

WORKERS' AGE



A Paper Defending the Interests of the Workers and Farmers

VOL. 3, No. 7.

NEW YORK, N. Y., MAY 1, 1934.

PRICE 5 CENTS

DOWN TOOLS ON MAY FIRST!

Join In Labor Parade To Madison Square Park

TO THE WORKING MEN AND WOMEN OF N. Y.
May Day Call From the Labor May Day Conference
Comrades; brothers and sisters; fellow working men
and women:

On this First of May, the great international holiday of the workers of America and of the world, we call upon you to assemble and to demonstrate your solidarity, your might and your power.

May Day as a labor holiday was first conceived by the American workers fifty years ago in their fight for the eight-hour day. The workers of the rest of the world have also adopted May Day as their symbol of solidarity. All over the globe today, workers are gathering to proclaim their opposition to a system of starvation and war and their determination to fight for a better world.

On this May Day, 1934, the workers of America are assembling to demonstrate against a system that condemns twelve million people to idleness and hunger in a world of plenty. Twelve million jobless people, with their wives and children, comprise over a third of our population. Millions of children are suffering from malnutrition in a land rich in the possibility of a good life for all. Over a third of our population is hungry, roofless, or living in slums and hovels, wearing shoddy and rags.

In this, the richest country in the history of the world, forty million people have been turned into little short of beggars. They must depend upon private charity or become wards of the state. A system that produces such misery and degradation must stand condemned in the eyes of every intelligent worker in this country.

AGAINST THAT SYSTEM—AND FOR A BETTER WORLD FOR THE WORKERS—WE CALL UPON YOU TO JOIN WITH US ON THIS MAY DAY.

WE ASK YOU TO PROTEST AGAINST THE RISING TIDE OF COMPANY UNIONISM, AGAINST THE DANGER OF WAR AND FASCISM. WE ASK YOU TO JOIN IN A MIGHTY DEMONSTRATION FOR BREAD AND WORK, FOR PEACE, AND FOR A SANE, CLASSLESS SOCIETY!

American labor finds itself today at the crossroads. Faced by the collapse of capitalism, the government, through the NRA, granted workers the "right" to organize and bargain collectively with their employers. But the employers got the lion's share of the bargain. The government took the initiative in organizing the industrialists. The employers won the right to fix prices and to exact any tribute from the consuming masses. THEIR DIVINE RIGHT OF PROFITS AND OF UNLIMITED

MONOPOLY OVER INDUSTRY WAS SANCTIONED AND PERPETUATED BY THE GOVERNMENT.

Now these giants of industry, organized one hundred per cent, are using their power and influence to try to wipe out genuine unionism. They are attempting to fasten the yoke of company unionism on the necks of the working class.

On this May Day, the workers must raise a mighty protest against any attempt to aid or legalize the company union. We must compel the government and the NRA to recognize only bona fide unions organized and controlled by workers.

War Danger and Fascism

The danger of Fascist savagery today threatens the whole of Europe. All workers must know that fascism is nothing but bloody terroristic capitalism revealed in its true colors. Unable any longer to rule under the guise of democracy, capitalism casts off its sheepskin and stands exposed as a bloodthirsty wolf eager to swallow all labor organizations and destroy everything that labor has fought for and achieved.

In order to divide the working class, fascism has also brought in the issue of race and religion, just as in America the ruling class attempts to set workers against each other on lines of race and color and religion.

But the main purpose of fascism is to destroy working class organizations. In some countries, these fascists—the murder bands of capitalism—have called themselves "National Socialists" in order to deceive the workers. They are as far apart from Socialism as barbarism is from civilization, as darkness is from light.

In this country, capitalism is already preparing for any emergency by organizing groups of fascists. The great danger of fascism is that it intensifies nationalism and spreads the seeds of hatred of one people against another. It has already stimulated the armament race all over the world, which will inevitably plunge mankind into another World War, another orgy of slaughter.

Working Men and Working Women

Let us turn this May Day Celebration into a powerful and mighty demonstration of working class unity against the bloody hordes of fascism. Let us raise the banner of international brotherhood against the danger of a new world war. Let us raise the flag of peace. Let us launch

a mighty demonstration for bread and work for all. Let us proclaim our eternal opposition to a system that has made outcasts and beggars of forty million people in the United States. Let us prepare the way for a workers' world of peace and plenty for all who toil!

ON THIS MAY DAY, THE WORKING CLASS OF AMERICA SENDS ITS FRATERNAL GREETINGS—

To the workers of Germany, Italy and Austria, temporarily under the heel of fascism, but already organizing to overthrow it.

To the heroic Austrian Socialists, whose desperate struggle against the murderous forces of reaction has aroused the sympathy and admiration of the whole world.

To the workers of France, Spain and other countries, who are uniting their ranks against the danger of fascism and reaction.

