

READING LABOR ADVOCATE

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Socialists Score Economy Which Aids Rich

REFLECTIONS

By the Editor

"HAPPY NEW YEAR" hit me like a load of bricks and I went to bed with the "flu." That's where I have spent the greater part of the past week.

Now, perhaps, you think that isn't important enough to write a column about. And, I want to agree, in my case it isn't.

Outside of a week's lay-up, some disagreeable sweating, nasty coughing and a few dollars of expense, the "flu" didn't matter much to me. From all appearances I'll be back on the job next week and that will be that.

But there's a reason why the "flu" did not assume major proportions in my case. The reason is that I had access to those little things which go with sickness. And I've been wondering just how important similar attacks of "flu" are going to be in the homes of thousands of unemployed people who are just as good—although not as fortunate—as I.

AS I LAY waiting for the fever to break my thoughts went back to the "home" of one of Reading's jobless workers. Advocate readers will remember the "home," because I took the trouble to visit and describe it not so many weeks ago.

I had plenty of bedding. That family had scanty covering.

I had a private room. That family slept five to a bed, with one of the children in a cot because she was menaced by T. B.

My room was warmed by a central heating plant. That family was trying to burn some damp blocks of wood which had come from the municipal wood yard and which produced more smoke than heat.

I obtained prompt medical assistance. That family would probably be waiting and suffering without help.

"FLU" ISN'T SO dangerous if it gets the right treatment," the doctor smilingly explained.

"But," I thought, "what about those folk who are not going to receive the right treatment?"

My thoughts went back to the incident of a Reading child who died from infantile paralysis a few months ago because the parents were too poor to buy prompt service. And I recalled the story of a woman who is now awaiting a second return of appendicitis because a local hospital had no room for her as a free operation case. They didn't get the "right treatment."

BUT THIS COLUMN must lead somewhere. And the point to which I am driving is back to this matter of "economy."

Perhaps you are one of those persons who believe that the right way to meet this epidemic of poverty and joblessness is by this "public economy" which statesmen of high and low degree are advocating.

Well, economies which will reduce taxes will be helpful to the rich. But impoverishing hospitals and schools and social services in order that the few who own the wealth of the nation may be able to conduct their government as cheaply as possible isn't going to help the great majority of people.

IF YOUR CHILD had the "flu" would you economize with YOUR money? Merely in order to save a few dirty dollars would you hand—

(Continued on Page Four)

**SOCIALIST
Radio Program
EVERY SUNDAY
at 12:15 P. M. over
361.4M WEEU 830K**

Jan. 8—James H. Maurer
Jan. 15—Darlington Hoopes
TELL YOUR FRIENDS

HOOPES, WILSON RENEW DEMANDS FOR ADEQUATE AID FOR PENNA. WORKERS

Unemployment Insurance Again Sought by Socialists. Wilson Urges 30-Hour Work Week and Offers Old Age Pension Resolution For Approval of Present Session—Hoopes Declares Relief of Workers Is Again In Background as Old Parties Prepare to Save Wealthy Taxpayers

Entering upon their first day of the 1933 legislative session, Darlington Hoopes and Lilith Wilson, Reading's Socialist representatives in the Pennsylvania General Assembly, directly challenged the viewpoint of "economy" for the protection of the wealthy taxpayers at the expense of social services which benefit employed as well as unemployed workers.

Hoopes lost no time in re-introducing his proposal for a State unemployment insurance fund, which was buried in committee by the 1931 and 1932 special sessions.

Wilson presented two pieces of legislation: One, providing for a statewide working week of five 6-hour day, and the second, re-introducing the resolution on old age pensions, which was approved by the last legislature. As the old age pension law will require a constitutional amendment, the resolution must be passed by two sessions of the state legislature and finally approved by the votes of the people of the state.

Starting the session with a paean of praise for the fact that the financial credit of the state was still unused, the forces of Pinchot and those Republicans who are supposed to be his political enemies, made it plain that "economy first" was the chief purpose of the state lawmaking body.

Discussing this attitude, Rep. Hoopes told the Advocate that from all appearances helping the jobless is at best "a poor third" in the minds of the old political gangs.

"First is economies which will safeguard the rich and keep their taxes down. Second is balancing the budget, a budget which slights over the item of welfare for the more than a million unemployed and their families. Then, perhaps, if there is time and a way left, the unemployed will get some consideration."

Against False Economy
"Before the session is over, both Mrs. Wilson and I will make it plain that we are opposed to economies which can be achieved only by robbery." (Continued on Page Five)

JOINT STATEMENT ISSUED BY HOOPES AND WILSON

The essential agreement revealed yesterday (January 3rd) between such supposedly divergent groups as are represented by Governor Pinchot, Speaker Grover Talbot and Representative Wilson Sarig, makes imperative the expression of opposition to the "Economy First" program espoused by these leaders. The action demanded by the grave emergency facing this session of the General Assembly is relief for the hungry and not relief for the taxpayer primarily.

The only appropriation for unemployment relief specifically mentioned by an leader as yet, that of Governor Pinchot for twenty million dollars to be secured from problematical economies of administration in the biennium, is nothing less than a social scandal. In the regular session of 1931, Governor Pinchot assured the General Assembly that there was no need for state action and appropriation for unemployment relief. In spite of public urging by Socialist members of the House for the adoption of a system of unemployment insurance and measures for immediate relief, the regular session adjourned without action, only to be forced to reconvene in two special unemployment sessions held at tremendous non-productive expense to the taxpayer whose interests are now so tenderly

spoken of, where the task of unemployment relief was carried out partially and bunglingly when it could have been efficiently cared for in the regular session under Socialist proposals.

The fetish of a balanced budget at any cost, including the shirking of responsibility to the unemployed, the reduction of such socially fundamental outlays as that for education, and the reduction of the pay of a large number of workers now employed as teachers, is deliberately turning back to an earlier and cruder day and refusing to face the real problem. At a time when the report of the President's Research Committee on Social Trends has clearly stated that salvation from social disaster lies only in spreading the social income, the leaders of the Pennsylvania legislature and the Governor turn in exactly the opposite direction. For the fourth time the Socialist members today have introduced bills for a complete system of unemployment insurance. No person objects to efficiency in government nor will our Party oppose such, but the real issue is and remains the meeting of the needs of the state's unemployed workers and dependents until they are provided with jobs to earn their bread.

(Signed)
DARLINGTON HOOPES.
LILITH M. WILSON.

'SHARING WORK' REALLY MEANS SHARING WAGES

Division of Jobs Is Merely Another Scheme to Force Workers to Lower Levels

EUROPE GIVES WARNING
American Workers Can Be Driven to Same Conditions As Prevail In Backward Nations

(By SCOTT NEARING.)

NEW YORK (FP). — The "sharing work" campaign is really a campaign to share wages. A worker has a job lasting 40 hours a week for which he gets \$20. He "shares" this job with another worker. Each works 20 hours, and each family has \$10 with which to buy the necessities of life.

Job-sharing is a part of the general campaign to cut wages. Between 1929 and 1932 the total amount of wages and salaries paid in the United States was reduced by almost one half. Still, the campaign for wage cutting goes on, either as a demand for a direct reduction in wages per hour, or as a cut in earnings per week, through the system of job-sharing.

It makes no difference how a worker's income is reduced to the \$10-a-week level. Once he gets there, he and his family must learn to live on that amount. In other words, they must huddle closer and closer together until they can all find shelter under one \$10 bill per week.

Such changes are difficult. It is no easy matter for a family of five that was spending \$30 a week in 1929 to learn to live on \$10 a week in 1932. Driving down the standard of living is never a simple affair.

The important fact to remember is that living standards can be driven down. Go to Japan, to Germany, to Italy, Australia, Hungary. In all of these countries, during the past 20 years, workers and their families have learned to live on less. Some of them have accustomed themselves to the slow starvation prevalent in some parts of India.

When the standard has been reduced, the ruling class holds it there until the organized action of the workers again raises it. If a worker's family has learned to live on \$10 a week in 1932 with the breadwinner busy for 20 hours, in 1934 it can (Continued on Page Four)

NAVY YARD WORKERS FEAR 30% PAY CUT

WASHINGTON (FP). — Naval estimates have been reduced \$13,585,000, employees in the navy yards now fear they will suffer a 30 percent cut in earnings, through a furlough system which will be imposed if they are not furnished with enough construction jobs. Accordingly, the Metal Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor, through N. P. Alfias, chief legislative agent, is pleading with House members to restore this item, and to go forward with the building of 100 new naval vessels as proposed in the Vinson bill.

