

48
1
. L4

NEWS-BULLETIN

League for Industrial Democracy

VOL. II. NO. 11.

70 FIFTH AVE., NEW YORK CITY

JANUARY, 1924.

THE NEW ENGLAND STUDENT CONFERENCE IN CAMBRIDGE, JANUARY 11-13

WHILE this paper is being printed, there will be an informal student conference luncheon in New York on December 29th. The report will be given in our next Bulletin.

The regular Christmas week conference of the L.I.D. in New York was given up because of the Bertrand Russell dinner on January 18th and because of our desire to have a conference in New England. This conference, we are glad to announce, will be held in Boston and Cambridge, January 11th to 13th, and the program is indicated in the following schedule:

Friday afternoon, Jan. 11th, at 3 P. M.—Episcopal Theological School, Cambridge, Mass.

Subject—"The Church and Labor."

Speakers—Professor Norman Nash of the Episcopal Theological School, Paul Blanshard of the L.I.D., David T. Eaton, Chairman.

Friday evening, Jan. 11th, at 6:30 P. M.—Harvard Students' Liberal Club.

Dinner Conference on "Brain Workers and the Labor Movement."

Speakers—Professor Vida D. Scudder of Wellesley College, Roger N. Baldwin, Director of the American Civil Liberties Union; Stuart Chase, Director of The Labor Bureau, Inc. and Professor Felix Frankfurter of Harvard, chairman. (Tickets for the Supper Conference—90 cents).

Saturday morning, Jan. 12th, at 9 A. M.—Conference at the Harvard Students' Liberal Club.

Subject—"Social Thinking in our Colleges."

Reports by a representative from each college participating, by Paul Blanshard, Field Secretary of the L.I.D., and by Douglass Haskell of the National Student Forum.

It is hoped that the following members of the L.I.D. Students' Advisory Committee from New England Colleges, among others, may be present and give five minute reports of college activities

Talcott Parsons, Amherst College; Francis B. Creamer, Berkeley Divinity School; Harold F. Carr, Boston Theological School; Elmer W. Grenfell, Bowdoin College; Charles Reed, Brookwood; Harold W. Landin, Clark University; Roland A. Gibson, Dartmouth College; D. T. Eaton, Episcopal Theological School; Norman E. Himes and J. Laughlin Dunham, Harvard University; F. M. Bass, International Y. M. C. A.; Frank Shaw, Mass. Institute of Technology; Cara Cook, Mt. Holyoke College; Mary Ruth Schantz, Simmons College; Eva Freeman, Wellesley College; G. B. Appel, Yale University.

Saturday afternoon, Jan. 12th, at 2 P. M.—Harvard Students' Liberal Club.

Subject—"Labor in Politics."

Symposium led by George E. Roewer, Jr., Boston labor attorney and others. Professor Henry R. Mussey of Wellesley, Chairman.

Saturday evening, Jan. 12th, at 8 P. M.—Harvard Liberal Club.

A Public Debate on Socialism between Norman Thomas, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the League for Industrial Democracy and Professor J. Murray Carroll, Professor of Economics, Bates College, Maine.

Sunday morning, Jan. 13th, at 9 A. M.—Harvard Students' Liberal Club.

Student discussion on "What Is Industrial Democracy?" Chairman—Roland A. Gibson of Dartmouth.

We are grateful to the Harvard Liberal Club and to the faculty of the Episcopal Theological School at Cambridge for their generous helpfulness. The conference itself has been arranged by an informal committee composed, as follows:

From Harvard Liberal Club—J. Lawrence Dunham, President Harvard Liberal Club; Walter Gardiner, Instructor in Economics; Herbert Jones.

From Harvard Divinity School—Granville Hicks, Robert E. Starkey, Leslie L. Pennington.

From Wellesley—Florence L. Kite, Josephine S. Ascher (representing Miss Eva Freeman of Wellesley Forum).

From Simmons—Mary Ruth Schantz.

From Cambridge Theological School—D. Eaton.

From Boston University—J. La Verne Jay, George E. Mitchell.

To this committee the officers of the League wish to make specific acknowledgment of their indebtedness.

We shall be grateful for all names of students who hope to attend this Conference. Such names should be sent to this office at once. Free rooms may be provided in limited numbers.

TO OUR MEMBERS

IN these days when it is fashionable to talk much of psychology, I may gain an attentive hearing by confessing that around this time of the year I suffer from a divided personality. As the recipient of innumerable appeals to support this cause and that, to win members for an organization or subscribers to a publication, I have frankly grown weary. I look over my mail with a gingerly eye and am likely to let certain suspicious looking envelopes drift rapidly in the direction of the waste basket.

But as Chairman of the Executive Committee of the League for Industrial Democracy, my feeling is altogether different. I am vehement in expecting members of a society to take their membership seriously. My

dream of delight is to have executive responsibility in an organization where each member is a worker.

The prospects of the L. I. D. were never better. The unusual response to the Russell dinner indicates the increased interest in the general sort of thing which the L.I.D. stands for in the community as well as in Mr. Russell himself.

