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## 1933 Ends With Panic But Little Lessened

### REFLECTIONS

By the Editor

I'M STILL SLIGHTLY "woozie" from the effects of listening to a radio speech delivered Tuesday night over our local broadcasting station by my fellow townsman, M. Bernard Hoffman, Esq.

It seems that there has been a financial stringency in this city of Reading, Pennsylvania, as a result of the freezing of millions of dollars in some of our best banks. Since last March the depositors have been alternately hoping and despairing. And now more recently, a "plan" has been offered whereby the depositors may receive as much as 25 per cent of their own money.

The "plan" has to do with the organization of a new bank. And that project requires the floating of \$1,000,000 worth of stock, for which buyers are asked to pay \$1,500,000 in order that the new bank may start operations with a surplus of half a millions dollars.

I state the details roughly—but not nearly as roughly as Hoffman, Esq., stated his intention of hounding and exposing Readingites, who can buy this stock but don't.

IT SEEMS THAT Hoffman, Esq., considers this new bank a "community" undertaking, and that those who decline to shell out their share of the million and a half stand convicted as public enemies—numbers one, two, three, etc., in the order named.

And it seems, too, that Hoffman, Esq., has had a change of heart with regard to persons named Ferdinand Thun, Bill Bitting, George Horst and a few other gentlemen of affluence because Thun and others have agreed to buy upwards of \$100,000 worth of this stock—which, Hoffman, Esq., declared, will be worth much more than that "in time to come."

Hoffman, Esq., formerly had condemned the very gentlemen he now praises. He had, in fact, organized a committee and had himself appointed, as an attorney to make Thun, et al., give the bank depositors their money—or at least state the reason why. (Perhaps I should tell my readers that Thun, et al., in addition to being big buyers of stock in the new bank are also the owners of the frozen banks). So, with the laudations for Thun, et al., by Hoffman, Esq., still ringing in my ears, I confess to being "woozie."

NOW, I DON'T wish to be misunderstood; I shudder to think that anything I may say or do might cause Hoffman, Esq., to hurl condemnation in my direction. For all I know, the new bank may be a proper sort of a bank, although Hoffman, Esq.'s assertion that the stock is going to increase in value may prove to be more bunk than bank.

But, to save my life, I can't see why Hoffman, Esq., or any other depositor in the old bank (pardon the spelling) should be grateful to Thun, et al. For if we forget the new bank for a while and think about the old bank we'll see that Thun, et al., are far and away the greatest gainers by the present scheme.

TAKE MY CASE. I'm hooked for about \$70 which I had been saving to pay interest on the mortgage. But unless rumors to the effect that Thun, et al., withdrew their own money right before the crash was publicly admitted and left only suckers holding the bag are true, then

**SOCIALIST**  
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**EVERY SUNDAY**  
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**361.4M WEEU 830K**  
Dec. 24—Lilith Wilson  
**TELL YOUR FRIENDS**

## Hoopes' Attack Forces Adoption of Federal Child Labor Amendment

Socialist, In Series of Dramatic Parliamentary Moves, Makes Labor History In Pennsylvania

### DENOUNCES REACTIONARIES

Launches Fight by Unmasking Plot to Permit Measure to Die by Inaction

Darlington Hoopes, Socialist representative in the General Assembly from Reading, made history in Tuesday night's session of that body when, after a dogged attack against all the obstacles which the Republican machine of Pennsylvania could place in his way, he forced the General Assembly to consider and ratify the Child Labor Amendment to the Federal Constitution. Future accounts of the freedom of America's children from the wage slavery of Capitalism cannot be written without containing the name of Reading's Socialist representative.

The saving of the child labor amendment in the House was accomplished only by a series of dramatic parliamentary offensives successfully directed by Representative Hoopes.

As the House convened for its night session shortly before 5 p. m., Tuesday, Hoopes made the blunt charge that Republican organization leaders had ordained the death of the Salus resolution committing Pennsylv-

(Continued on Page Six)

### INSTITUTE SATURDAY WILL BE FIRST PUBLIC LABOR COLLEGE EVENT

Trade unionists and all others interested in the labor movement will be given an unusual opportunity to discuss the problem of Labor Education this Saturday afternoon at an Institute arranged by the Reading Labor College. The event is being held at 2 o'clock at the Knights of Friendship Hall, 113 N. 8th street. Admission will be free, but a collection will be lifted to cover expenses.

The speakers will be Tucker P. Smith, of Brookwood Labor College, and Fania Cohn, of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union. Discussion of the local problem will follow the addresses.

#### To Discuss Union Needs

This Institute has been arranged by the local Labor College in cooperation with the educational department of the Federated Trades Council of Reading in order that the work of the Labor College may fit in with the needs of the local labor movement. It was felt that the new trade unions have needs that must be fulfilled by a proper educational program. With the help of such experts in the field as Miss Cohn and Mr. Smith it is felt that a program of real benefit to the local labor movement can be developed. Attempts are being made to have all local trades unions represented so that on aspect of the situation will be ignored.

#### Local Groups Interested

The visit of Miss Cohn will be of special interest to one group of newly formed workers in Reading, the new local of the International Ladies Garment Workers. It will be their first contact with the educational department of their international organization. One of the reasons that brings Miss Cohn to Reading is to make the acquaintance of this group.

### HOOPES AND THE REST OF US

Last Tuesday night Darlington Hoopes, Reading's Socialist representative, lead a fight which covered him with glory. By driving through the barrage of parliamentary obstacles which reactionary legislators of this and other sessions had placed in the way of progressive legislation, by forcing action where inaction was intended, Hoopes took leadership in what finally resulted in a successful fight to win Pennsylvania's approval of the Federal Constitutional Amendment through which child slavery in Capitalism's profit mills may be forever abolished.

To stand upon the floor of the Pennsylvania Legislature and openly charge a plot to defeat progressive and humane legislation, to meet the rebuff of the Speaker of the House with a motion for a recess, and a demand that legislation opposed by monster corporations be considered, to challenge the unfavorable report of a committee by motions first to suspend the rules and then to discharge the committee,—to do all that and still remain a clear-headed battler requires certain attributes which are not possessed by all of us. It requires training, understanding and—guts.

The corporation-controlled Committee on Constitutional Amendments schemed to permit the child labor amendment resolution to die. Hoopes had what it took to thwart that scheme.

But while Hoopes may be justly proud of the good job he has done, the rest of us Socialists may also take this occasion to claim our share of the glory.

Back of Hoopes is the Socialist movement of Berks County. It was this movement which placed Hoopes in the State lawmaking body. And it was the knowledge that back home there was a well-organized group of men and women ready to fight shoulder to shoulder with him for the advancement of workingclass interests which fortified and inspired Hoopes in this and previous battles against the representatives of Pennsylvania's labor exploiters. It is certain that many who are in the House as Republicans and Democrats were glad to aid the Child Labor Amendment with their votes. But they dared not lead the fight because they feared the wrath of their corporation-controlled political organizations. Hoopes, on the other hand, was not only right with himself, but right with his organization.

It is because power is gained and held by workers only when they organize their forces that every Socialist Party members of Berks County may properly swell out his chest and reflect that he did his share to advance human standards last Tuesday night.

For Hoopes was doing the work for which the pioneers planned and sacrificed more than 30 years ago. He was able to play his part in the political drama, because more humble workers had enacted their less spectacular parts for many years.

We are proud of Hoopes and of Lilith Wilson, his Socialist colleague. And we are also proud of ourselves. For it was we, the organized Socialists of Berks, who wrote and distributed literature, we who held card parties and baked cakes and collected money and carried the message of Socialism into the shops and factories. Ours is the victory—and Hoopes is one of us.

The fight is not yet over. As the strength of the Socialist organization of Berks grows, more power will come to the party's representatives. And that power will always be used as Hoopes used it this week—to aid the workingclass in its upward climb from wage slavery toward the heights of the Socialist Co-operative Commonwealth.

### Anthracite Labor Report Is Studied

WASHINGTON. — Faced by a threatened strike of the United Anthracite Miners' Union because it has failed to publish the results of an investigation of labor conditions in the mine fields, the national labor board has promised early action. Maj. John D. Moore, who headed the investigation, is back in the field taking additional testimony.

### Strike Brings Wage Nearly Up To Code Minimum

EDGERTON, Wis.—The Highway Trailer Co. will pay its returning strikers 35c an hour. The men had struck against the firm's 27 1/2 c rate. The code minimum for the auto trailer industry is 40c. The Wisconsin NRA board is awaiting instructions from Washington on enforcing the code. The company had signed the blanket code.

## CAPITALISM STAGGERS DESPITE GOVT'S HUGE RECOVERY FUNDS; PRICE ADVANCES RETARD SALES

Human Tragedies Continue As "New Deal" Authorities Desperately Strive to Bolster the Private Profit System—Winter Relief Program Lags Behind Needs of Unemployed

By FRANK L. PALMER

NEW YORK (FP).—The year 1933, marked by more alphabetical governmental agencies to combat depression and more excitement than the other three years of the depression combined, nevertheless ends with but little change in the business situation.

The New York Times index of business activity at mid-December was but six points above the index for the same period in 1932 and the government was pouring 800 millions in that month into industry and commerce—surely skimpy results for federal expenditures at the rate of 10 billions a year.

## MANY EVICTIONS TO FOLLOW LOSS OF HOOPES BILL

Jobless Worker Threatened With Speedy Action on Day After Defeat of Socialist Measure

### WORKERS NEED SOCIALISTS

Only When Masses Unite In Party of Their Own Will Human Rights be Safeguarded

That a wave of eviction and distress actions will immediately follow the defeat of the Hoopes anti-eviction bill by the old party-controlled House at Harrisburg was revealed on Wednesday, the day after the House passed a motion to reconsider the Hoopes bill and then defeated it by a vote of 104 to 25.

Suspicion that mortgage and rental companies were marking time to see what action the Legislature would take was strengthened this week by the receipt of a form letter sent out by the New Home Savings and Loan Association of Reading.

In the case in point the company threatened a renter with proceedings to collect the entire rent due on a dwelling. The sum mentioned by the New Home attorney is \$110, although the renter declares that his indebtedness will not reach that amount until the end of December. Seven days is the time which the

(Continued on Page Two)

### WOMEN'S XMAS PARTY WAS INTERESTING EVENT

An interesting program was presented at a Christmas Party in Labor Lyceum last Sunday night under the auspices of the Women's Committee, which was attended by 350 persons.

The hall was appropriately decorated with a Christmas tree as the main attraction. Coffee and cookies were served.

The entertainment features were: Piano solos, Pearl Schell; German recitation, Cecelia Baehltin; solo and chorus, Central Branch; comedy skit, "Over the Back Fence," Clara Moser and Lydia Shirk; recitation, Ella Musser; play, "Christmas Carol," 18th Ward and Kenhorst Branches; football travesty, Northwest Branch; tribute to Socialist women, Bertha

(Continued on Page Five)

### What Reading Folks Are Talking About

#### LIQUOR STORE EXAMINATIONS

Just why a man has to be able to spell "seismograph" in order to be a good truck driver is more than we can explain—and we want that thoroughly understood once and for all. Every since those examinations for liquor store jobs were held in Reading we've been besieged and besought to explain the why's and wherefores of those "foxy" questions. And we don't know the answer.

