

We Were Flogged!

WILLIE SUE BLAGDEN'S OWN STORY OF TERROR IN ARKANSAS

By WILLIE SUE BLAGDEN

Six well-dressed men—plantation owners and their agents—unmercifully flogged the Rev. Claude C. Williams, Presbyterian minister of Little Rock, Ark., and left my body a mass of welts and bruises, because we dared to investigate the reported murder of Frank Weems, sharecropper strike picket and member of the Southern Tenant Farmers Union.

The floggers are the kind of men who for years have blackened the name of my native southland, and who justify their reign of terrorism and violence against Negroes and poor whites alike in the name of God and southern white womanhood.

I could identify the men who beat Mr. Williams and me, and I am willing to confront them. Newell Fowler, union counsel, immediately notified Sheriff Howard Curlin of Crittenden County, Ark., of the outrage. Curlin said he was too busy to investigate, but would do so the following day. Law enforcement officials in the strike area in the past have not only ignored planters' violence, but have actively participated in illegal arrests of strikers.



WILLIE SUE BLAGDEN

Stopped by Planters

Monday, June 15, Mr. Williams and I drove to Earle, Ark. About 5:30 p. m., as we were parked in front of a drug store, another car drove up and stopped. It contained six well-dressed men, some evidently planters and one possibly a foreman. Some of the men got in our car and others stepped on the running board and told us to drive out along Highway 75. We were forced out into the St. Francis river bottom, where they questioned us and examined the contents of Mr. Williams' brief case and suit case. They found his minister's license and publications of the Religion and Labor Foundation.

They called us liars when we replied to their questions. Finally they dragged Mr. Williams out of the car and said they were going "to get the truth" out of him. They took him off into the trees. A man went off in the field somewhere and came back with a 5-inch wide leather strap—a piece of heavy mule harness, joined together by an iron ring.

This man joined the others, and they were gone a long time. Then I heard a crack like a tree

falling. I counted 14 of those at intervals of what seemed like two or three minutes. Finally they brought Mr. Williams back. He was walking unsteadily. He looked terrible.

'It's Your Turn!'

"Now," the men said, turning to me. "It's your turn!" I laughed and said I had told them everything I knew about our purposes in being in Arkansas. They took me out of the car, gallantly lifted the barbed wire fence so I wouldn't tear my dress and pushed the brushes aside, to save my stockings.

"Get down on the ground!" a member of the band ordered. I refused. Then one of them started hitting me with that strap. After the first hard blow, they asked me the names of the people we had come to see. I said I wouldn't talk any more. Three more blows followed, the last a terrific one.

I said to them:

"You are awfully brave, aren't you?"

They put me on the 9:10 train for Memphis, but held Mr. Williams. It was not until the next day I knew he was alive. The mob promised increased terror in the strike area, and warned us never to return.

Norman Thomas on Page 12

Socialist Call

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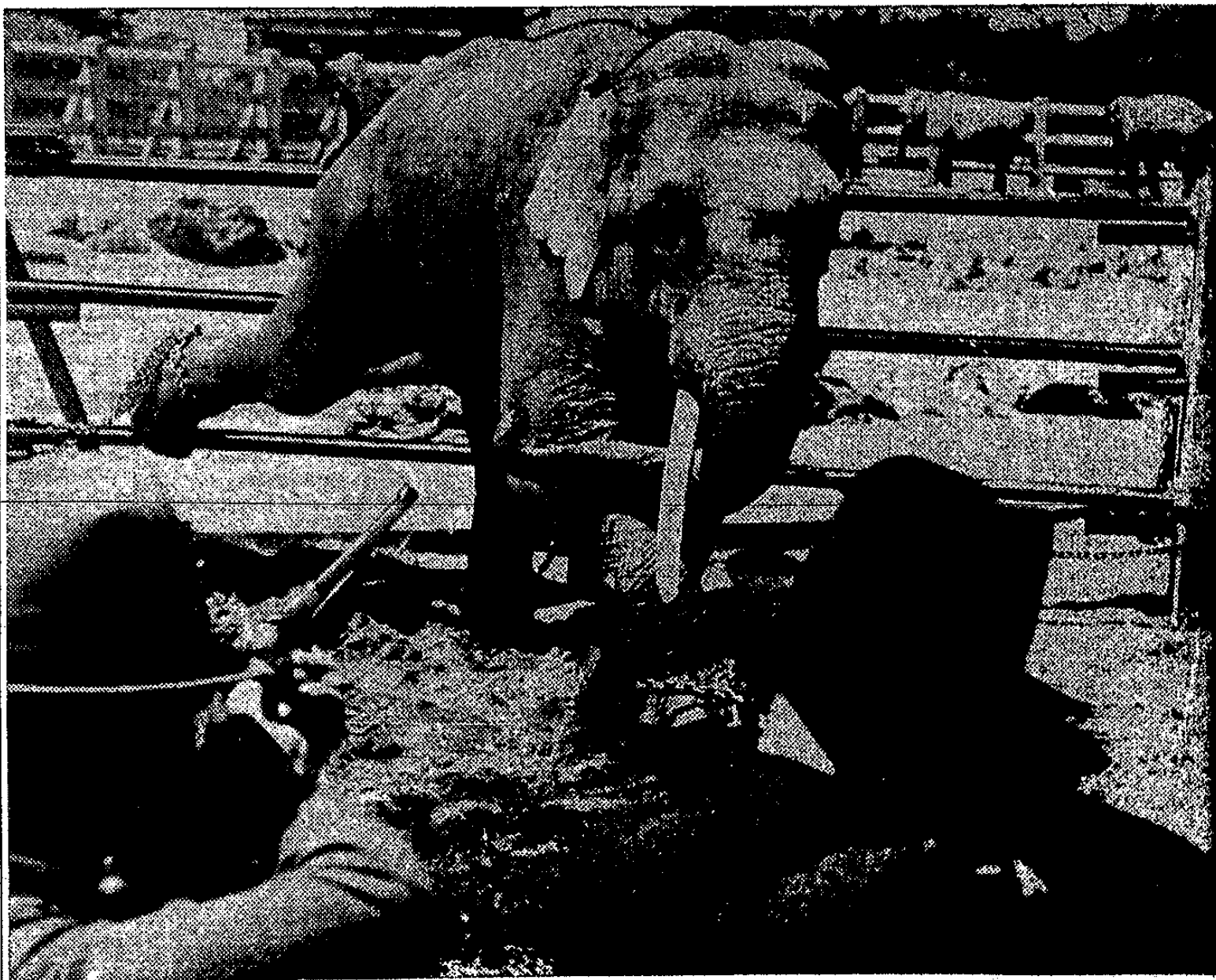
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SATURDAY, JUNE 27, 1936

PRICE FIVE CENTS

PICKET LINE GREET'S FDR CONVENTION

STORY ON PAGE THREE



Sentenced to death for killing his keeper, this giant elephant was executed by San Francisco police. In spite of his huge bulk and tremendous physical powers, he stands helpless before the tiny but death-dealing rifles of men he could otherwise trample under foot.

To conquer the wild beast of poverty, we must turn the rifles of a Socialist society against the destructive force—the competitive capitalist system. By its very definition, it is a system that breeds poverty. Competition means success and failure; otherwise it is not competitive. In this world, competition means success for the few; failure for the many. And failure in this game of unequal opportunities means poverty, hunger, misery.

We dare not delay too long in meeting the problem, or death will bring its own solution of silence.

The raging beast of capitalism which destroys human happiness must be sentenced to death. Put the rifle of Socialism to your shoulder—vote Socialist and build the Socialist Party!

Administration Doublecrosses Labor On Bills

WASHINGTON. (FP)—After threatening to do so for nearly a month Congress finally grabbed its hat and went home leaving behind it a heaped wreckage of hopes.

For labor Congress passed the Walsh-Healy bill, providing certain labor standards for goods or services bought by the government, and the Byrnes bill prohibiting the interstate transportation of strikebreakers. As unfinished business it left the vastly more important Wagner housing bill, a measure designed to fill the three-year promises of the New Deal for decent low cost housing construction, and the Guffey Coal Act, a price-fixing measure designed to save the coal industry for the United Mine Workers.

Is Tabled

The Wagner housing bill died in the House Banking and Currency Committee when a motion to table was carried 14 to 6. Previously it passed the Senate and was promised administration support. Pressure on the committee came

Special to the CALL.
WASHINGTON, D. C.—Despite promises that hearings would be held on the Farmers' and Workers' Rights Amendment to the Constitution, Congress adjourned without allowing such hearings. The Amendment, drafted by the late Morris Hillquit, former chairman of the Socialist Party, was introduced into the Senate by Elmer A. Benson (F-L, Minn.) Hearings had been scheduled several times but were postponed each time.

too late, however, and the bill died as a result of procrastination in the White House and personal enmity of Rep. Steagall (D., Ala.) and Rep. Goldsborough (D., Md.), chairman and acting chairman of the committee, towards Rep. Ellenbogen (D., Pa.), House sponsor of the bill.

Canvass by lobbyists for the housing bill showed that 13 members of the committee were in favor of the bill before White House "pressure" was put on the committee. Those promising to vote in favor of the bill in the committee, it is reported, were Reps. Steagall, Reilly (D., Wis.), Hancock (D., N. C.), Spence (D., Ky.), Koppleman (D., Conn.), Kennedy (D., N. Y.), Brown (D., Ga.), Russell (D., Mass.), Driscoll (D., Pa.), Cavicchia (R., N. J.), Fish (R., N. Y.), Dirksen (R., Ill.), and Fenerty (R., Pa.). Actual vote in the committee, which met in executive session, showed six votes in favor of the bill.

