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READING LABOR ADVOCATE

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'New Deal' Year Fails to Bring Prosperity

REFLECTIONS

By the Editor

"THE TROUBLE WITH you Socialists is that you lack religion in your movement."

Have you ever heard that statement? I have. Hundreds of times I have had this criticism offered by professing Christians. And hundreds of times I have seen those same critics vote against the interest of the working masses—as though the Republican and Democratic supporters of the racketeering Capitalist system stood for the principles of Jesus when they brought poverty, prostitution, misery and war to the peoples of the earth.

OF LATE HOWEVER, I have been wondering whether we Socialists could not take a lesson from the Nazarene Carpenter. For there has been growing upon me a conviction that that man Jesus was an unspinning, two-fisted, hard-hitting battler against injustice who would not be diverted from his purpose by the petty promises of politicians and who would not sell his followers for the privilege, let us say, of winning enormous sums of money in a crooked poker game with those who placed heavy burdens upon the poor.

AT ANY RATE, I find myself unconsciously modernizing some of the sayings of the Nazarene when called upon to combat the arguments of some of those timid and, in my opinion, misguided souls who would have Socialists forsake their demands for ALL THE WORLD FOR THE PRODUCERS and tag along at the coat tails of Capitalism's "New Deal" advocates.

When I speak to people who are grateful for the beggarly CWA jobs which have been given and the other social benefits which have been promised, I reply in words which are not always scriptural: "Seek ye first the kingdom of Socialism; and all these things will be added unto you." And when I read General Johnson's invitation to ALL classes—Capital, Labor and Consumers—to assist in making labor-exploitation work once more, I reflect that: "No man can serve two masters; he can not serve God and Mammon."

Sometimes a weak-kneed Socialist will timidly suggest that perhaps we would make more progress if we would change our name, soft-pedal our demands for a revolutionary and fundamental change and make common cause with "Liberals." And then I counter with the question: "If the Socialists lose their Socialism wherewith will society be Socialized?" And where is the Socialist of any prominence who has not been taken up to the mountaintop and offered the good things which the Capitalist there have been the Spargos of every race and nationality who accepted the bribe. But only those who had the guts to reply, "Get thee behind me, you crooked so and so," actually remained Socialists. The rest became renegades, compromisers, trimmers and oppressors of the people.

I AM NOT orthodox in my religion. But I do suspect that our movement would be benefited by a revival of that spirit which strengthened Karl Marx in his determination to search for truth in a garret when he might have sold his giant intellect and betrayed his principles and enabled Gene Debs to have more lib-

SOCIALIST

Radio Program EVERY SUNDAY

at 12:15 P. M. over

361.4M WEEU 830K

Mar. 4—Birch Wilson.
Mar. 11—Darlington Hoopes.
Mar. 18—Mark Starr.

TELL YOUR FRIENDS

FOOD CONSUMPTION LOWER AS HIGHER PRICES OFFSET EFFECT OF WAGE BOOSTS

Living Standards Fail to Mount, Despite Ballyhoo of NRA—Workers Taxed for Unemployment Relief As Higher-Paid Lose What Low-Paid and Jobless Workers Receive, Bare Existence Pay

NEW YORK (FP).—A year ago the United States hailed the New Deal hopefully. Banks were all closed, business stagnant, suffering tremendous.

Today, the nation is still hopeful. Instead of Depression, today's word is Recovery. Retail trade is up; wages are higher; more are employed; prices are higher.

And there is the catch. Total wages, retail trade in dollars, and prices are up about the same amount. Where the total wages were \$4, they are now \$5. Where the store's trade was \$4, it is \$5. Where the price for a pair of shoes was \$4, it is \$5. Wages, trade, prices all up. But the blunt fact is that the American people are apparently not using more goods—have no higher standard of living—than they enjoyed at the blackest period of the nation's worst depression. Prices are up from 22 to 27 per cent.

Going back to December, to escape the distortion of the bank crisis of last year, we find that sales, measured in dollars, were up from December, 1932, as follows: 19 chain stores, 11.9 per cent; eight dime-store chains, 11.9 per cent; restaurant chains, 6.8 per cent; department stores in 12 great cities, 14.1 per cent; two big mail order chains, 20.2 per cent. One of these reports tonnage. The A. & P. stores sold 96,737 tons of food weekly against 99,994 tons the year before. Reports from other food chains indicate that food consumption was definitely lower after nearly a year of the New Deal. It seems true that the lowest-paid have gained as the better-paid have lost. Some who were unemployed now have jobs. The loss in jobs in January was only 921,000 this year as against 976,000 last. Some industries, mostly munitions, have improved. The railroads were carrying about 10 per cent more tonnage than a year ago, before the bank crisis distortion ran those figures up to 15 per cent.

Offsetting these slightly encouraging features is the fact that 4,000,000 who were on dole wages in December, adding to retail sales volume, are going back to breadlines by the hundreds of thousands now.

We have a new engineer but the same old engine. And it seems to be pulling a standard of living for the whole people at the basis of the depression low point or very close to it.

SKIT ON PROGRAM OF WOMEN'S CELEBRATION

An added feature of the International Women's Day celebration, which will be held in Odd Fellows Temple next Friday, March 9, will be the staging of a skit entitled, "Over the Back Fence in 1930." The actors will be Mrs. Ella Moser and Esther Auman.

The event, sponsored by the Women's Committee of Local Berks, will bring to this city Jessie W. Haughan, of New York City, who has a favorable reputation as a lecturer and educator. Mrs. Haughan has been a member of the Socialist Party for many years and has been chosen as a candidate for a number of important public offices.

Choral selections by the Women's Socialist Chorus and mass singing will enliven the occasion. Admission will be free to the general public.

Fighting For Millions

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—The Alabama Power Co., which has been fighting Muscle Shoals development by the government, made \$3,276,291 profits in 1933.

EDUCATORS SEE BANKER SYSTEM DOOM SCHOOLS

Teachers, at Mercy of Big Business, Fear to Demand Federal Aid For Child Training

STANDARDS ARE FALLING

Overcrowded and Under-Supplied Classes Threaten Schools as Corporate Interests Amass Nation's Wealth

WASHINGTON (FP).—Timid educators, at the mercy of Chambers of Commerce which run local boards of education and state legislatures, struck out gingerly in the Cleveland convention of the National Education Association against the banker-controlled profit system which is ruining American schools. But few were willing to say, above a whisper, that the state and local systems of education have broken down and must be replaced by a federal system, which alone can maintain schools in bankrupt and poverty-stricken areas.

The signs are definitely on the horizon that a change is overdue. The national committee for federal emergency aid, backed by N. E. A., is asking a \$50,000,000 subsidy for the present fiscal year to keep the schools open in hundreds of communities (Continued on Page Two)

MAYOR McLEVY WILL SPEAK AT SOCIALIST BAZAAR

Jasper McLevy, Socialist Mayor of Bridgeport, will speak on the special Sunday program at the Socialist Bazaar at the Odd Fellows Hall on April 11 to 15.

Comrade McLevy, who was elected mayor in the Socialist landslide in Bridgeport last November, is a member of the National Executive Committee of the Socialist Party.

The bazaar will open on Wednesday evening, April 11 and will continue every evening and will close with a special program on Sunday afternoon and evening.

Preparations are being made by the various Socialist women's groups to make the bazaar a big success. The Socialist Orchestra will furnish music every evening for dancing.

As a special attraction the committee has arranged to give away a Copeland Electric Refrigerator as a grand prize on Saturday night, April 14th.

Admission tickets are being distributed and sold by branch members and party workers. If you or your branch did not get tickets get in touch with Comrade Bigony at once.

The cooperation of every Socialist is needed to make the bazaar a big success. Let's all unite in putting it over. It will mean a good time for all and at the same time it will mean funds for the coming campaign.

DANCE NEXT SATURDAY TO AID UNITED DRIVE

As a means of raising funds for the United Drive Campaign for \$50,000, the Northwest Branch will hold a public dance next Saturday night, March 10, in Harmony Hall, Rosenthal street and Lebanon Valley Railroad.

Tickets are now on sale at the branch headquarters, Green and Gordon streets, and are being offered by many individual branch members. Old and new style dances will be enjoyed.

School Board Tactics And The Public Good

Because of the delay of Fusion members of the Reading School Board, the citizens of Reading now stand to lose the benefit of at least \$240,000 of the \$600,000 which the PWA stood ready to give to the Board to provide jobs in this city. It is not at all certain that the entire \$600,000 will not be withheld as a consequence of the dilly-dally tactics which has characterized the Board for the past three months.

The loss of Federal funds, which might have been used to put unemployed family heads to work at wages which they will receive in no other way, is a crime against the long-suffering people of Reading for which the property committee and the president of the Reading School Board will have to answer. The property committee is composed of Warren Romig, Luther Schmehl and Absolom Eschelman. The president of the Board Edwin L. Hettinger, who took office with the promise to act as a drive wheel for the School Board machine.