It just seems too bad that Capitalism should first drive children out of schools into the factories and then, when the system breaks down, force them to pass college entrance examinations in order to get laborers' jobs. In New York City, we learn, snow shovelers had to pass a test. They qualified by shoveling sand.

What's going to happen to a man who just can't spell "seismograph"? (And, by the way, we had to look it up in the dictionary). Well, as long as Capitalism lasts they'll be taking food vouchers, we suppose—unless they are given \$15-per-week jobs on the highways.

That's the utmost that Capitalism offers. It always was a crazy system—but not any crazier than the people who voted for it.

#### DISCRIMINATION AGAINST UNIONISTS

When union workers argued with non-union workers at the Reading Full Fashioned Hosiery Mill this week the unionists were laid off and the non-unionists were not. So the unionists who were still in the mill went on a "silent strike," the results of which we have not yet learned.

For those who don't know, we'll state that a "silent strike" is the business of going into the mill and then failing to work. In olden days it was sometimes called "sabotage."

Discrimination is almost certain to be the unpleasant experience of unionists as long as the Federal government fails to impose real penalties upon employers who practice it.

Arbitrating disputes which result from discrimination is not of much assistance to the victims. By the time the dispute is settled the victimized workers have been thoroughly penalized by the boss and the others have been more or less cowed. As things are today the boss loses nothing.

It is just as sensible to tell a union-hating employer that he must stop discriminating against individuals as it would be to tell a dishonest clerk that he must discontinue the practice of tapping the employer's till. The clerk is not let off that easy. Being a worker he is locked up in a prison cell to think things over.

When employers discriminate against workers they are stealing the rights of their workers. They, too, should be sent to jail if it can be proven that they have acted unfairly. But they won't be treated like that—not, at least, as long as Capitalist political parties make the laws of the land.

Workers who want justice ought to learn that they must first get power. They make a mistake when they vote political power into the hands of politicians whose campaigns are financed by their industrial enemies.

#### DISCRIMINATION AGAINST COPS?

From city hall comes the rumor—only a rumor, remember—that Detective Eddie Harper is to be demoted to the ranks, despite the fact that he has served in plain clothes longer than some other "dicks" who are to be kept on the job.

Eddie's friends—and they are many—are wrought up. They are saying that the Commissioner doesn't like Eddie, although Eddie is a pretty decent guy.

Perhaps that's the trouble. Some cops are just too decent for the job. (Continued on Page Six)



# HOLIDAY SALE

READY WITH 4,000 PAIRS OF WOMEN'S SHOES

**Step Out Christmas With Brand New Footwear**

**BE IN STYLE!**

**\$1.49** Black Suede Black Kid Tan Kid **\$1.49** Strap Pumps Opera Pumps Oxfords

**MORE OF THESE GOODYEAR WELT POLICE SHOES OXFORDS**

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A Tremendous Purchase! Take Advantage of This Savings!

Heavy Police Duty Shoes... Goodyear welted gunmetal for Police, Fireman and Postman and any outdoor wear. Sizes 6 to 11.

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Soft Suede-like Slippers in Red, Blue, Tan.

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**WOMEN'S ALL RUBBER OR TWEED SNAP GAITERS** **49c**

Another Shipment Just Arrived!

**Free Pocket Knife with Every Pair**

Protect Your Feet From Rain or Snow!

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**WOMEN'S ALL RUBBER OR TWEED SNAP GAITERS** **49c**

## READING'S "RED FALCONS"

Boys' Group at Southern Headquarters Learn Woodcraft, Seamanship, and Socialism—Jug Band Wins Praise

What about the boys who will be the men of tomorrow? Will they be glad and obedient slaves of a master class? Or will they be workers with an understanding of the forces which move humanity to action?

Down in the southern section of Reading there is a group of Socialists who are determined to answer that question in the right way. Accordingly, they have encouraged their children to become members of the "Red Falcons."

Learn About Socialism What is the "Red Falcons"? It is an organization composed of boys, constructed pretty much along the lines of the "Boy Scout" movement and teaching the same things which are taught in Scout movements—together with an understanding of the class character of Capitalist society.

The organizations are called "Flights." Reading's "Flight" is now composed of thirty-two boys between the ages of 8 and 15 years. The boys have their headquarters at the Southern Branch, 429 South 10th street, where they are supervised by Walter Stetler, Guide, and J. Davis, Flight leader.

Under the leadership of Stetler and Davis, the youngsters learn many things which will be useful to them. Nature study, handicraft, woodcraft, seamanship are among the subjects taught. There are weekly hikes, too, to break the monotony of indoor activities.

As a beginning in what is intended

as a foundation for future reading, each Falcon is required to read the biography of 'Gen. Debs, Thomas Jefferson and Abraham Lincoln.

Since their organization the "Flight" has organized a jug band of 11 pieces which produces real music. Already this aggregation of youngsters have given a number of public and semi-public recitals and those who have heard them are enthusiastic in their assertion that the boys are "good."

Under Socialist influence, it is natural that Falcons should absorb the viewpoints of their teachers. By the time they reach the age of 15 years they will be ready to join the Young People's Socialist League, in which organization they will receive the education and training to fit them for active and useful work in the Socialist Party.

Prepare For Socialism Flight Leader Davis is confident that the growth of the Falcon movement will prove to be the greatest impetus to Socialism in the lifetime of the present generation. "Why," he asks, "should we permit our children's minds to be moulded by those who stand for the Capitalist master and slave society? Why not give them the training which will develop them into social-minded men?"

There is no limit to the number of "Flights" which may be formed. Southern Branch Socialists have taken the lead; other party units are certain to follow.

### SCHOOL THREAT

(Continued from First Page)

Rogin, a former instructor of Columbia University who holds a Master's Degree from that institution, as the instructor of the College. We are going to study the History of the Labor Movement and other subjects from a scientific and truthful angle. We feel that this comes within the scope of Labor Education and will have the approval of Federal authorities who are fostering and partially financing projects akin to the Reading Labor College.

Will Resist Discrimination Rhodes pointed out that any effort to oust the Labor College will be viewed as an act of discrimination since other civic groups have never been challenged in their right to use the schools for purposes less in harmony with the general idea of education.

"The Junior League uses the schools with the full approval of the Board and some of their activities can scarcely be called educational. I have no fault to find with that, on the contrary, I approve of such activities. However, I do maintain that Labor Education is more appropriate to school classrooms than amateur boxing. Moreover to open the schools to one group and close them to another will be discrimination."

Scores Class-Hatred Rumor Rhodes stated that a report has been brought to him that an attack is being planned by opponents of unionism on the ground that the Labor College is teaching "class hatred."

"Such action could be nothing more than an excuse to discriminate against us," Rhodes declared. "That classes exist in the world none can deny. We most emphatically do intend to investigate the relationships of these classes and to give our students the information which will enable them to clearly understand the causes which lead to conflicts between classes. We have no intention to preach hatred. Nor does an understanding of conditions cause discord. On the contrary, class conflicts are often more bitter because of lack of understanding."

Reading Labor College is sponsored by the Federated Trades Council and is financed by students and organizations affiliated with the Council. It is a non-profit making enterprise.

Love makes the world go 'round but gin will make you dizzy quicker, if you're in a hurry.

### MANY EVICTIONS

(Continued from First Page)

Company specifies as the grace period before action will be taken.

Although loan companies and mortgage holders may be grateful to the legislature for placing property rights above the human right to live in a house, the threat of evictions shows that it is costly to the workers to defeat Socialists who run for public office.

The husband and father who called the above case to the attention of the Advocate told a story of how the mortgage companies keep hounding the luckless unemployed.

"I was back in my rent in Spring, so I cashed one of the children's insurance policies," he said. "Then came the strike. After the strike was settled I carried my money in as fast as I earned it, and now the mill is closed and I can not accommodate them."

It is poor comfort to family heads to know that the loss of their homes and furniture and the ousting of their children from the dwelling that means home is exactly what the Democratic and Republican voters asked for. But that is a fact that needs to be repeated very often. Only when workers unite their political power in a party of their own will the laws of the land safeguard them and gain for them the right to enjoy the prosperity which is now in the possession of a few.

That the owning class understands the value of political power is seen by their contributions to the old party campaigns. When will the workers throughout Pennsylvania take a lesson from Reading and select Socialists as their representatives?

### ANTI-WAR DISAGREEMENT SPLITS PACIFIST GROUP

NEW YORK (FP)—The Fellowship of Reconciliation, the largest pacifist group in the U. S., found its officialdom split over the question of the dismissal of J. B. Matthews, for many years executive secretary. Matthews was dismissed when he refused to take an uncompromising pacifist position on the question of defense of a workers' socialist state.

Rodger N. Baldwin, American Civil Liberties Union director, Dorothy Delzer, secretary of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, Tucker J. Smith, director of Brookwood Labor College, Walter Ludwig, director of Pioneer Youth, Francis Henson, secretary of the American League Against War and Fascism, and Howard Kester, F. O. R. field secretary, resigned from the national council of the F. O. R. after Matthews' dismissal.

John Nevins Sayer was chosen executive secretary in Matthews' place. Matthews is chairman of the American League Against War and Fascism.

The CWA workers at Camden, N. J., also struck, demanding that they be paid the union wage scale.

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Fresh Killed Young and Tender Choice TURKEYS 25c Lb. SHEARER'S Fresh Dressed TURKEYS Ready for the Pan 32c Lb.

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FRESH KILLED CHICKENS, fancy fowl ... 21c Lb. FRESH DRESSED CHICKENS, fancy fowl, ready for pan ... 28c Lb. FRESH DRESSED DUCKS AND GEES, ready for pan ... 27c Lb. LIVE CHICKENS AND DUCKS ... 16c Lb.

LEAN FRESH SKINNED HAMS ... 13c Lb. PORK LOINS FOR ROASTING ... 12 1/2c Lb. CITY CUT PORK ROASTS ... 7 1/2c Lb. Whole or Half

SPECIAL PACKED CHRISTMAS WRAPPED 1/2-LB. BOX SLICED BACON, Cellophane Wrapped ... 2 FOR 23c BUTTERINE ... per lb. 10c

BRANDT'S FRESH CREAMERY ROLL

**BUTTER** pound 22c 2 POUNDS FOR 43c

EARLY BREAKFAST RIO COFFEE 2 Pounds 25c Santos Coffee, "Sure-to-please," lb. 18c, 2 lbs. 35c

HEINZ FIG and PLUM PUDDING 2 cans 25c med. cans 25c HEINZ MINCE MEAT 2 1-lb. cans 35c 2 2-lb. cans 55c

R. & R. Plum Pudding 2 small 25c med. cans 25c

RAISINS Eating Raisins Spanish Malaga Clusters Ribbon Tied Fancy Cellophane 18c lb. 2 lb. 35c

EGGS Brandt's Selected Every Egg Guaranteed, 23c (Brown or White Shelled) 2 dozen 45c

MINCE MEAT--- 2 pounds 25c MADE BY SCHIMMEL'S

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FLORIDA TREE-RIPENED ORANGES Sweet and Juicy 2 dozen 29c

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GRAPE FRUIT Large and Juicy, each 5c

PINK MEAT—YAMS Wonderful Roasters SWEET POTATOES Pound 2c

OLD-FASHION XMAS CLEARTOYS 2 lbs. 29c

HERSHEY KISSES Xmas package 25c Marathon Xmas Candy Mix 2 lbs. 25c

Sweet Milk Chocolate Wafers ... lb. 25c Chocolate Butter Creams and Royals, Coconut Chocolate ... lb. 23c

Cracker Jack, Peanut Brittle and Pop-Corn ... 1-lb. box 25c

ALL FRUIT AND NUT CHOCOLATES 1-lb. Cellophane Box, 59c

ASSORTED XMAS CHOCOLATES In 5-lb. Holly Box, 98c

GOLDEN HALLOWEE DATES 2 pounds 25c

FIGS for California Layers lb. 15c 2 lbs. 29c

ROEDING'S CALIFORNIA Cellophane FIGS 5c and 10c pkg.

