

FOR COMMUNIST  
UNITY IN THE  
REVOLUTIONARY  
CLASS STRUGGLE

# THE REVOLUTIONARY AGE

WORKERS OF ALL  
COUNTRIES  
UNITE!

A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER DEFENDING  
THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKERS

ISSUED BY THE COMMUNIST PARTY  
(Majority Group)

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## CIVIL RIGHTS IN GERMANY STIFLED

### Edict Hits At Freedom of Speech, Assembly; Big Protest of Workers

BERLIN—The dictatorship by presidential decree that is ruling Germany today was further intensified on March 28 by the publication of an emergency decree promulgated by President von Hindenburg at the request of the Brüning cabinet by virtue of Article 48 of the constitution.

The new measure empowers local police authorities to forbid all parades, assemblies, mass meetings, speeches, printed matter, and so forth, which they regard as against any religious organization, as "slandering" of public figures or in any other way "disturbing to public order and safety." Failure to announce or holding such a meeting in the face of its prohibition is punishable by not less than three months' imprisonment for the organizers, participants and owners of the property where the affair is held.

Assemblies indoors in private quarters also come within the meaning of the law. The unlicensed carrying of weapons and the use thereof will result in not less than six months' imprisonment hereafter. Uniforms and badges can be prohibited, and societies and associations which "offend" against the regulations can be dissolved. Members of a "dissolved" organization who carry on their activities secretly will be imprisoned for not less than three months, while newspapers can be suppressed up to six months for carrying unapproved proclamations or "incitements to violence."

It will be noted that the promulgation of these decrees took place immediately upon the adjournment of the Reichstag.

The first concrete results of the decree abolishing all civil liberties were a series of raids upon Communist organizations all over the country, especially in Berlin. Anti-fascist meetings seem to be special objects of attack under the presidential decree.

The strengthening of the presidential dictatorship is another step in preparing the way for the complete triumph of Fascism in Germany. This step was accomplished with the benevolent assistance of the Social Democracy to whose support alone the continued existence of the Brüning regime is to be attributed.

An intense wave of indignation and protest is rising in the ranks of the workers at the growing viciousness of the Brüning dictatorship. Demands are being made on all sides for the reconvening of the Reichstag to pass upon these decrees and for the abolition of all of the emergency decrees on the basis of Article 48.

## SOUTHERN DEMOCRATS ORGANIZE TO OPPOSE RASKOB POLICIES

### Organize Periodical Conferences in Washington To Fight Wet Stand and to Raise "Economic Issues" Reflecting Class Differences Among Democrats

WASHINGTON—A group of Southern Democrats met here on March 25 to organize a struggle against what they call "the domination of the Democratic party by Chairman Raskob." The leading spirits in this conference were Senators Robinson (Arkansas), Hull (Tennessee), Swanson (Virginia) and Ex-Governor Byrd of Virginia.

It is understood that the four leaders and others whose interests they represent are planning to assemble from time to time between now and the national convention in 1932, and thus keep alive the theory that "economic issues" should be made dominant in the next campaign and prohibition put into the background.

In many quarters the rumor is circulated that this newly organized anti-Raskob faction in the Democratic party is making a bid for an alliance with the "Progressives" of the House and Senate during the next session of Congress.

### Why the Conflict in the Democratic Party?

The intensification of the factional situation in the Democratic party is a direct reflection of the battle between various sections of the capitalist class in this country. The Democratic party, at one time, used to be a petty largely of the Southern capitalists (mostly connected with some form of agriculture) and of middle class elements in the North. It therefore had a distinctly "liberal" and trust character. This period ended with the Wilson regime. Since that time the Democratic party has taken the straight road of becoming a party of Big Business. When John J. Raskob became chairman of the Democratic National Committee, this orientation towards Big Business be-

## Unite to Smash the Bosses' Attack Upon Labor!

### Declaration of the National Council of the Communist Party (Majority Group)

Capitalist reaction is sweeping the country. Everywhere workers are being arrested, beaten up, lynched, jailed, and deported. The working class newspapers are being attacked and their mailing rights revoked. Strikes are brutally suppressed by the courts, police, hired gunmen and the militia. Workers organizations are being smashed. Unemployed workers are murderously clubbed by the police. The capitalist frame-up methods used against Sacco and Vanzetti and others are being repeatedly resorted to in order to railroad innocent workers to prison. Mooney, Billings, the Central I.W.W. prisoners and many more workers are forced to waste their lives in long years of confinement in capitalist bastilles.