Old Board Acted Promptly. The obstructionist, do-nothing policy of the property committee of which President Hettinger is member ex-officio, has been evident since the new Board took office. Prior to the withdrawal of directors Fink, Hofes and Snyder, in the final hours of the old regime, the four Socialists, acting in unison with Fink, made it possible for the Board to act upon the building program without delay. With the mandate of the people ringing in their ears, a mandate which directed the Board to borrow \$2,000,000 for the construction of badly-needed buildings, and thereby put many jobless citizens upon a payroll, the Socialists and Fink named experienced architects to make plans and a competent building superintendent with which both the Board and the architects could consult. But the start thus given to the new Board was not followed up.

Instead of expressing appreciation for advancing the work some of the hold-over members, as well as the new members of the Board appeared to resent the action of Fink and the Socialists. Instead of proceeding with the work thus begun, they began to hedge and quibble.

Hettinger Opposed Loan. Prior to the popular approval of the loan, President Hettinger was avowedly antagonistic to the plan. He recanted after the election and promised to cooperate in pushing the building program to a successful conclusion. (Continued on Page Six)

MEETING IN BIRDSBORO OPEN TO HOSIERY WORKERS

All hosiery workers, as well as the general public, are invited to attend an open meeting in the Birdsboro Y. M. C. A. on Sunday, March 11, at 2 p. m., under the auspices of Hosiery Workers' Division, Branch No. 10.

"General" Jake Engelhart of the Berkshire Division and James O'Reilly of the Rosedale Division, full fashioned hosiery workers, will deliver addresses of importance to all hosiery mill employees.

JOHNSON'S CODE HEARINGS

Why Seek New Complaints When Old Violations of NRA Codes Go Unpunished?

What is behind the seemingly-fair invitation to criticize NRA industrial codes which Administrator Hugh S. Johnson broadcast to the nation a week ago? Does it mean that, at long last, the "New Deal" is going to begin to function in the interest of the workers of the nation and against the exploiters of Labor? Or is it another ballyhoo stunt, staged for the purpose of getting code objectors out into the open and silencing them all by administration edicts which will deprive the American masses of the liberty to protest and resist further injustices?

Why does General Johnson want to hear criticism now when throughout the nation old complaints have been hanging fire without receiving decisive action from the Federal authorities?

In every community in America the workers know that the codes, written and sponsored by the agents of big business concerns, do not represent their best interests. Complaints have been far more numerous than settlements. Here in Reading, as in all other cities and towns where private industry rules, there are many instances to prove that Johnson and his associates, however willing they may be to receive information of code violations, are not willing to punish violators.

In the Reading pretzel industry, for example, the Krouse pretzel company defiantly walked out of a conference with a representative of the National Labor Board after refusing to abide by the terms of an agreement which had been signed with the union. The Reddy pretzel plant and the Superior-Supreme pretzel company likewise are charged with violating the letter and spirit of the National Industrial Recovery Act. Wholesale discrimination against union men is charged by union officials against the Curtis, Stephens, Embree shoe corporation. The action of the Reading Hardware Company, in laying off 21, out of a force of 41, moulders instead of staggering jobs, has been reported to Washington. Discrimination against union men by the Rosedale Knitting Mills has resulted in a strike. Federal authorities helped to break the strike but did not penalize the violator who caused it. More instances of complaints without result could be furnished.

In most cases these complaints have been hanging fire for months and the abuses against which the workers complained have not been corrected. Why, then, is it necessary for General Johnson to set aside a week in which to hear more protests? Why does he not see to it that OLD disputes and code violations are adjusted before he issues a call for new criticisms? What confidence can the workers of Reading and other communities have in further hearings when they see the old violators still operating under the much-advertised Blue Eagle?

Reading's story can be repeated throughout the nation. William Collins, American Federation of Labor organizer in Detroit, told Johnson this week that "the Automobile Chamber of Commerce is running the code show." That was an OLD charge, not a NEW one, but nothing has been done about it. The auto code's 48-hour week is being violated right and left. Why must Johnson be told about it again?

Joe Kiss, of the Furniture Workers' Industrial Union, tells Johnson that the 30-34c minimum wage has become practically a maximum, with \$13.60 regarded as the standard wage in furniture factories. That, too, is "old stuff." So is the famous Budd case old stuff in Philadelphia and in Washington. The men struck in November, but the National Labor Board's decision, as yet uncomplied with, was handed down this month. Budd still has government contracts and not a finger has been lifted to take them from him.

Workers who believe that wholesale hearings of code objectors and code violations will now result in action which will bring economic justice to the people of America are without any evidence upon which to base such hopes. Employers, large and small, have regarded codes as mere scraps of paper—and have gotten away with it. Corporations which control the basic industries of the nation have hampered the formation of workers' unions—the only real right given to Labor by NIRA—and hastened to organize company unions which increase the dominance of employers over workers. In short, the codes have not worked.

There is one thing, and only one which will bring prosperity to American labor. What must be done is to take over the banks, the industries and the means of communication and transportation and operate them solely and only in the interest of the working people of the nation. Any code which recognizes the right of parasites to consume without giving useful service will remain a slave code. And even such codes will continue to be violated by the financial and industrial buccaners who finance and control both major political parties.

What Reading Folks Are Talking About

READING CO. ECONOMIZES DESPITE CITY ORDINANCE

Have you walked past the Reading Co. property on North Sixth street during the past week?

If you did, you probably wondered why it is that the city ordinance which requires householders to clean the snow from sidewalks does not seem to effect big corporations.

From Spring St. clear out to the north end of Sixth street is Reading Co. property. Down Spring to the subway also is company territory. And there is where the snow lies thickest.

The well-known Reading Co. policy of saving wages in order that idle owners can reap profits explains why the general public is forced to risk its neck in walking where the Reading Co. property. When the Reading Co. "removes" snow it does the job with a tractor equipped with a rotary brush. The loose snow is cast into the street, but a hard crust, several inches deep, remains and, after successive thaws and freezes, turns into ice.

Men with shovels could make walking safe in a few hours. But, while putting men to work might be more in the spirit of "National Recovery," it would also be more expensive for the owners. So the company's old employees stay on the relief rolls, the machine gets the job, pedestrians get the falls, city ordinances get the razz-berry and parasite owners get the profits.

AND—don't forget this voters, this private profit is what you vote for when you support either of the two old parties.

THE READING CO. IS NOT POOR

Employees of the Reading Co., who are now sitting home waiting for a call to service, and those who are permitted to have the man-driving jobs which are handed out, ought to be happy—if they voted against Socialism.

For—the Reading Company owners are doing right well, thank you.

According to the annual report of the Company, published this week, the railroad's 1933 net income was \$6,715,522, an increase of \$2,486,733 over the previous year. Operating income was \$13,577,067, an increase of \$2,490,451 over 1932, but expenses were \$6,655,640 under the expenses of 1932.

All of which explains why it is that equipment is being permitted to run to ruin, why men are driven, why injured employees are penalized, why night shifts work in darkness, why jobs are farmed out to specialty shops, why repairs to road beds are delayed, why labor forces are reduced to the lowest possible minimum and why employees say it is "hell" to work at the shops.

Think it over, Old Party voters. How do you like the private ownership of industry for private profit? Certainly, if YOU like it the owners have no cause to complain.

FUSION FIRES WIDOW; SAVES CITY FROM RIDICULE

Aha, now we know what the Fusionists means when they promised to "Save Reading From Ridicule." They had in mind the firing from city jobs of widows who don't stand just right with the old political machines.

Last Wednesday Mrs. Bessie Boyer (Continued on Page Two)

SUNDAY NIGHT

7:30 o'clock

EDUCATIONAL FORUM IN LABOR LYCEUM

Subject: Pre-Capitalist Accumulation

Speaker: LARRY ROGIN
Director of Reading Labor College

Admission Free Questions Answered

Owing to the Great
Response Expected!

Our Sale of Men's,
Women's and Children's
Shoes at \$1

Continues Again!

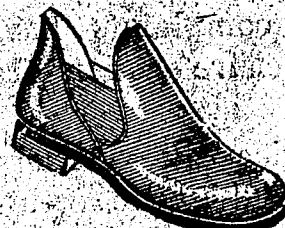
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NOVELTY SHOES
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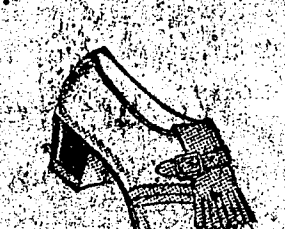
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Children's OXFORDS
Patent, Brown, and
Gun Metal.
Sizes 8 1/2 to 2.



AT \$1

Big Girls' OXFORDS
Black or Brown
Sturdy Soles—All Sizes



AT 25c

Women's Rubber
and Tweed
GAITERS
ALL PERFECT.



