

In This Issue:

- Epic's Progressive Move... P. 1
Chinese General Talks... P. 1
Radio Telegraphers' Bill... P. 2
Browder's Radio Schedule... P. 6

Western Worker

WESTERN ORGAN OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY, U. S. A.
(Section of the Communist International)

S.A.C.
100% COPY
MAR 10 1936

STANDING IN \$7500 DRIVE
Rec'd \$5100.87 (67%) To come \$2399.13 (33%)
OVER THE TOP
Sacramento, Sonoma, San Mateo, San Bernardino,
Merced, San Diego, Santa Barbara, Nevada.
LAGGING BADLY
Monterey, Eureka, Tulare, Arizona, Stockton.
SAN FRANCISCO STANDING, 51%

VOL. 5, N. 19 (Whole of No. 283)

Entered as Second Class matter April 27th, 1934 at the post office, at San Francisco, Calif. Under the Act of Mar. 3, 1879.

SAN FRANCISCO, THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 1936

The Western Worker appears twice weekly, on Tuesdays and Fridays

Price Five Cents

UNEMPLOYED LEADER IS SLUGGED, JAILED AT L. A.

Collapse of Kuomintang; Rise of People's Front Seen by Chinese General

Strongest Sanctions Against Japan Urged

By Michael Quin. SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 28.—General Fang Chen-wu, one of the most powerful military leaders in North China, granted us a two-hour interview in his hotel room this morning. The general stated emphatically that from his intimate knowledge of the present situation in China, the iron dictatorship of Chiang Kai-shek is fated for an early collapse and that a United People's Front against Japanese and foreign imperialism will soon arise. In his opinion, this People's Front will unite Communist, liberal and all anti-imperialist forces. It will accomplish for the first time complete unity of the Chinese people in their struggle for liberation. SELF-DETERMINATION "I am not a Communist," said the general, "nor am I affiliated with any special political party or group in China. I am a military man and a revolutionist. I believe the time has come for all honest anti-imperialist forces to unite. Foreign intervention of any kind must be opposed. Freedom of speech, freedom of press, and complete democracy must be established in China. It is then for the people themselves to decide exactly what kind of government or social order they want. "The Nationalist Party (Kuomintang)," the general declared, "has been so consistently betrayed by its leaders that it has practically (Continued on Page 3)

125,000 Building Employees Strike In New York City

NEW YORK, March 2.—The unsung elevator man, mop swinger and chambermaid united approximately 125,000 strong, struck with telling effectiveness and tied up Manhattan last Sunday morning, demanding improved working conditions. The strike came after months of futile attempts on the part of the Building Service Employees' Union to wring concessions from the employers. The employers have enlisted the aid of the notorious "I Break Strikes" Pearl Bergoff, whose six-foot strikebreakers were hired through this means to terrorize the pickets. Mayor La Guardia hurried to the city from Washington, D. C., with the statement that he would concern himself first with "health conditions." J. Bambrick, president of the Building Service Employees International, telegraphed La Guardia that the strike was called to escape economic slavery and reminded the mayor that the employers had contemptuously refused proposals for improved working conditions. LOW WAGES Wages are as low as six dollars a week for chambermaids, nine dollars a week for elevator men, and bellhops are forced to work solely for tips. Hospitals and homes for the aged have been exempted from the strike by the Union. Employers who had organized a firm "employment bureau" with the aim of breaking the strike were very much disgruntled to find the plan did not work. Alert union leaders had foreseen this move and over 1500 union men had "joined" the bureau.

Frame-Up Aides Testify at Tom Mooney Hearing

POLICEMAN IN CHARGE OF BOMBING PROBE TO TAKE STAND SAN FRANCISCO, Mar. 3.—Draper Hand, policeman in charge of the 1916 Preparedness Day bombing investigation and who later confessed to Mayor Rolph that he had helped frame Tom Mooney, was to appear as a witness for the defense at Mooney's corpus habes hearing today. Monday two other defense witnesses were heard. George W. Grimmer, former president of the Los Angeles Civil Service Commission declared he "wanted to see justice done," and that the United Railways had assigned him to shadow Tom Mooney and other labor leaders pointed out to him as "radicals." He told how Joseph Daugherty, labor spy hired by the railroad company, actually had admitted responsibility for the bombing. Later, Grimmer declared, Daugherty expressed fear for his life and said the United Railways wanted to send him to Chicago. Daugherty's decapitated body was found in that city some time later. George Miller, Fresno insurance man and one-time special investigator for the United Railways also testified for the defense, telling how an official of the firm had told him Mooney and Billings would "stay in jail as long as the company is in business, not because they're guilty, but because they're agitators."