Refused Hearings

Had the bill come out of committee, which refused to hold hearings and then refused to report the bill out on the grounds that it had not been "studied," it would have easily passed the House, congressional proponents of the bill believe.

The Benson-Dickstein resolution for congressional investigation of the Black Legion was also thrown on the ash heap after a promising birth. The bill was voted out of the Senate judiciary committee but through "an oversight" did not reach the Senate committee on audit and control in time for action.

A pure food and drug bill, written by advertising and food and drug interests, was passed by both houses in the last minute rush. It is regarded as offering little or no added protection to the consumer.

An original House measure providing for an increase in the army air force of 4,000 planes was finally sent to the President with an increase of only 2,300 planes, the cut of 1,700 planes being accomplished by the Senate.

Jobless Push Pennsylvania Relief Bill

HARRISBURG, Pa.—With the Pennsylvania state legislature in session, the eyes of the unemployed are focussed on the relief resolution introduced by Socialist Assemblyman Darlington Hoopes, who proposes a relief budget of \$100,000,000 for the coming year.

Placing little hope in the Republican party which controls the legislature, the unemployed are rallying their forces around the Hoopes bill to compel its enactment. Efforts at unification of unemployed organizations are proceeding rapidly, with Paul A. Rasmussen, general organizer of the Workers Alliance of America, on the scene.

Rasmussen has been officially invited to address the executive board of the Reading Federated Trades Council with a view to bringing about closer cooperation between organized labor and the unemployed. Similar arrangements have been made with the Easton Central Labor Union.

"The Pennsylvania relief crisis is close at hand," Rasmussen has said, "and it is now necessary for all bonafide organizations of the unemployed and relief workers to unite their forces. We can compel the enactment into law of our demands, including the very immediate demand for the bill introduced by Hoopes."

Protest Disfranchisement

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The Workers Alliance, through David Lasser, its president, made public its protest against the decision of Federal Judge Wayne G. Borah in New Orleans denying citizenship petitions of four persons on the ground that they are on the relief rolls.

Lasser described the ruling as the first step to the disfranchisement of the unemployed.

Hit Buck-Passing.

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn. — The Federal Workers Section, Local 574, in a resolution addressed to President Roosevelt has condemned the buck-passing of the Administration on relief for the unemployed. "The Federal Government," says the resolution, "has rid itself of the Direct Relief problem by 'returning' it to the various states, and the states, particularly Minnesota, are now ridding themselves of the same Direct Relief problem by 'returning' it to counties and localities.

The union demands "that the Federal Government assume its full obligations toward relief."

Denounce Discrimination

ST. LOUIS, Mo.—The American Workers Union, affiliated with the Workers Alliance of America, denounced relief authorities here for discriminating against Negro jobless. Hundreds of Negro families are starving in spite of compliance with all relief regulations. Relief orders are regularly delayed in the cases of clients, white as well as colored.

PLANNING STEEL DRIVE



Here is the Steel Campaign Committee of the Committee for Industrial Organization. From left to right: David McDonald, P. T. Fagan, Phillip Murray, Leo Krzycki and Julius Hochman.

200 Organizers Open CIO Drive In Steel

PITTSBURGH (UNS)—The big steel drive is on. Meeting in Pittsburgh the Steel Workers Organizing Committee announced that 200 organizers would be in the field by the end of June, and that unionization of the steel mills was already under way.

The committee laid down the general policy for the campaign, approved the initial steps taken and drew up concrete plans for what is expected to be one of the greatest organizing efforts in labor history.

Chairman Philip Murray of the committee emphasized that the objective of the drive is "to establish a permanent organization for collective bargaining in the steel industry."

Initiation Fees Waived

To encourage a speedy influx of new members, the committee decided to waive initiation fees at the outset of the drive and to make it possible for steelworkers to join the union upon payment of \$1, as one month's dues in advance.

No sooner had the campaign gotten under way than reports became current of a countermove by the steel corporations, to offset union efforts. It was reported that the U. S. Steel Corp. was preparing to announce a 10 per cent wage increase for all employees, and that other companies would follow suit.

Present plans include the holding of huge mass meetings, with nationally prominent speakers, in the main centers of steel production; a program of radio broadcasting; publication of a newspaper to report and popularize the drive, and other means of expanding the drive until all of the country's half million steel workers are organized.

Included on the organization committee in charge of the drive are Leo Krzycki, representing the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, and Julius Hochman, representing the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, both prominent Socialists.

Roy Burt Speaks At Youth Parley

CLEVELAND, O.—Roy E. Burt will be the spokesman of the Socialist Party at the symposium of political groups sponsored by the American Youth Congress at its third annual convention to be held in Cleveland July 3, 4 and 5, to discuss the economic plight of young people.

The young Socialists will put forth their proposals to the Congress, when Ben Fischer, national secretary of the Young People's Socialist League, will speak on the importance of the American Youth Act.

Terre Haute Homes Bombed

TERRE HAUTE, Ind.—The home of John Shannon, professor at the Indiana State Teachers College and Socialist Party member; and the restaurant of Max Shaffer, progressive labor leader of Vigo County, were tear-gassed this week, coming as a climax to a series of outrages committed here in the past few months. Prof. Shannon has been outspoken in his criticism of the martial law imposed upon Vigo County by Gov. McNutt and the subsequent denial of civil liberties. He had previously been arrested and held by the National Guard.

In the past few weeks AFL organizers have been driven out of town and others taken to the police station for questioning. Two members of the Workers' Alliance were kidnapped and beaten by police.

Mayor Sam Beecher warned that all "outside agitators" would be forced to leave the city.

Injunction Granted Against N. Y. Party

NEW YORK.—Sitting in the Bronx County Supreme Court, Tammany Judge John E. McGeehan issued an injunction this week restraining the Socialist Party of New York and the Young People's Socialist League from picketing theatres that have instituted company unions.

New York Socialists have been carrying on a vigorous campaign against company unions, beginning with one of the most notorious, the Allied Movie Operators company union. As part of its drive to rid the city of fake "unions," the party has been urging a boycott of owners who resort to such trickery.

The national platform of the Socialist Party urges "the abolition of company unions."

Forbidding the Socialists to publicize their opposition to company unionism by picketing demonstrations, the court said: "Being a political party rather than a labor union, the defendants (the Socialist Party and Young People's Socialist League) have a proper forum in which to spread their doctrines and theory, but not in the manner adopted here."

Officers of the Socialist Party have announced that they would appeal the decision.

Labor In Action

SOUTH BEND, Ind.—Twenty-five hundred workers in local plants of the Bendix Corporation walked out last week, demanding a 10c hourly increase.

PORTSMOUTH, O.—Power Hapgood, noted Socialist and organizer for the CIO, addressed more than 10,000 people here at a meeting called to pledge support to the 5,000 strikers of the Wheeling Steel Corporation.

NEW YORK.—Officers of the Joint Council of the Knitgoods Workers Union were authorized to call a strike of 15,000 workers in the industry July 15, when the agreement with the employers expire.

LION, N. Y. — Remington-Rand, Inc., manufacturers of typewriters and office equipment, paused long enough in a strikebreaking campaign to report net profits for the year as \$3,010,238.

SANTA BARBARA, Calif.—The newly organized Federation of Agricultural and Cannery Workers of California was endorsed by the executive council of the State Federation of Labor meeting here.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—"Right back where we started from," was the comment of a union leader at the Bessemer mines of the Tennessee Coal, Iron and Railroad Co. as company officials refused a compromise to end the walkout of 2,500 men.

NEW KENSINGTON, Pa.—The Aluminum Workers of America have forced the Aluminum Co. to retreat from its plan to enforce a 48-hour week at the sheet mill here. The workers just stayed home on Sunday in defiance of orders.

HIGH POINT, N. C.—Hundreds of new members are flocking into the American Federation of Hosiery Workers in the North Carolina Piedmont, after short, vigorous strikes at three mills frustrated an attempt to enforce a 50-hour week.

NEW YORK.—The extensive strike of union barbers here, inaugurated several weeks ago and still on, has resulted in higher wages and shorter hours for thousands of barbers.

MEMPHIS, Tenn.—Dues in the Amalgamated Meat Cutters was reduced from \$2.50 to \$1.50 by the fourteenth general convention here, preparatory to a drive among creamery, fish and packing house workers.

SAN FRANCISCO.—Millinery workers here won a six weeks' strike with union recognition.

NEW YORK.—An intensive drive in the eastern area for 100 per cent organization of wholesale textile shops was begun here to end the 70-hour week and \$10 wages.

WATCH THE WRAPPER

on your copy of the Socialist Call. If the number on the lower left of this notice, or any number less than this number appears on your wrapper it means that your subscription has expired. Renew immediately.

67 EXPIRED! RENEW NOW!

Are You a CALL Booster?

That Brazen Hussy Of Capitalism - The Kept Press

In a recent issue of The New York Evening Post, Ernest Meyer, a good radical, comments on the amazing flop on the part of the kept press in their coverage of the French strikes.

Every Subscriber A CALL Booster! Is Your List In?

Is your list in? Every subscriber to the CALL has received a numbered list which we asked him to take among his neighbors, friends and fellow workers and seek donations to the CALL.

The record of the week was set by the Socialists in the Grocery Clerks' Union, Local 338, who brought in \$35.00.

Last week the lists below were received. Was your list among them? Fill them out and send them in as soon as you can.