There are 45,000 workers on the navy yard rolls. Navy yard officials want the regular governmental wage regulation boards to meet, with a view to cutting the pay of the men. Thus far the unions have blocked the summoning of these boards by having such meetings of wage boards forbidden in the appropriation bills. They cannot, however, prevent the reduction of earnings through rotation of work on the furlough plan.

JOBLESS ORGANIZE FIGHT AGAINST SALES TAX

CHICAGO. — The political action committee of the Chicago Workers' Committee on Unemployment has drawn up plans for a fight against the sales tax this winter. Every effort is to be made by the committee's sixty locals to get legislators in each district to attend a huge mass meeting to be held by the jobless workers. Those legislators who do not attend will be visited by committees from the various locals, and the demands of the organized unemployed for adequate relief legislation placed before them. Definite plans for financing this program, without the imposition of a sales tax, have been worked out by the Committee.

TRADES COUNCIL ELECTS RHODES

All Officers of Trades Council Are Re-elected For 1933. Rhodes Predicts Harder Times

At the re-organizing meeting of the Federated Trades Council, held last Tuesday at the Labor Lyceum, all the old officers were re-elected for 1933.

George M. Rhodes, representing Typographical Union, No. 88 was re-elected for the sixth consecutive term as president.

Stewart Tomlinson, member of the Patternmakers local and president of the Reading Labor College was elected vice-president for his third term.

Andrew P. Bower of the Cigar-makers Union, No. 236 was elected treasurer for his 22nd term, and Martin L. Wolfskill, also a member of the cigarmakers, was named for his 14th year.

Harry Langenecker, a member of the Electricians Union, was named sergeant-at-arms for the fourth time. Earl White was named as the delegate to represent the Trades Council at the legislative conference of the Pennsylvania Federation of Labor to be held in Harrisburg next Monday.

The council invited the newly organized Farmers Protective Association to send fraternal delegates to the Trades Council.

President Rhodes reviewed the year of 1932 which he stated was a bitter one for the working class.

"Wages and living standards of the workers dropped to new levels while unemployment mounted by leaps and bounds," Rhodes declared. "Unfortunately, the indifference of the workers to organization and united action was discouraging at such a time when organization and (Continued on Page Four)

NOTED PERSONS URGE NEW TRIAL OF MOONEY CASE

Condemn Report which Resulted in Governor Rolph's Denial of Pardon Application

UNION OPPOSITION RULED
"Findings" Submitted by Investigators Dealt With Prejudice and Ignored Important Facts

NEW YORK (FP). — Fifteen well-known Americans have called upon Gov. James Rolph, Jr., of California to reopen the Mooney-Billings case on the ground that the facts involved were not covered in the advisory report by Judge Matt I. Sullivan which led the governor to deny Tom Mooney's pardon application in April.

This appeal was made public simultaneously with an open letter to Judge Sullivan attacking his report as inaccurate, unfair, and prejudiced, and accusing him of misleading Gov. Rolph, and of "keeping an innocent man in prison because of your hatred of his views."

Signers of the two communications are: Norman Hapgood, author and former minister to Denmark; John Dewey, former professor of philosophy at Columbia University; Rabbi Stephen S. Wise of New York City; Oswald Garrison Villard, editor of The Nation; Fannie Hurst, author; Fremont Older, editor of the San Francisco Call-Bulletin; Henry T. Hunt, New York lawyer; Aaron Sapiro, San Francisco and New York lawyer; Ernest Jerome Hopkins, author of What Happened in the Mooney Case; Lemuel Parton, California and New York newspaperman; Dr. Harry Elmer Barnes, author, and four members of the American Civil Liberties Union's national board, Dr. Harry F. Ward, chairman; Rev. John Haynes Holmes; Roger N. Baldwin, director, and Arthur Garfield Hays, general counsel.

Radical Hatred Seen
In their appeal to Gov. Rolph, the 15 commentators attack the Sullivan report as "intemperate handling of material which should have been considered judicially" and as "a diatribe against Mooney's radical views and his activities as a labor leader."

Gov. Rolph is told that "on the basis of Judge Sullivan's prejudiced advice, you will go down in history as a public official who failed to meet one of the most critical issues of justice of our time."

"You were misled by Judge Sullivan (Continued on Page Five)

What Reading Folks Are Talking About

THE MAYOR'S MESSAGE

"The inability of our citizens to meet their tax obligations will naturally cause us to curtail in the way of making extensive improvements," declared our Fusion mayor in his annual message to council.

And that is simply another way of saying that fewer people are going to be earning their livings as city workers during the next year. With fewer earning it "naturally" follows that more will be getting along on the charity ration which our Relief Board is dealing out to workers who can no longer be used by private industry.

The fact that the city is adding to the number of jobless people is scarcely the fault of the mayor or his Fusion associates. The entire outfit, with Wellington Bertollet thrown in, lacks the power to halt the collapse which Capitalism is bringing to the homes of millions of Americans. However, in the light of recent tax-rate reductions, the mayor's admission that city work will have to be curtailed has a significance which should not escape comment.

This is what the Fusionists have done: They have made the burden lighter for the few who hold large blocks of property and are still able to pay taxes. And in order to do so they have destroyed the jobs of a number of city employees who have no other resources than their daily earnings. Added to that, Bertollet's boys are planning to see the city run to seed—a sacrifice of public welfare—in order to cut expenses for the wealthy individuals who will be benefited by tax rate reductions.

When it is considered how small a number of rich people will be helped by it, the 9-mill tax rate seems more than ever like robbing the poor to feed the rich.

COUNCILMAN GEORGE OBJECTS

When Councilman George objected to the appointment of Lou Armose as asphalt plant foreman, at this week's session of council, he was still thinking that qualification for a job consisted in knowing something about the business involved.

Therein he erred. Some knowledge and ability certainly was necessary under Socialist rule. But the administration has changed. Now the chief qualification, and one that outweighs every other consideration, is the political standing of the job-hunter.

It has been on that principle that the Fusionists have filled most of the offices at city hall. Purchasing agents, street inspectors, police commissioners, plant foremen, etc., etc., etc.—they all look alike if they are on the right side of the Fusion line-up.

What matters ability? What of civil service? What of experience? Nix on those things. The Fusionists won. They won the power to cut taxes for the rich and reduce jobs for the poor, to demote mechanics and elevate politicians. The people gave them that power and they're using it.

Councilman George very properly "squawked" when the Fusion outfit forced unfit politicians into his department. But he probably knew in advance that his objection would have no immediate effect upon the anti-Socialists. Armose has prestige with a certain type of soldier vote. That's the best reason—so far as Fusion politicians are concerned—why he should have a city job.

HITTING THE SKIDS

Having defaulted in the payment of \$300,000 worth of short term notes, the Fusion administration of Reading has been forced to resort to what may seem like "frenzy eyed" finance in order to set its financial house in order.

We leave it to those whose minds are not muddled with the "flu" to figure out all that is being done by the new \$300,000 temporary loan, plus a bond issue of \$300,000. Per— (Continued on Page Five)

Housewarming : Pep Night!!

Why?— The Southern Branch has moved into its new home.

Where?— In the basement of the old school house, northeast corner Peach and Franklin streets. (Entrance on Peach street.)

When?— Sunday, January 8th — 2 P. M. until midnight.

Who?— Everybody welcome!

Attractions!— String and vocal music; solos, duets, octettes, group singing, a few short speeches, orchestra, etc.

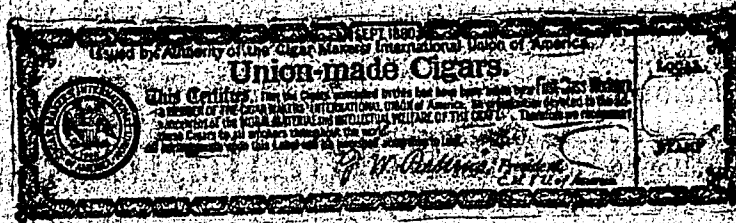
Don't miss this big affair; you'll be sorry if you do. Light refreshments will be sold.

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LABOR COLLEGE NEWS
By STEPHEN H. ELY

Indeed, it might not be amiss to use that well known phrase, "Such notoriety must be deserved," when speaking about the recognition being accorded the Reading Labor College. We are attracting not only a great deal of attention locally, but word now comes from the Brookwood Labor College of Katonah, New York, informing us that they are following with interest the work being accomplished here, and are going to send a representative who will address us next week at our regular Monday night session. We hope to make this a "red letter" night, and while it isn't necessary to urge the students to attend this session, we do invite our many friends to join with us in a night which will be replete with interest.

