Not less than ten workers should read this paper. Keep your Advocate in continuous circulation.

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READING LABOR ADVOCATE

THE INTERESTS OF ALL THE WORKERS

READING, PA., FRIDAY, MARCH 17, 1933

Advocate Advertisers deserve the support of our readers. Co-operation works

PRICE FIVE CENTS

Local Railroad Shops Close Indefinitely

By the Editor

I HAVE HEARD a number of speakers tell about their visit to the land of the Soviets, and all of them have commented upon the Russian sense of humor.

If, as I have been informed, the Bolshies have such a sense, they must be in need of sleep-producing drugs right now to keep from laughing themselves to death. . Similarly, the American apologists for this Capitalist system of ours, who have wagged their tongues to condemn all things Russian, should be choking with embarrassment right now. For the very things which caused them to damn Russia to the lowest depth are now taking place in this muchly over-advertised "land of the free."

STILL RINGING IN my ears are the cries of "forced labor" with which rabid anti-Bolshevists condemned the Soviet officials. But now the same forced labor is suggested by America's foremost Democrat, as no less a person than President Franklin D. Roosevelt announces a plan to of the company until Tuesday of this place 500,000 men in labor camps and work them for \$1 per day

shrieked in holy horror when the Russian authorities commanded the people to bring in their gold and precious ornaments. But now that the Capitalist financial system has crashed, it appears to be quite patriotic for Americans to heed the commands from on high and exchange their gold pieces for paper currency which is certain to fall in purchasing power as soon as currency inflation becomes a fact.

And I have not forgotten how people in Russia were forced to stand in line in order to get their ration a horrible thing for Russia. It is not sequently, their closing will have so horrible, however, when Americans stand in long lanes before the cages such rations of currency as the bankers decide to dole out.

AS I EXAMINE the situation, I notice most of the terrible things which made Russia a horrid place in the vocabulary of the American jingo are now happening in the "land of the free.".

I wish I could say that I am surprised to find the American people so humbly wearing the yoke which is being fastened about their necks. But I'm not. I knew all the time that, so far as most of our flower and man hood was concerned, their opposition to Russia was merely a reaction to the propaganda which was hurled at themefrom the air, from the movies and from newspapers. They were told what to believe about Russia, so they believed it. Now they are being

causes dismay only when it is thousands of miles away. The same a nation of 160 millions of Russians who would accept their orders from a few thousand Bolsheviks are utterly incapable of revolting against the rule of American bankers or objecting to the extraordinary powers which have been given to Roosevelt. (Continued on Page Five)

SOCIALIST

Radio Program **EVERY SUNDAY**

at 12:15 P. M. over

Mar. 19 George, M. Rhodes. Mar. 26-Raymond S. Hofses. TELL YOUR FRIENDS

REFLECTIONS | SYSTEM'S COLLAPSE BRINGS DISASTER TO 600 WORKERS IN ONCE LEADING INDUSTRY

"Nobody Knows," Union Official Replies, When Asked Length of Shutdown—Exhaustion of \$1,200,000 Government Loan Seen as Direct Cause of Closing Order. Shutdown Recalls Fusion Cry of "Keep Shops In Reading"—Temporary Spurt, Following R. F. C. Aid, Gave False Hopes to Workers

The inability of the Capitalist system to keep millions of workers off the charity rolls was brutally demonstrated in Reading this week when the 600 men who were still permitted to earn some kind of wages at the Reading Company shops were notified of an indefinite shutdown. Almost the entire working force has been on part-time shifts ever since the collapse of the Capitalist system in 1929. Few of them have any surplus with which to bridge the bleak days ahead. Most of them will be compelled to seek help soon from a public relief organization which lacks the cash to adequately feed, clothe and house the unwanted men, women and children who have been cast adrift by private industry.

\$100 With Petitions

Proposal Is Adopted by Leg-

HARRISBURG, Pa.—Under

cludes a recommendation by

Secretary of Commonwealth

nancially impossible the con-

duct of a statewide legislative

Under the Beamish plan, all can-

didates for statewide office would

have to pay a \$100 filing fee with

campaign, the Socialist Party of

N. Y. Socialists Ask

campaign by labor groups.

