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PRICE FIVE CENTS

Owners' Graft Explains Business Collapse

REFLECTIONS

By the Editor

I AM GLAD to note that Norman Thomas, in articles which appear weekly in the New Leader and sometimes in the Advocate, is conducting a crusade for a capital levy. That is a step which must be taken before prosperity can ever come to workers under any arrangement which has the virtue of being democratic. Moreover, it is exactly what Socialists were saying should be done even when Capitalism was functioning in a fairly normal manner. It may also be admitted that Democratic "capital levy" is much less shocking to tender sensibilities than Socialist "confiscation."

IN THE NAME of Common Sense, the industries of the nation and all the natural resources should be promptly taken over by the people of the nation and used in their interests. The trouble with everything which the President's "New Deal" has undertaken is that its purpose is to evade the sensible action for which Socialists are clamoring.

Many of the workers who are now being cared for in CCC camps and on CWA and PWA jobs could be working in productive industries—if productive industries were operated for the public welfare instead of for the private profit of an owning class. And many more could be used to produce automobiles, fine homes, electric refrigerators and college text books if the surplus workers now on "New Deal" projects were given living standards in keeping with the productive possibilities of modern industry.

The trouble with being a "New Deal" worker is that you get just enough out of it to retard starvation. But that wouldn't have to be if it were not for the fact that the "New Deal" bosses, from Roosevelt down, are hell bent on preserving for owners the sacred privilege to exploit workers and thereby get something for nothing. So, I say, I'm glad that America's foremost Socialist spokesman is urging Franklin D. Roosevelt to confiscate the means of production out of the hands of the few and into the possession of the many.

IT'S ALWAYS APPROPRIATE for Socialists to call the attention of workers to the ultimate aims of Socialism. Sometimes we fall short of that, and necessarily so. When Socialists are helping strikers, for example, it seems more timely to dicker for 10 per cent more in the pay envelope than to make a stab at taking over the factory. Moreover, the 10 per cent can more easily be acquired. But after the immediate demands have been lost and after the National Labor Board has turned the strikers back into the clutches of their exploiters, then, it seems to me is the time to revert to the ancient and honorable and scientific demand of "all the things upon which the people in common depend shall be owned by the people in common." That is what Socialists should emphasize now for at least two reasons: First, because half-way demands have been met by Father Roosevelt—and failed, and second, in order to keep the working class from becoming any cheaper than is absolutely necessary for their own peace of mind.

THE SECOND REASON above stated has been the basis for considerable cussing in every Socialist headquarters in the land. We who

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EVERY SUNDAY

at 12:15 P. M. over

361.4M WEEU 830K

Jan. 28—George M. Rhodes.

TELL YOUR FRIENDS

PROFITS OF FEW EXCEED WAGES OF MANY, LATEST GOV'T FIGURES DISCLOSE

Detailed Report of Commerce Department Shows How Workers Are Robbed of Purchasing Power While Real Incomes of Owning Class Increase—Total Income in 1932 Dropped 45 Billions Per Year Under 1929 Figures

WASHINGTON (FP).—Amazing figures proving statistically that it is labor and the farmers who have taken it on the chin during the crisis were released January 22 by the U. S. department of commerce. The figures are the "most detailed and complete ever compiled," stated Director Willard L. Thorp of the bureau of foreign and domestic commerce.

In 1932 workers received \$6,839,000,000 in wages while coupon-clippers received in interest \$5,508,000,000 and stockholders got \$2,590,000,000. In addition landlords got \$1,691,000,000. In other words the owning class got \$10,189,000,000 of income in 1932, to \$6,839,000,000 earned in wages by workers.

Owners Prosper, Workers Want Expressed in index numbers based on 1929 as 100, workers' income was between 1929 and 1932, coupon-clippers were enjoying income rated at 96.8% of normal. When it is remembered that living costs declined between 1929 and 1932, coupon-clippers actually increased their income during the worst period of misery and destitution in American history.

Here are the figures, in millions of dollars:

	1929	1932
Salaries	5,702	3,382
Wages	17,180	6,839
Dividends	5,963	2,590
Interest	5,687	5,508
Rents	3,835	1,691

The catastrophic collapse of capitalist production in the United States is reflected in the drop in income produced from 38 billions in 1929 to 38 billions in 1932.

Farmers' income dropped from \$6,341,000,000 in 1929 to \$3,442,000,000 in 1932. Among the industries worst hit were mining, with 40% of 1929 income in 1932; manufacturing, 46%; construction, 27%. The electric light (power trust) industry kept income up to 93% of normal followed by the trustified communications industry, 88%.

T.P.L. URGES GOV'T-OWNED ROADS VS. PRINCE PLAN

Adding the influence of the organized unemployed to the popular opposition to the Prince Plan, under which local railroad shops would be lost to Reading, the Taxpayers' Protective League this week adopted the following resolution urging government ownership of all railroads:

WHEREAS, the Prince Plan will supposedly banish the Reading Car Shops from Reading, and so lead to more unemployment, and

WHEREAS, the government has for many years granted huge subsidies to the railroads in order that they might provide employment and be kept running on a paying basis, and

WHEREAS, time and time again, the railroad owners have shown that they are unwilling to co-operate with the government, and refuse or are too incompetent to run the railroads in the interests of the nation, but are only concerned with reaping huge profits for themselves, which is inherent in the very nature of the economic system under which we live; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That we, the Taxpayers' Protective League of Berks County, Pennsylvania, an organization of unemployed, consisting of over 7,000 heads of families, are opposed to the Prince Plan, and are in favor of and demand government ownership of all railroads to be run, not for profit, but for the benefit of the nation as a whole.

PROFIT SEEKERS KILL MOST JOBS AT RAIL SHOPS

Chamber of Commerce 'Fears' For 4,000 Jobs Under Prince Plan Made Ridiculous by Force Reductions

500 OUT UNTIL FEBRUARY

Search For Speed, Short Cuts And Lay-offs Presage Growth In Number of Jobless

While reports of a delay in the "Prince Plan," under which the Reading Company shops would be closed, have encouraged the workers who are still permitted to earn meager livelihoods at what was once Reading's leading industry, the manner in which Chamber of Commerce reports of the situation at the shops is being received by mixed amusement and contempt by the shop workers.

Newspaper stories quote the Chamber of Commerce officials as saying that the abandonment of the plan will save the jobs of 4,000 workers. As a matter of fact, the number of people who are still on the company's payrolls at both the car and locomotive shops is far less than that number. A check-up recently made by careful workers discloses that the loss of the shops would take the jobs of only 900 men. Moreover, practically all of that number are working three days and less, a condition which optimistic newspaper stories fail to emphasize.

Old Jobs Permanently Lost There was a time when peak employment at the two Reading Co. shops fluctuated between the 3,000 and 4,000 mark. However, efficiency and economy—in the interest of private profits—have permanently destroyed most of those jobs.

An example of how the shops are (Continued on Page Four)

L. WILSON SPEAKS AT HYDE PARK TUESDAY

Assemblywoman Lillith Wilson will be the speaker next Tuesday night at 8 o'clock in Goodwill Fire hall, Hyde Park, at a meeting of special interest to women, to which the general public is invited.

The meeting has been sponsored by the Women's Committee of Local Berks in co-operation with the party branches of Hyde Park and Laureldale and will be the first of a series which is being planned by the Committee.

A special feature of the evening will be a recital by the Socialist Women's Chorus.

Aristides And The Great, Good Man

Now it came to pass that Aristides, called The Just, thought to travel. And one day he came to a strange country in which there was great rejoicing throughout the land.

"What," inquired this just man, "is the reason for all the festivities which I see about me?"

Whereupon a native replied: "It is to do honor to our nation's leader, who is a great and good man. Many years ago he gave much money, to establish a retreat to which the sick, the lame and the halt might go for treatment. We celebrate today to increase the work he started."

Whereupon Aristides, The Just, was greatly pleased. "Surely," he said, "your leader is a good and kindly man. But, tell me more; how was it possible for one man to be rich and powerful enough to do this thing for his fellows?" "Traveler," replied the native, "our leader was rich from birth. Years before he was born his ancestors accumulated wealth to which he fell heir. He became possessed of stocks and mortgages and bonds which enabled him to take a share of the wealth which others produced. To him wealth flows like a golden stream. All who labor in mines and mills, in factories and on farms pay tribute to our leader and have done so since he first saw the light of day."

"Tribute?" repeated Aristides, "But is that not taking what rightfully belongs to others?"

"Not so," replied the native. "For the poor have always consented to give of their products to our leader. Every four years our workers, who are the majority, have an opportunity to choose."

"Shall we produce wealth only for the benefit of producers, or shall we continue to pour riches into the laps of those who own stocks and mortgages and bonds, is the question upon which the people vote. And always have the workers ruled that those who own should levy tribute from those who work."

Hearing these words, Aristides, The Just, turned away. "Truly," he said, "your leader is a great and good man, but your people are but children, else they would keep the wealth they create and do for themselves all and more than that which one good man might choose to do."

Then the native grew wroth and loudly told Aristides, The Just, that if he didn't like the country he had better go back where he came from. Which, being wise as well as just, Aristides did forthwith.

Activities On The Local Union Front

By EARL WHITE
Federated Trades Organizer

PROTEST ANTI-LABOR RADIO SPEAKER

The vicious attack a few nights ago by Boake Carter, speaking for the Pep Boys Stores, attacking labor officials and classing them as racketeers without exception, was one of the most outrageous unfair blanket indictments made in public since the National Recovery Act became law.

The berating was directed at Frank McGlone, effective Transportation Brotherhood leader in Philadelphia, who was recently indicted on a trumped-up charge of interfering with Interstate Commerce, following the successful tie-up of motor transportation in that city as a result of the taxi strike.

The Federated Trades executive committee voted to send a letter of protest to the Pep Boys cautioning them not to permit a repetition on the part of their speaker, if they desire the continued patronage of organized labor. Copies were for-

(Continued on Page Five)

HEAR CROSSWAITH TONIGHT

— IN —

Odd Fellows' Hall

8th and Franklin Sts.

