Marines Decree Enforced Labor For Nicaraguans

Under Guise of "Anti-Vagrancy" Drive, Workers Are Forced to Labor at Starvation Pay—Interference of U. S. Naval Men, General Throughout Central America, Is Stirring Resentment of Natives

(This is the second of a series of articles describing conditions in Nicaragua today)

THE Spanish language daily "La Prensa" published in New York City carried in its edition of Feb. 11th an Associated Press dispatch from Lima, the capital city of the Republic of Peru, reporting representations made quite vigorously by Senator J. M. Olivera in the Peruvian Senate against the activities of the American Naval Mission in his country. It is the sort of news that "patriotic" newspapers in the United States do not find of interest to their readers. Hence Americans at large are uninformed with regard to these things. But the matter in question is one that should command the attention of every thoughtful citizen of this country.

Under an act of Congress, passed a few years ago, the Executive of the United States was authorized to detail enlisted men and officers of the various arms of the Army, Navy and Marine Corps, to be of service in Latin American countries in "naval and military affairs." This requires a little explanation.

It has been an old custom among nations for one government to lend to another officers of its army or navy to serve as instructors in naval or military academies. Usually this followed alliances made be-

St. Paul Labor Names Slate In City Race

ST. PAUL, Minn.—The Labor-Progressive Association has nominated a labor ticket headed by James M. Clancy for Mayor. William F. Scott, member of the council, was named for Comptroller, and four candidates were named for Councilmen. They are Carl R. Carlsson, Clyde R. May, Irving C. Pearce, and Harry T. O'Connell. All of the nominees have been active in the labor movement for years.

The declaration and platform considered at an unofficial meeting of some weeks ago was submitted with amendments to the convention and with slight alterations unanimously adopted. It deals with public utilities, public construction, unemployment, taxation and administrative policies. It covers in a fundamental form every vital question of municipal government; it is not composed of empty platitudes; it is specific and far-reaching.

Platform Important

The platform of the Labor-Progressive association represents the grounds for the latter's existence; the movement is organized to put into effect principles and policies of government which will safeguard the welfare of the common people; it aims to be their agency in the political arena.

The executive committee of the association submitted plan of campaign and organization which were unanimously approved. These plans provide for a thorough reorganization of the district clubs along more effective lines and gives them representation on the executive committee. A set of by-laws were adopted which clearly define the form of organization and its functions. If members conform to the system adopted, it will be possible to conduct the campaigns of education and organization with much greater economy and effectiveness.

Socialist Women Call a Meeting For March 2nd

The increasing importance of Women in political life and the role women can play in progressive movements will be stressed at the Mass Meeting called by the Women's Section of the Socialist Party to be held Sunday afternoon, March 2nd, at 2:30 p.m. in the auditorium of the Rand School. Jessie Stephen, the principal speaker is especially suited to deliver the main address for most of her life has been spent in the women's movements and the labor activities of Great Britain. She will speak on Women's Part in Social Progress.

Judge Jacob Panken will give his impressions of Women's activity in the recent Parliamentary elections which he studied first hand during his recent visit in England. There will be a unique vocal program by Agnes Laidler, Pauline Newman, well known for years in the Trade Union movement will act as chairman.

A large attendance both in and outside the socialist movement is expected at this first celebration of the work of the Women's Section.

Sinclair Denounces Communists' Attacks On Chernof Lectures

(By a New Leader Correspondent)
Los Angeles.—The tactics of San Francisco and local Communists in breaking up meetings which were to be addressed by Victor Chernof, anti-Soviet Russian Socialist, is described by Upton Sinclair as "disgraceful." "From their own point of view it is most imbecile folly," Sinclair declares.

Milwaukee Council Demands Aid for Jobless

(By a New Leader Correspondent)
MILWAUKEE.—Two Socialist resolutions on unemployment have passed the Milwaukee city council, under suspension of rules. Alderman Rufing introduced a resolution which directed the commissioner of public works to start work on his 1930 construction program as soon as possible in order to give employment to men out of work. Alderman Dietz asked Milwaukee employers to shorten hours of labor so that more men can be employed. In some factories men are working eleven hours a day, while other workmen have been laid off. The resolution also applies to city employees. In addition Alderman Gauer, Socialist, introduced a resolution asking that the Milwaukee representatives and senators in Congress be requested to secure a more comprehensive and dependable governmental analysis of labor and conditions.

N.Y. Bill To Aid Aged Attacked As Inadequate

Thomas and Waldman, for Socialist Party, Find 70 Year Limit Too High—Changes to be Sought

PUBLICATION of the proposed old age pension laws in New York State caused great disappointment this week among the proponents of old age pension legislation. The Socialist Party announced it will move to reduce the proposed assistance age from 70 years to 65 and will organize public opinion in favor of that and a number of other amendments. The 70 years provision was opposed by the executive committee of the N. Y. Permanent Conference on Old Age Security at a meeting, Tuesday night. The best that could be said for the bill by Abraham Epstein, secretary of the American Association for Old Age Security, was that it is "a sound start." He added that "it leaves much to be desired." The State Federation of Labor executive committee was left cold in its first reactions to the bill, but will probably give it endorsement later on as a fair start.

The Bills propose to establish a State and county system of pensions for a portion of the aged 70 years of age or over. Recipients of relief would have to be citizens and N. Y. residents for ten years for whose support no financially able persons is legally responsible. No fixed grant is mentioned in the bills. The amount of payment, as long as it does not exceed \$50 a month, is to be discretionary with the public welfare boards of the counties. The commission which drew up the bills estimates there will be about 51,000 persons who will be eligible for relief. The total cost for relief of these 51,000 is estimated at \$12,500,000 a year.

The plan provides for an equal division of the financial responsibility between the State and the county or city welfare districts. The counties and cities would begin actual payments on Jan. 1, 1931. The responsibility for accepting applications, investigating cases and granting allowances, would be placed on the County Commissioner of Public Welfare. The State Department of Social Welfare, through a new Division of Old Age Security, would have power to pass on all allowances, to formulate rules and regulations

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Pension Plea Made Before Congressmen

Laidler Stresses Low Wages, Advancing Industrial Dead-Line in Plea for Relief Legislation

(By a New Leader Correspondent)
WASHINGTON.—Creation of Social Insurance which would embrace in its functions administration of a national system of old age pensions, and unemployment, invalidity, accident, sickness and maternity insurance was urged by the Socialist Party Thursday, when Dr. Harry W. Laidler, on behalf of the party, appeared before the House Committee on Labor to urge immediate enactment of some form of federal old age pension legislation.

Recalling that the late Socialist congressman, Victor L. Berger and Meyer London were the first to carry on organized efforts for an old age pension system, Dr. Laidler said he spoke "as a representative of a party which earnestly advocated this measure in days when it was a forlorn hope."

\$1,205 Is Average Wage
"Despite advances in wages in industries no student of the subject would be so foolhardy as to suggest that the average worker earns enough during his working years to permit him to put aside a nest-egg for his old age," Dr. Laidler said. The last figures published by the National Bureau of Economic Research maintained that the average wage of workers in all industries in 1927 was \$1,205 a year. This is many hundreds of dollars a year less than a minimum budget of health and decency of a family of five—which the Labor Bureau Inc. estimates at over \$2,000 a year and the National Industrial Conference Board, an employers' organization, at about \$1,900—a budget which includes no item for saving against unemployment, sickness, old age or other contingencies; no item for travel and vacation, and little for any of the real comforts of life.

"Perhaps some one-tenth of our industrial workers—the organized workers in the building trades, in the printing trades and a few other skilled trades—secure a saving wage of between \$42 and \$75 a week, but these constitute but a small minority.

"That a large percentage of workers over 65 are dependent largely on charity or on relatives or friends has been brought out in many investigations. Murry W. Latimer of the Industrial Research Councils, Inc., estimated that at least 25 per cent of the population aged 65 or more have property valued at less than \$5,000 or income of less than \$300 a year, or less than \$6 a week. This means that approximately 1,500,000 aged persons have not enough to maintain them at the subsistence level. The National Civic Federation, which is opposed to old age pensions, declared that about one-third of the persons interviewed by them over 65 years had incomes of less than \$300 a year. Of the approximately 5,500,000 to 6,000,000 persons 65 years of age and over in the United States at the present time, 1,800,000 to 2,000,000 are supported in one way or the other by children, relatives or organized charity; it has been estimated.

Age Deadline Is General
"Since the war, this problem has become an increasingly serious one. A large number of employers in our large corporations are setting an age limit for new employees. A recent study brought out by the National Association of Manufacturers declared that 30 percent of the firms replying to the association's questionnaire, admitted a hiring age limit which ranged from 25 years to 45 years. "The problem is becoming accentuated by the fact that men and women, as a result of the advances in medical science, etc. are living on the average longer than they did a generation ago. In 1855, the average span of life in the United States was about 40 years, as compared with about 59 years today. Under mass production, with its speeding up process, thousands of men are thrown upon the scrap heap after a decade or two of intense effort and then find and make its own investigation

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All Roads Lead to Forward Ball This Saturday Night

FOR many years the Forward Ball has been a feature of the Labor and Socialist movement in New York City. Many thousands of workers and their friends have packed the largest auditoriums at these halls.

On Saturday night, Feb. 22, thousands will again meet at the Forward Masquerade Ball in the 71st Regiment Armory, 34th street and Park Avenue. An elaborate program has been arranged and all indications promise a great night and a large attendance.

Tickets have been on sale in every party branch headquarters, all Labor Lyceums, and Workmen's Circle Centers and the advance sale forecasts a big celebration. Rudy Valee, in person, will lead his dance orchestra.

With the return of something like the old spirit in the Jewish trade unions that had been seriously hurt by internal dissensions some years ago and the marked revival of Socialist activities for more than a year the Forward Ball, Saturday night will be re-

deous for fraternizing by kindred spirits.

Tickets purchased in advance have been selling for \$1.00. At the door the charge will be \$1.50.

The following are some of the ticket stations at which tickets may be purchased in advance.

Jewish Daily Forward, 175 East Broadway; Rand Book Store, 7 E. 15th street; S. Botwinik, 6415 20th avenue, Brooklyn; M. Herstein, 538 So. Third street, Brooklyn; Dr. H. S. Hurwitz, 1330 Wilkins avenue, Bronx; M. Tulman, 481 Claremont Parkway, Bronx; Modern Loan and Investment Corporation, 1699 Pitkin avenue, Brooklyn; Fishman and Goldstein, 4506 Ft. Hamilton Parkway, Brooklyn; N. Pilbot, 1246 Park avenue; Champion Hand Laundry, 945 Freeman street, Bronx; Meyer London Athletic Club, 1825 Mohegan avenue, Bronx; Rubinow's Book Store, 424 Grand street; Bresner's Restaurant, 22 Orchard street; Breacher and Halpern, 122 Rivington street, and all Socialist party headquarters.

Conference On Employment Is Proposed

United Hebrew Trades to Seek Sponsorship of Central Trades and Labor Council

THE problem of unemployment which has struck home with particular force in the ranks of trade unionists is to be brought to the attention of the New York Labor movement.

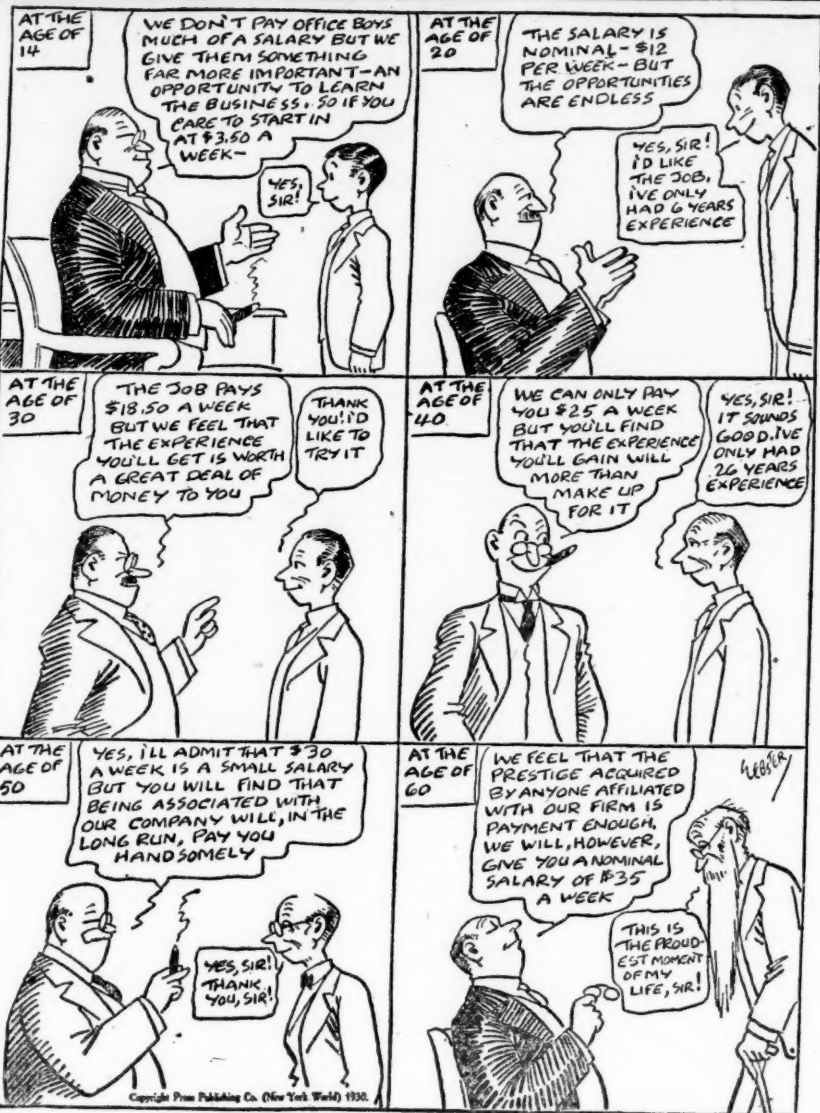
At a meeting of the United Hebrew Trades last Monday night, the executive committee was instructed to bring the problem to the attention of the Central Trades and Labor Council. It is proposed to organize trade union sentiment behind a comprehensive program of unemployment relief and stimulation of employment. To this end, a large public conference of labor may be called.

The question of organizing trade union sentiment to agitate for a program to meet the unemployment situation occupied much of the time at a meeting called by the Committee on Labor of the Socialist Party last Friday. At the meeting, held in the headquarters of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, there were present Philip Zausner, head of district council No. 9 of the painters' union, Abraham Miller of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, Nathaniel Spector of the Millinery Workers, and a number of others including Louis Schaeffer, Louis Stanley, Julius Gerber, Pauline Newman and Edward Levinson of the Socialist Party.

The meeting voted to make every effort to interest the trade unions in a concerted campaign for unemployment relief. A committee was instructed to appear before the United Hebrew Trades. As a result of the appearance of this committee the action noted above was taken.

The Boy Who Made Good

By H. T. Webster



"This is the proudest moment of my life," exclaims a wage earner whose services extended over the period of a half a century, when notified that his salary had been increased to \$35 per week. The history of the grizzled veteran was made subject of a cartoon by Webster, in his inimitable series, "The Boy Who Made Good."