W. Redem Unemployment Relief Vouchers

NEW MIXED NUTS Pound 23c

ENGLISH WALNUTS Emerald's Diamond's 29c lb. 39c lb.

KING COLE—Large Bright BRAZIL NUTS lb. 18c 2 lbs. 35c

ALMONDS California Pound 23c and 29c

SCHLY'S, 1933 Crop, Large and Meaty P E C A N S Paper Shell Pound 29c

Others at 12 1/2c, 19c and 23c pound Paper Shell

PRINCE ALBERT SMOKING TOBACCO Lb. XMAS PKG. 79c

CRANBERRY SAUCE Kellogg's Fancy Supreme "And Such a Good Flavor" Tall can 17c 3 cans for 49c

WELCH'S—the Kind Doctors Recommend GRAPE JUICE Pint Bottle 15c

SWEET, LARGE and CRISPY PICKLES Doz at 10c

Maier's Home-Made, 1-lb. Cellophane FRUIT CAKE Each 25c

PIES PUMPKIN CUSTARDS and MINCE PIES Maier's Home-Made, each 20c

XMAS COOKIES Pound 19c

FREE—WITH EVERY SILVER DUST 3 Packages 41c

Amazing New DISH TOWEL called FATEX. Dries 3 times as many dishes without getting wet.

CASSEL'S YELLOW LAUNDRY SOAP 6 Big Bars for 25c

SUNNY-MON. SOAP 2 Bars 5c White Laundry Soap

Baker's Breakfast Cocoa ... can 5c, 10c and 15c Unequalled for Rich Flavor and Wholesomeness

Log Cabin Syrup ... can 19c Matchless Maple Flavor

POST TOASTIES, 2 pkgs. 17c In the New Cut-out Package for the Children

New York courts refused the Cornell-Dubiller Condenser Corporation an injunction against the strike of the Radio Factory Workers' Union, involving 200 workers.

Pawtucket, R. I., textile workers rejected the bosses' proposal of a compromise and are still out under the United Textile Workers of America.

### End Of Financial Control Of Haiti Asked

WASHINGTON—President Roosevelt was urged to act promptly to end U. S. financial control of Haiti by one or the other of two proposals on which U. S. and Haitian delegates at the Montevideo Pan-American conference have agreed, in a letter from the American Civil Liberties Union. Six hundred marines are still stationed in Haiti to guarantee the rights of private bondholders.

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**\$1.75** per Case

DRAUGHT BEER

IN HALVES AND QUARTERS



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HATS MEN'S WEAR CAPS

FULL CUT SHIRTS FAST COLORS

OUR SPECIALTY

843 PENN STREET



So that everyone  
may have the Merriest Christmas ever . . .

**Kaufmann's have Originated  
THE CHRISTMAS BUYING PLAN**

**BANK DEPOSITORS**

who have frozen accounts in

The Farmers National Bank . . . The Reading National Bank  
The Penn National Bank . . . The Pennsylvania Trust Co.

and for

**WAR VETERANS**

who will receive a bonus from the State next year

BUY YOUR GIFTS ON A SPECIAL CHARGE ACCOUNT  
WHICH PROVIDES THAT YOU

**DON'T PAY US**

UNTIL FUNDS ARE RELEASED ON YOUR FROZEN ACCOUNT

Or Until You Receive Your Soldier Bonus Check from the State in 1934

Anything bought up to 9 o'clock Saturday Night  
will be delivered  
**IN TIME FOR CHRISTMAS**

**KAUFMANN'S**

**750 PENN ST.**

THE STORE OF A THOUSAND GIFTS

## CAPITALISM STAGGERS

(Continued from First Page)

each cold snap means a few more whose dead bodies are found where they have frozen to death, stark indication of the misery of millions who escape that final fate. Recently a woman wrote New York papers that she had twice found a man dead from starvation and exposure in a park near her home. Misery of the deepest kind continues widespread throughout the nation.

### Starvation Relief Lags

The reasons are many. For example, this story in a December 17 newspaper: "The Federal Surplus Relief Corporation, empowered to superintend the purchase of millions of dollars worth of clothing and food for the needy this winter, will ask for samples and prices on all products within two weeks." The story shows the agency will get bids about

January 1, will survey qualities and prices and advise the states what to buy. Then cash allotments will be made to the states for the purchases, then "buy at home" campaigns will begin, still later states will let contractors then the goods will be manufactured and then some bureaucrats in Washington think that these goods will be distributed in time to be used "for the needy this winter."

But worse than the creaking, heartless relief machinery is the fact that in this fifth year of suffering the philosophy of scarcity has not yet been replaced by a program of abundance. NRA codes call for near-starvation wages chiseling employers cut that down, the Fords and Weirs and Budds defy the government and get by with it, the forgotten man is buried under the alphabet and debates on gold.

### Profits Tax Needed

Roosevelt started to end the panic and save capitalism. He has made

little progress. The radicals say it can't be done, that capitalism is doomed and nothing Roosevelt can do will save it. Others offer a program on the basic idea that the nation can produce a high standard of life for every person in it and that the time has come to do it. The program includes:

- 1.—Amend every NRA code to make the maximum workweek 30 hours, the minimum pay \$30.
- 2.—Raise CWA pay to \$30 a week. Hire every unemployed person who is not offered other work.
- 3.—Fire the surplus Federal Surplus Relief Corporation slow-action chiefs and put men with brains enough to read a calendar in charge, with instructions to distribute the surplus farm products of the country among the panic victims in 90 days.
- These three things Pres. Roosevelt can do within an hour whenever he is ready for action. The next thing he can get from Congress if he wants it:

- 4.—Pay for that program with income taxes which take everything above \$25,000 a year—"Give the millionaires tax receipts, not bonds," Dr. Colston Warne put it.

### 50c Hour Plenty For CWA Engineers

CHICAGO.—Frank D. Chase, who got fat contracts to put up foundries in Russia and who is now chief engineer for the Chicago CWA district, told a protesting delegation from the Architects and Engineers' Guild, a technical union, that 50c an hour is plenty to pay engineers on civil works administration jobs. That figure was proposed by the American Institute of Architects, a boss organization, and he'll accept it. An ad in the Chicago Tribune called for architects on NRA work at 40c.

### DINE and DANCE

at  
**THE EDELWEISS**  
3100 KUTZTOWN RD.  
HYDE PARK

Daily Luncheons and Sunday Dinners  
Parties, Weddings, Banquets  
at Short Notice

**BARBEY'S Draught BEER**  
Meet Your Friends Dial 9-1771

## BIG COMPANIES NOW DEFY NLB

Auto and Steel Groups Refuse  
To Hold Elections—Board  
Now Seen as Strikebreaking  
Agent

WASHINGTON (FP).—The National Labor Board discovered, Dec. 8, that it had jockeyed itself into a position where its authority to hold elections in industrial plants is flatly challenged by two of the most powerful anti-union industries in the country, the steel and auto industries.

The issue is presented by the refusal of the Weirton Steel Co. and the Budd Manufacturing Company—connected with the Ford Motor Co.—to permit the labor board to hold elections scheduled. The Budd company refused to appear in Washington at a hearing. The Weirton firm, subsidiary of National Steel, is using its company union to hold a private election. The national labor board was waiting December 8 for word from Pittsburgh whether President E. T. "Shoot a Few" Weir had changed his mind.

Asked at the hearing on the Weirton election held in Washington if the company union would defy the Labor Board, John Larkin, chairman of the Weirton company union, said "Yes." Asked if he meant they would flout the government, he replied: "If that's the way you take it, yes."

Board Seen As Strikebreaker  
The Weirton situation brings to a head labor complaints that the national labor board is in effect acting as a union-busting organization. The board ordered the 13,000 Weirton strikers to return to work Oct. 16, with the promise that it would conduct an election, to be held the second week in December.

At the time it was admitted that the long delay in the election was the best that could be dragged out of Weir. He promptly informed the press then that the settlement did not mean recognition of the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers, either then or at any time in the future. Weir stated specifically that the labor board's settlement merely meant that he would do what he intended to do all along, have the company union hold its regular election in December.

In the intervening two months, Weir has been busy strengthening his company union, refusing active unionists the right to work and discharging others. At the coming company union election, the national labor board men will be "permitted" to be present, but they will have nothing to do with arranging the ballots, with polling or with counting the votes.

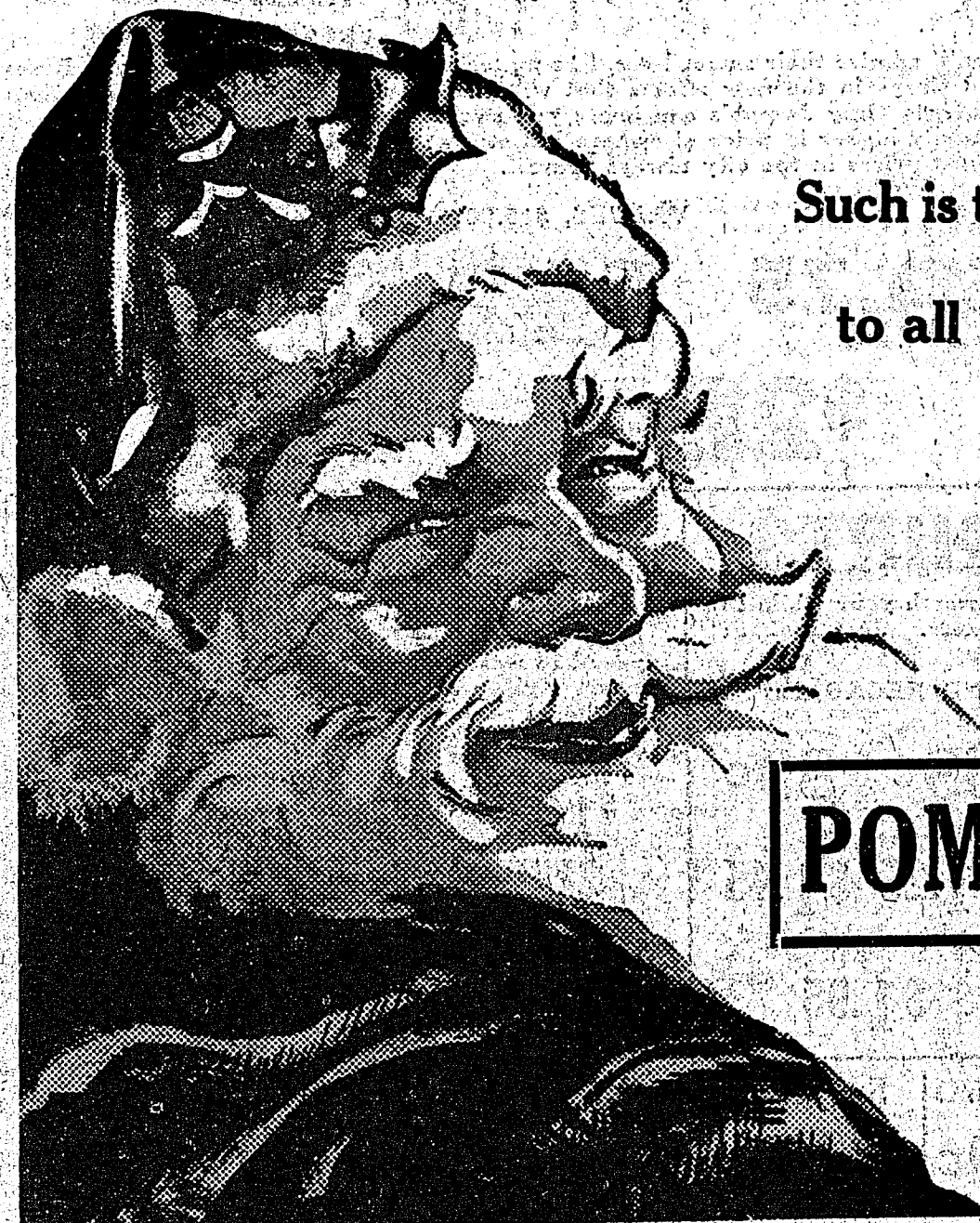
Stack Cards Against Unions  
The long gap between the time when the National Labor Board orders a strike off and then holds an election is playing directly into the hands of employers, union men charge. The employer uses the time gained to discharge unionists by indirect or to refuse them a chance to work, to organize a company union and to break the real union. This has happened in southern textile mills under the national industrial relations board, which parallels the National Labor Board in its functions for the cotton textile industry.