This famous and eloquent Negro Orator will lecture on the subject—

"NRA -- HOPE or MENACE"

Crosswaith has toured the nation to observe the effects of the "New Deal." He has a story to tell.

Selections by Socialist Women's Chorus

Meeting Starts 8 P. M.

ADMISSION FREE

MECO PENALIZES ANOTHER VICTIM

Reduced Bill Results In Meter Tampering Charge and "Fine" of \$15 For Outside Box

Has the Metropolitan Edison Co. or any other so-called "public service" corporation the power to act as plaintiff, witness, judge and jury against its customers?

The answer to that question will be found in the action—or lack of action which the Pennsylvania Public Service Commission takes in a case submitted to it by Elmer Butzer, 591 S. 18th street.

The M-E Co. cut the Butzers' current last Wednesday because, a company official decided, the meter had been tampered with. Prior to this action by the power profiteers an inspector called at the Butzer home to examine the meter in search for the cause of a reduction in the electric bill. Butzer states that the inspector told him that dirt on the disk had interfered with the action of the meter and that "everything is all right now." Because of this assurance the Butzers were taken by surprise when the company took its drastic action.

But that's not all. Now the company is demanding that Butzer install a new meter on the outside of the house at a cost of about \$15 before he will again be given electric service. As Butzer has suffered considerable loss from unemployment and part-time work this matter of \$15 is a pretty serious thing to him.

Butzer stated his case to the Public Service Commission and has since been informed by that body that the M-E Co. was requested to make an investigation of the case and submit a statement to the Commission.

"Now what?" Butzer asks. "I never touched the electric meter and I don't know of any reason why I should be fined \$15 by the electric company. But they seem to have me where they have all their customers. Why do they call it a 'public service' corporation if the public can be denied service at the whim of the company and convicted of stealing juice without trial or evidence?"

Federal Workers May Get Some of Pay Cut Back

WASHINGTON.—Due to a spirited fight put up by the federal employees' unions, chances looked brighter January 19 that half a million government workers may get more of the 15% pay cut restored to them than President Roosevelt's budget was willing to allow. Roosevelt recommended that only a third of the 15% cut be restored, but the Senate is understood to favor restoration of half or two-thirds for the next fiscal year, 1934-35.

What Reading Folks Are Talking About

CUTTING HOURS ON PUBLIC WORKS

During the past week workers on a number of CWA projects suffered a reduction in hours and earnings. The first order called for cuts from 30 hours, \$15 per week, to 15 hours, \$7.50 per week. Later the order was revised and at the present time the workers on Federal jobs are permitted to work 24 hours and earn \$12 per week.

In view of the fact that NIRA codes call for minimum wage rates above the \$7.50 which were first ordered for CWA workers, it is interesting to reflect upon the possible purpose behind the order reducing hours to 15. Is it possible that somebody in Washington is experimenting to find out just how low workers may be pushed before they become troublesome? If so, something entirely new may soon be discovered. For up to the present time, while a few workers think it worth while to fight for economic justice, most of them have given no hint that there is any limit whatever to the depths to which they can be forced.

There's something queer about people who produce everything, cheerfully suffer poverty in the midst of plenty and are grateful for \$12-per-week living standards at a time when private owners are permitted to keep productive industries idle.

CITY WORKERS PROTEST LOSS OF JOBS

Our sympathies are all with the city employees who, having been fired by the Fusion administration in order to make way for political favorites, objected to such Fusion tactics in a resolution to city council.

However, it doesn't appear that many of the ex-employees will be greatly benefited by their protest. The Fusionists have the upper hand and they appear determined to use their power in the interest of their henchmen.

What many workers are learning with surprise during these depression days is that they have no inalienable right to the job which means life, liberty and happiness. For years we Socialists have been telling them that under Capitalism workers are merely human tools—to be used when wanted and cast aside when the owner has no further use for them. But they wouldn't vote for Socialism in sufficient numbers to change the system. No, they were too interested in making Capitalism run efficiently. Instead of building political power to enjoy the benefits of industry and live rich lives, too many workers permitted the owning class to reap industry's profits and voted for cheap cities.

Under Socialism every able person will have a right to work—and what is more important—a right to enjoy the fruits of his labors.

OF COURSE FOLKS CHANGE THEIR MINDS

There was a time when many Reading workers were more or less regularly employed and buying homes. Then they wanted cheap government and strongly opposed loans.

Now most Reading workers are either unemployed, working part time or have had their wages reduced to a point which makes home ownership impossible. Now they are eager to have jobs provided for even if it means that the city and county goes into debt. Now they are urging the School Board to hurry up and borrow money and get men to work. The reason for this change of viewpoint is well understood by Socialists. They explain it by the words, "economic determinism," which means this: "The manner in which a man gains his living determines how he thinks and acts."

However, intelligent understanding is also a factor in determining men's actions. That's why the Socialists have been attempting to make workers understand that they could make a better living by taking industry out of private hands and producing for use than they can by (Continued on Page Three)

UNIONS TO TAKE CWA COMPLAINTS BEFORE HOPKINS

Building Trades Council Will Tell Federal Administrator Of Contractors Now on Government Payrolls

UNION LISTS IGNORED

Organized Workers Will Also Strive to Abolish 40-Cent Labor Rate Paid on State Projects

Charges of irregularities in the conduct of CWA jobs, submitted to Governor Pinchot a week ago by the Reading Building Trades Council, will be followed up with specific instances of mismanagement, according to a statement this week by Charles M. Haederle, secretary of that organization. In order to assist in the preparation of the case, Haederle is asking for the co-operation of all workers who are receiving less than 50 cents for common labor or \$1.20 for mechanical services. Persons getting below those rates are requested to communicate with him promptly at the Building Trades headquarters, fourth floor of 29 Reed street.

Will See Hopkins "We do not believe that government operations can be discontinued for a long time to come, and are (Continued on Page Four)

WIS. FARMERS VOICE SOCIALIST DEMANDS

ELLSWORTH, Wis.—The Pierce county farmers' union has officially requested Governor Schemedeman to call a special session of the state legislature to provide enabling legislation for the state to take over industry, to create a farm products distribution agency, to create an emergency food products processing board to take over all food processing agencies running at less than 50% capacity, and to establish a 100% tax on incomes over \$10,000 and inheritances over \$100,000.

These demands are identical with the Socialist program for agriculture adopted by the Wisconsin party two months ago. Under the direction of Al Benson, state secretary, the Socialists have been rapidly increasing their organization strength not only in Pierce county, but also in other parts of the state. Six new branches have recently been organized in Oconto county.

JANUARY CLEARANCE SALE

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and Strap Pumps

**Women's SLIPPERS
and MULES** **25c** Pr.
White, Red, Blue

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Boys' Hi-Cut **\$1.49** Pr.
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Men's Police and **\$1.98** Pr.
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846 PENN. ST. 848

New Cuban Chief
Satisfies State Dept.

WASHINGTON.—Now that the conservative elements have gained the upper hand in Cuba and managed to push Carlos Mendiatia,

wealthy sugar plantation owner, into the presidency, the U. S. state department feels hopeful that recognition may be accorded within a few weeks. The state department refused to recognize the liberal Grau San Martin regime and plotted for its overthrow.

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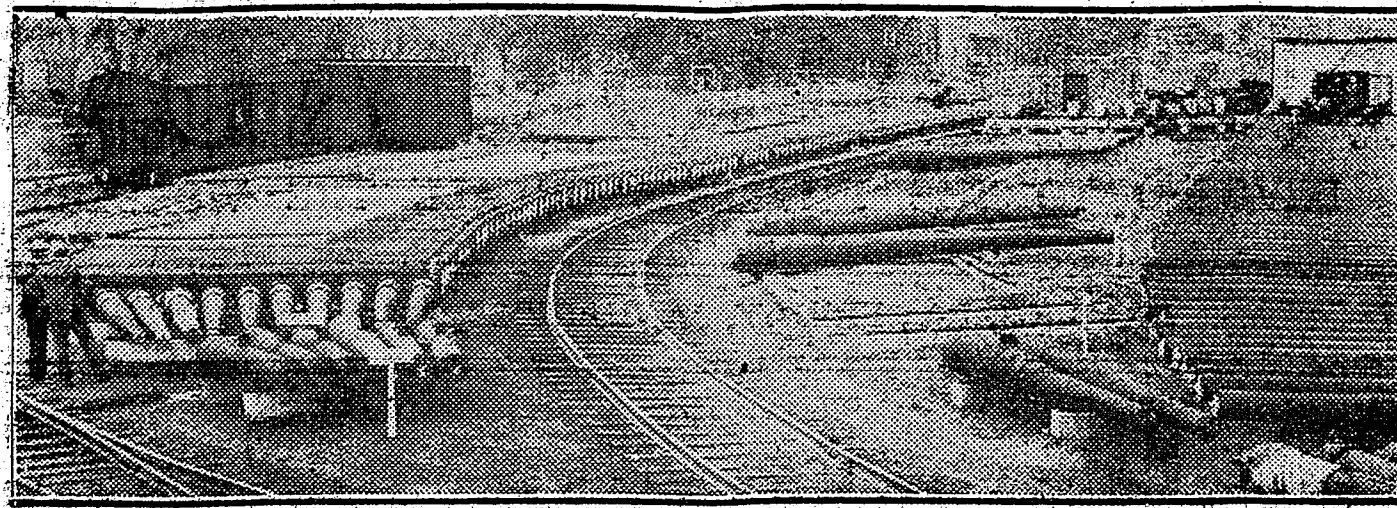
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SENIOR REVIEWS PARTY'S GROWTH

**Socialists Gain 88 Adult and 46
Youth Groups—Future
Activities Discussed Today at
N. E. C. Meeting**

NEW YORK.—A net gain of 88 Socialist party locals and branches and 46 circles of the Young People's Socialist League was made in 1933, according to the report of Clarence Senior, executive secretary, made to the meeting of the party's national executive committee being held in this city.

