

THE NEW MAGAZINE

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The Murder of a Revolutionist

By T. J. O'FLAHERTY

IT is now eleven years since James Connolly, military leader of the Easter Week rebellion of 1916 was taken out on a stretcher from a prison hospital, propped up against a wall and pumped full of lead from the guns of a British firing squad.

James Connolly, commander of the Irish Citizen Army, the military arm of the Dublin trade union movement, was the dynamic force behind the revolt that shook the mighty empire to her base at a time when her mercenaries were scurrying in retreat before the gray hosts of the Kaiser in Belgium and Flanders.

James Connolly could see no distinction between the two brands of democracy purveyed by the British and German governments and when the militarists sounded the war bugles in 1914, instead of burying his principles and deserting his socialist program as was done by the renegades in England and on the continent, he called on the workers to fight neither for British king nor German Kaiser but to fight—if they must fight—to save their own firesides from their historical enemy, to keep the food they produced for the use of their own people and to prevent the flower of their manhood from being turned into dust on the battlefields of Europe, so that a putrid empire, bloated with the blood of millions of subject peoples might survive the gruelling strain of war.

James Connolly, the son of a proletarian father, was born in the County Monaghan, Ireland. He was obliged to work at such an early age that he had to lie his way past the authorities charged with the enforcement of a child labor law. He was a rebel by inheritance and by nature. From the time he was old enough to make a public speech he was an active rebel and took an active part in the class struggle in Scotland, England, Wales and in the United States. But his heart was always drawn towards Ireland, the land of his birth and to the people whose moods he best understood. During the years of his exile in the United States he never lost touch with the revolutionary Nationalist and labor movements in Ireland. Always a practical revolutionist in the truest sense of the word he did not permit his knowledge of Marxist economics to excuse him from participating in the Nationalist struggle against the British Empire, as was done by others, who looked on the great rebel founder of modern socialism as a dried-up research worker interested only in facts, figures and theories and not the untiring warrior who never let slip an opportunity to put in a blow for the workers or to find some way of rousing them to struggle against the capitalist enemy.

Connolly labored effectively in the socialist movement in the United States. He was in at the founding of the I. W. W. and served that organization in the capacity of organizer. A tireless propagandist, he was constantly on the platform. His pen was always at the service of the cause. The extreme poverty in which his family lived did not swerve him from the only purpose in life that he considered worth a wrinkle of his brow.

Connolly was invited to return to Ireland by some of his old comrades shortly after the Irish Transport and General Workers' Union was organized under the leadership of Jim Larkin. When Larkin left for his speaking tour in the United States, which was prolonged beyond his expectations—he was eight and a half years here, part of the time as a guest of Governor Alfred E. Smith in the Sing Sing penitentiary for his association with the Communist movement—Connolly took active charge of the affairs of the Transport Union and from then on the headquarters of that organization became also the headquarters of the revolutionary preparations against British rule in Ireland.

In 1916 the Nationalist movement, split by the traitor John Redmond, who played the same role in Ireland that Chiang Kai Shek is now playing in China, was deplorably weak for the task that confronted it. Outside of Connolly and his associates in the Irish Republican Brotherhood, the petty bourgeois Nationalist leaders who spouted about Home Rule in the British House of Commons never had any intention of resorting to physical force. The arming and drilling that went on from the

time Sir Edward Carson and the present Lord Birkenhead imported arms from Germany to equip their cohorts to fight Home Rule, was to those playboys a chance to show off their excessive patriotism to the voters but when the time for action arrived they withdrew into the caverns of constitutionalism.

This is a good place to draw attention to the monumental hypocrisy of the British government of the day—a liberal government under the premiership of that arch-fraud Asquith. The Irish Home Rule bill was on the statute book and signed by the king. But the Ulster reactionaries backed by the Tory party in England bluntly told the British government to go to hell and with arms imported from Germany proceeded to make good their threat. And the British government which is so mightily exercised over the revolts of its subject peoples in India, Egypt and Africa permitted Carson and Birkenhead to go their rebellious ways flouting the government.

CAPITALIST JUSTICE



When human life is placed in the capitalist scale of justice on the opposite side of profits it is human life that takes the upward flight.

HEADS HIGH

Stone, steel, and dungeon,
Thus the workers paid.
You who build for the ages
Face them unafraid.

Cross, rope, and fagot,
Water, rack, and wheel,
Well the heroes faced them—
Let your nerves be steel.

Now the day is nearing,
The workers' kingdom nigh,
Who strikes a blow for freedom?
Who lives tho he may die?

The rebels from the circus,
The prophets old and grey,
Arena victims bleeding
Are tramping on today.

Look, Socrates is marching
The hemlock in his hand,
And Spartacus beside him
With all his doughty band.

Now the day is nearing,
The workers' kingdom nigh,
Who stand with them for freedom?
Who lives with them that die?

Hate, death, and prison,
These the rebels knew.
You the heirs of rebels
Must be rebels too.

—H. G. WEISS.

For raising the banner of revolt against British imperialism two years later James Connolly, Padraic Pearse and many other Nationalist leaders were brutally murdered by the same government that honored Carson and Birkenhead with positions among the highest in the land.

When the shipload of arms sent by the German government to Ireland was seized off the coast of Kerry by a British cruiser, as a result of information supplied to the British government by the United States secret service, several of the leaders of the Irish revolutionary organization planning the revolt were in favor of calling off the rising. Connolly was determined that a blow would be struck; that even tho the attempt was doomed to temporary failure the time was ripe and the consequences of the event would have repercussions on an international scale. Connolly's determination carried the day and the forces of the Irish Republican Brotherhood and the Irish Citizen Army, a mere handful, hoisted the flag of rebellion on Easter Sunday and challenged the power of the mightiest empire that the history of the human was able to record until then. One thousand volunteer soldiers against millions!

The battle was short and swift. British gunboats shelled Liberty Hall, the headquarters of the revolutionists, British troops were brought from concentration camps, the city was bombarded and partially destroyed and after a heroic struggle that lasted seven days the survivors of the revolutionary army made terms with the perfidious enemy who violated his word as soon as the rebels laid down their arms.

Connolly was the last of the seven signers of the proclamation of the Irish Republic to be executed. And the Irish workers will not forget that an Irish capitalist newspaper, The Irish Independent, a "supporter" of the nationalist cause, reminded the British government two days before the execution that Connolly and, Seamus MacDermot were still living. Neither will they forget that Arthur Henderson, secretary of the British Labor Party, then a member of the Asquith coalition government, never protested against the reign of terror that was let loose by his government in Ireland and particularly against the execution of James Connolly, who, with Henderson, was a member of the Second International, that putrid fraud which today as in 1914 is busily engaged betraying the workers and stiffening the backbone of world imperialism.

The Irish labor movement for which Connolly shed his heart's blood has not followed the path he mapped out for it. It is caught in the net of reformism like the labor movements of the rest of the world. Men who fought with Connolly in the early days of the socialist movement in Ireland have grown old and weary and are content to leave the political leadership of the official labor movement in the hands of men who would feel more at home in the company of the British MacDonaldis, Thomases and Snowdens than in the company of the Connollys, Lenins, Liebknechts and Luxemburghs.

A virile and militant minority movement such as has been thrown up in England due to the rapid decline of British imperialism and to the guidance and encouragement of the Communist Party, has not yet made its appearance in Ireland. Only a few scattered and disunited groups swear allegiance to the Communist cause. The defeat of the nationalist movement thru the treachery of those who accepted a fake Free State in lieu of a republic and because of the overwhelming power of Great Britain spread demoralization in the ranks of the labor movement. But there are signs of an awakening. And on the eleventh anniversary of the execution of Ireland's greatest proletarian son, James Connolly, we permit ourselves the luxury of predicting that before the next anniversary comes around that the radical wing of Irish labor will get together under the leadership of the Communist International and in conjunction with the progressive elements in the republican nationalist movement, organize for the final overthrow of British imperialism in Ireland and the abolition of Irish capitalism as well.

SORRY HUGO!

By error the splendid drawing titled "Strike!" in the last issue of the magazine was credited to Maurice Becker. This fine job was the work of Hugo Gellert—more of whose unusual work you will see in future issues.

Debunking the News

By T. J. O. F.

We are informed by Richard V. Oulahan of the New York Times in a Washington dispatch dated May 7 that "there appears to be no doubt from information obtained upon inquiry today that the United States government has intervened in Nicaragua."

Here are a few other items that Mr. Oulahan might vouch for their authenticity without laying himself open to the charge of handling important information carelessly:

Item No. 1.—The waters of the Mississippi have overflowed the banks of the "Mother of Rivers."