This is proved, I think, by the success of the League in other spheres. There is a substantial growth of interest in our pamphlets and in our editorial releases to labor papers. Mr. Blanshard's work in the colleges has exceeded our expectations. We have had a total of some five hundred college memberships already as a result of his work.

Our general campaign for membership has not been without result. We have added about 100 members, among whom we are proud to record such outstanding Americans as Jane Addams, Sherwood Eddy, Timothy Healy, Alice Hamilton, B. W. Huebsch, Frederick Almy and Robert M. Buck.

But encouraging as these things are, we face the year 1924 with grave doubts as to whether our members and friends will co-operate with us in taking advantage of existing opportunities. In one of our bulletins not many months ago we expressed the modest hope for five thousand members. We are very far from that goal and while membership is not the final test or measure of our work it is a tremendously valuable thing for an organization to rest not on the shifting sands of diffused interest and good will but on the solid basis of a dues-paying membership. We can only look for that membership as one member gets another or helps us to get another. We are always ready to furnish leaflets and pamphlets to help any one of you to go out after members. Do not forget that if we can get a large enough membership our whole financial problem will be greatly simplified.

As it is, the financial problem requires some plain speaking. Since I last reported, we have received a pledge of \$2,000, payment of which is conditional, however, upon our raising our entire budget of \$23,000. That budget itself is an under-estimate of what we could advantageously use. Pamphleteering, circularizing, the routing of speakers in a country so large as is the United States, are expensive undertakings, even when the speakers keep their expenses down as carefully as does Paul Blanshard.

We are far from having this minimum budget pledged. Counting likely "prospects" after the manner of money collectors, we still have some \$6,000 which we must find. If we are obliged to curtail our work it will be the poorest sort of economy. It will mean that we cannot publish pamphlets that ought to be published, that we cannot visit colleges and communities that ought to be visited, that we cannot capitalize whatever interest now exists in constructive thinking about our present civilization.

That is why I who do not enjoy as much as I ought appeals for support from even the worthiest organizations, inflict this kind of a New Year's appeal on you. We want to raise our membership to 5,000 and we want

\$6,000 in new money. The latter need is particularly imperative. Some of you have done magnificently by this society. Some of you, if the truth be told, haven't done much. There are even a few who have not paid their dues up to date.

This frank statement of facts is sent out in the hope that it may arouse in you a new zeal for co-operation, provoke you to constructive suggestions for active service, further giving and the discovery of new sources of financial and moral support which are sorely needed if we are to take advantage of the opportunities before us. I have found so much loyalty among the membership of the L. I. D. that I look for responses to this general communication as if to a personal letter. That would be my idea of a happy New Year for the L. I. D.

NORMAN THOMAS.

BLANSHARD CONTINUES SUCCESSFUL TRIP

**Speaks At Sixteen Colleges in East and Middle West
Many Groups Affiliate**

DURING late November and early December Paul Blanshard, Field Secretary of the League for Industrial Democracy, continued his immensely effective efforts in promoting among college men and women and others an intelligent understanding of the labor movement and of the movement toward a new social order. During this trip he addressed some 1,100 students in 16 colleges in the middle Atlantic States, in Canada and in the Middle West, and 1,300 others at meetings arranged by city organizations. Nearly 300 students joined the League, from the University of Toronto (19), Hobart College (46), Cornell (60), Syracuse (39), Bryn Mawr (14), Goucher (46), Hood (15), Howard (6), Rose Polytechnic (16), and Indiana Normal (19), while student groups in several of these institutions—Toronto, Hobart, Cornell, Rose Polytechnic, Indiana Normal—decided to affiliate with the L. I. D. Mr. Blanshard lectured in these colleges before nine college classes, one or two college chapels, and numerous student groups. Among the city groups addressed were the Open Forums of Baltimore and Terre Haute, the Young Democracy, the Labor College and the Women's Trade Union League of Philadelphia, the First Congregational Church and Central Labor Union of Terre Haute and the L. I. D. Chapter of Washington.

The last few days of the year were spent at the great Students' Volunteer Convention at Indianapolis as one of the speakers of the Conference.

On November 13th and 14th, the Field Secretary visited Buffalo, where he addressed a class of foremen in the extension department of the *University of Buffalo* and met many progressive citizens of that city. Mr. Blanshard found the foreman "exceedingly hard-shelled". The discussion was hot and long. It dealt with trade union policy in relation to management.

Forms Chapter in Canadian College

In Toronto, his next stop, (Nov. 15th and 16th), the

Field Secretary addressed a group of 75 students of the *University of Toronto* at Hart House and organized a chapter of the L. I. D. Nineteen men signed up. Henry Mang was elected student representative.

Returning to the United States, Mr. Blanshard went to Geneva, New York on Monday, Nov. 19th, and addressed two sociology classes at *Hobart* and *William Smith* Colleges. Forty-six out of forty-nine students in these classes became members of the L. I. D. "Mr. Blanshard gave a fine talk", comments Professor J. M. Williamson.