AT \$1.98

Men's Dress and
Police Shoes
ALL SIZES.
UNUSUAL VALUES!



The House of Good Shoes
READING SHOE MARKET
846 PENN ST. 848

How War on Austrian Masses Was Planned by Dollfuss, the Infamous, on Heimwehr Orders

Chancellor Dollfuss, the Little Assassin, broadcasted from Vienna over the Columbia network, giving his version of what he called the "revolutionary attempt against the peace and security of our State." He declared that it was a struggle which "we did not seek" and that "it was the attack of a small group of fanatics against the State and society."

If the cold lips of the dead men, women and children murdered by the Chancellor's armed mercenaries could break into speech they would rebuke this slander of these martyred dead.

From the time that Dollfuss became Chancellor, government policy began to change in the direction of favoring the Heimwehr led by Prince Starhemberg. Who is this prince? He belongs to the parasite nobility of the old Dual Monarchy. He is one of the richest men in Austria, the owner of castles, and his wealth is founded on the exploitation of Austrian peasants.

Against the advice of his own party leaders of the Christian Social party, Dollfuss went over to the support of Starhemberg on the eve of the outbreak. Dollfuss for many months favored the dissolution of all parties and the establishment of a Fascist state with himself at the head. This program meant that the will of the majority in Vienna and three other large cities was to give way to the will of the Little Assassin.

On February 9 the leaders of the Christian Social party joined with the Socialists in the Vienna Diet against the demands of Starhemberg for a dictatorship. Deputy Kunschak of the Christian Social party declared on that occasion: "Only such an emergency could ever have brought me to stand side by side with those (the Socialists), from whom a world of political differences otherwise separates me."

Members of both parties cheered this declaration, and Mayor Seitz of Vienna called for cheers for a free and autonomous Vienna. Governor Reither of Lower Austria (Christian Social) that same night refused to receive a deputation of local Heimwehr leaders in Vienna who came to demand the dissolution of parties.

Dollfuss was in Budapest on that day consulting Hungarian reactionaries; he returned to Vienna that night and held a cabinet meeting. A conference with the governors of the provinces was postponed till Monday, but Dollfuss received Starhemberg immediately after the cabinet session. The Prince was accompanied by other Fascist leaders. What happened at that conference Dollfuss has not disclosed.

These Fascists had the day before raided the Vienna Socialist headquarters twice, once in the morning and again in the evening. Alarmist reports had been circulated of arms and explosives being concealed in the building. None was found. The Socialists protested, the police remained in the building and the Socialists de-

cided that this meant permanent occupation of their headquarters.

On February 11 Dollfuss made a definite alliance with the Heimwehr. A wireless to the New York "Times" from Vienna declared that "Chancellor Dollfuss has reached an agreement with the leaders of his Patriotic Front, with whom he has been negotiating since his return from Budapest. Tomorrow (February 12) he is to see the Provincial Governors, and it is believed he will tell them he has decided to dissolve all the provincial governments in Austria and all the provincial Diets."

The decision was made after a conference with the Hungarian dictators and in opposition to the leaders of his own party after the latter had agreed to cooperate with the Socialists in support of the republic.

The "Times" correspondent went on to say that in the provinces of Vienna, Carinthia and Burgenland, "where the prefects are not upholders of the Dollfuss government, commissars are to be appointed with advisors representing the Chancellor attached to them."

"In every town or city where there is not a majority for the Chancellor the local council is to be dissolved and similarly replaced by government commissioners."

And the Little Assassin declares that the bloody week in Austria was due to the "attack of a small group of fanatics against the State and society!" Dollfuss himself had already launched an attack intended to substitute the military boots of Fascism for the elected officials who were not in agreement with him. Then the significant paragraph by the "Times" correspondent:

"Chancellor Dollfuss declared in a press interview this morning that he welcomed the action of the Heimwehr in demanding the rapid execution of his program for getting rid of the parties and Parliament. For the first time the Chancellor adopted Heimwehr phraseology by calling the Socialists 'Marxist-Bolsheviks.'"

The same correspondent reported an interview Starhemberg gave to the Budapest newspaper, "Ujsag," on the same day. He declared that the program of Dollfuss for the dissolution of parties was going to be realized and that it would "put an end to democracy once and for all." Starhemberg added that "to clear the Socialists out of the City Hall was first of all the Chancellor's job. If the Chancellor failed to do it, the Heimwehr would."

One other item. On another page our readers will find a story from the information service of the Trade Union International.

It reveals the fact that early this month Dollfuss issued an emergency decree stripping the Socialist workers of their overwhelming majority in the Chamber of Labor. Out of a total vote of 546,769 cast for Socialist officials, all conservative groups polled only 115,959. This large Socialist majority was made a minority by replacing the majority with reactionary officials. Another decree abolished democratic control of Works Councils and also gave

the government power to appoint the delegates to those councils!

Dollfuss, smeared with the blood of men, women and children of the working class, lied about his victims in his radio broadcast. It was Dollfuss and the Heimwehr-mercenaries who attacked "the State and society." The workers in arms as a final resort turned to what Lincoln called the "revolutionary right of revolution" when the Fascist horde was turned upon them.

The visits of Dollfuss to Budapest and Rome in recent months were undoubtedly in preparation for a blood-bath for the Austrian proletariat. Having been assured of support in these two Fascist capitals, Dollfuss returned to Vienna. His own party had reached an agreement with the Socialists to maintain the republic and democracy.

The return of Dollfuss was the death-knell of the republic. The events sketched above show that for months he was undermining the workers' organizations through arbitrary decrees. His return from Budapest was followed by Heimwehr action. The die was cast. The bloody conflict followed.

For the moment proletarian Vienna has perished at the hands of Dollfuss and his mercenaries, but out of the ruin will come another proletarian Vienna. Dollfuss the Infamous will pass into that oblivion that swallows up the coward and the gangster, fit tools to serve a social order that has inflicted intolerable misery in all lands.

EDUCATORS

(Continued from First Page)

where they are either closed or will shut down shortly. For 1934-35 the committee is asking at least \$100,000,000 from the present Congress, although careful estimates put the needed sum at \$300,000,000. Unless the \$100,000,000 is granted, schooling for millions of children will slip back to standards prevailing 50 years ago.

Gov't Aid Withheld
"Our government has quibbled little about extending generous aid to material agencies and enterprises, some of doubtful validity," states the federal emergency aid committee. "Shall it hesitate to bestow upon the innocent children of the depression that same measure of solicitude? 30,000,000 children are awaiting an answer to that question."

The answer, of course, is Yes. Unfit educators are willing to tell the truth about an economic system that closes schools while boosting, year by year, the income of coupon-clippers, there is no chance that children will get a square deal. Even the Nat'l Education Assn. however is beginning to find its tongue, under the lash of the industrial crisis.

"Super-corporations," states the leading editorial in the current N. E. A. Journal, "as they have developed under banker combination have much the same effect on the wealth of the people as the old Roman empire had on the wealth of its provinces."

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BEEF ROAST 10c lb
Rib End PORK LOIN 15c lb
LAMB SHOULDER 14c lb
PORK SHOULDER 12c lb
Picnic Style 29c lb
VEAL STEAK 29c lb

LEGGS OF LAMB 23c lb

LEAN FRESH HAMS 16c lb

FR. GROUND BEEF 9c lb

RUMP OF VEAL 17c lb

STEWING VEAL 12 1/2c lb

FRESH DRESSED CHICKENS 29c lb

Rex Hams 16c lb

Allentown Hams 17c lb

MEDIUM HEAVY HAMS 12 1/2c lb

LEAN SMOKED SHOULDERS 10c lb

FRESH OR SMOKED SAUSAGE 2 lbs for 33c

FRANKFURTS, RING BOLOGNA, LIVER PUDDING, GARLIC BOLOGNA, 2 lbs 25c

FANCY SWISS CHEESE 29c lb

CAMEO BUTTERINE 2 lbs for 25c

GOODY NUT BUTTERINE 10c lb

SILVER BELL BUTTERINE 10c lb

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BLACK PEPPER
lb. 18c 2 lbs. 35c
For table use and seasoning

DUNHAM'S COCOANUT
10c can
Fresh and Moist—It Has Many Uses!

TOMSON'S MALTED MILK
1/4 lb. 19c 1 lb. 33c
can

Sunshine Peppermint and Spearmint CHEWING GUM
3 5c 10c
pkgs

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10th Anniversary LUX TOILET SOAP
9 out of 10 Screen Stars Use Lux Toilet Soap—Use It Yourself Every Day!