### THE DRIVE AGAINST THE FOREIGN-BORN

Especially severe is the drive against the foreign-born workers, the raiding of their organizations and gathering-places and their deportation, often to Fascist countries, where dungeon and execution await them. Coupled with these attacks upon the foreign-born workers are the steps being taken for their registration, fingerprinting and photographing. Even more menacing is the right to revoke the U. S. citizenship of naturalized citizens in order to facilitate their deportation.

Against the Communist and militant workers the reaction is most vicious and severe; criminal anarchy and anti-syndicalist statutes are being enforced to railroad them to jail; militant strike leaders, are being deported; repressive measures are being passed in the various states against them; the U. S. Congress is being flooded by telegrams and resolutions from patriotic, business, religious and other reactionary organizations calling for the illegalization of the Communist and militant labor movement.

This brutal, vicious, reactionary onslaught upon the workers and their organizations is not local but general in character extending over the entire country, East and West, North and South. We are fast entering a period similar to the atrocious Palmer Days of 1919 with its raids, wholesale arrests, violent attacks upon labor and the deportation of thousands of militant foreign-born workers.

### THE PROGRAM OF THE CAPITALIST OFFENSIVE

The present reactionary drive against the working class, which is being pushed with vigor and determination by the capitalist government, is the logical consequence of the capitalist program for

overcoming the grave economic crisis in which the country finds itself today. Its program calls for overcoming the crisis at the expense of the workers, thru increased speed-up, lengthened hours and wage-cuts on the one hand and imperialist expansion leading to war on the other hand. The capitalist program of increased exploitation of the workers and of attack upon the living standards coupled with the imperialist war preparations is back of the present reactionary drive. It is also directly linked up with the present counter-revolutionary preparations of world imperialism for the first war to destroy the Soviet Union, the Workers Republic in the world, where Socialist construction on the basis of the Five-Year Plan is proceeding so successfully.

The very economic crisis with its millions of unemployed, mass misery and starvation is the excuse given by the capitalist robbers and exploiters to slash wages, speed-up production, lengthen hours, suppress strikes and smash labor organizations. It also serves as the basis for the enactment of special military measures in preparation for war, for the passage of reactionary anti-labor legislation, for vicious attacks and proposals against the foreign-born workers and for the resort to hostile, discriminatory measures against the Soviet Union.

### THE ATTACK ON LABOR PRESS

Of special concern to the working class and its organizations is the attack lodged against the militant working class press. The decision of the courts sanctioning the suppression of the REVOLUTIONARY AGE completely nullifies any sign of freedom of the press for labor. The suppression of the REVOLUTIONARY AGE has been followed by the suppression of six other Communist papers and one Anarchist paper. It is very evident that the entire labor press is in danger of being wiped out. The entire working class must rally in defense of its press.

Nor can the working class ignore the increasing acts of violence against the Soviet Union. The capitalists cry against Soviet "dumping," make unfounded libelous charges of forced prison labor being used in Soviet industries, enforce embargoes against Soviet products and support the counter-revolutionary conspiracies be-

(Continued on Page 2)

## OUST ROGER BALDWIN FROM A.A.A.I.L.

### Expelled From Anti-Imperialist League Because Opposed To Sectarian Methods

NEW YORK—Roger N. Baldwin, well-known liberal and head of the Civil Liberties Union, was expelled from the Anti-Imperialist League on April 1, 1931 at a meeting of the executive committee of that organization.