Webster first gives us a picture of the office boy starting on a wage of \$3.50 per week and the "opportunity of learning the business." At the age of 30 and with it a raise to \$18.50 per the opportunities "endless." The opportunity to

O. WEVD

8:45 Conference for Progressive Labor Action

9:00 Frances Weber, coloratura soprano

9:15 Fellowship of Reconciliation

9:30 De la Blassis Trio

10:00 "Catholics and Education"

10:15 Kenneth Blanche

10:30 Nelson B. Scott, tenor

10:45 WEVD Broadcast

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26

12:00 Elizabeth Cushman, soprano

12:15 Women's Peace Union

12:30 Adelaide Olson, contralto

1:00 "A Trade's Wife Among American Indians"

1:15 Elvira, contralto

1:30 Joseph Dwyer, piano

1:45 George Grover, piano

2:00 "Contemporary Dramatists"

2:15 Bonnie Windsor, blues

2:30 Martin Nichols, saxophone

2:45 "Backstage of American Antiques"

3:00 Mr. and Mrs. Charles W. Hughes

3:15 Flute and piano

3:30 Margaret Nyboe, "Right Thinkings"

3:45 Tom McGovern, pianist

4:00 Collette Ramblers

4:30 Jamaica Studios

5:00 "The Time Times"

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27

3:00 Ragas Lindem, songs

3:15 Charles A. Wagner, poet

3:40 Mildred Kratke, soprano

4:00 Women's Peace Union

4:30 Flora Levent, director

5:00 Scott Hunt

5:15 Excelsior, basso

6:15 Federated Press Labor News

6:30 Merchants' Review

6:45 Jamaica Studios

7:00 Louis Lieberman, speaker

7:20 Solomon Golub Hour

7:40 Pauline Newman, Society

8:00 Dr. Wm. E. Bohn, director

8:15 "The Time Times"

8:30 Socialists Sunday School

8:40 Pioneer

9:00 Ravi Hollenhorst's Jamaica Royals

9:15 Jamaica Village Hour

9:30 Jamaica Studios

9:45 National Teller

10:00 "The Time Times"

10:15 Socialists Sunday School

10:30 Pioneer

10:45 Ravi Hollenhorst's Jamaica Royals

11:00 Jamaica Village Hour

11:15 National Teller

11:30 "The Time Times"

11:45 Socialists Sunday School

12:00 Pioneer

12:15 Ravi Hollenhorst's Jamaica Royals

12:30 Jamaica Village Hour

12:45 National Teller

1:00 "The Time Times"

1:15 Socialists Sunday School

1:30 Pioneer

1:45 Ravi Hollenhorst's Jamaica Royals

2:00 Jamaica Village Hour

2:15 National Teller

2:30 "The Time Times"

2:45 Socialists Sunday School

3:00 Pioneer

3:15 Ravi Hollenhorst's Jamaica Royals

3:30 Jamaica Village Hour

3:45 National Teller

4:00 "The Time Times"

4:15 Socialists Sunday School

4:30 Pioneer

4:45 Ravi Hollenhorst's Jamaica Royals

5:00 Jamaica Village Hour

5:15 National Teller

5:30 "The Time Times"

5:45 Socialists Sunday School

6:00 Pioneer

6:15 Ravi Hollenhorst's Jamaica Royals

6:30 Jamaica Village Hour

6:45 National Teller

7:00 "The Time Times"

7:15 Socialists Sunday School

7:30 Pioneer

7:45 Ravi Hollenhorst's Jamaica Royals

8:00 Jamaica Village Hour

8:15 National Teller

8:30 "The Time Times"

8:45 Socialists Sunday School

9:00 Pioneer

9:15 Ravi Hollenhorst's Jamaica Royals

9:30 Jamaica Village Hour

9:45 National Teller

10:00 "The Time Times"

10:15 Socialists Sunday School

10:30 Pioneer

10:45 Ravi Hollenhorst's Jamaica Royals

11:00 Jamaica Village Hour

11:15 National Teller

11:30 "The Time Times"

11:45 Socialists Sunday School

12:00 Pioneer

12:15 Ravi Hollenhorst's Jamaica Royals

12:30 Jamaica Village Hour

12:45 National Teller

1:00 "The Time Times"

1:15 Socialists Sunday School

1:30 Pioneer

1:45 Ravi Hollenhorst's Jamaica Royals

2:00 Jamaica Village Hour

2:15 National Teller

2:30 "The Time Times"

2:45 Socialists Sunday School

3:00 Pioneer

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The Decline of Unionism in Iron and Steel

By James Oneal

Quarter of Million Workers Enrolled During 1929 Strike Scattered by Jurisdictional Fights of 24 Unions

IN this series of articles on American trade unions we have surveyed the Window Glass Workers and the Cigarmakers. The former union was organized in a fairly large industry and its members, as we have seen, possessed a high degree of skill which was destroyed by machines. The Cigarmakers had been conspicuous for their hand skill rather than skill in the use of tools. As a handicraft industry located in shops and factories it rapidly emerged as a machine and mass production industry and the union, like a man wasted with disease, is now fighting for its life.

In this article we consider organization in the iron and steel industry, a great basic industry, one of the most powerful in the United States. The writer is familiar with the union in the industry as for ten years he was an iron and steel worker and was also a member of the union.

Before the year 1876 a number of unions had been organized. At one time or another there were separate organizations of heaters, roll hands, puddlers and nailers. In 1876 the several unions were amalgamated but membership was restricted to the skilled who were directly employed in the iron, steel and tin departments of the industry.

Unskilled Barred Early

Other skilled workers still retained separate organizations. Among these were blacksmiths, boiler makers, bricklayers, machinists, metal polishers and others. Even workers like myself who were acquiring skill were not permitted to join the union till we had fully matured as skilled workers. This continued to be the policy thirty years ago although it was abandoned some years later. The result was that when there was a strike those acquiring skill were expected to strike with the skilled, although the former could not share in the fruits of any victory that might be won.

Yet some magnificent battles were fought by the iron and steel workers, the most notable one being at Homestead in 1892 when pitched battles were fought with the Pinkertons who were hired and armed by the company. The story of that struggle is not germane to this article although in passing

it may be remarked that unionism received a staggering blow in that struggle.

By the year 1901 concentration of capital in the industry had proceeded so far that the U. S. Steel Corporation emerged as the first great mass production enterprise in this country. Its tremendous advantage in dealing with the old unionism soon became evident. For thirty years this giant of the industrial world has been a warning to the labor world against continuing old types of organization and policies but it has gone unheeded. What has happened to the Window Glass Workers and the Cigarmakers and what is threatening other unions today happened to the Iron and Steel Workers more than twenty years ago.

The Industry Changes

A few paragraphs from John Moody's "The Masters of Capital" give some idea of the profound revolution in the industry by the organization of the corporation:

Roosevelt received eighty millions in stock of the new corporation, of which half was preferred stock, besides eight and one-half million dollars in cash for his carrying fleet. These were huge amounts, but the control of the Lake Superior iron mines was absolutely essential, for these deposits represented two-thirds of the new corporation.

Having thus gathered together all the important steel interests of the country, Morgan launched the U. S. Steel Corporation. The stock capitalization was in excess of a billion dollars, with a bonded debt of more than three hundred millions, and both the big banking groups of Wall Street were firmly tied to the enterprise. The great merger dominated by Morgan drew into its orbit even the Standard Oil "Money Power."

So under the control of a single

corporation passed 70 per cent of the American iron and steel industry. That industry, instead of being operated on the old plan of individual control or independent corporate control, was now linked with scores of banks of great power, with railroads, and with numerous other corporate undertakings.

"Individual control" had given way to unified command not only in the production of iron and steel but in raw materials, ships, railroads, banks and "numerous other corporate undertakings." Here was an expanded and unified organization of great capitalistic interests facing an old restrictive unionism of the skilled. It was a case of modern artillery against the ancient spear and bow and arrow. What happened in the struggle between the old unionism and the new organization of capital is revealed in the following sad history.

Membership Fluctuations

The number of members of the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel, and Tin Workers has been only a fraction of the hundreds of thousands employed in the industry. The following table shows the membership for 32 years.

Year	Members	Year	Members
1898	10,500	1911	4,300
1899	11,000	1912	5,500
1900	14,000	1913	6,300
1901	13,900	1914	6,500
1902	14,500	1915	6,500
1903	15,200	1916	6,700
1904	14,300	1917	11,000
1905	10,900	1918	16,100
1906	11,400	1919	19,700
1907	10,200	1920	31,500
1908	7,400	1921	25,400
1909	6,300	1922	15,900
1910	6,200	1923	11,700

The latest estimate we have of the membership is by the U. S. Department of Labor which credits the union with a membership of 11,500 for the year 1929. From the above table it will be seen that this union in one of the basic industries, a union 54 years old, has a smaller membership than it had at the dawn of the present cen-

tury. Its membership never exceeded 31,500 which it had ten years ago. Like other unions of that period it obtained this increase because of the truce signed by the unions and the government during the war. Three years later (1923) it tried to improve the position which it had taken in during the war disappeared and it was back to 11,700.

It should be noted that the bulk of the increase in membership was due to the general strike in the industry in 1919, a struggle that ranks in importance with the Homestead strike of 1892. It had the support of nearly the whole trade union movement of the nation and it was the most thoroughly organized strike in our history. It began quietly in August, 1918, by secretly enrolling members. The national committee in charge of the strike reported that by January 21, 1920, no less than 250,000 workers had been enrolled by the committee.

Where Are the New Members?

The struggle was not confined to western Pennsylvania. It spread to 41 iron and steel cities and towns in seven states, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin, Ohio, Minnesota and New York. The enrollment included workers of all kinds, blacksmiths, boiler makers, bricklayers, electrical workers, machinists and others. What became of all these recruits to unionism?

Well, it isn't a pleasant story. Representatives of various unions involved in the strike engaged in a scramble for their share of members. Old jurisdictional disputes were raised. Executives of the Operating Engineers publicly ordered their members not to strike because they expected President Wilson's industrial conference to settle the issues. Neither Wilson nor the conference helped. The Railroad Brotherhoods displayed no sympathy for the strikers.

Worse still, the Iron and Steel Workers had contracts with various firms and the union executives gave preference to these agreements rather than to their agreement with other unions to carry on the strike. They too often ignored the unskilled laborers who were being enrolled and the latter lost faith in the struggle. In the Bethlehem plant the Steam Engineers were ordered to return to work by their officials and railway men in the plants failed to support the strike.

The Commission of the Interchurch World Movement which aided the effort to organize the men later submitted a report. Of the National Committee's efforts to cope with craft and trade jealousies the Commission declared:

The Committee struggled with a most jurisdictional dispute between the Steam Shovelmen and the Stationary Engineers over the disposition of cranes; between the Iron and Steel Workers and the Hod Carriers' Union over the disposition of common laborers; it argued uncessantly with constituent unions whose constitutions and by-laws threatened to bar out steel workers; it tried to improve the wishes of the newly organized steel and file, clamoring for action, upon the absenteeism of the Iron and Steel Workers; it tried to improve the wishes of the newly organized steel and file, clamoring for action, upon the absenteeism of the Iron and Steel Workers; it tried to improve the wishes of the newly organized steel and file, clamoring for action, upon the absenteeism of the Iron and Steel Workers.

The Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers, after a month's hesitation, ordered its members back into "independent" plants, and, after the strike, withdrew from the Committee, taking away 70,000 to 80,000 members, all of whom were recruits from the drive.

Dividing Up the Workers

This picture of representatives of 24 international unions sitting at a council table and quarreling over jurisdictional issues, each striving to take as many members as possible,

and all of them dividing the recruits into a dozen or more unions in an industry where labor must be organized as a mass, is discouraging. The strike could not avoid being a failure. One might as well expect a battle in war to be won by 24 generals, equal in rank, issuing orders. This was not organizing workers. It was dividing them.

The disputes among the generals discouraged the recruits who were looking for unity of command. Suspensions arose among the skilled, the semi-skilled and the unskilled and to this was added the suspicions of the foreign born workers who had nobly responded to the strike call. Reviewing these phases of the strike the Commission declared:

The strike's end saw the racial split deepened, many immigrants feeling that they had been "let down" by the American labor movement. Many immigrants told their leaders, "When you 'Americanize' the Americans and the Negroes, we'll strike again."

It is probable that if the unions had agreed to place all workers in each plant into one plant union the result would have been different but this plan could not emerge out of the craft and trade organizations. The U. S. Steel Corporation is one of the most powerful in the world and its unified command gave it an enormous advantage over the divided command of the 24 internationals. Trade unionism failed. Organization by plant and industry, taking in all workers regardless of their skill or lack of skill, might have been successful.

Political Persecution and Friendship

Before passing from this tragic ending of the uprising in the steel industry it is well to point out that the strikers in all centers, with one exception, found the elected officials ranged against them. Mayors, sheriffs, police depart-

ments, were practically directed by agents of the steel companies. The right of the union men even to meet was snuffed out. The political powers, almost wholly created by labor votes, cooperated with the steel companies in breaking the strike.

The one exception was in Milwaukee County, Wisconsin, where workers for years have been placing their own representatives in office on their own ticket. Here the agents of the steel companies approached the labor Sheriff with a list of deputies to appoint. That list was rejected and the Sheriff made his appointments from members of the trade unions. Milwaukee was the only steel center where strikers could meet without being molested, where their civil rights were preserved, where there was no violence and disorder. The contrast showed what could be done by intelligent voting.

The union survives in the so-called "independent" plants but not all of them, and now negotiations are under way for a huge steel merger in the Middle West that will create the third largest company in the industry. The Republic Steel Corporation is the magnet around which the "independents" are gathering. Years ago the Republic mills were practically all union but it now operates chiefly steel mills and furnaces. With the exception of a few small plants the policy of the Republic is non-union. The Jones and Laughlin Corporation and the Youngstown Sheet and Tube Company will ultimately become a part of the Middle West merger and these two companies are open shop. It is obvious that when the merger is completed what remains of the Iron, Steel and Tin Workers will be little, unless some striking revival of the militant spirit appears in the ranks of the workers.

Obsolete Unionism

In Germany, Austria, England and other countries the workers have splendid organizations in the iron and steel industry. In those countries no jurisdictional disputes or craft and trade jealousies disturb the unions. Skilled and unskilled find a place in the unions. There are no dozen or more organizations in the industry working at cross purposes and sapping each other's strength by mutual wrangles and attacks. Company unionism is unknown.

The old nineteenth century unionism does not fit into modern mass industry. Steel workers abroad know this and have organized regardless of skill and trade. Here it has been a policy of drift, lack of any far-sighted statesmanship, and an undermining of the old unionism by mass industries. Both members and officials must awaken to the grave problems that confront them.

In this survey of three unions, one located in a large industry (Window Glass Workers) but not comparable to steel; one in a lesser industry (Cigarmakers) with old traditions of the guild craftsman surviving; and the third (Iron and Steel Workers) in a great mass industry, it is evident that the old unionism is affected in the same way in all these industries. As it cannot fit into the new mass industries it must change to more modern forms of organization or die.

Moreover, the workers must learn that the old form of politics and political action is played out. It does not inspire the workers and it does not scare the old parties. It is futile. It belongs to the middle of the nineteenth century. Trade unions in practically all modern nations have abandoned it. Genuine labor politics cannot be reconciled with servile waiting upon the favors of parties that represent the possessing classes, not the toilers of this country.

N.Y. Socialists Gain Hundred New Members

Lists of Enrolled Socialists to be Available Next Week - Verband Arranges Meetings

DESPITE the inclement weather which marred the attendance at eight meetings held last week to further the victory membership drive of the Socialist Party to obtain 10,000 new members by May Day, over 100 applications were received at these meetings and in response to a letter appeal addressed from the drive headquarters, 7 East 15th street, to names suggested by various Socialists among sympathizers who might join if requested.

The lists of enrolled voters, on which managers of the drive expect to concentrate most of their efforts while meetings are being held by sympathetic groups, will be available early next week, Marx Lewis, drive manager, has been assured by the Board of Elections. Copies are ready for most Assembly districts, which can be purchased by individual branches, but a complete set for the use of the city committee of the Socialist party will be made available without charge.

Canvassing Going On

Checking up the lists to determine who are the enrolled Socialists, and the elimination of those who are already party members, will leave the names of the prospects on whom the drive managers in the various districts will work. In some of the districts, as in the upper West Side, where Leon Gibson is directing the drive work, and in the 18th Assembly district, Kings County, where a committee is at work, lists have been obtained and the work of canvassing is progressing with satisfactory results.

Former Judge Jacob Panken, William Karlin, Frank Crosswaith, Jacob Axelrad, Mrs. R. Pallen Panken, Edward F. Cassidy, Charles Solomon, August Claessens and others carried the membership appeal into every section of the city last week-end, addressing either meetings or sympathetic groups called especially for the purpose or public meetings at which an appeal for membership was made.