To the workers of England, Belgium, Holland, Norway, Denmark and Sweden, who are marching steadfastly toward Socialism.

To the workers and farmers of the Soviet Union, who are building, amidst the greatest of difficulties, a new, Socialist order.

THE WORKERS OF AMERICA SEND SPECIAL GREETINGS—

To all workers, political prisoners and martyrs of the labor movement in the concentration camps and dungeons of Fascism.

To Tom Mooney and all other political prisoners jailed in this country for fighting labor's battles,

ON INTERNATIONAL MAY DAY, 1934, WE CALL UPON THE WORKERS OF THIS, THE GREATEST METROPOLIS IN THE WORLD, TO COME OUT IN THE STREETS IN TENS AND HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS, TO CLOSE THEIR RANKS AND MARCH TO MADISON SQUARE PARK IN ONE POWERFUL UNITED LABOR DEMONSTRATION.

AGAINST fascism and war!
AGAINST company unionism and the open shop!
AGAINST starvation and degradation!

FOR the six hour day and the five day week!
FOR unemployment relief and social insurance!
FOR international solidarity of the workers!
FOR bread, for work, for peace!
FOR A WORKERS' WORLD!

THE MAY DAY LABOR CONFERENCE

United Elects National Officers

Boston, Mass.

According to official reports issued by the general office of the United Shoe and Leather Workers Union, William J. Mackesy of Lynn was elected General Organizer and George A. Wilson of Lynn was elected General Secretary-Treasurer in the recent national election.

The final count showed Mackesy leading Biedenkapp of New York by over 700 votes. The vote for the various candidates for General Organizer is as follows: Mackesy 4,813, Biedenkapp 4,090, Zimmerman 2,557, Mahan 2,132 and Lach 257. The vote for General Secretary-Treasurer showed 7,078 for Wilson and 5,834 for Holmes.

The following were elected to the General Executive Board. Territory No. 1 which includes Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut, elected Rose Gautreau, George Wilkins and Fred Dufour of Lynn, Michael Salvaggio and Bernard Hallett of Boston, Eli La Plante, Ernest Mazmanian and Leonard J. Ford of Haverhill, Albert Shore of Lawrence and Alfred Bertrand of Marlboro. Territory No. 2 including New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware and Maryland elected Antonio Camposa, Sam Ziebel, Max Spierer,

Officers Installed In Local 22 I.L.G.W.U.

Great Enthusiasm For Progressive Administration

New York City.

One of the most enthusiastic and spirited meetings ever held by a union took place at Mecca Temple on Tuesday, April 17, when the newly elected progressive administration of Dressmakers Union Local 22, I.L.G.W.U., was formally installed in office. Cheer after cheer rang thru the crowded aisles of the big hall as the thousands of dressmakers there assembled voiced their wholehearted approval of the past record and the future plans of the administration.

A significant feature of the occasion was the participation in the program of a brass band and a mandolin orchestra, both organized from union members by the recently established educational department of the Local. The Union

Nat Lilienstein and Joseph Shadah, all of New York.

The newly elected officials will take office on May First.

Brass Band opened the proceedings to the tune of the International and Solidarity. When the curtain rose and showed the executive board members and officers, headed by Charles S. Zimmerman, the manager, in the midst of a forest of flowers, a tremendous ovation occurred. Louis Nelson opened the proceedings commenting on the great importance of the occasion. The installation of officers took place at the hands of David Dubinsky, President of the I.L.G.W.U., who outlined the great progress made by the International in the last year as well as the very grave and difficult problems ahead. He called attention to the various differences in policy and tactics between the administration of Local 22 and that of the International but emphasized all the more the effectiveness, responsibility and union loyalty of the Local 22 leadership.

Julius Hochman, general manager of the Dressmakers Joint Board, Samuel Perlmutter, manager of Cutters Local 10, Luigi Antonini, manager of Italian Dressmakers Union Local 89, made brief speeches and then came the central feature of the evening—the address by Charles S. Zimmerman, the manager.

In forceful words, Comrade Zimmerman pictured the tremendous headway made by Local 22 in the recent period, progress organizationally, financially and in defense of the economic interests of the dressmakers. The struggle for the unity of the dressmakers, culminating in the building up of a powerful dressmakers union in the I.L.G.W.U. was strongly emphasized. Comrade Zimmerman concluded by outlining the program of the administration for the next year.

Amidst the strains of the International, the memorable meeting concluded.

—W. H.