Although the shops have been idle were not informed of the intention week, Just how long a time will elapse before the men will be called And how the 100-per-centers back to work is a question which no body is able to answer. However, according to Allen Matz, secretary of the American Federation of Railway Workers' local shopmen's union, it not believed that there will be a sumption of work this month. "It may be longer than that; who Beamish Idea Would Compel

knows?" was the only information which Matz was able to give. Hard Blow to Reading

Although the working force has been slashed from approximately 3, 000 men to about 600, the locomotive and car shops were still considered of bread and beans. That was quite the backbone of local industry. Con bad effect upon the other industries and especially upon the business men of bank tellers and meekly accept who counted upon the purchasing power which came with the semimonthly payrolls.

So important are the shops in the estimation of many Reading people (Continued on Page Four)

Nationwide Demand For Nationalized Banking Is Result Of Failure of Private Control

WASHINGTON (FP). - Collapse of the banking system of the entire country as the climax of a long told what to believe about the great period of banker domination not American collapse, and they are be- merely of finance but of industrial lieving that. It is so much easier life in the United States, is viewed to merely believe than to do one's in Washington as having smashed the prestige of American bankers with the American people. And EVEN THE DICTATORSHIP, the thereby it has created, almost oververy heart of the Russian system, night a nationwide demand that the federal government, which after all statewide offices, and carried on leg- The biggest project upon which he for relief in Rennsylvania and the possesses the ultimate taxing power, islative campaigns in over 150 Sena- was engaged was the construction of committee evidently expects the Fed- manufactures in 1914, the last year ceived as low as 29 cents per hour folks who swore round oaths against shall guarantee bank deposits and torial and Assembly districts and yet an entire village capable of housing eral government to increase the ratio of normal pre-prohibition conditions, operate the banking system, either spent only a little over five hundred 20,000 persons in far Siberia. directly or under far more direct dollars in cash. If the present re- While Mr. Cadmus makes no claim control than in the past.

> the banking power is an idea which has been nurtured in the past few weeks, in the minds of practical economists in Washington, by knowledge that the bankers as a class had lost their nerve. Rumors that this or that bank director or bank official had drawn a large sum from his own have then stood in line at the Treas- emergency unemployment insurance most capable in the world."

notes changed for gold. Where Are Bankers' Dollars? In the Maryland legislature was (Continued on Page Five)

Having Protected Owners, Pennsylvania Upper House Prepares to Smother Socialist Measure to Safeguard Tenants

G. O. P. Senator Professes Ignorance When Taxpayers' League Demands His Support of Measure

HARRISBURG, Pa. — The anti-eviction resolution jammed through the Pennsylvania House last week by Socialist Representative Darlington Hoopes to suspend constables' evictions as well as sheriff sales until April 3rd, was being smothered in the Senate Committee on Judiciary General this week over the bitter protests of unemployed organizations in the large workingclass centers of the State.

A committee of Harrisburg unemployed, representing the Dauphin County workers committee on un-Candidates to Post Filing employment waited on both the local Fees Ranging From \$50 to senator and representative, demanding passage of the Hoopes resolution in the Senate and reporting to the floor in the House of the Hoopes Hous Bill 408 which would legally suspend all evictions of unemployed for any cause for the duration of the Entire Socialist Campaign depression.

Fund Will be Tied Up If Reading Jobless Act Reading unemployed, represented by a committee from the Taxpayers' Protective League with over three thousand members, demanded the the guise of "economy," a repassage of the resolution but the port to the Pennsylvania Legis-Berks G. O. P. senator, although a lature by a special committee, member of the committee holding the investigating state finances, in-bill, professed ignorance of its ex-

Beamish which would make fi-

(Continued on Page Four)

their nomination papers and candidates for Senators and Representa-Fellows' Hall 8th and Franklin sts, six million dollars per month at the tive in General Assembly \$50 each. While this would inflict no particular burden on the two Capitalist During the last, 1932, election

town. He is a structural engineer earners and admits a steady increase. are too small to change conditions or Pennsylvania cast over 91,000 who saw active service at his prostraight votes, nominated for all five fession in the land of the Soviets. Federal funds are now being spent sult in any widespread recovery.