Among the more important matters to be discussed by the executive committee in this session are suggestions for mass meetings to be held throughout the country on April 8, the anniversary of American entry into the war; plans for cooperation with the Mooney-Molders' Defense Committee in further agitation in the fight to free Tom Mooney; apportionment of delegates; and expense fund for the national convention of the party to be held in Detroit late in May, and nomination of delegates for a possible meeting of the International this year.

Organizers To Confer
The secretary recommends that a special conference be held just before the main convention of organizers for the party, similar to that held preceding the Milwaukee convention in 1932, with the education and agenda sub-committees in charge.

The basis for representation at the convention, "Senior reports," will be one delegate for each state which has a membership of 38 members or more, and one additional delegate for each 164 members or major fraction thereof. According to plans previously adopted tentatively, state organizations shall raise \$15 for each delegate's transportation expenses and the national convention fund will pay the remainder.

Membership Gains
Illinois, Connecticut, and California have shown the largest gains in membership during the past year. Senior's report shows: while Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Illinois have shown outstanding gains in forming new local organizations. A gain of 35% in membership for California is especially noteworthy, in spite of Upton Sinclair and strenuous efforts of Communists to disrupt the state organization.

National headquarters has arranged extensive speaking and organizing tours for several speakers within the last quarter, notably for Fred Henderson, Devere Allen and Roy Burt. Shorter tours have been arranged for others and dozens of individual speaking dates cleared through the national organization, Senior states.

If all four sit in the driver's seat, that's friendship. If two prefer the rumble, that's love.

JOHN S. CLOUSER
4
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LABOR COLLEGE NEWS

By LARRY ROGIN

The dramatic group of the labor college is now busy preparing a short skit for the trade union conference to be held Feb. 20, in addition to its work on the larger plays. It is hoped that the group will be able to supply skits of a humorous nature dealing with labor topics, to all labor organizations that desire to make their meetings more interesting. Due to the dance given for the Rosedale strikers, last week's meeting of the group was held at the Federated Trades Council offices. This week the group will meet on Thursday at the usual place, the Hosiery Workers Social Club, 120 Mulberry street. More actors will be very welcome.

The debating group has set Feb. 21 as the date of the debate on the relative merits of craft and industrial unionism. Those who are interested in this problem should set aside that date to hear the discussion, which will be open to the public.

The class in "How to Run a Meeting," was very successful from the point of view of attendance and discussion. If there are any groups interested in repeating the course, a large enough demand made to Lawrence Rogin will get that result.

Extension teacher Max Putney is reporting excellent classes; among these newly organized. The best one is in Penwyn on Tuesday nights. Forty-one students were present for the first class. Other classes are: Monday at Kenhorst, Wednesday at Hyde Park, Thursday at the old city hall in Reading, and Friday in the 18th ward. Further information about the classes can be obtained from Max Putney, 742 N. 13th st., Reading.

A high attendance record was set by the regular labor college classes last week. Only three students were absent out of forty registered for the Wednesday night class. The Wednesday morning class had as good a record and there were twenty students at the Monday class despite the pouring rain. Attendance seems to be getting larger and more regular as the term goes on.

The Teamsters' Union picked three substitutes last week to take the places of students who were unable to attend regularly. This is an example that other organizations in the same position can take advantage of.

REFLECTIONS

(Continued from First Page)

want the earth for the people who produce all the earth's wealth, never have been able to sympathize with the willingness of producers to take less than all of their product. But there's something about non-Socialist workers that makes them satisfied with little: Give them, little homes, a little luxury, a little education, a little leisure and a little more than some other member of their own class and they don't care much about the robbery which places millions and billions in the coffers of parasites.

Most of Capitalism's non-Socialist cast-offs are complaining now mainly because the parasites simply don't know how to use them. That's why they are so grateful for CWA jobs and CWA living standards in an industrial set-up which offers the possibility of abundance for all.

One reason why Socialists should do what Norman Thomas is doing when he urges the "New Dealers" to levy against the actual capital possessions of the parasite class is that if Socialists don't aim that high nobody will. Another reason is that nothing short of taking over the means of wealth-production will suffice to assure the workers of the right to use the wealth which their labor produces.

The one objection to being regarded as a great thinker is that you have to be dead too long.

MAN DRIVING IN FORD '34 MODEL

**Production Per Worker Mounts
As Bosses Enforce Order to
"Speed Up or Get Out"**

DETROIT.—How the Ford speed-up system, 1934 model, operates is described by workers at the Rouge plant.

"In the spring and axle department, 30 men used to produce from 6,000 to 7,000 rear axle parts a day. Now three men, and an automatic machine turn out up to 15,000 a day. Wages are as low as 50c an hour," a Ford worker reports.

"The production per man is 800 to 1,000 pieces a day and the foreman tells each man that he must turn out such an amount before he lets him go to work. The speedup is so terrific that during the last year the labor turnover has been 10 men for each machine," a Ford hammer man says.

Sweepers Driven Too
Ford does not even overlook the sweepers. "Before the last layoff sweepers in the foundry machine shop had to sweep up around eight drilling machines a day. This meant shoveling about four tons a day. On returning to work, the sweepers were told to take care of 18 machines," another Ford worker declares.

"Speed up or get out," is the slogan of the foreman of the grinding room at Ford's. "The head foreman of the grinding room instructed all foremen and straw bosses in the hearing of the workers that the department had to turn out more production, and any worker that complained was to be sent to him to be taken care of," a Ford grinder reports.

Body Plant Slavery
Ford does not restrict the speedup to his own factories. In the Briggs Mfg. Co., which makes Ford bodies, this story is told by a worker in the press room of the Highland Park plant:

"Briggs just laid off the women, who used to get 35 to 37c an hour, and put on men at 43 to 46c an hour. But at the same time the men were forced to turn out 25 to 40% more work. The speedup is so intense that the men are forced to start work 10 to 15 minutes ahead of time in the morning and at noon in order to catch up, so the foreman will not ride them. The foreman is a slave driver; all he does is come along after the checkers, who time us every hour, and if we fall behind, he raises hell."

The terrific speedup in the auto factories is apparently the prelude to great strikes. The cut-throat competition of the manufacturers for sales can't help but produce an intensification of the speedup, the workers believe.

A "boloney" dollar would be better than one with the general characteristics of hash.

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SOFTENER—SOAP SAVER
3 Reg. 25c Large Pkg. **23c**
Listen in on the Climaline Car-
nival Radio Program—
11:30 A. M.—WEAF

BOYER'S
WASH BLUING
Makes Clothes Whiter
Bottle **8c and 12c**

LAWNDALE—WISCONSIN
Sweet—Wrinkled
PEAS
2 Regular 15c Caps **25c**

**FAIRY
SOAP**
5 cakes **15c**
Have You a Fairy
in Your Home?

**EGG
BISCUITS**
Old Fashion Kind
1/2 pound **18c**

Salted Soda Crackers
2-Pound Box **25c**

MOHAWK VALLEY BRAND
Genuine N. Y. State
LIMBURGER CHEESE
Pound **25c**

Made From the Choicest Oats
OATMEAL
Buy in Bulk—Be Economical
5-Pounds **19c**

MACKEREL
2 for **9c** 6 for **25c**
WHITE NORWAY
Cleaned Ready for the Pan!

**KELLOGG'S Supreme Quality
RICE**
2 Pkg. **19c**

CASSEL'S SOAP
Yellow Laundry
6 Giant Bars **25c**

Simply For Naming
Silverware illustrated on
Coupons in any size sack

**GOLD MEDAL
FLOUR**
"KITCHEN-TESTED"
5-LB BAG **29c**

FREE \$11,000 IN CASH
AND 7 AUTOMOBILES
FULL DETAILS AT THIS
STORE

12-LB. BAG **59c**

**SUNBRITE
CLEANSER**
2 cans **9c**
6 cans **25c**

**FREE! One Deluxe
COVER With Each
6 Cans.**

**Dot Salt
Oyster
Crackers**
2 lbs **29c**

MOLASSES
Bring Your Jar!
2 Quarts **35c**
Fancy Golden Table Syrup

**Sunny Monday Laundry
Soap**
2 Cakes **5c**

**CRYSTALIZED
WASHING SODA**
5 Pounds **15c**
Softens the Water

**SILVER KING—No. 824
WASHBOARDS**
49c Each
Do Not Rub Hard—Takes the
Dirt Out!

WE REDEEM UNEMPLOYMENT RELIEF VOUCHERS
(These Prices for Week of January 22nd to 27th, 1934)

EPSTEIN BROS. 67TH Anniversary Sale

NOW IN PROGRESS!

THIS ONCE-A-YEAR SALE AFFORDS YOU A CHANCE TO STOCK UP YOUR CLOTHING NEEDS AT PRICES SUBSTANTIALLY LESS THAN YOU ORDINARILY PAY.

\$12.67 \$14.67 \$18.67 \$21.67

for

Suits - Topcoats - Overcoats

Formerly \$18.50 to \$30.00

TROUSERS - \$1.25 to \$4.75

EPSTEIN BROS.

829 PENN ST.

WHAT READING FOLKS ARE TALKING ABOUT

(Continued from First Page)

permitting parasites to own industry and exploit workers. The workers didn't understand in sufficient numbers. That's why they are suffering

Avoidable Waste Of Money

is buying Coffee in cans that cost the packer often 6 CENTS EACH—CANS WON'T MAKE COFFEE.

Get your coffee FRESH from Heroy's Roaster in a paper bag, priced from

20c to 40c lb.
IDEAL COFFEE - 23c

HEROY'S

841 Penn St.

We Deliver. Phone 7561.

now as Capitalism drags slowly to its final collapse.

COUNTERFEITING LEGAL AND ILLEGAL

Two men, arrested in Reading this week, will probably be sent to jail. They made money with an artificial value. That was illegal.