On Tuesday evening, February 25, the first of a series of meetings in the upper West Side section will be held with former Judge Panken as the principal speaker. The meeting will be held at the Temple Israel Community Center, 210 West 91st street. Every enrolled Socialist voter is being visited and invited to attend the meeting, and those who cannot be reached in time, as well as those visited, will receive an invitation by mail.

Verband Meetings

The Jewish Socialist Verband, under the direction of Meyer Weinstein, its city organizer, is arranging a series of meetings in various parts of the city. On Friday evening, February 28, James

Washington Pen Women, Horrified At Prospect of Hearing Rand School Teacher, Cancel Date of Lecture

The League of American Pen Women in Washington have raised a tempest in a teapot because they have decided that Aben Kandel, author of a recent book, "Black Sun," who was scheduled to give a Coffee House Talk to the members of the organization on February 14, is ineligible because they suspect him of Socialist tendencies. Mr. Kandel has been giving a series of six lectures at the Rand School in his course on "Contemporary American Letters." The invitation was extended by one of the members, Isabelle Geddes Smith, who gives Book Talks in Washington. Feb. 5th, Mr. Kandel received word that his speaking date had been cancelled because the announcement, which contained mention of his lectures in the Rand School, raised a storm of protest among the Penwomen. Mr. Kandel demanded an explanation.

It was explained that the League of American Pen Women has a national committee on Americanism of which Mrs. Lucia Ramsey Maxwell is chairman. She is also a member of the D. C. Branch of the League and is the collaborator with Mrs. Bonnie Busch, the national president, with a book to which she has given the name "The Red Fog" and in which she feels it necessary to call attention to what she terms "subversive activities" of the Rand

School of Social Science. When Mr. Kandel was announced as speaker at the "Coffee House" Mrs. Maxwell is said to have registered protest with the local president of the League against Mr. Kandel's appearing in Washington under the auspices of the League of American Pen Women because of his connection with the Rand School.

Mr. Kandel declares: "This, as they say on Broadway, is the 'pay-off.' I am not a Socialist and have never been a member of the party. The Rand School was liberal-minded enough to invite me to lecture there on 'Contemporary American Letters,' solely because of certain merits they believed were lodged in me. I was under no compulsion to color my talk with any Marxian shade, nor was I obliged to inject any working class propaganda into my lectures. "But the League of American Pen Women, without even investigating my tie with Socialism, leaps (if one can concede of such a rigidly attitudinized body of women) to a conclusion and cancels my lecture. But in any event, the question of whether or not I am a Socialist is totally irrelevant. What is significant is that a league of writers, dedicated in theory at least, to ideals of literature, could display such intolerance, ignorance and stupidity."

Oneal will address a meeting of the Verband in the 2nd Assembly district, Kings County.

The following meetings are scheduled for this week-end: Friday evening, February 21: Branch 6, Workmen's Circle, and Branch 3, Workmen's Circle, at 76 Throop avenue, Brooklyn. August Claessens will address these meetings.

Branch 80, and Branch 244, at 151 Clinton street. Mrs. R. Pallen Panken will address the meetings.

Branch 363, National Theatre Building, 2nd avenue and East Houston Street. Branch 359, 214 East 2nd street, and Branch 210, 1123 Broadway. On Saturday evening, Workmen's Circle Branch 331 will take up the membership drive question at a meeting to be held at 106 Forsyth street.

Panken to Address Upper West Side Branch

Judge Jacob J. Panken will speak before the Upper West Side Branch of the Socialist Party, Tuesday, February 25. His subject is "Socialism and Democracy." The branch meets at Temple Israel, 210 West 91st Street at 8.30 P. M.

Esther Friedman to Talk in Liberty and Monticello

Esther Friedman, well known Socialist lecturer, will talk on "Socialist Vienna" at the Liberty Sanatorium, Liberty, N. Y., on Saturday, Feb. 22. The following Sunday, Feb. 23rd, Miss Friedman will talk at the Jewish Community Center in Monticello on "British Labor in Power."

Rand School to Debate N.Y.U. at Greenwich House

"Resolved, That the continuance of the capitalist system is for the best interest of mankind." Affirmative: New York University. Negative: The Rand School.

This debate has been arranged for Thursday evening, Feb. 27, at the 8rd St. and 10th A. D. branch of the Socialist Party. It will be held in the auditorium of Greenwich House, 29 Barrow St. The New York University team has been chosen from the students who attend evening classes there. George Halpern will coach the N.Y.U. speakers. The Rand School team is being coached by William Hade, of the national council of Tau Kappa Alpha, forensic fraternity. The debate will be conducted according to the Oregon plan: the affirmative will state its case; the negative will then cross-examine the affirmative speakers; then the negative will present its case; the affirmative will cross-examine; the affirmative will summarize; the negative will summarize. Mr. Hade will be chairman of the meeting. On March 7, the Rand School will debate Albright College at Reading, Pa., on the same subject. Parties from the Rand School plan to drive to Reading.

Professor Mather

Sunday, February 23, at three-thirty in the afternoon, Kirtley F. Mather, who holds the chair of Geography at Harvard University, will deliver a lecture before the Labor Institute Forum, at 802-10 Locust street, Philadelphia. His subject will be "Human Evolution" and it will be illustrated throughout with very interesting lantern slides.

B'klyn Party To Re-establish County Office

Meeting Subscribes \$600 to Begin Work of Borough Organization - Hillquit Addresses Gathering

WITH the emergency which five years ago compelled the Kings County Socialists to completely merge their identity with the Socialists of other counties completely and definitely passed, and the Kings County Socialist movement on the upgrade again, arrangements to launch a Brooklyn county organization again were made at a meeting held last Friday night, February 14, at the Odd Fellows' Memorial Hall, 301 Seehorn street, Brooklyn.

Veterans of the Socialist movement who had to make the painful decision five years ago to yield their organization for the sake of preserving the movement in the city, and many newcomers who had not been present when that decision was made and who have since allied themselves with the Socialist movement, joined hands to reestablish a local Socialist organization.

Hillquit Urges Separate Office

Morris Hillquit, national chairman of the Socialist Party, who was one of those who recommended the merger when the emergency required it, delivered the only address of the evening, and congratulated the Brooklyn Socialists on their return to a position of leadership in the city Socialist movement. The time had come, he declared, when, if he were a member of the Brooklyn organization, he would vote to reestablish the county organization, just as he recommended that it be abandoned.

Enumerating the various causes for the restored strength of the Socialist movement, and the prestige which it now enjoys, both locally and in the nation, Hillquit named the passing of the Communist hysteria, which for a while caused confusion in the ranks of the radicals and liberals, the realization on the part of many that the prosperity which was used to justify all opposition to a change could not be and was not in fact enduring under capitalism, and the dignified and persistent campaign the Socialists have conducted whenever the occasion offered itself as the major contributing causes for the return of the Socialist movement to a position of power in the nation.

\$600 Is Collected

Julius Gerber, on behalf of the Committee on Organization and Membership, submitted to the meeting a draft of the committee's recommendations. It provided for the reestablishment of a county committee, with an office in the county. The question of immediately placing a full time paid executive secretary in charge, or of operating temporarily with a volunteer committee of organizers until such times as funds to pro-

Marines Force Labor On the Nicaraguans

(Continued from Page One)

dictator of Chile, General Ibanez, was years ago, as a colonel of his country's forces, detailed to serve as an instructor loaned by his government to the government of El Salvador. Colonel Ibanez introduced in the Salvadoran army many novel things, among others the duel, which he had in turn learned from his German army instructors.

"Americanization" Begins

It was natural, after the war of 1914, that the United States should have looked with troubled eyes at the wholesale Europeanization of Latin American armies and navies. It was natural, again, that it should have wanted to Americanize them. To facilitate this the act of Congress referred to was enacted.

But while European naval and military missions circumscribed their activities to the instruction of officers, the United States has gone very far in a different direction. The so-called American military and naval missions have shown a tendency to disregard instruction of native officers and to take active command of the existing armies and navies. It is this that the Peruvian Senator denounces. He claims that while the avowed purpose of the American naval mission has been to organize an Officer's Naval School of advanced studies, a sort of post-graduate college for native naval officers, what the Americans have done is to take command of the Peruvian war-boats and to accept positions of various kinds, none having to do with instruction in the Peruvian government machine.

It has been questioned whether permission for this is contained in the act of Congress under which such American naval and military missions are detailed to Latin American countries. It has been suggested that the provisions of the act of Congress have been violated by such procedure. Senator King in 1928 introduced a resolution in the U. S. Senate calling for the repeal of the act. It went into the hands of a Committee and has never been reported out. In December, 1929, Senator Wheeler reintroduced Senator King's resolution. More than likely nothing will be done about it either. Unless, of course, public opinion is interested in it and demands that an investigation be made.

This concerns Nicaragua. It is vide for the other can be raised, was left to the decision of the borough meeting.

It was decided to adopt the recommendation regarding a county committee, but that the work of organization be undertaken in the meantime by a committee of organizers who will apportion the county and seek to strengthen every branch in it. Joseph Viola, John Blackburn, Marjorie Dorman, Simon Wolfe, Max Polikoff, A. Epstein and William M. Feigenbaum, who presided, were elected on the committee.

A. I. Shipiloff was elected treasurer of the committee. On an appeal by August Claessens, city organizer, \$600 was raised immediately to begin the work of getting county machinery in shape.

under this act of Congress, which Senator Borah sponsored, that American marines have been detailed to serve the Nicaraguan Government. The question is: Has the Navy Department proper authority under the provisions of the act of Congress referred to, to let the Nicaraguan Government have the services of enlisted men and officers of the U. S. Marine Corps? In other words: Is the service which our marines are performing in Nicaragua the kind of service contemplated in the provisions of the act of Congress which Senator King and Wheeler wish repealed?

Intention of Congress Perverted

The marines in Nicaragua are acting not alone as army and police instructors of army and police forces, but as actual officers in full command of those forces and in absolute control of everything pertaining to army and police functions, even the enactment of police regulations, and in charge of every jail, prison and penitentiary.

The Munro-Cuadra Pasos agreement referred to in our first article in this series, was entered into by the American charge d'affaires at Managua acting supposedly under the authority of Congress mentioned. The American Executive therefore does not feel himself in duty bound to refer that agreement to the U. S. Senate. It appears that a trick is being played on the Senate, which is presumably the view taken by Senators King and Wheeler. The charges made in the Peruvian Senate, if they ever come to the attention of the U. S. Senate, may help to arouse this body to some action. Meanwhile the Navy Department has merrily gone into the business of annexing army, navy and even police forces in Latin America, so that if the actual strength of American armaments is to be figured out, those forces, which are a sort of colonial forces, must be taken into consideration.

Nicaragua Calls It A Treaty

This view of course, has been stoutly opposed by the Navy Department. It disclaims responsibility for what the marines in Nicaragua may do. It has proclaimed that its policy is one of "hands off" whatever the marines do there. It is a convenient policy. And taking it seriously, well meaning people have suggested that what should be done to remedy conditions the Nicaraguans themselves must do. It is easier said than done.

True enough, the Constitution of Nicaragua expressly forbids any foreigner to hold authority of any sort in the services of the Republic. The authority the marines wield in Nicaragua is clearly unconstitutional. A solution has been found for this difficulty, and it is this: The juristic fallacy has been maintained as an axiom that international treaties supersede the Constitution of the Republic. Thus such agreements as that entered into by Dr. Munro and Dr. Cuadra Pasos has been IN NICARAGUA, by the Nicaraguan Supreme Court, held to be an international treaty. As such, its provisions are beyond the prohibitions established by the Constitution. And the pure chicanery of this is clearly seen when we realize that IN THE UNITED STATES, in order to get away with this sort of thing, the wool is pulled over the Senate's eyes and it is made to appear that such agreements fall under the act of Congress.

Surely, Senate investigation ought to bring out a great deal of information of importance. There are American naval and other kinds of missions in Latin America. What these missions are actually doing there should be of national interest. In Nicaragua they are oppressing the people, destroying whatever democratic institutions exist there, expending about one half of the country's revenues, terrorizing the population into acquiescence, persecuting labor leaders, establishing a kind of peonage by making what they please to call a campaign against vagrancy, and even forcing the hand of the Government that has come to depend solely upon them for support.

The Fight On "Vagrancy"

The campaign against vagrancy is of singular interest. The marines, acting as Police authorities, have been in the habit of decreeing that whosoever is out of work must either pay a fine or perform forced labor without pay. This helps throughout the year to keep up the building of roads and the construction of a President's palace with hanging gardens, etc. This sort of decree is especially enforced during the coffee harvests and sugar harvests and "hands" are required on the large plantations.

It so happens that the price of sugar and of coffee has in recent years lamentably fallen in the world market. The production of sugar and growing of coffee are no longer the profitable businesses they used to be. Wages have decreased a great deal and the cost of living has gone up. Under such circumstances "hands" are scarce. A Nicaraguan member of the Federation of Labor said, "It is better to starve in idleness than to starve doing hard work."

The marines in control of the Nicaraguan police do not see it that way. They take the view that it is better for a Nicaraguan to starve while working hard than to starve while doing nothing. Therefore they decree that vagrancy must be abolished; that is, that no matter how low wages may be, Nicaraguans must work for those wages or go to jail. Upon being

employed, the employer gives his laborers "employment cards" which must be presented to the marines. Whoever has no employment card goes to jail, and from jail to forced labor in road building and in constructing the Babylonian palace where the Nicaraguan President is to live.

The code the marines impose on Nicaraguans may be all right. Work may be a virtue. But what is very hard to see is by what authority and in the name of what principle United States marines are employed in Nicaragua to enforce this system? One thing is clear: the right to strike is denied to Nicaraguan labor.

Nicaragua Pays For It

The Spanish word for strike is huelga. It also means to do nothing. It does not carry the implication of a struggle as the English word does; to strike, in English, means also to hit. Not so with the word huelga. It is a word closely related to huelga, which means leisure, amplitude. When Spanish speaking laborers "rise in huelga," as they put it, meaning to go on strike, what they actually do is to take it easy, to give themselves leisure, to do what the employer class does: nothing.

So, when wages are too low, Nicaraguan labor simply prefers not to work. After all, even in the plantations one sleeps out of doors on the ground. There are quarters for the workers, that is true; but what quarters! Kennels like dogs'. One has to crawl into them and out of them. At very low wages, the only inducement labor has is the food. Employers whose food is notoriously bad find it hard to get hands. The marines are solving this difficulty for them.

That is why there are Nicaraguans who like marines in Nicaragua; who feel that if the marines leave the world will come to an end. It may, for them. But it is difficult to understand why Americans should pay taxes to maintain a Marine Corps whose job is to see that Nicaraguan workers, whose average income in cash is not above \$40.00 a year, accept conditions making that average even lower.

Felt or Wool Hats

ALWAYS
LOOK FOR
THIS LABEL



When You Buy
Cloth Hats and Caps

Always
Look for
This Label



A PAGE OF EXCLUSIVE FEATURES

One Swell Pamphlet

OUR HATS are off to Paul H. Douglas. He has written a pamphlet for the League for Independent Political Action (which has its headquarters at 52 Vanderbilt Avenue, New York City, called "Why a Political Realignment?") and we beg of you to send three dollars to the League and get 100 of these pamphlets. They sell for ten cents apiece, but we want you to put them in the hands of at least one hundred people.

Paul Douglas is a Professor of Industrial Relations, at the University of Chicago, and he is a grand man. In this pamphlet, he mixes common sense with idealism in magnificent fashion.

Seldom have we seen such a masterly arrangement of the two old parties, or read such an eloquent appeal for a new political deal. Naturally, what he says about the Socialist Party is most interesting to us. You can read these paragraphs on page two of this issue of The New Leader. After you've read them sit down and write for the complete pamphlet.

We have just written the last page of our biography of Eugene V. Debs, and we feel somewhat lost. When you have lived with a stimulating job for more than eight months, and at last the job is done, and you make the irrevocable gesture of handing all the words you have gathered to the printer, the feeling, I presume, is very much the same as that of a playwright who sees the curtain going up on the first night of his show.