LIFEBUOY HEALTH SOAP 3 bars 17c

WHITE MEAT TUNA FLAKES
2 (halves) cans 25c

WASHBURN'S PANCAKE FLOUR
2 pkgs. 19c

Vermont Maid Cane and Maple SYRUP can 18c

Golden Syrup with that Wonderful Real Maple Sugar Flavor

MACKEREL
2 for 9c 6 for 25c
FILLETS—Fancy white meat—cleaned ready for the pan

Ocean Spray CRANBERRY SAUCE
2 cans 25c

Blended with vine-ripened, juicy cranberries

WALDORF TOILET PAPER
4 for 17c

SCOT TISSUE—The pure soft white 2 rolls 17c

SCOT TOWELS roll 10c

TOWEL HOLDERS each 10c

Muscatel, Cluster Eating RAISINS
2 pkgs. 25c

Berks County Gathered EGGS
doz. 23c 2 doz. 45c

CASSEL'S EVAPORATED MILK
A Good Rich Milk
3 tall cans 17c

JEL-SERT
Jelly Dessert, Special
2 pkgs. 9c

Pure—Clean—Best Quick-Setting Gelatine Dessert (Dissolve in warm water)

SALTED—A-No.1 (Cellophane box) SODA CRACKERS
2-pound box 23c

Gorton's Ready-to-Fry and Flaked Fish
2 cans 25c

EL-DOR-EE Green Cut Stringless STRING BEANS
2 cans 19c

WE REDEEM UNEMPLOYMENT RELIEF VOUCHERS (These Prices for Week of Feb. 26th to March 3rd, 1934)

RAY-MAL BRAND California Fruit FRESH PRUNES
2 big cans 25c

RALSTON Wheat Cereal
25c pkg.

Boys and Girls send Ralston Box Tops to Tom Mix, St. Louis, Mo., for Premiums.

MERION BRAND SPAGHETTI
15-ounce jar 12c

With Tomato Sauce and Mushrooms

COATING and BAKING CHOCOLATE
2 lbs. 25c

4X Powdered SUGAR
4 lbs. 25c

Fine Cocoa Nut 2 lbs. 29c

Home-Made MARSHMALLOW EASTER EGGS
3 large 5c eggs for 10c

CHOCOLATE CREAM DROPS 2 pounds 25c

JELLY EGGS Easter Assorted
2 lbs. 25c

PENNY MARSHMALLOW and CREAM EGGS, pigs and rabbits doz. 10c

WINE-SAP Variety Good Eating and Baking APPLES
1/2-peck 29c

GRAND-PA'S WONDER PINE TAR SOAP
2 bars 9c 6 bars 25c

Removes Body Odors The family's favorite for 55 years.

SHRIMP—Fancy Medium 2 cans 25c

SELF-POLISHING Liquid Floor Wax
For Linoleum and Hardwood Floors Full Pint 75c Value 39c

CAMPBELL'S LENTEN SOUPS
Asparagus, Celery, Clam Chowder, Bean, Pea and Tomato
3 cans 23c 6 cans 45c

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3 tall cans 25c

True Italian Style

PILLSBURY'S BEST AND GOLD MEDAL "Kitchen-Tested" FLOUR
5-lb. bag 29c 12-lb. bag 57c

JEL-SERT
6 pkgs. 25c

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Every Sunday at 2 P. M.
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George Pawling ICE COAL HAULING

2,000 lbs. to the ton
Buckwheat \$5.75 per ton
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Nut and Egg \$9.50 per ton
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HATS MEN'S WEAR CAPS
FULL CUT SHIRTS FAST COLORS
UNION MADE
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WHAT READING FOLKS ARE TALKING ABOUT

(Continued from First Page)

found out the meaning of the Fusion promise. For more than two years she had been employed as a comfort station attendant. She worked two days a week and received \$3 per day. But last Wednesday, like a bolt out of a clear sky, she was given her "walking papers" by a clerk in the office of Councilman Muhlenberg. "I guess," Mrs. Boyer, you know that owing to a change in the administration you'll have to go," is the way Mrs. Boyer, the clerk put it. When she protested, he replied: "These are my orders and I can't help it." Another city employee, Mrs. Adam Meek, who served as a comfort station worker for 11 years, was also cast into the army of the unemployed—for the great good of the city, of course! Mrs. Meek has a jobless husband.

Mrs. Boyer is trying to keep a home for four children, only one of whom is working. Another of the Boyer children is tubercular.

Miss Mengel, of the Mothers' Assistance office, tried to intercede for Mrs. Boyer, but didn't get to first base with Councilman Muhlenberg. The city had to be saved from ridicule and a person favored by the old party political machine had to have a job. So that was that.

How proud the old parties should be of their ability to let the social system sink so low that it takes a political pull to get a job cleaning toilets!

MARCH

To the Store

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YOUNG MEN'S and MEN'S SUITS and TOPCOATS

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3,000 PAIR OF TROUSERS to choose from

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Prices Going Up
WASHINGTON — Responding to the new gold policy, wholesale commodity prices rose 2% in January, the bureau of labor statistics reports.

Avoidable Waste Of Money

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

20c to 40c lb.

IDEAL COFFEE . 23c

HEROY'S

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We Deliver. Phone 7561.

OVERSTREET WILL BE OPEN FORUM SPEAKER

Dr. Harry A. Overstreet, who will be the speaker for the Community Open Forum on the evening of Monday, March 5, is head of the Department of Philosophy and Psychology in the College of the City of New York. He has been a lecturer in the New School of Social Research since 1924, and is the author of a number of books on psychology and philosophy that have been widely read. His subject will be, "Recapturing Our Mental Integrity."

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Parties, Weddings, Banquets at Short Notice
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Activities of the Reading Socialists

CARD PARTY TONIGHT, CAKE SALE TOMORROW AT LAURELDALE

If you like to play cards for fine prizes, be at Laureldale Branch headquarters tonight. Playing will start promptly at 8:30 p. m. and players will be charged 15-cents per corner. Refreshments will be served.

A cake and pie sale will be held by the branch tomorrow at Yerger's store. It will begin at 9 a. m. and last all day. Don't miss this opportunity to help the branch and also get your share of good things to eat.

CARD PARTY SATURDAY AT LABOR LYCEUM

The Central Branch women will hold a card party at Labor Lyceum Saturday, March 3. Extra fine prizes are promised; also delicious food and home-baked pies. Playing will start promptly at 8 p. m.

CARD PARTY SATURDAY AT NORTHEAST BRANCH

The Northeast Branch women again bid you welcome to a card party in their headquarters, 1311 North Ninth street, on Saturday night. Playing will start promptly at 8:30 p. m. Fine prizes and good lunch are promised.

SOCIAL SATURDAY AT EXETER BRANCH

The postponed Lincoln Social will be held Saturday, March 3, at 8 p. m. at the Lincoln Homestead. Lunch will be served. Comrades and friends are invited. The committee assures everyone attending a good time. Will you be there?

LIBRARY BORROWERS

A check-up shows that quite a few of the YPSL and Socialist party borrowers have not been as careful as they might have been in returning their books on time. Look over the books you have, and check the date they were due (or will be due) with the present date.

There is a waiting list for many of these books, so if you have one overdue, please see that it gets in as soon as possible. Play fair.

UNITED DRIVE

Members of this committee are requested to attend the meeting Sat-

urday, March 3, at 2 p. m. at the Labor Lyceum. Be on hand.

SOUTHERN WOMEN, ATTENTION!

There is a vast amount of important business awaiting your disposal at tonight's meeting. Please be on hand to take care of it. We need your assistance.

SOUTHERN SUNDAY FORUM

Because of the severe weather last Sunday, the program scheduled for that time was postponed until this week. So that all those desiring to "listen in" on the round-table discussion on Current Events will have the pleasure of doing so.

A musical offering will also be part of the evening's entertainment. Comrade Savakus and son will render selections on the violin. Tea will be served as usual.

MUSICAL NOTES FROM THE WOMEN'S CHORUS

Please be on time promptly at 8 o'clock on Monday, ladies. There will be special rehearsing for the International Woman's Day programme.

SCHOOL OF STUDY

This Sunday evening the Northeast Socialist School of Study will have as its educator Walter R. Hollinger who will lecture on "Introductory Study of Socialism." The little red schoolhouse is located at 1311 North Ninth street and convenes at 7:30 o'clock. Everybody welcome.

SPECIAL TO MEMBERS OF NORTHWEST BRANCH

All members of the Northwest Branch are urged to attend their meeting tonight. Business of importance requires the consideration of every Northwest Socialist.

AFTERNOON CARD PARTY NEXT WEDNESDAY

If you have an afternoon to spare, come to 1311 North Ninth street, next Wednesday for a card party under the auspices of the Dead-a-Day sewing circle of the Northeast Women's organization. Prizes will be awarded and refreshments served. Playing will start promptly at 2 p. m.

MOHNTON AND CUMRU WOMEN, ATTENTION!