When the Labor Board attempted to postpone the elections in the "captive" coal mines in western Pennsylvania, the organized miners descended on Washington and demanded of President Roosevelt that the elections be held immediately. Even so there was a delay of a month, during which time the H. C. Frick Coke Co., U. S. Steel subsidiary, was enabled to practice discrimination and intimidation, and to build up its company union. When the election was actually held, the Frick company union was given the majority of the votes. The United Mine Workers has officially protested the conduct of those elections and the coercion which preceded and accompanied the elections held by the Labor Board.

Company Union Formed  
The Budd case came before the National Labor Board after the Philadelphia regional board had been unable to get Edward G. Budd, president, to agree to a Labor Board election. Budd employees, members of the A. F. of L. auto workers' union, told how a company union had been foisted on the workers at a trick election, under threats of coercion. Budd, in refusing to appear in Washington, wrote Chairman Wagner of the Labor Board that the whole thing was an "unjustified attack on our business." "Your kind offices are unnecessary," he added, as "the only matter remaining now is the healing of wounds."

## Merry Christmas!

May it be one of snow on the ground and large flakes swirling through the air. Within scarlet holly berries and waxy green of mistletoe . . . Christmas tables loaded down with good things to eat . . . the laughter of children over wondrous new toys . . . smiles of their elders, blithe greetings, and loving exchange of gifts.



Such is the sincere wish  
to all of our friends

from

**POMEROY'S**

## ONE DAY'S SURVEY OF THE NRA CODE MILL

WASHINGTON (FP).—Here is a survey covering a tenth of the codes and about one-tenth of the codes of the NRA code mill in Washington:

1. Fiber wallboard—Karl Hauck of the NRA consumers advisory board protests that "you provide that the uniform cost accounting system shall include interest on invested capital to which we strongly object for if this is included in a cost system it will make a profit mandatory and might be construed as having the government guarantee a profit to the industry."

2. Fur trapping—R. C. Milling of the Association of Owners and Lessors of Trapping Lands said that "collective bargaining would be useless and impractical" and he proposed that the wage and hour provisions of the proposed code be eliminated.

3. Outdoor advertising—Representatives of the painters, bill posters and electrical workers union asked skilled minimum wages of \$12 a day, a 30-hour week and representation on the code authority.

4. Automotive maintenance garage—A. F. of L. metal trades officials stated that the proposed 48 and 54-hour week were too long to "provide even one new job." An employer defended the hours, saying that the 60-hour week had been prevalent.

5. Loft, Inc., candymakers and restaurateurs—Compelled by the national compliance board to pay back wages of which waitresses had been cheated.

6. Seven new codes approved by President Roosevelt—Most important of which was the furniture manufacturing code setting the "average" 40-hour week with maximum of 45 hours, and 34c minimum in northern factories and 30c in southern. In defense of low minimum, Roosevelt stated that 54,000 furniture workers were receiving less than this, and that many will have their wages doubled. What an industry!

7. Zinc—Wage scales and promises of work in metal mining industries are "largely illusory," said labor adviser Dr. E. C. Eckol. Millmen's local 95 of Langeloth, Pa., asking \$35 minimum for 35-hour week, said cost of living in that town had advanced 50 and wages only 5%. Men now working 15 days a month and "miners' families are facing starvation."

8. Chewing gum—W. R. Gaylor

of bakery and confectionery workers said the chewing gum industry was among the most profitable of all. The 1929 census shows that 2,737 employees were paid \$2,799,000 in wages, that its products cost \$23,877,000 and sold for \$60,577,000. "I am afraid," he said, "that this is one of the cesspool industries." Said the employers' spokesman of the 5c an hour differential against women's wages, "the chewing gum industry is again displaying its traditional liberality toward labor."

### Bar On German Goods Organized in England

LONDON, England.—The first completely organized boycott of German goods and services in Great Britain is in effective operation, according to the newly formed Jewish Representative Council, which sponsors the boycott because of the continued persecution of Jews in Germany by Hitler's Nazi dictatorship.

The object of the boycott is the entire elimination of German goods from Jewish businesses and homes. Committees of the council are canvassing every community to stop the purchase of German goods until Hitler's anti-Jewish persecution ceases. Sir John Mund, brother of the first

Lord Melchett, is president of the council. The vice presidents include Dr. Moses Gaster, the eminent scholar; Montague Lyons, K. C. and Thomas Levy, both members of parliament; Philip Guedella, and R. D. Blumenfeld.

In the interest of the boycott it is proposed to arrange an exhibit in London where samples of German goods and of British and other substitutes will be shown side by side.

The bakery strike in New York, organized by the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, A. F. of L., and the Amalgamated Food Workers, was ended after NRA arbitrators settled, with the men returning without discrimination and wage details to be settled by arbitration.

**Your Food Dollar  
Goes Further  
in Your  
Neighborhood  
ASCO Store**



**LINOLEUM, RUGS, CARPETS**  
WINDOW SHADES Estimates Furnished  
**KEYSTONE FLOOR COVERING CO.**  
DIAL 3-8343 8 N. 9th ST.

## SAY It with SHOES and SLIPPERS

Eagle Quality is appreciated by every one. Eagle's Low Prices makes it possible to Buy Quality Shoes and Slippers for every member of the family at Great Savings.

### GIFTS FOR MEN

Kid Everetts and Romeos—solid leather soles . . . **\$1.95** up

Felt Slippers with comfort soles . . . **69c** up

4-Buckle Arctics—All Leather Oxfords . . . **\$2.45, \$1.95** up

### GIFTS FOR WOMEN

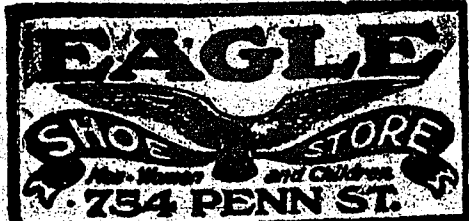
Felt Romeos—ribbon or fur trimmed. Special . . . **98c**

Satin Boudoir Slippers—comfort soles . . . **69c** up

3-Snap Rubber Arctics—all style heels. Special . . . **98c** up

Polly Preston Shoes . . . **\$4.00**

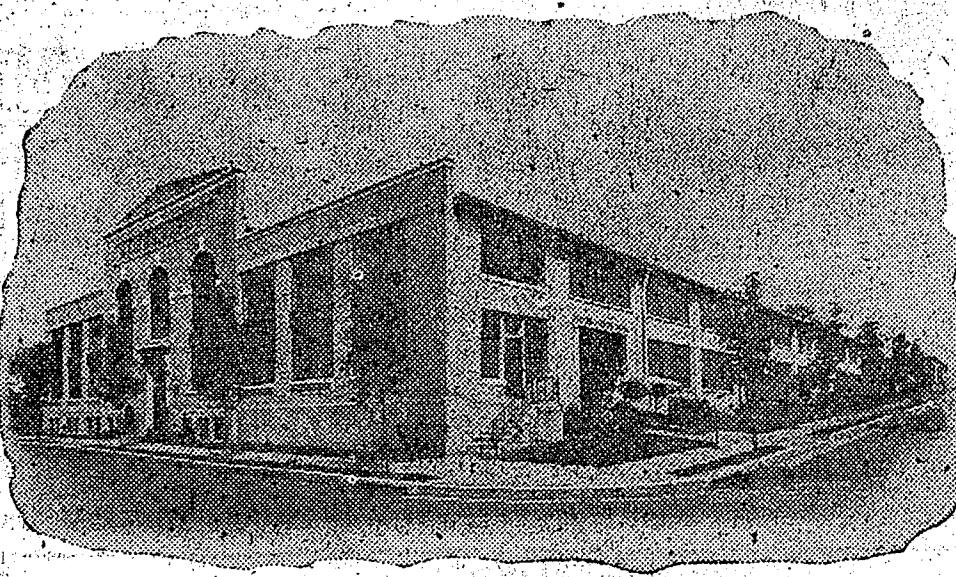
Buy With  
Confidence  
Wear With  
Pride



Highest In  
Quality  
Lowest  
In Price

## MAIER'S BAKERY

640 Park Avenue



PATRONIZE

**"A Home Owned Industry"**







## BUY HIM A USEFUL GIFT

### Suits, Overcoats and Topcoats

ARE LESS IN PRICE THAN EVER

**\$15 to \$25**

AND SUCH VALUES!

**TROUSERS---\$1.50 to \$5.00**

**SUEDE and WOOLEN JACKETS**

**SHIRTS PAJAMAS UNDERWEAR**

**SWEATERS RAINCOATS ROBES**

**HOSIERY MUFFLERS BELTS**

**NECKTIES SUSPENDERS**

Right In Price and a Large Variety to Select From.

UNION-MADE, OF COURSE!

## EPSTEIN BROS.

829 PENN ST.

## BUY YOUR CIGARS FOR CHRISTMAS

Workers of Reading and Berks county--when you do your Christmas shopping, don't forget KARL MARX CIGARS.

The Karl Marx Cigars are your

**JOHN S. CLOUSER**  
4 COAL QUALITY SERVICE

Prices:  
Stove ..... \$9.75  
Egg ..... 9.50  
Nut ..... 9.50  
Pea ..... 7.75  
Buckwheat ..... 5.75  
Member Berks Buyers, Inc.  
2000 lbs. per ton  
647 North 13th Street  
Dial 3-6280

cigars. They are owned and operated by the Socialists of Berks county.