Item No. 2.—Henry Judd Gray the "little corset salesman" and Mrs. Snyder have confessed to the murder of Mr. Snyder, the art editor.

Item No. 3.—Calvin Coolidge and the "president's spokesman" are synonymous persons.

Item No. 4.—Frank Kellogg is secretary of the department of state.

Radio harangues by real estate salesmen, Gilda Gray's gyrations transmuted into jazz or the Heckzcher-Hempel, big dough and opera scandal may have caused the Mississippi flood according to a letter received by the Federal Trade Commission from a man in Hurricane, W. Va. The ethereal racket, according to the Hurricane correspondent "so magnetises the ether" that it "produces magnetic disturbances and rain."

Why not turn our radio salesmen loose on the Sahara desert? It might prevent a world war in the near future by giving Mussolini some elbow room for a place in the sun.

An anti-fascist would suggest that the deuce be inveigled into visiting the desert to have his picture taken in the act of commanding the clouds to shed tears, then before he had a chance of re-treating turn our real estate men, evangelists, coloratura's and Paul Whiteman's jazz band loose on the white part of the Dark Continent. Mussolini would have earned a reputation for being the greatest "wet" in history and Italy would be thankful to the floods for having dried up her most incurable spouter.

The time may come when a septuagenarian multi-millionaire who pays to keep an opera singer off the air may achieve fame for abating one of our most notorious public nuisances.

Kitty Boy was what we would call a Krazy Kat. Kitty Boy was beneficiary under the will of his late mistress and was having a good time spending the unearned increment when he began to feel the spiritual impact of countless prayers sent up to heaven by the relatives of the deceased who could not inherit the property as long as Kitty Boy lived. Kitty Boy went and turned on the gas. So say the relatives who admit he was the greatest of cats. But we think he was nutty. Or perhaps he was insured and married. And the headline writer who captioned the story: "Rich Cat's Death Laid To Prayers" knew his spaces. Which proves there is still another way of killing a kitten.

Will Durant's suggestion that Henry Judd Gray and Mrs. Snyder be enclosed inside high walls for the rest of their lives received a mixed reception. Coming from the man who put the "soc" in Socrates it is rather deficient in originality. Why not a hemlock highball, Mr. Durant? This solution we are almost certain would be as satisfactory to the two persons most deeply concerned as it would be intriguing to the 147,000 purchasers of the "Outline of Philosophy," as any patron of a modern speakeasy will admit.

Socrates went out like a lamb, arguing sensibly to the end after his shot of hemlock. Instead of wishing to kill somebody he did not even want to save his life by escaping. But then those who have read "Mrs. Socrates" may find the explanation.



Spain having just sent a boat to China, Primo de Rivera says, "And I! And I! My friends—I too am a great nation."

Long Live Christ the King

AND one day the happiness of the Indian was interrupted. At the shores of Mexico arrived a group of white men, armed with swords, guns—and a cross. The Indians hastened to defend themselves, and for the first time they heard a war-cry that they never forgot: *Viva Cristo Rey* (Long live Christ the King). The white men were advancing; their pathway was strewn with the corpses of Indians. *Viva Cristo Rey* and the cross-bows decimated the ranks of the Indians; *Viva Cristo Rey* and the villages of the Indians were burned; *Viva Cristo Rey* and the Indian virgins were violated in the presence of their fathers and brothers; *Viva Cristo Rey* and the sacred temples of the Indians were destroyed; *Viva Cristo Rey* and the independence of the Indian ceased to exist; in its place was the harshest slavery. And the Indians no longer had the land; the Spanish gentlemen had it.

The lash fell on their shoulders, and throughout Mexico just one cry was heard: *Viva Cristo Rey!* The years passed, many years full of sorrow and humiliation until at last the Indian resolved to free himself by fighting, and then at the cry of *Viva Cristo Rey*, Hidalgo and Morelos were shot, and at the cry of *Viva Cristo Rey* the aspirations of the Indians were silenced by an aristocracy which came into power. The years passed, and an Indian, Benito Juarez, unfurled the banner of the Indian, and the cry of *Viva Cristo Rey* was heard again from the mouths of those who opposed the conquests of the Indian, and at the cry of *Viva Cristo Rey* more white soldiers, the French, landed at Vera Cruz, and an Austrian emperor annulled the reform laws... Porfirio Diaz, the tragic tyrant, shouted *Viva Cristo Rey* on January 7, 1907, and shouted *Viva Cristo Rey* until the revolution threw him out... Much blood was spilled at that time; all Mexicans joined the struggle, and there was hope for victory, when again the cry of *Viva Cristo Rey* was heard, Adolfo de la Huerta headed the reaction. But the cry was silenced, and again it seemed that it would

be heard no more, when the eternal cheaters and robbers of the Indian, paid by the Yankees and the Landlords, shouted it again, and along the roads there began to appear small groups who shouted in submissive voices: *Viva Cristo Rey*.

Against whom was this war-cry uttered? Against President Calles? Against the government? No. Today, as in 1512, the cry of *Viva Cristo Rey* means the very same thing: *Seize the Indian's land. Deprive him of his freedom. Destroy his independence. Plunge him again into misery. Violate his wife. Tear down his temple; the union; the agrarian community. Burn his villages. Enslave him.* The priest and the landlord, paid by the Yankee, carry in their hands the same arms as the first conquerors. Four hundred years of slavery is enough, and the bonfires must burn the representatives of those who burned our ancestors. The temples of these assassins must be torn down; their wives violated; their lands distributed; their bodies devoured by the vultures, and over the ruins, over their corpses, a new man, a new body and soul, pure as the first Indians, must with his own life give birth to the society of tomorrow.

Mexicans: It is a time of danger. Our brothers, still blinded by the smoke of religion and promises of heaven and threats of hell, have been led on by the priests to take up arms. They are our brothers, but it does not matter. Let us destroy with one sweep the germ of our misfortunes, and let us defend unto death the conquests we have made.

Peasants, workers, soldiers, our part is clear: *Let us defend our land by defending our agrarian community. . . Let us defend our livelihood by defending our union. . . Let us defend our sovereignty by defending the nation.*

Death to the priests! Death to the landlords! Death to the Yankees! Long live Mexico free and independent! Long live the peasants, workers and soldiers who are struggling to gain back our land and our freedom!—From El Bonete, Mexico.



A Sermon by William Gropper



I You lazy good-for-nothing!



II When I was your age, I worked eighteen hours a day—



III And ate pompernickle, bread and water!



IV Young man, I supported a whole family!



V The boss was proud of me—I did all the work in the place!



VI And now, I've saved up enough money to—



VII — Rest up —



VIII —!

The New Open Shop Drive

By JOSEPH ZACK

150,000 miners are out on strike against wage reductions. The avowed view of the interests in control of that industry is to smash the Miners' Union.

In the needle trades in New York, open shop conditions are being established by the employers with the cooperation of the Executive Council of the A. F. of L. led by the president of the Civic Federation, Matthew Woll. The Master Plumbers' Association of New York under the direction of the organized building trades bosses, break their agreement with the Plumbers' Union and make a lock-out of 10,000 men in order to stop any new upward wage movements in this industry. In New England the textile industry for the last six months has seen an intensive drive to establish the 54-hour week in which McMahon, president of the U. T. W. A., A. F. of L. textile union cooperated.

The production record in a number of important industries shows a definite downward trend. These are a few of the weather signs indicating what is to come. Are we in for a period of industrial depression beginning right after the 1928 presidential elections? What is behind the present attack against labor? What is the most likely action of the A. F. of L. leadership? What can the left wing do in such a situation? These are a few of the questions our movement must have an answer for before long. We can already quite clearly perceive a few outstanding facts in this situation.

In the open shop drive of 1919-22 the capitalists took advantage of the depression in industry, consequent to post-war stabilization on a peace basis, to rob the workers of whatever advantages they gained during the war and to drive the workers' standards in several important industries even below the pre-war level. The A. F. of L. lost all its war gains, that is, over a million members in this drive. American capital succeeded in reducing standards sufficiently to be able to get ahead of the other imperialist powers who weakened as a result of the world war and captured many of their markets.

These were the days of the great organization movement, Labor Party, LaFollette 3rd Party movement, etc. These were also days when the A. F. of L. leadership instead of heading this tremendous forward movement on the political and industrial fields, surrendered to the trusts and financial combines, who were tremendously strengthened during the war, and with the coming in of imperialist prosperity, the A. F. of L. bureaucracy having executed its first great post-war swing to the right, took the offensive against the militants by outlawing the leaders of these forward movements that dared to continue in their progressive activities.