Twice in our life we have had the misfortune of sitting next to the poor wretch whose play was to be acted before our eyes and the eyes of an audience, presumably friendly, for such are the first night audiences as a rule. Even if the audience is largely there on free tickets, its members, nevertheless, can reserve their liberties of criticism, and whether they are articulate or not, the unhappy playwright knows that deep inside of them they are rendering judgment.

Of course, the Firstnighter can emulate the example of the late Brander Matthews, who went to see a very bad show indeed, at the request of its author. He stamped out of his free seat at the end of the first act, went to the box office in the lobby, bought himself a ticket for a seat that was vacant near him, and returned to hiss the second act heartily.

It so happened that both of the shows we saw, sitting next to their perspiring authors, were terrible flops, and our misery during the lack-lustre performances was nearly as poignant as our immediate neighbors'.

Now we are in a despondent mood, where we would like to start from scratch again and write the book all over. We can see very clearly what is going to happen to it. For months to come—the book will be out in the middle of April—we shall feel the silent approaches of our friends for having omitted some detail which they regard as essential to an understanding of 'Gene. If they say nothing about it, it will not help matters any. For we shall feel that they are simply trying to be polite and not hurt our feelings, and if they say something about it, no doubt we shall get peevish and try to bite their legs off. Either way, the prospect is not alluring.

We had thought of going away immediately on writing "The End" to the 350th page of the book. Now we plan to depart on the day of its appearance, and to remain if possible incommunicado for a long while thereafter. I shudder when I think of the dear comrades who, from all sections of the continent, will be writing me to assure me that most of my data is incorrect and my conclusions are wrong.

I can say this, however, that I have accepted the very sensible advice of Jim O'Neal, and have not attempted to psychologize Debs. There are no efforts at detecting in his deep love for his parents, for example, any complexes whatsoever. It may be very old-fashioned, but it just so happened that 'Gene loved his mother and father and they loved him. And that their family life was happy. They had sweet times together, and Sunday afternoons at the Debs home in Terre Haute were festive affairs. Very different, indeed, from the terrific and sordid religious orgies which darkened the lives of most small-town boys.

Also, 'Gene loved his brother Theodore with a deep and passionate attachment that is not usually the case on the part of brothers. There was nothing in the world that 'Gene would not do for Theodore, and there was very little in the world that Theodore did not do for 'Gene.

Anyhow, the book is done and if it has any value it is because I have allowed 'Gene to speak for himself, telling with his own words the colorful story of a most amazing life.

We see that a mob of souvenir collectors nearly precipitated a riot by their mad scramble to secure a cigar butt that was thrown away by Little Calvin Coolidge, who is now visiting Hollywood.

It was a woman who finally grabbed off this immortal memento. Dead cigar butts may now take the place of autographs and postage stamps in the collectors' world.

The late Warren Gamaliel Harding used to chew tobacco at the all-night poker games in the Little Green House on K Street. Some energetic collector should have preserved a chew over which the sainted molars of the massive Ohioan were busied.

A clipping of one of Charlie Hughes' whiskers might well be encased in the Smithsonian Institute for the edification of our future generations and by all means we should have embalmed the white canvas sneakers which clad the winged feet of Herbie Hoover.

If anyone wants to get in on the ground floor, we will gladly sell for a price the lovely collar which our cat Jacob is now rapidly outgrowing. Or they may have the bicycle clips that we wore in the old days when we used to break the chain on our wheel coming down the hill by Grant's Tomb.

Just out of sheer, idle curiosity we wonder what the lady who got Cal's butt is going to do with the thing. One dead butt can smell up a house something awful and one dead Republican butt must—well, let it pass.

McAlister Coleman.

Aiding (?) The Aged

By James O'Neal

RENEWED interest in old age pensions is probably responsible for a study of the various systems of caring for the aged which has been published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U. S. Department of Labor. Published as Bulletin 489 and bearing the title "Care of Aged Persons in the United States," this study is the cooperative work of Florence E. Parker, Estelle M. Stewart, and Mary Conyngham.

In this volume of 300 pages one will find a complete survey of the subject, supplemented with statistical tables and many photographs. Of groups, organizations and societies making some provision for the aged are soldiers organizations, trade unions, fraternal societies, private organizations, corporations, the Federal Government, states and municipalities, religious organizations, insurance companies and miscellaneous organizations.

Alms-houses that reported in the various states number 2,183 with 85,889 inmates. This is supplemented with a review of the income and expenditures of institutions, systems of control and administration.

There are 453,088 soldiers and widows of soldiers, not including widows of Civil War veterans

whose pensions began in July, 1928, on the pension roll of the Federal Government at a cost of nearly 229 million dollars. There are twelve labor organizations with 11,306 members receiving pensions. In the religious groups there are 14,806 beneficiaries receiving pensions and 6,195 receiving relief. Figures are also given for the other groups and organizations.

It is the sections that consider pensions for aged workers in industry that are of most interest to us. Pension legislation has been enacted in ten states and Alaska but not in all cases is it in operation. In six states having pension plans in operation, Colorado, Kentucky, Maryland, Montana, Nevada and Wisconsin, there are just 1,003 workers receiving pensions.

Three cheers for American idealism! We may yet come up to the standard of Turkey, despite the shouting of some labor chiefs for "individualism" and of the sanctimonious Uriah Heep, Tecumseh Sherman.

We turn to the corporations that maintain pension systems for American "sovereigns." A survey of the Bureau of Labor Statistics in 1925 brought reports from 134 companies but it is estimated that

more than 200 companies were covered, as a single plan might cover "a whole group of allied enterprises." The opinion of the Illinois Pension Laws Commission is quoted to the effect that the worker as a rule pays "for his pension by deductions from his wages or salary whether he is conscious of it or not."

Aside from the fact that corporation pension systems are degrading and tie workers who receive them in servitude to the companies, the compensation is uncertain and is so qualified with restrictions and provisos that they are plain swindles. This report declares that the wording of many plans confirms the charge that company pensions are intended to "prevent collective action on the part of labor." It continues:

A very common provision is that in order to qualify for the pension a worker must give continuous service, and the definition of "continuous" is such as to bar any one who takes part in a strike. Voluntary withdrawal from the service constitutes a breach of continuity, and if the worker is reinstated he comes in, so far as pensions are concerned, as a new employee, or may forfeit his pensionable status altogether.

Some details of such pension systems are given by quotations from the plans which confirm the view that the plans are swindles. A worker may even be required to assist in breaking a strike by the terms of some of these plans. The following passage is significant:

ON THE INTERNATIONAL FRONT

5 Labor Gov'ts Formed in 1929; Setbacks Are Few

THE 1929 elections were gratifying to the international Socialist movement. The general result was substantial progress. Hundreds of thousands of new votes were won for Socialism, the number of Socialist members of Parliament considerably increased, and in Great Britain, Denmark, Czechoslovakia, the Commonwealth of Australia, and the State of Victoria, Governments were formed which were wholly or partly composed of Socialists.

Early successes were recorded in local elections in Iceland in February, while during March the Socialists gained in local elections in Great Britain and Denmark. Parliamentary elections took place in Denmark in April. The dominant issue was disarmament, and the result was a great victory for peace. About 100,000 new votes were secured by the Social-Democrats. There was a 20% increase in the Social-Democratic vote, with about 600,000 votes, or 41.8% of the total votes, maintained its position as by far the strongest party. The second largest party—the hitherto Government Party—only obtained 400,000 votes, or 28.3%. The Social-Democrats with 61 seats, and the Radicals with 16 seats, formed a majority of 77 members against 71, and a combined Social-Democratic-Radical Government on a common program was formed. This Government was composed of nine Social-Democrats and three Radicals, with Comrade Stauning at the head.

Set-Backs in Ireland, Belgium There was a set-back for the Labor Party in Northern Ireland on May 22nd. In the old Parliament there had been three Socialists out of 52, but although the five Socialist candidates secured 23,304 votes in the elections, only one of them was returned. On May 26th a set-back was also experienced in Belgium, where the Socialists suffered a net loss of eight seats, winning only 70 seats.

A magnificent victory was recorded by the Labor Party in Great Britain. The Labor Party emerged from the elections as the largest party in the House of Commons for the first time in its history. Its representation was increased from 151 at the last election to 287 out of a House of 615, and its vote from 5,487,620 to 8,364,883. For the second time in history a Labor Government took office in Great Britain. A general election took place on June 12th in South Africa. In the old Parliament there were 17 Labor members in a House of 135, and the Hertzog Government was supported by the Labor Party under Colonel Creswell. Before the election, however, there was a split in the Labor Party, and the National Council faction seceded from the Creswell group. The result of the election was that the Creswell group secured five seats and the National Council Group three, so that there was a loss of nine seats to record. General Hertzog secured a majority in the election, which made him independent of the Labor Party.

The elections which took place in Finland on the 1st and 2nd July did not produce any great changes.

One seat was lost by the Social-Democrats, who however secured 260,000 votes, an increase of a few thousands. The elections for the Second Chamber in Holland took place July 3rd. The Social-Democratic Party increased its vote by nearly 100,000, on top of the increase of 140,000 secured in 1925. The Social-Democratic Party remained the second strongest party in the State with 24 seats as against the 30 held by the Roman-Catholic State Party.

Three More Labor Governments

The victory of the Labor Party in the Australian Federal elections on October 12th was the greatest since 1914, when the Party secured 41 out of 75 seats in the House of Representatives and 31 out of 36 in the Senate. Prior to the elections the Labor Party had 31 seats only, while the Nationalists had 29 and the Country Party 13. The Labor Party was able to form a Government, with every prospect of remaining in office for the full term of three years. In Czechoslovakia the Parliamentary election on October 27th resulted in a great victory for the Czechoslovakian and German Social-Democratic Parties. The Czechoslovakian Party secured 970,011 votes. During the last four years it has increased its vote by 358,748, and has therefore become the second largest party in the Republic, the largest party being the Agrarians, who secured 1,104,956 votes, so that the two Social-Democratic Parties obtained nearly a million and a half votes between them. If the vote of 767,503 secured by the Czech National Socialists (the Benes Party) is added to this it will be seen that the Socialist bloc is supported by no less than 2,243,718 votes. The bourgeois block which had governed before the elections was left in the minority with 143 seats out of 300, and a new Coalition Government was formed from all the Socialist Parties, namely the Czech and German Social-Democrats and the National Socialists led by Dr. Benes.

The triumph in the Federal Elections in Australia was followed by a victory of the Labor Party in the State of Victoria on Nov. 30. The Party had already been the strongest Party in the State with 28 seats out of 65. After the elections the Party remained in the strongest position but it still lacked a majority over all other parties combined. When Parliament met after the elections, the Prime Minister thereupon

resigned and the Labor Party was once more called upon to take over the reins of Government.

"In this review we have been mainly concerned with Parliamentary elections," the bulletins of the Socialist International say, "but there is one other election which deserves to be mentioned for the encouragement which it has given to one of the most sorely-tried parties in the International. In the Mayoral election in New York City on Nov. 5th, Norman Thomas, the Socialist candidate secured 174,531 votes, which is far in excess of the number obtained by any previous Socialist candidate. The result of this election is regarded by the American Socialist Party as one of the most encouraging events in the history of the movement."

Woodworkers' Secretariat Drops Communist Applicants

The Seventh International Woodworkers' Congress held at Heidelberg last year called upon the unions which had adopted so-called friendly or reciprocity agreements with Russian unions to declare in writing, before the 1st December, 1929, that they had severed their relations with these unions. The woodworkers' International has therefore expelled the three unions in question, the National Amalgamated Furriers' Union, the Association of Great Britain and Ireland, the Finnish Woodworkers' Union and the Norwegian Building Workers' Union (woodworkers' section).

Young People's Socialist League, 2553 Washington Boulevard, Chicago, Ill.

Published Every Week by The New Leader for the Young People's Socialist League

EDITORIAL OFFICES, 7 EAST 15th ST., N.Y.C.

Organization Education Solidarity

FREE YOUTH

National Chairman Honored

The Y.P.S.L. of Greater New York turned its Convention Banquet into a meeting for the Y.P.S.L. of the City of New York. The new Chairman of the Y.P.S.L., the people attended this most enthusiastic affair. One letter, by Air Mail, from the Y.P.S.L. of the City of New York, the former National Chairman, the letter of the intended gathering. His letter follows:

"Dear Comrades:

"Life is funny—all of us are different—when most of you take your vacation, I am at work—hence my excuse for not being present—to see a large crowd, to hear a lot of singing, and to be in the office. That has been sitting and being spoken of, rather than running around, arranging banquets for others and having to deliver speeches.

"I think I have been closest to Manny in the movement, and as such have been able to observe him most. The one quality that he has been able to prove all along is that whether he was victorious or defeated in any organization matter, he was to be found at the end of the line. That has been his outstanding quality—from the start.

"I should like to remind him and you of a very cold December night in 1921 when he came to me (Executive Secretary) at 106 Avenue C, the then City Office, with the credentials of Ben Friedman, as delegate from Circle 6 Brooklyn to the then approaching National Convention. It was the first time he had come to the office. As recording secretary, he brought the credentials of another comrade who walked with him to a convention he wanted to attend. I remember the walk through the park and to Old Fairchild's, which in reality was the office of the League. I remember very clearly the conversation—if not word for word, certainly the trend—Manny agreed right or wrong, the organization decision was right and had to be carried out. Months have passed. There have been times when we differed, although I think it history for they were few and far between. There were times when we agreed and still we differed with others. But always to the credit of

J. Ramsay MacDonald Quits the I. L. P., Which He Helped Found in 1894

(By a New Leader Correspondent)

London. — Premier MacDonald announced his resignation from the Independent Labor Party this week by notifying the Hampstead branch that he would not renew his annual contribution to the party.

This action causes no surprise among either the independents or the Premier's associates in the regular Labor Party. Although he gives no explanation, it is taken for granted he no longer finds it worth while to continue active association with a political group in which the radical wing is constantly ragging the Labor Government. Other resignations from the Independent group are likely to follow.

The majority of the Independent Labor Party members are loyal to the present government, but the minority, led by James Maxton and others in the House of Commons, are never to be relied upon for support of the Labor

Government. MacDonald's resignation was more called upon to take over the reins of Government.

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elections," the bulletins of the Socialist International say, "but there is one other election which deserves to be mentioned for the encouragement which it has given to one of the most sorely-tried parties in the International. In the Mayoral election in New York City on Nov. 5th, Norman Thomas, the Socialist candidate secured 174,531 votes, which is far in excess of the number obtained by any previous Socialist candidate. The result of this election is regarded by the American Socialist Party as one of the most encouraging events in the history of the movement."

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Cleveland

Phi Kappa Psi, organizer, spoke to the Industrial Girls of the Phyllis Wheatley Association, a Negro Girls' Settlement, on the Y.P.S.L. Many promised to dance to the Y.P.S.L. meetings.

The circle has received acceptance to its invitations, from several well-known lecturers, among whom are Norman Thomas, Charles White, noted Negro Lawyer, Henry Bush, Prof. of Sociology at Western Reserve; Mrs. Land, lawyer; R. W. Jellie, director of the famous Negro troupe, the Gilpin Players; H. M. Raden, Workmen Circle School teacher. The Cleveland Juniors have applied for the Charter already, and are planning something for May First, with the S.P.

The Young Leader, the official organ of the circle, welcome good articles from any Yipsei in the country, as well as news, letters, etc. All communications are to go to I. Yudin, 3737 East 147th Street. Subs are a dollar per year. Sample copies on request.

Philadelphia Entertains NEC

On Saturday Evening, March First, at the Philadelphia Labor Institute, 810 Locust Street, a Dutch supper and dance is to be held, at which Comrade Frank J. Manning, and other members of the NEC will speak. Price of admission is fifty cents. Camden and Wilmington comrades will participate.

On Thursday Evening, February 20, the Young People's Labor League, otherwise known as Yipsei, attended a banquet held by the Workmen Circle to initiate a drive for 25,000 dollars for a Workmen Circle Centre.

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The Chatter Box

The Woman Speaks

GIVER of life, I am grateful
Life wells within me
It surrounds my heart
And I say
It is good.

Now I am she who understands
I am the woman—the mother—
I could take all ailing men to me
I could rescue them . . .
Could hold them close . . .
They would feed in my heart beat
The beat of life.