Communist M. P. in Fight for Safety Measure at Sea

LONDON, England.—Although his motion was hastily crowded out, William Gallacher, Communist member of Parliament from the West Fife District, was successful in his fight for the right to move a motion before the House of Commons. The motion was on the matter of ship's safety, an issue which has created considerable furor as a result of repeated shipwrecks with great loss of life. Its terms were to have been with the aim of protecting seamen and officers of ships from the wrath of the employers when reporting any breach of regulations either in connection with proper manning or the seaworthiness of the vessel, to the public prosecutor. The motion would have allowed the members of a crew reporting such violation to have their names withheld.

LOS ANGELES GROUPS BACK C.S. CONGRESS

MEETING OF 2000 URGES REPEAL OF CRIMINAL SYNDICALISM ACT Prisoner Speaks CENTRAL LABOR COUNCIL OF BAKERSFIELD BACKS FIGHT LOS ANGELES, March 2.—Joining the growing ranks of organized labor in opposition to the anti-labor Criminal Syndicalism Law, the Bakersfield Central Labor Council has passed a resolution demanding setting of minimum sentences for the Sacramento victims of this infamous law and demanding repeal of the legislation. This was reported here today by Rose Chernin, secretary of the Southern California Councils for Constitutional Rights, upon her return from Bakersfield. The Bakersfield Central Labor Council, representing 12 American Federation of Labor unions, also affiliated with the Councils and will send delegates to the State Congress for Repeal of the C. S. Law, to be held April 19th in Sacramento.

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 29.—"On to Sacramento!" Echoing throughout the vast auditorium and receiving enthusiastic support from the approximately 2000 members of the audience, this slogan was apt characterization of the mass meeting held in Epic Auditorium, 123 No. Lake street, last night under the auspices of the Southern California Councils for Constitutional Rights. Repeal of the infamous Criminal Syndicalism Law of California, the setting of minimum sentences for the Sacramento victims of that law, and death to vigilantism were the three main points sounded by a united front of speaker representing various organizations. PRISONER SPEAKS Lorine Norman, C. S. victim, now out on bail, described the conditions existing in Tehachapi prison and showed how the arrest and conviction of the Communist Party members now in that and San Quentin prisons followed their exercise of constitutional rights to organize. Assemblyman Hawkins quoted from the recent National Negro Congress: "It is far better to die as free men than to live as slaves!" (Continued on Page 2, Col. 8)

Democratic Votes?

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26.—Charges that Pennsylvania relief workers had been threatened with "blacklisting" unless they contributed to Democratic campaign committees have been before Relief Administrator Harry Hopkins by Senator A. Vanderberg, Republican of Michigan.

TOO FAR



Edgar Blaylock, Alabama deputy-thug, who went too far in his brutality and intimidation against the Scottsboro boys. Young Ozie Powell, provoked beyond discretion, struck back at him with a knife. Later, Ozie was shot down in cold blood by Sheriff Sandlin as punishment. Sandlin and Blaylock are now pressing charges against Powell.

OLSEN SEEN AS EPIC DELEGATE Chosen By Sinclair For Presidential Primaries

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 29.—State Senator Culbert L. Olson will be one of the eight delegates-at-large on the Upton Sinclair slate in the May presidential primaries, it was learned here yesterday. Olson has not yet accepted the nomination, but has resigned from the Roosevelt-Ham Cotton-McAdoo-Farley slate, sending a telegram yesterday to W. Forbes Morgan, secretary of the national committee of the Democratic Party: "Under the circumstances, I can best serve the party and aid in the election of President Roosevelt by not accepting designation as delegate." Olson recently accepted a \$10,000-a-year job from the Jim Farley machine in the Democratic Party, and made no real fight on his recent trip to Washington to force Roosevelt to accept an Epic slate of candidates for the May primaries. Edwin G. Gettins resigned from the Roosevelt slate with a sharp telegram: "Faith with liberals broken. Cannot serve on McAdoo-Cotton-controlled delegation. Sold us out November 6. Will do it again." Gettins referred to the sabotage of the Epic campaign of 1934 by the reactionary Democrats, who supported Republican Governor Merriam.