Cornell Liberal Club Reorganized

On Nov. 20th and 21st he addressed the *Cornell* Cosmopolitan Club (100 present), attended an Economics Faculty luncheon, spoke on "British Labor" before the economics honor students (30 present) and arranged an organization meeting of the L. I. D. Chapter. As a result of his visit, the Cornell Liberal Club was organized, with Everett V. Sonequist as chairman, and Rashelle Goldberg as secretary. Some 60 students sent their dues to the general society.

The third New York college visited during the trip was *Syracuse University*. There Mr. Blanshard addressed one of the best spirited meetings of his trip, arranged by the Current Problems Club (attendance 50). Thirty-nine people joined the League. "The program of the club", writes Mr. Blanshard, "calls for meetings every two weeks with occasional speakers." Sylvan Baruch, president, is the student representative.

Returning through Syracuse on Monday, November 26th, Blanshard addressed a class on political science (20) and one in English history (25). "These classes were reduced", writes our Field Secretary, "to one-third of their usual attendance by the departure of the student body to the railroad station to welcome home the victorious football team from Nebraska."

The last of Mr. Blanshard's stops at New York colleges was at *Colgate University*, Hamilton, New York. There Professors Foley and Lowe combined their large classes for an address by Blanshard on the "Challenge of Labor to the College Student". It was impossible to arrange a separate student meeting, since the students were already leaving home for their Thanksgiving vacation. "The Political Science Club is the only club at Colgate", writes Blanshard. "Nor is the interest in intellectual things great." The Field Secretary secured a cordial reception from one or two professors who had been in the old I. S. S. chapters several years ago.

Leaving New York State, immediately after Thanksgiving holidays, Blanshard visited Philadelphia on Sunday, December 2nd, addressed a meeting of the Young Democracy Forum, attendance 400, at the Broadstreet Theatre, on the "Fascisti", and in the evening, a meeting of the Philadelphia Labor College at the Machinists' Temple.

The following two days were spent in Boston and Cambridge, laying the foundations for the Boston conference of January 11th to 13th.

On Wednesday, Dec. 5th, he returned to Philadelphia

and spoke before the Women's Trade Union Club in that city.

On December 7th he addressed the *Bryn Mawr* Liberal Club (20). The meeting was informal. Fourteen joined the L. I. D. Later he met with an informal group of students who are trying to organize a forum at the *University of Pennsylvania*. "The university atmosphere", he writes, "is oppressive and everyone is scared." O. Stuart Thompson, Jr. consented to serve as student representative. John F. Lewis, Jr. and Alfred Baker Lewis were particularly helpful during Mr. Blanshard's stay in that city. The Young Democracy is willing to co-operate with college groups around Philadelphia who wish to utilize its Sunday speakers.

On December 8th Blanshard addressed a group of 50 in Professor Brook's class in economics history at *Swarthmore* and a Y. M. C. A. group at the U. of P.

In Maryland

In Maryland the speaker had a busy time. His lecture schedule was as follows: Sat., Dec. 8th—A Baltimore Labor College group; Sun., Dec. 9th—The Baltimore Open Forum; Mon., Dec. 10th—*Hood College* Current Problems Club; Tues., Dec. 11th—*Goucher College* Ethics Club (75 in attendance); Wed., Dec. 12th—The Ethics Club of Goucher (75 present).

Of Blanshard's address before the Open Forum, Mercer Green Johnston declared, "I want you to know what a fine impression Blanshard made on us all. He has a clear straightforward way of speaking, a good carrying voice, keeps his balance and his temper, and earned and received the cordial appreciation of his audience of four hundred. He is the sort of speaker a forum director makes a mental note to invite again." At Hood College the Current Problems Club will probably affiliate with the L. I. D. At Goucher 46 students signed applications for membership.

In Washington Mr. Blanshard addressed the Progressive Club of *Howard University*, attendance 100, on December 6th. Some six members joined the League. "His address", writes one professor, "was clean-cut and convincing. I wish to renew my membership in the L. I. D."

At Washington also Mr. Blanshard spoke before the Washington chapter of the L. I. D. The meeting was full of interest but unusually small on account of a competing lecture.

It was a far cry from Washington, D. C. to Terre Haute, Indiana. Leaving Washington on Saturday, our Field Organizer arrived in Terre Haute on Sunday, December 16th. His addresses in that city were as follows:

Sunday morning—First Congregational Church, Rev. John W. Herring, pastor, on "The Church and Labor", attendance 85.

Sunday afternoon—Community Forum, on "British Labor on the Threshold of Power", (200).

Monday morning—Rose Polytechnic Institute, (250); followed by an organization meeting, (17).

Monday afternoon—Indiana Normal College, (28).

Monday evening—Central Labor Union of Terre Haute, (30).

At Rose Polytechnic Institute Mr. Blanshard formed the Rose Round Table with an initial membership of 16. Officers are not yet elected but an organization committee was chosen

by the temporary chairman, John M. Barr. The club plans to have several speakers on Mondays with meetings for discussion also consisting of R. A. Reddie, O. W. Motz, H. H. Evinger and C. W. Ellis.