Participating Organizations

Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America.
American Workers' Party.
Ass'n. of Civil Works Employees.
Bag and Portfolio Workers' Union.
Butchers Union.
Bakery & Confectionery Workers' Union.
Brotherhood of Painters Dist. Council # 9.
Boot & Shoe Workers Union.
Brooklyn Art Decorators Club.
Cloth Hat and Cap Makers Union.
Communist Party (Opposition).
Communist League of America.
Communist League of Struggle.
Furriers Joint Council.
Grocery and Dairy Clerks Union.
Hebrew American Typographical Union.
International Ladies Garment Workers Union.
International Pocketbook and Suitcase Workers Union.
Industrial Workers of the World.
Ideal Painters Club.
Jewish National Workers Alliance.
Joint Board of Cloak Makers Union.
Joint Board of Dressmakers and Waistmakers Union.
Ladies Garment Shipping Clerks Union.
League for Industrial Democracy.
Millinery Workers Union.
Poale Zion.
Painters Supreme Club of Boro Park.
Rebel Arts.
Socialist Party of America.
Socialist Consumers League.
Student League for Industrial Democracy.
United Hebrew Trades.
United Neckwear Makers Union.
Waiters Union.
Workers Unemployed Union.
Workmen's Circle.
Workmen's Circle Schools.
Voice of Labor.
Young People's Socialist League.
Young Circle League of America.

M. Bourke-White "ART IN INDUSTRY" April 29, 8 p. m., 51 W. 14 St.

May Day Greetings to the Workers Age

GREETINGS TO THE WORKERS AGE
on
INTERNATIONAL MAY DAY
from the
NEW WORKERS SCHOOL
"Training for the class struggle"

Betram D. Wolfe, Director
John Phillips, Associate Director
Ray Michael, Secretary

14 WEST 14th STREET,
NEW YORK CITY
Phone: GRamercy 5-8903

REVOLUTIONARY
MAY DAY GREETINGS
to
Workers Age
GROUP OF
MONTREAL WORKERS

Revolutionary Greetings
to
Workers Age
DRESSMAKERS UNIT
C. P. O.

Fraternal Greetings
to
WORKERS AGE
JOINT COUNCIL FURRIERS UNION
Affiliated with A. F. of L.
28 Wes 31st Street, N. Y. C.

International May Day Greetings to
WORKERS AGE
For the solidarity of the workers of Canada and
the U. S. A. in the struggle for emancipation.
WORKERS LEAGUE OF CANADA

International Solidarity Greetings
to
THE WORKERS AGE
Detroit Unit—CPO

Revolutionary Greetings
to
THE WORKERS AGE
Boston Unit—CPO.

Revolutionary Greetings
to
THE WORKERS AGE
Hartford Unit—CPO.

Communist Greetings
to
THE WORKERS AGE
Chicago Unit—CPO.

Communist Greetings
to
THE WORKERS AGE
Philadelphia Unit—CPO.

Greetings

We call upon all workers to lock hands with us in this May Day celebration!

With combined vigor, we must raise our voices against fascism, against Hitlerism and against reaction!

With concerted strength of all workers, we must rededicate our energies in the fight.

**AGAINST
Unemployment - Wage - Cuts - Imperialist War
FOR
Life - Freedom - Peace**

LONG LIVE THE INTERNATIONAL LABOR MOVEMENT

Joint Board of the Dressmakers Union

J. HOCHMAN, Gen. Manager. I WASILEVSKY, President
Phillip Kapp, Sec'y-Treasurer

INTERNATIONAL
SOLIDARITY DAY
Greetings to the
WORKERS AGE
Anthracite District—CPO.

LONG LIVE THE
SOLIDARITY OF THE
WORKING CLASS
PITTSBURGH UNIT
C. P. O.

Revolutionary Greetings to
WORKERS AGE
Fort Wayne Unit—CPO.

Communist Greetings
to
WORKERS AGE
Fort Wayne Youth Unit
CPO.

For Communism
Against Capitalism
Los Angeles Unit
C. P. O.

Fraternal Greetings
to
WORKERS AGE
GROUP OF SHOE WORKERS

For united action against
War and Fascism
DOWNTOWN UNIT 1
CPO.
New York District

FOR UNITED ACTION
AGAINST
WAR AND FASCISM
Downtown Unit—2
C. P. O.

Revolutionary May Day Greetings
to
WORKERS AGE
NEW YORK DISTRICT—C.P.O.

May Day Greetings
to
THE WORKERS AGE
From a Hartford Friend.

For a
**SOVIET
AMERICA**
Bronx Unit
C.P.O.

For a Struggle Against
War and Fascism
BROWNSVILLE UNIT
CPO
New York District

Revolutionary Greetings
from
S. SCHLEIFER

MAY DAY GREETINGS
Dr. S. Berkowitz
DENTIST
990 Hopkinson Ave.
Brooklyn, N. Y.

May Day Greetings from the
NATIONAL COMMITTEE
LITHUANIAN WORKERS' SOCIETY
M. MATULIS, Sec'y.