NAZIS JOYFUL ABOUT ARMY RULE IN JAPAN

Fascist Alliance Is Ace Up Sleeve Of Duce

Political Hurricane Sweeping Through Latin America Officers involved in the recent murderous assault on the parliamentary government of Japan are obligingly committing suicide to save the "face" of the reactionary authorities who instigated the terror. Meanwhile, although the alleged "rebels" are reported "suppressed," the people of Japan find their parliamentary regime in ribbons and the powers that be industriously setting up a military dictatorship in exact accord with the wishes of the assassins. Japanese workers, farmers and middle class people, when they look toward their government, gaze down the muzzles of rifles. Martial law imposed in Tokyo was admittedly directed at quelling possible protest demonstrations of the population and not to inconvenience the military murderers.

GERMANY Undisguised joy blossomed in the Nazi press over the flounder of liberal government officials in Tokyo.

Threads of diplomatic accord are reported to have already sewn Italy and Germany and possibly Austria and Poland together in a tight anti-Communist alliance with invasion of the U. S. S. R. as an ultimate objective. It is believed that official proclamation of the alliance will not be made until after the present (March 2) sessions of the League of Nations. It is the ace up Italy's sleeve in the international game of embargoes. It is believed that as a reply to continued sanctions, Mussolini will denounce the Lorcarno treaty, proclaim the fascist alliance, and possibly withdraw from the League. FRANCE A storm of applause shook the French Chamber of Deputies as liberal representatives voted ratification of the Franco-Soviet peace pact by an overwhelming majority. Pierre Cot, former minister of air, in his appeal for ratification, told the Chamber: "Russia's military air force includes 3000 planes that are ready for action. Her military air force is the most powerful in the world, and Russia does not need a common frontier with Germany to be effective. In the last maneuvers, French army officers saw Russian airplanes pick up light tanks, artillery pieces, and a whole regiment of men and put them down (Continued on Page 2)

BOMBS OVER BROADWAY



A fleet of bombing planes down from Concord, N. H., raising mock havoc with New York skyscrapers. Incessant war games designed to frighten the population with the bogey of "unpreparedness" were a part of the propaganda campaign used to put through the biggest peace time armament appropriation in history.

SAILORS PUT COUNTER CHARGE AT ISU BOARD

SAN PEDRO, Calif., March 2.—The crew of the Panama Pacific lines "California" have tied the vessel up at San Pedro in demand for West Coast articles and rate of pay. Hunter was scheduled to return to the Pacific Coast within ten days, with the decision of the I. S. U. on the matter of the Sailors' charter. The appeal of the Modesto frame-up victims was heard in Superior Court, at Sacramento on Monday. After an hours argument on both sides, in which the special Standard Oil prosecutor also was present, the court announced it would hand down a decision within 30 to 90 days. DISCRIMINATION At the regular meeting of the Sailor's Union of the Pacific in San Francisco a telegram was received from rank and file seamen in New York describing the discrimination being practiced by the reactionary district officials of the East Coast branches. The telegram was received with popular sentiment as it stated, "We are holding a special rank and file meeting to take steps to protect West Coast seamen against any discrimination." East Coast officials are refusing to allow West Coast seamen the use of the baggage room and in two instances have even ejected them from the Union hall. I. S. U. BOARD MEETS Meanwhile, Ivan Hunter, first vice president of the I. S. U., returned to Chicago from the West Coast where he had been making "investigations." He was to summon the I. S. U. Executive Board together today to hear his findings and recommendations.