You can now buy Karl Marx Cigars in beautiful Xmas packages in almost every store or place of business that handles cigars. If your merchant does not have them, he can get them for you, or you can get them at the Labor Lyceum.

Karl Marx Cigars are hand made and have the union label. They are made under good working conditions and NRA rules. When you buy Karl Marx Cigars you are not only helping yourself along, but also organized labor. Buy them yourself and tell all your friends to buy Karl Marx Cigars for Xmas.

There should be larger signs at each state line. You can no longer tell where you are by observing the lynchings.

Want of sleep makes you stupid. Note: Several sleeplessness nights usually precede declarations of war.

## TO MY FRIENDS AND CLIENTS

I have removed my notary and insurance office temporarily to 1246 Buttonwood Street.

**JAMES E. KEEN, Notary Public**

## UNEMPLOYMENT RELIEF VOUCHERS REDEEMED

**KEYSTONE MEAT MARKET**

38-40 S. 7th St.

**MEAT MARKET**

818 PENN ST.

400 Schuylkill Ave.  
12th & Robeson Sts.

SMALL LEAN HOME DRESSED <b>Pork Shoulders</b> LONG CUT <b>10c</b> LONG CUT AND HOME DRESSED	SMALL LEAN HOME DRESSED <b>Fresh Hams</b> <b>12 1/2c</b> HOME DRESSED Whole or Shank Half	ALLENTOWN SUGAR-CURED <b>HAMS</b> <b>13c</b> 8 to 14 Lbs.
---	--	--

BOILING BEEF ..... 5c LB.	ALLENTOWN SUGAR-CURED BACON ..... 14c LB.	MORRELL'S PRIDE SMOKED SHOULDERS ..... 9c LB. 6 to 8 Lbs.	SMALL SWIFT PREMIUM HAMS ..... 17c LB.
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OUR OWN MAKE FRESH AND SMOKED SAUSAGE <b>2 LBS. 25c</b>	<b>BROOKFIELD BUTTER</b> 2 LBS. for <b>39c</b>	FANCY CHOICE STEER "CHRISTMAS BEEF" <b>13c LB.</b> BEST CUTS	OLEO. <b>10c LB.</b> SPICED HAM <b>23c LB.</b> Any Size Pk.
--	---	--	---

BE SAFE BY SELECTING A HOME DRESSED  
ST. LAWRENCE DAIRY TURKEY  
NO ADVANCE IN PRICE

ALL FRESH HOME DRESSED  
CHICKENS at ..... 26c lb.  
AND (Ready for the Pan)  
DUCKS at ..... 27c lb.

OUR STORE AT 818 PENN ST. OPEN FRIDAY EVENING

UNEMPLOYMENT RELIEF VOUCHERS REDEEMED

## Activities of the Reading Socialists

### TWO CARD PARTIES SATURDAY NIGHT

Looking for action? Well, here's two events for your selection if you are ready to spend Saturday evening playing cards for fine prizes:

**Labor Lyceum:** Card party under the auspices of the Young People's Socialist League. Good lunch beginning at 5 p. m. Playing starts at 8 o'clock.

**Northeast Branch:** 1311 N. Ninth street. Card party under auspices of the Northeast women. Prizes for door winners and good "eats" for everybody.

### XMAS PARTY BY NORTHWEST WOMEN

All members of the Northwest women's group are asked to be on hand promptly next Tuesday, Dec. 26, to start the meeting at 8 p. m. Following the business meeting, which will include election of officers, the women will hold a Christmas Party which promises to be more than pleasant. All women are requested to bring a small gift and a few cookies.

Arrangements are being made to have a guest speaker at the regular meeting on January 2.

### CENTRAL BRANCH CHANGES DATES

The next two weekly meetings of the Central Branch will be on Tuesday nights, Dec. 26 and Jan. 2, instead of Monday nights. These changes were ordered to avoid meeting on the Christmas and New Year's holidays.

### SOCIALIST STUDY CLASSES

The first meeting of the class in the elements of Socialism will be held at the headquarters of the Central Branch, 600 North Ninth street, on Friday, Dec. 29, at 7:30 p. m. Plans will be made for the class work. All those who are interested in the class should be there to register and receive assignments for the next meeting. The class will meet regularly at the same time on Fridays at the Central Branch headquarters.

### NORTHEAST

The Branch will have the Northeast women as guests at their meeting of Tuesday, Jan. 2. Northeasterners will please note the change of the meetings due to the holidays. The next meeting of the Northeast Branch will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 26th. The women will meet the

same night but will use the second floor. After their meeting a social will be held and the committee in charge promises a good time for all.

### BRANCH ELECTIONS

Annual elections will be held by the following branches on the following dates:

**Northwest, Friday, Dec. 22.** (Also election of commissary trustees).  
**Exeter, Friday, Dec. 29th.**  
**Jacksonwald at Lora's carpenter shop, Jan. 9th.**

All members of these Branches are urged to attend and select the officers and committees for next year.

### EXETER BRANCH

William Schweren will tell the Exeter Socialists what Fascism is and how it affects the workers of Germany and other countries, at the next Branch meeting, Friday, December 29th.

### ATTENTION, 18TH WARD WOMEN!

Thursday meetings of the women's auxiliary of the 18th Ward Branch will be discontinued. However, all Socialist women are urged to attend the regular branch meetings every Tuesday night.

### DANCE AND SUPPER AT KENHORST

When it comes to offering bargains the Kenhorst Socialists are near the top of the list. For next Thursday night, Dec. 28, they offer a dance and bean supper in the Kenhorst Fire Hall. And the price for all the eats and dancing is only 15 cents. They invite all readers of the Advocate to be present and meet the newly-elected officials, burgess, justice of the peace, four councilmen and two school directors.

### WOMEN'S LEAGUE MEETS NEXT THURSDAY NIGHT

All members of the Women's Socialist League are urged to attend a meeting in Labor Lyceum next Thursday night, Dec. 28, at 8 o'clock.

### POULTRY PARTIES

Do you want some cheap poultry? All right, try and get it! There'll be a number of poultry socials over the holidays at which some people are going to get more than their money's worth. Here's the list we have:

**Cumru Branch:** Friday and Saturday nights, Dec. 22 and 23, in Rick-enbacker's Garage, Penwyn.

**Berkshire Heights:** Friday, Dec. 22, in Peterson's barber shop. In addition to many turkeys, ducks and geese, somebody is going to get a 150-pound hog.

**Jacksonwald:** Friday, Dec. 22, in Lora's carpenter shop.

**Southern:** In branch headquarters, Friday, Dec. 29.

Be among those present at these parties and enjoy the fun.

### Y. P. S. L.

Circle No. 9, Southern Branch, will hold its regular election of officers next Wednesday. A full attendance is desired.

The strike of 4,000 shipbuilders in New York was settled by the National Labor Board with the return of a discharged unionist and no discrimination against strikers. Disputes are to be arbitrated.

## ARTHUR SCHWEMMER

Optometrist

Eyes examined by the most modern method

GLASSES FITTED

Prices Reasonable

218 NORTH NINTH ST.

## Education by Radio

MAX C. PUTNEY

Radio Community Forum

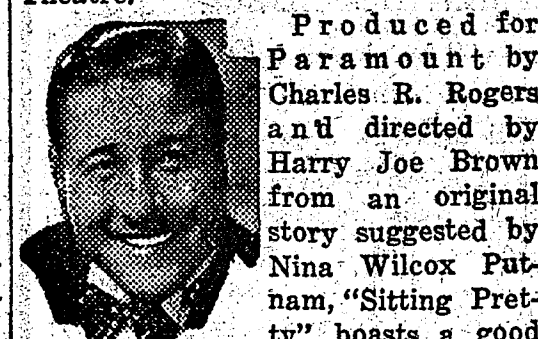
"Social Progress and World Peace"

Every Sunday at 2 P. M.

Station WEEU

## GREAT HOLIDAY BILL AT EMBASSY THEATRE

Music written by Mack Gordon and Harry Revel, two of America's ace song writers combined with comedy furnished by an all-star comedy act headed by Jack Oakie, Jack Healey, Ginger Rogers, Thelma Todd and Gregory Ratoff are the main ingredients of the fast and furious screen musical-comedy "Sitting Pretty" starting today at the Embassy Theatre.



**JACK OAKIE:** supporting cast including Lew Cody, Jerry Tucker, Walter Walker and two well-known radio features, the Pickens Sisters and the Beverly Hill Billies.

Gordon and Revel, authors of "Underneath a Harlem Moon," "An Orchid to You" and other popular tunes have written several numbers for this picture including "Good Morning Glory," "You're Such a Comfort to Me," and "There's a Bluebird at My Window, and a Sheriff at My Door." Two smashing good production numbers are backed up by eye-filling sets and one hundred of Hollywood's most talented and ravishing girls.

Jack Oakie and Jack Healey are a couple of likable mugs from New York's Tin-Pan Alley who finally sell a song and go to Hollywood. They lose their money in a crap game and have to hitch-hike. They meet a "nut" who tells them he's the president of a motion picture company. He takes a liking to them, gives them a contract and away they go.

When they arrive at the studio the cold reception given them comes as a complete surprise. But with characteristic boldness, they crash their way into the studio, talk themselves into a big job and meet all the blondes.

The Embassy program also includes "The Little Broadcast" with the Mills Bros., Vincent Lopez, Arthur Tracy and Donald Novis. For the Kiddies, "The Parade of the Wooden Soldiers."

## WOMEN'S XMAS PARTY

(Continued from First Page)

Tyson Weidner; Jug Band, Northeast Branch.

Thanks to Women

The Committee on Arrangements wishes to thank all the women in the different branches for the splendid entertainment furnished and for the splendid cooperation they gave to the committee in charge. Especially appreciated were the beautiful decorations, that helped to give the atmosphere the spirit of Christmas, the contribution of the Women's Socialist League. The committee also thanks Morris Weldy for his help and

for cleaning up the hall for the women.

Appropriate slogan for those new cars: "A Kneesy Ride."

## George Pawling ICE COAL HAULING

2,000 lbs. to the ton  
Buckwheat ..... \$5.75 per ton  
Pea ..... \$7.75 per ton  
Nut and Egg ..... \$9.50 per ton  
Stove ..... \$8.75 per ton  
Member of Berks Buyers, Inc.  
1228 Fidelity Street  
DIAL 2-2759

## "A Merry Christmas To Everyone"

WILMER and VINCENT

## EMBASSY

STARTS TODAY

TAKE A LOAD OFF YOUR FEET and A WEIGHT OFF YOUR MIND!

## SITTING PRETTY



**JACK OAKIE • JACK HEALEY • GINGER ROGERS • THELMA TODD • GREGORY RATOFF • LEW CODY • THE PICKENS SISTERS**

EXTRA ADDED  
"THE LITTLE BROADCAST"  
introducing  
MILLS BROS., VINCENT LOPEZ, DONALD NOVIS, ARTHUR TRACY  
"Parade of Wooden Soldiers"



## Over \$4,600,000 in Tied-up Funds will be released by Opening this New Bank

**T**HIS is the approximate sum that Wellington M. Bertolet, Conservator for Reading's three closed national banks, said would be available as soon as the UNION NATIONAL BANK opened for business.