President Roosevelt takes money which has a value of \$1 and reduces its value to 60 cents. That, however, is legal. Moreover, it will be profitable to the government to the extent of several billions of dollars.

We call attention to the fact that there is a certain similarity in the effects of counterfeiting money and depressing currency without in any way wishing to assail the Roosevelt monetary policy. What one should ponder upon is the fact that political power enables those who possess it to do legally many things which, in individuals, would be criminal. We wish that all workers would have such a high appreciation of the value of political power that they would unite as a class and take it into their own hands. When they do they can shake the parasitical owning class from their backs—legally. Without political power they'll have to free themselves from exploitation in ways which are illegal and infinitely more difficult.

One reason nobody understands money is because it's changeable.

Activities of the Reading Socialists

CARD PARTY SATURDAY AT LABOR LYCEUM

The Women's Socialist League will be in charge of the card party and luncheon at Labor Lyceum on Saturday night. Fine prizes are ready for winners and the usual good food will be served from supper time throughout the evening.

Whether you come to play cards or merely to eat, you are sure of a good time. Don't miss it.

CARD PARTY THURSDAY AT BERKSHIRE HEIGHTS

Next Thursday night, February 1, the Berkshire Heights branch will put on a card party at the bargain price of 10 cents per corner. The event will be held in Peterson's barber shop, Seventh and Oley streets, Berkshire Heights. Prizes will be awarded and refreshments sold.

SOUTHERN WOMEN

The Southern Women's Branch will not hold its regular weekly meeting tonight, but all members will attend the Crosswalk meeting instead.

SUNDAY FORUM

The regular Sunday Forum held at 8 p. m. in the Southern headquarters, 429 South Tenth street, will be addressed by Mark Brown, a member of the Y. P. S. L. Discussion and questions will follow. Tea will be served to all who care to remain after the meeting.

WOMEN'S CHORUS SING AT HYDE PARK

All members of the Women's Chorus are urged to be present at the rally for members of the Muhlenberg and Laureldale branches, in the Goodwill Fire Hall in Hyde Park, Tuesday, January 30. The meeting will start at 8 p. m., so be there early.

GET TICKETS EARLY FOR BLACK AND WHITE MINSTRELS

Don't fail to be among those present on Saturday night, February 3, when the Black and White Minstrels put on their latest show for the benefit of the Northeast Branch. The performance will be held in Falcons Hall, Bingham and Spring Garden streets, and is scheduled to start at 7:45 p. m. Tickets are now on sale at 20 cents—which is the bargain of the century.

ATTENTION, MUSIC LOVERS!

Don't fail to attend the card party to be held at Labor Lyceum next

Wednesday, Jan. 31, at 7:45 p. m., under the auspices of the combined men's and women's Socialist choruses. The committee in charge promises all a good time. There will be singing by both choruses and other entertainment. In addition, prizes of a high order will be awarded to winners. A supper which is certain to please will be prepared and served by the women.

Proceeds from this event will be used to purchase music for the choruses.

NORTHEAST WOMEN WILL NOT MEET NEXT TUESDAY

Next Tuesday night there will be no meeting of the Northeast women's organization. Instead, the members will meet at their headquarters, 1311 North Ninth street, at 7 o'clock and proceed in a body to the Good Will fire hall in Hyde Park, where Lilith Wilson will address a meeting sponsored by the Women's Committee in co-operation with the Hyde Park and Laureldale branches. All women members of the branch are invited to join the crowd.

WOMEN'S COMMITTEE ELECTS OFFICERS

The Women's Committee reorganized January 18th and elected Comrades Emma Sands, secretary, and Esther Auman, treasurer. The committee will meet the third Thursday night of each month at Labor Lyceum at 8 o'clock sharp. If you are a member please note the date so that you will not be a member in name only.

NO BAND REHEARSAL

There will be no band rehearsal Wednesday, January 31st, as a card party will be held on that night. Comrade McLean requests all members to turn out for the next rehearsal February 7th at 8 p. m., at the Labor Lyceum.

LECTURES AT BRANCH MEETINGS

Monday, Jan. 29th:
Northeast: Charles Sands.
Central: George Rhodes.
Mohnton at 13 Monroe St.: Walter Hollinger.

Womelsdorf: Annie Zechman and William Schwenen.

Tuesday, Jan. 30th:
Southern: J. Henry Stamp.
18th Ward: Amos Lisher.

West Reading: Darlington Hoopes.
Muhlenberg: Lilith Wilson.
Laureldale: Charles Sands.

Y. P. S. L. Circles 6, 8: Raymond Hofes.

Kenhorst: Birch Wilson.

Friday, Feb. 2nd:
Southern Women: Annie Zechman.

Shillington at Town Hall: William Schwenen.

Cumru: Fred Merkel.

Sinking Spring at 934 Penn Ave.: Jesse George and Entertainment.

Berkshire Heights: William C. Hoverter.

LOCAL BERKS MEETING

All members are urged to attend this meeting on February 1st as important business is to be transacted.

MACHINES NEEDED

Anybody who will give the use of

WILMER AND VINCENT'S EMBASSY

STARTS TODAY

She wanted to kiss and forget

...until two desperate kids taught her unforgettable love...

FREDERIC MARCH
MIRIAM HOPKINS
GEORGE RAFT
IN
All of Me
A Paramount Picture with
HELEN MACK

POMEROY'S Basement Store



Women's and Misses'
New Spring
Dresses

\$2.94

Choose from the newest and gayest Spring Frocks. Prints and print combinations and plenty of Black and White with Cape Sleeves, Long Sleeves and Short Sleeves. Sizes 14 to 20. 38 to 44.

WOMEN'S AND MISSES'
Fur and Tailored

**Winter
Coats
\$9**



Fur-trimmed Coats are in Black only. Tailored Coats are in Tan, Brown and Grey shades. Every Coat durably lined.

MEN'S RAYON STRIPED

Hose 10c
Navy Blue, Grey and Tan Sizes 10 to 12

WOMEN'S BROADCLOTH
BUILTUP SHOULDER

Slips 49c
Flesh and White SIZES 44 TO 52

CHILDREN'S "Buster Brown"

School Hose 2 PAIR 25c
TAN AND BROWN SHADES SIZES 5 TO 10

CLEARANCE OF WOMEN'S

Bath Robes \$1.00
ALL SIZES AND COLORS

CHILDREN'S KNIT

Waist Suits 29c
FRENCH LEGS, KNEE LENGTH AND ANKLE LENGTHS. ALL SIZES.

SALE OF
WOMEN'S NEW
SPRING

**WASH FROCKS
67c**

Guaranteed fast colors. Beautiful Spring prints. Made in many of the best styles. Short Sleeves and Cape Sleeves. Full length. Sizes 14 to 52.

BOYS' SCHOOL

KNICKERS \$1.00
Full Lined KNIT CUFFS, IN BROWN AND GREY MIXTURES. SIZES 8 TO 16.

WOMEN'S "CHARDONISE"

Hose 25c
All the Newest Shades. SIZES 8 1/2 to 10 1/2

CLEARANCE OF INFANTS'

FLANNELETTE GOWNS and PAJAMAS 19c
SIZES 1 TO 3.

MEN'S BROADCLOTH

PAJAMAS \$1.00
Slip-over styles, button fronts, in Blue, Green, Tan and White. SIZES A, B, C, D.

LITTLE BOYS'

Wash Suits 59c
Made of fast color broadcloth. Solid colors and combinations. SIZES 3 TO 6.

Although only members in good standing will be able to vote, the convention will be open to the public.

A hike will be held by YPSL on Sunday, Feb. 4. Hikers will leave the Labor Lyceum at 1 o'clock under the leadership of Jacob Heistand. The destination will be announced next week.

A joint meeting will be held by Circles No. 6 and 8 on January 30. There will be a speaker who will speak on the History of Socialism in Reading during the World War. An important announcement will be made at this meeting concerning the change in meeting dates.

STATE CONVENTION DELEGATES

Branches are requested to send in the names of their delegates to the State Office as soon as possible. A separate list is also needed for our office records. Secretaries please note.

HAVE YOU A BASS VIOLIN?

The Socialist orchestra needs a bass violin. If you have such an instrument and are willing to give or loan it to the orchestra, get in touch with Organizer Bigony at Labor Lyceum. Dial 2-2441.

YIPSEL NOTES

The second annual convention of Local Berks' Young People's Socialist League will be held in the Labor Lyceum, Reed and Walnut streets, on Sunday, Jan. 28.

Two sessions will be held, the first beginning at 2 o'clock and the second at 8 o'clock.

The main part of the convention will be devoted to adopting a new constitution which is being drafted by a committee composed of Comrades Brown, Seiders and Adams.

CLOTHING CLEANED, PRESSED AND REPAIRED

FRED GALLMAN
We Call and Deliver
Dial 4-3035 NRA Prices

GEORGE GRAEFF

General Insurance
Automobile: Fire: Accident
Representing
American Casualty Co.
Harleysville Mutual Casualty Company
Superior Fire Insurance Co.
936 Spring Street
Dial 2-4827

You know



that BOND can't help but be the finest tasting bread when you consider it's baked as 43,040 housewives showed us, and its ingredients are guaranteed by a BOND of PURITY on every wrapper.

sunshine vitamin-D
Bond Bread

FOR STRONGER BONES
AND SOUNDER TEETH

GENERAL BAKING COMPANY

Also bakers of Bond Bakers Rye and Bond Bakers Wheat Bread

UNEMPLOYMENT RELIEF VOUCHERS REDEEMED

KEYSTONE MEAT MARKET

38-40 S. 7th St. 818 PENN ST. 400 Schuylkill Ave. 12th & Robeson Sta.