PWUU MAN IS ATTACKED IN WPA OFFICE

OFFICIALS HIRE EX-PUG TO SMASH GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE Arrested, But Freed ORGANIZER, SINGLED OUT FOR BEATING, IS A WAR VETERAN LOS ANGELES, Feb. 29.—Leader of a grievance committee to the labor coordinating office of the WPA at 22nd and San Pedro streets, A. B. Plummer, organizer for the Public Works and Unemployed Union, was viciously attacked without provocation here yesterday by a professional "slugger" in the WPA employ. Twice knocked unconscious by this thug, Plummer was then arrested by police! The provocateur was identified positively as one Louie Alvarado, ex-prize fighter. Plummer was waiting for a 2 p. m. appointment with Coordinator Burns and was showing a Negro woman the nearest PWUU local to her home, when he was slugged on the jaw without warning by Alvarado. Placed on a chair by a fellow-worker, Plummer recovered consciousness a few minutes later and asked to see Burns. At this point Alvarado returned with another thug and again slugged Plummer, who was still seated in the chair. This time, Plummer did not recover consciousness until after he had been arrested and taken taken to the Newton Street Police station. When arrested, he was lying unconscious on the sidewalk, bleeding from a split lip and a cut in the back of his head. Alvarado and the other thug attempted to attack another committee member, but caught a tartar in this WPUU member, who saw them coming and was giving them a trouncing when the police came. Plummer was released late yesterday without being booked by police, and immediately stated he would be back at the WPA office on Monday. He is a World War veteran, serving four months in Italy under shell fire, and was a member of the American Legion. He was formerly a pest-exterminator with the U. S. Biological Survey, directing work in four states. Plummer is now a militant organizer for the PWUU and has led many grievance committees from Local 5.

BULLETIN

LOS ANGELES, March 2.—After maintaining solid ranks for several hours, nearly 3500 WPA workers on strike at the Slauson ave. storm drain project won their major demands, including the right to organize on the job and join the Public Works and Unemployed Union, maximum working time of six hours per day and five days per week, and rescinding of an order requiring workers to lose the entire day if they appeared late to work.

Hunger March

MEXICO CITY, Mar. 1.—Five hundred striking miners arrived here after a 13-day hunger march from Guanajuato which took 13 days, carrying the body of one of their comrades who died on the way. Exhausted and ragged and several of them ill, the striking miners marched to the National Palace, where they were joined by thousands of other workers.

The Epic Movement Now Enters a New Progressive Phase

An Editorial Statement

The EPIC Convention held in Los Angeles on February 23rd made healthy strides forward toward cleansing its ranks of opportunist elements who had fastened themselves on the back of a popular movement—elements whose main job is to head the movement away from development toward independent political action and a progressive no-compromise program, back into the "safe" folds of old party politics. The McAdoo-Creel-Cotton forces had no one except the expelled Socialist, Packard, in the Convention who dared support the Roosevelt hand-picked primary slate. And it took the dramatic re-entry of Upton Sinclair into the field as head of a full EPIC slate, to convince the nearly 600 delegates to support the proposal to vote for Roosevelt after the first ballot. Only Sinclair could have done this. And already several EPIC nominees have withdrawn rather than support what they declare to be a useless compromise move. MOVE LEFT Significantly enough, as reported in these columns last issue, the entire EPIC movement has moved left and developed a concrete program around which to rally countless thousands of convinced EPIC members, Townsend supporters and other progressives for independent political action. Three main points of this program, as recommended by the Board of Directors to the Convention, are: 1. A full EPIC slate instructed to vote only for Production-for-Use, without instruction to vote for Roosevelt on any ballot. 2. Political unity with the Townsend movement—with a change in the proposed tax program, towards taxing the rich. 3. To initiate a state-wide conference on May 10th, inviting trade unions, farmers, liberals and progressive groups to consider steps for the November state elections. These points were adopted unanimously by the Convention, with the sole modification, accepted after heated debate, writing in Upton Sinclair's condition for heading of the slate (voting for Roosevelt after the first ballot). One delegate immediately withdrew, airing sentiments that had wide support and was strongly applauded, but which was overshadowed by hesitation prompted by Upton Sinclair's wide popularity. The debate itself plainly showed the EPIC members do not follow Upton Sinclair blindly, in spite of some confusion on the question of limiting "planned economy of production-for-use for the unemployed" to within the capitalist system. THE "LESSER EVIL" Sinclair was supported on various grounds, one being that Roosevelt is preferable to the Liberty League—Hearst combination; a second that, four more years of Roosevelt would give the dawning (Continued on Page 6, Col. 6)

RIP TIDES By LeMae "We Cover the Waterfront"

"Why don't you pick up some real news?" I razzed a reporter who was trying to interview a frowzie blonde perched effectively on the ship's rail near the inevitable life-ring.