At Indiana Normal College he organized a group of 19 members which unanimously voted to affiliate with the L. I. D. in a body. Temporarily they are called the Forum but will probably change to the Liberal Club. The officers are—President, Miss Asenith Denehie; Vice-President, Sampson Smith; Treasurer, L. M. Salladay. The meeting was a dinner meeting at the Elks Club of Terre Haute. A lively discussion took place and Mr. Blanshard described the work of student organizations in the eastern states.

Tuesday—De Pauw University, Greencastle, Indiana, (attendance 17).

After returning to Rochester, his home city, for the Christmas holidays, Mr. Blanshard travelled again to Indianapolis for an address at the Student Volunteer Convention. While in the city he met delegates from the University of Indiana, Indiana Normal, Rose Polytechnic, De Pauw, Butler College and other institutions and helped to work out a plan for an Indiana Students' Forum.

THE COLLEGE WORLD

Our Student Council

SINCE our last Bulletin went to press, several additional students have consented to serve as members of the Advisory Students' Council of the Intercollegiate Department of the L. I. D. The Council now consists of the following:

Amherst College, Talcott Parsons.
Barnard College, Louise Rosenblatt.
Bates College, Arthur Pollister.
Berkeley Divinity School, Francis B. Creamer.
Boston Theological School, Harold F. Carr.
Bowdoin College, Elmer W. Grenfell.
Brookwood Labor College, Charles Reed.
Bryn Mawr College, Priscilla Fansler.
University of Chicago, Mildred Wilkenson.
Clark University, Harold W. Landin.
College of the City of N. Y., Hyman Zamurute.
Columbia University, David Ostrinsky.
Cornell University, Rashelle Goldberg.
Dartmouth College, Roland A. Gibson.
Episcopal Theological School, D. T. Eaton.
George Washington University, Alex. Casavages.
Goucher College, Marjorie Riddle.
Harvard University, J. Laughlin Dunham.
Hobart, C. M. Louttit.
Hood College, Anne Krick.
Howard University, Frederick C. Robb.
University of Indiana, Glen L. Steckley.
International Y. M. C. A. College, F. M. Bass.
University of Maine, John Donovan.
Mass. Inst. of Technology, Frank Shaw.
University of Michigan, Jack Bressler.
University of Missouri, Benjamin Leader.
Mt. Holyoke College, Cara Cook.
New York University, Abram Kartch.
Northwestern University, James W. Woodard.
Oberlin College, Alford Carleton.
University of Pennsylvania, O. Stuart Thompson, Jr.
Rose Polytechnic Institute, John M. Barr.
Simmons College, Mary Ruth Schantz.
Syracuse University, Sylvan Baruch.
Swarthmore College, Gertrude Knapp.
University of Toronto, Henry Mang.
Union Theological Seminary, Carlos G. Fuller.
Vassar College, Mary Marshall.
Wellesley College, Eva Freeman.
University of Wisconsin, Harold B. Shier.
Yale University, G. B. Appel.

Free Speech Victory at Columbia

AFTER several years of protest against unjust restrictions during the war hysteria, the Social Problems Club of Columbia University, and free speech generally, won a decided victory in the new regulations regarding Columbia clubs, just made public by the administration. During the past few years the administration has held that no new organizations in Columbia could invite non-Columbia men to address its member-

ship in any college building. Although the Columbia Social Problems Club, a successor to the Columbia Socialist Club, had been in existence, with the exception of a few months during the war, since 1906, this club was classified by the administration as a new organization. Last year hundreds of Columbia students made a protest against this ruling, which led this fall to an entire revision of its rules. Under the new ruling, according to David Ostrinsky, the president of the Social Problems Club, "names of speakers must first be submitted to a student committee of three elected by and from among the representatives of all societies having an interest in outside speakers. Once a speaker is approved by the committee he is submitted to the Secretary, for formal consideration, although it is understood that he will not disapprove except in unusual instances. With the old crushing restrictions swept away, the S. P. C. can now look forward to a brilliant future."

Foster and Bryan at Dartmouth

AS a result of the policy now pursued by the Dartmouth administration of permitting free and untrammelled discussion of public affairs within college walls, Dartmouth students have, during the past two weeks, heard many speakers of many minds. Of the speakers who addressed the college body, William Z. Foster and William Jennings Bryan "created more disturbance in the intellectual machinery of the college", according to our student representative, Roland A. Gibson, "than any two speakers of recent years. Extreme in their views on the subjects presented, they called forth reactions from men of all shades of opinion and served to compel everyone to re-examine his stock of ideas. As a result of these two men coming to Hanover, Dartmouth is firmly established as an institution where complete academic freedom prevails. We are, therefore, in a position to study every social and religious problem with all the evidence which can be marshalled before us."

One thousand students turned out to hear Foster on November 23rd on the "Left Wing of the American Labor Movement". Much to the disappointment of some of the students he confined his remarks to "Amalgamation", and refused to "run wild". The Dartmouth reported that he captured the sympathy of his audience. The address was given under the auspices of the Dartmouth Round Table affiliated with the L. I. D.

Bryan's remarks were not treated so kindly. Thus *The Dartmouth* reads:

"Dartmouth turned out en masse Saturday evening to hear a scientific discussion. Instead it heard a burlesque—and a sermon.