LISTS RECEIVED table with columns for No., Name, and Amount. Includes entries for No. 382, 602, 952, 1003, 1090, 1214, 1387, 1497, 1888, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2169, 5212, 6020.

Only \$114.35 was received in donations last week. It is not enough. Can't we do better next week?

DONATIONS table with columns for Name and Amount. Includes entries for S. John Block, Socialist Grocery Clerks, Helen Goalwin, Ernie & Tom Francisco, Portland, Ore., Sam Ostrowsky, S. P. Cutlers, Anne Krugman, B. Scholoff, Eileen O'Connor Lane, George Maslach, Henry Weiss, Jack Sullivan, Frank Frazcek, Abe Perlstein, Margaret White.

If subscriptions keep coming in the way they have last week, June subs will mount higher than any other June month the CALL has yet known. 239 subs came in. Let's keep up the good work.

SUBSCRIPTIONS table with columns for Name, Address, and Amount. Includes entries for Cook County, Ill., Ari McDowell, California, S. P., National office, S. P., Trenton, Ill. local, Karl Ashlin, Straussman, Bob Alexander, Benj. Horowitz, Henry Plaski, Sue Miller, Henry Weiss, Anthony Yager, Adelaide Gudlach, Jew. Br. 4, S. P. of Ky., Gus A. Wolfe, Ruth Fay, Frank Frazcek, D. B. Koffman, David Trevas, Bruno Rantane, Winston Dawson, Lila Stevens, E. C. Stuche, F. N. Furstenberg, Lillian Geneslaw, Hugo Easmussen, O. W. Fowler, Wm. McClammy, Boro Park Branch, F. O. Landon, H. Fertik, A. Solomon, Willie Barish, Local Berks Co., William Wallit, A. Holden, N. Matluck, S. P. of Minneapolis, J. Jay, Mt. Vernon, J. Kave, Faulette Arnaud, Rose Hantz, Phil Heller, John Cohen, David L. Clemons, Sam Kramer, Joe Friedman, W. Waring, East Walk, Wesley Cook, Abe Perlstein.

In reality Ernest was writing a booster column for the sort of CALL that we so urgently want your paper to be. He was showing how impossible it is for alert-minded men and women, aware of the revolutionary times in which they live, to dig the vital and significant news out of the old-line papers.

Why We Can't Let's admit it. We didn't cover the French strikes in a manner satisfactory to you or to us. We can't cover stories that are breaking every day in America, in steel, in rubber, in automotives, in textiles, out on the farms, in the complete and readable manner that we would like to cover them.

You know that we have at the CALL a staff competent in all the techniques of building a newspaper that would be one of the mightiest weapons ever put into the hands of the comrades. But they can't do their want to work, when every move they make is checked and hindered by sheer lack of funds.

Whether you realize it or not, the paper you have in your hands is another weekly triumph of mind over matter, of human ingenuity over doggone impecuniousness. (That's a good two dollar word, you might slip in an extra two dollars for it, when you send along your next bunch of subs.)

Cashing Good Wishes Nobody likes "collection speeches." Nobody likes to read, or to write for that matter, begging columns, like this. But The CALL can't be written and can't be edited on just the good wishes of its readers. Printers and paper makers and editors and reporters find that the banks are tough as anything about cashing good wishes.

SO IF IT'S THE PAPER AFTER YOUR OWN HEART YOU'RE AFTER, IF IT'S THE PAPER THAT WILL BE OUT THERE FIGHTING FOR YOU WEEK IN AND WEEK OUT, BACKING UP THOMAS AND NELSON IN THEIR GALLANT CAMPAIGN, BUILDING STRONG AND SURE THE FOUNDATIONS FOR A MASS MOVEMENT OF FARMERS AND LABOR THAT WILL STRIKE TERROR INTO THE HEARTS OF THE FAT BOYS, WELL, IT'S UP TO YOU. YOU HAVE THE SUB BLANKS AND THE CONTRIBUTION BLANKS. AS YOU GET THEM FILLED AND MAIL THEM INTO THE OFFICE OF THE SOCIALIST CALL, 21 EAST 17TH STREET, NEW YORK CITY, WE IN OUR TURN, WILL TURN OUT A LARGER AND BETTER CALL.

Socialists Picket Dem. Convention; Condemn Terror

PHILADELPHIA—Local Socialists greeted the Democratic National Convention here with picket lines protesting the terror regime of plantation owners in Arkansas against striking tenant farmers and agricultural workers, tolerated and abetted by the State Democratic administration there.

Governor Refuses Ark. Terror Probe

LITTLE ROCK, Ark.—Still flushed with the excitement surrounding President Roosevelt's visit to Arkansas, Governor Futrell, Democrat, turned his attention to answering letters of protest aroused by the murder or kidnapping of Frank Weems, Negro sharecropper, and the flogging of Willie Sue Blagden and Claude Williams, prominent Southern Socialists who were investigating conditions in the sharecroppers' strike.

Refusing to take any action, Futrell announced that he would not investigate the charges of terrorism and brutality. "The constitution prevents me from making an investigation," he said.

At the same time, the only action taken by local officials was to deny that Frank Weems was murdered. His body has not been discovered. Sheriff Howard Curlin, of Crittenden County, America's miniature Naziland, asserted that Weems was still alive and that he could produce him.

Friends of the sharecroppers here turned their attention this week to Springfield, Illinois, where plantation owners are attempting to bring about the extradition of Sam Bennett, Negro cotton-chopper and member of the Southern Tenant Farmers Union, on trumped-up charges of assault. Bennett's "crime" was refusal to obey the command of a plantation overseer who had ordered him to return to work at 75 cents a day.

hands of night-riders as had been dealt his neighbors, he fled from his home. After hiding for many days in the swamps of Arkansas Bennett finally escaped to Illinois.

Protest to Governor The Workers Rights League, in a letter to Governor Horner, has declared that "his return to Arkansas actually means that he will be put in the hands of the same mob from which he escaped." Demands that Bennett be permitted the right of asylum from the lynchers are reported to be pouring into the Governor at the Illinois state capital in Springfield.

The reign of terror has not succeeded, however, in stopping the strike. Funds are sorely needed by the union and should be sent to the Southern Tenant Farmers Union, P. O. Box 3215, Memphis, Tenn., or to the Workers Rights League, Moxley Building, Clinton Street, Chicago.

CHICAGO.—A mass meeting to protest the extradition of Sam Bennett from Illinois back to the terror-stricken cotton regions was called by the Chicago Workers' Rights League. It will be held Friday, June 26, in the auditorium of the Abraham Lincoln Center, 700 Oakwood Boulevard.

NEW YORK.—Frank R. Crosswaith, chairman of the Negro Labor Committee, wired Governor Henry Horner of Illinois, asking him to refuse to return Bennett to Arkansas. The telegram read in part: "Illinois which gave Abraham Lincoln to the nation must not be a party to such a travesty upon Justice nor besmirch the hallowed memory of the Great Emancipator."

The Arkansas terror has become visibly embarrassing to the Democratic demagogues as they go about mouthing phrases about partiality to labor. The nationwide publicity given to the flogging of Willie Sue Blagden and Claude Williams when these two Socialists sought to investigate the alleged murder of a Negro sharecropper, Frank Weems, has made the Democrats blanch under the merciless spotlight.

Leaflets were distributed by the thousands among convention visitors displaying a cartoon from last week's issue of The CALL, showing Roosevelt being greeted in Arkansas by the plantation bosses while all about them lie the victims of the terror.

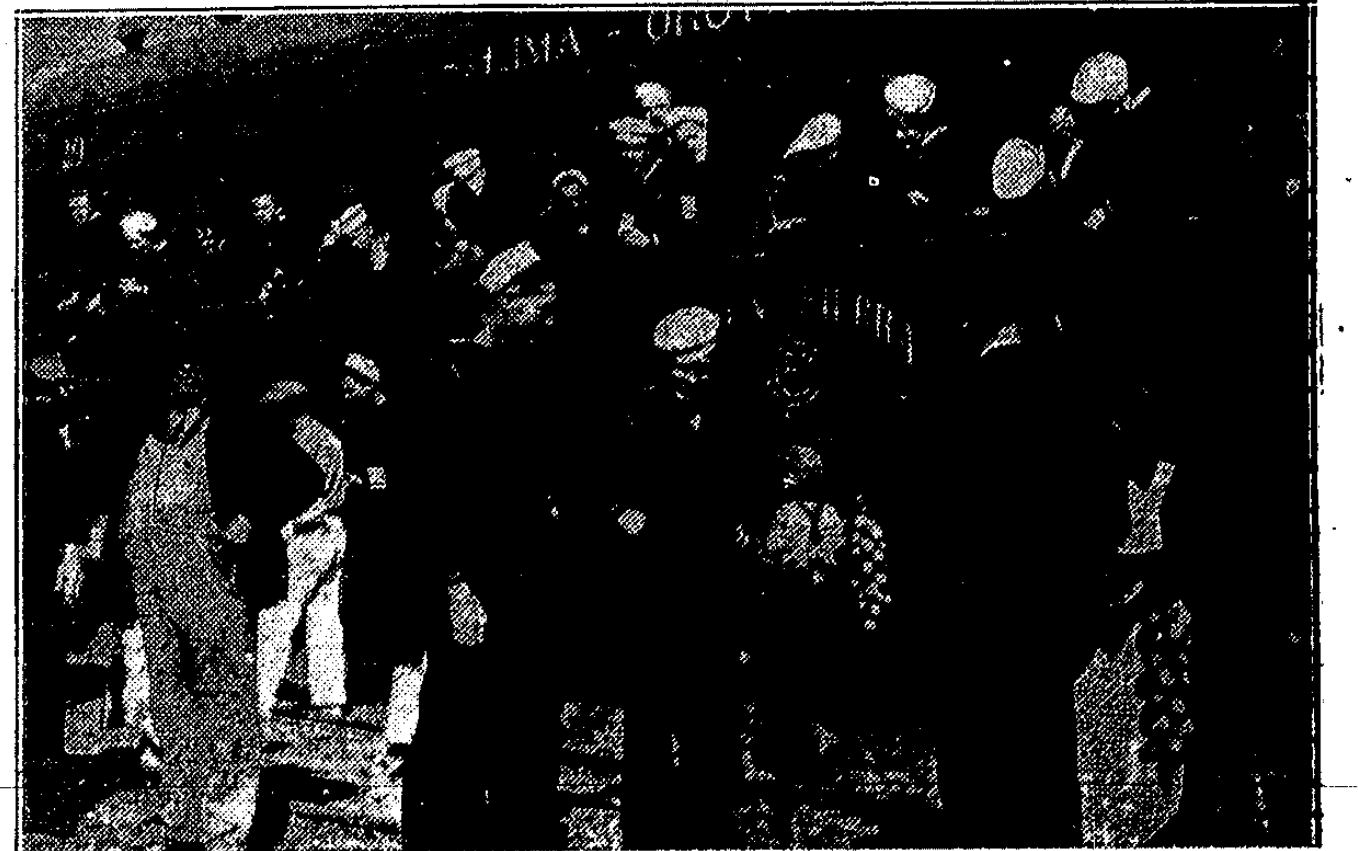
Thomas Hits Terror Norman Thomas, Socialist candidate for President, made clear the indictment of the Rooseveltism in a letter to Senator Robert F. Wagner of New York, the President's personal representative on the platform committee of the convention, and to Senator Joseph Robinson of Arkansas, slated to be elected permanent chairman of the Democratic circus.