Against Imperialist War
Against Militarism
For a Soviet America
YOUTH SECTION, C. P. O.
New York District

Revolutionary Greetings
to
Workers Age
HARLEM UNIT
C. P. O.

FRATERNAL GREETINGS
to
WORKERS AGE
FURRIERS PROGRESSIVE GROUP

A LETTER TO THE PROLETARIAN PARTY

March 29th, 1934.
National Executive Committee
Proletarian Party of America
Chicago, Illinois.

Comrades:

When I resigned from the Proletarian Party at the National Convention in Detroit on September 7th, 1933, I stated that I would send a written statement of the principal reasons for my resignation. Briefly stated, they are as follows:

First, the Party's position and procedure is not Leninist, and in some respects it does not correctly interpret the earlier teachings of Marx and Engels.

Although some of the Party's most flagrant departures from Leninist democratic centralism were patched up at the last convention, making it less easy for the National Secretary to act arbitrarily, still, the structure and operation of the Party are not those of democratic centralism.

The Party's attitude in regard to the small farmer and other poor, non-wage-earning elements of the population as necessarily capitalistic in sentiment, and hostile to the workers, is mechanical and will become increasingly reactionary as the class struggle matures.

On the question of partial demands as well as on the question of allies the Party ignores the teachings of Lenin. Although it claims not to be opposed to partial demands in principle, the Party takes every precaution to exclude them rigidly from Party practice, not only in the present but also far into the future.

There are Social-democratic, study circle tendencies in the Party, which perhaps find their most obvious expression on the West Coast. One of the results of these tendencies is the attitude that nothing really worth while can be done until broad masses of workers have been given a fairly complete understanding of theoretical Marxism. The study of tactics and Lenin's writings in general, together with their application to present conditions, are thus relegated to a position of minor importance.

The Party's attitude on the Negro question is another example of the tendency to reduce Marxism to a stereotyped formula.

The Party's attitude toward unity and toward the C. I. is one of utter inconsistency. The importance of unity and discipline is continually stressed when Party discussions become too critical to suit the Party leadership, still no move for communist unity in the United States has been initiated, or even honestly supported by the Party. The Party is outside the C. I. and contemplates remaining so, yet it has never expressed any theoretical or practical disagreement with the C. I. itself to justify this separation.

Neither has it pointed out any of the mistakes of the C. I. although it is common knowledge that the C. I. forced upon the C. P. of A. several tactics which the Party has rightly ridiculed the C. P. of A. for adopting. It is not consistent to criticize the C. P. of A. for tactics given to it by the C. I. and at the same time to adopt an attitude which amounts in practice to an unqualified endorsement of the C. I. except in regard to its selection of the C. P. of A.

instead of the P. P. as its American section. A Communist organization may have justification for being temporarily outside the C. I. and still endorsing it, but the Party's position of endorsing the C. I. and remaining outside without exposing or fighting the errors of the C. I. which stand in the way of unity, cannot be justified.

The attitude of the Party toward offers of unity from other communist organizations is a completely hypocritical one. The reason advanced for rejecting such offers is that the unity proposed is not communist unity of the required degree of purity. However, I suspect that the real reason is that the individualistic Party leadership fears that such developments may in some way result to its own discredit or disadvantage. When the C. P. O. recently made unity advances, John Keracher, without consulting other Party members, immediately prepared an extremely hostile reply and presented it for publication in the issue of the Proletarian News about to go to press. It was rejected by the Editorial Board to Keracher's great disappointment. The language of this reply could leave no doubt that it was intended to destroy, not only all possibilities of unity, but also to forestall unity negotiations.

There was much evidence in the conditions finally proposed for unity with the C. P. O. to show that the communist nature of the unity was not the main issue with those who formulated them. I will

mention specifically only one condition which reads as follows: "9. The structure of the new Party must comply closely with the present structure of the Proletarian Party." I wish to point out here again that the structure of the Proletarian Party is not a Communist party structure. Although I emphasized this point in the Pre-Convention Bulletin discussion, and also at the Convention, no one made any definite attempt to deny it.

On the contrary, there was a wide-spread agreement that the Party structure was wrong and should be changed. This was proved by the casting of eleven votes at the Convention for a communist Party structure. It required the vote of the Chairman to retain the old constitution in modified form by a majority of one. The present structure of the Party, which is insisted on as a condition for unity, is still not a communist structure. There is something wrong with a Party which cannot accept unity because it is not communist unity, but which at the same time includes in its own basis for unity conditions which are not communist conditions.

The attitude of the individualist Party leadership towards professional revolutionists has been in effect to limit the number of them actually guiding the day-to-day affairs of the Party to a single one. The Party has pursued a policy

of inaction and isolation which, even though it may have saved a few mistakes, has tended to prevent the attainment of numerical strength and influence.