"Mr. Bryan did it up brown. One couldn't hold back a swelling admiration for his compelling powers. A deft thrust here, a withering whack there, and the wicked evolutionists lay out-done upon the mat. His irony was a delight. And his soft-soap. And his frolicsome humor. Skillfully he presented his case. Subtly he rubbed it in. And his audience applauded: they had been charmed, they had enjoyed themselves, and they applauded. But they weren't convinced. Their intelligence, true to prediction, had not been checked at the door; and they were not convinced. Instead of facts Mr. Bryan gave them ridicule and raillery. Instead of scientific data, flim-flammy and pious dogmatics. Not a word of the distinction between Darwinism and Evolution. Not a suggestion of presenting new facts nor of scientifically questioning old ones. Nothing but oratory. . . .

"Mr. Bryan travels to the four corners of the country sowing the dragon teeth of distrust in science and hatred of the educated man; and because he is adroit and his audiences uncritical, he has succeeded in marking out a battle-field for a battle which need never be fought and which can end in only one way."

Vassar Branch Carries On

ACCOMPANYING the dues of \$17 sent by the Vassar College branch of the L. I. D. for its membership of more than three score students, Miss Katherine H. Pollak, the secretary of the club, gives the following description of the Club's activities:

"The group meets every two weeks, Sunday nights at supper, for discussion of economic problems, and points of liberal controversy. The subject is set beforehand, and we try to get our ideas in order before too, to some extent. The amount of information in the group as a whole was low at first, but it is increasing all the time, and the interest is high. Besides these regular fortnightly meetings, there are occasional informal discussions groups when we want them. We try to have an afternoon meeting once a month with a speaker."

Meetings held during the month were as follows: October 4th, Miss Evelyn Gibson, "Various Forms of Socialism", attendance 30; December 9th, Mr. Sorokin, "Russia", (40); December 14th, Miss Lucy Branham, "Recognition of Russia", (30). Mary Marshall is president of the club.

Live Discussion at Cornell

"WE have had two meetings of our discussion groups, on November 25th and December 9th", reports Rashelle Goldberg, student representative to the L. I. D. from the Cornell Liberal Club, "and we expect to continue to meet twice a month. There is a chairman appointed for each meeting who is responsible for starting the discussion of the evening. After an introductory talk, the discussion is continued very informally and although there are always a few who talk at greater length than the rest, almost everyone says something. At our first meeting we talked about 'Freedom of Speech in the Universities', but we digressed into a lively discussion on 'Fraternalities'—there were ardent supporters for them as well as opponents.

"At our second meeting we talked on the 'Ku Klux Klan as a symbol of Americanism.' At our first meeting after the holidays, Mr. Palecek (the Czecho-Slovakian student brought over by the Students' Forum)

will talk on his impression of the American universities. We expect also to get Dr. DuBois at the end of January. We are likewise planning to steal John Haynes Holmes away for an evening, when he comes to speak for the Ethics Club.

"In short, we have been more successful than I anticipated, and this is due for the most part to the enthusiasm which Mr. Blanshard aroused."

"Peacemakers" at Goucher

ONE of the most interesting conferences held this fall by the students in eastern colleges was that arranged by the Goucher College Ethics Club in Baltimore, Md., on December 7th and 8th, 1923. The program of the conference was devoted to "Youth and the Peacemakers". The conference was opened on Friday morning, December 7th, by an address in the college auditorium on "Five Years of Peace in Europe" by Dr. M. Carey Thomas, president-emeritus of Bryn Mawr College. Dr. W. W. Guth, president of the college, gave a welcoming address.

The further meetings of the conference were as follows: Friday afternoon, address by Dr. Katherine J. Gallagher on "Some Results of the Reparations Tangle on International Affairs"; Friday evening, Round Table Discussions on "The Ruhr Policy", led by Douglass Haskell and Dr. Tenny Frank; Saturday morning, discussion on "Why America Should Continue Her Isolation Policy", led by Dr. Herbert Adams Gibbons; Saturday afternoon, "Shall America Stand by the League?", open discussion; Saturday evening, Round Table Discussion "The part of the student in national and international thought." Discussion led by Douglass Haskell.

The organizing committee of the conference consisted of the following: Marjorie Riddle, Martha Jarvis, Louise Nevens, Ruth Hume, Anita Faatz, Katherine McKnight, Ruth Williams and Mary Brimmer.

The National Student Forum did much to stimulate the holding of this valuable intercollegiate gathering.

Irrepressible Clark

OUR student representative from the Alpha Pi Zeta Sociological Society of Clark University reports the following meetings during the fall: October 22nd, Paul Blanshard, "Fascism", attendance 25; November 12th, Arthur J. Nilson, "Ku Klux Klan", and Robert M. Grey, "Fundamentalism" (20); December 19th, Dr. Harry Elmer Barnes (75). Regarding the membership of the club, Mr. Landin says: "From about 12 members active in September we have now over 30. To be a member one must request election, show an active interest in the study of sociology and maintain at least an average of 87 percent in all studies in the field of history or social or political sciences. This process of elimination weeds out the undesirable applicants."