OUR OWN MAKE FRESH AND SMOKED SAUSAGE 2 POUNDS 25c	HOME DRESSED LONG CUT Pork Shoulders 10c lb	SMALL LEAN ARMOUR STAR HAMS 15c lb Whole or Shank Half
SPICED HAM 19c lb Any Size Piece 6c 1/4-Lb	SMALL LEAN AND SMALL Fresh Hams 14c lb Whole or Shank Half	OUR OWN MAKE SCRAPPLE 7c lb
ALLENTOWN SLICED Bacon 9c lb 1/4-Lb Package	SHORT SHANK SUGAR - CURED SMOKED Shoulders 9c lb	OUR OWN COOKED AND PRESSED Tripe 15c lb
OUR OWN MAKE RING BOLOGNA 15c lb SWIFT'S LARGE SUGAR-CURED HAMS 11c lb Whole or Shank Half	GENUINE LEBANON Bologna 12 1/2c lb	OUR OWN MAKE LIVER PUDDING 12c lb
	BERKS COUNTY SUGAR-CURED Bacon 12 1/2c lb	ALLENTOWN SUGAR-CURED HAMS 14c lb Whole or Shank Half
	OLEO MARGARINE 2 Lbs. 19c	

UNEMPLOYMENT RELIEF VOUCHERS REDEEMED

LAST FEW DAYS OF January Clearance Sale MEN'S SUITS TOPCOATS and OVERCOATS



You'll admire their smart lines, fine materials and rich colors! Browns, Blues and Grays in the new effects that will make you a better dressed man than before! Only Joseph's can bring you such values as these—clothing that is actually higher in price elsewhere but still at the lowest level here where the lowest prices in the city always prevail.

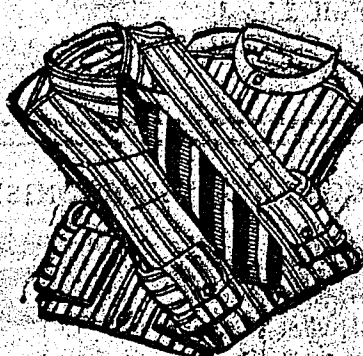
VALUES, \$15.00 to \$22.50

\$9.99 \$12.99 \$14.99

DRESS SHIRTS

At such low prices it is well worth your while to stock up for the entire Winter. Just look at these prices!

COLLAR ATTACHED AND NECKBAND



59c 79c
\$1.19
\$1.39

BOYS' TWO-PANTS SUITS

Boys everywhere will be proud to wear suits of such smart styling and tailoring as these!

\$4.69 \$5.89 \$7.89
\$10.95 \$12.95
PREP SUITS
Two Long Pants
\$6.95 \$8.95 \$10.95
\$12.95 \$14.95



Big Yank Work Shirts

Blue or Gray, 69c

LEE UNION-MADE WORK SHIRTS

Blue or Gray, 79c

HEAVY RIBBED UNION SUITS

Random or Ecru, 79c

HEAVY RIBBED SHIRTS OR DRAWERS

Random or Ecru, 59c

Men's Wool Lumberjacks

With Zipper, \$2.95

Leather Lumberjacks and Coats

Sheep or Blanket-lined, \$5.95 up

Special—Leatherette Sheep-Lined Coats

Boys' \$2.89 Men's \$4.89

PAJAMAS

98c \$1.35 \$1.85

BOYS' CAPS

Smart Styles at Give-Away Prices 39c, 59c, 95c

Suspenders and Belts

49c 69c 95c

A Typical Joseph Bargain!

MEN'S GENUINE SUEDE JACKETS

Button Style, \$4.95

Zipper Style, \$5.95

HEAVY SHAKER KNIT COAT SWEATERS

Large Shawl Collars, \$2.45

ZIPPER SWEATERS

All Colors, Light Weight, \$1.95

V-Neck Coat Sweater, Brown or Oxford Heather, \$2.45

MEN'S PANTS WORK OR DRESS

You'll have no trouble selecting pants for any occasion when you choose from our stock! We have almost every conceivable smart pattern, in all shades and sizes!

98c \$1.47 \$1.98

\$2.69 \$3.39 \$3.98

OVERALLS, 79c

Blue Stripe or White.

SWEATERS, 79c

V-Neck Coat Style, Brown or Grey.

WORK PANTS, \$1.18

Good, Heavy 8-Oz. Cloth.

LUMBER JACKS, \$1.99

Suede Cloth. Zipper Style.

SWEAT SHIRTS, 98c

Heavy Quality, High Neck Make. All Colors.

Blue Chambray WORK SHIRTS, 49c

All Sizes, 14 to 17.

Flannelette Night Shirts, 98c

Flannelette Night Shirts, 89c

CORDUROY PANTS

All colors and sizes, \$2.49

BOYS' SHIRTS

Here's a Value Mothers Always Seek, 49c, 69c, 98c

Guaranteed Fast Color.

BOYS' PANTS

All Patterns, all sizes, long wearing, high quality materials, 89c, \$1.29, \$1.49

BOYS' SWEATERS

All Smart Styles! 79c, 98c, \$1.45, \$1.95

BOYS' SWEAT SHIRTS

Every Boy Needs One! Buy It Before the Prices Rise! 59c, 69c, 89c

BOYS' LONG PANTS

The Biggest Variety in the City! \$1.19, \$1.35, \$1.95

JOSEPH'S

410 PENN STREET
We Sell For Less Always

Steel Union Wins Election

WASHINGTON. — The Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers won an overwhelming victory in the Superior Steel Corporation plant in Carnegie, Pa. In an election conducted by the Pittsburgh regional labor board, the union got 973 votes to 81 opposed.

Miners May Strike To Free Mooney

CHICAGO. — When the United Mine Workers of America meet in their national convention in Indianapolis, several Illinois locals will introduce resolutions calling for a one-day strike May 1 for the release of Tom Mooney and Warren Billings. Local 5509 of the U. M. W. A. will sponsor the resolution.

'ALL OF ME,' WITH FREDRIC MARCH, AT THE EMBASSY

With Fredric March and Miriam Hopkins as products of the Park Avenue social world and with George Raft and Helen Mack as graduates of the slum sidewalks, Paramount's "All of Me" which opens its Reading engagement at the Embassy today, proves that while there may be two kinds of women, there is after all only one kind of love.

Different in every respect, the girl from the school of bitter experience in Hell's Kitchen and "her man"—an ex-convict—teach the highly-bred, socially important girl from Park Avenue that real love is not kin to her kind of selfish romance.

Fredric March and Miriam Hopkins have long been in love, but when he goes to her with the idea of marriage so that she can share his engineering career in the West, she declines. She wants to be sure, she tells him.

On a stunning trip one night they become interested in the conversation of George Raft, ex-convict, and his girl, Helen Mack. It is plain to see they are desperately in love. March and Hopkins meet them and listen to their problem.

A crooked parole officer forces Raft back to prison and Helen is sent to a woman's reformatory as an incorrigible. Sympathizing with the sad plight of the lowly lovers, Miriam visits Raft in prison, and helps him escape so that he can get Helen away in order to save her the disgrace of having her baby born in prison.

Small Millers Fight Extinction

WASHINGTON. — The proposed wheat flour milling code is an effort by 33 large corporations to ruin the independents, according to protests by smaller millers and the farmers' grange at the code hearing in Washington.

PROFIT SEEKERS

(Continued from First Page)

operated with speed and cheapness as the only consideration was offered this week by a worker in the car shops. The case in question has to do with the converting of 50 open-top steel cars into cement cars. The operation consists of covering the cars, thereby making it possible to transport cement without the necessity of bagging the material. While there are a number of tracks upon which repair work is done, the 15 cement cars are being remodelled on one track with one gang doing all the work. The object in giving the work to one gang is to secure the best and fastest workers for the job. In this case the stagger system is ignored. Those doing the work will draw all the wages. A time limit of 15 days has been set for the completion of the work. This objective can be obtained because the car tops come cut to size from the Parrish Corporation of this city, where a few workers and modern machines are employed at lower labor costs than would be possible if the same forms were made in the company's shops.

Layoffs Frequent
Another practice which the Chamber of Commerce advocates of "keep-the-shops-in-Reading" never take the trouble to mention is that of frequent temporary force reductions.

While "regular" shop employees get one, two or three days per week, and others work now and then (mostly then) 200 workers were dropped at the Loco shops last Wednesday with information that they would be off until February 1. On Monday of this week another 100 were given similar notices, and on Tuesday 100 car shop workers received the same treatment. The result of these layoffs is that, for the time being at least, the number of workers employed at the shops is about 400 instead of the 4,000 which are mentioned by the Chamber of Commerce optimists.

Always Seeking Layoffs
That the company is constantly seeking new and quicker methods of performing operations is the claim of shop workers. Foremen are always supposed to be alert for short cuts. Work once done at the shops is now bought on the outside from specialty shops. Every effort is made to reduce forces. This practice accounts in part for the large number of Reading workers who once worked at the shops but don't anymore. Their jobs are gone forever.

Refer to Roosevelt Plans
Shop policies came up for discussion this week when the Roosevelt objective of returning 3,000,000 unemployed to private industry and abolishing CWA work was given publicity in the newspapers. "How can that be done if every industry is as determined to save labor costs as the Reading shops?" workers asked each other. The conclusion was that Roosevelt's hopes would be killed by

Closer Oven Heat Control with GAS

EVERY housewife... every cook... wants to be better than average—wants to serve dishes that are out of the ordinary, such as delicacies, for instance, as souffles, angel food and sponge cake, or meringue cake. She can do it, easily, with a modern Quality Automatic Gas Range.

The most important essential to really better oven cooking (as pointed out by Anne Pierce in the November issue of *Pictorial Review*) is close control of temperature... automatically maintained to a minimum variation... which is possible with a modern GAS range, such as the Quality Automatic.

The GAS oven heat control is not the on-and-off type, which depends upon a cooling of the oven to bring on the heat. GAS heat is continuous, increasing or decreasing as the thermostat demands, thus giving the even, accurate temperature essential to fine cooking.



And for your convenience, the Quality Automatic GAS Range is provided with clock control, so that this same accurate temperature is automatically maintained for any desired cooking time, even though you are miles from your kitchen. You simply set the clock for the time you want your cooking to start and stop. The Quality does that.