The National Secretary has hypocritically demanded the greatest degree of democracy in minor Party affairs, insisting that the smallest detail be handled by committees. At the same time, he has assumed the greatest individual freedom of action and independence for himself as National Secretary, claiming that in certain matters, particularly those pertaining to Party funds, the National Secretary was not subject to the direction of the National Executive Committee.

In fact, the efforts of the National Secretary to keep Party funds exclusively in his own hands with very incomplete bookkeeping and reports, and without audits of any kind, has been the source of much dissatisfaction in the Party. This arbitrary procedure can only escape the notice of the uncritical. The attack upon local Detroit, ostensibly, on account of its low theoretical level, was another example of hypocrisy. As a matter of fact, the Keracherites seem only to notice low theoretical level outside of their own ranks. Those who serve well seem immune to this sort of criticism. The following instances seem to have escaped their notice: Youngblood from Illinois brought to the Constitution Committee at the Convention a proposal to divide the power of the Party equally between the Na-

tional Secretary, an individual, and the National Executive Committee. This proposal might indicate a high theoretical level in a bourgeois democratic Party, but certainly not in a communist organization.

Babbitt from Flint in an article in the July 1933 bulletin made the following statement: "The class struggle and the every day struggle are two distinct things. . . . This remarkable concept is put forward as the basis of an argument that communists should not allow themselves to be diverted from the class struggle by too much participation in the every day struggle. Later in the same article Babbitt says: "The theory of Communism does not develop out of the struggle of the working class under capitalism, but is applied to that struggle by the revolutionists who have some understanding of Marxism." Where did Marx and the other revolutionists get their communist theory? From whence will come our theoretical understanding of new conditions now arising? Did the Keracherites condemn these examples of low theoretical level? No, they elevated the authors to positions of prestige and responsibility in the Party. Is this part of the program for raising the Party's theoretical level, or does it indicate a desire to foster those who favor Keracherism regardless of how low their theoretical level may be?

When discussion in the Party became too critical for his comfort, the National Secretary stressed the need for strong Party discipline. Lenin says that Communist discipline is based on two things, unity of action, and freedom of discussion and criticism. This means that unity of action should be stressed at the expense of discussion and criticism when there is a special need for united action and when freedom of discussion and criticism is of lesser immediate importance. Contrary to this, the National Secretary raised the issue of discipline and unity at a time when freedom of discussion and criticism should have been emphasized for several reasons: First, it was during the Party's period of open discussion. Second, because there was a decidedly critical attitude toward the leadership, and a decided disagreement as to program and tactics, which could best be removed by discussion and criticism. Third, there was no special activity in which the Party was engaged or about to be engaged which called for united action, or which would have suffered as a result of discussion and criticism. Raising the issue of discipline to limit discussion and criticism under these conditions was a clear distortion of Leninism.

In conclusion, I find myself now even more than when I resigned at the Convention in disagreement with many positions taken by the Party, and I am particularly more than ever opposed to the individualistic Party leadership, which is not only unsound and futile, but in my opinion, by no means free from hypocrisy.

Although I have previously regarded the Proletarian Party as the best expression of Communism in the United States, I can no longer