The Women's Socialist League of Mohnton and Cumru will meet at Irvin Agsten's home, Stumptown Road, Cedar Top, Thursday, March 8, at 8 p. m. All women living in that section are urged to attend.

YIPSEL NOTES

Those Yipsels who wish to try for a part in "War Brides," the play to be given at the Anti-War Forum, must be at the Lyceum on Friday, March 2nd, at 8 p. m.

The Yipsel Chorus has already had one rehearsal, the next rehearsal is to be held on Wednesday of next week at the Lyceum at 8 p. m. Be there without fail.

At the last meeting of the CEC it was decided that Circles 7 and 8 should combine in order that the work of the Yipsels may go forward with greater efficiency. You will meet at the Lyceum at 8 p. m. on Tuesday nights. It is hoped that all the old members of circles will attend the meeting. Be there.

At the last meeting of the CEC it was decided that "all plans for a Forum on 'Negro Rights' should be dropped for the present in order that we might concentrate all our efforts on the Anti-War Forum to be held on April 8th at the 'Falcons'."

All circles will take the test next week. Remember, Yipsels, that if you are not at your circle when the test is scheduled to be given, that does not excuse you from taking the same. You will be given the test as soon as you show up at your circle, and you must take the test if you are to be a member of the Yipsels. Be at your circle when the test will be given.

The attendance at Circle 6 has shown a marked improvement. There are still a few old members who

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Typewriter Desk and Chair
All of Walnut Finish
Price Reasonable
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It contains practically all the vital elements needed by growing girls and boys... and by adults, too, for building up and repairing body tissues.

That's why eminent medical authorities advise a quart a day for each child and a pint for every adult.

Start the new month with delicious St. Lawrence Milk... BEST because it's ELECTROPURE!

ST. LAWRENCE MILK

have failed to respond to the entreaty of last week. We would like if these members would show up at the next meeting.

Meet in the Lyceum at 8 p. m. on Tuesday evenings. Please attend.

All the circle educational directors will meet at the Lyceum on Monday night at 8 p. m. This meeting is important. Show up! You are not worthy of the office you hold if you do not attend these meetings.

The educational director is willing to organize a new study class as soon as he can get ten new members to attend the class regularly. If you are interested please let the county educational director have your name.

SPEAKERS AT BRANCH MEETINGS
Monday, March 5th:
Northeast: William Schweren.
Central: Fred Merkel.
Mohnton: Raymond Hofes.
Temple: Ralph Bigony.
Tuesday, March 6th:
Southern: Lillith Wilson.
18th Ward: Fred Merkel.
West Reading: Walter Hollinger.
Northwest Women: Stewart Tomlinson.
Wednesday, March 7th:
Birdsboro: Fred Merkel.

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LADY MARION Stylish Maid Shoes for Women and the Modern Miss

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GOOD NEWS!
THRILLING NEWS!
SATURDAY
MARCH 3rd, IS

POMEROY DAY

Expectancy Is In the Air! The Word Has Swept Through the City and County! Something Big Is About to Happen!

We are ready to celebrate POMEROY DAY... the greatest one-day Sale of the Spring Season. Everything New... smartly styled needed, wanted merchandise that everyone who comes within our doors Saturday will find opportunities in this Sale that may never be known again.

It took shrewd buying to obtain the merchandise for this great day. Never before have we made such preparations. Never before have we obtained such wonderful values for the people of this vicinity. We honestly believe that in this Sale you will find the greatest collection of quality, fashion-right merchandise ever brought together by any store in Berks County... to sell at such low prices.

Now... If Ever...
Is Your Time To Buy What You Need For Yourself...
Your Family. And Your Home!

MEAT MARKET

NRA

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

SWIFT'S SELECT PRIME STEER
BEST WHOLE CUTS

CHUCKS 13c lb
WHOLE CUTS
Chuck Roasts 10c lb
END AND FIRST CUT

OUR OWN MAKE DELICIOUS
Smoked and Fresh SAUSAGE 2 lbs 25c

OUR OWN MAKE
PRESSED 15c lb
TRIPE.....

OUR OWN MAKE
LIVER
PUDDING 15c lb

OLEO 2 LBS 21c

HAM, MINCE, HICKORY
BAG BOLOGNA 5c
MEAT LOAF 1/4 lb.

ALLENTOWN SUGAR-CURED 2 LBS
BACON 25c

ALLENTOWN SUGAR-CURED
Sliced Bacon 9c
1/4-Lb. Package

FRESH 2 DOZ.
EGGS 41c

FRESH PORK HEARTS 9c lb
FRESH PORK KIDNEYS 9c lb
FRESH PORK LIVER 9c lb
FRESH PORK BRAINS 10c lb

MORRELL'S PRIDE
SPICED HAM..... 21c lb
Any Size Piece

OUR OWN MAKE
SCRAPPLE 7c lb

WEAVER'S GENUINE
LEBANON or BEEF and PORK BOLOGNA 14c lb

SHANKLESS
SUGAR-CURED PICNICS 11c lb.

UNEMPLOYMENT RELIEF VOUCHERS REDEEMED

JOSEPH'S Final Clearance

HERE, MEN, IS THE EVENT OF THE YEAR—JUST THE SALE YOU'VE BEEN WAITING FOR. OUR ENTIRE STOCK AT SACRIFICE PRICES. WE HAVE DISREGARDED THE HIGHER COSTS OF MERCHANDISE AND HAVE PLANNED THIS UNUSUAL FINAL CLEARANCE SALE FOR YOU.



Your Choice of a Special
Assortment of Higher Grade

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and

Overcoats

While
They
Last

\$10

Values up to \$16.50

AND HERE IS THE MOST UNUSUAL BUY
OF ALL. A LOT CONSISTING OF ABOUT 200

SUITS and OVERCOATS

While They Last

\$12.75

Collar-Attached Dress
Shirts, plain and
fancy colors. 79c

Zipper Suede Jackets,
genuine talon zipper. \$5.49

Oshkosh or Carter's Over-
alls, blue-white, pin stripe. \$1.79

Fleece-Lined Gloves—all-
leather, 98c

Union-Made Lee Work
Shirts, full cut, nationally known. 79c

Talon Zipper Lumber
Jacks, whipcord or suede
cloth, lined throughout.
Extra Special. \$1.99

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Work Socks—cotton,
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Lightweight Grey Flannel
Shirts, at \$1.69

Union-Made Work Shoes,
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Heavy Ribbed
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We Sell For Less Always

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(Federated Pictures)

ECONOMIC FALLACIES OF FATHER COUGHLIN

By FRED M. MERKEL and LEON MINKER

To aid in the enlightenment of the trusting citizens who believed that they had a choice open to them in the campaign of Mr. Hoover against Al Smith, and had their wishes gratified in the economic earthquake Mr. Hoover so ably sponsored, we give you herewith an extract from a discourse of the Rev. Chas. E. Coughlin, as given on Page 44 of "Eight Discourses on the Gold Standard, etc.," published by the Radio League of the Little Flower.

"The Catholic Church stands foursquare behind the Capitalist, although it dares condemn the abuses which have grown around him. When his voice is silent and weak, and his hands unclean, we will confront the Communist and Socialist in his defense—and if necessary, die in defending the Constitution under which he gained his wealth. He need never fear our swingings to the left of radicalism. All we ask and pray of him is to cast down his eyes from the mountain pinnacle of his achievements—cast them down into the valley of sorrow and suffering and poverty, where a patient people are praying that we shall not make a mockery of this democracy. In our crucifix Jesus Christ and His principles of living—these may those laws which have been inefficient in the distribution of wealth and happiness in this nation give way to more benign and blessed laws which shall bring a benediction upon both rich and poor, upon every one of us."

The dispossessed home-owner, the unemployed worker, the banker and mortgage-ridden farmer, and the over-worked and underpaid worker of today, will probably find much solace in the above Capitalist paternalism. But there is more to be heard along the same line. Father Coughlin seems to have a coat of many colors.

In a discourse delivered on Feb. 18, 1934, we are told the following: "Capitalism is doomed and is not worth trying to save. It has written its own funeral march in the minor key of greed. It is a conspiracy against the immortal soul of mankind." He then urged his listeners not to turn the doctrines of Karl Marx, stating that the only difference between the two was that Capitalism would concentrate all wealth in the hands of the few and Socialism would place it in the hands of the state. He proposed what he termed "State Capitalism" or "Socialized Capitalism"—the "United States, Incorporated."

What is this State Capitalism which he has proposed? From a study of his remarks we believe that it consists of a nationalization of credit, and the maintenance of private ownership of social goods, and private profits.

There are two conclusions to be drawn from Father Coughlin's remarks.