This week the two classes held a joint session on Wednesday night, and as usual on such occasions it was necessary to use one of the large double-class rooms.

The subject this week was "This Modern Machine Age." Included in this were points showing how the industrial revolution started in England; how the factory system replaced the domestic system, the domestic guild system, and the spread of these various systems to other countries.

Next Monday and Wednesday nights there will be an international program, which will reveal how nations are interdependent upon each other, and how labor is fairing in various parts of the world. The particular countries selected were United States, Brazil, Japan, Italy, France, Egypt, Germany, Great Britain and Russia. These countries were selected because they are the most highly industrialized.

There will be a meeting of the "pep" night committee on Saturday, Jan. 7, at 2 p. m. at the Southern Branch, located in the basement of the old school building at Peach and Franklin streets. All those concerned are requested to attend this meeting.

Now remember friends, next Monday night all roads lead to the Reading Labor College, in the Southern Junior High School at Tenth and Chestnut streets.

PACKAGE PARTY, PEP NIGHT FOR LABOR COLLEGE

A big treat awaits you at the Package Party and Pep Night that is being sponsored by the students of the Reading Labor College.

A comedy in the guise of an Old-Fashioned School will be the big entertainment of the evening. This promises to be more fun than a circus. After this affair a package party will take place. Later in the evening refreshments will be sold, and a general good time will follow. Everybody is invited to come and spend the evening with their comrades of Labor College.

Watch the Advocate for further announcement regarding the date and place.

You needn't be afraid of good cars. The one that crumples your fenders is always an old model T worth \$15.

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EIGHTH and PENN

SHOOT BUSINESS AGENTS, AND THAT'S WHAT GOOD SOCIALISTS ARE MADE OF

NEW YORK (FP).—"I did it. I killed them. They deserved to be killed. They've been preying on our members for a long time. There's a lot of you would have liked to do it, but you hadn't the guts!"

With these words Benny Glast, unemployed two years, told members of Local 1, Walters' Union, gathered to nominate officers, that he had shot Jack Lasher and Molt, Turkel, business agents. Glast surrendered to a policeman and repeated his confession in a police station. Lasher has bullet wounds in his groin and leg, Turkel in his thigh. Both will recover.

"I haven't had a job for two years," Glast said. "My wife is starving and my daughter has to live with her grandmother. I pleaded with Lasher and Turkel to help me, but they said they couldn't. The next day a go-between said he could get me a job for several hundred dollars."

One group of union members said they had to pay similar sums to get jobs, and affidavits to that effect are on file in the district attorney's office. Other members said the charges were made by a faction seeking to gain office in the union.

LEBANON SOCIALIST NOTES

On Tuesday evening, Jan. 10th, another educational lecture will be given by Lebanon Branch at Ninth and Willow streets at the Red Men's banquet room (basement) at 8:15 p. m. Branch meeting will be held at 7:15 p. m.

These lectures will be held every Tuesday evening at the same place and time during January, February and March.

The lectures are open to the public to acquaint them with the facts about conditions that confront them. All members are urged to attend and bring their friends.

Cuba Censors News

HAVANA, Cuba.—Because it contained an article by Carleton Beals exposing Machado's bloody handling of political opponents, copies of the Dec. 29 issue of Common Sense, FP member magazine published by Alfred Bingham, Connecticut senator's son, have been confiscated in Cuba.

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BEEF ROAST, Pound	11c
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PRIME RIB ROAST, Pound	17c
LEGS OF LAMB, Pound	17c
TENDER STEAKS, Pound	23c
LEAN PORK CHOPS, Pound	10c
FORK LOIN ROAST, Rib End, Pound	9c
RUMP OF VEAL, Pound	15c
ROASTING VEAL, Pound	15c
STEWING VEAL, Pound	10c
Rex A. & B. Raco Armour Star, Lb	14c
Banquet Ham, Lb	10c
Picnic Ham, Lb	8 1/2c
WHOLE OR STRING END HALF	
SUGAR-CURED BACON, Whole or Half, pound	10c
OUR OWN MAKE	Fresh Sausage 2 lbs for 25c Meaty Scrapple 2 lbs for 17c Liver Pudding, Smoked Saus 15c lb
Fresh Dressed Chickens	Stewing Fowl 25c
Fancy Choice Cold Meats	
Boiled Ham	7c
Spiced Ham	7c
Loaf Cheese 1/4-lb	1c
Lunch Roll Sliced	1c
Minced Ham	6c
Pressed Ham	6c
Lehigh Bologna 1/4-lb	1c
Lebanon Bologna Sliced	1c
Fresh Ground Beef, lb	10c
Tasty Frankfurts, Pound	10c
Goody Nut BUTTERINE	4 lbs for 53c
SOLD ONLY AT 327 PENN ST.	
Pillsbury's Best FLOUR	Best Quality SKI HIGH, the "Balanced" Flour
5-Lb Bag	17c
12-Lb Bag	35c
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Pillsbury's Pancake Flour	A quick, easy way to brighten up your morning meal. 2 Regular Size 2 Pkgs. for 15c
EGGS Berks Co.	Dozen 35c
PHILADELPHIA CREAM CHEESE	3 PACKAGES 25c
CHOCOLATE	5 POUND BOX 50c
Hard Cut Candies, lb for 10c	
SCHIMMEL'S PURE ELDERBERRY JELLY	Tumbler for 12c
LARGE DIAMOND BUDDEN ENGLISH WALNUTS	Pound for 25c
BABY EMERALD ENGLISH WALNUTS	Lb 15c 2 Lbs for 29c
Black Walnut Meats, 1/4-lb	15c
BLEACH-OK	The Wonder WASHING FLUID. It saves boiling! Bottle at 15c
Coffee Old-Fashion Strong Rich	2 Pounds for 35c
Midget Salted SODA CRACKERS	2-lb box for 25c
PALMOLIVE	NEW LOW PRICE ON PALMOLIVE famous beauty soap rich in olive oil 2 Cakes for 11c
APRICOTS CHOICE FRUIT	2 Pounds 25c
Fancy Golden Fruit, 2 pound	35c
Del Monte Peaches, choice Fruit, 2 lbs	25c
Practically Peeled Peaches, 2 lbs	29c
Fancy Celophaned Peaches, package	13c
Fruit Bowl—Fancy Assorted Dried Fruits, 1-lb pkg for 15c	
DEL MONTE PRUNES	50-Size 2 pounds for 15c
VAN CAMP'S	Hominy 2 big cans for 19c
Large, White, Tender Grains	
HOMINY GRITS	2 pounds for 5c
Made from choice hominy	
New Crop—Lancaster County DRIED CORN	2 pounds for 25c
Cornstarch 1-Pound Pkg	Both for 19c
Vanilla 8-ounce jug	
VAN CAMP'S	Red Beans for 5c
GIBB'S PORK AND BEANS	With Tomato Sauce cans for 19c
California—Cut Asparagus	can for 9c
3 Buffet Trial cans for	25c
GOLD DUST	Washing Powder 2 large packages for 25c
Edgemont	Butter Crackers 1 pound package 15c
2 packages for	29c
Scot-Tissue	TOILET PAPER 3 rolls for 23c
1,000 Sheet-Rolls, at	8c

January Clearance

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Men's and Young Men's Suits, Topcoats and Overcoats

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GREATEST VALUES IN YEARS

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PRICED

\$10 to \$22.50

Large Variety to Select From

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RANK AND FILE VETS

TO PLAN FOR 1933

The Rank and File Veterans' Association will meet next Tuesday on the third floor of the Labor Lyceum to install their newly elected officers and to plan for activities during the new year.

All members are urged to attend

and to renew their membership, the fee being 50 cents for the year. Any ex-serviceman, who recognizes himself as a worker, and is willing to fight for his rights is welcome to join the organization.

If you are not yet a member, come to the meeting next Tuesday and sign up.

The qualities that make a man great, according to the news reels, include an aversion to pants pressers.

—FOR—

LINOLEUM

WINDOW SHADES and AWNINGS

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Activities of the Reading Socialists

SOUTHERN BRANCH CARD PARTY SATURDAY NIGHT AT LYCEUM

The Southern Branch will hold its first card party of the year at Labor Lyceum on Saturday night, and an effort has been made to start the New Year right by making it a big affair.

The excellent array of prizes will make for keen competition. And don't forget, starting Saturday night, all scores will be entered in the final contest for the quilt that will be offered as the "month of January prize."

The usual good "eats" are promised, too.

The regular low price of 25c per corner will prevail.

The Southern Branch takes this opportunity of thanking all people who helped in securing and removing the piano that it now has at its disposal; also we wish to thank Comrade Ream for tuning it and putting it into shape.