Stop in and see the attractive new models, in gleaming full enamel, with all their intriguing improvements. You'll be delighted.

A Small Down Payment Places
One in Your Home

Consumers Gas Company

441 PENN ST.

DIAL 4-1181

the efficiency and speed-ups which private industry is enforcing. "However," he stated, "union men appear to be getting far less than their share of the jobs thus far handed out. We have men in our organization who are perfectly capable of handling supervisory work which is now being done by private contractors who could find other work to do."

Another point which local unionists will contest is the payment of 40 cents to laborers on state jobs while workers doing the same tasks nearby receive 50 cents. They will contend that the 50-cent minimum should apply universally on all public work.

PATRONIZE OUR ADVERTISERS

Tomorrow... Saturday will be the LAST DAY of our JANUARY CLEARANCE SALE

This means that we must dispose of all odd lots and floor samples... in one day! And we've slashed prices right and left to do it! The very things you've been wanting and needing are here... at prices that will move them... fast! So be sure to come to Kaufmann's tomorrow for a share of these great savings... and come as early as you can!

**KAUFMANN'S
FOUR-POINT CREDIT PLAN**
BANK DEPOSITORS don't pay until the banks open.
WAR VETERANS don't pay until State Bonus Checks are received.
UNION NATIONAL BANK STOCK accepted as cash at full par value.
KAUFMANN'S EASY BUDGET PAYMENT PLAN available to everyone.

Kaufmann's

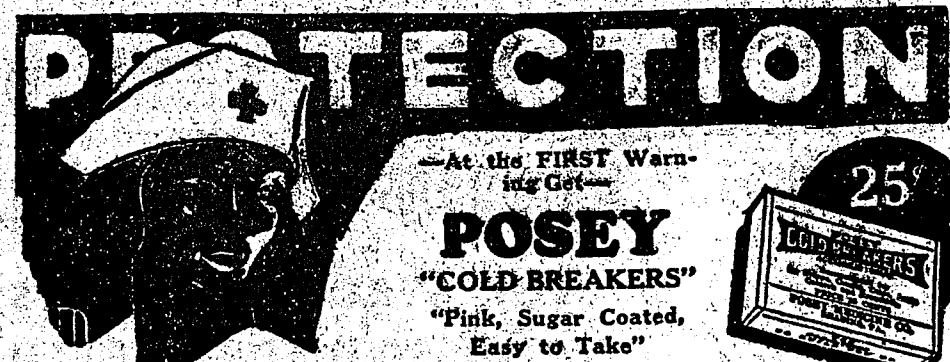
750 PENN STREET

It Costs Less
to Live When
You Trade in Your
Neighborhood
ASCO Store
AMERICAN STORE CO.

TWENTY-TWO YEARS ON THE SQUARE

The management of this institution aspires to a much closer relationship with its patrons than usually exists in the average restaurant. In the twenty-two years we have been in business we have never deviated from our policy—Good Service—Pleasant Surroundings and only the Highest Quality food-stuffs obtainable.

Crystal Restaurant and Pastry Shop
539-547 PENN ST., C. MANTIS, Mgr.

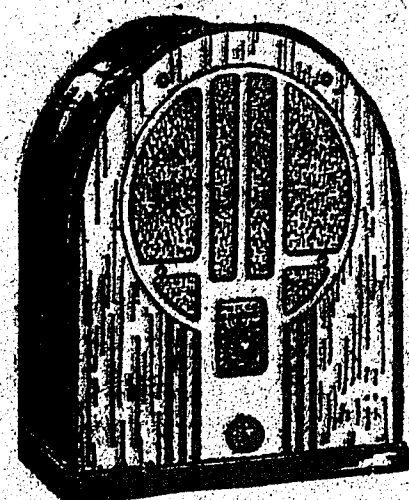


POSEY "COLD BREAKERS"
"Pink, Sugar Coated, Easy to Take"
Quickly Forget You Ever Had a Cold...
At Druggists Everywhere
Recommended by NAGLE'S CUT-RATE STORES
1101 Marion Street
656 Schuylkill Avenue

**WILLY-KNIGHT, WILLYS,
DE SOTO and PLYMOUTH**
Sales and Service
General Repairing on All Makes
Hertzog's Garage
EPHRATA, PA.

FEBRUARY FURNITURE SALE Starts To-Morrow

THE GREATEST NEWS EVENT OF THE DAY
FOR IT'S YOUR LAST CHANCE TO MAKE
SENSATIONAL SAVINGS ON FURNITURE
BOUGHT AT THE LOWEST PRICE
LEVELS OF 1933



It's Brand New!
"PHILCO"

**84B
\$20**

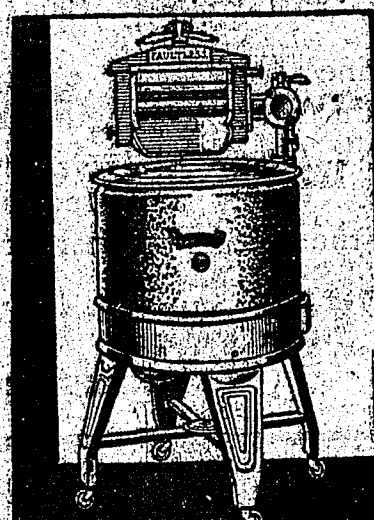
New Philco
Dry Battery
Set.
Hook It Up
Yourself.

Greatest Radio value ever offered for so
little money. Receives police calls, too.
See and hear it now; its performance
will amaze you.

"FAULTLESS" ELECTRIC WASHER

**\$39.50
SI A WEEK**

Agitator,
Aluminum
Porcelain Tub
and Many
Other Features.



10-YEAR GUARANTEE BOND
INCLUDED IS A YEAR'S
SUPPLY OF "RINSO"

BERKS
FURNITURE CO.
802-804 PENN ST.

CODE PROFITEER WHITEWASHED IN PRICE HEARINGS

Testimony of Price Fixing
With Exorbitant Mark-ups
Dismissed as "Exceptional
Cases"

BUYERS' INTERESTS HURT

Code Authorities Smother Ob-
jections To Profit Grabbing
By Glib Excuses For "Open
Price" Racket

WASHINGTON (FP). —
From the gagged and fettered
NRA price hearings held in
Washington small hope came
to consumers of relief from
profiteering prices. Summariz-
ing the results of the hearings,
A. D. Whiteside, NRA division
administrator, whitewashed
complaints as representing "ex-
treme" and "exceptional"
cases.

He promised investigation by re-
ferring the complaints to the code
authorities which are back of the
"open price" racket.

A battery of city, state and uni-
versity purchasing agents paraded
through Whiteside's hearings to tell
of exorbitant "mark-ups" and of the
strange absence of competitive bid-
ding as soon as codes are adopted,
and sometimes before. The one-
price bids are achieved by the self-
governing trade association posting
a list of what it terms fair prices.
In effect members of the association
are forbidden to cut under the "open
price." In defense the code authori-
ties said that these open prices are
not compulsory, but the testimony
showed that the result is the same—
competition has disappeared in in-
dustry after industry.

Price Fixers Shielded
The NRA consumers advisory
board presented many of the out-
rageous price increase complaints,
but Dexter Keezer, its representative,
was obliged to admit that without
an adequate field force it was im-
possible to prepare cases. So the
price hearings degenerated into pre-
sentation of complaints by the fund-
less Consumers Board with glib
answers from the code authorities to
smother the objections.

Bona fide consumers' representa-
tives were denied an adequate chance
to present their case and their words
were either garbled or suppressed in
the official NRA publicity releases.

ACTIVITIES ON THE LOCAL UNION FRONT

(Continued from First Page)
warded to the Pennsylvania Federa-
tion of Labor and the Philadelphia
Central Labor Union for similar ac-
tion.

A WORD TO MERCHANTS

Merchants who are enjoying the
continued patronage of the local or-
ganized labor movement may dis-
cover their customers passing them
up soon if they continue to have
their windows cleaned by the notori-
ously non-union Berkshire Window
Cleaning Company owned and op-
erated by Charles Hare. The Window
Cleaners' Union is affiliated with and
backed by the Federated Trades
Council.

NEW UNIONS IN F. T. C.

New organizations affiliating with
F. T. C.



Get Your MIKADO PENCILS
— at —
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STATIONERS SINCE 1883
838-840 PENN ST.

SURPLUS



This colored boy was snapped at
the stable on the farm where his
father is a sharecropper, just as he
came back from plowing under a
part of the crop because there was
too much cotton. Note the cotton
overalls and shirt he is wearing. No
one at Washington has ever thought
that the surplus cotton might be used
to clothe the cotton raisers.

The Federated Trades Council since
January 1st are the Amalgamated
Clothing Workers, Hardware Work-
ers and Allied Trades, Lady Gar-
ment Workers' local union and one
local of the United Hatters of North
America.

HELPING "FAIR" BOSSSES

Organized labor has entered the
field of assisting in securing impor-
tant contracts for manufacturers and
contractors. A twofold purpose is
accomplished—bringing work here
to employ local union workers,
thereby demonstrating to employers
that workers' organizations are good
for things other than fighting for
better wages and conditions.

This demonstrates that organized
workers are a power many times
beneficial to bosses when their own
agents fail. Details will be an-
nounced later.

UNION CONFERENCE

Tuesday, February 20, at 7:30
p. m. in the Hosiery Workers' hall,
Tenth and Penn streets, is the time
and place for the Trade Union Prob-
lems Conference under the joint aus-
pices of the Trades Council and the
Labor College.

"Shop Problems" will be discussed
by Reuben Block, manager Eastern
Pennsylvania District for the Amal-
gamated Clothing Workers.

"Keeping Your Union Members
Interested" will be J. Henry Stump's
subject.

A general discussion period will
follow each speaker and a short skit
will be given by members of the dra-
matic group from the Reading Labor
College. Officers and active mem-
bers interested from local unions are
welcome and urged to come.