Baldwin's expulsion came as the culmination of a long struggle he had been carrying on to prevent the All-American Anti-Imperialist League from becoming a narrow clique of Communists and Communist sympathizers. The issue arose on the decision of the Communist Party officials in control of the A.A.A.I.L. to exclude members of the Communist Party (Majority Group) from the organization. Baldwin protested and after prolonged delay the expulsion of Baldwin was the answer of the bureaucrats. Robert W. Dunn, labor writer, put up a defense of Baldwin and declared himself against his expulsion.

Now, of course, the leaders of the A.A.A.I.L. will suddenly "discover" horrible deviations on the part of Baldwin to justify his expulsion. It should be noted, however, that in the past Baldwin has uniformly supported the resolutions and decisions of the League even where, as in the case of India, they were wrong and sectarian.

The narrow policies of the Communist Party have now completely destroyed the A.A.A.I.L. as a broad united front organization of anti-imperialist forces in this country.

## SOVIET DELEGATE HITS GRAIN MEET

### Declares Agrarian Crisis Due To Capitalism; New System Needed

ROME—The absolute futility of the world conference, in regard to a solution of the grain problems raised, was made clear upon the closing day of the conference by Professor Kitzmann, the Soviet delegate. As the conference was adjourning, the well-known Soviet economist said:

"The solution of this crisis cannot be sought in conferences. We see on the one hand a world filled with goods, the result of overproduction, and on the other hand millions of unemployed who cannot enjoy those goods. The cause of the crisis, therefore, is inherent in the capitalist system, which still obtains in the greater part of the world and which no conference has the power to modify."

"In Russia, where landed property has been abolished completely, things are quite different. There is no crisis there, and there are no unemployed; the workers are happy and satisfied."

He ended with the statement that while Russia refused categorically to take any action tending to limit her exportations of wheat, which were necessary to pay for her purchases of machinery and other manufactured goods, the Soviet delegation would recommend that its government take part in the conference of exporting countries in London next May.

## USE TEAR GAS ON MINE STRIKERS

### Brutal Attack Upon Glen Alden Strikers; Strike Forging Ahead

WILKES BARRE, Pa.—Tear gas and fire hose were called into play on April 2 at the Dodge colliery of the Glen Alden Company at West Scranton in order to disperse the mass picket line including hundreds of strikers. A police attack upon the firm miners picket line had failed. Because of this attack it proved impossible for the miners to close down the last three mines of the Glen Alden Company not yet on strike. The Archibald mine, however, is reported closed down and the rest are coming.

Meanwhile, while the enthusiasm of the miners mounts, it appears that there are divided counsels in the General Grievance Committee. A section of this committee are apparently with Lewis and the District officials in trying to stop and suppress the strike movement. At the present time the majority of the committee is still continuing in the leadership of the strike. A committee of rank and file progressive miners has issued a declaration calling on all striking miners to stay out on strike until their demands are won and to get rid of all leaders who hesitate or try to stop the strike.

## MICHIGAN CASES FOR JUNE 1

### Judge White Sets Date; Joint Trial Decided

Judge White has decided that the Bridgeman Cases are to come to trial immediately. June 1 has been set as the date for trial. The defense motion to dismiss was denied. The State then made a motion to consolidate the cases. This was granted. The defense is appealing this decision to the State Supreme Court.

The I.L.D. continues its factional policy of deliberately omitting in its appeals, any mention of defendants who have been expelled from the Communist Party for differing with its present tactical policies.