Thirty thousand depositors of the Farmers, Penn, and Reading National Banks can use this money to advantage now . . . for much-needed merchandise, the payment of over-due taxes, and other pressing debts. Merchants need these funds, too. And manufacturers can use the money to advantage in the financing of industrial operations.

The release of these funds will mean much to Reading's citizens. More jobs will be created. Much hardship will be avoided. And conditions in general will be stepped up to a plane that approaches our old-time standard of living.

All that remains now is to complete the subscription to this two-million-dollar bank. If you haven't subscribed, by all means come in and put your name on this honor roll of Reading citizenry.

## The PLAN Behind This New Bank

### CAPITAL STRUCTURE

This Plan proposes a common capital of \$1,000,000, divided into 100,000 shares with a par value of \$10. These shares will be sold at \$15 each, of which \$10 applies to capital and \$5 to surplus. In addition, there will be an issue of \$500,000 in Preferred Stock which will be subscribed for by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation.

### RELIEF FOR DEPOSITORS

One of the underlying purposes of the new National Bank is to bring relief to the depositors of the three banks named above by providing for the orderly and economical liquidation of existing assets.

The plan, recommended, bears the approval of all Federal authorities. Thru its operation, governmental financial assistance is assured. Furthermore, it is conditioned upon the granting of \$5,300,000 emergency loans to the Conservator by the R. F. C. . . . when approved by the Comptroller of the Currency. Out of these loans, cash will be deposited as individual accounts in the new bank to the credit of the depositors, subject to withdrawal without restrictions.

### FIRST DIVIDENDS TO DEPOSITORS

When the Capital Stock of the new Union National Bank is completely sold, the Conservator estimates that depositors and other creditors of the three old banks will receive initial dividends as follows:

Farmers National Bank & Trust Co. . . . 35%  
Penn National Bank & Trust Co. . . . 25%  
Reading National Bank & Trust Co. . . . 25%  
These depositors who did not withdraw the 5% of their deposits on Feb. 28th and March 1st will receive this proportion in addition to their regular dividend. As liquidation of the assets of the three old banks proceeds, further dividends will be paid at the direction of the Comptroller of the Currency.

### ORDERLY LIQUIDATION OF OLD BANKS

This proposed institution is a new, independent National Bank, the original assets of which will consist entirely of cash. These cash funds will be available for purchasing from the Conservator of the three old banks such assets as may be agreed upon (other "slow" assets will be taken by R. F. C.) . . . assets and prices subject to approval by the Comptroller of the Currency. This plan is designed to produce greater dividends and more rapid distribution for the old depositors than can be obtained in any other way.

### MANAGEMENT OF BANK

While the directors will be chosen by the stockholders, and the officers in turn will be selected by the directors, all must be approved by the Comptroller and the Federal Reserve Board. As a holder of preferred stock, the Government is virtually a partner.

## AN ATTRACTIVE INVESTMENT

With the new Banking Laws and the Banking Code preventing unsound competitive practices becoming effective in January, the future of banking is promising. Further protection to depositors and stockholders is assured by the Deposit Insurance, thereby preventing the disastrous effects of a bank run. Furthermore, with the upward trend of business now demonstrated, the volume of banking business for a strictly commercial bank in Reading should be sufficient to produce a satisfactory profit. Stockholders of the new bank will not be subject to double liability!

Depositors in the three banks may apply their dividend (which will be paid on the first day that the new bank is opened) to the purchase of this stock. Further information available at the Organization Committee's headquarters at the Farmers Bank, Penn National, or the Oakbrook Office of Reading National Bank.

Organization Committee—Wellington M. Bertolet, Chairman.

# UNION NATIONAL BANK

## LABOR COLLEGE ELECTS OFFICERS FOR TERM

As one of its last official actions before the Xmas recess, the labor college elected officials for the new term last week. Ben Miller, of the Musicians Union, who had been secretary of the school for some time, was elected president; Harry Gross, an official of the Taxpayers' Protective League, was elected vice president; Lowery Hurley, of the Hosiery Workers, secretary; and Harold Gring as treasurer. LeRoy Derr was elected to the student council from the Monday night class and Ellwood Coldren from the Wednesday night class. Both are from the Hosiery Workers Union. A meeting of the new and old officials of the school will be held Saturday morning at 10, at the office of the Federated Trades Council, 705 Walnut street.

The recess will last until January 2, when the Monday night class will meet on Tuesday in order to make up the day that might be lost because of New Year Day. Classes will be held regularly on Monday and Wednesday nights thereafter.

Ten new recruits have joined the Labor College as the result of ten scholarships given by the Oakbrook division of the Hosiery Workers Union. This makes about forty hosiery workers being sent by Branch 10 or some of the shop divisions. With the increased enrollment there has come a demand on the part of the students for a Thursday class.

## T. P. L. ACTIVITIES

By ERLY OCKSRIDER, Jr.

The school play that was put on at Old City Hall on December 18 and 19, turned out to be a very successful affair. The hall was packed to capacity on both nights, and by the applause it seems that everybody enjoyed themselves. Several of the City Fathers commented on the crowded houses. They could not understand how it is that whenever the T. P. L. holds any function the hall is packed, and when a "real" show is put on by the City Fathers it turns out to be a perfect washout.

There will be no meeting of the T. P. L. on Friday, Dec. 22. The hall has been turned over to the Recreation Board for a free show for the poor children of this community.

Next regular meeting will be held on December 29, at City Hall Auditorium.

The T. P. L. wishes to thank the members of the Socialist Women's and Men's Chorus for the wonderful program that they presented.

An article appearing in the Eagle, December 19, refers to an investigation of racketeering on CWA projects in the state of Ohio. That is no news to members of the T. P. L., for the T. P. L. already has a committee working on such complaints. We already have witnesses to prove that favoritism is being played by Mr. Kintzer, of the state employment office. These matters are now in the hands of committees.

Again the membership of the T. P. L. has been called a bunch of bums by one Mr. Webber who happens to be an investigator for the Poor Board. It seems that Mr. Webber approached certain members of the Executive Board, to have them sign a petition to have Councilman-elect Nuebling take over the Bureau of Parks and Public Property. This petition was turned down and returned unsigned, this did not suit Mr. Webber, and to get even he took the pleasure of calling the T. P. L. "a bunch of bums."

Signs of business improvement now are so numerous that some businesses indulge the hope of escaping bankruptcy.

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## HOOPES' ATTACK

(Continued from First Page)

vanity to ratification of the child labor amendment. The amendment gives Congress the right to regulate the employment of children under 18 years of age. It had been passed by the Senate after it was rescued from death in committee by a vote of 24 to 23.

### Warns Against Delay

Hoopes charged that the House Constitutional Amendments Committee meant to pickle the Salus resolution until it was too late for the House to act on it. He pointed out that unless the Salus measure was reported out by the committee and reached first reading tonight it was doomed.

Speaker Talbot, of the House, tried to squelch Hoopes with the admonition that the Constitutional Amendments Committee was not given sufficient opportunity to act on the Salus resolution.

Hoopes then moved that the House remain in session until the committee reported back on the resolution.

Speaker Talbot ruled his motion out of order.

### Wins Recess Motion

Hoopes then moved that the House recess for 15 minutes to give the Constitutional Amendments Committee an opportunity to meet and act on the Salus measure.

He demanded a roll call, and was uproariously seconded by members of the Democratic bloc in the House. The motion to recess for 15 minutes was carried, 148 to 26, after Hoopes explained to the House members that the fate of the child labor amendment depended upon adoption of his motion.

After adoption of the Hoopes motion to recess, Speaker Talbot ordered Chairman King (Erie), of the Constitutional Amendments Committee, to hold a meeting on the child labor resolution.

The recess was extended until it lasted more than half an hour. When the House reconvened Hoopes again asked for the floor.

### Asks Rules Suspension

He moved for suspension of the House rules, to permit him to offer a motion to discharge the Constitutional Amendments Committee.

"It is quite obvious that unless we suspend these rules and adopt a subsequent motion to discharge this committee the child labor amendment will be killed at this session," said Hoopes. "I have just learned that the committee has refused to report out to this House the Salus resolution, in a move to kill it finally."

This House last week passed the Craig resolution, similar to the Salus resolution, ratifying the child labor amendment. The vote on the Craig resolution was 174 to 6, showing an overwhelming sentiment for the amendment. Since it is identical with the Salus resolution, there is no reason for us to permit the latter to be killed.

"A plot is afoot to kill the child labor amendment at this session, and we must guard against it."

### Talbot Muffler Fails

Speaker Talbot attempted to stop Hoopes, but the doughty Reading Socialist just wouldn't be halted.

Representative Hutton, Franklin, also tried to block Hoopes with a parliamentary objection but likewise failed.

Representative Hermansen, Luzerne, seconded Hoopes' motion to suspend the House rules so as to permit the motion to discharge the Constitutional Amendments Committee.

The vote then was taken, with 138 voting in favor of the motion and 46 against.

### Report "Without Approval"

Speaker Talbot then called on Chairman King, of the Constitutional Amendments Committee, to report out the Salus resolution.

"We report this resolution out without the approval of the committee," said King.

Hoopes by that time was on his feet.

"I move for the discharge of this committee," he shouted.

The vote was 125 to 49 on this motion.

Representative John M. Flynn (Elk), in an effort to deprive Hoopes of the fruits of victory, moved for adjournment.

### Drops His Motion

He was induced by House leaders to withdraw the motion after they explained it would kill passage of various appropriation bills.

Hoopes then moved for the Salus resolution to be placed on the first reading calendar. He asked for unanimous consent, in accordance with House rules. Representative Long (Philadelphia) and Representative Ederer (Bucks) shouted their objections with the aim of blocking Hoopes' request.

Hoopes, however, was in no mood to be blocked.

He had in readiness a motion to suspend the House rules requiring unanimous consent to place a bill on



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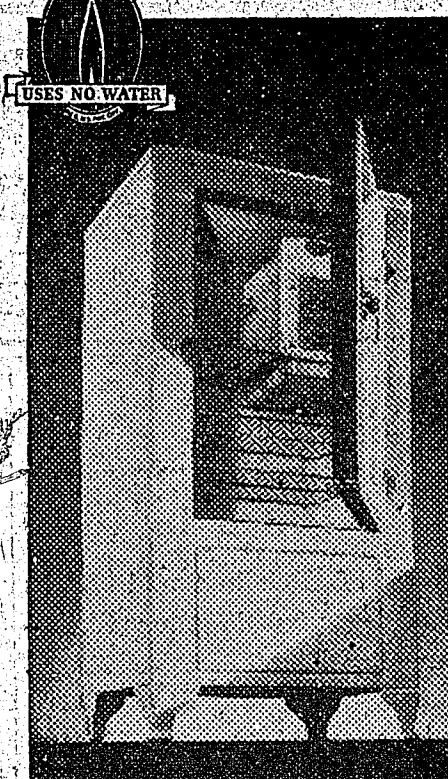
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the first reading calendar, and immediately offered it.

The motion to suspend the rules was carried by a vote of 143 to 36.

## WHAT READING FOLKS ARE TALKING ABOUT

(Continued from First Page)

They don't lend themselves to all the schemes that department heads may spin. So, right or wrong, they go.

All of which, we repeat, is based upon a rumor. However, it will be interesting to await developments.

### VIOLATING THE NRA

Violations of the so-called "spirit" of NRA are so numerous that they are scarcely news. This week we were told that a Reading restaurant lost its Blue Eagle because it failed to live up to the terms of the code.