WOMEN SOCIALISTS ELECT OFFICERS

At the meeting of the Women's Socialist League at the Labor Lyceum last Thursday, officers were elected for the new year.

Mrs. William C. Hoverter was elected organizer, Mrs. Cecelia Bachlin, secretary, and Mrs. Hannah Soliday, treasurer.

Mrs. Annie Hoyer, Mrs. Minnie Kleinsmith, Mrs. Helen Wentzel, Mrs. Loretta DeMott and Mrs. Lottie Wentzel were elected as the committee visit sick comrades.

At the meeting it was decided to hold a card party for the benefit of the Chorus on January 18th at the Labor Lyceum. Plans were laid to hold a social nite once a month. The first event to be held on Thursday, January 19th.

BERKSHIRE HEIGHTS CARD PARTY

The depression card party held by the Berkshire Heights comrades was such a success that the branch decided another.

The date is Thursday evening, January 12th, at 8 o'clock. All comrades are welcome and invited to attend and have a pleasant evening at the branch headquarters at Sev-

enth and Oley streets in Berkshire Heights.

Remember, it's only 10 cents per corner, refreshments free of charge, and a prize for every table. Don't miss it!

SOUTHERN WOMEN, ATTENTION!

Tonight (Friday) marks the first of a new series of programs that will be sponsored at the women's meetings. A program committee has arranged a special attraction for each Friday night of the month. After the regular business meeting an entertainment awaits you. So come and enjoy it with us.

WEST READING BRANCH CARD PARTY

West Reading Branch wishes to announce that they are going to hold a card party Saturday, January 7th, at their headquarters, beginning at 8 p. m. Lunch will be served and coffee free. The price, 15c per corner. Everybody is welcome and urged to come.

BAND REHEARSAL NEXT WEDNESDAY

The newly organized Socialist Band will have rehearsal next Wednesday evening at 8:15 o'clock at the Labor Lyceum.

Their first rehearsal was held this week, with 35 members present. Comrade Arnold, president of the new organization, and Comrade McLean, band leader, who were instrumental in the forming of the Socialist Band, were well pleased with the first rehearsal and extend an invitation to other musicians to join the Band if they have not yet done so.

LOST—DERBY

The finder of the derby at the Victory Dinner at the 18th Ward last Sunday night is asked to kindly return same to the Labor Lyceum. Its owner is Mark Seltzer, West Reading Branch organizer, and as he reports that it is his "one and only," please bring it back to him; for what would the West Reading Branch do without poor Mark if he were to get the "flu"?

ATHLETIC COMMITTEE AT KENHORST

The Kenhorst Socialist Party held their weekly meeting at their headquarters, 1014 Broadway Boulevard. The meeting was well attended. The principal topic for discussion was, "What a Socialist America Would Look Like." An athletic committee was also formed. Meetings are held every Tuesday evening at 8 o'clock.

LABOR COLLEGE STUDENTS! ATTENTION!

All people participating in the Labor College entertainment will have a rehearsal on Saturday afternoon, Jan. 7, at 2 p. m. The Southern Branch has kindly offered us the use of its headquarters for this rehearsal. Remember the place, northeast corner Peach and Franklin streets.

ATTENTION—WOMEN!

So that the FEMALE species of the Socialist Party may be given their equal rights in this world of ours, a meeting has been called at

Now Going On...

the most startling
Selling Event

in our 13 years of business

GREAT ANTICIPATION SALE!

We feel certain that the country is going wet—and we're not taking chances. We're unloading our entire and complete stock regardless of cost, loss, or profit. Come!—share in these savings.

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LARGE SIZE COATS

Sizes 38 to 54---35 1/4 to 49 1/4---38 1/2 to 52 1/2

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35 TO 50% OFF

Coats With Genuine Fur Trimmings—All Wool Crepe, All Silk Lined, Heavily Interlined

THE PRICES RANGE FROM

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Add 35% to 50% to each of those prices and you'll get the original selling price and value of these coats

All our coats are of better quality of our regular stock and NOT coats bought now which are specially made up cheaply to sell cheap.

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SAVE BY BUYING AT THIS BUSY STORE.

Take Advantage of the Lowest Priced

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EVERY PAIR GUARANTEED.

If You Are Not Satisfied Your Money Will Be Promptly Refunded.

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SUNDAY NIGHT FORUM

January 8th

'Five Years of Social Planning'

... by ...

Mrs. K. B. Kaross

Just Returned From Russian Tour

and

Amsterdam Anti-War Conference

Speaking for

The American Lithuanian Women's Alliance

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CHUCK
ROASTS
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BOILING BEEF, Pound

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SLICES OF ALLENTOWN
SUGAR-CURED HAM, Pound 19c

Ring Bologna 16c LB

Liver Pudding 12c LB

OUR OWN MAKE

Scrapple, Pound 8c

Smoked Sausage lbs 25c

ALLENTOWN SLICED
BACON 2 Packages 15c

ALLENTOWN SUGAR-CURED
BACON, Pound 10c

SMALL LEAN HOME
DRESSED FRESH
Hams ... 11c LB

ALLENTOWN MEDIUM
LARGE SUGAR-CURED
Hams ... 10c LB
16 to 18 Lbs

SWIFT
PREMIUM
Hams ... 14c LB

PORK
BRAINS
10c LB

PORK
LIVER
9c LB

PORK
HEARTS
8c LB

PORK
KIDNEYS
8c LB

SPARE
RIBS
8c LB

PIGS'
FEET
4c LB

MINCE BOLOGNA 14c LB

PRESSED HAM 16c LB

BOILED HAM Half or Whole 21c LB

SPICED HAM In Piece 20c LB

GROCERY SPECIALS

Fancy Swiss Cheese 31c LB

Brookfield Butter 2-lb rolls 53c

Clearbrook Butter 2-lb rolls 52c

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NOW GOING ON

Entire Stock of Men's and Boys' Winter Clothing and Furnishings Greatly Reduced

Prices Now Lower Than Ever Before

BUY NOW

FOR PRICES SEE OUR WINDOW DISPLAY

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Going
On

JOSEPH'S

410 PENN STREET

Sale Now
Going
On

"WE SELL FOR LESS—ALWAYS!"

You'll notice, too, that the fellow who thinks America needs a dictator also thinks he should be it. If you wish to know why a man wanders away from home, first examine the home. Anyway, it's a comfort to reflect that a hard rain can't ruin another day for us until it's picnic time.

"SHARING WORK"

(Continued from First Page)

continue living on \$10 with the breadwinner busy for 40 hours. Once down, the standard tends to stay down.

Sharing work, or cutting wages, it all amounts to the same thing in the long run. The boss establishes a \$10-a-week standard. The worker accustoms himself to \$10-a-week living. Through the present crisis, American wages and standards of living are lowered to the European level.

Whether the campaign is labelled "sharing work" or "cutting wages" the result is the same. The boss succeeds in establishing a \$10-a-week wage level. The worker accustoms himself to \$10-a-week living. The boss has used every previous economic crisis to force down labor costs by driving down labor living standards. He is doing the same thing today. Whatever name he applies to the process, the worker will feel the result each time he tries to make a starvation wage provide for the needs of those who depend on him for a living.

Among the proofs of heroism and endurance are the Carnegie medal and false teeth.

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Pea \$7.65
Buckwheat \$5.75

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Prices Reasonable

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WHAT READING FOLKS ARE TALKING ABOUT

(Continued from First Page)

haps as the old saying goes—some day we'll understand.

But if you're not willing to wait for understanding, you may learn more about the Reading of today by studying the Philadelphia of a few years ago.

There was a time when Philadelphia—and other cities, too—kidded itself into believing it was financially solvent just because bankers were still willing to lend money to the city. But now the lending has gone far enough in the opinion of the bankers. And so the "City of Brotherly Love" is missing paydays and doing all manner of other things which cities, business firms and individuals do when they are broke.

Financing schemes are merely ways of avoiding recognition of the fact that current incomes are insufficient to pay necessary expenses. Borrowing from bankers and transferring between funds may keep the city of Reading operating for some time. But in the end we'll arrive at the point toward which we are heading—municipal bankruptcy.

That's what Capitalism means: "ill fares the land where wealth accumulates in private hands and public welfare is neglected."

CITY PAYROLLS

Although none of the Fusion authorities are certain that the city will have enough money to meet payrolls pending the payment of this year's taxes, it's quite likely that further financing will enable the city authorities to see the year through.

One source of revenue is, of course, the municipal water department. That is Reading's only revenue-producing enterprise and has been for years the source from which a considerable portion of the public bill was tapped.