## LABOR DEPT' ADMITS HUGE WAGE CUTS; PRES. HOOVER IS "SATISFIED"

### Bankers Push Big Drive to Reduce Wages in Crisis Period; Hoover-Green 'No-Strike' Pact Hamstrings Workers; "Strike Against Wage Cuts!" Labor's Slogan

WASHINGTON—On the very day on which President Hoover let it be known that he was "highly pleased with the manner in which the principal industries of the country have supported him in his determination that wage scales shall be maintained in the present business depression," statistics of the Labor

department revealed that actually there had been wage-cuts in the month ending February 17 affecting over 40,000 workers and averaging 10.3% of their pay. And, as the Labor department itself declares, these figures cover only a certain

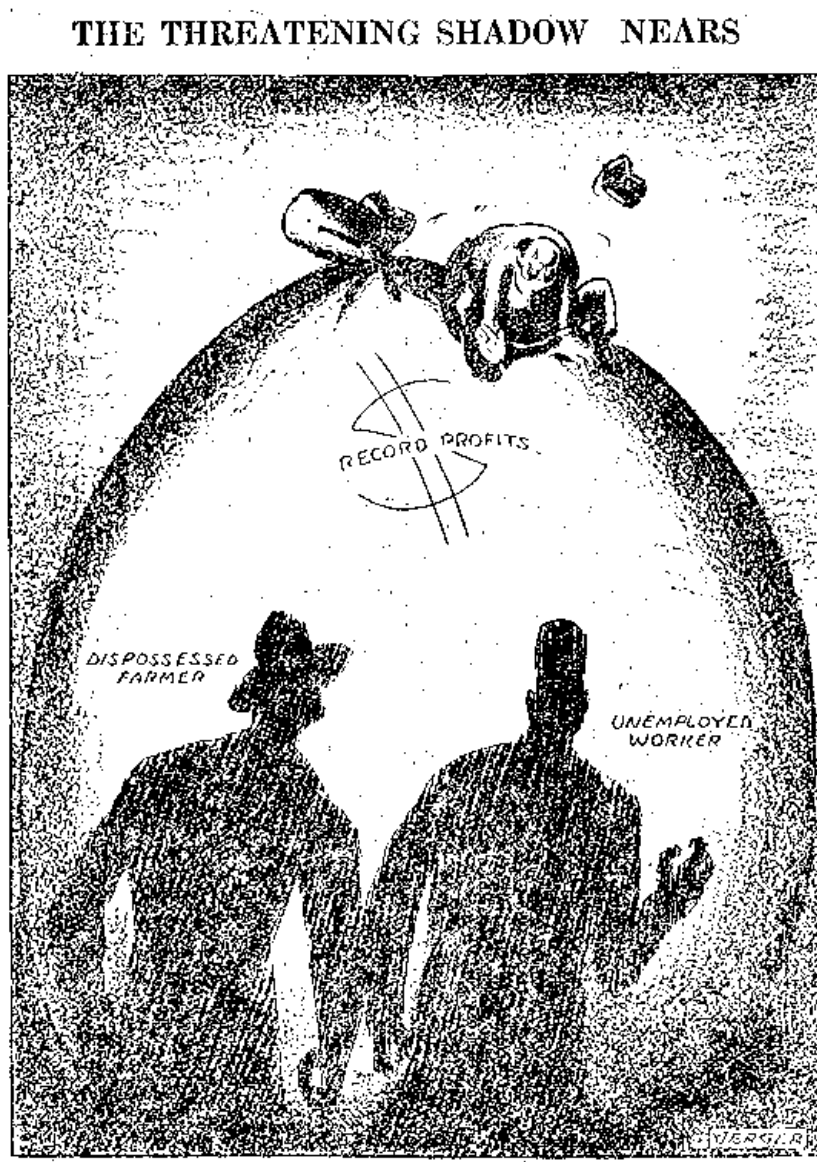
portion of American industry, so that the actual wage-cuts were much more severe. The wage-slashing drive was especially to be noticed in the textile, machinery, boot and shoe, bituminous coal, wood and furniture industries.

That this campaign of wage-cutting has been systematically planned and put thru by the big financial interests of this country, was admitted by Ethelbert Stewart, commissioner of labor statistics. But Mr. Stewart did not mention the fact that the lead in beating down the conditions and standards of the workers is being taken by the U. S. government itself, with the President at the head. After a private conference with the President on April 2, Representative Wood of Indiana, chairman of the Republican Congressional Committee, announced:

"The wage level in this country is far above the selling level of commodities. How that is to be adjusted is a problem. These things naturally adjust themselves after a while just like water seeks its own level."