It was not sufficient however for American capital to drive labor backward to its pre-war standard and strength in order to maintain its position over the other imperialist powers whose production system was being re-established and stabilized at the expense of the workers, peasants, petty bourgeoisie and the middle classes. Production had to be driven upward at an enormous pace thru speed-up methods, labor saving machinery, etc. The A. F. of L. leadership cooperated in this and announced its new role of efficiency foremen officially in its so-called New Wage Theory resolution adopted at the Atlantic City convention and forcefully demonstrated in what is known as the B. & O. plan.

Thus the employers succeeded in obtaining a 48 per cent increase in production at but 8 per cent additional expense incurred in wage increases and

bonus systems granted to skilled mechanics in industries especially favored by imperialist prosperity. To put such a policy across on the organized workers inside of the A. F. of L. was possible by the suppression, persecution and expulsion of progressive opponents. Thus we had the continual war inside the A. F. of L., a war in which the A. F. of L. bureaucracy had the whole support of the employers, the capitalist press and their government, a war which could be carried thru by arbitrary rule and the abolition of democracy inside the unions. The effect of this policy upon the unions prevented their growth and reduced the A. F. of L. membership far below the pre-war figure, present estimates being as about 2½ million as against 3 million when the U. S. entered the war.

It is the first time in the history of the American labor movement that a prosperity period is passing by without tremendous growth in membership organization, drives to organize the unorganized and big forward movements in general. The fact that in the midst of such prosperity there could even be a tremendous loss in membership shows that the A. F. of L. is rapidly deteriorating under the present leadership, that the policies of this leadership are diametrically opposed to the very evolution of capitalist production and industry and that if continued along these lines it may succumb to the fate that befell two great labor federations prior to the advent of the A. F. of L. in the United States. The capitalists of the U. S. have learned something since the days of the National Labor Union and the Knights of Labor. They have learned how to use advantageously a degenerated labor bureaucracy to obtain control over the very unions the workers build to defend themselves against their exploiters, and the bosses having the country's means and resources more under command than ever may decide to maintain a degenerated A. F. of L. as a shield and strike-breaking agency against the growth of revolutionary unionism. These are the prospects the workers are faced with on the eve of this new open shop drive.

That such a drive is coming there is no doubt in my mind. The Dawes plan has put in its work. American capital invested in the weakened capitalist empires of Europe has re-established their production and hence their competitive power on the world market. With the standard of living of millions of European workers reduced far below pre-war, re-established European industry, largely under American control is now competing with American industry controlled by the same interests, and this powerful club of European competition American capital is about to use again to drive the standards of the American workers further down. Lower wages, longer hours, more child labor, more women in industry into territories with cheaper labor power which is industrializing the agricultural area of the south, and west, more speed, more efficiency, more labor saving machinery, double up, this has been going on at a rapid pace since the war. But European capitalism has had a restoration for the time being. A precarious one, it is true, but there it is and the same drive has to be doubled up. American production has to be restabilized on a lower level of prices and at the expense of the workers; otherwise there will be a tremendous crash. Hence the new drive against labor.

What role the A. F. of L. bureaucracy will play in this, can be easily seen by anyone who wants to see it. The A. F. of L. bureaucracy has so heavily invested in capitalist industry directly and indirectly that its interests are inextricably inter-woven in the

fate of a possible crash. It will therefore continue to cooperate with imperialist capital, as a part of the exploiting class, to beat its competitors in the world market. The fact that nothing is being done to support the miners to save the Miners' Union while all energies are being put forward to smash the opposition to such a policy as exemplified by the war on the left wing and the wholesale expulsion shows that the A. F. of L. bureaucracy is ready not only to fall in with this line, but to even pave the way of capital in the downward revision of the standard of living for workers.

The edge of the oncoming depression may be taken off by American success in the Far East, by recognition of Soviet Russia and the granting of credits; by imperialist success in general. This accounts for the extraordinary imperialist activity of the U. S. of late. But even off such a success cheaper products are a pre-requisite and we can expect in any event that the benefits of such a prosperity of which only a part of the population was beneficiary will be considerably curtailed even under the most favorable circumstances. *But even as it is the ballyhoo the capitalist press made about the workers getting prosperous, buying homes and automobiles, etc., was considerably exaggerated, and, but for the fact that even many of our own comrades became infected by this propaganda, I would not even mention it.

Analogies have been made on the affects of imperialist prosperity corrupting the labor movement between Britain and the U. S. It is true that we can profit by the experience in Britain to some extent, but there is a fundamental difference in this case between the effects of British imperialist prosperity and the one we have. Britain conquered politically the territories in which to dump the industrial products of the British Islands. It had a virtual monopoly of these markets. Britain at the height of its imperialist development had no important industrial rival, the other European states being in the main under feudal regimes based on agriculture. While the U. S. industries have outstripped great industrial giants with American capital playing both ends against the middle.

The effect of this is that whereas in Great Britain in its heyday of imperialism, the advantages the workers derived from it were pretty evenly divided among the industrial proletariat, particularly the organized skilled workers in the U. S., imperialist progress has under-mined even below pre-war level the conditions of millions of workers in industries subject to the international competition. How much did the bituminous miners, textile workers, needle workers, marine workers, etc., profit by this prosperity. Even the highly skilled in these industries were, in the main, adversely affected. What about the farmers who were bankrupted by the tens of thousands? The only ones that really profited were the skilled workers, particularly those that are organized and work in sheltered domestic industries like building construction, printing, railroads, etc.

Under radical leadership they could have profited much more even in these industries. The bosses assisted by the trade union bureaucracy got double the amount they granted in wage increases out of the workers by man-killing speed-up sectionalizing efficiency schemes, etc. The unorganized workers in general profited but little and that is in the form of steadier employment. And in order to get their moral cooperation and substitute the benefits of unionism, they were given company unions to take

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The Fifth Congress of the Communist Party of China and the Kuomintang

THE Fifth Congress of the Communist Party of China has been fixed for April. The congress will meet at a momentous time.

The Seventh Plenum of the Executive Committee of the Communist International in its resolution on the Chinese question declared that the Chinese revolution has everything that is objectively needed to skip over the capitalist stage of development. From this point of view the present stage of development of the Chinese revolution must be regarded as critical. The general line of the further development of the Chinese revolution—the question as to whether it will be a capitalist or non-capitalist development—is being decided just at the present moment.

The movement for national freedom has been victorious in half of China. The southern Nationalist government is already the government of a powerful state with a population of 200 millions. The question as to how this state and its government should be organized, on what social forces it should rely, what should be the role of the working class and the Communist Party in the organization of the state, now confronts us in all its magnitude.

In this journal, in an article on the "Regrouping of Forces in the Chinese Revolution"* it was stated that since the Seventh Plenum of the E. C. C. I. class friction in the towns and villages had intensified considerably during the further development of the workers' and peasants' movement, particularly in Hunan and Hupeh, owing to the increased pressure of the imperialists and the increasing menace of open intervention. Both these factors drive the right wing of the movement along the lines of concessions to and compromise with the imperialists.

The events in China are developing with a rapidity which is characteristic of a great revolution. In the short period since the publication of the article already mentioned, the events in China have brought forward new facts which bear witness to a further class differentiation within the national movement. The problem of organizing the internal forces of the Chinese revolution thus becomes at the present time one of vast importance.

The problem of problems in the Chinese revolution at the present time is the situation in the Kuomintang, the further development of the Kuomintang as a party at the head of the Southern Chinese State.

The development of the Kuomintang reveals certain symptoms from the point of view of the interests of the Chinese revolution.

The Kuomintang is still a party of leaders. At the time of the Seventh Plenum of the E. C. C. I. the Kuomintang had 300,000 members. This is a considerable number for a political party. But it must be borne in mind that these 300,000 were not drawn into the every-day organization activities of the party. They were heard of only during congresses and conferences, at all of which the representatives of the left tendencies were predominant. The majority of the Executive Committee of the Kuomintang also consists of left elements, but the predominant importance of the left elements in the party is not so clearly expressed in the composition and policy of the Nationalist government. In the Nationalist government power is in the hands of the centre and the latter in most cases display decisive right tendencies.

This is even more pronounced in the provincial governments of South China. Prior to the change of government of March 20th, 1926, the left elements in the Kuomintang predominated in the Nationalist government. But in the city of Canton and in Kwantung province, i. e., the territory which was completely in the hands of the Nationalist government, the government was and actually is at the present time in the hands primarily of the centrist and right elements of the Kuomintang. The Communists did not participate in the government; they were under the absolutely incorrect impression that they could not participate in a government of the Kuomintang.

The Right Wing.