There is a limit, however, to what the water board can stand. Sooner or later this limit will be reached and the general public will learn that its chief financial and health asset has been sacrificed on the altar of Capitalism.

POMEROYS' LAYS 'EM OFF

As a New Year's gift, Pomeroys handed "walking papers" to a number of their oldest employees. This action came after a number of wage reductions which did something toward reconciling the poor store slaves to the prospect of existing upon food vouchers.

It's sad to see people cast adrift like that. But sadder still is the fact that many of the big store's cast-offs don't know what it is all about. Some blame the store management while others trustingly wait until business conditions revive. Only a few understand that what has happened to them is only a part of the worldwide game of industry for private profit.

Capitalist business is dead, and store clerks are finding it impossible to continue living upon the corpse. There is only one thing left to do. That is to conduct all business for social welfare instead of for private profit. Socialists have been advocating for so many years. When that is done, everybody can be assigned to their share of work and all who labor will enjoy the fruits of industry.

TRADES COUNCIL

(Continued from First Page)

militant action is most needed. But in spite of this the council has been active during the past year. The State Convention and a number of conferences were held.

Raps False Economy

Rhodes reviewed the opposition of the Council to "share the work," wage cuts, long hours, Sunday work in industry and the black list. Their opposition to false economies, especially in the conduct of the public schools won public approval, Rhodes stated.

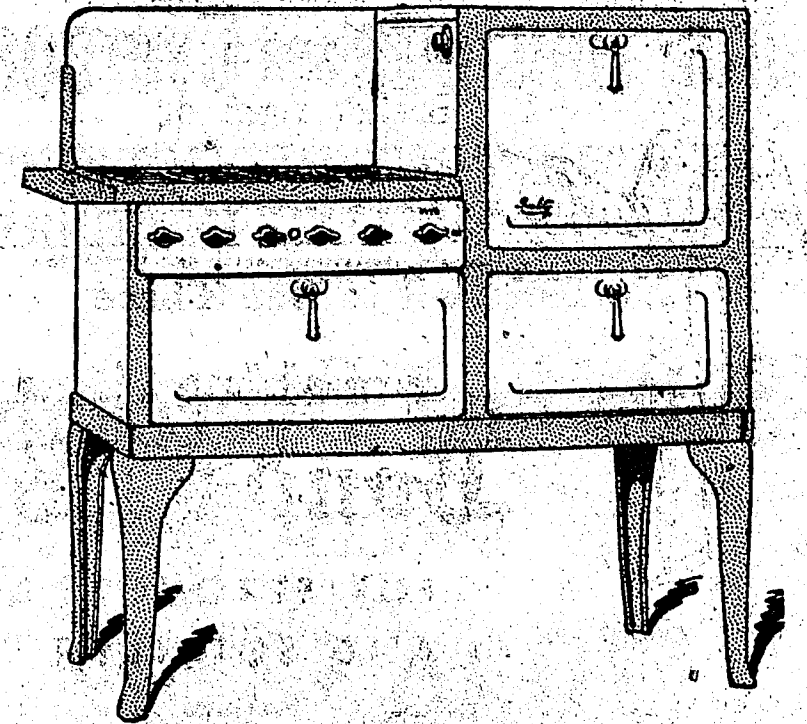
The Council organized a compensation division, in charge of Earl M. White, to assist injured workers. Rhodes described the year 1933 as not an optimistic one for the workers.

"Nothing has yet been done or even suggested by the rulers of our country to check wage cuts and unemployment. In fact, the opposite is true, as the orgy of wage cuts continues as industrial czars continue their drive to reduce the American workers to the level of the European workers in order that they may successfully compete for world markets. But there is much hope this coming year for a united working class organization to combat this attack on living standards.

"As the wages of hosiery workers are being reduced continually, even those yet working are unable to

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The Biggest Value Ever Offered
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OR YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD PLUMBER

save their homes. They are beginning to see the necessity of organization to protect themselves from the bosses who know the value of organization, and whose brutal system and blacklist has reduced their workers to actual slavery.

"The unemployed are organizing and have shown their willingness to co-operate with the organized workers. The farmers are uniting and are also willing to join with their fellow workers in the cities and towns.

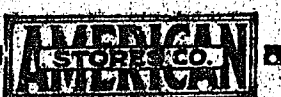
Many Groups Drawn Together
"The ex-servicemen, the unemployed, the farmers, the unorganized workers, the organized workers, affiliated and unaffiliated with the American Federation of Labor have all shown their willingness to get together and to work for their common good, for their own interests as workers."

"That is the one big hope as the old year passes and the new arrives. The A. F. of L. convention in Cin-

cinnati is also encouraging and shows a sharp turn to the left. Labor must take a more militant stand, they must take a lesson from their British brothers as outlined by the fraternal delegates from Canada and Great Britain at the Cincinnati convention.

"There is hope for the unity of the workers, and with that hope alone rest the hope for better times."

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Neighborhood
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Everything Must
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Away!

A Sacrifice That
Makes
History!

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Solid Mahogany, low price \$4.98

9 Phone Sets

While they last tomorrow \$2.95

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They'll go in a hurry at \$1.95

21 Magazine Racks

Clever styles, sacrificed at 89c

Occasional Chairs

A variety of fine coverings \$2.95

19 Card Tables

Plan to buy several at 77c

12 Tilt Top Tables

Amazing clearance price is \$4.95

7 Pier Cabinets

No home is complete without one \$1.39

Just 15 Drum Top Tables To Go

Lustrous finishes, a fine assortment. You have your choice at \$1.95

Steel Utility Cabinets

Plenty of Shelf Room. Assorted colors, at \$3.95

Throw Rugs Drastically Reduced

Choice of patterns, all in rich harmonizing colors at 98c

18 Vanity Benches—Act Fast

You'll be delighted at this big value. They are priced at just \$1.69

18 Bridge Lamps

They're super-values, at only \$3.95

24 End Tables

Mostly one-of-a-kind styles 88c

15 Bed Lamps

Wide range of colors—only \$1.49

10 Metal Beds

While they last, they go at \$3.95

9 Coffee Tables

A real sacrifice for just \$1.49

7 Book Shelves

A fine opportunity! Buy at \$4.95

12 Odd Dressers

See this fine grouping at \$9.95

Jenny Lind Beds

Just a few to be sold for \$11.75

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It's good business and good economy these days, to sell only one or two leading brands of bread—with the quality loaf, sunshine vitamin-D Bond Bread, right on the front of the counter.

sunshine vitamin-D
Bond Bread

FOR STRONGER BONES
AND SOUNDER TEETH

GENERAL BAKING COMPANY

REFLECTIONS

(Continued from First Page)

cap the chances of one of your own family?

Well, then, why save the other fellows' money—especially when the other fellows are none other than the small group of people who own all the earth's resources and are determined that prosperity shall not

return unless they can make more private fortunes by permitting workers to produce the things they need?

FROM THE VIEWPOINT of the growing millions of people who have been deprived of all means of earning their livelihoods, this talk of public economy is nothing less than an insult. It invites the masses to do with less in order that the few can keep more of the wealth which they have plundered from useful workers.

The answer which the people must give is a demand for more, more and ever more of those things which make life rich and fine and secure. More schools, more food, clothing, fuel, shelter; the same medical attention for the poorest worker as for the richest exploiter.

Workers must demand the "right treatment"—in health and in sickness. And eventually they must enforce that demand by making the sources of all wealth the property of all mankind.

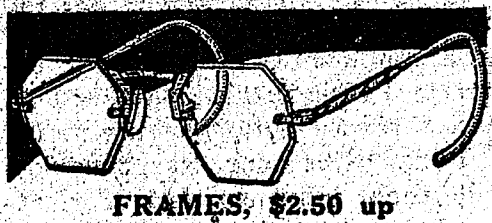
Nature is wonderful. All of her plants keep on working in spite of a surplus.

The queerest thing about static is its uncanny knack of discovering when you have company.

PAINLESS EXTRACTIONS
Each Tooth
50c
Broken or Loose
Plates Repaired
While You Wait.
NEW LOW PRICES
\$10 Plates, now... \$6.90
\$20 Plates, now... \$11.90
\$25 Plates, now... \$13.90
\$2 Fillings, now... 75c

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RESOURCES \$15,500,000.00

NOTED PERSONS

(Continued from First Page)

livan as to all the essential facts in the record," the signers declare. "All that he sets out in a document of 88 pages is his notion that Mooney was the kind of man who might have committed the crime and therefore in his opinion did so."