Referring to conditions in the South, Thomas wrote to Wagner: "What feeble efforts the Administration has made to guarantee ordinary civil liberty and the right of workers to organize in that country have been frustrated by the party for which you are drafting a platform."

"Do you intend to ignore night riding and flogging of women and terrorism in your platform?" the Socialist candidate inquires. "Do you make any reference to it, will you back up that reference by deed?"

In a telegram to Senator Robinson, Thomas declared that "louder than any words you may utter is the unrebutted terror, the vicious exploitation of white and colored workers in the cotton fields of your state, an exploitation and a terrorism which at all times have enjoyed your protection."

COLLECTION AGENTS



American sailors in Peru. The sons of American workers, dressed in blue-jackets, are sent to every corner of the globe to protect the investments of business men who are more concerned with dollars than with lives. Latin America has been especially subjected to such invasions from the United States.

MCA. C.

THE SOCIALIST CALL

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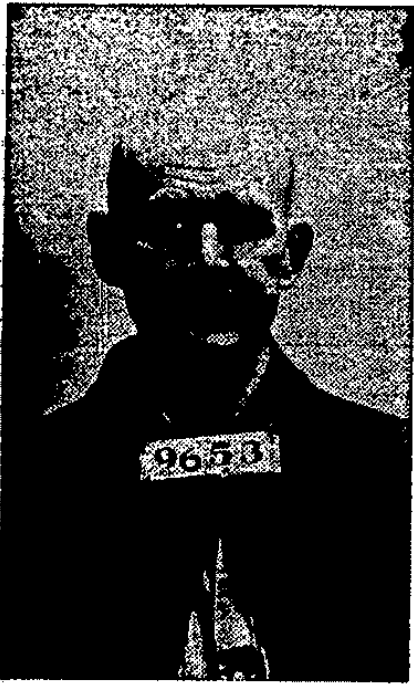
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The Living Words of Debs

Eighteen years have passed since the June 16th when Gene Debs spoke in Canton. His words are still ringing in the ears of men and women who hate war and mean to put an end to it.

Debs went to jail because of his speech, in which he expressed the Socialist refusal to support any war by the capitalist nations. He willingly assumed prison garb in order to protect an idea, an idea that was worth protecting even at the cost of liberty and life itself.



Now, eighteen years later, the sorry spectacle of men turned from their course by the false phrase of the propagandist, looms ahead of us again. New slogans are invented for new times. Once urged to "make the world safe for democracy," we are beginning to be importuned to "save it from fascism." Noble purposes, indeed, but both slogans are woven from the tissues of falsehood to be knit into shrouds for workers. Debs knew that modern war could not save democracy, being itself the enemy of democracy. So, too,

will it be with a war to "crush fascism"—in the name of destroying fascism, it will serve to enthrone our native tyrants.

Gene Debs went to jail because he understood that all wars in our capitalist world must be opposed, because he said:

"The master class has always declared the war; the subject class always fought the battles; the master class has had all to gain, nothing to lose, and the subject class has had nothing to gain and all to lose—including their lives."

The issue is with us still. And once more the Socialist Party reiterates its unyielding determination to fight against any war that this government may undertake.

In the present presidential campaign, the Socialist Party raises aloft the old banner of Gene Debs. At a time when the nations of the earth are testing their armor for new battles, when the United States, under another "liberal" president, has adopted the largest peace-time armaments budget in its history, the Socialist Party recalls the words of this great labor leader:

"Wars have been waged for conquest, for plunder. In the middle ages the feudal lords, who inhabited the castles whose towers may still be seen along the Rhine—whenever one of these feudal lords wished to enrich himself, then he made war on the others.

"But they did not go to war any more than the Wall Street junkers go to war. The feudal lords, the barons, the economic predecessors of the modern capitalist, they declared all the wars."

With all his soul, Gene Debs declared:

"I hate, I loathe, I despise junkerdom. I have no earthly use for the junkers of Germany, and not one particle more use for the junkers in the United States."

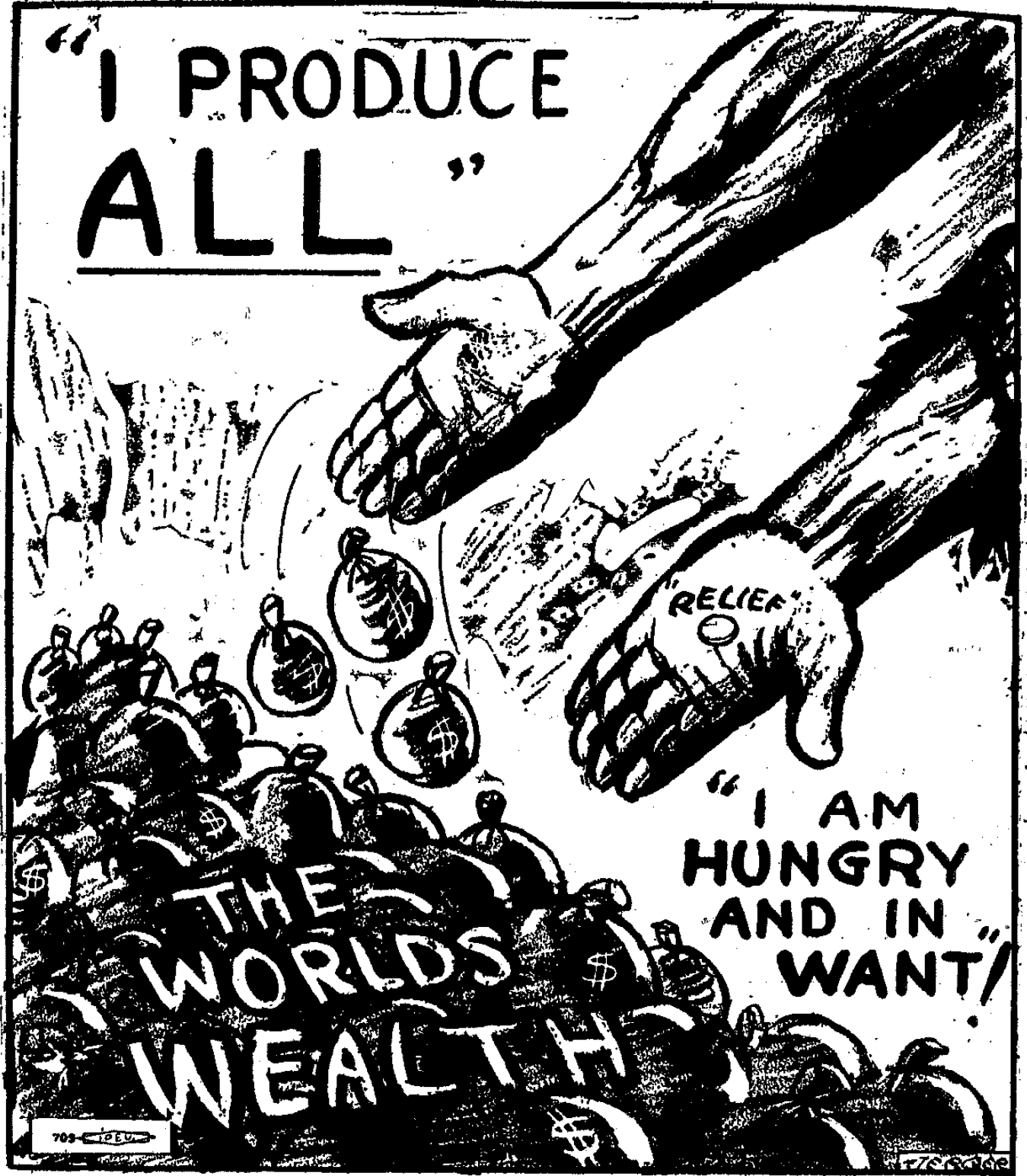
Today, the Socialists of America declare:

"We hate, we loathe, we despise fascism. We have no earthly use for the fascists of Germany, and not one particle more use for the fascists of the United States."