Only the united action of the workers can defeat the wave of wage-slashing initiated and carried thru under the direction of the biggest banks and the government. But for such a united action the workers must get rid of all illusions about the "good intentions" of such faithful handy-men of the bosses as President Hoover and Labor Secretary Doak. They must also understand the role of such "labor" leaders as William Green, who, in the fall of 1929, made a formal pact with President Hoover promising that the A. F. of L. would conduct no strikes during the depression "if capital would make no wage reductions." But wage-cutting began while Green was making the promise to stifle the labor movement. And what happened? The union organizations stood helpless, bound hand and foot by Bill Green's "promises."

The workers must break the Hoover-Green "no strike" wage-cutting pact! Strike against wage-cuts! This is the slogan for all workers and all trade unions today.



## RAID CITY HALL IN CHICAGO

### Many City Officials Accused of Short-Weighing

CHICAGO—A sensation was created here on April 1 when squads of detectives rushed into the City Hall arresting twenty-eight employees of the City Sealers' Office, while eighteen police teams started rounding up 400 storekeepers—all as part of a drive by States Attorney John A. Swanson against an "organized system of cheating and short-weighting." Evidence of a widespread conspiracy between merchants and city officials for short-weighting consumers is alleged to have been collected by teams of women who visited stores through the city and bought foods and various other commodities. Cheating to the amount of millions of dollars annually is being charged.

States Attorney Swanson is an anti-Thompson Republican who is now supporting Cermak, the Democratic nominee for mayor. The wide-open split in the Republican machine has thus brought out into the open the ugly facts of corruption and graft that have infested Chicago under the rule of the Thompson gang. Of course, Swanson as well as the Democratic machine are tinned with the same stick but now they happen to be the "outs" who want to get "in."

Only when the workers realize that they are being used as voting robots by these demagogues to keep themselves in power, only when the workers organize their own Labor party—will there be any possibility of cleaning out the filthy stables of boss politics.

NOTICE!  
Workers Organizational  
Keep Open  
SATURDAY EVENING, MAY 2.  
Important!  
Watch Next Issue!

## WE EXPLODE A LEGEND

One of our best comrades and supporters has protested against our saying that we are at the end of our rope. He seems to think that we are exaggerating our difficulties. That's impossible! We are at the end of our rope but we are desperately holding on.

Some workers even seem to be victims of the legend that the REVOLUTIONARY AGE is safe against suspension, that there is some mysterious way in which we are able to get along. This is just plain nonsense. Fortunately we have managed to get a fairly good response from the workers throughout the country.

For instance Philadelphia has just sent us \$20.00 on the Days Wage Drive. A working farmer from Fargo sends us this encouraging note: "My subscription to the REVOLUTIONARY AGE has again expired and I am sending money order for \$1.50 for which please extend the expiration date for six more months. I am unemployed and have no prospects for any work at present so am unable to make any donation for the REVOLUTIONARY AGE now."

This is just the spirit that has kept us going. We need many more workers throughout the country to stand by us and

to fight for the paper. The REVOLUTIONARY AGE shows that as a champion of the working class it is a fighter who never pulls its punches. In the coming weeks we have some surprises in store for you but its up to you workers to make it possible for us to put it over.

Again we ask you to donate and to subscribe. We want good news from everywhere. Our appeal is to the workers of every town, city and state in the country. What shall it be? Of course, more support for the REVOLUTIONARY AGE, more support for the paper of your class, the working class.





Revolutionary Age

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PITY THE POOR TRUSTS!

The air is again astir with a controversy over the relation of the government to the big trusts. The small-fry, feeling the painful pinch of the crisis, is again proposing "limitation of the power of the trusts".

Of course, no big capitalist will take too seriously the threats of the middle class. Still it would be folly to maintain that the middle class, because it is being wiped out, is already wiped out and politically impotent.

The government policies toward trusts have gone thru three main stages. In the nineties, the middle class on the threshold of its period of decline put over the Sherman Anti-Trust Law.