The Liberal Club of Clark is no more. It died following the Scott Nearing episode. But the best Clark traditions are fortunately being carried on by the Alpha Pi Zeta.

Book Reviews at Y. M. C. A. College

THE Industrial Seminar program of the International Y. M. C. A. College at Springfield, Mass., during the past few months has been an unusually interesting one. "The meetings of the Springfield College Industrial Seminar", according to Franklin M. Bass, its secretary, "are held every other week. At each meeting two books are reviewed, one hour being given for the presentation and discussion of each. As the year goes on various speakers will be called in to address our gatherings. Such men as Dr. Barns, Dr. Doggett, Kirby Page, etc., spoke to the men last year and it is certain that men of their calibre will be called in again this year."

The programs at the fall meetings were as follows: November 16th, George McCourt, on the "Case for Capitalism" and Charles Heath on "Incentives in the New Industrial Order"; November 30th, F. M. Bass on "Industry and Human Welfare" and Charles Stone on "Social Insurance"; December 7th, Free Discussion on "Recent Developments in the American Labor Movement" by Laidler, paper prepared by Harry Lagoudakis. The average attendance was eight.

Berkeley Divinity School

F. B. KRAMER, our student representative, writes regarding Mr. Blanshard's stay at Berkeley: "We are most appreciative of Mr. Blanshard and his talk was enjoyed and greatly sympathized with by those present".

CITY GROUPS

AN ACTIVE WASHINGTON CHAPTER

THE Washington Chapter of the L. I. D. began its season this year in October. At the first business meeting it was decided to hold public forum meetings on the second and fourth Fridays of each month and hold business and program committee meetings in between times.

The Penguin Club of the city offered the Chapter the use of its club rooms for one Friday evening a month. The offer was accepted and then the Chapter planned to have the meeting at the Penguin Club alternate with a Sunday evening meeting in some public hall.

The list which follows shows the work of the Chapter both past and in prospect:

Oct. 3—"The general labor movement in Great Britain." Speaker—Mr. George Dallas of London, England.

Oct. 12—"The Negro Migration." Speaker—Mr. L. M. Hershaw, Chairman of the local executive board of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Oct. 26—"The Coal Situation in Washington and the Plans of the Coal Consumers' League." Speaker—Mr. M. F. Boyd of the Washington Herald.

Nov. 10—Dr. F. Nansen spoke in behalf of world peace. The meeting was held under the auspices of the Chapter and ten other local organizations.

Nov. 23—"Impressions of Russia and Germany in 1923." Speaker—Mr. Lawrence Todd of the Federated Press.

Nov. 25—"Economic Chaos and the Way Out." Speaker—Dr. Scott Nearing of the Rand School.

Dec. 14—"The Coming Alliance of Labor and Learning." Speaker—Mr. Paul Blanshard, Field Secretary of the L.I.D.

Dec. 16—"The Importance of Amnesty." Speaker—Mr. Ralph Chaplin, labor poet and ex-political prisoner.

Jan. 13—"The Farmer-Labor Uprising in the Northwest." Speaker—Hon. Magnus Johnson, Senator from Minnesota.

Jan. 25—Study class and business meeting.

In addition to the foregoing program the Chapter is planning to hold an all-day conference in January. The subject will be nationalization, but just what phase of it will depend somewhat on the bills introduced in Congress.

On December 15 in celebration of its organization just a year ago, the Chapter is having an evening of fun and frolic. The affair will be held at the College Women's Club. The announcements advise all who attend to check their principles at the door, as the party is for "profit and not for use."

The Chapter is still small in membership. During its first year of its work it has lost one member through death and three members have moved out of the city. Nine new members have been added to the list since October 3rd, thus bringing the membership up to thirty, which is a gain of twelve members since its organization.

CORA R. HUTCHISON,
Secretary-Treasurer.

The New York Cameraderie

The Cameraderie has continued its interesting meetings at the Rand School on Saturday afternoons. Its program to date and for the ensuing weeks is indicated in the following schedule:

Dec. 1—M. E. Ravage: "Europe in Disintegration."

Dec. 8—Syud Hossain: "The New Near East."

Dec. 15—Willim A. Brady: "Theatres of Europe and America."

Dec. 22—Augustus G. Dill: "Development of Negro Music."

Dec. 29—Anna Louise Strong: "Russia." Maida Castelhun: "Drama Among the Ruins."

Jan. 5—Theodore Schroeder: "Psycho-analysis of Fundamentalists and Modernists."

Jan. 13—Adele Schreiber: "Economic Germany."

Besides these afternoon meetings, in accordance with its custom of holding one evening meeting a month, the Cameraderie (which is the New York chapter of the L. I. D.) held an interesting discussion on "Giant Power, Public or Private Monopoly," on the evening of December 14th. The discussion was led by Robert W. Bruere and Walter N. Polakov.