In the name of fighting the fascists of other nations, we will not give our support to those who would plunge us into fascism.

The message of Gene Debs, uttered in 1918, still gives its inspiration in 1936, as loud as ever. Its tones are heard again in the words that Norman Thomas, the Socialist standard-bearer, now speaks. Now as then, the workers must make themselves heard, and the Socialist Party, champion of their cause, is the medium for their expression. They can win the great struggle for peace and security by uniting against the conservative and liberal warmakers. Labor must refuse to be plunged into the bloody pool again. It must rally to the party of Gene Debs.

SOCIALISM WILL SOLVE THIS



Education in the Socialist Party

To the Editor:

As one of the delegates, I want to take exception to Comrade Altman's evaluation of the Socialist Convention.

In the first place, the so-called ultra-leftist group is far from confused in its thinking. This group insists that (1) at this period of our history, the primary function of the Socialist Party is educational rather than political, (2) that working for piecemeal socialism, which expresses itself in reform or municipal socialism, is not only wasteful but detrimental to revolutionary socialism toward which we all profess to strive; (3) that therefore the convention should have laid the groundwork for a consciously articulated educational campaign, rather than plan for a political campaign, as if success were possible.

What was needed was not the aping of the tactics of the major political parties but the adoption of a revolutionary platform, embodying in some telling way the fundamental principles of production for use and not for profit, rather than an attack on the New Deal; what was needed was an educationally provocative position on the question of the united front, rather than concern with the past injuries inflicted on us by the communists; what was needed was a clarification of issues rather

than conciliation of the old guard.

Conciliation for the sake of victory is one thing. But when victory is out of the question, it is quite another thing. It blurs the educational issues. Socialists must learn what McDonald's Labor Government in England did not learn: how to fall (or fail) successfully. Clarification is what we need, not conciliation.

Among other issues we need to clarify the differences not only between the right and left wings of the Socialist Party, but between the Socialist and communist parties. We need to define the areas in which these different groups may unite without confusion and the areas in which they may not. The least that should have been done and could have been done was to bring these questions on the floor for general discussion. Surely such a discussion would have been far more educational than the name-calling of the two contesting delegations of New York. We allowed time for that, but not for such an important problem as a united front.

In the second place, the constitutional committee which Comrade Altman singles out to find fault with did its work at least as competently as did the other committees. It achieved clarification of some of the perplexing constitutional problems. But at this vital

period of the Socialist Party, its failure to find solutions of all of its problems, if it failed, cannot possibly lead to so much harm as the failure of the other committees of the convention.

VERA Z. WASHBURNE, Syracuse, N. Y.

Herzog Is Swell

To the Editor:

It's swell to see Herzog's cartoons in the Call again. I hope that he becomes the regular cartoonist.

I think your front page is swell—especially the FDR angle. That's the stuff that will debunk the new dealer.

FRANK STERN, Chicago, Ill.

Success To the Call

To the Editor:

We wish you the very best of success. A paper like the Socialist Call need only be read once and the reader should be convinced that he has a real genuine Socialist paper in his hands.

JOSEPH LUNN, Cheyenne, Wyo.

To the Editor:

May my hopes for your paper be realized, that it prove the one class-conscious call to class struggle against war and fascism amidst the confused clamor for class collaboration against these evils.

FRANK D. SLOCUM, New York City.

PAINTERS STRIKE

PALO ALTO, Cal. (FP) — Union painters are on strike in Herbert Hoover's home town for wage increases from \$7 to \$8 per 7-hour day.

Are You a Subscriber?

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NAME ADDRESS CITY STATE

FAKING BY HEARST

By Henry C. Fleisher

When is a fact not a fact? When it appears in a Hearst newspaper!

That conclusion, though of course not completely true, is the major impression gathered from the study of the long and notorious journalistic record of the Hearst press. For it is a long established principle that Hearst news stories shall support the editorial policies dictated by the old man who sits at a telephone in a California castle and decides on reading matter for some 5,000,000 readers daily in a score of American cities.

In Imperial Hearst by Ferdinand Lundberg and Hearst, Lord of San Simeon by Oliver Carlson and Ernest Sutherland Bates, the reader finds a long record of manufacturing "news" out of fiction—a record so long that only a few examples may be discussed in this limited space.

More ludicrous than serious was the incident on the Chicago American early in the century when Hearst ordered his hounded newshawks to secure from local ministers endorsements of a new and gaudy Easter religious supplement. The reporters were rebuffed—sometimes with buckets of water—by the clergymen, the deadline was approaching and orders were orders. So, drowning their sorrows in liquor, the newsmen wrote the "indorsements" themselves. When the outraged men of God protested with angry denunciations and boycott, Hearst shifted the blame to his badly paid hirelings!

Faked Labor Indorsements

Other incidents were of a graver nature. In 1906, he faked indorsements from labor unions of his candidacy for governor of New York; the unions vigorously denounced the fraud. In 1935, President David Dubinsky of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union was quoted in the New York Journal as assailing the American Federation of Labor convention resolution condemning Hearst; Dubinsky immediately exposed the story as a fake.

Even pictures, supposedly foolproof, have been used to spread Hearst's lies. A group of horrifying photographs, purporting to prove the veracity of a series of articles on famine in the Soviet Union in 1932-33, had appeared in the Hearst and non-Hearst press in 1918, 1919 and 1922, Lundberg declares. They had been taken during the post-war famine in central Europe! The author of the article was a forger who had escaped from the Colorado state penitentiary in 1921.

Most deliberate and far-reaching of the Hearst efforts in fictionalized news, however, was the series of articles in 1927 "proving" that four unnamed U. S. senators had been offered a million dollars by the Mexican government as part of a gigantic plot against Uncle Sam. It is significant that at the time Hearst, owner of several hundred thousand acres of Mexican land, was bitterly hostile to the Mexican government and desirous of fomenting a war by the United States on its southern neighbor.

'The Sewer of Journalism'

A special-probe committee of the senate declared the articles obvious frauds and the "documents" crude forgeries which had been peddled by a Mexican of shady character. Other newspaper publishers, offered the series of articles, had refused them, recognizing their patently fraudulent nature. Hearst, called to the testifying stand by the senate committee, declared the hitherto nameless senators were Thomas Heffin, George Norris, William Borah and Robert LaFollette, but admitted that he didn't believe they had accepted the legendary bribe offers.

It was this incident which caused Sen. Norris, one of the nation's greatest liberals, to pen from a sickbed a scathing indictment of William Randolph Hearst, which ended with the words:

"The record which you have made in this matter is sufficient to place your publications in disrepute in the minds of all honest men, and it demonstrates that the Hearst system of newspapers, spreading like a venomous web to all parts of our country, constitutes the sewer system of American journalism."

Join The Socialist Party

For information fill out the blank and send it to the Socialist Party, 549 Randolph Street, Chicago, Illinois.

Name

Address

City State

BATTLE CASUALTY



Alvin Gray, left above, was one of the pickets wounded during the fray at Kent, Ohio. A bystander is offering aid.

'This Is War?'

Strikers Repay Attack In Open Battle

KENT, O. (FP)—"They asked for it. We didn't. Now they got it. This is war!"

Displaying intestinal fortitude worthy of the best fighting traditions of the American labor movement, 2,000 strikers and sympathizers replied to a strike-breakers' barrage of tear gas and rifle

fire on a peaceful picket line, by an all-day battle in which they repaid bullet by bullet. Driving the scabs and their herders to cover, the labor forces did not lift the siege until the Black & Decker Electric Co. plant, where the strike was called May 3, had been evacuated of strikebreakers.

The battle started when two huge vans, carrying 40 scabs, accompanied by 12 deputies, crashed through the thinly-held picket line and opened a barrage of gas and buckshot on the strikers.

Fire on Two Pickets

In accordance with the terms of an injunction, only two pickets were at each gate at the time, and other strikers were in a tent across the street.

"Let them have it!" roared a fink captain armed with a shotgun, and the fusillade from the scab vans began.

The vans roared down the driveway to the plant, leaving pickets blinded by gas or lying wounded on the ground.

Infuriated by the wanton gunplay, strike sympathizers armed themselves with pistols and rifles and took up positions on three sides of the factory, peppering its windows and showering bullets on every scab daring to lift his head. Equipped with high-powered binoculars, they kept scabs clinging desperately to the floor, afraid to move or even crawl.

Ranks Strengthened

Ranks of the strikers, members of International Machinists Assn.,

Local 1203, were augmented by United Automobile Workers Local men from the Twin Coach Co., who quit work and rushed to the aid of their fellow-unionists. As the news spread other Kent workers and rubber workers from Akron and Barberton appeared in great numbers to aid in the battle.

The siege lasted from early morning until noon, was lifted for a few hours and then was resumed as a final warning for the descabbing of the plant "before we go in and get them." Seven strikers and seven scabs wounded was the battle's toll. The two vans which brought in the strikebreakers and a large water tank above the plant were thoroughly riddled during the battle.

Scabs Arrested

Following negotiations, strikers permitted two ambulances to enter the plant late in the afternoon and remove three seriously wounded scabs. The ambulances were carefully searched by pickets to prevent smuggling in machine guns and ammunition as requested by company officials in appeals to local officials and Gov. Davey.