The right elements in the Kuomintang comprise in their ranks prominent statesmen, representatives of the bourgeoisie of China, etc. According to their past, present and their social and political connections, the right elements of the Kuomintang are inclined to compromise with the imperialists; they are opposed to serious social reforms and to a further development of the revolutionary workers' and peasants' movement.

In power the right elements of the Kuomintang hamper the enactment of serious social reforms. It

* This article was in Vol. IV, No. 4 of the English edition, and will be found in No. 8 of the Russian Weekly edition.

is characteristic that on March 20th, 1926, there was no law in Canton concerning the rights of workers' organizations, and the Canton trade unions, from the point of view of actual law, were illegal.

The change in the government on March 20th strengthened still more the positions of the right Kuomintang. Soon after March 20th they took definite measures against the workers' and peasants' organizations. This called forth a sharp protest from the masses of workers and peasants. Disturbances among the workers and peasants, dissatisfaction in the best sections of the army due to the elimination of the left Kuomintang and Communist commanding staff created a precarious situation at the front which compelled the new leaders of the Kuomintang to retreat and come to terms with the left and the Communists.

The May Plenum of the C. C. of the Kuomintang was again dominated by left elements. It was decided that Wang-Ching-Wei (the left leader) must return.

The centrist and right elements in the Kuomintang are opposed to workers' and peasants' control over the activities of the Nationalist government and against the government's moving to Hankow; they rely for support on certain sections of the army, etc.

A Strike Law.

Recent reports from China indicate that the Kuomintang and the Nationalist government are seriously concerned about the growth of the labor movement. The newspapers report that according to decisions of the Central Committee of the Kuomintang on this question the Canton government promulgated a new law on January 5th, 1927, concerning strikes. According to that law workers have no right to carry arms in demonstrations, or to arrest merchants and manufacturers or to confiscate their goods. The law forbids the existence of the yellow trade unions and other strike-breaking organizations; but at the same time it enforces, to a large extent, arbitration in the solution of conflicts in military, financial and communal enterprises and also in enterprises of so-called primary necessity (the list of which has not yet been published). This law also prohibits picketing during strikes to some extent.

The dangers of the position are intensified by the international position of the Nationalist government. The struggle against imperialism is now entering on its decisive phase and is becoming exceedingly difficult. The imperialists are doing all in their power to demoralize the Nationalist movement, to find traitors in the camp of the right elements of the Kuomintang. The immediate question before us is in the first place to convert the Kuomintang into a left wing organization, not only on festive occasions such as congresses and conferences, but also in its daily activities, and secondly that the reorganized Kuomintang should acquire a stable leadership (not in resolutions, but in deeds) over the Nationalist government, both at the centre and in the provinces. The adoption of a correct line and the formulation of concrete practical proposals on these two questions is the most important task facing the Fifth Congress of the Communist Party of China.

The Communist Party of China will in the first place have to revise its decisions of the June Plenum of its Central Committee in respect to its relations with the Kuomintang.

Incorrect Decisions.

The June Plenum of the C. C. of the Communist Party of China decided on the following concerning the inter-relationships between the party and the Kuomintang: (1) To substitute an alliance as separate bodies for the policy of alliance by affiliation; (2) to adopt a definite independent political policy; (3) to endeavor to find a basis for the Kuomintang in the ranks of the urban petty-bourgeois democracy; (4) to suggest that the Kuomintang should not be organized as a centralized party, but that its organizations in the localities should take the form of clubs.

All these decisions must be revised. The first resolution logically pre-supposes the exit of the Communist Party from the Kuomintang, and as such contradicts the decisions of the Seventh Enlarged E. C. of the International which condemned such an action as a gross political error. From this point of view the proposal to organize the left Kuomintang in fractional groups is also wrong. The proposal to organize left Kuomintang fractions is basically a decision to split the Kuomintang and form two Kuomintangs. The possibility of such a split must be foreseen, but we must bear in mind the decisions of the Seventh Plenum of the E. C. C. I. that even if a large section of the capitalist big bourgeoisie is eliminated from the National movement, the driving force in the Chinese revolution "will be a bloc of a still more revolutionary character, the bloc of the proletariat, the peasantry and the urban petty-bourgeoisie" and that "some sections of the large bourgeoisie can still for a certain length of time march together with the revo-

lution." Our task, therefore, does not consist in the organization of a new left Kuomintang, but in directing the entire Kuomintang to the left and in guaranteeing it a stable left policy.

Workers and Kuomintang.

This cannot be accomplished if we regard the Kuomintang merely as an organization of the urban petty-bourgeoisie. What about the peasantry and the working class? Only if the workers and peasants gain predominant influence in the Kuomintang will that organization become a consistent, revolutionary political organization. That is precisely how the question concerning the Kuomintang must be regarded. The view that the workers must be kept from joining the Kuomintang on the ground that they have their Communist Party is absolutely wrong. If that were correct, then the members of the Communist Party should have left the Kuomintang long ago. The surest way of securing a determined revolutionary policy for the Kuomintang is that of bringing into it revolutionary workers and peasants. It is of special importance to permeate it with workers, as they are the most revolutionary elements.

The decision of the June Plenum of the C. C. of the Communist Party of China about the transformation of the Kuomintang local organizations into free organizations in the forms of political clubs is also absolutely wrong. At the present stage in the national struggle it would be a big mistake. All right elements who constitute the minority in the Kuomintang will undoubtedly be in favor of eliminating internal discipline in the Kuomintang, etc. The interests of the further development of the Chinese revolution demand that the Kuomintang should be reorganized as soon as possible into a party with elected committees in the centre and the localities and with organizational discipline for its members. A determined struggle must be carried on in the Kuomintang against political double-dealing—on the one hand the support of a radical program in words and on the other the conduct of a compromising policy in practice. Particularly is this true in regard to Kuomintang members who constitute the government.

In the political report of the C. C. of the Communist Party of China at the Party Conference of December, 1926, one of the Canton comrades declared: "The Kuomintang died on the 20th of March and has been decomposing since the 15th of May. Why should we hold on to the corpse?" That comrade apparently had in mind the fact that the Nationalist government, particularly in the provinces, was taking definite steps directed against the development of the revolutionary struggle of the workers and peasants. From this some comrades drew the conclusion at the conference that: "We are on the side of the masses as against the Nationalist government, and in the conflicts between the masses and that government we must see a conflict between the Communist Party and the Kuomintang." This is true in the sense that there is a danger of a split between the Kuomintang and the Communist Party. But this danger can be averted if the Kuomintang is not regarded as a corpse. The Kuomintang suffers now from lack of revolutionary worker and peasant blood in its veins. The Communist Party must infuse such blood and thereby radically change the situation.

To Strengthen Nationalism.

To revive the Kuomintang and to drive the Nationalist government to the left, the Communist Party must radically revise its attitude to the Nationalist government. The Communist Party must try to participate in the government and, relying on the worker and peasant masses, compel the government to consider the program of radical government reforms.

It is about time that the Nationalist government should enact the fundamental democratic laws (on workers' organizations, on the eight-hour working day, etc.), it is about time to abolish the hideous remnants of the old regime which oppress the Chinese peasantry (indentured labor contracts, sale into slavery because of inability to pay debts, high rents, etc.) it is about time to abolish the old corrupt reactionary administration. Communists must endeavor with the greatest energy to get into the provincial government organs. In the villages, based on the peasant organizations, it is about time to raise the question of the creation of revolutionary peasant committees. The decisions of the Seventh Enlarged Plenum of the E. C. C. I. and the supplementary organizational instructions issued since the Plenum give the Communist Party of China exhaustive instructions along these lines. The congress will have to apply them to the concrete conditions which have arisen at the time. There can be no doubt that the Communist Party of China will map out a path commensurate with the great tasks which confront the party at the present time. The splendid past of the Communist Party of China and of the heroic Chinese proletariat serves here as a guarantee.

Notes of a Deportee

By M. VAJTAUER

Comrade Vajtauer, former editor of the Communist Czechoslovak paper, *Spravedlnost*, came to this country a few years ago to participate in the revolutionary movement here and particularly among the Czechoslovak workers. He has a long record of service to the labor movement in his own country. Our rulers who are so hospitable to loyal, slavish immigrants spotted Comrade Vajtauer as an enemy and his deportation is the consequence after a long struggle in his behalf waged by the International Labor Defense.



The first night between Monday and Tuesday. Two women comrades with bouquets of flowers in their arms. Three comrades sitting opposite. They are taking me home for a send-off party.

The flowers, suddenly severed from their roots, will die in the homes of these comrades long before I reach the shores of

Europe.