But nobody got very excited by the news. For one thing, the industrial workers of Reading are coming to the conclusion that codes don't mean much anyway. As in the case of the Superior-Supreme, Krouse and Reddy pretzel strikers, they see the Blue Eagle flying amidst conditions which make them think the much-advertised bird is not an eagle at all but a vulture. And in the case of the restaurant, the fact that all the newspapers carefully refrained from mentioning the name of the concern made the story very uninteresting.

During the days of prohibition, violations of the liquor amendment were not commonly considered crimes

at all. Instead of condemning the lawbreaker, most people congratulated the offender and asked the name and address of his bootlegger. There are many people who are bootlegging the NRA bluebird right now and the popular reaction appears to be similar to that of the Volstead era.

New York CWA authorities are finding plenty of trouble on their hands. When they transferred from relief rolls to CWA rolls, the workers discovered that they were getting the same amount of pay for much more work.

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## WINGS OVER WASHINGTON

While political Tories are denouncing NRA and all its works, Big Business is by no means in agreement with these relics of rugged individualism. The real position of the manufacturers and other bosses is this: General approval for the NRA "self-government in industry" plan, which is the heart of all codes. General opposition to labor provisions for collective bargaining and to the scant recognition given consumers' interests.

The gains from "self-government" are reflected in price fixing, the limitation of out-put and the encouragement given big business units as against the smaller fry. On the other hand the bitterly anti-union National Association of Manufacturers expresses itself as satisfied with the "interpretations" given famous clause 7a of NIRA. But of course, Big Business would much prefer the complete elimination of all labor and consumer clauses, even though these have been pretty well wittled away.

Gen. Johnson has fixed a general hearing on unwarranted price advances reported to NRA for the second week in December. But the merchants put up such a wall that the inquiry would hurt Christmas sales that Johnson postponed the hearing until January.

Unions report continued gains in membership. The National Association

of Machinists, for example, now has a gain of about a thousand members a week. The big push started roughly in August and September and is continuing.

\$51,000,000 of RFC loans to railroads have gone "sour" through default. And that's just the beginning of the sad story.

Secretary of Agriculture Wallace's annual report, which put the blame for the farmer's plight on the unequal distribution of wealth, has panicked the business element in Washington and New York. Although Wallace didn't tell the farmer what to do about capitalism, just the same a lot of big capitalists are furious that Roosevelt let one of his subordinates come so close to telling the truth.

If Senator Wagner should resign as chairman of the National Labor Board, W. Jett Lauck is understood to be next in line. Lauck has long been, economic adviser to the United Mine Workers and is an enthusiast for "economic democracy." He held the Mitten management plan on Philadelphia's traction services as an example of what he meant. A refusal to recognize the union in its taxi division.

The U. S. Navy is busy buying red flags while its band, including the famous marine band, is practicing up on the "International." All because the U. S. and the Soviet Union have recognized each other and courtesy calls for U. S. warships running up the red flag while in Soviet waters and playing the Soviet anthem in official receptions.

The growing scandal about the national industrial relations board of the cotton textile industry is causing some wrinkling of brows among the labor advisers in NRA. So far the board has been a plant tool in helping southern mill bosses break strikes. Interestingly enough, the National Association of Manufacturers is keen about the textile labor board and approves the idea of keeping adjudication of strikes "within the industry."

### Baloney Prosperity

NEW YORK—While food prices rose 11%, the average earnings of a worker in iron and steel decreased from \$18.36 in June to \$18.14 in September, according to a report of the Iron and Steel Institute.

## GOVERNMENT FEEDING UNEMPLOYED UNTIL MASTERS NEED SLAVES

(From The New Leader)

When a powerful athlete exhibits his strength, we are thrilled. If his spine snaps under the strain and he becomes paralyzed, that is a tragedy. That is what has happened to our industrial system. Once vigorous and pouring out great values, the system is half-paralyzed. It does not work and millions of workers are deprived of work.

But production of goods does not stand alone. There is government with its laws and officials. Governments protect property and represent the most powerful property owners. Our government once protected property in slaves. After the Civil War it largely represented railroads, manufacturing enterprises and the banks. Then industry and finance consolidated into big corporations, still bigger corporations, mergers of corporations and even mergers of mergers.

This merger capitalism is what we have today. A handful of big-wigs own it and rule it. Millions of workers and farmers are ruled by its owners. It became a giant with vast power. Its spinal cord—industry—snapped and it became a paralytic. It cannot keep its wage slaves at work. It cannot carry on the production that is essential to keep millions of human beings alive.

This gigantic system grew up under the protection of the government controlled by two parties owned by the big-wigs. Land grants, charters, tariffs, subsidies, bounties and other legislation nursed the system from infancy to the bloated thing it now is. Now that these great industries cannot provide work, a peculiar thing happens.

The laboring masses are hurled out of the industries where they should work and the government tries to provide work while these industries are idle! That is, the big-wig owners of industry toss the workers into the hands of Uncle Sam and say: "We have no use for them. You put them to work. You provide them with food, shoes, clothing and coal. Keep them alive till we want them again. When we want them we will let you know."

The government is in the hands of the politicians and parties of the big-wigs and adopts the suggestion. If it were a government of the workers, that government would say to the big-wigs: "Get out. You refuse to employ the workers. Industries should be used to produce goods for human beings. You cannot operate the industries. Very well; get out! We shall order the workers through their unions and cooperatives to cooperate with their government in taking over the industries and run them for the purpose they should be run."

Instead of following that course, a government of the big-wigs buys food, shoes and clothing to distribute among the destitute millions and says: "Your masters have no use for you at present. We will try to keep you alive till they can use you. Try to get along on an animal standard of living till the big-wigs send for you. When they want you we'll let you know."

Then the government sets up the Civil Works Administration and the Public Works Administration. There are 11,000,000 workers without work and the C. W. A. proposes to employ 4,000,000 by taking them from the charity rolls of the cities and states. That will leave 7,000,000 still without jobs.

The P. W. A. also tries to employ some of the industrial castaways of the big-wigs. Only 150 million dollars of the little more than three billions appropriated for the P. W. A. are left and this will be spent by next February. It will all be earmarked within two weeks. How many of the castaways have been employed by the P. W. A.? About 135,000 on public roads.

Assume that the total employed on all projects of the P. W. A. equals a million—a generous estimate. Add this to the 4,000,000 the C. W. A. expects to employ and 5,000,000 outcasts of industry will still be idle!

Now let's sum up. "The big-wigs have closed many of their industries and others are operated only part

time. They have tossed human commodities upon private charity and the government. The government tries to prevent this human material from perishing, as the big-wigs will need it to rob again if their paralyzed industries ever revive. The cost of keeping the outcasts is charged to the government and there is a limit to this mounting cost. It will eventually paralyze government itself.

Would it not be better to take idle industries out of the hands of the big-wigs, who cannot or will not operate them? Certainly. But a government run by parties and politicians of the big-wigs will not do this. The working class must look forward to doing it. They must have power to do it.

Socialism, you say? That's it. If it will not free you, why do the big-wigs oppose it, and if it will, why do you? Think it over while you have time or the big-wigs will make it illegal for you to think at all.

## IT'S A GREAT SYSTEM!

By JOHN PAINE  
Federated Press

Seems that they've found something state cops are good for.

For days the whole New Jersey force has been looking for a little boy's lost dog.

P. S.—We're wrong; they didn't even find the dog.

The New York Stock Exchange is indulging in a "good-will" campaign to "sell" itself to the people of the country.

We had an idea that wasn't necessary; don't the gamblers own it?

PAGE HAM FISH AND TELL THE NATIONAL CIVIC FEDERATION.

Among recent purchases by the U. S. navy were thousands of red flags for the exchanging of courtesies with the U. S. S. R.

Shouldn't there be an investigation or something?

"Advertisers come and go," says an editorial comment in a New York newspaper, "but the government goes on."

Is the paper getting cold feet? The word "forever" belongs on the end of that quote.

Why should Germany waste all that money calling the Reichstag together when its sole prerogative resolves itself into saying yes to everything submitted?

The Association of Buying Offices, Inc., has asked manufacturers and wholesalers to refrain from offering gifts to its employees because such gifts "lead to embarrassing situations."

We'll say they do! Look at all the hot water to recipients of Morgan gifts got themselves into!

Sure, the depression is all over. Didn't Secretary of the Interior Ickes estimate that he could use another \$1,500,000,000 for the public works fund?

FORD GOES TO BAT

Despite his threat to close his factory when prohibition was repealed, and his refusal to allow smoking on his property, Henry Ford served beer and cigarettes to his reporter lunch-con guests recently.

A movement has been started to change the word "lynching" to "robbing."

We're agin' giving a guy like Rolph that much publicity.

Instead of discussing currency and tariffs at the Pan-American Conference, Secretary of State Hull will talk about the proposed route of a highway from New York to Buenos Aires.

We predict that the next war will be a humdinger.

Week before last Secretary of the Navy Swanson declared we'll have a navy second to none.

Last week in the British House of Lords it was announced that in cruisers as well as aircraft the government will proceed to build until their strength is not less than that of the strongest foreign power.

The proposal has been made by the Mexican newspaper, El Excelsior, that Mexicans make and show all over Latin America a movie based on

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### Tulsa Farm Strike Postponed

WASHINGTON.—A threatened strike of Tulsa, Okla., union street car men has been called off by promises of the national labor board to conduct speedy arbitration of the dispute, caused by a cut in wages when hours were cut from 48 to 40 a week under NRA.

### ESTATE NOTICE

Estate of Richard Bowen, 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  
**JOHN BOWEN**  
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or to his attorney, Darlington Hoopes, 26 N. 6th St., Reading, Pa.

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WASHINGTON (FP)—The Latin American diplomats in Washington followed with lively interest the recent Soviet-American negotiations which resulted in agreements between the two governments to respect each other's territorial integrity and social order. The United States and the Soviet Union agreed reciprocally to "respect scrupulously the indisputable right" of each country "to order its own life within its own jurisdiction in its own way and to refrain from interfering in any

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1933

## EDITORIALS

By Norman Thomas

## NOT THE ONLY ALTERNATIVES

In many parts of America, more often among young intellectuals than among workers, I come across the singular delusion that our choice lies between Communism and Fascism. Among sections of the middle class, Communism will be thought to create more violence than Fascism, whether rightly or wrongly is immaterial. If that is our only choice we are bound to get Fascism. Nothing can be more certain than that if we are going to go in for dictatorship, suppression of civil liberties, and all the rest of it, the crowd which seems to offer that dictatorship with the least disturbance and the greatest appeal to existing prejudice will win first, and that in America will be the Fascist crowd. No clear-sighted believer can possibly hope that in America Communist dictatorship will precede Fascism. At best it can only follow it. I believe that in promise for the future Communism is infinitely superior to Fascism, but that does not alter the fact that if we are going calmly to chuck over democracy altogether in America it is Fascism which will win.