I was all ears myself by now. "Only a few minutes—but there was plenty of hell raised. We could even see some women battling with the blackshirts."

Women Strike Back * * * DAY OF BATTLE * * * Marching March 8

Like May Day, International Women's day, celebrated all over the world on March 8, had its origin in the United States.

In 1938 American women set March 8 as a day of agitation for women's suffrage, then a burning issue confronting the working masses of this country.

Remember there are prizes offered to the section in various classifications (A, B, C, etc.) who make the best job of exceeding their quotas.

Exact Standing To Date

Since these tables on the drive were prepared Oakland has turned in another \$40. Thus the East Bay, with a total of \$285.20 raised so far, has fulfilled 81 per cent of its quota instead of 70 per cent.

Table with columns: SECTION, Group, Quota, Raised, Per Cent. Lists various sections like Los Angeles, San Francisco, East Bay, etc.

TOTALS \$7500 \$5100.87 67 Yet to be raised by April 1 2399.13 33

Acceptance of challenge from the Section Committee in the Western Worker drive - SAN FRANCISCO -

Form with fields: Our Unit, Fraction or Sub-Section, PLEDGES TO RAISE \$, Signature of authorized person, Send to 121 Haight street.

DONATIONS RECEIVED FEBRUARY 19TH TO 29TH

Table listing donations from various sections like Los Angeles, San Francisco, Oakland, etc., with amounts.

EUREKA TEXTILE WORKERS EXPECT

EFFORT TO SMASH LOCAL PROVES BOOMERANG

EUREKA, Calif., Feb. 27.—The six-week strike of the Eureka Woolen Mills was called off at a special meeting of the United Textile Workers' Local after the mill management offered to adjust grievances involving seniority rights.

East Bay Theater Union Offers Art Show on Campus

A unique art exhibit, in which all of the pictures on display will be given away as door prizes, will be held at 8 p. m., March 7, at Y. W. C. A. Cottage on the University of California campus in Berkeley.

Gallup Appeal to Be Heard in May

NEW YORK.—The appeal of the three Gallup miners, Juan Ochoa, Manuel Avitia, and Leandro Velarde, trade unionists sentenced to 45-60 years on framed murder charges, will be heard in May before the New Mexico Supreme Court, according to a report received from the Gallup Defense Committee of Santa Fe, N. M.

Soviet Film Treat "THREE WOMEN" Will Show in L. A.

LOS ANGELES, Mar. 2.—Soviet Russia's greatest motion picture, with the finest cast of players ever seen in a Soviet film, and a musical setting by Shostovitch, is the title awarded "Three Women," which opens its Western premiere engagement Friday, March 13, at the Grand International Theatre 730 South Grand Avenue, Los Angeles.

OPEN FORUM

VISITACION VALLEY A VIRGIN FIELD. San Francisco Editor, Western Worker: Visitation Valley lies on the southern edge of San Francisco.

Acceptance of challenge from the Section Committee in the Western Worker drive - SAN FRANCISCO -

Form with fields: Our Unit, Fraction or Sub-Section, PLEDGES TO RAISE \$, Signature of authorized person, Send to 121 Haight street.

DONATIONS RECEIVED FEBRUARY 19TH TO 29TH

Table listing donations from various sections like Los Angeles, San Francisco, Oakland, etc., with amounts.

Health and the Class Struggle

By FRANKLIN E. BISSELL, M. D.

THE "FLU" In nearly every block there is a family these days that is wracked with pains, aches, and fever. The "flu" is upon us in probably the biggest epidemic since that of 1918.

An attack usually starts with "chills, fever, aches and pains throughout the body, and a heavy cold. Then a sore throat may develop, a cough, and possibly pains in the cheeks or over the eyes from a sinusitis.