The second Taxi. Morning of the following day. Comrade P., my boarding lady, with her half-year-old baby girl Vera in her arms is seeing me off. This bouquet will remain here also. But its roots are set firmly in this home-soil. And some day, perhaps, she will come to meet me—a life in full bloom, a bouquet of laughter, courage and self confidence.

These are the two strongest of my last impressions from America. Are they a symbol? Will that which remained, a thing of beauty but without roots, die? Will that which anchored here grow?

A COURT ROOM in the "Old Post-Office," near the City Hall. In these benches, fronting the clerks' banister and the judge's desk, you feel as tho the life outside were closing on you.

Strong knocks on the door.

A bailiff announces the approach of the judge. All rise.

The judge robed in black, with affected dignity emerges from the rear door and seats himself at his desk.

The clerk calls off the contending parties. Brothers Jones vs. Mr. Smith—Mr. Terkin vs. Mr. Clark.

Emanuel Vajtauer vs. The Commissioner of Ellis Island.

The lawyer, an attorney with a brief-case of acts concerning my "case," and I step nearer.

They explain: "The party is to be surrendered to Ellis Island."

The judge nods. The clerk takes notes.

The Ellis Island representative takes me in custody. The heads of all present turn after me. America's doors slammed on me.

We enter a waiting-room at the Ellis Island ferry. With the watchman at the look-out stands a tall man with the face of a detective.

Where have I seen him before?

We wait for the ferry on a bench behind the bars. Cobwebs hang from a dirty ceiling.

The tall man passes by greeting me.

"Isn't he a reporter from The Daily News?" I ask my companion.

"Yes, it's Mr. Crawford."

I remember. After the decision, shortly after New Years, he came to our editorial office. He asked for a photograph and some information. We gave him the photograph, but in place of "information" I wrote him my opinion of the decision:

"The American capitalists are afraid that I might hurt them. That is why they are deporting me. What a silly idea? As if there was a country on the face of the Earth from where one couldn't fight against the American capitalists."

That was at the time when Washington was exerting its greatest energy to start a war with Mexico.

What I wrote didn't suit Mr. Crawford and so he wrote that I have declared that I don't intend to go to Mexico just then, but that Kellogg was right when he says that the communists have a strong position in Mexico, and that I am a man advocating the extermination of all capitalists.

Such are reporters of American capitalist papers! If any time you mistake them for detectives, you are not far from truth. They are even lower than detectives. More often than not they are mere agents provocateurs.

Nearly all the keepers recognize me. I inquire about the fate of some of those who remained here after my release two years ago. Some of the "bigger game, they remember. Like that one-eyed Canadian, MacLean, who fought here for almost a year for recognition of his American citizenship. He was set free, but is now in a jail in France for forging his passport. Or the "Prince of Kurdistan," who was visited here by a rich "chicken," caught on a title. He is now "serving" in France, also, for fraud. "And how do you know what happened to all of them?" I ask a tall, fat keeper, who tells me all this.—"I work now with the Department of Justice," he informs me, proudly,—and they send men after such fellows. Not one of them gets away."

WHILE they were here, they enjoyed all sorts of privileges, of course, only to make it easier to have their cards looked into.

There are several similar traps set here. Immigrants and other unlucky ones, who get stuck here, are offered a flock of lawyers to choose from, who can find nothing better to do than cheat these unfortunates out of their last pennies. The dining room superintendent, surprised to see me here again and learning that I have lost my case, tells me: "It's a shame to waste any money on lawyers. They're as thick as flies around here. All should do like that Polish woman we have here. She showed a lawyer \$150.00 and said: 'They will be yours, if you win the case. If you don't, you won't get a cent.'"

My case was different, of course, but I did not care to talk to him about it. So I nodded approvingly:

"Yes, that's the way to treat them."

Religious organizations have their own little money-traps here. For instance, they sell you a two-cent envelope for three, at the same time looking at you like sisters of mercy bandaging raw wounds.

IN the afternoon the commissioner came to the room. One after the other inquired from him about his fate.

I ask him, how long I'll have to wait here.

He remembers somebody having phoned him about me. "But passport has lapsed!"

I tell him that I have a new one with a German visum a French visum not being required, because a Czechoslovak passport is honored in France.

"And have you an Austrian visum?"

"No, I don't have to go thru Austria. I'll go thru Germany."

Germany won't permit a deportee to pass thru, unless he goes under escort.

I tell him that I intended to pay my way in Europe, and travel like any other ordinary passenger. I didn't tell him, of course, that I'll do this only to be able to stay awhile in France and Germany.

He has no objection, but adds: "Give me this passport and I'll return it to you to-morrow with a French and Austrian visum."

I remind him again that there is no need of a French visum on a Czechoslovak passport.

"This rule doesn't apply to deportees," he says, "they must have a visum."

This, of course, doesn't sound like I could travel thru Europe, on my own expense, a free passenger. And if I should be sent like "express-goods," then they must stand the charges for this consignment of live-stock.

Sunlight Under a Blanket

By WALT CARMON

There are days in Chicago when a foul breath creeps from the south side. It seeps into the Loop. It saturates the west side and fouls the north. The city air hangs heavy-laden with decay.

There are days when the wind lifts the vile blanket from the city. Then men who labor all weary day in the presence of the monster, bring back his breath on themselves in the street cars that run from the Stockyards.

Rose and I waited until mid-winter to visit Don Jose. In mid-winter one should feel more at ease on the south side. At Thirty-fifth Street the conductor gave the signal to the motorman before we had even stepped off the car. Cars move quickly on the south side.

We regained our balance and foulness gripped us. It holds you in all strength at Thirty-fifth Street. Even in mid-winter. That man can live here is a wonder. That man does live here is a miracle. Hunger drives men to miracles.

"Passen, amigos. . .passen!" boomed Don Jose. ". . .and welcome!"

Dona Maria beamed on us. Conchita took our coats and Pepe ran to advise the others.

"El senor has come. And La Senora!"

Others came and smiled and gripped our hands. Made us welcome.

The warmth of Mexico was tossed into this room in the house that stands in the shadow of the Yards. How fine it was. How welcome we felt.

"We will play a new record for the Senora. . ."

"But no. . .un momentito," Don Jose protested. "Let us just talk for a while. We have never met the Senora before. . ." and Don Jose bowed.

It was all new to Rose. She felt just a bit self-conscious. A little ashamed at such warmth.

Dona Marie spoke no English. "No importa!" It does not matter.

"Tell your Senora how pleased we are to have her honor us."

Don Jose extended a gnarled, worker's hand. "A cigarette senor? These are from our soil!"

Miguel is only three years old. Miguel gives some candy to Rose and she brings the chubby youngster to her lap.

Dona Maria beams on Rose. "If the Senora will

allow me I can show her some of my hand-work."

The Senora would be pleased! Dona Maria and Rose and Josefina and three youngsters are grouped around laces. They talk to each other, each in their own language. And they understand!

"Si, it is difficult," Don Jose tells me. "Work is very hard to get. Last week I made twenty dollars—week before last only eighteen. There are ten mouths to feed."

"The work is hard?"

"Ah, senor—we work like the poor burros in our country! And the treatment we get—Ay, dios!—it is even worse."

". . .and conditions of work Don Jose—they are bad?"

"Ah, but you will think I complain like an old woman!"

I protest. "Surely—I understand. I, too, am a worker!"

"Not long ago," Don Jose cites for example, "Pedro Gonzales fell on a slimy floor. A dog would not have worked there. They sent poor Pedro to the doctor. His hand was cut and became infected. His arm was cut off a month ago. Last week we buried what was left of Pedro."

"It is sad, is it not, senor?" Pepe inquires.

"It is hell!" I tell them. "Surely, you must hate this country?"

"No. . .no. In my country too we starve. Only here no sunshine ever creeps in. It is always cloudy. Always misty. Always cold. Damp. It is always work, work, work. . .from morning 'til night. And the foul air, senor! It is even in the food we eat!"

"Don Jose!" Maria calls out. "Why must you complain to the senor? Play the new record we have."

So we play "Cielito Lindo." It is a gay, innocent little tune. I sing a line or two. It's contagious.

"Al, the senor sings!"

I protest.

"No. . .no—the senor must sing!"

I sing and they applaud. Dona Maria sings. Josefina soon brings a guitar and we all sing. Pepe brings around a tray of red wine. We sing "Cielito

Lindo" again. Rose and I learn a verse of "La Cucaracha." Don Jose sings "Horses" and we join in the laughter.

How warm it is. How friendly. We sing, we play and then Pepe dances "La Jota." Josefina dances with him. They turn and bend and they stamp their feet. Children they are. Graceful children responding to the strumming guitar like reeds to the breeze.

Rose exclaims "It's beautiful!"

"And now if the senor and Senora will honor us at our table?"