NORMAN THOMAS SPEAKS

DURING the past few weeks Norman Thomas has addressed a number of important college and civic groups. The college groups included the student body of Brookwood Labor College, the New York University Liberal Club and the Swarthmore Politics Club's conference with labor union men, on "Labor and Politics". Mr. Thomas also spoke during the fall before the open forums at Providence and Whitinsville, R. I., the Economics Club of Philadelphia, the Women's Conference for Study and Service connected with the New York Ethical Culture Society (3 lectures) and the West Side Unitarian Church, New York City. At the last named meeting he debated with Professor Stephen Duggan on the "League of Nations." Of his address at

Brookwood, Charles L. Reed, our student representative, writes: "Mr. Thomas spoke before the student body on December 3rd, and delivered a very interesting and instructive talk on the 'Labor Press.' The students, particularly the Journalism class, were more than pleased with his fine presentation and frankness. We do hope that he will be a frequent visitor to Brookwood."

FURTHER LECTURERS

Dr. Harry W. Laidler addressed the New York University Liberal Club on December 19th on "The Trend Toward Public Ownership".

A. Emil Davies, the British Fabian and authority on public ownership addressed Professor Burton's economics class at Brown University during early December at a meeting arranged through the efforts of the L. I. D. Professor Burton reports that his address on various aspects of public ownership proved intensely interesting and instructive.

The L. I. D. Five-Inch Book Shelf

A GREAT BANK has honored me by asking me: "Are you a capitalist?" The leaflet that asks the question is one of the sort now becoming popular, in which bank directors and other millionaires explain to the rest of us how we are all brothers under the skin, all capitalists, even if the extent of our capital is a liberty bond or a tack hammer.

Now this is all very well as far as it goes. But it doesn't go very far towards enlightening us on the accumulation and control of capital. Take the steel trust, for example. Was its capital created by the patient savings of thousands of stockholders, who now deserve their reward, or was it fixed by more or less arbitrary capitalization of earning power? We are not going to spoil George Soule's pamphlet on *The Accumulation of Capital* by giving the answer now, but most of us are aware, in a general way, that when the steel trust was organized, there was plenty of water in the common stock, and we are also aware that the saving that has made the steel trust grow has not, in the main, been the work of the self-sacrificing investor but of the corporation itself. That is true of a multitude of American corporations, and it is a fact which has a very important bearing on the conventional defense of the capitalist system. George Soule of the Labor Bureau, Inc., has compiled some figures on this subject which he interprets in his usual lucid and convincing way. The pamphlet will be released shortly to members of the L. I. D. It is the kind of pamphlet that members will like to give to their friends. Put in your orders now.

That same thing is true of all the pamphlet publications of the L. I. D. I wonder how many members of the society are aware of what a remarkably valuable Five-Inch Pamphlet Shelf of economic literature is being created. There is, for instance, Stuart Chase's "Challenge of

Waste", which in 32 pages states facts which have not been successfully answered with regard to the scientific wastefulness of our present profiteering system. It is not so loaded with figures as to be dull reading and it holds its place as the most widely circulated of our pamphlets. The L.I.D. still has enough copies on hand to supply a good many of its readers with this particularly effective form of argumentation.

Then, there is George Soule's earlier pamphlet "*The Intellectual and the Labor Movement*". A lot of young college students, and some graduates who are no longer young, save in spirit, are really very desirous to know how they can co-operate with labor. In this pamphlet Mr. Soule gives his answer—an answer based on much experience and much clear thinking. In footnotes, other men and women who know the labor movement comment on Mr. Soule's contentions by way of approval or friendly criticism and the appendix embodies in brief form much valuable information about concrete phases of the labor and allied movements. This pamphlet also has been sufficiently advertised to our members to need only a mention in passing. It also has been the subject of favorable review.

More recent is Norman Thomas' "*Challenge of War, An Economic Interpretation*". John Haynes Holmes writing in *The Advance* (organ of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers) says, "We have seen no better statement in small compass of the economic problem of international conflict . . . A vast literature seldom mastered and usually avoided by the ordinary reader because of its complexity and often highly technical nature is here admirably summarized. At once scholarly and popular, the pamphlet should be greatly useful in the work of educating the public in the truth about war." *The World Tomorrow* goes so far as to declare, "Not since Brailsford's classic, *The War of Steel and Gold*, which anticipated the outbreak of the Great War, has there been a statement so satisfying to the pacifist who demands more than a pious resolution or even a determined personal conviction against the horrors of war."

Skillful propaganda has almost persuaded the American people that public ownership is always and everywhere a failure. How ludicrously contradictory is such a belief to facts has been impressively pointed out in Dr. Laidler's pamphlet "*Public Ownership*". The library at the University of Texas has recently written for additional copies of it because of its value. Professor Paul H. Douglas of the University of Chicago writes: "I plan to use a number of copies of it for my course on Types of Economic Organization next spring. It is the best short study of collectivism that I think has been made." This pamphlet, although only recently published, has met with a gratifying reception. It will be necessary shortly to issue a second edition so that there will be plenty of copies on hand for those who want to use them.