CHEAP DAIRY WAGES

PAY MILK CUT

Customers of the Independent
Dairy Company will be interested to
learn that the milk served them is
pasteurized, bottled and handled by
five men receiving an aggregate pay-
roll of \$27.00 per week. This ac-
counts for some of the advantages
in milk prices dairymen can give
their customers over competitors
whose employees are paid a living
wage. The dairy division of the
Chauffeurs and Teamsters' Union are
continuing their successful drive on
non-union delivery men and are
nearing an agreement in a few more
milk distributing establishments.

FIGHT COMPANY UNION

Bessie Hillman and a committee of
Penn Pants strikers, members of the
Amalgamated Clothing Workers,
journeyed to Harrisburg Monday
afternoon to attend a hearing in the
office of the Secretary of the Com-
monwealth and protest the issuance
of a charter to the Pennrae Protec-
tive Association, the company union
in the Penn Pants factory, Second
avenue, West Reading. President
Phillips of the Pennsylvania Federa-
tion of Labor assisted them and
every indication points towards the
possibility of the company being de-
nied a state charter in their effort
to defeat the legitimate labor move-
ment.

READING UNIONISTS
HELP OTHER WORKERS
That the Reading labor movement

CLASSIFIED SECTION

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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 pay-
ment, and those having claims to pre-
sent the same, without delay, to
JOHN BOWEN
235 Hoffman's Court,
Reading, Pa.
or to his attorney, Darlington
Hoopes, 26 N. 6th St., Reading, Pa.

PENOLOGIST TO SPEAK AT CHURCH FORUM

"What is the matter with our
prisons" will be the subject of an
address to be delivered by Dr. L. N.
Robinson, of Swatmore, Pa., in the
Church of Our Father, Franklin near
Fourth, on Sunday, January 28, at
7:30 p. m. Dr. Robinson has served
on three prison investigating com-
mittees created by various state
legislatures in Pennsylvania and was
appointed chairman of the committee
to investigate the causes of the re-
cent riot at the Eastern Penitentiary
by Gov. Pinchot. He was also a
member of the Cumberland Valley

EXECUTOR'S NOTICE

Estate of Henry S. Bernhart, 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 pay-
ment, and those having claims to pre-
sent the same, without delay, to
John L. Bernhart
411 Locust St., Reading, Pa.
Howard E. Bernhart,
411 Locust St., Reading, Pa.
Mary Bernhart Roman,
R. D. 1, Birdsboro, Pa.
Ellen Bernhart Witshire,
R. D. 1, Phoenixville, Pa.,
or to their attorney, Darlington
Hoopes, 26 N. 6th St., Reading, Pa.

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fitting set of teeth in 24 hours of busi-
ness. Dr. Gould is your guarantee of
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LOW PRICES!
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F-O-R T-H-E M-A-N W-H-O WORKS

B. S. LONGENECKER
227 Penn Street
1019 North Ninth Street
OPEN EVENINGS

VASSAR PRESIDENT WILL BE FORUM SPEAKER

Next Monday evening, January 29,
Dr. Henry Noble McCracken, Presi-
dent of Vassar College, will be the
speaker at the Community Open
Forum. Dr. McCracken is a leader
among American educators, and has
been an instructor at Yale and Smith
Colleges. He will speak on "The
Crisis in Education."

Dr. Frank Bohn, one of our lead-
ing authorities on international news
and political and social questions,
will address the Community Open
Forum on the evening of February
5, on the subject, "Foregrounds of
the Great Transition." Dr. Bohn is
a contributor on international rela-
tions and economic problems, to the
New York Times and various maga-
zines.
The public is invited to attend
these Forums held in the auditorium
of the City Hall.

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Official Organ of

FEDERATED TRADES COUNCIL

LOCAL BERKS COUNTY, SOCIALIST PARTY

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Luther Adams, Vice-President
M. L. Wolfskill, SecretaryA. P. Bower, Secretary-Treasurer
Earl White, Business Agent
Stanley Baer, Sergeant-at-Arms

FRIDAY, JANUARY 26, 1934

"NEW DEAL" POTTAGE OR SOCIALIST JUSTICE

The farther the "New Deal" progresses the more it becomes evident that the welfare of the workers, as one of the results of the recovery program, is going to be merely a by-product. The chief consideration sought now, as in the past, is the revival of the owners' game, not a system which will give economic justice and assured prosperity to the producing masses.

Take, for example, the money question which is causing so much discussion at the present writing. What does the average man know about money? Nothing. What difference will it make to the average man whether currency is stabilized, made more flexible or fixed in value by dictatorial decree? In the main, none. In any event, the millions who compose the working class will continue to work for the enrichment of the few who are the owning class. It is to stabilize Capitalism, not to abolish fundamental social injustices that things are being tried right now. The money question is the masters' problem, not the workers'.

Of course, workers will likely be able to enjoy more material prosperity if the Capitalists get their system to running once again; the slaves of prosperous masters were always better fed and housed than those possessed by "poor white trash." But the essential condition of slavery is certain to remain under any adjustments which the masters may make. This is so because the preservation of slavery and not the emancipation of the slaves is the object sought.

Workers who permit themselves to be beguiled by promises of better times under the "New Deal" are, like Esau of old, selling their birthright of freedom and justice for a mess of pottage. It may be argued that a mess of pottage is of extreme importance to a hungry man. It is. But more important is the establishing of a system which will free humanity from economic bondage. It is such a system that Socialists demand, and the workers of this and other countries will continue to pay dearly unless they help to establish it.

THE DOLE SYSTEM WILL CONTINUE

Following a conference with President Roosevelt, CWA Director Harry L. Hopkins announced this week that it is the intention of the Federal Administration to abolish Civil Works as an unemployment relief measure on May 1. However, Hopkins explains, the May 1 deadline will be extended if private industry fails to absorb 3,000,000 unemployed by that time.

At the risk of being branded as a false prophet, we are willing to predict right now that CWA works or some substitute will not only be continued but augmented before Capitalism has set its house in order.

There is no reason to hope that industry is going to increase its payrolls. Certainly, the \$15 weekly maximum which most CWA workers are permitted to earn by a paternal government will not create enough purchasing power to buy the abundance which efficient American industry can produce.

The hint that 3,000,000 unemployed may be returned to private industry may, however, be more than attempt to temporarily revive public confidence in the Roosevelt recovery plans. There is one way in which more people may be absorbed by private industry; namely, by staggering jobs and bringing down the living standards of the higher-paid workers. But the dislocation of purchasing power which would ensue from such an arrangement would defeat the purpose of recovery and result in greater and more pressing problems for the gigantic industries which need prosperous customers to whom they can sell their surpluses.

People who believe that the government is going to be able to stop bridging the gap between needed and un-needed workers are mistaken. As long as productive industries are permitted to remain in private hands and operate for the private profit, so long will it be necessary for the Federal government to supply doing to the unemployable workers, and it really makes no difference whether the doles are paid to idlers or dispensed for services on non-productive projects.

Roosevelt relief policies are enabling the big owners to continue to keep the goose which lays the golden eggs of profit. But they will have to take enough of the eggs from the profiteers, either through outright taxes or by loans which will finally be repudiated, to keep the propertyless class from killing the goose.

GOUGERS LAY BLAME ON LABOR

Complaints of rising prices are coming from all parts of the country. Increases in price sometimes range as high as 50 or even 100 per cent. An article which sold for a dollar last year now, in many cases, is priced at \$1.50 or \$2; and the blame for the higher cost invariably is laid to "higher wages."

This plea is as stupid as it is greedy. Labor forms only a minor fraction of the cost of nearly every article on the mar-

ket; and this statement can be proved in five minutes by official figures.

Every two years, the Department of Commerce publishes a Census of Manufactures, based on reports from substantially all the manufacturing establishments in the country. Two figures given in the census are particularly interesting. One is the amount of money which the manufacturer receives at the factory door, and the other is the amount that he hands out at the payroll window for wages.

In 1931, the last year for which figures are ready, the manufacturers of the United States received for their goods at the factory door \$41,521,147,000.

In the same year, they paid out in wages \$7,255,692,000. Remember, manufacturers themselves furnish these figures; the Census Bureau only puts them together. Take pencil and paper, and you will find that manufacturers received in prices nearly six times as much as they paid out in wages.

In still simpler form, the labor cost of an article sold at the factory door for one dollar averaged 17.5 cents. If wages in that factory were increased 50 per cent, the manufacturer would be justified in charging \$1.08 1/4 for the article previously sold for a dollar. If wages were doubled, his extra expense would be covered by charging \$1.17 cents.

Wages have not been doubled in any industry. LABOR knows no plant in which the wages have been raised even 50 per cent. The boost in prices, when it passes a very modest sum, is utterly indefensible—and the outrageous gouging of consumers is made worse by falsely laying the blame on labor.—Labor.

IT'S A GREAT SYSTEM!

By JOHN PAINE
Federated Press

Our idea of a conscientious objector is Dr. Alphonse Legace, who refused to be inaugurated as mayor of Franklin, N. H., because city councilors were filling municipal positions with their relatives.

It is reported that Gen. Johnson and President Roosevelt "quietly accepted" a renewal of the merit clause when the automobile code was renewed.

We'll say they did it quietly—we didn't hear any rumpus about it from the workers.

German deputies leap to their feet when they wish to signify approval in the Reichstag.

Some such rule might keep some U. S. congressman awake, too.

"A bank official who by speculative steps exposes the bank to large losses not only deprives the stockholders of their money but weakens their bank and brings discredit upon banking," mourns The New York World-Telegram editorially.

And not one word about the prosperous (?) depositors!

Signs of the Times

On a quiet street in Washington, D. C., is a neat little sign: NO PARKING. EMBASSY OF UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS.—Police Dept.

ZOO LION HELD STARVED, says a headline.

You, too, Leo?

"Western Massachusetts has excellent winter sports conditions, with plenty of snow for excellent skiing, tobogganing and coasting," says a report from the New England Council, bosses outfit.