But soon a sort of a new "third estate" came on the scene. The working class, the proletariat, began to come into its own. The government then shifted to a two-faced policy.

Today, we are in the period of government instigation of the trusts. Note the vigor with which the government is pushing railway consolidation. Henry Ward Beer, president of the Federal Bar Association of New York, New Jersey and Connecticut, put the case well when he said: "Our anti-monopoly machinery has broken down hopelessly."

There is much discontent in the country. The small shopkeepers are chafing at the chain stores. The government is compelled to make some manoeuvre to maintain the fiction of being "above the classes and above the battle".

On the heels of this came John Edgerton, President of the National Association of Manufacturers, with a demand that Congress quit shadow-boxing and entirely repeal the Sherman Act, as out-of-date.

The workers had better be on guard in this whole controversy. There is every likelihood that as a result of merger of the government apparatus with the machinery of Big Business will become firmer than ever.

MORE ABOUT BRAUNSCHWEIG!

In the March 28, 1931 issue of the Revolutionary Age we informed our readers about the remarkable events in Braunschweig (Germany). In Braunschweig the municipal elections gave the Communist and Social-democrats together a majority in the municipal council.

Social-democrats. And this united front is not to be merely the well-known "united front from below" but the "united front from the top"—right in the municipal council itself!

Soviet Challenge to U. S. Capitalism

A Review of Hoover's "The Economic Life of Soviet Russia." by Jay Lovestone

THE ECONOMIC LIFE OF SOVIET RUSSIA, by Calvin B. Hoover, The Macmillan Co., New York, 1931.

It is seldom that one runs into such a thro piece of work on the Soviet Union. The book gives an excellent analysis of the structure of Soviet economy—the organization of industry, agriculture, domestic and foreign trade, and banking.

The author spent over a year for the Social Science Research Council, financed by the Rockefeller Foundation, and obtained a generally accurate estimate of the developments. "The Soviet economic system," he realizes, "is not a mere modification of the capitalist economy."

However, much as the book may be praiseworthy in its details, and in its general grasp of the tasks facing the victorious proletarian revolution, the author here and there arrives at conclusions which reveal a deep-seated anti-Soviet (that is, anti-working-class) bias.

The Question of Planned Economy. Throughout the capitalist world—particularly in the United States—the bourgeoisie is now getting one real headache over the question of planned economy.

From this angle, Professor Hoover sees clearly that it is a cornerstone of Communist theory "that a socialist system can avoid many of the wastes of capitalism by the development of planned economy".

But the author believes that the existence of maximum and minimum schedules, coupled with constant administrative changes in the Plan, bring about a condition whereby "a considerable part of the advantage of the having a Plan is lost".

The author recognizes "that by the second year's operation of the Five Year Plan," collectivization had already been carried out to more than the degree planned for the entire Five Year Period.

—have struck the course of proletarian solidarity and united struggle under the direct pressure of the demands of the class struggle and the criticism of the Opposition. The Party bureaucrats found themselves in an embarrassing situation: either the expulsion of the entire Braunschweig organization or else a "new turn".

recognized this problem of adjustment and co-ordination in his Notes of An Economist, published about two and a half years ago. And the retreat made by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU), about a year ago (March 1930), further revealed a realization by the Soviet Party that the course of Socialist construction moves in a spiral curve and not in a straight line.

How true this is, can be seen from Hoover's statement about the world-wide unemployment problem and the Soviet Union. Says the author: "The economic system of the Soviet Union has the possibility of preventing unemployment to an extent which is almost impossible for the unmodified capitalist system."

It is hard to see why Calvin Hoover says that "such success as has been achieved by the Plan, so far as due more to the ability to interfere authoritatively in the economy of the country... rather than to the efficacy of planning as the term is usually understood."

Does It Pay? In his chapter on Russian Communism and Human Welfare Hoover raises the question whether the Soviet system and its successes "give promise of any results which may compensate the Russian people for what they have suffered?"