Oh! Children of Men
Know that it is good to live
I who am part of life
Can give life.

It comes within me
It envelops me.

I have drunk from the deep fount
I have known the pulse of all living things
I live
It is good.

ELEANORE L. LEVENSON.

This killing God business in Russia is line with the insufferable egotism that is swelling the Communist heads beyond normal shape. And just at a time when something worthwhile was coming out of the industrial hodge-podging. A little success with power has just turned mediocrities into intolerable strutters. Tired of flinging honest dissenters into jail, weary of manifestos against capitalism, bored with cursing Social Democrats the world over, yes, too proud to bother with mere mortals, they have raised their all-withering wrath against Jehovah. Woe unto Him, if He does not heed the mandate from the Kremlin to pack up and go home.

One has seen enough of Union Square demonstrations to visualize an anti-Christ-God-Allah parade in Moscow. Much marching, speechmaking, banners, placards, (each reading Down With This or That), milling, and pushing, singing and shouting, hissing the crosses, burning the Star of David, and spitting all over the Crescent. In this effective manner, the Russians expect to bury religion, even as the thirty-two paid up members of the American Workers Party have buried Capitalism on Park Avenue this last week.

It is only because many of us have been genuinely interested in seeing the Soviet experiment work out into a true Socialist state, that we might make this sort of protest at "putting God out of business" now. Nothing, except outright surrender to international capital, could be more suicidal than the present anti-religion campaign all over the Soviet Union. We trust that the reports are very much exaggerated. Although the last blast from the Kremlin against the Pope's protest pretty near confirms the lurid tale.

Somewhat or other, the leaders of the Russian Communist party persist in kicking over the bucket and spilling all the constructive stuff they have milked with such torture. Isn't there one solid thinker left in all Russia . . . ? Have the jails and machine guns just done away with those who had any sanity left . . . ? Or is all this just a blind dare at the capitalist world to arm itself and invade the Soviets . . . a stupid act of provocation . . . in order to confirm at least one prophecy they have been thundering down to their people . . . that the rest of the world wants to strangle their beloved revolution . . . ?

And these brilliant leaders of Communist tactics pick the most deliciously inopportune moments to perform their puerile heroics. Just when religion in general is going through a period of apathy, when churches are becoming depopulated by Henry Ford's joy-wagons, when preachers have gone in for jazz and movies to attract a bored world, along comes the Bolshevik, raises a hubbalo, captures a few cathedrals, and makes a new halo of martyrdom.

It has always been the contention of liberated minds that much piety is "man afraid in the dark." Synagogues and churches of all faiths may become relics and museums of obsolete custom once the Great God Fear becomes the God-in-Man . . . the spirit of universal brotherhood.

I know all this sounds trite to the polished and astute cynics who are against everything that offers beauty or spiritual breath to their languid intellect. But it is said in all earnestness. The reason why some active sects have fought the Socialist movement, overtly and openly is because prelates and parasitical job holders have been smart enough to envision their own slow and sure starvation once the workers and peasants rose into a state of liberated existence.

Why then all this abortive nincompoopishness of "busting up the church" before the big job of socializing humanity is hardly begun . . . ? Why all this hurry to bite off one's nose to spite a half-normal face . . . ?

There must be a deeper-rooted reason than mere hatred in all this stupid business. Perhaps it is an inverted pogrom on the part of uneasy rulers to hide their sins of omission or an impending failure. Nothing can stir up more fratricidal viciousness than religious controversy. To me a "God-killer" on the rampage is one step lower in the bestial scale than the anti-Christ or the anti-Semite in action. The former has had the benefit of some intellectual liberation. To have failed to reason when possessed of a mind trained to thought is unforgivable.

About God and His threatened demise in Russia I have no fear. Somehow He will manage to survive in one of His multiforms no matter what happens to the churches and priests. Perhaps. He will be a whole lot happier without them. But then this subject of God is so vast, and my space is at an end.

All we can hope for here is that this imbecility will end right soon . . . or else the religions will be revived into new vigor . . .

"JOSEPH": THE BIBLE MADE HUMAN

The Stage

The Movies

Music

THE WEEK ON THE STAGE

By Joseph T. Shipley

JAZZY JOSEPH

"JOSEPH" By Bertram Bloch, Liberty Theatre.

THAT "there is a divinity which shapes our ends," an increasing number—especially if we count the Russians—are coming to deny; yet the very idea of divinity has done much to alter men's attitudes, if not their acts. The Greeks, even in the period of their greatest glory, brought their gods down to earth, made them no more than super-heroes, hobbled with them no more than super-heroes, hobbled with them no more than super-heroes, hobbled with them no more than super-heroes.

While the ancient Hebrews seem to have shared in these activities, the inheritors of their story have followed rather the reverse process: we have been trained to look back at the patriarchs and prophets, the seers and the sages, of Israel as being more than mortal, cold and remote with the touch of the divine. This is one of the reasons why the bible has grown distant from our affairs, has been less and less important in our activities, has been increasingly revered, perhaps, in lip service while more and more ignored in life. Either a moral code or a work of art can continue to be effective, can survive, only if it can be interpreted in accord with the temper of the age; only if the bible seems real to this generation will it serve them, will they heed it.

The fact that the stories of the bible can be retold in terms of our age is of course no justification of these times—nor, for that matter, of the bible; it indicates merely that there is some affinity between those ancient fellows and ourselves. And surely few would wish to insist that the many tales of adultery, disloyalty, deception, greed, cruelty, corruption, perversion, general iniquity in the bible are more in the image of a perfect, divine being than they are fore-runners of the stories of sex and greed our tabloids tell. And if these old sinners had our great defects, why shall we not suppose that they, too, possessed the minor virtues—too trivial, perhaps, for solemn prophets to record in divinely inspired volumes, but quite helpful in making pleasant the moments of daily life.

In "Caesar and Cleopatra," Shaw for the first time though he may name his model—gave the ancients these human qualities, loosed from them the grandeur of the statuesque. More immediately jazz—for he had other models—came the early novels of John Erskine. Now Bertram Bloch in

"Joseph," has shrewdly made the bible figure human, in the measure of our time. Equipped with the gift of wise-cracking that is our substitute for a sense of humor, and with a Jewish accent, and acted with an innocent insolence by George Jessel, Joseph is the "slick" Jew of today, ready to turn every situation to his own advantage, swift in that turn, yet slantingly considerate of others, and somehow engaging, winning our affection as we'd accord it to a precocious yet gentle child. In the play, the other figures retain too much of their antique air, are not made companionably human, they are little more than patterned foils for Joseph. But, Potiphar's wife—whose name, Neris, the mind must spell backward—or poisoner, to Pharaoh, they are all dominated by the young Hebrew who is following his dream, who interprets—and acts—for himself while they retreat to implore the gods, this Joseph who, however he be jazzed to our age or raised in marble to an ancient time, is the type of the dreamer and the doer, the poet and the man of action, the adventurer and the stay-at-home, the man of culture and the man of affairs, that is hidden under the muddle of most men's wishes today.

And for our day "Joseph" is a lively and an entertaining piece of work.

JEWELS HAVE THEIR PRICE

"TOPAZE" From the French of Marcel Pagnol and Benn W. Levy. The Music Box.

Among the many sorts of persons into whom the human world can be divided, the smallest class is that of the genuinely innocent idealist, who moves happily along in the belief that virtue triumphs. Originally, you know, the word "virtue" meant "power," proving the olden truth of the remark that right makes might. But times have changed.) Monsieur Topaze, however, seems unaware of any such shifting of moral emphasis with the years; his schoolroom is plastered with neat moral mottoes and pleasing pious thoughts; he defends the bad marks he has given the child of a wealthy patron of the school, bringing out his books to show there has been no mistake—and he is surprised but still trusting himself when he finds himself without a job.

The test of the idealist, however, lies in his actions after he is aware of life. Will he cherish the standards he has held, and work for their realization in life; or will he join the grab-all-you-can swirl of those around, and, as they put it, play the game?

WALTER HAMPDEN in RICHELIEU

Mr. Hampden gives a splendid picture of famous cardinal. —Eve. Journal.

"Mr. Hampden has made the shrewd old cardinal a real figure. Those who love the theatre will enjoy this play." —Eve. World.

"Forecast many weeks' run for it." —Telegram.

HAMPDEN'S THEA. 45th St. at 42nd St. Eves. 8:30. Mats. Wed. and Sat. 2:30.

Maxine Elliott's Thea. 39th East of Broadway. Eves. 8:30. Mats. Wed. & Sat. 2:30.

LEE SHUBERT presents

The Infinite Shoe Black

with Helen Menken

Leslie Banks

"Finest touches with beauty. Fine performances by Helen Menken and Leslie Banks." —Charles Darnott, Eve. World.

SYLVIA SIDNEY DOROTHY SANDS DOUGLAS MONTGOMERY

"Many A Slip"

A Hit!

"Better buy your tickets right away" —Robert Coleman, Mirror.

"Unexpectedly diverting comedy." —Alison Smith, Morn. World.

"Mighty fine acting." —William Boehnel, Telegram.

LITTLE THEATRE 44TH STREET, WEST OF BROADWAY Eves. 8:30. Matinees Wed. and Sat. 2:30.

ARTHUR HOPKINS presents

REBOUND

A New Comedy

by DONALD OGDEN STEWART

with HOPE WILLIAMS

PLYMOUTH Thea., 45th St. Eves. 8:30. Mats. Thurs. & Sat. 2:40.

Jolson's Thea. Musical Comedy Co. IN THE

Count of Luxembourg

by FRANZ LEHAR

with ROY FLORENZ AMES MANILA CROPPER

Eves. 8:30. Mats. 2:30.

Jolson's Thea. 59 St. & 7 Ave. Eves. 8:30. Mats. 2:30.

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In Musical Comedy Hit



Lee Patrick, lends beauty and talent to "June Moon," which is still doing unusually well at the Broadhurst Theatre.

Monsieur Topaze responds nobly to the test, outwitting the best crooks at their scheming; the happy ending comes when he, the suave and most successful crook of all, takes the sweet heroine, Phoebe Foster makes his gain the more alluring.

Fortified with his degree as Doctor of Moral Philosophy, Topaze is a prize dummy for the grafters of his city; they post him as a sort of guarantee of good behavior, as a blinder before their acts—until he, with equal show of moral grandeur, bags that game. Frank Morgan gives the part much of the rich humor the lines no more than suggest, and, though some of the satire the French saw in this play, most successful in Paris, has softened in the English version, it has mellowed into comedy of character, with chief interest in the transformation of Topaze, and social satire subordinated to the picture of an idealist in contact with reality.

OFF THE BACK SEAT

"RITZY" By Vica Tattersall and Sidney Toler. Longacre Theatre.

It took two playwrights to cook up the old idea of buying an automobile before you have more than the dream, so as to make a drama of it. "Beggars on Horseback" emphasizes in its title the same idea—there'd be fun, by the way, in seeing that play given for these times; "Ritzy" follows for its main interest the mood of the two dream-spenders. Of course, it is the news that Mrs. Smith has inherited \$200,000 from Uncle Peter that sets them going. Miriam Hopkins playing neatly to the adroit comedy of Ernest Truex,

"BIGGEST LAUGH IN YEARS."

—Darnott, Eve. World.

SAM H. HARRIS presents JUNE MOON

By RING LARDNER and GEORGE S. KAUFMAN

Broadhurst THEA. 45th St. at 42nd St. Eves. 8:30. Mats. Wed. and Sat. 2:30.

THE THEATRE GUILD Presents

OPENING MONDAY NIGHT, 8 SHARP

The Apple Cart

Bernard Shaw's Political Extravaganza

Mats. THURS. & SAT.

Martin Beck THEA. 45th St. at 42nd St. Eves. 8:30. Mats. Wed. and Sat. 2:30.

THEATRE GUILD Production

METEOR

By S. N. BEHRMAN

GUILD THEATRE 32nd STREET WEST OF BROADWAY Eves. 8:30. Mats. Thurs. - Sat. 2:30.

Jolson's Thea. Musical Comedy Co. IN THE

Count of Luxembourg

by FRANZ LEHAR

with ROY FLORENZ AMES MANILA CROPPER

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Sympathetic Portraiture



"Eugene de Treboul, Brittany," a stern study by Alexander Warshawsky at the Miltch Gallery, March 17-29th

who makes the most of the temporary prosperity. For, after all, the money was never for them; and the job Mr. Smith has joyfully given over returns (with double salary; employers are always that obliging!) for wife Smith to lounge her mornings in bed. There seems to be no other purpose for the play, unless it be to reveal how every plain man would miss his money if he had it. But we hardly need the talents of Ernest Truex to tell us how few persons make any better use of leisure and wealth than the ones now idling in ease. Some of them, of course, endow a library or two to ease their conscience; that's what makes a philanthropist, a public benefactor. I am reminded—this play will serve as well as anything as the reminder—of a seventeenth century French comment: "Today there are tricks to teach those who wish to keep goods they've stolen from others, and yet have a clear conscience, . . . As if God were mercenary, and let himself be corrupted by bribes—like Jupiter of the pagans, whom they summoned to share the booty—after they've committed an infinite number of crimes, they are asked neither for tears, nor for penitence, nor for restitution: for they need do no give some alms to the Church. They make up for what they've taken from a thousand persons, by giving a little of it to other persons whom they owe nothing; and it is accepted that the founding of a convent, the donation of a chapel, relieves them of the obligations of Christianity and the moral virtues." Today State is substituted for Church; it's a hospital or a library that's endowed, but Mr. and Mrs. Smith still equally plan the luxurious spending of money they've never earned.

"THE LAST MILE"

is the most exciting production in New York theatre today. —John Mason Brown, Eve. Post.

John Mason Brown, Eve. Post.

Sam H. Harris Thea. 45th St. West of Broadway Eves. 8:30. Mats. Wed. & Sat. 2:30.

BILTMORE THEATRE, 47th St. West of Broadway Eves. 8:30. Mats. Wed. & Sat. 2:30.

KENNETH MACGOWAN and JOSEPH VERNER REED Present

Basil Sidney AND Mary Ellis

"Children of Darkness"

By EDWIN JUSTUS MAYER

Eves. 8:30. Mats. Wed. & Sat. 2:30.

THE ONLY REAL MYSTERY THRILLER

SUBWAY EXPRESS

"Should Run as Long as the Subway Itself."—Eve. Post.

REPUBLIC THEATRE 42nd STREET & BROADWAY MATINEES WEDNESDAY & SATURDAY EVENINGS AT 8:30 P.M.

48th ST. THEATRE 48th St. East of B'way Matinees Wed. and Sat.

OTTO KRUGER

"THE BOUNDARY LINE"

with KATHERINE ALEXANDER — WINIFRED LENIHAN

"It has beauty in it, and honesty. . . If you find the beauty and honesty I shall be enchanted."—Robert Garland in Telegram.

The Season's Outstanding Triumph

KATHARINE CORNELL

in DISHONORED LADY

"I've waited all this year for a stretch of acting as immediately glamorous and subtly colored and alive." —Gilbert W. Gabriel, New York American.

Eves. 8:30. Mats. Wed. & Sat. 2:30.

EMPIRE THEATRE 48th St. at 47th St. Eves. 8:30. Mats. Wed. & Sat. 2:30.

GILBERT MILLER by arrangement with MAURICE BROWN presents

Journey's End

By R. C. SHERRIFF

HENRY MILLER'S THEATRE 124 West 43rd Street Eves. 8:30. Mats. Thurs. and Saturday 2:30.

GILBERT MILLER'S and LESLIE HOWARD'S production of

Berkeley Square

By JOHN L. BALDERSTON

LESLIE HOWARD and MARGALO GILLMORE

LYCEUM THEATRE West 45th Street Eves. 8:30. Mats. Thurs. & Sat.

LEO BULGAKOV'S Theatre Associates, Inc., presents

MAXIM GORKY'S

AT THE BOTTOM

"A Fine Play." Burns Mantle News. "Really worth seeing." J. M. Brown, Post.