Individual Greetings to Workers Age

- | | | | | |
|------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| M. K. Augi | Flocker | R. Iannutuno | S. Nehama | Jean Stern |
| A. Altman | Frances R. Fox | Jean Imber | A. Neville | Sam Schwartz |
| Harry Fox | Harry Fox | Martha Jacobs | Noto | Robert Strong |
| Sam Berman | Millie Flora | J. J. | H. Oguz | Sheba Strunsky |
| Sam Bail | Wm. Fogel | J. Jenkins | Issie Philips | Mollie Stone |
| Dr. S. Berkowitz | V. Fay | B. Korin | Harry Prancer | Jack Smith |
| Al. Berkowitz | B. Friedman | J. Kuvudis | John Prince | E. S. |
| Albert Bell | S. Friedman | J. Karelitz | Pelozzola | M. C. Stewart |
| D. Benjamin | N. Forman | Sophie Katz | Robert Pearse | R. Shluger |
| Barish | Jack Fliester | I. Kasten | Phillips | C. Sharp |
| E. Butkus | A. Friend | A. Kappeson | M. Panksteine | Schwartz |
| D. Bulanka | M. Frank | Jennie Kravetz | H. Schenick | H. Schlachter |
| Borin | V. Gelo | Peter Kutt | Harry Pomerantz | Skolnick |
| Beckie Berkowitz | Galasso | Ben Lander | Robert Paine | Solomon |
| Julius Betcher | B. G. | Sam Laikind | Queens Friend | D. Shantroz |
| Mania Bieber | S. Gillis | Franz Lifshitz | Lena Rabinowitz | Nathan Stinick |
| Harry Bumble | Gordon | Lewis Levinson | Albert Rosner | I. Sherch |
| Morris Burnstein | Isadore Gross | I. Leonard | Jack Richman | Louis Shapiro |
| M. Bailowitz | L. Gaskin | H. Linn | Ellen Rose | Celia Silverman |
| Mania B. | Goldberg | R. Linder | Joe Rosen | L. Steinberg |
| Harry Cohn | Mollie Gurkewitz | Fannie Lessler | Peter Ross | Thomas |
| B. Colenberg | L. Gassner | Eva Levin | Jack Roberts | Jack Taksen |
| L. Comrade | Abe Gurovitch | S. M. | V. Retkevicius | Paul Tauber |
| L. Cohn | Ginsberg | Sam Malkin | Bertha Rothstein | Bill Turner |
| Louis Cohen | T. Grunes | George F. Miles | R. Resnick | E. Taylor |
| Oscar Dropkin | Clare Greene | Joseph Mangeri | S. Rothman | Amor Tillman |
| Sarah Dubnick | Sarah Gross | Joan March | Louis Rosenthal | J. Titiefsky |
| Dressmaker | L. H. | Martin | H. Rabinowitz | Ellen Ward |
| F. Davidson | W. Harris | M. Miller | Samuel Spiegel | F. Zweibon |
| N. Edwards | E. Hertz | A. Murphy | Max Schuster | Zarieff |
| J. Elman | S. Hochberg | P. Morgenstein | Sam Sinensky | Zweibon |
| A. Elnick | A. Hirsch | H. Matus | Bobby Sachstein | |
| Efris | David Hollander | Margolin | Saul Steiglitz | |

Phones:—JErome 7-9225 BIngham 6-0913
AMBASSADOR MANSION, Inc.
Elegant Large and Small Ball Rooms for Weddings, Banquets
and other Social Functions
3861 to 3891 THIRD AVENUE Near Claremont Parkway
BRONX, N. Y.

Greetings to
WORKERS AGE
I. S. ECKSTEIN

**DELICIOUS FOOD?
GOOD SERVICE?**
go to
Field's
RESTAURANT
523 Sixth Avenue
N. Y. C.

Phone: DRy Dock 4-0432
JACOB STEINFELD
Union Printer
12 JEFFERSON STREET
Near East Broadway
NEW YORK

IRVING PLAZA
HALLS and
MEETING ROOMS
17 IRVING PLACE,
New York City

Workers Age

Published Twice Monthly by the
Workers Age Pub. Assn., 51 West 14 Street, New York, N. Y.
Phone: GRamercy 5-8903

Organ of the National Council of the
COMMUNIST PARTY OF THE U. S. A. (OPPOSITION)
Subscription rates: Foreign \$1.50 a year. \$1.00 six months. 5 cents
a copy. Domestic \$1.25 a year. \$0.75 six months.

Vol. 3, No. 7.

May 1, 1934.

MAY DAY OF STRUGGLE

The World In Crisis

MAY FIRST 1934 dawns upon the capitalist world in its most severe economic crisis. Tens of millions of working people unemployed, starving and in rags constitute a real threat to the very existence of capitalism. Faced with this menace, its economic structure rocking on its very foundation and its political superstructure—democracy—a smouldering ruin, capitalism resorts to the naked sword—Fascism.

Thruout central Europe Fascism's march to power has left ruin and devastation in its wake. The labor movement of Germany and Austria is crushed, its organizations and hard won conditions ruthlessly uprooted and its best fighters tortured in the dungeons of Fascism.

In the rest of Europe it is a race between the rapidly swelling ranks of Fascism and the earnest beginnings being made to weld against them an iron proletarian fighting front. A race upon which the life of the labor movement depends.

In the United States the impetus for organization into the American Federation of Labor has already resulted in its becoming stronger than it ever was. But under the banner of the NRA, the Roosevelt New Deal for capitalism has meant powerful, national manufacturers' associations, the sanction of monopoly control of industry (suspension of Sherman Anti-Trust Law), recognition of company unions (Auto agreement) and the abridgement of the right to strike, thru administrative orders. The company unions have far outstripped the A. F. of L. in recent growth.

The A. F. of L. faces this condition, archaic in its craft form of organization and die-hard reactionary in its class collaborationist policies and leadership. Both will have to go, if progress is to be made.

Despite all boasts of the New Deal, 40,000,000 people continue to starve in this the richest land there ever was. Relief doles are being slashed and a vicious system of repression begun to beat the unemployed into submission. Lynchings and brutal terror against the Negro masses are on the increase. The exploitation of colonial peoples, under American "benevolent" rule, has been tremendously intensified in order to replenish the coffers of American capitalists. A Fascist movement is beginning to spring up.