As darkness came on, Sheriff E. L. Burr had the strikebreakers taken from the plant, put into a van and conveyed through jeering crowds of victorious workers to the city hall. The scabs were charged with assault to wound and jailed.

20 YEARS AGO in the New York Call

June 24, 1916

Answering the President's Mexican border mobilization call, Socialists in New York arrange mass-meeting on two days' notice and jam Carnegie Hall in mighty anti-war demonstration. Hear Allan Benson, presidential candidate, London, Hillquit and delegates from the Mexican Federation of Labor declare workers want peace.

June 26, 1916

San Francisco's 16,000 stevedores continue strike for rise in wage scale unchanged since 1853 and a nine-hour day, declaring ship owners have increased cargo charges 900 per cent due to war. General cargo is now \$70 and \$80 a ton compared with \$7 and \$8 a ton before the war.

June 27, 1916

Biggest Army Bill approved by House. Without the formality of a roll call, the House passed the army appropriation bill for \$182,000,000 to make the U. S. land force a more efficient killing machine "for defense."

RENEGADES AND REDS

By McAlister Coleman

Five renegade Democrats wrote to the delegates to the Democratic Convention, meeting in Philadelphia, using the sacred Democratic names of Thomas Jefferson, Andrew Jackson and Grover Cleveland in support of their thesis that Franklin Roosevelt should not be renominated because he is too radical.

This mob should have called on the memory of Judas Iscariot, Benedict Arnold and John Spargo. While we have no great and overweening fondness for Democrats, we certainly despise back stabbers. If Franklin Delano Roosevelt is a radical, we are the ex-Premier of Chekosllovakia. (Note to printer, that is probably spelled wrong, but we have no dictionary up here in the Manhattan Towers Hotel, where we are at present residing and which has been taken over by the Mormons.)

Speaking of Mormons, what's this? Or don't you know that game? It is called "handies" and most of the population of the West Side has gone completely nuts over it.

A Smoot Session

We were having a Smoot session with a Mormon in the lobby last night and he assured us that Alf Landon would carry Utah. Nicholas Murray Butler did this neatest trick of the election the time he ran for Vice-President with Taft. He also swept Vermont and it looks as though Alf was about to repeat. In a spirit of abandon we will give him Delaware and Rhode Island.

Last week we gave you some inside information about the home life of Alf. We really should confide with you about the human side of Lemke, another candidate for President. Our difficulty, which is shared by the bulk of the population of these United States, is that we can't remember Lemke's first name.

Another Mormon told us that it was Harold but that is not to be taken as official. Maybe his name is Arthur. Who knows?

* * *

We were Master of Ceremonies the other night at a party of the Lower East Side branch of New York at which a number of young lady comrades wore these new white hats with funny little ribbons hanging down the back. It reminded us of a song which you boys and girls are too young to remember, that delighted our childhood.

"Mother, mother, what is that,
Hanging down that lady's hat?"

Hush my darling, don't say that,
Those are streamers from her hat.

Which proves that life is boresomely repetitious. (Note to printer; I hope to Heaven that is spelled correctly because as I told you above, we have no dictionary in this Mormonary.)

'Vice Is a Monster'

There was an item in The New York Times to the effect that, "Bank Heads Favor Divorce from Utilities, Prefer Larger Dividends from Smaller Set-Ups." We respectfully refer this to the Dewey Committee for the investigation of vice in New York. "Vice is a monster of such dreadful mien." (Note to printer: Kindly look up the rest of this quotation. As we may have mentioned, there is nothing in this hotel except a Mormon Bible and that is vaguely illiterate.)

* * *

At this moment a young man rings our door bell and hands us a letter from a loaning company, from which we have loaned some money. This company is quite gloomy about us. It seems that we haven't done right by their Morris. We were suffering under the impression that it was a Five Year Plan. On the other hand they have the quaint idea that it is six months. How our minds are going to meet on this controversy is in the laps of the gods. As we wrote to the loaning company, we have lapsed our insurance and the gods are pretty mad at us.

After all, this is a tough existence. Life, as Thoreau once remarked, is a matter of "silent despair." Of course, you must understand that he lived in the woods and made pencils. Under those circumstances anyone would be in "silent despair." I live in Radburn, New Jersey, which isn't exactly woods and I don't make pencils much, but nevertheless there are ameliorating circumstances which give me heart to go on. I don't have to write the life history of Alf Landon, for example, or sit around waiting for Lemke.

"I Break Strikes"

The Pay-Off Finances of Strikebreaking

By EDWARD LEVINSON

BREAKING a strike is a costly affair for employer as well as worker—but a fabulously profitable enterprise for the strike-breaking agency. There are few other lines of endeavor in which a person with no special training, no credit or standing in the business world and no investment whatever can gross from a hundred thousand to a million in a month.



The Bergoff firm started out in 1907 with the scant returns of the expense account so mercilessly slashed by the New York district attorney's office. By 1925 it had accumulated for its three owners and disbursed to them in salaries and dividends fully \$10,000,000. For ten years, starting in 1914, Pearl L. Bergoff received an annual salary of \$100,000—more than the president

of the United States was paid—and from \$200,000 to \$400,000 a year in dividends and bonuses.

A strike-ridden company, particularly a public utility, will not stop to count its expenditures while the fight is on. Companies have defeated strikes only to be ruined by the cost. Other companies have spent years making up strike losses.

The Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company lost \$1,538,195 in fares during its sixty-six-day strike in 1910, and spent \$836,856 on strikebreaking. As against this total loss of \$2,374,961 in about two months, the wage increases demanded by the strikers would have cost the company \$350,000 a year.

To break the 1916 transit strike, the Interborough Rapid Transit Company expended \$2,025,481, or one-fourth of its net income for the year. The New York Railways Company gave \$1,019,761 as its contribution to breaking the same strike, while the Third Avenue Railway Company, judging from its financial reports on income and expense, contributed about half a million dollars as its share. The Brooklyn Rapid Transit Company strike, which Bergoff helped break in 1920, saw an expenditure of \$2,483,483, which left the company with a deficit of \$2,237,690 for the six-month period during which the one-month strike occurred.

Files Kept Secrets

The Interborough strike expense of 1916 and the expenditures by the Brooklyn company in 1920 were cursorily noted by the New York Transit Commission in reports which, though illuminating, have remained in the Commission's files, unpublished, to this day. They are among the few available indications of how huge strikebreaking funds are expended.

The name of Bergoff Brothers & Waddell leads all the rest in these accounts, but there are substantial figures for other firms. The largest sum the Interborough paid out was \$1,012,386 as "bonuses" for employees who refused to join the strike. Most of these scabs received double pay for the month of September and an additional bonus on their October wages.

Bergoff Brothers & Waddell were paid a total of \$204,406 for the use of their finks and nobles. (Bergoff's earnings from other companies involved in the strike brought his gross to near \$350,000.) Printing, stationery and advertising (for which Ivy Lee wrote the copy) cost more than \$25,000. Detective service is listed at \$60,480. During the strike the offices of the union leaders were watched, their telephone wires tapped, their mail tampered with. A dictaphone was placed in the floor of their headquarters. Undercover men, some of whom

DON'T JUMP IN THE 'JUICE'



When the Paris life-savers walked out with their fellow-workers in the recent strikes, a live-saver on the Seine considerably placed this warning to would-be suicides. "This crew is on strike," the sign reads. "It is forbidden to jump into the 'juice'."

Two More Parts

The CALL will run two more selections from Edward Levinson's book, "I Break Strikes." These selections will deal with: The Strikebreaking Industry Today. The Future of Strikebreaking.

This week the House of Representatives passed a bill, formerly passed in the Senate, making the interstate transportation of strikebreakers a felony.

Two weeks ago the Senate adopted a resolution to probe civil liberty violations and strikebreaking activities throughout the country.

Edward Levinson, veteran Socialist, deserves credit for the favorable congressional action on both these measures. Without publication of his excellent work it is doubtful that action would have been taken.

The CALL is proud of the fact that it has been able to bring you selections from this outstanding book of the year.

Due to lack of space, we have been unable to reprint "I Break Strikes" in full. We suggest that readers would do well to obtain an autographed copy of this book through the Call Bookstore for only \$2.50.—Editor.

urged violence, mingled with the strikers.

The Red Demon once said, "a hundred thousand job was an everyday job in the good old days." The Wilkes-Barre strike in 1915 brought him over a quarter of a million dollars. The ill-fated Kansas City expedition grossed \$100,000, and McKees Rocks more than twice that much. A few days' work for the City of New York in 1907 brought Bergoff \$27,000. Standard Oil at Bayonne was almost a \$200,000 job. The year 1920 was Bergoff's biggest. It was a two million dollar year, with \$704,406 from the Brooklyn Rapid Transit and \$1,225,000 from the Erie Railroad for finks and nobles to break the "outlaw" railroadmen's strike.

50% Profit

Fully fifty percent of these sums remained in the pockets of the Bergoff agency as net profit. In whatever carefree generosity a company bent on breaking a strike may indulge, the agencies never permit themselves to lose sight of the practical side of things. Money is doled out here and there, but almost always where it will return two, three and ten fold. Profits on finks and nobles are one hundred per cent.

During most of his career the Red Demon has paid his finks and nobles from \$2 to \$3 and charged the companies \$5 a day.

To start at the beginning of the story of profits in the strike-breaking business: The only standing overhead is the maintenance of the central and branch offices. In the cases of at least half a dozen large practitioners this expense is avoided. They carry their offices "in their hats." When the long-awaited moment comes and the fink chieftain is chosen to break a strike, he can hire a store, a loft or an old stable for recruiting quarters and pass the rent on to the company. Office equipment is scanty.