Eves. 8:30. Mats. Thurs. & Sat. 2:30. Popular Prices \$2.50-1.50

WALDORF

Returns to Yiddish Stage



Bertha Kalich, well known artist on both the Yiddish and English stages, is to be seen these days at the Downtown National Theatre in "The Soul of a Woman."

Earl Carroll, Stage Doctor

Earl Carroll, on invitation and as a courtesy, has devised and set the lighting effects for all the plays to be presented by Mei Lan-Fang, China's famous actor, during his American engagement. This will be the first time in the history of the world that a Chinese play has been illuminated by other than plain direct rays of white light. The arrangement resulted from Mei Lan-Fang witnessing a performance of the Earl Carroll Sketch Book at the Forty-fourth Street Theatre last Thursday night.

After witnessing the light effects of Sketch Book for the first act Mr. Mei watched the operation of the devices back stage during the second act. He was astounded at learning that it required sixteen men to perform the task of illumination for the show, as never more than one man is employed for lighting on a Chinese stage. But he was even more amazed at the beauty of the light effects and immediately extended the invitation to Mr. Carroll to extend modern lighting to the oriental offerings.

With the installation of light effects for Mr. Mei, Mr. Carroll will have responsibility for the beauty of three current offerings.

"The Street Singer" Moves

MISS KALICH IN "THE SOUL OF A WOMAN"

Bertha Kalich at Downtown National Theatre

"The Soul of a Woman," a new Jewish drama in which Bertha Kalich returns to the Yiddish stage, had its premiere at the Downtown National Theatre last Friday evening. The opening, originally planned for Feb. 15, was postponed for this week.

The new play was written specially for Madame Kalich, by Harry Kalmanowitch, author of "The Eternal Mother," and concerns a woman's undying love and devotion for her husband whom she helps become rich only to lose him to a gold digger.

William Schwartz, noted Jewish-American tenor, who, like Mrs. Kalich, also returns to the East Side after a successful season on the English stage, appears opposite the actress.

Their supporting cast includes Jacob Jacobs, Bella Meisel, Abraham Teitelbaum, Yetta Zwerling, Irving Jacobson, May Shoenfeld, Benjie Seidman, Sarah Filler, David Friedlander, Gertrude Crause, Liza Goldfinger and M. Belavsky.

Testimonial To Actor

William Schwartz, noted Jewish-American tenor, who recently concluded a successful English vaudeville tour on the R. K. O. circuit, was honored at a testimonial given him at the Downtown National Theatre last Thursday evening, February 20th, by the Jewish theatrical profession in celebration of his return to the Yiddish stage.

Molly Picon, Ludwig Satz, and Maurice Schwartz were among the Yiddish stage celebrities who came to honor the actor that night.

Schwartz, who was recently signed by Jacob Jacobs, will make his return debut on the East Side, as leading man for Mrs. Bertha Kalich, in "The Soul of a Woman," a new Jewish drama starring her, which had its premiere at that playhouse last night.

Last season Schwartz starred in a Yiddish version of "The Jazz Singer."

Manhattan Symphony's Next

The Manhattan Symphony Orchestra, Henry Hadley conductor, and Philip James guest conductor, will give its eighth concert of the present series at Mecca Auditorium on Sunday evening, February 22, at 9 p. m. The orchestra will play the Carnival Overture by Dvorak, Concertino for flute and orchestra by Chaminade, Imilio Puyans, soloist; overture in the olden style on French Noels by Philip James, conducted by the composer, and a trio of Spanish compositions, Scherzo-Espagnole, Trianon and Espana by Charles Maduro.

Anita of the Duncan School will conduct Cesar Franck's D minor Symphony (first movement), Mozart's E flat major Symphony (minuet) and Hadley's October Twilight and Bachanale.

There will be two more concerts by this organization this season, March 9 and 23.

Continues Her Series of Lectures



Adele T. Katz lectures on "Wagner" and the "Nibelungen Ring" are stirring up much interest in the field of music this season.

"Street of Chance" Held Over at Rialto Theatre

"Street of Chance," Paramount's sensational expose of the lives of Broadway gamblers, is now in its third week at the Rialto Theatre. William Powell, elevated to star-

dom in "Street of Chance," portrays the role of "Natural" Davis, czar of New York racketeers, who holds the power of life and death over his crooked subjects.

Powell's characterization, which has been linked to the life of one of New York's famous gamblers,

A Debt to the Dumb

Victor Moore's enthusiasm for the dumb acts of vaudeville is a tribute to marriage; it develops from the history of that plump comedian in "Heads Up," at the Alvin. It was in June, naught-three, that Vic Moore left the old Brighton Beach Music Hall, where he has just finished a sketch called "Change Your Act." He did not know how soon all his acts were to change. The large stein of beer he drank was genuine—for that was the date. So was his smile when the acrobat of the bill joined him—and much more so when that gentleman introduced him to a pair billed at the nearby Henderson Music Hall, the Littlefield Sisters.

Within three weeks Emma of that pair was Mrs. Moore, and the partnership became reorganized, with other details. So, twenty-seven (is it?) years later, Moore's fondness for the dumb acts of vaudeville implies a remembering gratefulness to that acrobat.

"Richelieu" On And Between Boards

Walter Hampden's this week played Cardinal Richelieu for the 50th time at Hampden's Theatre in Arthur Goodrich's new version of Bulwer Lytton's famous old drama. D. Appleton & Co. this week is putting forth a volume containing both Bulwer's original and Mr. Goodrich's rewriting of the play, illustrated by pictures from the Hampden production and with a foreword by Clayton Hamilton.

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D. GINGOLD, MEYER POLINSKY, Secretary-Treas.

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7 East 15th St. Phone ALgonquin 7082
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Employment Bureau open every day at 9 P. M.

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175 E. 15th St., Room 12
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SAMUEL SUSSMAN, J. BELSKY, Secretary.
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MORRIS GOLDIN, Chairman
JACOB FINGELMAN, W. BLANK, Sec'y

Hebrew Actor's Union
Office, 31 Seventh St., N. Y.
Phone ORchard 1923
REUBEN GUSKIN, Manager

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Meetings every 1st and 3rd Wednesday evening

German Painters' Union
LOCAL 499 BROTHERHOOD OF PAINTERS, DECORATORS & PAPER-HANGERS
Regular Meetings Every Wednesday Evening at 8:00 P. M. at Labor Temple, 243 E. 84th Street.
F. WOLLENKAMP, President
ALVIN BLOCH, Sec'y-Treas.
PETER ROTHMANN, Fin. Sec'y

United Hebrew Trades
175 EAST BROADWAY
Telephone DYckman 4200
Meet 1st and 3rd Monday, 8 P. M.
Executive Board same day, 9:30 P. M.
M. TIGEL, Chairman
M. WOLPERT, Vice-Chairman
M. FEINSTEIN, Secretary-Treasurer

FUR DRESSERS' UNION
Local 2, Internat'l Fur Workers' Union
Office & Headquarters, 941 Wiloughby St., Brooklyn, N. Y.
Meetings 1st and 3rd Mondays.
F. H. HERTZBERG, President
J. H. ROSENBERG, Sec'y-Treas.
S. M. MINDLER, Sec'y
ALBERT HILL, Fin. Sec'y

Neckwear Cutters' Union
LOCAL 6369, A. F. of L.
7 East 15th Street, ALgonquin 7078
Regular Meetings Second Wednesday of Every Month at 102 East 23rd Street
M. Shacht, Sec'y
A. Weitzer, Sec'y
Wm. R. Chisling, Business Agent

MAID AVE. AUSPICES—CONEY ISLAND FORUM
Monday, Feb. 24, 9:00 p.m.—Jessie Stephens—Ramsay MacDonald: "The Man"—167 Tompkins Ave. Auspices—Socialist Party, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.
Friday, Feb. 28, 8:30 p.m.—Wm. Feigenbaum—"Current Events"—Savoy Mansion, 64th St. and 29th Ave. Auspices—Socialist Party, 16th A. D.
Friday, Feb. 28, 8:30 p.m.—Dr. Samuel Silverman—"Mineral Waters and Health Resorts"—219 Sackman St. Auspices—23rd A. D. Branch, Socialist Party.

QUEENS
Friday, Feb. 21, 8:30 p.m.—Algermon Lee—"Economic Trends of Today"—The Case for Socialism in the United States. Bohemian Hall, 2nd and 3rd Aves. Auspices—Socialist Party, Brooklyn Branch, Socialist Party.

FRIDAY, FEB. 21, 8:30 P.M.—JESSIE STEPHENS—"Rise of British Labor"—Savoy Mansion, 64th St. and 29th Ave. Auspices, Socialist Party, 16th A. D. Branch.

FRIDAY, FEB. 21, 8:30 P.M.—WM. KARLIN—Subject to be announced—3069 E. 3rd St. Auspices—Brighton Beach Branch, Socialist Party.

SUNDAY, FEB. 23, 8:30 P.M.—WILLIAM KARLIN—"Socialists at Work"—1503 Coney Island Ave. Auspices—Socialist Party, Midwood Branch.

SUNDAY, FEB. 23, 2:45 P.M.—ALGERMON LEE—"Why Marriage Fails"—Case of AMOUR, 31st Street and Mer-

BROOKLYN LABOR LYCEUM
919 Wiloughby Ave., Brooklyn
Large and small hall suitable for all occasions and meetings at reasonable rentals.
STAGG 3812

N. Y. JOINT COUNCIL CAP MAKERS
Cloth Hat, Cap and Millinery Workers' International Union
OFFICE: 135 SECOND AVE. Phone ORchard 9600-1-3
The Council meets every 1st and 3rd Wednesday.
S. HERSHKOWITZ, Sec'y-Treas.

OPERATORS, LOCAL 1
Regular Meetings every 1st and 3rd Saturday
Executive Board meets every Monday
All Meetings are held at 133 SECOND AVENUE, New York City

The International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union
3 West 16th Street, New York City
Telephone CHelsea 2118
BENJAMIN SCHLESINGER, President ABRAHAM BAROFF, Secretary-Treasurer

United Brotherhood of Carpenters & Joiners of America
LOCAL UNION 488
MEETS EVERY MONDAY EVENING at 495 East 165th Street
OFFICE: 501 EAST 161ST STREET, Telephone MEtro 5674
FRED E. JOHNSON, President A. RAYMOND PRICE, Bus. Agent
HARRY P. ELERT, Fin. Sec'y CHARLES M. BLUM, Rec. Sec'y

Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America
11-15 UNION SQUARE, AMALGAMATED BANK BLDG. 3rd FLOOR
Telephone: ALgonquin 6300-1-2-3-4-5
SIDNEY HILLMAN, Pres. President JOSEPH SCHLOSSBERG, Gen. Sec'y-Treas.

NEW YORK JOINT BOARD
Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America
ABRAHAM MILLER, Secretary-Treasurer

INTERNATIONAL POCKETBOOK WORKERS' UNION
Affiliated with The American Federation of Labor
GENERAL OFFICE:
53 WEST 21ST STREET, N. Y. Phone GRamercy 1033
CHARLES KLEINMAN, Chairman CHARLES GOLDMAN, Secretary-Treasurer A. L. SHIPACOFF, Manager

Millinery Workers' Union, Local 24
Cloth Hat, Cap and Millinery Workers' International Union
Downtown Office: 640 Broadway Phone SPring 4455
Uptown Office: 39 West 37th Street Phone WIckham 1478
Joint Executive Board meets every Tuesday evening at 8:00 P. M. at the office.
HYMAN LEDERFAR, J. MALINICK, NATHANIEL SPECTOR, ALEX ROSE, Chairman, Sec'y-Treas.
ORGANIZERS: I. H. GOLDBERG, MAX GOODMAN, A. MENDELWITZ

FUR WORKERS' UNION
OF THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA
Affiliated with the American Federation of Labor
9 Jackson Ave., Long Island City, N. Y. Tel. HUsters Point 9008
PHILIP A. SILBERSTEIN, General Pres. HARRY DEGOON, General Sec'y-Treas.

New York Clothing Cutters' Union
A. C. W. of A. Local "Big Four"
Office: 41 East 12th Street STuyvesant 5566
Regular meetings every Friday at 210 East Fifth Street
Executive Board meets every Monday at 7 P. M. in the office
PHILIP OLOFSKY, Manager I. MACHLIN, Sec'y-Treas.

AMALGAMATED LITHOGRAPHERS
OF AMERICA, NEW YORK LOCAL NO. 1
Offices: AMALTHEA BLDG., 265 WEST 11TH ST. Phone WAikins 7764
Regular Meetings Every Second and Fourth Tuesday at 8:00 P. M. at the office.
ALBERT E. CASTRO, President
Patrick Hanlon, A. J. Kennedy, Frank J. Flynn, Frank Schel, Vice-Pres. Fin. Sec'y Rec. Sec'y

N. Y. TYPOGRAPHICAL UNION No. 6
Offices and Headquarters, 24 W. 16 St., N. Y.
Meets Every 3rd Sunday of Every Month at Stuyvesant High School, 13th St. East of 2nd Ave.

N. Y. Joint Board Shirt & Boys' Waist Makers' Union
ALGAMATED CLOTHING WORKERS OF AMERICA
Headquarters: 621 Broadway (Room 523) Phone SPing 2533-2535
G. GOULD, Manager H. ROSENBERG, Secretary-Treasurer
Joint Board meets every Second and Fourth Monday.
Board of Directors meet every First and Third Monday.
Local 246—Executive Board meets every Thursday.
Local 246—Executive Board meets every Thursday.
These meetings are held in the Office of the Union

BRICKLAYERS' UNION
LOCAL NO. 9
Office & Headquarters, Brooklyn Labor Lyceum, 919 Wiloughby Ave. Phone STagg 1621
Office open daily except Saturday from 9 A. M. to 5 P. M.
CHARLES PFLAUM, Fin. Sec'y
FRANK P. LUTZ, Treasurer
ANDREW STREIT, Bus. Agent

Furrier's Joint Council of N. Y.
LOCAL 105, 110 and 115 of THE INTERNATIONAL FUR WORKERS UNION OF U. S. & C.
18 W. 31st Street
Meets every Tuesday at 8:00 p. m.
CHARLES STETSKY, Manager

PAINTERS' UNION No. 261
LOCAL 10611
62 East 106th Street Telephone: LEigh 3141
Executive Board Meets Every Tuesday at the Office.
Regular Meetings Every Friday at 210 East 104th Street
ISAACORE SILVERMAN, NATHAN ZUCHAFT, Financial Secretary-Treas. Recording Secretary.

Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators of America, District Council No. 9, N. Y. C.
Amalgamated with the American Federation of Labor and National Building Trades Council
MEETS EVERY THURSDAY EVENING
OFFICE: 166 East 50th Street
Tel. PLaza—4166-5416. Philip Zammer, Secretary; Robert Sembret, Fin. Sec'y-Treas.; Samuel Mandel, President.

THE SOCIALIST PARTY AT WORK

FOR ALL information regarding Socialist literature, organization and lectures address the National Executive Secretary, Clarence O. Senior, 2653 Washington Boulevard, Chicago, Ill.

National

LAIDLOR IN WASHINGTON
Harry W. Laidlor, director of the League for Industrial Democracy, and member of the Public Affairs Committee of the Socialist Party, represented the national party at the public hearings in Senator Dill's old age pension bill in Washington, Feb. 20 and 21.

SOCIALIST VIENNA
The only description in English of the work which the Socialists have done in the city of Vienna, is now available from the National Office. It is a fifty-six page pamphlet, profusely illustrated with pictures of the new houses which the Socialists have built and of the public works which they have carried on.

It was written by Robert Danneberg, president of the Vienna Diet, and published by the British Labour Party. All Socialists will gain inspiration for their municipal programs especially by reading this book. Send thirty cents to 2653 Washington Boulevard, Chicago.

MILWAUKEE BOOKLET
"Making Milwaukee Mightier" is the title of a new booklet published by the Board of Public Land Commissioners of the City of Milwaukee. It contains the record of annexation and consolidation carried on by Milwaukee and a study of the unification of city government in Milwaukee and other places. It is a valuable document which should be in the files of all Socialist parties in the larger cities. Write to the Board of Public Land Commissioners, City Hall, Milwaukee.