The Soviets March On

May First 1934 finds the proletariat over one sixth of the globe continuing to strengthen and insure the gains of its 1917 revolution. As against unemployment under capitalism, we have a shortage of labor in the Soviet Union. As against falling wages and starvation, we have a rising living standard and constantly shorter hours in the land of proletarian rule. As against insecurity and despair of the workers under capitalism, we have the most far-reaching system of social insurance. As against the chaos of capitalism, we have the planned building of a socialist society. Destruction, decay and despair under capitalism—construction growth and inspiration in the land of Soviets.

The Soviet Union stands as a living proof that the toilers of the world can build a socialist society without masters, without exploiters. Respected and feared by its capitalist foes, it is a source of inspiration to the proletariat of all lands on its difficult road to victory.

On May First 1934 we pledge ourselves to the unconditional defense of this citadel of the world revolution, the Soviet Union, our socialist fatherland.

The Danger of War

Hard-pressed for new markets by the ravages of the economic crisis, the fires of national hatreds fanned into flames by victorious Fascism, the world is again facing a new imperialist world slaughter.

In an immediate sense the sword-rattling policy of Japanese Imperialism in the Far East may be the spark to set off this world conflagration. The frankly stated Japanese designs on Siberia may result in war despite the most desperate efforts of the Soviet Union to avoid it. The recent pronouncement of Japan, declaring its "protectorate" over China, endangers the imperialist interests of the U. S. A., Great Britain, etc. and may result in war.

It is the working masses who fight, bleed and die by the millions in these imperialist wars. We must resist all war plans of our own government. If war comes nevertheless, we must be prepared to utilize the lesson taught us by our Russian brothers—we must turn the imperialist war into a civil war against our own oppressors.

The Revolutionary Labor Movement

The severe economic crisis and the victories of Fascism have uncovered the weaknesses of both the Second (Socialist) and the Third (Communist) Internationals—the betrayal of the former, the sectarian isolation of the latter. Both have suffered severe defeats.

Germany has proven most decisively that, paralyzed by the tactics of ultra-leftism and isolated from the masses, the German Com-

No Peace in Auto Industry

WHEN Roosevelt put over his auto settlement, the more gullible believed that it spelled a period of peace in the motor industry. We never for a moment felt that so great a betrayal as the Roosevelt-Green pact would go unanswered by the workers. Scarcely had the ink dried on this Versailles Treaty of American labor, when a wave of resentment swept the workers' ranks and a series of stormy strikes broke loose.

To us these are no ordinary strikes. If any strikes ever deserved the support of all labor, these, still isolated, strikes of automobile workers do. This industry has been considered sacrosanct by the most powerful open shoppers. Crisis and prosperity had hitherto left it unscathed, even untouched, by the hand of organized labor. For the first time trade unionism looms seriously on the horizon of this hitherto "untouchable." Therein, lies the great significance—and equally great danger. What labor will do in the auto industry will determine a good deal for labor in other industries, especially in those basic industries as yet either totally or scarcely organized.

The auto magnates have sensed all that is involved in this conflict, in this drive of organized labor to win a foothold in America's most concentrated, most developed and most symbolic industry. Hence, the huge and costly advertising appeal by the National Automobile Chamber of Commerce thruout the press, inclusive of the most powerful Socialist Party paper in this country—the Jewish Daily Forward. Nor is it an accident that this yellow socialist sheet should feature an appeal against unionism in the form of an advertisement (March 17th issue) very well-paid for by such vile open shop corporations as General Motors Truck Corporation, Chrysler Sales Corporation, and Packard Motor Car Co. This is the historical and typical role of the Socialist Parties thruout the world in decisive moments. It is then that they are decisively against the most elementary interests of the working class. In this particularly crass case, we wonder why the honest workers in the SP keep quiet about this outright treachery.

But there is no peace in the auto industry. And, those of us who have the slightest spark of class-consciousness should see to it that there shouldn't be. The labor movement is facing here a decisive test. Let no one be trapped by Roosevelt's petty tricks nor be fooled by his large and empty sentimentalities. Icy distrust must be labor's answer especially to its double-crossing friends. Redoubled efforts at organization and boundless solidarity alone can bring victory.

Communist party was impotent to strike a blow against the Fascist advance.

Germany and Austria have proven that the Socialism of the Second International had decayed in the putrid air of the bourgeois republican cabinet chambers. Its theory of class peace (Burgfrieden), its revulsion to socialism thru revolution, and its holy veneration of the dogma of democracy, had destroyed the substance of socialism leaving but the shell, the name.

The revolutionary labor movement stands confused and undecided in the face of these heavy blows. A process of crumbling has set in from both directions. The one moving away from the Socialist International but repelled by the tactics of the Comintern. The other in some cases moving away from Communism as such. The efforts to corall these conflicting elements and congeal them into a new, a Fourth International is bound to be wrecked upon the rock of unprincipledness.