actionary recommendation should be to being either a Socialist or a Comsorb the entire funds of that party. economic program. In a recent interview with the Advocate he declared that he is certain that the Soviet government is going to suc-Action Of Governor ceed with its plans and give a fuller measure of life to the workers of NEW YORK,-Claiming to repre- that country.

bank deposits, for hoarding of cur- women acutely affected by the break- fully told about the U. S. S. R." Mr. started a new apartment project by the manufacture and distributionrency or gold coin, became frequent. down of industry, the Executive Com- Cadmus explained. "However, on the here, which will comprise 17 build- of beer? In 1917, the beer consumed There was a story of a senator who mittee of the Socialist and Labor whole they are a kindly people, ings, housing 396 families. Provi-in this country totalled 1,885,071,000 was also interested in banking, who Conference on Unemployment Insur-honest, industrious and even brilliant. sion is also to be made for 12 stores gallons; today, according to Clark was alleged to have drawn \$35,000 ance has appealed to Gov. Lehman of Some of their engineers, developed in the apartment city. All modern Warburton, author of Economic Efin gold notes from a bank, and to New York to urge the passage of an since the revolution, are among the improvements are to be installed, in fects of Prohibition, it is 864,000,-

ury in Washington to have these measure before the legislature adjourns. Only such action, the com- fied in securing a man of the calibre plant, parks and playgrounds. The is about 54%. In other words, a mittee declared, can prevent post and experience of Mr. Cadmus to tell estimated cost of the project, which conservative estimate of the number ponement of this vital legislation for his conclusions of the Workers! Re- will take three years to complete, is of men employed in production of

State Committee Meeting And Unemployed Confab Sunday Activities Here

Entered as second-class matter at Post Office, Reading, Pa.

Activity will be at fever heat in Reading Socialist circles on Sunday. The two big events of the day will be held at Labor Lyceum. The program is:

9 A. M.-State Executive Committee. Plans have been made to adjourn this meeting not later than noon.

1 P. M.—State conference of party members interested or actively participating in the organization of the unemployed.

At both meetings delegates from many sections of the State are expected to be present.

On Saturday at 1 p. m., a committee consisting of Charles F. Sands, Raymond S. Hofses, Ralph Bigony and Miles N.-Williams, will leave Reading for Lancaster to investigate organization problems in that city.

May be Next Step

Be Opened to Jobless Ap-

pears Doomed to Defeat The Special Select House Com-bills as are being paid for the jobless mittee on Unemployment Re- by the Relief Board.

lief, appointed in the Pennsylvania Legislature at the begin-bor Lyceum the Taxpayers' Protecning of the session, has brought tive League decided to stage a march support of Senator Norton for the forth its report, directly point on Harrisburg on April 2 and preing out for the unemployed a sent unemployment relief demands way to serfdom and slashing of (Continued on Page Five) wage standards to coolie levels.

The committee which contained not even a single member reputedly favorable or sympathetic to organized labor reflects in its report its business man membership.

For April and May plus the next succeeding two years to June 1 1935, the committee recommended a "Russia;" always an interesting total state appropriation for unemtopic, and especially so now that the ployment relief of a little better than American Capitalist system is in col- 25 million dollars, although the state lapse, will be the subject of an ad- in the face of steadily increasing undress by Fred T. Cadmus, in Odd employment is spending more than on Sunday night, March 26. Ar- present time. This would indicate a beer will make no appreciable dent rangements for the talk have been minimum of better than \$150,000,- on unemployment and the depression. its latest lay-off, many of the jobs parties, it would make impossible the made by the Lecture Committee of 000 required for the two years at the conduct of a general campaign by Local Berks and admission will be present rate, while the committee after an investigation by Federated jobless shopmen were being done in fixes the present number of totally Press which showed that industries the Parish Pressed Steel Company's Mr. Cadmus now resides in Potts- unemployed at 35% of the wage affected by the return of beer either plant.

come law, merely filing for candi-munist, he nevertheless has strong economies and the hated occupation the total industrial manpower. Total sure the people by itself assuming dates for statewide office would ab- hopes for the success of the Soviet tax to be imposed on still employed capital investment in the liquor in-(Continued on Page Four)

> Denmark Has New Apartment House Project facturing establishments.