First, that what we will eliminate is the private control of the dispensing of credit. Who will issue it—aside from the vague term nationalization—is not stated. But, judging from other remarks attributed to him, we believe that his strong approval of Pres. Roosevelt's policies will turn over the dispensing of credit to the National Treasury. What Father Coughlin fails to appreciate is that we are living in the age of the Industrial-Capitalist, where the banker and industrialist are the same person. To destroy the private banking power of the industrialist, and allow him to keep his power over our economic life—and necessarily over our political life, including the National Treasury and public banking—accomplishes nothing. What is meant is easily illustrated by the

There are in key positions of the NRA men still in the employ of corporations or trade groups which are subject to the jurisdiction of the Recovery Act, men whose professional acts link them in closest professional confidential ties to such corporations, or of those whose clients are in litigation with the government. The presence of one such person led to the sabotage of one of Pres. Roosevelt's prize projects. Mr. Stephen DuBrul, chief of the sales section of General Motors Corp., and lent to the NRA, after becoming the self-appointed head of the Research and Planning Division of the NRA, transformed that division from an organization for long range economic planning to a mere statistical bureau, because he regarded the planning impossible to the "political mind." Mr. DuBrul suppressed the entire edition of the first two sections of an elaborate report prepared for the planning and revival of the construction industry. He did not take the oath of office. (We learn from the New York Times of Feb. 27, 1934, that General Motors Corp. has challenged the authority of the Federal Trade Commission to require a reply to a questionnaire. This is an example of sabotage from within and without.)

Another conclusion to be drawn is that Father Coughlin favors turning over our government to a paternalistic Capitalism, a form of government from above, a fatherly affair, evidenced by "I am my brother's keeper." His insistence on the maintenance of private ownership and private profits, on the evils only of corrupt Capitalism and private bank money, and a demand only that we ask the Capitalist to "cast his eyes from the mountain pinnacle of his achievements," lends strength to the above conclusion. (But, we would like to be our own keeper, and see everyone else in a position to do likewise.) Coming from a man of the cloth, with a background of what has happened in Germany and Austria, such a proposal gives the lie to his boasted democracy. Like proposals have led to the overthrow of all democratic and cooperative efforts in those countries, to be replaced by dictatorship of the business, church, militarist and aristocratic groups.

Trade union members and workers of all kinds, would do well to study the repressive measures of "paternalistic" Capitalism in Germany and Austria, the confiscation of their headquarters and property, the breaking up of the cooperatives, the fight for control of education by the

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No other automatic refrigerator costs as little to operate as the New Air-Cooled Electrolux! And with good reason! Electrolux has no moving parts. A tiny gas flame circulates the simple refrigerant. Ordinary air cools it. And that's all! Unmatched, too, is the permanent silence of Electrolux. With no moving parts, there is nothing about Elec-

trux to cause noise—or grow noisy. Nothing, either, to wear. But judge Electrolux for yourself! Examine carefully its many convenience features... adjustable split shelves... non-stop defrosting... trigger release on trays... temperature regulator.

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Packers Found
Still At Old Game

WASHINGTON — Swift, Armour, Cudahy and the other old, familiar names in packers' monopoly suits of past years are again accused of acting in combination to fix prices, apportion sales and keep out competition.

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TEETH?**
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LOW PRICES!
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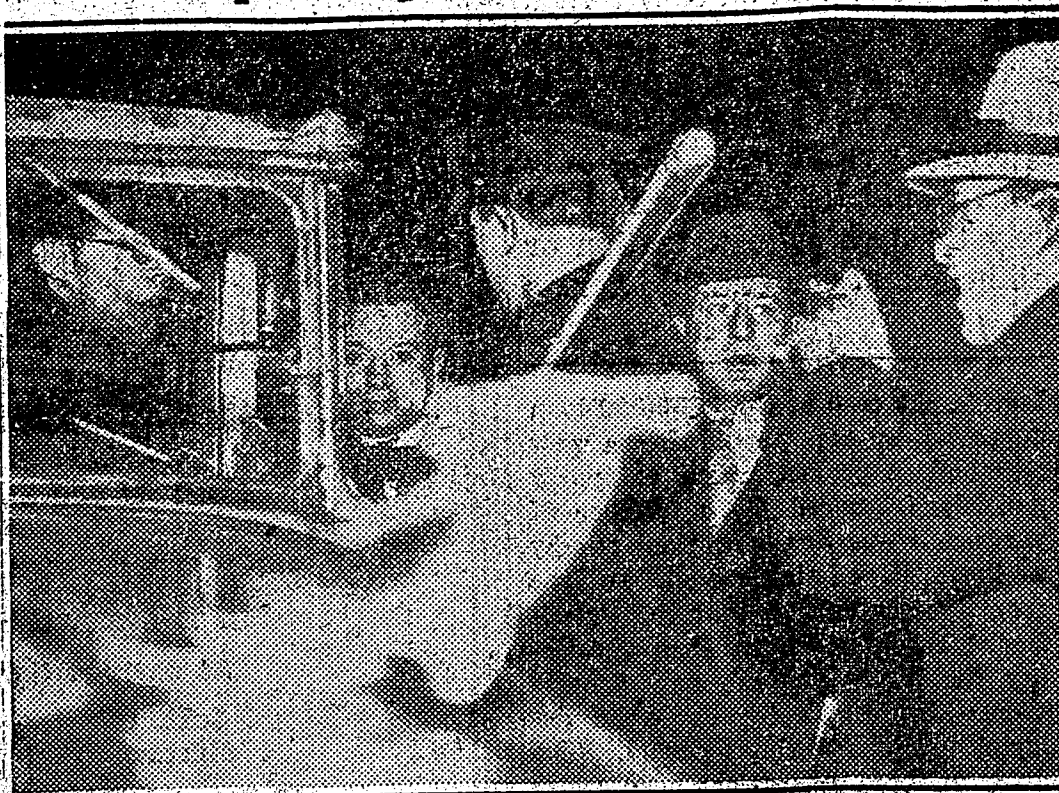
tion, in a complaint filed by Sec. of Agriculture Henry A. Wallace. The southern market was the base on monopolistic operations between 1927 and the present, in Wallace's complaint, which will be heard April 9 at Jackson, Miss.

The 10 companies named swapped prices information among themselves. This led to a fixed price and to freezing out competitors who tried to sell independently in the southern territory, Wallace charges. The meat trust is answering indirectly by a heavy advertising campaign in the newspapers by which it hopes to befuddle the public and to buy off newspaper publishers.

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DIAL 4-5462

Cops Help Break Taxi Strike



Here is a cop driving pickets away from a machine during New York taxi strike after workers had nearly persuaded a driver he ought to put his machine in the garage.—(Federated Pictures).

Activities On The Local Union Front

By EARL WHITE
Federated Trades Organizer

HARDWARE UNION SEEKS PHILADELPHIA CONTRACT

Opportunities are rarely ever presented where organized workers engaged in any industry are the influence for securing contracts for their employers. But that's exactly the position the Hardware and Allied Trade Union is placed in today in the building of the Hosiery Workers Apartment project in Philadelphia.

Philadelphia architects have been favoring and are partial to New England Hardware firms. Tremendous political and economic pressure is being brought to bear upon the architects and possibly nothing short of deception is being resorted to in their dealings with the Hosiery Workers' officials to secure the contract for Connecticut manufacturers. The local union's officials and members are alert to the conditions and are determined, if at all possible, to bring the contract to Reading Hardware Workers.

At the regular meeting Friday night they decided to send a committee and the Federated Trades Busing Manager to Philadelphia this week to survey the situation and see to it that justice is done by the unionized Hardware Workers of Reading.

At the same meeting a presentation of a beautiful wrist watch was made to Stewart Tomlinson for his services and counseling during the trying days of the formation of their union.

A speaker will be engaged for their next meeting and the Labor College dramatic group will present their skit.

CONFECTIONERY UNION SEEKS CODE HEARING

George Gery, secretary of the Confectionery Workers Union, Steve Vargo and the writer journeyed to Washington through the raging storm to attend the Candy Manufacturers Code hearing on Monday only to learn upon arrival that same was postponed until March 13th on account of the NRA public hearings scheduled for Feb. 28 to March 8.

The committee with organized

workers from other sections of the country plan on fighting with as much power and vigor as they can command, the sub-standard wages and unjustified long hours, proposed by the manufacturers. Wage figures secured from the Department of Internal Affairs at Harrisburg will be used to strengthen the committee's testimony.

The meeting was well attended on Thursday night, manifesting the workers' interest in their economic problems.

PRETZEL WORKERS POSTPONE SOCIAL

The Pretzel Workers Booster Social, scheduled for tonight, was again postponed indefinitely. Adequate notice of the date will be posted at all bakeries when the gala event will be held.

Not satisfied with his recent defeat by forcing an illegal ballot upon his unionized employees, William Quinlan has again devised another scheme whereby he hopes to divide his workers. If he succeeds it means breaking the union and ultimately like in the Superior Supreme plant, unending reductions in wages.