The burning need of the hour is the unification of all genuinely revolutionary forces around the program of the Communist International and a continued struggle to change the tactical line of the Communist International.

The Road Ahead

Many difficult tasks lie ahead for the working masses. These can be realized only thru the united efforts of all political tendencies, of the trade unions and other working class organizations—thru a united labor front.

The Communist Party (Opposition) extends its revolutionary greetings to the communists and all other working class fighters suffering the hell of Fascism in the concentration camps. Our fraternal greetings to our comrade, the valiant Indian fighter, M. N. Roy, who, from the Indian jails of British Imperialism, continues to lead and inspire the oppressed colonial masses of India in their struggle for emancipation.

We express our solidarity with and demand the release of Tom Mooney, the Scottsboro boys and all other political prisoners in the jails of the "democratic" U. S. A.

This May First we raise our voice

- AGAINST Fascism!**
- AGAINST Imperialist War!**
- AGAINST Company unionism and the open shop!**
- AGAINST Capitalist reaction!**
- FOR the 6-hour 5-day week!**
- FOR unemployment relief and insurance!**
- FOR full Social and Racial Equality for the Negro!**
- FOR International United Action against Fascism and War!**
- FOR the defense of the Soviet Union!**
- FOR the unity of the Communist and revolutionary labor movement!**
- FOR a Soviet America!**

**NATIONAL COMMITTEE
COMMUNIST PARTY, U. S. A.
(OPPOSITION)**

COMMUNIST PARTY (OPPOSITION)

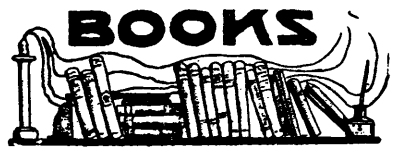
51 West 14th Street
New York, N. Y.

Please send me information in reference to the policies and activity of the C. P. O.

Name

Address

City State.....



FINANCING FASCISM

In London, there has recently appeared a book by Johannes Steel, formerly a close collaborator of Hitler's, now a fugitive from Germany. In this book Steel lays bare the manner in which the Nazis collected huge sums of money in recent years for maintaining the brown-shirted mercenaries and the party.

Steel calculates that in the last five years more than 350 million marks (85 million dollars) came to the Hitler movement from various capitalist groups all over the world. In view of the tremendous expense involved in recruiting and maintaining the Storm-Troopers, this sum does not appear to be excessive.

The author declares that for years a whole army of paid agents have been roaming Germany, England, Sweden, the United States and France, collecting money for Hitler. These people are not necessarily Nazis. They work on a purely business basis, for salary and commission. These paid money-raisers were financed by Goebbels. Under the direction of Dr. Shacht, the American agents were shown how to "prove" to Wall Street that Nazi Germany would bring prosperity back again and so save American investments in Germany. These arguments proved effective enough to get several million dollars from the United States. It is reported that the Morgan interests contributed \$50,000 and then \$35,000. The greatest single contribution was made by the General Motors Corporation, which had bought up the Opel concern in Germany.

The writer maintains that the most powerful ally of Hitler in America was Henry Ford who spent \$40,000 at one time in publishing German translations of the anti-Semitic articles appearing in his paper, the "Dearborn Independent." Prince Ferdinand of Prussia, a son of the ex-Crown Prince, worked in the Ford plants and was the connecting link with the Hitler organization. Prince Ferdinand gathered great sums also from Germans in America and was able to raise considerable contributions from Italian bootleggers. This money he sent to Germany, thru Prince August Wilhelm (Auwi). Most of the contributions to the Hitler war-chest came from the German munitions concerns, which did a good job on the side in equipping the 400,000 Storm-Troopers. Immense sums were given to Hitler by Ivan Kreuger and a big Swedish firm which had close relations with Krupp.

Several weeks ago, a group of us visited two Negro colleges in Arkansas and we were amazed to find such a deep interest in social and economic problems. Some of us are fairly well acquainted with small white colleges in this state and their stagnant atmosphere, but here among the Negroes we found an alertness and an understanding which did not find its origin in the accepted bourgeois texts. In some instances their interpretations on social issues were frankly revolutionary, but their thought has not yet been crystallized sufficiently for them to see that action is the next necessary step. We found no liberal or radical organization of either teachers or students, in spite of the fact many of the individuals we spoke to had no illusions about capitalism.

The Proletarian Party

(Continued from Page 11)

er so regard it. I do not consider the Party the worst in the Movement or entirely without merit. It is at least not seeking to destroy existing Communist organizations as are the adherents of Trotsky. However, I believe the Party requires extensive reorganization if it is to be of any further service to the Communist Movement.

Comradely Yours,
EDGAR ANDERSON.