One of the few necessary full-time employees, aside from the operatives on the clients' payrolls is a man who can read. Through perusal of labor papers, the office will learn of impending strikes. Sometimes the intelligence gleaned from the paper will be drafted into a letter couched in mysterious terms.

"We have learned from confidential sources," the letter will say, "that you are about to have a strike."

The Red Demon always prefers direct contact, and when the possibility of work in or near New York comes up he gets on the telephone and makes an appointment for one of his solicitors. At this stage economy is the rule. Once a strike appears inevitable, however, the purse strings will be loosened. The solicitors become high-powered salesmen, with expense accounts for dinners, liquor, theaters and cigars. Since the profits are so large, there can always be a gratuity for any helpful company executive, lawyer or superintendent who helps the agency land the contract.

Next to the recognized earnings on finks and nobles, the strikebreaking agency's largest income is derived from commissions on commissary supplies. Waddell told Jack Lait, in the American Magazine for January, 1917, of a ten per cent charge added to the cost of commissary supplies for the threatened rail strike, which netted the firm \$16,800 in thirteen days. * * *

There is death and bloodshed in every chapter of the Bergoff saga,

and the pay-off chronicles have their quota. In 1910, Johnny (Nine-Finger) Hayes, one of the Red Demon's lieutenants, was shot to death in a battle with a fink who had come to the Bergoff office at 120 William Street with blood in his eyes and a revolver in his hand. The fink had been employed in breaking a strike for the Splittorf Magneto Company and felt aggrieved over an alleged "short-arm" or "Bergoff pay-off."

The Pay-Off

A second killing in the Bergoff bull pen at 120 William Street came during the 1916 strike on the New York transit lines. Harry Fahey, a fink, was the victim; Daniel Melrose, alias Danny Clark, a noble, his slayer.

Fahey had been billeted in Jersey City against the day when the Brotherhoods might make good their threat to strike. The railroad strike averted, Fahey came to New York to renew efforts, fruitless when made in New Jersey, to collect his pay. When he arrived at the Bergoff office he had thirteen cents in his pocket. If Fahey had been more discreet and less hungry, he might have discerned the presence of Melrose, Kid Libby, Joe Schultz and others of the Bergoff enforcers. As Fahey protested that he was not going to be done out of his money, Melrose advised him to "shut his trap" and "get the hell out."

Fahey was on the verge of defying both admonitions when Melrose's right fist shot out and closed his mouth for him. Others joined the scuffle, and in thirty seconds Fahey lay on the floor. One blow had sent him flying backward and as his head struck the floor a bone snapped. Some said his head struck a desk before it hit the floor. There were signs that he had been kicked. At any rate, his neck was broken.

The bull pen was in an uproar. The police reserves arrived and rushed the injured fink to the Hudson Street Hospital, where he died. The Red Demon and sixty of his men, Melrose and Schultz among them, were taken to police headquarters while a detail of police took over the office of Bergoff Brothers & Waddell. The Interborough soon obtained the release of all but Melrose, who

Consumers' Cooperation

By BENJAMIN WOLF

Capital and Cooperation

Charles Gide, the eminent French economist and cooperator, in discussing justice and fairness pointing out the reward to which labor and the consumers are entitled, writes regarding the reward of capital:

"Ought a society to pay interest to capital—either share capital or loan capital? The answer to this question does not seem to admit of doubt. In no case does interest upon capital appear to be more legitimate than in this one. It is, in fact, a question of capital which is undoubtedly the fruit of work and savings, and which the society received from its own members. Further, it goes without saying that if this capital is of great service to the society, it is fair that this service should be paid for."

Socialists do not believe that any interest upon capital is justified, no matter how virtuous its source. If we accept the Marxian theory that all wealth is created by labor, there can be no situation in which capital contributes to the production of wealth, and, producing nothing, capital is entitled to no reward.

Payment of Interest

It is hard to conceive how co-operators who so scrupulously denounce profit as uneconomic and inequitable, can find any justification for the payment of interest, be it interest upon the money of the professional money lender or the money accumulated by saving from the wages of labor. It is not the source of capital but the use to which it is put that we denounce. Moreover, there is no difference between profit and interest. They are but the return from different applications of capital.

On this point Socialists are unalterably opposed to the position of co-operators such as Gide. Even Gide senses the weakness of his position. As a general proposition, he would probably have admitted that interest upon capital cannot be justified, but in the case of cooperative capital he found it necessary to make a distinction. To him there were "good" capital and "bad" capital. That which came from the wages of the working class members of the society, somehow escaped taint and became "good" capital. Such a confusion of substance with use is hardly tenable.

But Gide goes on: "It may be said that if the shareholding member or lending member is loyal to the society he gains nothing by getting interest on his money, because he will get it in the form of an extra bonus on his purchases . . . The reasoning would be right if all the members had brought to the society an equal amount of capital . . . and if it were in their power to make the same amount of purchases . . . But neither one nor the other of these conditions is, or can be, fulfilled . . ."

Gide misses the point. It is not that by paying interest on share capital a proper return is made to members which could be made by higher patronage dividends, but that paying interest is improper. When you pay interest you exploit labor, which in the cooperative means either the employes or the workers who as consumers are members and whom the society was organized to protect.

was later indicted for the killing of Fahey, found guilty and sent to Blackwell's Island for an indeterminate term. Two or three years later, Bergoff intervened and won freedom for his loyal aide.

THOMAS HITS WAR PLANS

Nelson Lambasts GOP Farm Plank As Aid to Banks

KENOSHA, Wis.—At a meeting of the national campaign committee of the Socialist Party, chaired by Mayor Daniel W. Hoan, George A. Nelson, Socialist candidate for Vice-President, severely criticized the agricultural plank of the Republican party.

"The plank on agriculture which the Republican convention adopted used more words than any other plank and said nothing," declared Nelson.

"The preamble of the plank confesses that there is no difference between the Republicans and the Democrats and that if the Republicans are elected they would continue to do exactly what the Democrats are now doing. We Socialists knew that before, but we are surprised to find the Republicans admitting it.

Would Increase Foreclosures
"Several of the items in the plan state that the Republican solution to the agricultural problem is to encourage the farmer to produce still more; to cause two blades of grass to grow where only one blade grew before. The plank says not one word about the cost of production. If the farmer is to produce still more at less than the cost of production, then he will lose more than he is losing now and 'go broke' more quickly. The Republican proposal would increase the number of farm foreclosures.

"The second major suggestion is that the farmer be saved by the federal farm loan banks. These banks were first set up before the war and the farmers aren't saved yet. Today the federal farm loan banks are foreclosing more mortgages and dispossessing more farmers than any other individual, agency or corporation in the country. More foreclosures



GEORGE NELSON

seem to be all the Republicans offer. We have had enough of this kind of relief.

"The remainder of the Republican plank on agriculture deals with such points as soil conservation, which is not controversial; payment of bounties to farmers, which is just the old A. A. A. in G. O. P. clothing; and the passage of more Republican tariffs.

Sidesteps Main Issues

"The farmer today is losing his farm and his means of living because he is not secure on his farm, and because he receives less than the cost of production.

"The Socialist platform faces these two issues squarely, and guarantees the farmer that under a Socialist administration he will be secure in the possession of a family-sized farm and that he will receive the cost of production for his products. It points out why anything less than Socialism can bring no permanent relief to farmers. It is only under Socialism that the farmer can secure the more abundant life."

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ANNOUNCING
The Opening of a Modern Luncheonette Department for Your Convenience
FROM A BITE TO A MEAL

Invite Your Friends

CHICAGO.—Hundreds of banquets and house gatherings are planned throughout the country for midnight, Friday, July 10, to hear Norman Thomas, Socialist candidate for President of the United States, broadcast over the blue network of the National Broadcasting Co.

Socialists are inviting friends to their homes and to party headquarters to dance until midnight, after which they will listen to the broadcast.

Thomas will speak from New York where the National executive committee of the Socialist Party will meet that week-end to plan an extensive campaign for Thomas and his running-mate, George A. Nelson, dirt farmer from Wisconsin.

Midnight, New York time (eastern daylight saving) is 11 o'clock eastern standard and central daylight saving time, and 10 o'clock central standard time.

Militarism Condemned At L. I. D. Conference

LAKE MAHOPAC, N. Y.—That economic reasons constituted the basis for war was the opinion expressed at the June Conference of the League for Industrial Democracy which heard a symposium on the subject of war. Speakers included Norman Thomas, Socialist candidate for president, Dr. Harry W. Laidler, Scott Nearing, Devere Allen, Upton Close and Benjamin Marsh.

A summary of Norman Thomas's address is published on this page.

Laidler Speaks

Dr. Laidler, pointing to Socialism as the solution for the problem of war, declared that under Socialism there would be no such pressure on the part of owners of capital to invest it in undeveloped countries in competition with those of other nations.

"Under capitalism," he said, "there are great inequalities of wealth. A small owning class obtains rich economic rewards. Under developed capitalism, it becomes increasingly difficult for investors to invest all of their surplus earnings in their own countries. They seek for more profitable fields abroad. They demand high profit on their investments on account of the risk involved and, when these profits are jeopardized, they frequently bring pressure to bear on their respective governments to protect their investments, even at the risk of war."

Shows Contrast

In contrast with present conditions, he continued:

"Under Socialism society would own most of the capital. Income would be distributed on the basis of service rendered, not property owned. Great fortunes would be a thing of the past. As the masses would be in a position to buy the fruits of their labor, a more intense development of domestic industry would be possible. The pressure for foreign investment would cease.