Illinois

MISS STEPHEN'S DATE
Jessie Stephen will be available down state between March 5 and 11. A tour of the principal mining towns is planned by the state office. The Illinois Mine Workers' Union localities are being approached in an effort to get them to take Comrade Stephen. Readers of the Socialist papers down state are urged to do in their power to get her speaking engagements, either before unions or for Socialist mass meetings. Write to W. R. Snow, secretary, R. 4, Box 9, Lincoln, Illinois.

Kansas

Ross Magill, state secretary, writes that he is getting a better response this year from comrades who have been asked to run on the state ticket than for some time. He will soon have enough to meet the legal requirements. This year there will be several nominees for Congress, although two years ago there were none. Pittsburg comrades are planning a mass meeting for James O'neal on March 19.

Michigan

HILLGUT IN DETROIT
The banquet for Morris Hillgut will be held Sunday, Feb. 16, 6 P. M. in Hotel Wolverine, Detroit. The charge per plate is \$1.50. Make your reservations as soon as possible to Gumborg Lodal, 12066 Withlithon Ave.

Do not forget the Thomas meetings in Detroit, March 9.

LANSING
Lansing will have a meeting on Saturday evening March 1st. The State Secretary will be present. Get in touch with B. F. Underhill, 517 So. Butler Blvd., Lansing. He will give further information as to meeting place.

Indiana

A STATE BULLETIN
State Secretary Newlund forwards to The New Leader samples of the Monthly Bulletin which has been issued each month for the past year. It consists of various items of party interest including propaganda matter, both original contributions and selections from other sources. The New Year number carries, among other things, a quotation from the column of McAlister Coleman in The New Leader.

The new members of the state committee took office on Feb. 13.

Colorado
A meeting of Denver Socialists, on Feb. 19, decided to hold a mass meeting to be addressed by Norman Thomas on March 1. The time and place will be announced later.

Powers Haggood, state secretary, is arranging to hold a state membership conference on Sunday, April 6, at which time James O'neal will meet comrades, and talk over the issue of increasing party membership at state. O'neal will

address a mass meeting in the evening.

Massachusetts BOSTON
The Boston Yipsels have started regular leaflet distribution by putting leaflets in the mail boxes every Saturday afternoon, under the leadership of Comrades Cohen, Kalish and Spiegelman.

"Is It a Crime to Be Old," and "Parable of the Water Tank" are the leaflets being used. Everyone who can help in this work is asked to come to the headquarters, 21 Essex street, Boston, at 2:15 sharp on any Saturday when the weather is not too stormy.

New Jersey STATE CONVENTION
The only description in English of the preparations for a state convention to be held in Camden the latter part of April. Nominations for U. S. Senator and Congressmen will be made. Plans for an energetic election campaign will be submitted by the state committee.

Branch secretaries are urged to make prompt report of the vote cast for National Committee. This report should be in the hands of State Secretary Andrew P. Wittel on or before this date.

Henry Jager will lecture on "The Extent of Unemployment" Sunday night, February 23, at 103 Springfield Avenue, Newark.

Local Essex County is arranging a public meeting for Jessie Stephen in Newark on March 1.

New York State ROCHESTER
Local Rochester is to put on a victorious membership drive, canvassing not only those who enrolled as Socialists last fall, but those who enrolled during the LaFollette campaign of 1924.

Schenectady Socialists are mourning the passing of Lewis Golub who died last week. Although Mr. Golub was classed as a successful businessman, being the head of the firm of wholesale grocers known as "Golub's Cash and Carry," he was a devoted Socialist and a loyal member of the Workmen's Circle. He welcomed the Socialist Party, and he was ready with counsel and financial aid to assist the Socialist Party. He was a member of the Workmen's Circle in Schenectady. The funeral was held at his home last Sunday. Short eulogies were delivered by H. Grodman of the Workmen's Circle in Jewish, and by State Secretary Merrill in English.

New York City NEW MEMBERS AND BRANCHES
Interesting news—During January 194 new members were accepted and during the first half of February there was a addition of 178 more. Three new branches were chartered, namely, 20th A.D., Kings County, Amalgamated Clothing Workers Branch which will meet in the Amalgamated Temple, Brooklyn, and the 1st A. D. Branch, Bronx.

The remaining dates for Jessie Stephen, British Socialist and Laborite, are as follows: Feb. 21, Bensonhurst; 24th, Williamsburg; 25th, Bronx Free Fellowship; 27th, Far Rockaway; 28th, Brighton Beach; March 1st, Newark; 2nd, afternoon, Women's Section, New York City, evening, possibly Passaic.

MANHATTAN County Committee
The committee met last Saturday afternoon pursuant to the Governor's proclamation calling for a special election in the 1st Assembly District and the 18th Congressional District. Chas. France was elected chairman and Rose Newman, secretary. The committee named Emanuel Switkes for Assembly in the 1st A. D. and August Claessens for representative in Congress in the 18th Congressional District. These nominations were filed with the Board of Elections. The date of the special election is Tuesday, March 1.

The debate between N. Y. U. and the Rand School, to be held at Greenwich House, Thursday, February 27, 8:15 p.m.—described more fully in this issue has required a great deal of time and thought by those who are arranging it. Members of the branch should consider it their duty to come to the debate and also to bring a guest. Members of other branches will be welcome.

4th A.D.
A meeting will be held Wednesday February 26, at the East Side Socialist Center, 204 East Broadway. Important matters will be taken up. Every member is urged to attend.

6-8 1/2 A.D.
A meeting will be held Monday evening, Feb. 21, at their meeting place, 122 Pierrepont street.

Williamsburg
Jessie Stephen will speak Monday evening, Feb. 24. Her topic is "J. Ramsay MacDonald: The Man." This lecture will continue every Monday evening with eminent speakers.

21st A.D.
Branch meetings are held every Tuesday evening in Room 4 of the building at 149 East 126th street.

Polish Branch 34
Polish Socialists will commemorate the anniversary of the martyr of the old "Proletarian Party" Friday, Feb. 21, at 8:30 p.m., at Arlington Hall, 69 St. Marks street.

BRONX
Bronx county membership meeting last Sunday was rather poorly attended. What the meeting lacked in members was made up in spite due to the fact that the most active of the members were present. A thorough discussion was held on the necessity of a more efficient organization pending the growth of the county membership, and acquiring funds to engage a paid organizer. Three assistant organizers were elected to work with organizer Louis E. Well, Edward Kantor, David Kaplan and Irving M. Knobloch. If efforts are now directed toward achieving an outstanding success for the annual ball on Saturday evening, March 15 at the Studio Point Palace at 24th and Southern boulevard, Norman Thomas will be present. There will be lots of fun, valuable prizes, and dance music furnished by Barnet's orchestra. Tickets \$1.00.

Thanks to the efforts of one of our new members of the 3-5 A. D. Branch, Edward Kantor, an "old timer" who has come back to the fold, a branch meeting will be organized in the 1st A. D. Kantor is an efficient worker. He has canvassed a great number of enrolled voters and has brought in eleven new applicants in lower Bronx.

7th A.D.
A meeting will be held Tuesday, February 23, following a brief business meeting, Samuel H. Friedman will speak on "Our Southern Front—Labor Tactics in the South." The branch meets in the clubrooms, 3215 Third Avenue, near Tremont.

2nd A.D.
At the meeting Tuesday evening, August Claessens substituted for McAlister Coleman and made his debut as a lecturer on literary subjects. He gave a talk on "The Genius of O. Henry." The Sunday evening forum will begin this Sunday. The speaker will be James O'neal, topic "Abraham Lincoln and Social Democracy." A dance and social will be held March 1 in the clubrooms at 105 Clarke place near Walton Avenue.

8th A.D.
The first meeting of the new forum in the new hall at 2459 Davidson Avenue (Tombardt School), was held last Thursday with Jessie Stephen as speaker. The attendance was not large due to bad weather. Comrade Stephen's talk was highly appreciated. The branch plans to continue its forum until the spring. On Thursday evening, Feb. 27, the speaker will be Esther Friedman, topic "Spiritual Element in Socialism."

1-3 BROTLYN
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Upper West Side
William Karlin addressed the meeting Tuesday evening. It has been the best attended meeting since the mass meeting before election. Comrade Philipson reports seven new members. Karlin gave a fine talk on "Socialists at Work." He showed that the Socialists have the only workable program for the future. The branch will meet Tuesday evening, Feb. 23, at Temple Israel Community, 210 W. 91st street, at 8:00 p.m. Judge Jacob Panken will speak on "Socialism and democracy." Everybody welcome. The membership drive is progressing. Members are canvassing enrolled Socialists in the 9th A.D. with fair success. When the 9th A.D. has been covered we plan to go on to the 7th, and then to the 11th. Our aim is to double the present membership.

Due to the special election to be held in the 18th Congressional District which lies in the heart of Yorkville, various branches in this section will undertake to make the best possible showing for our party. August Claessens is nominated for this office. A mass meeting is being planned as well as an extensive circularization of the voters.

The Sunday evening forum of the Harlem branches continues to show progress. The enrolled Socialist voters are meeting last Thursday at 8:00 p.m. at the Workers' Circle Bldg. 665, brought in a splendid increase in membership. Judge Jacob Panken was the speaker at both meetings.

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NEW LEADER

A Weekly Newspaper Devoted to the Interests of the Socialist and Labor Movement.

Editor James Oneal
Assistant Editor Edw. Levinson

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Abraham Cahan, Al-
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The New Leader, an official publication of the Socialist Party, supports the struggles of the organized working class. Signed contributions do not necessarily represent the policy of the New Leader. On the other hand, it welcomes a variety of opinion consistent with its declared purpose. Contributors are requested to write on both sides of the paper and not to use lead pencil or red ink. Manuscripts that cannot be used will not be returned unless return postage is enclosed.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1930

Slaves of Steel

THE Research and Education Department of the Federal Council of Churches has performed a notable service in revealing that in a large number of steel plants the 10-hour, 11-hour, and 12-hour shifts still prevail. Eight years ago the sainted Gary declared that this inhuman regime was being wiped out and yet this report shows that of 248,247 workers 132,628 are working in excess of eight hours, a big majority. There are 110,698 working 10 hours, 5,320 working 11 hours, and 16,610 working 12 hours. Moreover there are 130,301 working the 6-day week, and 66,712 working the 7-day week while the 24-hour day continues for many at alternate periods of from two to three weeks. That is, once or twice a month many workers slave for 24 hours.

Thus a majority of these workers labor on a schedule that goes back to the thirties of the last century and over 16,000 follow a schedule that was general in the year 1800! This survives in one of the most highly developed industries in the world while in nearly all other countries the workers have the 8-hour day in this industry.

This is all the more shocking considering the terrific drain on the vitality of the steel worker and the terrible heat in which he must work. In the summer men are stripped to the waist. The heat from furnace, rolling and hammer processes saps the vitality through the pores. At the age of fifty most men are wrecks. To endure the terrific heat men must start as boys and gradually become accustomed to the living hell. Stomach cramps are common and the human wrecks generally end life afflicted with rheumatism or some other chronic ailment.

The official slave drivers in charge of the plants gave no information to the two college youths who gathered the material for this report. The fact that the officials would not talk is proof that they know that these conditions are shameful. U. S. Steel also declines to provide data regarding hours to the Federal Government. The industry that cannot bear the light of publicity is an abomination that should be confiscated in the interest of human welfare. Slave pens are no more desirable than stagnant pools that breed malaria. A government with a conscience would soon find a way to wipe out this revolting industrial sore.

Drug Clerk Easley

WE ARE inclined to think that hypocrisy should be included among "American institutions." At least our ruling classes have done their best to make it so. Of course, the ruling groups in all countries mask their fundamental motives but there is reason to believe that the art has been more refined here than elsewhere.

Recently the national drug firm known as the National Civic Federation sent out an inquiry for "constructive criticism" of the "yellow dog" contract which many workers are induced to sign by American industrial magnates. In a spirited answer Furuteth of the Seamen's Union declared that "The rattlesnake can not be reconstructed so as to be domesticated and useful, nor can the anti-union employment contract be reconstructed so as to become useful in the evolution of humanity toward a higher condition."

Ralph Easley must have fainted when that answer arrived, for the invitation asking for "constructive criticism" implied that some opiate might be manufactured in Easley's drug store that would make the "yellow dog" contract satisfactory to the working class.

No more contemptible device has ever been invented than this alleged "contract." Even if it were a voluntary act on the part of the worker it would be absurd. Two "persons" are supposed to be parties to the "contract," the corporation and the worker. Imagine a billion dollar firm as one "person" and a penniless worker as the other. It is like a huge glacier meeting a piece of driftwood at sea.

This "contract" pledges the workman not to contract with other workmen in organizing a union. The serf who refuses to sign the "contract" is generally booted out of the plant. Drug

Clerk Easley wants some "constructive criticism" of this arrangement. He has it from Andy Furuteth.

The Two Parties

IT MAY or may not be true that the Republican Party is sick and that President Hoover faces a job of getting the thing in working order. Hughes, booze and tariff charity for the big fat boys have brought about a legislative impotence that does not forecast a bright future for the G. O. P. Some of the party nobles also suspect that Calvin is in the West to learn whether anybody out that way loves him more than Hoover.

On the other hand there is no reason to believe that the situation would be otherwise had General Motors placed Smith in the White House with a comfortable majority in Congress. The fact is that both parties are afflicted with dry rot. The Democrats cannot even transform themselves into an agency for representing the middle classes, a role which they played for several decades since the Civil War. Raskob and a substantial section of big capitalists and bankers purchased the party in 1928. Raskob found no more difficulty in changing from a Republican to a Democrat than he has in changing his socks.

The upper section of the capitalist and banking classes have both parties and can easily afford the luxury of financing both. The only difficulty is to carry out the pretense of a difference between the two parties. There is no problem in Congress, no distinctive party programs such as one finds in European parliaments. The members run wild like colts in a pasture and votes are so confusing that party distinctions are practically obliterated.

The one problem that confronts both parties is to keep the masses from straying away. As long as they can be shunted from one to the other the big fat boys will grow bigger and fatter.

Read 'em and Weep

WE DO not have the figures at hand that show how much we pay for the Federal Diet at Washington but we know something of the profound deliberations that go on there. Recently a Democrat was elected to Congress right under the nose of Calvin Coolidge in Massachusetts. This was the origin of a discussion begun by Mr. Byrns of Tennessee. He has the floor: "The gentleman from Massachusetts, Mr. Luce, advanced the novel idea that the snow prevented many Republicans from going to the polls. He is the only Republican, I believe, who has admitted that Providence is taking a hand in the coming fight of the people to regain control of their government."

The Democratic Party having established a coalition with Providence, Mr. Murphy of Ohio enters the fray:

"The gentleman from Tennessee is warning the Republican party as to what they may expect at the coming Fall elections," he said. "I ask the gentleman, or any of his friends, what other President ever called a conference of the great business interests of the United States to the end that labor might be employed at fair wages? Name one."

"It was not necessary at that time," broke in Representative Dickstein of New York. "The gentleman has forgotten Mr. Wilson and Mr. Cleveland," Mr. Murphy continued. "What good has the conference done?" interrupted Mr. Abernathy of North Carolina. "They have done much good, sir," retorted Mr. Murphy. "Where?" Mr. Abernathy came back. "Everywhere."

This, fellow sufferers, is what we pay for. Read 'em and weep.

IN A NUTSHELL

Lincoln said that capital is the fruit of labor but the recent income tax returns show that the fruit is piling up in the baskets of the upper class of Wearie Willies.

Socialism seeks the collective ownership of modern industry. Please figure out why the private owners think that civilization would go to the bow-wows if they no longer owned it.

A London cable declares that as the preliminaries of the Naval Arms Conference are out of the way it is estimated that the American outlay for warships is a billion dollars. We are getting parity, all right, but it is a parity of stupidities.

The German owned rayon plants at Elizabeth, Tenn. have installed a company union. As American corporation magnates have for years declared this kind of "union" to be the "American plan," we are wondering if the American exploiters will denounce this German usurpation.