MILK DRIVERS PLAN ACTION AGAINST CHAINS

A well attended "booster" meeting was held by the "Chauffeurs and Teamsters Local Union" on Sunday afternoon at which the writer was the principle speaker.

Arrangements were completed for a committee of the Dairy Drivers unit to appear before the Milk Control Board at Harrisburg on Tuesday to give testimony unfavorable to the chain stores, who desire to establish two cent less than retail delivery price; same to be used as a leader to other purchases. Such advantages granted to chain stores would result in fewer dairy drivers and without a doubt less purchasing power by the reduced pay envelopes.

The Dairy Drivers sixty day trial agreement expires on Sunday, March 4, and there is every reason to believe, because of complete satisfactory results expressed on both sides, that another will be entered into since the uncertainty in the dairy industry is about at an end.

The regular meeting of the union will be held on Sunday, March 4, at 2 p. m., in their headquarters at 117 Penn street. A speaker and the skit from the Reading Labor College is being planned for the March 18 meeting.

PLUMBERS SUPPLY GROUP MEETS TONIGHT

The Plumbers Supply and Allied Trade Union is holding its regular meeting tonight at St. Casimir Hall. The Reading Foundry and Supply has been closed for some time, resuming operations recently on a part time basis. All employees are urged to attend. Matters of importance are to be discussed.

MAKE APPLICATION FOR LABOR COLLEGE SKIT

The skit produced by the dramatic group of the Reading Labor College is meeting with enthusiastic favor from the unions and bookings are

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 60,000 members. 352 Branches in U. S.
Reserves: Over \$3,500,000.
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.

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rapidly requested. All those desiring its appearance before their local union should enter their requests at the earliest possible date to Larry Rogin or the writer at the Federated Trades Council office.

PAINTERS' OFFICIAL VISITS READING

Joseph F. Kelley, vice president of the Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers of America, was in town this week and dropped in at the Federated Trades office to discuss a campaign among the men of his craft and will attempt to secure the affiliation with his international the Paint Makers Local Union at the A. Wilhelm plant.

"BOLERO" AT EMBASSY

George Raft, Carole Lombard and Sally Rand the Sensational Fan Dancer in Seductive Dance Romance, Starting Friday

Enchanting dances, brilliant modernistic settings of the old world cafes, the gay social whirl of Europe and the future of early war fever in Paris, "Bolero," George Raft's latest starring picture starts at the Embassy Friday.

EXECUTOR'S NOTICE

Estate of Mary A. Faller, late of the Borough of Laureldale, 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 FALLER

1350 Locust Street, Reading, Pa.

or to his attorney, Darlington Hoopes, 26 N. 6th St., Reading, Pa.

Estate of Edward F. Geiger, 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

WILLIAM H. GEIGER

437 Douglas Street, Berkshire Heights, Reading, Pa.

or to his attorney, Darlington Hoopes, 26 N. 6th St., Reading, Pa.

Based on the savage rhythms of Ravel's "Bolero," Carey Wilson, Kube Glasmon and Horace Jackson have constructed a well-nigh fool-proof plot which has been adeptly and convincingly developed by Director Wesley Ruggles.

George Raft has been keeping

something from his public. Few if any ball-room dancers can equal his rhythmic technique and stage presence.

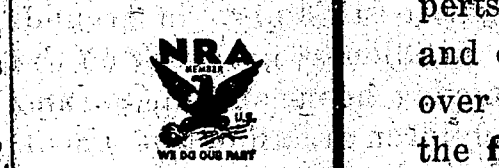
Then there's Sally Rand with that flamboyant fan which startled half the world during the Chicago World's Fair and returned her to her first love, the movies.

Carole Lombard who wears slinky gowns as no other blonde siren of the screen, reveals a technique equal to the other two.

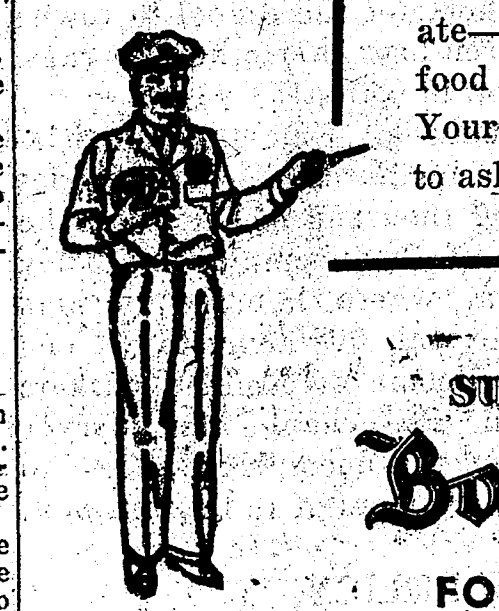
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SEE SALLY RAND'S Fan Dance

GEORGE RAFT

Bolero

CAROLE LOMBARD SALLY RAND FRANCES DRAKE

Directed by Wesley Ruggles

EMBASSY

Direction Wilmer & Vincent

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Benefits
Sunday Night

LABOR COLLEGE NEWS

By LARRY ROGIN

The Labor College class in Public Speaking will begin work on Tuesday, March 6, at the Southern Junior High School. Anyone interested in the class who has not already registered can do so by appearing at the class. The purpose of the class is to train workers with little or no previous experience in speaking at public meetings. It is hoped a group of speakers will be developed that will be able to help in the work of the various organizations to which they

belong. The class begins at 7:30 and lasts until about 9 o'clock.

Prize Essay Topics
The officials of the Labor College have announced the topics for this year's prize essay contest. They are: The NRA and the Workers; Labor and Fascism; Trade Unions and Political Parties; and Labor History. Essays are to be no longer than 2,500 words, should be written or typed on only one side of each sheet of paper, and should be handed in by April 22. Any student of the Labor College is entitled to enter the contest. The winners will be announced at the annual banquet of the Labor College.

Entertainment, Dance, Mar. 22
Tickets are now available for the Labor College dance and entertainment, which will be held at the Hosiery Workers Social Club on Thursday, March 22. They are priced at 25 cents and can be bought from any student of the Labor College or at the office of the Federated Trades Council, 705 Walnut street. The Reading Labor Dramatic Group, which scored such a hit with its skit at the trade union conference, has promised something new for the entertainment. Refreshments will, of course, be available.

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LOCAL BERKS COUNTY, SOCIALIST PARTY

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

FRIDAY, MARCH 2, 1934

EDITORIALS

By Norman Thomas

A PRICELESS HERITAGE

The courage of our Austrian comrades is a priceless heritage to all of us. It has raised men's regard for Socialism everywhere to see men and women ready to die to maintain the workers' "right to live." Whatever happens, Dollfuss, who now weeps crocodile tears for the orphans of Vienna and the liberty he has slain, is doomed. He is a dictator who is the puppet of the Pope and Mussolini. At the order of the latter he opened the drive to destroy Socialism which will destroy him. While either he or the Nazis whom he now fights rule in Austria we must boycott goods from Austria or the sending of goods to Austria, especially such as bulwark Fascist power for war. Indeed, there should be a boycott of three enemies of the workers: the governments of Italy, Germany and Austria. Finally, we should demand American diplomatic protest in Vienna against the Fascist terrorism which, having bombarded women and children and destroyed the finest homes for workers in the world, now seeks vindictive punishment upon brave men who so long and with so few arms kept the government forces at bay.

Heroic and inspiring as the Austrian struggle was, it shows once more at what a disadvantage workers are against a government with plenty of munitions whose troops remain loyal. The Austrian troops were recruited from peasants and "little men," reached by nationalist, not Socialist propaganda. It is an obvious lesson that we Socialists must reach farmers and white collar workers in our struggle. The better we reach them the better the chance of avoiding or minimizing violence. The better our publicity in the press the better we can make our position plain to outsiders. I am glad to see these truths increasingly plain to comrades throughout the country.

Of course, we must not sell our souls or betray our principles for friendly publicity, but there is no virtue in a labor or Socialist policy which fails stupidly to get publicity which might be had with proper care. For instance, letters to the editor, properly written by Socialists, might straighten out many misconceptions I have found in the truth about Socialism in Austria and America.

NRA FOR SHARE CROPPERS

If ever there were forgotten men it is the share croppers of the cotton states to some of whom our comrades in Tyrone, Arkansas, gave me so valuable an introduction. Before there was a New Deal these men lived in peonage to the landlords. They lived in shacks scarcely fit for pigs, farmed thirty or forty acres for half the crop, and were kept, often by crooked figuring, in constant debt. They cultivated in Arkansas bottom land some of the richest soil in the world and they who raised cotton could not get enough cloth to clothe their children. Then came the New Deal which paid landlords—who did nothing—for a 40 per cent reduction in acreage. From this bonus the share cropper who did everything got nothing. He lost even that which he had. He was either put out on the road or allowed to exist in a cabin without the right to stick plow in ground. I found one man who after months of idleness got work on the levee. He traveled sixty miles, leaving home at 3 a. m. and getting back at 9 p. m. His seven children are all out of school. The state runs no bus to collect them for the school in town; it provides no books, and the children have no clothes but rags. (That's why there is overproduction in cotton!)