If a patient has the "flu," he must go to bed and stay there until his temperature has been normal for 24 hours. This is important because the heart and lungs are weakened by the attack and any exertion can cause serious heart disease or pneumonia.

WE WOMEN WORKERS

CONDUCTED BY MARJORIE CRANE

LITTLE BOOKWORM

Parents used to be proud to say of a child, "She's a regular bookworm. She reads all the time," or, "Just let him have a book and sit in a corner, and he's happy."

But we know that only children who feel themselves oppressed by some intolerable aspect of their home or school life become such avid readers, using reading as a means to escape from reality.

CONFERENCE CALLED

It has been brought to our attention that a provisional committee is calling a Conference for Women's Rights on next Sunday, March 8 at 1 o'clock in the afternoon in San Francisco.

Books and Pamphlets

The Townsend Plan. What It Is and What It Isn't, by Alex Bittleman. Workers' Library Publishers, New York; 46 pages; price 5 cents.

The Liberty League and its allied forces is taking the Townsend movement seriously—because it represents a force in contemporary politics and because it represents the discontent and indignation of millions of Americans, young and old.

A CHEAP TRICK

Los Angeles, Calif. Western Worker. Dear Editor: The other day I was reading the Evening News, Manchester Boddy's local paper, and came across this item: "Red 'madame' gets 60 days."

New Pamphlets Received by Your Workers' Bookshop:

- "Build the United People's Front," by Earl Browder, 72 pp.; 10c. "United We Stand—For Peace and Socialism," by Gil Green; 5c. "The Menace of a New World War," 48 pages; 5c. "Behind the Swastika," by Josephine Herbst, 32 pages; 5c. "A Handbook for Project Workers," by Herbert Benjamin; 5c. "A Labor Party for the United States," by Social Economic Foundation; 5c. "The Townsend Plan—What It Is and What It Isn't," by A. Bittleman; 5c. "Hitler Against the World—The World Against Hitler," 5c. "The Stakhanov Movement in the Soviet Union," by J. Stalin; 3 cents.

Jobless Jottings

By the L. A. Boondogger

The night janitor of the Vernon Relief D. P. O., when he came on duty at 6 o'clock the other evening, surprised a burglar ransacking the place. (Possibly some rugged individualist looking for his relief check.)

BACK LEWIS

TACOMA, WASH. (UNS).—Joining many other locals of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, Loc. 2682 at Tacoma approves the stand for industrial organization taken by John L. Lewis. It has gone on record in favor of "the industrial plan of unionism," and is offering its support to Lewis in his efforts to that end through the Committee for Industrial Organization.

instead . . . kicked him in the stomach. * * *

The ten WPA workers who pull the sod-cutter on the Griffith Park Golf Course are seriously discussing the idea of each donating 15 cents daily to employ a deserving horse to pull the cutter while they rest in the sunshine.

Or would this be forbidden by WPA rules and regulations? * * *

On a Burbank WPA sewing project last week it cost \$5.75 to make a child's night-shirt. A garment of this kind can be purchased in a retail store for . . . 20 cents.

The woman who was forced to spend ten hours ineptly and laboriously fine-stitching by hand this 20 cent garment is an experienced . . . educator and lecturer.

"Now, girls, you must do your best, for you are now engaged at useful work," says the fore-lady. What the girls say is . . . unprintable . . . but true. * * *

A report (which does not include 45,000 County Welfare cases) has just been made public, stating that 103,589 families are on the Relief rolls in L. A. County as compared with 105,979 a year ago. A drop of 2390 cases.

At this rate of decline we can expect to see the local relief problem solved by 1980.

Hoover was right. Truly, prosperity is . . . just around the corner.

Major Lee S. Dillon, personnel director of the County Works Progress Administration, tangled neckties with J. J. Smith, personnel interviewer and former member of the SERA administrative staff.

Smith, who contends he was given a bum-rap by one of the major's many stool-pigeons that infest the headquarters, resented being discharged from his job to such an extent that he went primitive with a vengeance and socked Dillon smask-dab in the puss.

The major, likely recalling his West Point training and not wanting to be outdone by an ex-SERA'er displayed his good-humor and army sportsmanship when he refrained from striking the bespectacled Smith in the face and