"Excellent conditions," too, for freezing to death.

Said President Roosevelt in his message to the 73rd Congress: Child labor "is abolished."

We want to know when and where, Mr. President.

Some hope is still held out that to the expected surplus for 1935 of \$800,000,000 in current federal running expenses could be added \$700,000,000 in loan repayments to the RFC.

Some hope—you understand, but not much.

When you lend money to guys like Charlie Dawes, you can kiss it good-bye.

The U. S. Supreme Court decided recently in a Minnesota mortgage moratorium case that "an economic emergency" (the depression), like fire, flood or earthquake, gives a state power to set aside contracts.

Now is the time for the American Red Cross to proclaim that "an economic emergency," like fire, flood and earthquake, is an act of God.

Or maybe the Red Cross is waiting for a more divine revelation?

Our Great Diplomats

Dozens of delegates to the Pan-American Conference signed documents which were discovered to be blanks before one of them got wise.

That blank treaty signing gave Secretary of State Hull an out, however; he ducked from the conference and bit for home without signing anything.

Washington, history books tell us,

was known as the great general; Lincoln, the great emancipator; Hoover, the great engineer—and Roosevelt, his policies indicate, will go down as the great printer.

A load of tuna bearing the NRA blue eagle was recently sent over to the U. S. from Japan.

Enterprising, these Japanese!

Who says that thrift and enterprise are unrewarded in these hard days?

Take Fred Rentschler. By thrift (he's the brother of the head of America's second biggest bank) he saved up \$253 and invested it in 1926 in airplane stock. Two points: thrift, faith in American industry.

By enterprise he helped get some 45 millions in federal subsidies. Third point: patriotism; he worked with his government.

Thus, by three virtues, his investment of \$253 became worth \$35,575,848 in 1929.

IT'S A GREAT SYSTEM!

PAMPHLET BARES PLOTS OF MUNITION PROFITEERS

A recent publication of the Union of Democratic Control, London, is an extraordinary pamphlet entitled, "Patriotism Ltd.," which presents startling facts, figures and information of special interest to all classes of people. The pamphlet exposes the deliberate machinations of armament firms which have had direct and momentous consequences on international relations particularly of European states.

The one purpose of these firms being to gain immense profits, they have stopped at nothing to achieve their ends. Secret agents have collected secret orders and disbursed secret bribes; false reports have been disseminated; racial antagonism roused; national prejudices increased; war scares invented and magnified. Certain chapters deal with the exposure of the War Machine; the cooperation of Hitler with Thyssen, iron magnate of the Ruhr who has generously supported the Hitler regime; gun-running in Central Europe; the Skoda Scandal; the story of the collusion of French and German heads of arms industries during the World War and the careful preservation of their combined plants from bombing; all this and much more is revealed of a nature to shake every country sober from its present debauch in militarism.

The information supplied, unobtainable elsewhere, is invaluable to anyone desiring full knowledge of facts relating to the present crisis. Copies of this pamphlet may be obtained from the War Resisters' League, 172 West 12th street, New York City. Price, 20 cents postpaid.

FARMERS LIVE CHEAP LIVES

The average farm home in the United States, according to the United States Bureau of the Census (reported in New York Times, Jan. 14, 1934), has no telephone, no running water, no electric lights. Its value, if it is occupied by its owner, is \$1,135; if occupied by a tenant, \$500 or less.

Of farm homes owned by the occupants, 44 per cent are worth less than \$1,000 each and only 4 per cent are worth more than \$5,000; of tenant farm homes, 65 per cent are worth less than \$1,000 and only 1 per cent worth more than \$5,000. Only 34 per cent of all farm homes have telephones, 13.4 per cent have electricity, 15.8 per cent have running water.

THE WORLD IN REVIEW

By JOEL I. SEIDMAN

THE NATIONAL INCOME

The national income of the United States, according to estimates prepared for the Senate by the Department of Commerce, fell from \$81,000,000,000 in 1929 to \$49,000,000,000 in 1932. The figure for 1933 was expected to be about the same as for 1932.

In these figures the tragic failure of the existing economic system is written plainly enough for anyone to understand. In the space of three years the volume of wealth declined 40 per cent, despite the abundance of raw material, the existence of unparalleled facilities for producing wealth, and the presence of millions of unemployed workers and a half-starving population. The capitalist system should be repudiated by every intelligent person because it fails to produce the food, clothing, and other necessities of life that our land and productive machinery are able to provide.

More than that, it distributes what wealth is produced in a haphazard, irresponsible fashion, with the result that parasites who do no useful work of any sort get huge incomes because of their ownership of property, while the persons who produce the wealth often get barely enough to keep them alive. In 1929 more than 500 persons in the country had incomes of more than a million dollars, while at the same time the average working-class family received less than the federal government itself held necessary to maintain a minimum standard of health and decency. Even though, at the present reduced national income, each family could still receive about \$1,500 per year, the minimum wages under the codes are with few exceptions fixed at less than half that amount.

Even in 1929, however, we failed to produce anything like the quantity of goods and services that our industrial machine made possible. Wastes in competitive selling, in small-scale production, in the manufacture of inferior and even harmful products, in cross-transportation, and in the use of obsolete methods, to mention but a few of the more obvious wastages, probably reduced the volume of production to half what it might have been. Government economists have estimated that on the basis of our plant capacity of 1927, which is below the present figure, we can produce enough to give every family an income of \$6,000 per year.

It is scarcely necessary to point out that this can never be accomplished under capitalism, with its strivings to limit production, and its criminally faulty system of distribution. It can be done when the nation consciously uses its economic machinery in order to give its citizens the highest possible standard of living, and this cannot be done until the nation owns that machinery. That means, of course, the socialization of the means of production, and the abolition of rent, interest, and profit.

Every family in this country, if it wishes a rough estimate of the value to it of Socialism, might merely subtract its present income from \$6,000. The difference represents the minimum and immediate advantage to it of the socialization of the productive machinery of the land.

CIVIL WORKS

The Roosevelt Administration has failed to make any significant change in the economic life of the country, though the NRA machinery developed by it could be used by Socialists for that purpose. The administration has likewise failed to solve more than a small proportion of the unemployment problem, for the number of jobless in the last two months has increased to almost eleven million. What the administration did accomplish, however, was the betterment of the condition of the unemployed, through the Civil Works project.

And now even much of that has been lost. The 4,000,000 CWA employees have had their hours of work reduced to 24 in the cities, and 15 in small communities and rural districts. That means wages as low as \$7.50 per week, or a standard little higher than that of Hoover charity. The reason assigned is lack of funds, but there is no difficulty getting billions for all other purposes. The truth of the matter seems to be that Roosevelt has at last listened to the mounting wail of protest from smalltown employers, who were afraid that the Civil Works standard of pay, higher than their own, would force them to raise their wage level. It is still true under the New Deal that labor gets merely crumbs; and it will get no more than crumbs until it organizes into a political party

READ'S

GO WHERE THE CROWDS GO... 7th and PENN. STS.

Save! Underwear

WOMEN'S FINE SILK LINGERIE

CHEMISE AND DANCE SETS

Luxurious undies made of pure dye silk—absolutely sensational at this price. Tailored with contrasting colors or trimmed with the daintiest of laces. Pink, tearose and blue. Regular sizes.

74^c

READ'S FIRST FLOOR

Many Cold Nights Are Still Ahead of Us!

WOMEN'S WARM FLANNEL

PAJAMAS

Genuine Amoskeag outing in plain colors trimmed with figured. One and two-piece styles. When we reorder these the price will be much higher! Stock up!

79^c

Regular Sizes

READ'S FIRST FLOOR

Save Men's Shirts

Just About 300 in This Lot!

MEN'S BROADCLOTH

SHIRTS

This sensational Read's bargain is made of excellent wearing broadcloth—pre-shrunk to spare your neck and laugh at the laundry!

77^c

All colors and styles in plains and figures.

Sizes 14 to 17

READ'S FIRST FLOOR

A Most Extraordinary Sale of

MEN'S DRESS

TROUSERS

Good Quality Cassimeres, Worsteads, Serges, Chevots.

NOTE THE FEATURES!

All straining places reinforced, cuff bottoms, suspender buttons, bar tacked seams, with or without side buckles, in a large selection of browns, blues and greys.

Sizes 29 to 30

READ'S FIRST FLOOR

WORK SHIRTS

BLUE CHAMBRAY
Regular Value 79c

Coat Style, Triple Sutured, Wear, Pockets.
Cut Full
Sizes 14 1/2 to 17

59^c

READ'S FIRST FLOOR

strong enough to demand and compel fair treatment.

America shows some improvement. In the beginning, one man in three was a killer.

At first they were willing to pay 30c to southern workers but when NRA began fixing 25c minimum scales, the retail monument industry amended its wage proposal to conform.

Workmen's Sick and Death Benefit Fund of the United States of America

Organized 1884 — Incorporated 1899.
Branch 368 — Reading, Pa.
Workers Protect Your Families!
In Case of Sickness, Accident and Death!
Over 50,000 members, 352 Branches in U. S.
Reserves: Over \$3,500,000.
Benefits paid: Sick Benefits over \$13,000,000.
Death Benefits: Over \$5,300,000. Total, \$18,300,000.
Sick benefits paid per week: \$6, \$9, or \$12, for 40 weeks, and half of the amount for another 40 weeks.
Death Benefits, according to age at the time of initiation, in one or both classes:
Class A: 40 cents per month; Death Benefits, \$335 at the age of 16 to \$175 at the age of 44.
Class B: 50 cents per month; Death Benefits, \$550 to \$230.
Parents may insure their children in case of death up to the age of 18 years. Death Benefits, according to age, \$20 to \$200.
Also Hospital Aid Fund for Hospital Expenses and Relief Fund for members in distress.
For further information apply to Eugene Haag, Financial Secretary of Branch 368, 240 Linden Street, Reading, Pa.