Applying this "pragmatic" and "success" yardstick—so typical of the American bourgeois philosophers and economists—Hoover proclaims that: "Militant hatred has become perhaps the most prominent psychological characteristic of Russian Communism."

First of all, let's see what's true in these explosions against the Soviet order. Of course, all Communist Parties and revolutionary workers cannot but have a militant hatred of the capitalist system and the bourgeois ruling class.

That this is so can be seen even from the author's own subsequent admission that: "When the advantages of the shorter working day, vacations, workers' clubs, and social insurance

are considered, it must be recognized that even during the present hard times the laborer has gained from the Revolution." Mr. Hoover even understands and confesses that the "standard of life is so low now, largely because of the determination of the Party to make it much higher in the future."

One must answer the question by asking another question. "Does it pay?" should be met with: "For whom does it pay?" The capitalists? Certainly not! The workers? Certainly, yes! The great mass of the peasantry? Of course!

We can approach this question of cost in still another manner. Yes! We are paying a heavy price for our successes in the U.S.S.R. In the main this price is so heavy because our Russian brothers have made the only victorious Socialist revolution today.

Yet, after all, the question must be viewed historically. In comparison with the price paid by the English working class in the Industrial Revolution (capitalist accumulation) over so many decades, our Russian brothers are paying a very small price in building up a Socialist economy.

Historical Significance of the U.S.S.R. Finally, the author emphasizes that the Soviet challenge is a world challenge. He says: "The results of the great experiment in the collectivization and mechanization of agriculture in the Soviet Union is of vital significance to the whole world."

All in all, The Economic Life of Soviet Russia is a first class book—stimulating, thought-provoking and worthy of the most careful study. Despite its short-comings and tho it is written definitely from the non-working class viewpoint, every worker, every Communist especially, should read this book.

On the basis of the study of the German 1923 events Thalheimer closes the pamphlet with a section on Some of the Most Important Lessons. He calls attention to the necessity for strong, ideologically independent Parties capable of independent analysis and political initiative as an essential prerequisite for the fulfillment of the leading role of the Communist Parties in the revolutionary struggle.

The long-awaited pamphlet by Comrade Thalheimer is a miracle of compression and clear elucidation. It begins by tracing the historical role of the ultra-left legend about the October events as expressed in its most extreme form by Trotsky in The Lessons of October.

How this legend originated in intimate connection with the gathering inter-party struggle in the Soviet Union, how it became a complete right-about-face in the attitude of the Comintern to the German events, how it became a fundamental point of support for the Fischer-Maslov regime in 1924-25 and how it was revived in the days of 1928-1929-1930 as a support for the current ultra-left regime—all this is told in the most concise and illuminating manner by Comrade Thalheimer.



BOOKS

1923: EINE VERPASSTE REVOLUTION? Die deutsche Oktoberbewegung und die wirkliche Geschichte von 1923 by A. Thalheimer, Junius Verlag, Berlin, 1931.

The events of the German 1923 "October" occupy a very significant place in the long and troubled story of the great historical crisis in which the Communist International finds itself at the present time. For it was in Germany in 1923-24 that we find, in the first stages of the development, precisely those false political methods and dangerous practices that lie at the root of the world crisis in the Communist movement today.

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Point 2, Germany. Even more interesting is the question of the defeat of the German proletariat in October of last year. There we had in the second half of last year a classic demonstration of a quite extraordinarily favorable situation of world historical significance that was missed.

But the most valuable part of this pamphlet is surely its analysis of the class forces in Germany in 1923 as compared with those in Russia in 1917, followed by a thorough examination of the real history of 1923 and the role of the Party in the situation.