The signers also sent a copy of the report on the Mooney-Billings case by three lawyers appointed by the Wickersham Commission. These three lawyers, Prof. Zechariah Chafee, Jr., of Harvard Law School, Carl Stern and Walter H. Pollak, of New York, after "a studious and dispassionate examination of the evidence and of the revelations of perjury," concluded that Mooney and Billings did not have fair trials. In the letter to the governor, the signers say that "this is the kind of a document you should have got from Judge Sullivan. We commend it to your perusal in the belief that it makes an unanswerable case against the fairness of the trial and against continued imprisonment on that conviction."

Issues Obscured
Judge Sullivan is declared to have ignored or obscured fundamental issues. "Actually," says the letter, "less than 10 pages of the 88 deal with the direct evidence in the Mooney case or with the all-important issue of perjury. On the other hand, irrelevant articles from a radical magazine, purporting to show what kind of man Mooney might be, take up 20 pages—about a fourth—of your report."

Judge Sullivan is told that he handled the situation intemperately when he should have dealt with it judicially. "You examine Mooney's labor activities and find that he was once arrested—though later acquitted by a jury—for unlawful possession of explosives during a strike. This brings you to the preposterous conclusion that Mooney, with his revolutionary ideas, would be willing to blow up innocent men, women and children at a parade. After you have convinced yourself of this, you ignore all other issues."

"You give not a single reference to the stipulation of the attorney general of California that Mooney should have a new trial because of the perjury of Oxman. You give not a single statement in regard to Gov. Young's official admission that Oxman was a perjurer. The absolute proof of perjury by the Edgars arouses only a gentle doubt against them in your mind. You admit MacDonald was a perjurer. Nevertheless you insist that Mooney was justly convicted by the testimony of these four witnesses."

When Judge Sullivan points out that the perjury charge against Oxman was dismissed, the letter reminds him that his own law partner, Theodore Roche, for years head of the San Francisco Police Commission, told Gov. Rolph that in his opinion Oxman "was the damndest perjurer who ever took the stand in California."

HOOPES, WILSON

(Continued from First Page)

bing the people of social services," Hoopes declared.

"We do not share in the enthusiasm of the old line politicians for savings of taxpayers which means sacrifices of hospitals, schools, factory laws and other benefits in which all share. Such economy is costly in human happiness and public health. It is not economy at all. It is merely shifting the proper burden of government from the pocket-books of the rich to the homes and health and very lives of the great mass of people."

An attempt by Sarig to liberalize the rules by taking out of the hands of the speaker the right to appoint the committees. The attempt was smothered. A second motion to allow 60 of the 208 members of the House to discharge a committee and bring measures before the House for discussion on their merits was relieved only by a biting speech by Socialist Representative Darlington Hoopes. Daring the members to forsake the veil of secrecy and express their attitude on social legislation openly, Hoopes declared that representative government is destroyed by the ability of committees to kill embarrassing legislation. The change in the rules was defeated 63 to 142 on a roll call vote in which all the supposedly liberal forces of Governor Pinchot and a group of newly elected Democrats gave their support to the official Republican machine.

The new House speaker, who had appealed for election on the basis of the successful seventy years of Republican administration in Pennsylvania, put forth a program of "balance the budget at any cost, cut the public school system and buttress financial institutions." No direct mention was made of the state's million and a quarter forgotten men. Governor Pinchot in

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Lined

Young Men's
Corduroy Pants \$1.79
All Colors, All Sizes, All Styles
VALUES, \$2.50 to \$3.00

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COHN'S
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305 PENN ST.

his message opposed cuts of salaries of state employees and further slaughtering of welfare services but proposed only to provide for the unemployed by a vague saving of twenty million dollars in tax collection costs.

RELIEF BODY

(Continued from First Page)

hold a meeting here on Thursday with local relief officials, denied the Taxpayer's Protective League permission to be represented at the meeting by their executive board. The Governor's board is headed by Judge Paul N. Schaeffer.

In accordance with the plan of the unemployed to organize a state body, a branch will be opened at Sinking Spring at the fire hall in the borough. On Wednesday evening, January 11th, a branch will be formed at Pennwyn, which will cover Shillington, Pennwyn and Mohnton. The meeting will be held at the Pennwyn school house. The people living in the vicinity of these communities are all welcome to attend and are urged to join with the League.

Mr. Harry Alexander, the League organizer will be in charge of the meetings.

The finance committee of the League is planning to hold various kinds of entertainment in order to raise funds to assist members and to carry on the work of the organization.

A call has been issued for all those who can play musical instruments or who can entertain in some way or other, to get in touch with the finance committee at their headquarters at the Labor Lyceum.

Ask Receivers For Union

NEW YORK.—Appointment of a receiver for the property of the Moving Picture Machine Operators' Union, Local 306, was asked by four members who charged that representatives of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees and Moving Picture Operators, who were placed in charge when President Sam Kaplan was removed, are wasting union funds.

New York bankers force the city to cut expenses. They won't trust any insolvent concern unless it makes matches.

How One Woman Lost 10 Lbs. in a Week

Mrs. Betty Lindake of Dayton writes: "I am using Kruschen to reduce weight—I lost 10 pounds in one week and cannot say too much to recommend it."
To take off fat easily, SAFELY and HARMLESSLY—take one half teaspoonful of Kruschen in a glass of hot water in the morning before breakfast—it is the safe way to lose unsightly fat and one bottle that lasts 4 weeks costs but a trifle. Get it at any drugstore in America. If this little bottle fails to convince you this is the safest way to lose fat—money back.
But be sure and get Kruschen Salts—imitations are numerous and you must safeguard your health.

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LEGAL NOTICES

ESTATE NOTICE

Estate of John W. Eyrich, late of

the city of Reading, deceased.

Letters testamentary on the above

estate having been granted to the

undersigned, all persons indebted to

the estate are requested to make

payment, and those having claims to

present the same, without delay, to

188 West Elm Street,

JOHN H. EYRICH,

Reading, Pa.

or to his attorney, Darlington

Hoopes, 26 N. 6th street, Reading,

Pa.

Estate of Andrew F. Carlson, late

of the City of Reading, deceased.

Letters of administration c. t. a.

on the above estate having been

granted to the undersigned, all per-

sons indebted to the estate are re-

READING LABOR ADVOCATE

Established 1900

READING PUBLISHING CO-OPERATIVE ASSOCIATION

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Raymond S. Hofses.....SecretaryOfficial Organ of
FEDERATED TRADES COUNCIL

LOCAL BERKS COUNTY, SOCIALIST PARTY

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Stewart Tomlinson, Vice-President. A. P. Bower, Secretary-Treasurer.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 6, 1933

EDITORIALS

By Norman Thomas

FIGHT ON SALES TAX MUST STILL GO ON

If President-elect Roosevelt is really horrified at the thought of a general sales tax, that is good news for a great many Americans. It is bad news for some of his close political friends like William Randolph Hearst and Al Smith. Characteristically, however, Mr. Roosevelt has left the door open for a virtual retreat. The newspaper correspondents say that he is not opposed to special sales taxes. Enough of them can look mighty like a general sales tax. Moreover when he becomes President the pressure on him will be terrific, for somehow or other more money has to be raised by taxes. The more need therefore for Socialist and labor organizations to keep up their fight against the sales tax whether it is called a general sales tax or is composed of a multitude of special sales taxes. The necessary funds can be raised by income and inheritance taxes and a tax on corporation surpluses. Various doors of escape from the income tax must be locked. This will hurt some folks but not half as many people will be hurt nor will society in general suffer so much as by the imposition of sales taxes.

THE I. R. T. CUTS

What is happening to labor is illustrated by the fate of employees of the Interborough Rapid Transit Co. Most of them work the 7-day week or, at any rate, the sixty-hour week. Fifty-five per cent of them get less than \$35 weekly. Yet their wages are to be cut from 10 to 30 per cent. They have no true union but only a company union which has had to say, "O. K. Boss." The chief reason for the cut is in order that the I. R. T., now in the hands of receivers, may pay interest to the bondholders of the Manhattan elevated line which the I. R. T. rents. These lines are over-capitalized, even under capitalist standards, about two and a half times. Their annual deficit has to be made good out of the earnings of the I. R. T. for operating the city-built subway, and the only way the receivers can find to get earnings is to cut wages. "Bondholders first" is the capitalist motto. Morris Hillquit and I as members of the Public Affairs Committee have asked the city to intervene in receivership proceedings in order to protect the workers. We'll be surprised if it does. That's the price workers pay who have neither a political nor an industrial organization to fight for them.