Now that Charles Evans Hughes has become Chief Justice we are expected to believe that he has emptied his head of all the economic and political views which he has employed in the service of big capitalist property. We prefer to turn to Mother Goose for our fiction.

From Albany comes the report that the Republican leaders are all at sea. They could render humanity no better service than to stay there.

About the most unkind thing our opponents could say of us is that millions of workers could find no employment under Socialism but they are considerate of our feelings by not raising the issue.

Disarmament Conference

PEOPLES, masses, O workers of the world, Burdened, bowed, crushed by militarism. What have you to do with navies, armies, flying horrors?

Playthings of statesmen and strutting officialdom. Tools of the wealthy, servants of the grasping few? Your thousands starve to build one battleship. Your thousands die when skies rain destruction. What need have you for prestige, pride, perquisites?

Those who sit 'round conference tables Set amid splendor, pomp and parade, Are they your kind, speak they your tongue? More submarines, more cruisers, new ships for old, Empire, colonies, national needs— These are heard in this bargaining, bidding for power.

Power for whom, whose needs, whose the empire? No, not yours, none of these are yours. Where are your voices, who speak your hopes? None, none, the old players still strut the stage.

SOL PER

CHOICE CHRISTIAN UTTERANCES

IN the month of May, 1912, New York dailies carried sensational stories regarding a statement made by John L. Belford, Catholic priest of Brooklyn, in relation to Socialists and Socialism. The Right Reverend John L. Belford is pastor of the Church of the Nativity and publishes the "Mentor," a monthly through which he expresses his views.

What attracted the attention of the press in May, 1912, was the following statement made by the holy man in the "Mentor":

The Socialist is busy. He flaunts his red flag and openly preaches his doctrine. His great point of attack is religion. His power is an actual menace to our city. There seems to be no law to suppress or control him. He is more dangerous than cholera or smallpox—yes, he is the mad dog of society, and should be silenced by a bullet.

Of course, the vision of a clerical gentleman armed with a gun and shooting those whose political and economic opinions he disliked was news and it provoked considerable discussion. Belford was a forerunner of the Ku Kluxers against whom in later years he waged mighty battles.

Nearly eighteen years passed and Belford's bloodthirsty cry had been forgotten but the Monsignor has never changed his mind. He still has a desire to kill. The Socialist continues to "openly preach his doctrine" and Belford still thinks this is a "menace to OUR city."

The Monsignor turned up in Toronto for a lecture arranged by the Catholic Truth Society on February 4. It was an open meeting to which people of all views were invited. Questions were solicited from the audience for the speaker to answer.

A small folder announcing the meeting, its purposes, and the lecturer was distributed. Of Monsignor Belford the folder declared: "He is a zealous champion of Truth, being noted for remarkable clarity in his scholarly expositions of our faith."

At the conclusion of Monsignor's lecture a man arose and asked the following question:

"I was living in the State of New York 15 years ago and at that time I remember a statement of the speaker's to the effect that Socialists were the mad dogs of society and, if need be, should be silenced with a bullet. Ramsay MacDonald, a Socialist, is now Premier of Great Britain, and many other prominent men are Socialists. Is the speaker still of the same opinion?"

The Evening Telegram of Toronto issue February 5, gives the noble priest's answer. The Monsignor said:

"There are various types of Socialists. As far as Ramsay MacDonald is concerned, he belongs to what we call the right kind of Socialists. (Applause.) But there is another kind who believe in the throwing of bombs and assassination. They are the mad dogs of society, and should be put out of society."

"I said use the bullet. Perhaps I should have said the rope. A bullet is of the same value, while a rope can be used over and over again."

There is the answer of the Monsignor who is noted for his "remarkable clarity" and his "scholarly expositions of our faith." In eighteen years he has undergone a little change. In 1912 he was the Godly Gunman, but today he is the Holy Hangman.

It is interesting that in Canada Monsignor Belford exempts J. Ramsay MacDonald from his strangling rod although in 1912 he would have consigned MacDonald to the firing squad.

Why this change with respect to MacDonald? Because Belford was speaking in a dominion of the British Commonwealth of Nations over which MacDonald presides as Premier. Even one whose "scholarly expositions" of his views consist of bullets and ropes is compelled to respect POWER won by the organized workers of England in which are included workers of all religious views.

We suspect that the Monsignor would still like to use the rope on MacDonald as he would have used it in 1912. It should be remembered that the British Labor Premier has been a Socialist for decades and active in international Socialist circles. There are others in England who in the years of the World War would have liked to have borrowed the Monsignor's rope to strangle the man who now heads the British Government.

As for Socialists using bombs, Belford knows that this is a falsehood. His attempt to draw a distinction between Socialists who stand for political action and Socialists who throw bombs is a distinction that has no existence outside his bigoted brain.

By his utterances eighteen years ago and his recent statement at Toronto we may leave the reader to judge who represents the nearest approach to the "mad dog." Belford has forfeited the respect of decent men and women.

BOSTON (F.P.)—Central Labor Union delegates can't see the consistency of President Hoover and the big industrialists in asking expanded public work, followed by a government order to drop hundreds of workers from the Charleston Navy Yard payroll. A protest has been sent to Hoover.

'He Aint No Brother To Me'

Filipinos, Unwilling Citizens of United States, Find Life And Liberty As Americans Uncertain

By Wm. M. Feigenbaum

After smouldering for years the Philippine question is brought forcibly to the attention of the country by the riots, bombings, killings and warnings that have been occurring in California.

Three items make the situation dramatic: (1) the independence movement in the Islands is gaining force; (2) a bill is in Congress to give the Islands statehood as a stepping stone to independence; (3) another bill is introduced into Congress to exclude Filipinos from the United States.

That last is the most bizarre fact of all. The Filipinos are native-born citizens of the United States against their own will. As such they cannot be barred from any part of the United States—but they never wanted to be citizens. Indeed, the fact that the Little Brown Brothers are citizens or wards of or in any way connected with this country is the result of the merest chance.

The riots in California are due to the same old story: Filipinos work at wages lower than those earned by white labor. Since they are Asiatics, brown, small, mostly young men and bachelors and speaking an alien tongue, it is easy enough to work up hatred against them, with the usual stories of affronts to white womanhood. It is the old story of the Chinese and the Japanese over and over again. But with the difference that the Filipinos are not the aliens that the Japs and Chinese are—although they would like to be!

The United States went to war with Spain in 1898 over Cuba. The excitement that led to war was all about the "reconqueradors" and the misdeeds of Butcher Weyler in Cuba. Possibly not one American in a hundred had more than the haziest notion of the very existence of the Philippines. Certainly, when war was declared to rescue Cuba, no one had the slightest idea that the remote Philippines would come into the picture.

Instantly a force was organized to cross the Pacific under Major-General Wesley Merritt to capture the city of Manila. And here was a remarkable parallel with Cuba. In the latter island a rebel army had been fighting the Spaniards, had proclaimed a republic, and there, too, the American forces were co-operating with the insurgents. We were completely committed to a policy of independence for the Cubans, and it was taken for granted that the Philippine operation was at most merely a military army measure to in-

There happened to be a small fleet of ironclads at Hong Kong under command of an elderly commodore, George Dewey. American ships of war had desultorily been in the Far East ever since the beginning of the old fur trade and the foreign settlements in Shanghai. For reasons that were rather vague in American minds, American warships had some business in the Far East. All of which explained the presence of Dewey's six little ironclads at Hong Kong, at least to the Americans who troubled to worry about it.

The war broke out, and it was learned that there was a fleet in Manila harbor under command of an Admiral Montojo. Dewey was sent there, ran the gauntlet of the Cavite batteries, pounded the Spanish ships, sank every one, and calmly cut the cable.

The victory was enormously popular at home. America was hungry and thirsty for some military glory, and that battle supplied it. It was a perfect victory. Every Spanish ship was sunk, and Dewey lost not a single ship or man.

Much to everybody's surprise, Dewey found a life-sized revolution in the Philippines. Under the leadership of the youthful Emilio Aguinaldo, an insurrecto army had actually hemmed in General Augustin in Manila, and Aguinaldo had been proclaimed provisional president of the Philippine Republic.

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jure Spain. On August 13th, 1898, while the regimental bands played, "There'll be a Hot Time in the Old Town Tonight," Merritt's troops, co-operating with the insurgents, moved on the works of Manila, and the city was captured.

What next? The two armies sat side by side, wondering what to do. The Insurrectos had every reason to believe that they had conquered the Spaniards and had won their independence. They had not asked the Americans in as the Cuban rebels had done. They had not the remotest idea that the Americans were aware of their existence before Dewey sailed into their harbor and into their lives. They assumed that American military co-operation was completely altruistic.

Then came the peace conference at Paris, and the treaty there drawn up ceded the Islands to the United States for \$20,000,000. Spain got the \$20,000,000. The Filipinos bitterly protested that they were valued at \$2 per head.

There is a curious by-path of political history to be noted in connection with that treaty. Many Republicans, led by Senator George F. Hoar, were bitter against the treaty and America's entry into Weltpolitik. A far-reaching anti-imperialist movement sprang up. There were enough anti-imperialist Republican votes in the Senate to defeat the treaty, if all the Democrats had voted against ratification.

William Jennings Bryan, at the very height of his power and influence, came to Washington and prevailed upon enough Democratic senators to vote for the treaty to put it through. Bryan later explained that he wanted to wage the presidential campaign of 1900 on the issue of anti-imperialism, and if the treaty had been rejected he would have lost his issue.

By February, 1899, friction between the two armies sitting before Manila flamed into war, and it was a long, a bloody, a bitter

war. It cannot be said that the Islands are even yet completely pacified. That war was marked with many shameful episodes. The "water-cure," "Hell Roaring Jake," Smith, the "Butcher of Samar," the battle in the crater, and other fights unto extermination of men, women and children, are men and events Americans do not boast of.

There has been civil government since 1902, with William Howard Taft as first Civil Governor. But the Islanders, while appreciating the work America has done in draining swamps, exterminating disease, educating the illiterate, building cities, and in every way improving and beautifying the Islands, nevertheless vote for independence upon every single occasion. They want to be free. They are completely unreconciled to America rule.

At the same time there is the deepest antipathy between certain classes of military officials and the Islanders. The Governor-Generalship of the late Leonard Wood did nothing to soothe the people and make them like being ruled. The white-clad Americans in their summer homes at Bagio sing, "He may be a brother to W. H. Taft but he ain't no brother to me"—referring to Taft's reference to the "Little Brown Brother." Rather they sing with vim and vigor, "Civilized them with a Krag."

But for all their desire to be free, for all their insistence that they did not ask for American intervention, the Filipinos are American subjects against their own will, and now California is trying to make them aliens in their own native land!

It is all very puzzling to one who seeks perfect truth and justice. The most puzzling thing of all is the fact that there are under 70,000 of them in the entire country, and the state of California is seeking to exclude them for fear that the great American standard of living is so fragile a thing that it will not be able to stand assault by so many "foreigners."

Important

Within recent months THE NEW LEADER has been placed on hundreds of newstands in Greater New York. Many of the dealers are giving the paper a prominent display and our readers are requested to give them the fullest co-operation. If readers of THE NEW LEADER who are not subscribers, will purchase the paper regularly and get their friends to do likewise, it will be a big boost for the circulation and prestige of THE NEW LEADER.

Yipsel Dinner Honors Switkes; 170 Present

THE New York Young Peoples Socialist League has witnessed one of the most interesting, constructive, and harmonious conventions held in the nine years of its existence as a city league.

The banquet, which followed the last session of the convention on Sunday, turned out to be the finest convention affair which Yipsels have known in recent years. Over a hundred and seventy comrades were present. The songs were numerous, hearty, and inspiring, and the general spirit was "grand." Just a moment before these words were written, Dr. Wm. E. Bohn, Educational Director of the Rand School, said to the writer that the banquet was "... the grandest thing I had ever seen in my life."

Algermon Lee, President of the Rand School, was toastmaster of the evening. Among the speakers were: Morris Berman, Jack Afros, National Director of the Young Circle League; Julius Umansky, Executive Secretary; Henry Sapokowitz, of Circle Thirteen; Lillian Kaplan, Louis P. Goldberg and Emanuel Switkes, National Chairman of the Y.P.S.L.—the guest of the evening.

Phila. Textile Workers to Have Sunday Night Forum

(By a New Leader Correspondent) Philadelphia, Pa.—Arising out of the ferment caused in the textile districts of Philadelphia by the use of injunctions in labor disputes here, a new demand has come for educational lectures on what lies behind immediate issues. A series of Sunday night open forum will be held at the headquarters of the American Federation of Full Fashioned Hosiery Workers to take up urgent economic, political and social problems of the hour. Dr. Clair Wilcox, Professor of Political Science at Swarthmore College, will be the speaker at the first of the forums on Sunday night, February 23rd. His subject will be "Who Prospers in Prosperity?" Alexander McKeown will preside.

NEW YORK (F.P.)—John Armour, 44, unemployed, froze to death in a doorway on the New Bowery.

The New Leader Mail-bag

A FRIEND PASSES

Editor, The New Leader: My son, Thomas Hell, died August 20, 1929, of a paralytic stroke. You and I both lost a good friend. He was a Socialist all through. That's why I am answering this letter. I know he'd say, Answer it.

We had a Socialist meeting the night he was laid out. Friends sent a bouquet of red flowers. We buried it in the grave with him. His wife was a Socialist and left the city broken hearted. I do not hear from her. The one whom I loved best on earth was Tom. Thomas Hell's mother.

MARY E. HELL.

Camden, N. J.

"AN INJURY TO ONE"

Editor, The New Leader: Directed by New Leader notes I attended a N. Y. Poetry Forum meeting in December and nearly suffocated in a cigarette-smoke laden small room in Labor Temple. A pitifully thin youth puffed energetically all evening between his noisy coughs of a cold to a package, disturbing many.

Sunday found me celebrating Kropotkin's life in the well-ventilated auditorium. Some smoke hounds couldn't wait. One fellow near me, conversing on a "better world," asked a woman if cigarettes were objectionable, but his bourgeois civility prevented his asking (woman's equal) me and hearing my "yes." O slaves to an offensive profit commodity! What purpose?

Feb. 11 I attended the Poetry Forum again and this time decided "never again." Three ill-mannered girls (Jewish looking, but not typical of that progressive race) sat in the center lighting cigarettes repeatedly, talentedly throwing butts and matches on the floor, to the obvious disgust of many clean men and women present. Either it was a silly "modernistic stunt" or "emancipated" females, imitating the males' least desirable customs, or they were so weak willed they couldn't respect others' sensibilities for an hour or two—as some

MEN present must have done.

Those building a new economic order should be considerate of rights similar to those they themselves demand. They object to stepping on toes, etc. To impose one's cheap habits on a defenseless public is outrageous of a progressive. It is as nice to spit on a person's plate as to force second hand smoke down another's throat into his lungs, I protest.

HAROLD R. JOHNSON.

Brooklyn, N. Y.

HE WOULDN'T BE A GROCER

Editor, The New Leader: Norman Thomas' reference to chain store wages reminds me of an incident of about a year ago. Our neighbors, Cain Brothers, run a successful grocery business but of the ten boys they have none that are grown up want to be grocers. One of these boys, about twenty-two, having finished school was looking for a job. He applied at an employment office and was directed to a place, a wholesale house, several miles from home.

When he arrived there he found it was the wholesale warehouse of one of the chain grocery concerns. They needed a clerk for the early morning work in connection with trucks going out with loads of goods to the retail branches. It would therefore be necessary that he be there at 5 o'clock in the morning, but he would be free about 3 in the afternoon.

The wages was \$12.00 a week. That tickled the daddy for Cain Brothers pay their girl clerk \$15.00 a week for far better hours and no hard labor, as the men folks do all the heavy work in the store.

As the chains grow in power they are rapidly becoming the lowest wage-payers of all employers. I am told that the A. & P. now pay their retail girl clerks a minimum of \$8 and a maximum of \$12. But of this I am not sure.

H. W. NOREN.

Pittsburg, Pa. Anger is like a ruin which, in falling upon its victim, breaks itself to pieces.—Seneca.

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