"Con much gusto!"

From soup to "Dulces" it is all here. Tortillas, enchiladas, mole de guajolote—peppers aplenty. As warm a meal as the warmth of the welcome. And good!

Restraint is all gone now.

"A glass of wine for la Senora, Pepe. She is not yet accustomed to the peppers."

"Wine—and more 'mole!' from Rose.

"Bravo!" Don Jose applauds. "And you senor?"

We eat more and we smoke and we talk of the land of Don Jose.

"Quien sabe?—perhaps we will return some day."

"You and your Senora should visit our country, senor. Ah, you would never leave it!"

"But you did Don Jose!" Dona Maria chides him.

"Never again will I be so foolish," confesses Don Jose.

Finally it is time for us to leave. We shake hands with everyone. Tiny Miguel must shake hands too. Dona Maria has pressed a bit of lace on Rose as a parting gift.

"Adios! Adios! . . ."

The warmth of Mexico was tossed into this room that stands in the shadow of the Yards. We pressed back to Thirty-fifth Street thru the stench that enveloped the house.

"Step lively!" the conductor urged.

"No sunshine ever creeps in. . ." I think of Don Jose. "It is always cloudy. . .always cold. . .and work. . .work. . ."

As if in knowing haste the street car bounces and rolls away from the Stockyards.

The COMRADE

Edited by the Young
A Page for Workers'



Young SECTION

Pioneers of America
and Farmers' Children

INT'L. CHILDREN'S WEEK!

The week of May 14 to May 22 is celebrated all over the world as International Children's Week. During this week the workers' and poor farmers' children get together in big meetings to show the capitalists and the big boss farmers that the children are a part of the workingclass and stand "Always Ready" to fight for the workingclass and for their own demands.

The Young Pioneers of America is the only real, fighting workers' children's organization in America. They are going to take a very active part during this week. You must help them by coming to their meetings.

Below are some of the things that the Pioneers are fighting for. If you are a worker's child, you too should fight for these demands. And the best way to fight is not alone, but as a part of an organization that has many members. Therefore YOU SHOULD JOIN THE YOUNG PIONEERS OF AMERICA. Anyway, read these demands carefully and write to us what you think about them.

- 1.—AGAINST child labor and child misery.
- 2.—AGAINST the teachings of religion and war.
- 3.—AGAINST the false teachings about labor and strikes.
- 4.—AGAINST the rotten school conditions.
- 5.—AGAINST the Boy Scouts, which trains workers' children to be soldiers and fight against their own class, as in China, etc.
- 6.—FOR free lunches in schools, free school supplies. Free lunches and clothing for children of strikers and unemployed workers.
- 7.—FOR hands off China and Soviet Russia.
- 8.—FOR the Young Comrade, the only workers' children's newspaper that tells the truth about the workers and children and also fights for them.

Our Letter Box

Catholic Schools are Not So Good

By STEVE MARCHALL.

Dear Comrades: I have a boy friend who has four sisters and one brother. He cannot talk or hear very good. He talks like a small child. When he talks with some children they laugh at him. We are the best of friends. He is seventeen years old. He used to go to the Catholic School with his brother and sisters. When he couldn't understand anything he would get a licking.

Then he wanted to quit going to school because he got many lickings. But his parents said no. He begged his parents to let him quit school. Then he quit. The neighbors said that he should go to the public school. Now he goes to the public school where I go and he is nearly the best one in the school. He can talk much better since he goes with me. But his brother and sisters go to the Catholic School.

EUROPE LIKE HERE

By STANLEY DANYLUK.

Dear Comrades: I read the weekly paper, Young Comrade Corner, and I like it very much. It is not very long since I came from Europe. It was in the war time. I saw how poor soldiers were treated and have nothing to eat. But they had to fight for the rich. I was hungry, too, and the rich chased us from our homes. I came to America and I thought it was better here and we could live in peace. But I see how my father is treated at work. The boss acts just like he was the owner of the workers. The poor workers work hard but do not get enough to buy cats for the family. In Europe its hard to get bread, and the same is here.

RUTHENBERG SUB BLANK

Whatsamatter comrades, with those Young Comrade Subs. Don't keep them home. Send them to the Young Comrade Corner, 33 First Street, New York City.

Get into deep water and catch that sub.
½ year sub 25c—1 year sub 50c

Name

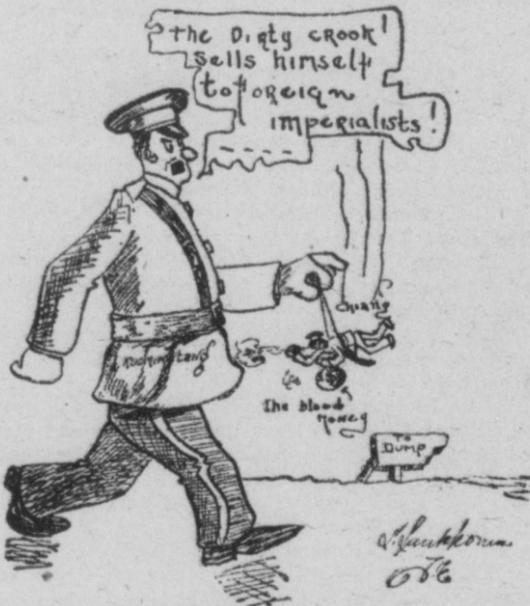
Address

City

State Age.....

(Issued Every Month)

DUMPING THE TRAITOR!



This picture shows the Chinese workers taking Chiang Kai-shek to the dump where he belongs.

OUR LEADER

By ANNA SENKUS.

In our world we have a Henry Ford,
Who has millions many,
Would he help a poor worker
By giving a red penny?

We also have a John D. Rockefeller,
With numerous bags of gold,
I wish he'd act once as Santa Claus
Before he gets too old.

But the worthiest man to workers all
Is Comrade Ruthenberg, sincere,
Who knew what he was working for,
And fought without any fear.

Comrade Ruthenberg has passed away,
We sure do miss him.
And has bade us carry on our work,
For years until we win.

NOTICE!!!

Have you sent for your free copy of the Young Comrade? If not, why not? Grab that pencil and write to the Young Comrade, 33 First Street, New York City, for a free sample copy of the Young Comrade.

YOUNG PIONEERS

By HENRY SAMPOLINSKY.

Come on Comrades!
Let's give some cheers,
Some cheers for whom?
The Pioneers.

Yeah Pioneers! the cheer rings out once more;
In the streets and halls,
The comrades know no fear,
The boys and girls, will never fear,
We'll fight until the last,
And never fear defeat,
For we know each is trying his best
Then we shall victory greet!

A BOSSES' ANGEL???



The above picture was taken in the bughouse of heaven. It is the only picture in captivity of a bosses' angel. Notice the wings.

LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE

The answer to last week's puzzle No. 13 is S A C C O. The following have answered correctly: Ruth Yonkelson, New York City; Celia Silverman, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Ethel Tulchinsky, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Mae Malgh, New York City; Wm. Rosenbloom, Newark, N. J.; Peter Simchera, Wharton, N. J.

More Answers to Puzzle No. 12

Sylvia Dimow, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Lily Balcunas, Gardner, Mass.; Madeline Zardisky, Hastings-on-Hudson, N. Y.; Aaron Marks, Galveston, Texas; Ethel Tulchinsky, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Becky Raport, Petaluma, Calif.; Bobby Raport, Petaluma, Calif.; Eva Soren, Petaluma, Calif.; Raymond Kozul, So. Chicago, Ill.; Rudolph Bronesky, Chicago, Ill.; Steve Bronesky, Chicago, Ill.; Nellie Lake, Easthampton, Mass.; Mildred Remvida, W. Orange, N. J.

We received the answer to Puzzle No. 11 from Norman Henkin all the way from Los Angeles, Calif.

THIS WEEK'S PUZZLE NO. 14

This week's puzzle is a word puzzle. The rules are as usual, 1 in the puzzle stands for A in the answer, 2 stands for B, 3 for C, etc.

1 12 12 18 5 1 4 5 18 19 15 6 20 8 5
25 15 21 14 7 3 15 13 18 1 4 5 3 15 18 14 5 18 19
19 8 15 21 12 4 7 5 20 1 20 12 5 1 19 20
15 14 5 19 21 2 6 15 18 20 8 5 25 15 21 14 7
3 15 13 18 1 4 5

Send all answers to the Daily Worker, Young Comrade Corner, 33 First Street, New York City stating your name, age, address and number of puzzle.

OUR SCRANTON REPORTER

HOPES THEY WIN THE STRIKE.