Of course, this debt situation is not peculiar to the I. R. T. in New York. As I pointed out in the campaign, the railroads suffer from it. So far the entire cost of trying to save the railroads has fallen on the workers and to a less extent upon stockholders. Bondholders still collect every last cent of their interest. Probably more than half the national income for 1932 will have to go to debt service, that is, to interest and amortization on public and private debts. The situation is intolerable. To solve it by the rude surgery of foreclosures and bankruptcies is likely to be impossible and, at any rate, the cure is almost worse than the disease. The debt load must be lifted.

Three things can be done:

1. There can be a controlled inflation or deflation to try

to restore the price level of 1926-27. Such inflation must be undertaken carefully to prevent us getting out of hand as it did in Russia and in Germany.

2. By various devices the interest rates and possibly even the principal of public and private debts can be reduced in orderly fashion.

3. A capital levy carefully graduated and applied to wealth can be used to reduce certain portions of this debt burden, and as one means—not the only means—of facilitating the transfer of industry from private to public hands. A wise Socialist government backed by a strong Socialist Party would use all three of these means. Capitalist parties will be forced to use one or another of them to some degree, probably quite unwisely and belatedly. Bankers may come to accept inflation and use it to try to produce a false, artificial and feverish prosperity. In the meanwhile bondholders are top-dogs in America. Yet make them top-dogs and to protect interest while continually smashing wages is, as even capitalist economists must admit, the last way on earth to try to restore even a partial prosperity.

SELF-HELP

When a group of well meaning economists and engineers organized labor exchanges such as that which has been put into action at the northern tip of Manhattan Island the outlook is dubious. In a heterogeneous community like New York it is hard to see how the plan can work on any scale big enough to make it effective. It is even harder to see how it can become national within the confines of the capitalist system, as some of its advocates predict, on an effective scale. The idea is that members of the association will exchange labor or the products of their labor on the basis of scrip instead of money.

Thus, as one of the directors explained to me, a doctor or dentist will employ an extra office helper and pay scrip. The helper will take the scrip to a shoe store, member of the exchange, and get shoes. The shoe store owner will go to his grocer. The grocer will go back to the doctor or dentist. As a means of transforming the capitalist system the plan is likely to be as little effective as the monasteries in the Dark Ages or, still better, as the various co-operative colonies in our own time. There is furthermore a danger that, contrary to the spirit of the directors of the exchange, the use of scrip within the association may mean the employment of a certain number of workers paid by scrip who might be employed anyhow at a higher rate. In short, it seems to me that sympathy with this plan must not be untempered with skepticism lest it check the drive for a maintenance wage and a great program of useful public works, including housing, and blunt the appreciation of the breakdown of the capitalist system.

DESIGNS OF THE SALES TAX

The Hearst papers make propaganda for the "adoption of a 5 per cent sales tax and reduction in income taxes, releasing income to finance industry."

That plank does not hang together but is self-contradictory. A sales tax is in effect an income tax levied on the poor. A reduction of the present income tax would lower the taxes of the rich. As for "releasing income to finance industry," by cutting down the income taxes of the rich, that is just so much tommyrot. Without further financing, industry is able to produce more goods than it can sell. A sales tax would reduce the purchasing power of the masses, thereby still further reducing the amount of goods which the industries could sell. They would, therefore, be still less in need of financing.

It is perfectly evident that the main conscious object of the propagandists for the sales tax is to aid the rich to escape paying their share of the taxes. They are already escaping their just share, but a sales tax would enable them to reduce even the share they are paying.

There is perhaps one other reason why some of the most canny advocates of the sales tax are pushing it, namely, to keep the capitalist system from collapsing.

Some alleged experts say that the system will collapse within 18 months. What do they mean by collapse? We suppose they mean that cities, states and the nation will reach the end of their borrowing power, that it will therefore be no longer possible for them to feed the unemployed, and that the starving millions will consequently begin to riot to an extensive degree, with resulting chaos. It could happen, especially if the rich refuse to come across with enough money to feed the hungry. But if a big enough sales tax is imposed, the money would be forthcoming and the unemployed could be fed without borrowing. They would thus be fed by the poor, the rich would escape their just share of the taxes as usual, and the capitalist system might be given a new lease of life.

Collapse can also be avoided by establishing shorter work days and work weeks.—Milwaukee Leader.

STOP THE WASTE OF UNEMPLOYMENT

If the 12,000,000 people now idle in the United States could be put to work at a dollar a day, their total pay would come within striking distance of paying the entire estimated expense of the federal government for the next fiscal year.

Counting 309 working days in the year, the wages of the

now unemployed would come to \$3,708,000,000, and President Hoover's budget message calls for \$4,219,000,000.

Of course, labor is not suggesting any such pauper hire as a dollar a day. Even 50 years ago, that was the stock phrase for hard time wages.

This comparison is given in the faint hope that it may stir congress to turn its attention to the real troubles of this country. Here are some more figures which ought to be illuminating:

The American Federation of Labor reports the wage loss of American workers this year, by comparison with the wages paid in 1929, at \$25,000,000,000.

The department of agriculture reports that total farm income this year is \$1,715,000,000 lower than it was last year; and \$6,710,000,000 lower than in 1929. Just in passing, the chief crops of this country have lost \$212,000,000 in value since that report was made. Taking the farm income of 1929 as normal, American farmers have lost \$14,249,000,000 in the last three years from depressed prices.

With such figures staring congress in the face, what is the sense of haggling about the cost of the children's bureau or battling for a 14.3 per cent cut in the wages of federal employees?

Labor approves economy and objects to waste—of course. But incomparably the greatest waste in this land today is composed of unemployment in cities and bankruptcy prices on farms. Any measures which will lessen that loss by 5 per cent will save the American people more than can possibly be saved by cutting the expenses of government.

The "lame duck" congress and administration can go out in a blaze of glory if they will feed the hungry and make a fair start at putting the idle to work in cities and getting the farmer a living pay for his work. That is the place where real burdens can be lifted, where real "economies" can be effected. It has been neglected too long already.—Labor.

THE WORLD IN REVIEW

By JOEL I. SEIDMAN

THE FIVE-YEAR PLAN

On January 1 the first Five-Year Plan of Russia came to an end, in four and one-quarter years instead of the full five-year period originally contemplated. The chief objective of the plan was to give Russia a modern industrial plant, to replace the primitive agricultural economy upon which national life had up to that time been based. In this, the main, the plan was successful, though in most industries the goals of production that had been set were not reached.

Agriculture provides a curious paradox, presenting at once the greatest success and the greatest failure. The success lies in the degree to which collective farms have replaced individual holdings, 80 per cent of the cultivated area being now collectivized instead of the 17 per cent anticipated. The crops, however, have proved dismal failures, largely because the government's stern requisition policy and the appalling shortage of consumers' goods almost completely removed the incentive on the part of the peasants to produce. The result is that in Russia today the lack of food is more acute than it has been in many years. Here is indeed a strange contrast with the United States: Russia, a predominantly agricultural country, fails to produce enough food, whereas the United States, a manufacturing country, suffers because it produces too much. It should be apparent that in both there is something fundamentally wrong with the economic machine.

The Russian leaders realize this, and that is why, in the second Five-Year Plan, which began at the termination of the first, the emphasis is upon light industry and consumers' goods. The feverish building of factories under the first plan called for sacrifices in living standards greater than the people were willing to make, and it is for this reason that the effort during the next five years will be primarily to raise the standard of living.

Nor should it be forgotten that unemployment has virtually disappeared in Russia, while steadily increasing to unheard of proportions in every capitalist country; nor that tremendous advances have been made on the cultural front, particularly towards ending illiteracy. But the

chief significance of the Five-Year Plan has been the demonstration to a skeptical world that it is possible to plan in advance for the economic needs of an entire nation, and that such planning is superior in numerous ways to the chaotic planlessness we call capitalism. The world is being taught a concrete, convincing lesson of the superiority of Socialism.

CANADIAN BARTER

Canadian producers are now negotiating with Russia for the exchange of 100,000 heads of cattle for Russian oil. Only a few months ago Canadians interested in aluminum made arrangements to exchange large quantities of their product for Soviet oil, and several other Canadian industries are now seeking to make similar agreements. The movement is not without its humorous aspect, for at the Imperial Economic Conference at Ottawa some months ago Premier Bennett of Canada made numerous references to the menace of Soviet trade.