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The Economic Life of Soviet Russia by CALVIN B. HOOVER Price \$3.00 THE MACMILLAN COMPANY 60 Fifth Avenue, N. Y. C. Order thru the Revolutionary Age,



BETWEEN HAMMER AND ANVIL

The Syphilitic Interpretation of History A reader sends in the following from the Journal of the American Medical Association of March 7, 1931, which serves to symbolize the present state of bourgeois culture and social "science":

"Prof. Dr. Louis Nekam, the newly elected rector magnificus of the Budapest University, in his inaugural address discussed the influence which syphilis has exerted on the history of the world. He told his hearers, with dramatic vigor, that this new disease of the renaissance transformed the world. It separated England from the Roman Catholic church when King Henry VIII, who doubtless had syphilis, had a fierce controversy with Pope Clement VII, who refused to declare his marriage with Catherine dissolved. Had Catherine not brought to the world still-born children and a girl, the later Queen Mary, with characteristic manifestations of congenital syphilis, Henry VIII would not have tried to hasten his union with Anne Boleyn. Being a play-actor in the lawful way, King Henry threw aside his connection with Rome. England became Protestant, and instead of a continental power became a naval power. Professor Nekam further explained how syphilis determined the ways of countries, nations, cultural currents and fashions."

\$500,000,000 in dividends was paid out to stockholders on April 1. A fine April Fool joke on the workers!

A Holy Alliance A Jewish fish and vegetable merchant of Czechoslovakia has become librarian of the Hebrew Department of the Vatican. The Pope has to furnish him with a "minyan" of a prayer-quorum of 10 Jews, a kosher kitchen, two sets of dishes and other appropriate furnishings.

Telling the Church Where To Get Off John E. Edgerton, President of the National Association of Manufacturers warned a conference of Protestant, Catholic and Jewish churchmen against unemployment insurance.

"What need," he asked them, "have people for God and the church when human government is undertaking to do everything for them? If the government is to protect them against the consequences of economic misfortune, if it insists on playing Santa Claus to them in the days of their want, then why should they worship any other power than that of the government that coddles them?"

The rabbi, priests and ministers were indignant at this plain-speaking but for once the arch-reactionary was telling the truth.

The chief function of the church today is to tell the poor that their poverty and misery are a blessing because they are a guarantee of thicker pie in the sky by and by. Once man turns his attention to building a decent world on earth, all the sellers of opium to the people and gilt-edged shares of Celestial Preferred, will be out of a job. And it will be useless for them to look for a new racket; they'll have to go to work, or they'll have to go to Heaven!

The Psalm of the Subway Rev. Dr. Samuel Trexler, president of the United States Lutheran-Synod, urged, in his Palm Sunday sermon at the St. James Lutheran Church, that "time spent travelling in the subway should be used in praying." Here is a suggested prayer:

Oh Lord, I thank Thee for Thy Subway. For the blessing of being among great multitudes. For the sweat and the swelter and the stench. For the lumbing of the spirit, the wilting of the body and the mortification of the flesh. For the greed of the traction magnates and the greater greed that has begotten, our slum-infested Babylon, For the elbow in my rib and the knee in my back, I thank Thee.

Oh Lord, I thank Thee for early rising. For the Great Enemy is ever watchful to corrupt idleness. Thy pity, Oh Lord, for the poor rich who are still sleeping. Whose flesh is corrupted by the absence of an alarm clock. That blessed invention which is Thy gift to torture my spirit for the good of my soul. Oh Lord, I shudder at the corruption and horrible fate. Awaiting those who arise not until Thy daylight is come. And those that issue not forth until Thy sun is shining.

Blessed art Thou who leadest me into dark places but dost not abandon me. Verily, Thou holdest a strap over my head. And Thou supportest me when I am faint by the pressure of many men and women. The roar of Thy subway is like the roaring of a multitude of lions in the face of Thy servant, Daniel. Thy Ride and Thy Strap will follow me all the days of my life, And in the last days shall I not fear Thy Hell. For have I not known Thy Subway? Amen! B.D.W.

ATTENTION! ATTENTION! OPEN MEETING RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE CRISIS AND THE NEW TURN OF THE COMMUNIST INTERNATIONAL Reporter: JAY LOVESTONE FRIDAY, APRIL 17, at 7:30 P. M. GRAND OPERA HOUSE 309 WEST 23 STREET