In summer they shake with malaria. Unless new legislation makes these folks and not the landlords the beneficiaries of crop reduction, from 500 to 800 thousand of them will be homeless wanderers in a country of the unemployed. They will flock to cities like Birmingham where laundry workers make 14c an hour and may have to wait five hours to get one or two hours' work. (I addressed some determined strikers there, both white and colored, who may change that story!) But today no city workers, not even the unemployed, seem to me quite so wretched as the share croppers of the cotton belt.

A SILLY FARM POLICY

Irony of ironies, the government which is chasing share croppers off the land is trying to put other men on subsistence farms. I saw something of the movement in Tennessee. Conceivably it might give a little relief to some unemployed city workers who as boys knew farming. It might help mountain farmers temporarily who, as a recent investigation shows, aver-

age \$25 cash per year. But subsistence farming on individual farms, fixed up by a government agency and sold on easy terms, solves no economic problem. With the proper use of machinery we need fewer, but more, farmers. Industry expanded to meet our needs and with shortened hours, not agriculture, must absorb surplus workers in a stationary population. The only economic good of subsistence farms would be as experimental farms to show how most effectively through collectivization or cooperation to make modern machinery and comfortable homes available to farmers.

SCHOOL BOARD TACTICS

(Continued from First Page)

clusion. Whether he actually changed his opinion is a question. However, Hettinger, as president of the Board, did fail to apply sufficient pressure upon the property committee to speed that group to action.

Instead of going ahead with the work which so many Reading citizens needed and which the Federal Government had agreed to help finance, the Fusion members of the new Board began to throw difficulties in the way of progress. First they sought to add to the number of the six architects already selected to prepare building plans. Later they attempted to limit the designated architects to the construction of but one building. In both attempts to upset the action of the old Board the Fusionists were thwarted by the legal opinions of the school solicitor.

Then Luther Schmehl, who, from the beginning, demonstrated more concern for the large taxpayers of Reading than for the needs of either jobless workers or school children, announced his desire to evade the wishes of the citizens by reducing the amount to be borrowed from \$2,000,000 to \$1,500,000 and thus, as he explained, "keep down the tax rate." Schmehl is not only an influential member of the property committee, but also the chairman of the finance committee.

Three Members Urge Speed

While the Fusion members of the Board were sitting calmly watching the clock go round, three members of the Board were vainly urging action. They were McDonough and Hoopes, Socialists and Thomas J. Evans, elected as a straight Republican candidate. These members saw the danger of delay and sympathized with the needs of idle building tradesmen and laborers. But their pleading failed to have the desired effect upon the hold-back policy of the stolid and stubborn committee in whose province it was to make recommendations.

Why the Delay?

Now that it seems certain that Reading is to lose \$240,000 (and possibly the entire \$600,000) of the money which the PWA stood ready to give, the question arises: "Why so much delay?"

Perhaps the answer to that question can best be found in learning who would be hurt and who be benefited by the building program.

Those who are indifferent to the needs of the public schools and callous to the suffering of idle workers are: The big taxpayers who stand to have their tax bills increased by thousands of dollars.

Private employers who could not be reconciled to the \$120 hourly rate for mechanics and 50-cent rate for laborers which will have to be paid if PWA funds are used. These employers feared that such wages would set a precedent which they would have to follow after PWA passed from the picture.

The building and loan companies, which have so much influence in the Fusion ranks, have taken over the homes of many impoverished workers. They want to keep taxes down. The employers have driven down labor rates in Reading and want to keep them down. The former group will be happy if the loan is never floated and schools never built. The latter would prefer to borrow from private bankers because then they will be able to pay low wages.

It was the interests of these small but influential groups which the Fusionists of the School Board were serving by their delay. Whether they did so knowingly or otherwise is a matter of conjecture, although the determination of Schmehl and his colleagues to "keep the taxes down" at any cost to unemployed workers and school children would indicate that he, at least, knew what he was doing.

Public Wishes Flouted

The entire procedure of the present Board stands as an affront to the expressed wishes of the majority of the people of Reading. Had it not been for the insistence of McDonough, Hoopes and Evans, it is doubtful whether any action would have been taken to the present day.

Like in the case of the \$750,000 loan approved by the people for a new city hall, a project which old party politicians ignored for a number of years and was finally worked out by a Socialist administration, so the suspicion is growing that the School Board Fusionists have been cherishing the hope that the new schools ordered by the voter could be delayed for an indefinite period. The delay of three months has been costly to the city and to the unemployed. It may prove to be a boon to private bankers, large property owners and low-wage employers. Whether such tactics are approved by the great mass of Reading's voters may be revealed in November, when the people of Reading again have an opportunity to pass judgement upon candidates.

CWA DOESN'T ALWAYS MEAN BETTER TIMES

(By a CWA Worker.)

We hear many times of the sunny side of the CWA, but seldom do we hear of the injustices practised on some of the CWA workers. Take the case of a worker employed on one of our city projects. This man was unfortunate in that he lost his mate shortly after the birth of their child. Add to this the fact that he was unemployed for a period long before this unfortunate incident. Add to this the all important fact that he had a child, his own flesh and blood, to feed and clothe. Not a pretty picture by any means, but still this man carried on to the best of his ability until finally the CWA was born, and furnished him with the means of a bare existence.

This, if the story could end here, was a break for the father and son. There would be money to buy some things for the baby. There would be enough food to keep them from starving. There would be a warm place for the man and his offspring over the winter. All very nice, but this man had a brother, who had children, one of whom had a family of his own and who was fortunate in having part time employment. As families sometimes will, they decided that it would be more economical to all concerned if they were to incorporate the three small families into one large family, all living under the same roof. As one of them owned a home they moved into his place. (There were eleven in all.)

The two that were employed took it upon themselves to feed, clothe and keep from freezing during the winter the other nine who were dependent upon them.

Can anyone possibly feed a family of eleven, pay taxes, pay gas and electric, buy coal, and buy the necessary clothing for all on twenty dollars a week? Government statistics prove that the average upkeep for a family of five is twenty-one dollars and seventy-five cents a week. This will show you that this family of eleven is suffering somewhere. Sometimes it is lack of coal, other times if they do buy coal, they have to diminish their food allowance or, if they need clothing it can only be obtained by sacrificing some other necessities. Besides which, they must pay gas and electric bills each month, or lose the privilege of their use.

This family applied for supplementary relief and were refused assistance on the following grounds: Two people gainfully employed and having a weekly income of twenty dollars should be able to supply a family of eleven with all the necessities for an existence.

It is evident that these people would have a much more advantageous existence if the CWA worker and his child were to discontinue living with the others. Then direct relief would have been supplied to the others involved. This man is subjecting himself to inconveniences in order that others may be provided with some of the necessities for the preservation of life, but in so doing, instead of alleviating their conditions, he proved detrimental to the extent that they are incapable of obtaining any relief from the Relief Board.

REFLECTIONS

(Continued from First Page)

erty in jail than slave-minded men could ever know outside of jail.

SO, I SUBMIT that there may be something in this religious stuff after

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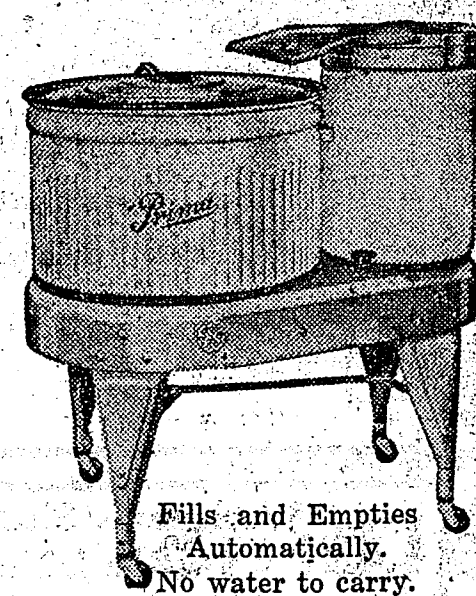
all. Not the psalm-singing, here-wor-benevolence, the fortitude which will shipping, superstitious, holy-rolling, strengthen us to insist upon democ- Mumbo-Jumbo type which has been racy in a Fascist world, the exalta- given us by ecclesiastical apologists for tion which will carry us to the cross class injustice, but the kind that will or to the barricades, as in Austria, enable us to stand by our principles and the physical courage which will be needed to scourge the money- when things look darkest for our cause, is what I mean. The spirit changers of today from their seats of power—that is the spirit and the which will enable us to resist the manifestation of the religion which lure of State Capitalism's promised

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