There is a more serious side to the matter, however, so far as this country is concerned. Until our foolish talk of an embargo against Russian products last year and our stoppage of Soviet credits we enjoyed a flourishing trade with Russia, to the advantage of both countries. For the first three months of 1931 our exports to Russia totaled \$44,000,000, whereas for the corresponding period of 1932, after our super-patriots made their influence felt, our exports sank to a mere \$3,600,000. Germany and other countries gained much of what we lost. Moreover, the oil that Russia is sending to Canada will most likely displace oil from this country, while we have huge stores of livestock, cotton, and other commodities that Russia needs badly. Some of our alleged statesmen in Washington have such a consuming hatred of the Soviet experiment that they are quite content to strangle a considerable portion of what foreign trade escaped the Smoot-Hawley bill, if only Russia may be hurt in the process as well.

THE DEMOCRATIC PROGRAM

The program of the Democratic Party at the short session of Congress, as announced by Speaker Garner and Chairman Collier of the Ways and Means Committee, provides for resubmission of the 18th Amendment, modification of the Volstead Act to legalize beer, farm relief, and a balanced budget. If this program is enacted, we are told, there will be no necessity for an extra session.

Farm relief through a sales tax that will bear heaviest on the city workers, beer, and balanced budget—this is the full program of the Democratic leaders of the House. No thought for the unemployed, no reform of our broken-down industrial system, no reduction of hours of labor. Just beer, a sales tax on food, and a balanced budget!

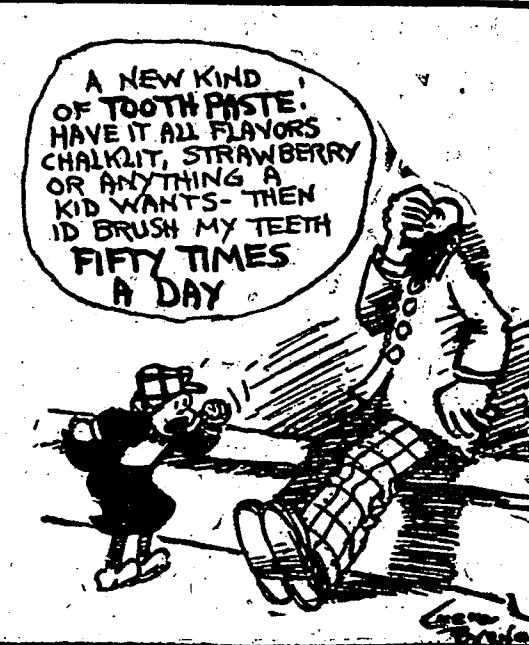
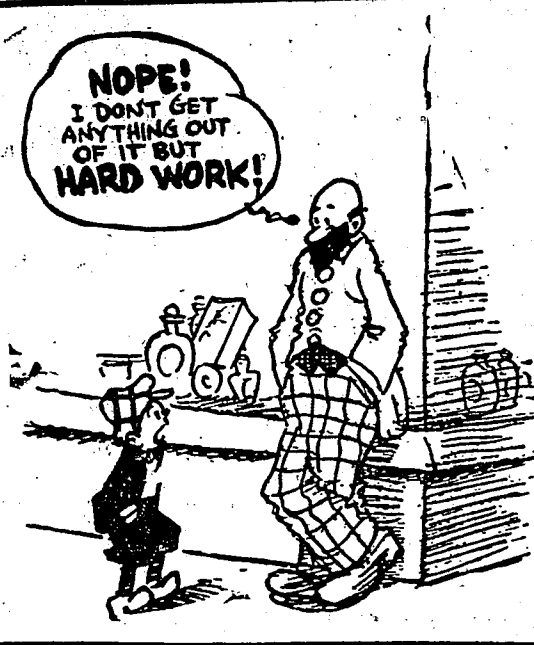
"REVOLT," "L.I.D. NEWS" REPLACE FORMER MONTHLY

NEW YORK.—The League for Industrial Democracy has discontinued its publication, "The L. I. D. Monthly," which it has replaced with two new periodicals. The Collegiate branch of the League will hereafter publish a monthly magazine, "Revolt." The publicity department will prepare a semi-monthly clip sheet.

Socialist Party Directory

Local Berks: First Thursday at Labor Lyceum, 8 p. m.
Labor Lyceum: First Thursday of each month immediately preceding the meeting of Local Berks.
Executive Committee: Second Thursday night of each month and at the call of the chair or any three members of the committee.
County Committee: Third Thursday night of each month.
Picnic Committee: Second and fourth Fridays at 8 p. m., at Labor Lyceum.
Central Branch: Each Monday night at 8 o'clock at 600 North Ninth street.
Northeast Branch: Each Monday night at 1311 North Ninth street.
Northwest Branch: Every Friday at 8 p. m. at Green and Gordon streets.
Southern Branch: Meets each Tuesday night at 829 Franklin street.
18th Ward: Meets each Tuesday night at 431 Summit avenue.
Berkshire Heights: Each Friday night in basement of Peterson's barber shop, Seventh and Oley streets.
Birdboro: Second and Fourth Tuesday at 8 p. m. at 622 West Second street.
Exeter Twp.: Second District, first and third Fridays at 8 p. m. at Lincoln Homestead.
Fairview: First Tuesday at 8 p. m., at the home of Thomas Moser, Pershing Blvd.
Gibraltar: Second and fourth Friday at 8 p. m., at Gibraltar Fire House.
Muhlenberg: Every Tuesday at 8 p. m. at the Good Will Fire Co. Hall.
Jacksonwald: Meets every Second and fourth Tuesday at 8 p. m.
Kenhorst: Every Tuesday of each month until further notice, at 8 p. m., 1014 Broadway Blvd.
Laureldale: Every Tuesday night at Yeager's Hall, Elizabeth and Marion streets, Rosedale.
Newmanstown: Meets first and third Wednesday of the month in Band Hall at 8 p. m.
Shillington: First and Third Fridays at 8 p. m. in the I. O. of A. Hall.
Sinking Spring: At call of organizer.
Vinmont: First and Third Tuesday at 8 p. m. in Vinmont Hotel.
West Lawn: Meets every Friday at 8 p. m. at 2022 Spring street.
West Reading: Each Tuesday night at 8 o'clock, 233 Kline street.
West Side Women: Every Thursday, 8 p. m. at 2022 Spring street, West Lawn.
Womelsdorf: First and third Tuesday at 118 Franklin street; at 8 p. m.
Women's Socialist League: Meets each Thursday night at Labor Lyceum.
Central Women: Every Friday night at Labor Lyceum.
Exeter Women: Meets every Second and Fourth Thursday at 8 p. m. at Lincoln Homestead.
Northeast Women: Every Tuesday evening, 8 o'clock, at 1311 North Ninth street.
Northwest Women: Tuesday night at Green and Gordon streets.
Southern Women: Every Friday, 8 p. m., at 829 Franklin street.
Womelsdorf Women: Every Wednesday at 117 Franklin St., at 8:30 p. m.
Women's Committee: Wednesday night preceding Local Berks meeting at 7:30 o'clock.
18th Ward Women: Meets second and fourth Thursdays at 8 o'clock at 431 Summit Ave.
Male Chorus: Rehearsal and meeting every Wednesday, 8 p. m. at 1311 North Ninth street.
Y. P. S. L.
Circle 1, Sr., meets every Thursday, 8 p. m., at 240 Linden St.
Circle 2, Jr., meets every Friday, 8 p. m., at 1311 N. 9th St.
Circle 3, Sr., meets every Monday, 8 p. m., at 233 Kline St., W. Reading.
Circle 4, Sr., meets every Thursday, 8 p. m., at 1311 N. 9th St.
Circle 6, Sr., meets every Wednesday, 9 p. m., at Gordon and Green Streets.
Circle 7, Jr., meets every Wednesday, 7 p. m., at Gordon and Green Streets.
Circle 8, Jr., meets first and third Friday, 8 p. m., at Lincoln Homestead, during Branch meetings.
Circle 9, Sr., meets every Thursday, 8:30 p. m., at 1127 Muhlenberg Street.
Circle 10, Jr., meets every Thursday, 7:15 p. m., at 1127 Muhlenberg Street.
County Executive Committee meets every Sunday morning 8:30, at Labor Lyceum.
STATE SOCIALISTS
Allentown—Central Branch—Every Friday night at Labor Temple, 126 North Sixth street.
Erie—Every Wednesday night at 8 o'clock at the Workmen's Circle Hall, 133 East 23d street.
Lebanon Branch meets every Tuesday, 8 p. m., at Red Men's Hall.
Pottstown—Every Wednesday night at 8 o'clock at Labor Lyceum, 24 South Charlotte street.
Rank and File Veterans' Association: Meets second Tuesday of each month, at 8 o'clock, at Labor Lyceum.

REG'LAR FELLERS



Druggists—Here's A Good Tip

By Gene Byrnes

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(American News Features, Inc.)