COPENHAGEN. — The Socialist-3,000,000 kroner (\$820,000).

Relief Board Rescinds Action Cutting Light and Heat When Committee of T. P. L. Sixty Objects

Three Thousand Local Jobless should concern the common man is makers

sired results on Wednesday banking business be taken out of afternoon when a committee of private hands altogether and made a sixty persons, representing the government function. Taxpayers' Protective League. Berks county's unemployed or duction for use instead of production ganization, invaded a meeting for dividends must become the order of joint state and county relief of the day. That is the end toward boards in Judge Schaeffer's which Socialists are working. And chambers.

against the local Relief Board's deci- the people. sion to discontinue paying gas and Work Camps For Single Men After hearing their objection to that merely to furnish mankind with a At \$5-Per-Month Walges plan Relief Director Seibert Witman medium of exchange. However, it should be rescinded.

Lincolen Steigerwalt, Eric Kruse, Suggestion That Idle Factories as spokesmen at the conference, which lasted for about an hour.

It has since been announced that the next economy move by the relief groups will be an effort to secure HARRISBURG, Pa. (FP) + lower gas and electric rates on such

Will March On Capital At a meeting held yesterday in La-

ess Than 38,000 Jobless Must Be Employed to Supply 1917 Output of Lager

NEW YORK (FP)—The return of

Two out of every three dollars of will not be spurred sufficiently to re-According to the U.S. census of

to five to one. New taxes such as the total number of persons employed ish slave informs us. In addition to income on the state's wealthy are re- in the manufacture of malt liquors low wages, more efficient machinery jected in favor of a bond issue and was under 75,500—less than 1% of made it possible for the Parish to dustry-which means much more than merely beer manufacture and distribution-was \$962,482,000, only 4% of the capital value of manu-Plenty To Drink Now

How much more money and how sent more than 500,000 men and "All kinds of stories can be truth- led government of Denmark has many more men could be put to work cluding a central heating plant, hot 000 gallons. The difference between (Continued on Page Four)

What Reading Folks Are Talking About

WHEN WILL THE BANKS OPEN?

At this writing two of Reading's banks are still closed—so far as getting money out of them is concerned -and two are doing business without restrictions to depositors.

With millions of dollars tied up. involving the life's savings of many workers, the question, "When Will the Banks Open," is being asked in every neighborhood.

And, as usual, the people are not asking the right question. What Expected to Carry Demands the matter of bank control. It will Of League Direct to Law- not be enough to open the banks and permit them to operate for the private profit of a small group of stockholders. What all of us should be Mass protest brought the de- demanding right now is that the

The private profit system of industry must be abolished and proas a first step in that direction, the banks and the money which they con-The committee was sent to protest trol must be made the property of all

Money must be taken off its high electric bills for the unemployed perch. Its original purpose was gave orders that a previous ruling to has become the master of industry discontinue paying gas and electricity and those who control it are now able to dictate to the industrialists who once thought they were the most George Moore and Irvin Weber acted powerful group within this capitalist

The closing of the banks has taught another lesson which should help educate people to a knowledge of their absolute dependence. The old freedom has disappeared and the new freedom exists only in the spread-eagle speeches of politicians. Most of us have no other course than to meekly obey some master. When we are told to work, we work. When we are told to remain idle, we remain idle. When we are told to be patient, we are patient.

When—and if—all the banks open and pay 100 cents on the dollar, they will do so under a system which still permits an owning class to reap profits from the labor of a working class. Those who have much will still receive much and those who have nothing will receive nothing. Most of us will remain under the domination of high finance—and that will be our status until the banks are socialized along with all other indus-

CHEAPEST WAGES PAID

While the depleted force at the Reading shops was working toward This conclusion seems inescapable which were once performed by now

Why did the Reading Company send out the work? Because the Parish did the work cheaper. At the latter plant punch press operators reand electric welders 47 cents, a Par-(Continued on Page Two)

KARL MARX Memorial and Play

In St. Casimir Hall Bingaman and Orange Sts.

Sunday, March 19

The Workers' Theatre Will Present the Play "Good Citizens"

Everybody Welcome

Free

Admission