That isn't all the story. It is a delusion to think that Communism is making great forward strides. Outside of Russia its gains have been in backward countries from an industrial point of view,—in China and perhaps in the Balkans. In Western Europe, in Norway, Switzerland, Great Britain, it has been Socialism which is going forward. Herein America, in view of Communist devotion, the very vulnerable state of many of our labor organizations, and the great depression, the amazing thing is that Communism does not gain more rapidly. I have praised Communist leadership of the cotton pickers' strike in California. In the main, the strike was lost—through no fault, however, of the Communist leadership. The only other important strike under Communist auspices and the only victory I know of was at Gallup, New Mexico, in the coal fields. That is no record forecasting speedy triumph!

We Socialists have been too modest because we do not believe in running unions under party authority. We have not let it be known how great a part we have played in bringing together the shoe workers, in organizing furniture workers and a host of others in New England, in the very brilliant unionizing campaign in Philadelphia and in practically every other industrial city. Socialist papers should get together the story in connected form.

## A SCANDAL AVERTED

A very damaging scandal to the labor union movement was narrowly averted when the organization of Retail Clerks, affiliated with the A. F. of L., repudiated a man named Stiner who had outlined an elaborate plan as the authorized representative of the union to set up with the aid of employers a peculiarly yellow brand of company union and yet bless it with A. F. of L. affiliation! Clearly Stiner exceeded his authority and the union acted when the World-Telegram revealed the situation. But Stiner should never have been given a chance by the union or by Denise as an officer of the union to have a sort of subcontractor's job in the field of organization. That way lies absolute degradation for the labor union movement. The union should go to greater lengths than it has yet gone to make its position clear in this matter.

## WELCOME TO HAHN

Here's a welcome to our good friend and comrade, Herman Hahn, back on the air again after two years' absence every Sunday night from 7 to 7:30 over Station WEVR, Buffalo. Hahn, everybody ought to know, is a preacher who isn't afraid to talk applied Christianity, and that comes mighty close to Socialism. He's a Socialist, too, and for that he was barred from the air in Buffalo and no protest availed to get him back. Now he is back and here's to him and our great cause.

## THE SITUATION

The NRA has been heavily under attack of late. All the old forces, the Chamber of Commerce, the National Founders' Association and the bankers in back of them have joined in the attack on the government's effort to jack up the collapsing structure of capitalism by depriving old rugged individualism of some of its power. Judged by the list of opponents on the right, the government appears to be pursuing a liberal course.

However, in actual operation, the NRA remains a "noble experiment" in so far as the government's capacity of enforcement is concerned. We may as well be aware of the inherent

weak spot in the whole enterprise: its political nature. Instead of applying itself wholeheartedly and simple-mindedly to the task of putting people to work, of increasing their purchasing power, of starting the nation's productive forces on the road of doing useful service, and to hell with the declining rate of profit, the government, because it is what it is, permits politics to control its conduct, if not its general outlook. Because it is primarily political, it is not fighting its opponents but is attempting to appease them, while they spare no effort to discredit the government, violate the law, and break down the whole program in every way possible.

The government is indulging in pussyfooting tactics and thus it only strengthens the opposition. All steps now taken are calculated with a view to what effect they will have on the composition of the next congress. Industrial giants are permitted to undermine the NRA, for fear of harm their antagonism might cause the Democratic party in the next election. Democratic politicians need jobs, the Democratic administration needs loyal machines in every election district, and political machines are best oiled by the financial support of large corporations. Corporate capital is handled with silk gloves.

Labor supports the administration. This support would be of much greater value if it were accompanied by fundamental criticism of the fallacies of the recovery program and its practices. Press publicity agency instead is worth little, especially in these critical times. The administration would be strengthened against opposition on the right if it could point to thunder on the left. Labor is never helped, except when it grumbles, snarls, fights. Uncritical praise of the government by labor is neither sufficient to strengthen the position of the government with the workers of the country, nor of any consequence in so far as the attitude of the powerful business men to the government is concerned. Only when labor plays the part of a powerful and outspoken opposition is it of use to itself and hence to all others, save the reactionaries.—The Advance.

## STABILIZED CAPITALISM WOULD BE STABILIZED POVERTY

The ostensible object of the recovery program is to stabilize capitalism so that it can go along continuously, with a few new frills and trimmings perhaps.

This is apparently what all of the recovery administration, heads and innumerable officials and committees, from the President and Hugh Johnson downward, have been bending all their energies to do. If they have anything else in mind they have kept still about it. Some say they have something further in mind and that they are biding their time when it will become a necessity. If so, they never tell it out loud so the public can hear.

There are good features about the recovery program. It endeavors to provide employment, and has done so to some extent. It has taken many children out of industry. It has to some extent shortened the hours of labor. It has made it easier for labor to organize. All this is good.

But if it should succeed in making capitalism work again, this would mean that the workers would still be dependent upon the private owners of industry for jobs. They would still be robots in the industries, having no "say" except such a "say" concerning hours and conditions as they acquire through the unions.

And they would still work for a fraction of the value of their labor.

For that is the only way capitalism can operate. No matter what the recovery program might do for the workers, it cannot take the parasites off the workers' back so long as it leaves capitalism in existence; for, under private ownership of industry, the industries cannot operate unless there is a profit in it for the private owners—and profits are unpaid labor stolen from the workers.

Hence, the stabilization of capitalism would merely mean the stabilization of poverty for the masses of the people.

If, however, the recovery should not succeed in stabilizing capitalism, it would become a necessity to go forward to something else. It could and should go forward to a system wherein the industries would operate at full blast for short hours, providing all the people with jobs and with every necessity and comfort of life. The Socialists want to stabilize plenty instead of poverty.—T. M. L. in "Proletarec."

## INHERITED WEALTH VS. DEMOCRACY

Richard B. Mellon, brother of the Emperor of Aluminum, left a fortune estimated at more than \$200,000,000—the inventory is not yet filed. Most estimates of great fortunes at the death of the owner are under the mark. Richard was a lesser member of the family, far below Brother Andrew in wealth; most property is at half the price of 1929, or less; but dispatches from Pittsburgh go from \$200,000,000 up.

Justice Brandeis of the United States Supreme Court has warned the American people that they can keep their liberty, or they can let the wealth of the land pile up in vast fortunes—but they cannot do both. They must make a choice between these things, and that rather quickly. The lesser Mellon fortune emphasizes this wise warning.

Two hundred million dollars owned by one man means just one thing; power, irresponsible, arbitrary power. The aid which wealth can give to security, comfort or even luxury has been attained and passed long before any such figures are reached.

Wealth beyond the first few millions merely gives its owner the power to shape the lives of other men; if need be, against their will. It enables him to make or break communities, to crush strikes, pervert education, turn government into his errand boy and make the sheer weight of his money felt even in Washington.

It has been estimated that the Mellon family, through its own enormous holdings and its tie-up with other blocks of wealth, controls investments of seven billion dollars. An emperor is not more dangerous to democratic institutions than such a heap of gold as that.

The American people must choose between democracy in government and plutocracy enthroned in the economic life of the nation. They cannot have both.—Labor.

## THE WORLD IN REVIEW

By JOEL E. SEIDMAN

## UNIFIED COMMUNICATIONS

It is significant that the committee appointed by Roosevelt to study the communications system of the country has brought in a report recommending the creation of monopolies in the telephone, telegraph, and radio fields under government supervision. The benefits of a unified system are so great and the evils of a competitive system so glaring that any honest study of the problem will support the criticism that Socialists have always made of competitive industry.

The committee, of course, does not favor government ownership and operation of the monopolies to be set up. The waste is to be squeezed out of the industries, to be sure, but the purpose is to make the industries more profitable for the holders of securities, not to make the benefits available to the entire people in the form of better service at lower rates, and to the employees in the form of higher wages and shorter hours. Indeed, if the plan recommended to Roosevelt is adopted, the employees will probably suffer, for the abandonment of competition will mean a decrease in the volume of employment.

In the railroad industry, similarly, the committee appointed by the bondholders to find a way of making the industry more profitable to them reported that competition was wasteful, and that dividends could again be paid if competition was eliminated.

The issue has ceased in many fields, to be whether we shall have competition or monopoly. Competition has failed so dismally that in self-protection even the business men and investors are forced to advocate monopoly. The only practical issue that remains is whether the monopoly shall be a public or private one, whether the benefit is to be obtained by a small handful of wealthy men or made available to the entire community.

Now is the time for the Socialist Party to conduct a vigorous campaign for socialization of the transportation and communication system of the country, and educate the people to demand government ownership, not merely regulation. The Socialist Party should carefully work out a plan for the transfer of these industries from private to public ownership, as well as a plan for government operation after socialization has been effected, and conduct the next campaign on that platform.

## AVAILABLE FUNDS

There is plenty of money in the country, as every note or bond issued by the government abundantly demonstrates. The latest issue by the treasury, one for \$950,000,000, was oversubscribed on the first day.

If this money is available to be loaned to the government, it is also available to be taxed by the government. It is utterly without reason for the government to go heavily into debt, as it is now doing, when the funds required by it are lying idle in the country. We must increase, not decrease, the huge sums now being spent for relief, civil works, and agricultural aid, and already our public debt is approaching the war-time peak. If the people are not to have to pay the interest and principal of this huge sum over the course of the next two generations, the government should today inaugurate the policy of taxing instead of borrowing in order to get the sums it needs.

The vast hullabaloo about inflation, when stripped down to its bare essentials, means simply this: if the government prints more paper money, it is giving itself purchasing power, and so indirectly taxing the community. The people who lose that purchasing power are those who possess dollars or have dollars owing to them, for the larger volume of money in circulation causes the dollar to fall in value. At the same time all people in debt gain, for they repay their debts in terms of dollars having smaller purchasing power.

Inflation is therefore an easy way for the government to raise funds, and at the same time it accomplishes a socially valuable purpose by decreasing the burden of debt and reducing the share of the national income going to rent and interest. The inflation, however, must never be allowed to get out of control, or financial chaos will result, as was true a few years ago in France and Germany. The chief difficulty with inflation is that prices rise more rapidly than wages; we should advocate it, then, only if we insist that wages be increased at the same time and at



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least to the same extent that prices rise.

We should not make the mistake, however, of believing that inflation will solve the economic ills of the country. Only abolition of the profit system will do that.

## 99% BOSSES PLAN FIGHT ON NRA LABOR PROVISIONS

NEW YORK (FP).—Ninety-eight per cent of the country's manufacturers are opposed to the collective bargaining and licensing provisions of NRA, according to research figures gathered by the National Industrial Council. The council is the spearhead of anti-union agitation in the U. S., being composed of officials of the National Association of Manufacturers.

The collective bargaining and licensing provisions are the only two features of the NRA that directly affect labor, the first giving official sanction to union organization and the second providing for a whip to bring chiseling bosses into line.

Spurred by these two provisions, American labor has seen the biggest organization drive since the war. Although the licensing provision has not yet been enforced, employers nevertheless fear it greatly, for it specifies that in case violations of the industrial code make it necessary, the president may license the entire industry and thus stop chiseling from operating.

Both the collective bargaining and the licensing provisions were under attack by Congress reactionaries while the bill was rushed through both houses, and only when wary progressives rushed to its defense were they passed.

James A. Emery, general counsel of the association and chief anti-union lobbyist in Washington, urged the council to prepare a high-pressure lobby when Congress reconvenes to attempt to eliminate Section 7a and the licensing paragraph.

The 2-month strike of 300 Philadelphia can workers, organized in the A. F. of L. union, has also gone to the National Labor Board. The American Can Co. has refused to agree to collective bargaining.