Dear Comrades: On February 12, 1927 the moving picture, "The Passaic Strike," was shown here in Scranton. It was very sad to see the struggles of the strikers. I learned many things from this show. The auditorium where the pictures were shown was crowded. That shows that the strikers have a great deal of sympathizers here in Scranton. We hope they win the strike.—MILDRED MEDELIS.

THE LITTLE GREY DOG

(From Fairy Tales for Workers' Children).

(Continued.)

The alligator shook his pointed head thoughtfully and said: "People are peculiar creatures. No alligator would torment a little alligator, neither do we know the difference between rich and poor, and still it is said that we are evil animals. It is true that I would like to eat your little friend for breakfast, yet I will be merciful to him. I will also show you a safe hiding place. Do you see that little island? The servants of the rich man will not find you there."

"We thank you, mighty animal; but how can we reach the island? The water is rough and deep, and my little friend can't swim."

"I will carry you over on my back," answered the alligator. Benjamin and the dog seated themselves on the scaly back of the animal, and it began to swim. What a strange journey that was! The waves played over the back of the alligator and the dog was afraid that the alligator might change his mind and eat both of them for breakfast. For that reason he spoke continuously to the alligator, flattered him, praised his goodness and declared solemnly that the alligators are the best noble animals in the world. This trick did not fail in its purpose. When they landed on the island, the alligator called twelve of the strongest alligators to him, instructing them that they must not harm a hair on the boy or the dog, that they were his guests. He also commanded them to swim along the bank of the river and stand guard, keeping the people from coming to the island. This was well done, for when the sun was high in the heavens, five men appeared, sent by the rich man to look for Benjamin. One pointed to the island, started to go into the water, when an immense alligator pushed his head out of the water and the man crept back. "He can't be here," said the man to his companions. "The alligators here must have eaten him."

Benjamin and the dog rested all day on the island. The little boy ate the sweet berries that grew there, drank from a well, and at evening the alligator carried them back again to the bank and bade them a friendly farewell.

(To Be Continued.)

On the Screen

CHANG

Here is a picture of the primitive struggle for existence in Northern Siam, more thrilling than any picture of adventure. Not as fine a work as "Grass," it is intensely dramatic and surely worth seeing.

No trained actors take part in it. The story is a birds-eye view of the struggle of a Siamese family to maintain existence in the jungle. The struggle for food, the dangers of wild animals, their superstitions and the intimate family life are beautifully, vividly portrayed and worth the ten best books ever written on the subject.

Merian Cooper and Ernest Schoedack, the same men who produced "Grass," are responsible for this film. The work is the result of nearly two years of life with the natives, a study of their means of livelihood and its dramatic presentation. It was a courageous, dangerous task no doubt. A scene of a tiger hunt at which a native in escaping falls before an attacking tiger is breath-taking. Freed, the native, faces a tiger who succeeds in climbing within reach. The camera records this so closely that the head of the tiger rushes full into the screen in all its beautiful viciousness.

There is a splendidly portrayed attack of an elephant herd on a village which it demolishes into shreds. The daring photographers have not only succeeded in picturing this from many angles but have actually brought the colossal immensity of these tons of moving beasts to our vision in unusual photographs taken from a pit over which the elephant stampede moved. You see the fast moving mammoths rushing overhead and seemingly thru the screen into the audience. Unusually realistic action is achieved by the projection of these scenes in double the usual size of the balance of the picture. It is surely as dramatic a thing as has ever been presented in motion pictures.

The film has more than dramatic interest. There is also a generous share of comedy contributed by a natural born comedian—a white monkey. Pet of the family, this ancestor of ours goes thru all the trials of the native family, sharing their dangers and comforts. When the home is demolished by an elephant and the family escapes into the jungle to face the dangers of wild animals, the monkey pursued by a leopard and assisted by the clever sub-titles of Achmed Abdullah, the novelist) is as good a bit of nervous comedy as you have ever worriedly laughed over. After seeing the picture I'm sure some en-

Life in Jungles



terprising comedy producer will go clear to Siam to sign the monk.

There is comedy and drama to the picture. So much so that both overshadow and overcolor the interesting facts of the struggle for existence. Since "Grass," splendid tho it was, did not prove a paying proposition with a tabloid-reading, jaded, thrill-seeking public, the producers of the picture were forced in a measure to play up the dramatic end to "give the public what it wants"—and the profits the producer insists on. The enthusiastic, crowded theatre was proof conclusive that this surely is a good box-office bet. Whatever faults "Chang" may have, it is truly splendid entertainment.

The producers request the patrons not to divulge the meaning of the word "Chang." This title is derived from a character and incident in the picture. Inasmuch as the producers went to a great deal of effort to build up this sequence as a dramatic surprise, and in justice to them and to all those who come to see the picture"—we are letting the producers get away with it, for we feel it is worth paying six-bits (on week days) to find the answer at the Rivoli Theatre in New York—and wherever else it may be showing.—W. C.

THE NEW OPEN SHOP DRIVE

(Continued from page 3)

up their complaints, group insurance and sick benefit schemes, bonus and profit-sharing schemes and many other forms of subtle bribery to divert them from real unionism. The workers for lack of anything better, and in face of the inactivity of the A. F. of L., took what they could get. Thus, instead of the growth of unionism during this prosperity period, the bosses gave the workers company unions, while Woll & Company were busy in banking, insurance and fighting the reds.

Is it not a tragedy to have a labor movement of three million living thru a prosperity period and the only notable effort of organizing the unorganized was Passaic, and that was started in spite of the A. F. of L. bureaucracy and was fought by them in true strike-breaking style. To organize the unorganized at this time would however more than ever jeopardize most seriously the imperialistic program to which the A. F. of L. leadership is committed. The orientation of the A. F. of L. leadership is not on the basis of the great masses of workers skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled, working in industries unfavorably situated, affected by imperialist prosperity, but on the basis of those favorably affected. The prosperity of the building and printing trades was due to the enormous surplus the bosses had which they preferred to hand out to the workers instead of risking the struggle. In these trades class-collaboration can be made to look like a success to politically backward workers. It is quite some time

since the A. F. of L. orientation has moved from the miners' union, its original base, to the building trades. The unions unfavorably affected by the imperialistic drive against organized labor are thus allowed to dwindle into mere shadows.

It is not to be expected, however, that strongly organized building trades employers will not take due advantage of the next chance they will get in the oncoming open shop drive. There is too much

STUDY IN REVENGE

Do a Chink an injury and he'll kill himself at your door when the sun sets.

Harm an Indian and he'll camp on your trail and poison the springs you drink from—(Or tomahawk you two hours before sunrise!)

But make an enemy of a Capitalist, and he'll ruin your credit at the bank—Blacklist you, fire you, —Or make you join the "Company Union!"

Take your pick.

—LEBARBE.

DRAMA

Final Neighborhood Playhouse Production Opens Thursday

With the opening of "The Grand Street Follies" next Thursday night, the Neighborhood Playhouse will bid farewell to their little theatre on Grand Street. The present production may play but two weeks, after which it may be moved to an uptown house, but not under the management of the Neighborhood group. That organization will end its career for the present—maybe for a year or two.

And so on Thursday evening, the Neighborhood Playhouse Company will be seen in "The Grand Street Follies of 1927." The lyrics for this fifth production of the Follies Series are by Agnes Morgan, and the music by Max Ewing. In the cast are: Albert Carroll, Dorothy Sands, Paula Trueman, Lily Labell, Blanche Talmud, Marc Loebell, Otto Huliclus, George Heller, Sadie Sussman, George Bratt, May Noble and John F. Roche. The setting and costumes are by Alvine Bernstein.

DUDLEY DIGGS



Gives a masterly performance as the conservative middle-class husband in "Mr. Pim Passes By," Milne's delightful comedy at the Garrick theatre.

Screen Notes

The Western premiere of Cecil B. De Mille's, "The King of Kings" will take place May 18th at Grauman's new Chinese Theatre in Hollywood.

Special benefit performances for the relief of the Mississippi River flood sufferers will be given tonight at the Warner and Colony Theatres. John Barrymore in "When A Man Loves," with Dolores Costello is at the former and Syd Chaplin in "The Missing Link," at the latter house. The special showings begin at midnight.

A first showing of the new film "Irish Hearts," featuring May McAvoy will take place at the Moss Broadway theatre beginning Monday. Melville Crossman is the author.

Beginning today the Cameo theatre will revive "The Dark Angel." Vilma Banky and Ronald Colman play the principal roles.