Equally valuable is Dr. Laidler's shorter pamphlet "*Recent Developments of the American Labor Movement*", a work that has met with a really enthusiastic welcome from college professors and friends of labor. Here one

finds a balanced presentation and sympathetic interpretation of what American labor is doing. With his usual care Dr. Laidler has added references to facilitate a fuller study of matters which he has summarized.

"Will you send me 15 copies of your most excellent pamphlet. I am finding it an increasing delight to use," writes Professor Phillips Bradley of Wellesley.

To these pamphlets will shortly be added Dr. Ward's analysis of "*The Profit Motive*", Norman Thomas' discussion of "*What is Industrial Democracy*" and (in conjunction with the Civil Liberties Union), Winthrop D. Lane's intensely interesting study of "*Denial of Civil Liberties in the Non-Union Coal Fields*". This pamphlet is based very largely on the work of Professor Chafee's Committee of Inquiry, for which Mr. Lane was chief investigator. The L. I. D. is proud to recall that it, with some aid from the American Civil Liberties Union, set up this admirable committee whose work had unusual publicity and real influence.

The L. I. D. is offering all the pamphlets now in print for 50 cents. New pamphlets sell for 10 or 15 cents, according to size. When one remembers what pamphlets have meant in the history of human progress, one must rejoice in the revival of this effective form of education and of the right sort of propaganda. *Will you not personally help us by buying the whole set of pamphlets or individual pamphlets and yourselves circulating them among your friends?* The pamphlets, except "Public Ownership", sell at 10 cents each, 15 for a dollar. "Public Ownership" sells at 15 cents, 10 for a dollar.—S.L.

EDUCATION BY THE WRITTEN WORD

We find our own judgment of the place and value of pamphlet literature confirmed by the slow but steady increase of such literature issued by other individual organizations. Members of the L. I. D. who do not already know of Kirby Page's pamphlets would find them interesting and useful. Their appeal is particularly to Christians. Against the background of a Christian ethic, they seek to interpret industrial and international problems. More than a dozen of them have already been issued through George H. Doran, Madison Avenue, New York, at an average price of 10 cents a pamphlet. The best known of Mr. Page's pamphlets is "War, Its Consequences and Cure", a remarkably thoroughgoing treatment of the subject by a Christian pacifist who has familiarized himself with the economic and political aspects of those international quarrels out of which war comes. Interested friends have already given this pamphlet a circulation of some 100,000 copies. It is bound to do good.

A second series of pamphlets has been inaugurated by the National Conference on the Christian Way of Life with a syllabus on the subject of International Problems and the Christian Way of Life. It consists of a series of questions on various phases of the world situation, together with a series of selective readings. While the pamphlet does not commend itself to me, in substance or manner of treatment, it may prove valuable in certain discussion groups organized through the church machinery, provided those groups are fortunate enough to find a leader who can give any unity, spirit and passion to the discussion. These are elements which certainly the pamphlet itself will not supply. Speaking of international relations, it is well to be reminded that international relations today come down pretty much to such

concrete questions as the struggle for oil, coal, iron, rubber, etc. Scott Nearing has taken up the struggle for oil and in his pamphlet "Oil and the Germs of War" (Nellie Seeds Nearing, Ridgewood, N. J.), has done an almost perfect piece of work. This is a model of its kind and cannot be too highly commended. I have a feeling that its 32 pages do more to bring home to the average man the origin and nature of war, than all the diffuse selective readings of the syllabus of the National Conference on the Christian Way of Life put together. But many men, many tastes. It will take more than one sort of pamphlet to remake a world. Some other sorts we shall review in the next Bulletin.—N.T.

STEINMETZ ECONOMICS PRIZES

We are much gratified by the interest expressed by students and professors in our Economics Prize Essay Contest for college students. Readers of this Bulletin who are particularly interested in the subject purpose and conditions of the contest may have leaflets upon application at the office. Here we would simply remind you that the contest closes June 1, 1924; that the first prize is \$200 and the second, \$100; that any student desiring to substitute his own subject for one suggested in the announcement must obtain permission from this office.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Bertrand Russell has been obliged by illness to postpone his American trip until spring. We hope to arrange a dinner for him on April 3rd. Meanwhile on January 18th we shall proceed with our dinner, substituting a symposium by a number of famous Americans for Mr. Russell's address on the subject "Can Western Civilization Be Saved?" Definite announcements will be mailed to subscribers to the dinner who will, if they desire, be given opportunity to return their tickets and receive their money.

Dr. Alexander Meiklejohn, Morris Hillquit and H. W. Van Loon will be among the speakers.

JOIN THE L. I. D.

Object: "Education for a new social order based on production for use and not for profit."

Officers: Robert Morss Lovett, president; Vida D. Scudder, Evans Clark and James H. Maurer, vice-president; Stuart Chase, treasurer; Norman Thomas, Ch. of Ex. Com.; Harry W. Laidler, Director; Paul Blanshard, Field Secretary.

I wish to join as an.....member of the L. I. D.

Active Member\$3

Sustaining Member...\$5

Contributing Member, \$5

Life Member\$100

Student Member\$1

Name.....

Address.....

LEAGUE FOR INDUSTRIAL DEMOCRACY
70 Fifth Avenue, New York City.