Another Russian picture "The Legend of the Bear's Wedding," the story of a nobleman afflicted with bearphobia, due to prenatal causes, is due here at the end of this month. The film adaptation of this legend, made by Amkino, the producers of "Potemkin," will have its American premiere at the opening of the Fifty-fifth Street Cinema, a new little play-house.

potential radicalism for them even amongst the masses in the building industry. How much of the A. F. of L. will be left after the oncoming is hard to calculate. The A. F. of L. bureaucracy by its past indications continues to move to the right and will seek to protect its own interests and investments despoiling the union treasuries. How to save as much as possible from the present labor and gradually reconstitute it on a basis that follows the evolution of capitalism, this is the problem.

There is a great future of progress and mass influence in the offing. For our party the basis of which lies in the main in the masses of unorganized workers and the proper utilization of all our influence inside the existing labor organizations and the investment of all our strength for that purpose. How to do it is the problem!



DRAMA

The Tribulations of a Middle Class Family

"Kempy" is back in town after a five year's absence. Played then with Grant Mitchell in the leading role, "Kempy" returns to the Hudson to mark the beginning of a repertory season. A stock company, comprising the original cast five years ago with the exception of William J. Kelley and Norma Lee in leading roles, is presenting the play.

The management launches its repertory with a campaign for a return to the price scale of ten years ago with no seats higher than \$2.00 and many as low as 50 cents.

"Kempy" is a comedy and a satire on the middle class American family who kids itself into thinking it is rich. In the words of the simple son-in-law "every man is only a week ahead of the poor house." It portrays the efforts of the middle class to keep up appearances, with the head of the family nearly going mad under the pressure of everlasting bills. The children boast of their father being worth \$100,000 and the father goes thru agonies in an effort to sell their home to be able to make ends meet.

A father economises even to the extent of not wasting matches or the strings that come off packages, a daughter who spends \$1,100 on gowns. The economic salvation of the family depends on this daughter marrying millions. It does happen and they are saved. That's all there is to the play. There is no new tone to the theme of the play but it will draw big houses just as it did in 1922. It is entertaining, it is clever, and it is typical of the economics of the average middle class American family.

"Kempy" will be followed with other plays of proven entertainment value and favorite casts, and the management is now negotiating for "The Fortune Hunter," "The Man Who Came Back," "Scandal," "Madame X," "Captain Applejack," "The Boomerang," "The Melting Pot," "Turn to the right," "Peg O' My Heart," "Lombardi, Ltd.," "Wedding Bells," "The Hottentot," "Lawful Larceny," "The Ghost Between" and others.—N. W.

Herndon's "Merry-Go-Round" Here May 31

Richard Herndon's newest revue "Merry-Go-Round," will be brought to the Klaw theatre Tuesday May 31. He has taken out of the cast of "Americana," Evelyn Bennett, Georgia Ingram, Maryon Dale, Tom Burton, Arthur Lipson, Isabel Mason and Vida Manuel, and placed them in his new production. Marie Cahill, Philip Loeb are also included in the cast. The book and lyrics of "Merry-Go-Round" are by Morrie Ryskind, and Howard Dietz; the music is by Henry Souvaine, who wrote the "Americana" melodies, and Jay Gor-

DOROTHY SANDS



In the new "Grand Street Follies," opening next Thursday night at the Neighborhood Playhouse.

ney; Allan Dinehart is giving the new production.

The revue will be played in Atlantic City the week of May 23rd, preliminary to its New York opening. Walt Kuhn is designing the costumes and scenery and staging the ballets. Leonard Sillman, the young dancer, who danced upstairs and down in the fantastic new Playwrights' Theatre production of "Loudspeaker" will also be included in the company.

Broadway Briefs

Edgar Selwyn who has just returned from Paris announces that he will produce Paul Gerald's play "Son Mari," which is a current hit in Paris. Gerald's work has been represented here by "The Nest," produced by William A. Brady, and "To Love" and "She Had to Know," produced by Grace George.

Sierra's Spanish Art Theatre will close with a final performance this Sunday night. Other closings of the week taking place to-night are: "Le Maire's Affairs," "The House of Shadows," "Yours Truly," "Cherry Blossoms," "The Devil in the Cheese," and "What Anne Brought Home."

When Gilbert and Sullivan operetta "Patience" is presented, it will be in the original style of the London production of 1881, according to Peter Hamberg who is the producer. The cast will include James Watts, Vivian Hart, William Langan, Dudley Marwick, Beatrice Kneale, Eleanor Edson and Bernice Marshon.

The New Plays

MONDAY

"THE COCOANUTS," George S. Kaufman's and Irving Berlin's musical show, with the Marx Brothers featured, will be presented at the Century Theatre Monday night by Sam H. Harris. Other players include Phyllis Cleveland, Jack Barker, Janet Velie, the De Marcus, the Brox Sisters and Basil Raysdall.

THURSDAY

"GRAND STREET FOLLIES," the fifth edition of the series, will open next Thursday night at the Neighborhood Playhouse.

FRIDAY

"RUDDIGORE," by Gilbert and Sullivan, will be revived by Lawrence J. Anhalt at the Cosmopolitan Theatre next Friday night. The cast is headed by Craig Campbell, William Danforth, Herbert Waterous, Sarah Edwards and Alexander Clark.

AMUSEMENTS

The Theatre Guild Acting Company in

ALL NEXT WEEK

BERNARD SHAW'S

"PYGMALION"

GUILD THEATRE 52nd Street, West of Broadway. Eves at 8:30. Matinees THURSDAY and SATURDAY at 2:30.

Week of May 23rd—THE SECOND MAN

"MR. PIM PASSES BY"

GARRICK THEA. 65 W. 35th St. Eves. 8:30. Mats. Thurs. & Sat. 2:30.

Week of May 23rd—RIGHT YOU ARE

ALL NEXT WEEK

NED McCOBB'S DAUGHTER

JOHN GOLDEN THEATRE, 58th St., East of B'way. Matinees THURSDAY & SATURDAY. CIRCLE 5678

Week of May 23rd—THE SILVER CORD

TIMES SQ. THEATRE, WEST 42d STREET. Eves. 8:30. Mats. Thurs. & Sat. 2:30.

4th MONTH

A. H. WOODS presents

CRIME

By Samuel Shipman and John B. Hymer

"A vivid, gripping and absorbing melodrama. I confess that I enjoyed it as I haven't enjoyed a melodrama in seasons." —Alan Dale, American.

\$500 AWARD

for the article of 200 words or less judged to be best on the play "The Ladder." Contest for sixth week closes Monday at 10 a. m. Money refunded if you do not like the play.

"THE LADDER"

WALDORF THEATRE

50th St. E. of B'way—Mats. Wed. & Sat.

Bronx Opera House 149th Street, E. of 3rd Ave. Pop. Prices. Mat. Wed. & Sat.

"AN AMERICAN TRAGEDY"

Arthur Hopkins is planning to produce "The House of Women" next season with Elsie Ferguson and Nance O'Neil. The play is a dramatization by Louis Bromfield of his novel "The Green Bay Tree."

Jed Harris has acquired another, this time a comedy by Edna Ferber and George S. Kaufman which will open here sometime in September after a try-out in Atlantic City. The play's called "The Royal Family."

"Countess Maritza," the Viennese musical romance will return to the Shubert theatre Monday night.

Albert Lewis has acquired a new play titled "The Big Timer," written by George Jessel, and Herman J. Manckiewicz, which he intends producing early next season.

"Blossom Time," will play a return engagement at the Bronx Opera House, beginning Monday night.

A. E. and R. R. Riskin have acquired a new play "The Front Page," by E. G. Riley, which they intend giving a Spring try-out.

Eugene Walter whose playwrighting activity has been nil for several years, has a new drama, called "Different Women," which will be presented in Chicago next month with Frank Keenan in the leading role.

Sam HARRIS THEA. West 42nd St. H. Twice Daily, 2:30 & 8:30

WHAT PRICE GLORY

Mats. (exc. Sat.) 50c-\$1. Eves. 50c-\$2.

Margarita Sylva the prima donna, will be co-starred with Louise Hunter in "Golden Dawn," the operetta with which Arthur Hammerstein will open his new Hammerstein's Temple of Music next fall.

MUSIC

Hans Lange has been re-engaged as assistant conductor of the Stadium Concerts for the coming season. Mr. Lange made his local debut as a conductor two years ago at the Stadium.

Leningrad will hold the first All-Russian Music Festival this Spring. Many of the trade union organizations will take part. Some four thousand singers, a Balalaika orchestra of 1,800, a band of 1,500 and a mandolin orchestra of 300 will take part in the festival.

The boys and girls who compose the Heckscher Foundation Orchestra will give their concert at the Children's theatre, Fifth Avenue and 104th Street, next Saturday afternoon.

Annette Royak, soprano, will appear in recital tomorrow afternoon at Chickering Hall.