"No small group would stand to win great fortunes as a result of such investment. If the socialized government made an investment, no individual would stand to gain more than a comparatively few dollars a year, for the benefits of such public investment would be distributed among the

whole population. The people who controlled the government would thus be most unlikely to press for a war with another country as a means of safeguarding investments, since they would stand individually to gain little, but, on the other hand, they would stand to risk their lives."

For Labor Action

Devere Allen, member of the National Executive Committee, called for aggressive organization by labor to block war. He urged the labor movement to oppose all war preparation and to inform the government that the working class would resist all future wars.

Attributing war to "the dominance in the modern world of rival ruling classes engaged in competitive struggle for wealth and power," Dr. Scott Nearing declared that "the only escape from war lies in the attainment of a new culture level from which the competitive struggle for wealth and power waged between rival ruling classes have been effectively excluded."

Fascism the Danger

Ludwig Lore, of the New York Post, urged the support of the League of Nations as a means to peace. "Fascism must be seen as the chief danger and its eradication as the major task of the labor and revolutionary movement," he said. "Since labor cannot do the job itself, support of the League of Nations is necessary under present circumstances."

"The lure of profit obliterates the horror of war," said Benjamin Marsh, of the People's Lobby, "and both employed and unemployed poverty scoff at the dangers of war. Revamping of the world's scheme of colonial and territorial possessions; international world agreement upon making natural resources and all raw materials available at fair prices, and similar agreement as to markets and controlled investment are essential economic steps against war. British labor is taking the lead to such action."

The Far East

The situation in the Orient was discussed by Upton Close, expert on Eastern conditions. He saw as the cause of international conflict there the "illusion that empire is the way out of economic and social pressures under the nationalist system."

So far as the United States is concerned, he said, "it is either a question of embracing the philosophy of socialization or of beginning a dive to stop Japan."

Urges Labor To Organize Against War

LAKE MAHOPAC, N. Y.—Calling for uncompromising opposition to war, Norman Thomas, Socialist presidential candidate, urged the political and economic organization of workers as the only method of blocking immediate threats of war in an address to the June Conference of the League for Industrial Democracy.

The Socialist candidate favored a program of workers' sanctions against warring nations.

Turning his guns on the Democratic and Republican parties, he said: "Actually there will be no particular difference between the Republican and Democratic position on war. Both will want peace and will want an ever bigger Army and Navy. Both will want arbitration, although arbitration courts cannot settle the problems of an interdependent world torn by strife between nations in the House of Have and the House of Have Not."

Lasting Peace

Presenting the point of view incorporated in the platform of the Socialist Party, Thomas stated:

"True and lasting peace depends upon a reorganization of the family of nations into a Federation of Cooperative Commonwealths. It depends upon the right of access of all peoples to raw materials and to economic opportunity. It is inconsistent with capitalist-nationalism and the loyalties which go with capitalist-nationalism. We stand therefore for all cooperation in what makes for peace, and that means economic cooperation and the end of the whole imperial and colonial system.

"Meanwhile it is necessary, that while we seek to change the system which breeds war at home, and as far as possible by our influence abroad, that we should

seek to prevent war or to keep the United States out of war. We are exceedingly skeptical of the possibility of collective security under the terms that exist in the capitalist-nationalist world. We do not want the United States committed blindly to a policy of collective security, through sanctions which are more likely to lead to war than to keep peace.

Workers' Sanctions

"On the other hand, we are for workers' sanctions and for the development of them through education and organization. By workers' sanctions we mean strikes against mobilization; a refusal to ship arms, for instance, to Germany or Japan in the event of attack upon Russia, etc."

Blasting arguments offered in some quarters in justification of some wars, he continued:

"We do not believe that it is possible, as the communists now seem to imagine, for capitalist America to enter a 'good war' or a holy war against fascism and keep it a good war. Capitalist America will only go to war for capitalist and nationalist reasons. The minute it goes to war it will establish fascism at home. The workers in a capitalist country cannot make the armies of capitalism equivalent to a red army or to armies of liberation not, at any rate, so long as those nationalist armies are victorious. Hence our rooted objection to the new communist line on war here in the United States."

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THE TRUTH ABOUT SPAIN!

Reactionary Grip Of The Judiciary Excites Disorder

By JAIME MENENDEZ

Four months of popular government in Spain are all that is needed to show that victory at the polls may in truth mean very little. Surrounded by enthusiastic, whole-hearted support, the Spanish Government has been exposed to persistent and systematic boring from within.

The same methods of reaction and counter-revolution, greatly intensified, that proved so disastrous during those first two years of the Republic, returned also, particularly among important sectors of the official bureaucracy, the Army and the police and, above all, the magistracy. Popular support means very little to a dozen men who constitute the government if those entrusted with the carrying out of the ministerial orders, decrees, and laws remain obstructive. And when this dozen men try to overhaul a traditional and vested system, then the resistance from within becomes almost unbearable. The case of the Magistracy is singularly significant.



LARGO CABALLERO

"Law and Order"
Had it not been for past experiences and for the temper of the people, the work of discrediting the Republic which took a little over two years last time, would be all but complete in four months. The cry of "law and order" has been raised to prove the ingrained incapacity of men from the people to master the intricacies of government.

But the attacks on public order—that is, the established order of things, private property in particular—do not come from the masses that were willing to transform an established system. They came, strangely enough, from those very social elements that should be particularly keen in its defense.

The balance sheet of these four months of popular government is, indeed, very tragic from the point of view of public order. The press has been full of reports about this. It is not necessary to dwell upon them. But it seems to be very necessary to analyze the nature of these attacks against public order, whose basic aim is to discredit the government, to show its incapacity to deal with an "unruly" mass.

For whenever persons of the Right parties, mostly Fascists, commit these outrages, prosecution is invariably out of the question. There is a widespread rumor that no judge, Fascist or otherwise, will dare send a Fascist to jail, whatever the nature of his crimes. Up to now, only one magistrate, Senor Pedregal, has had the courage to face a serious situation. He sentenced to thirty years' imprisonment one of the men who killed a secret service man while making an attempt on the life of the Vice-President of Parliament, Dr. Jimenez de Asua. And he paid with his life for having broken the dangerous precedent that no punishment may fall upon Fascist crimes.

Judges Ignore Law
Recently, a retired officer pulled out his gun during a military parade and fired a couple of shots. He was instantly arrested, not only with the gun in his hands, but with plenty of "dum-dum" bullets. Despite the fact that he carried no license, that he carried forbidden weapons and

forbidden ammunition, the prosecutor withdrew the charges and the man was set free. The court session was a farce.

Spanish law is very severe with regard to illegal carrying of weapons. As a result of the revolutionary attempt of October 1934, scores of men were sent to prison from four to twelve years for carrying weapons. The son of Don Luis Bello, the famous propagandist for general education, was committed to prison for twelve years for distributing illegal propaganda. In one of Madrid's dungeons I met a man who had been arrested for having picked up a leaflet which urged the workers to strike. He was sentenced to several years' imprisonment.

Not long ago the chief editor of a Madrid daily was the object of vicious assault. His assailants could not be found. A few days later, however, someone called him over the 'phone, saying he could give him interesting details. When the appointment took place, a police commissioner was impersonating the editor. He listened to a strange story. The man gave a wealth of details, license numbers, car descriptions, names, and what not. Arrests followed. A few days later, all the arrested people were free once more. There was no judge who would remand them to prison.

There is little doubt that the people are beginning to be restless because of the continuance of such a state of affairs. As a result, the government has taken measures to remove and prosecute judges and magistrates. Up to now, it has moved very warily.

No one knows where this all may end. There is little doubt that the situation, in many cases, is serious. The government, whose sentiments are liberal and democratic, is continually compromising. Can it really openly, ruthlessly, attack those very social institutions of long tradition on whose support it must needs depend? What will take their place? Somehow, it seems that there is little room for political revolutions which have no desire to move fast socially.

PAINÉ FOUND GUILTY
NASHUA, N. H.—George Lyman Paine, descendant of Robert Treat Paine, signer of the Declaration of Independence, was fined \$25 this week in Municipal Court after trial on charges resulting from attempts to hold an open air meeting here in behalf of the Socialist Party.

AN OPEN LETTER

Editor,
New York Times:

Your newspaper, always the staid defender of the old and the outworn, is now carrying through its columns lurid stories aimed at the Spanish masses who are seeking to overthrow the forces of reaction. Through your correspondent, Mr. William P. Carney, whose sympathies for the Catholic, feudal powers can hardly be unknown to you, your reports on conditions in Spain are regularly tainted with a bias that belies your pretended objectivity.

The SOCIALIST CALL is now making available to its readers an analysis of conditions in Spain, presenting the actual picture—the story of the efforts of the Spanish masses to free themselves from their oppressors. It is written by Jaime Menendez, former foreign affairs editor of "El Sol," from which he was discharged because of his radical activities. He spent some time in jail as a result of his participation in the revolutionary events of 1934.

While the New York Times is interested in passing on to American readers the counterfeit goods coined in the Spanish reactionary press, the CALL is making the actual facts available.

Roosevelt's Cuba:

The White Terror In Cuba

By ARTHUR PINCUS

More than half a million workers were organized into powerful trade-unions in Cuba previous to March, 1935. During the brief regime of the moderately liberal Grau San Martin government when unionization of workers on sugar plantations was at least implicitly encouraged, the number closely approached a million. Today not a single vestige of these organizations exists save in secret underground units.

Labor leaders are hunted through the streets today like pariah dogs. Batista's murder gangs shoot down all who protest the ruthlessness of the white terror.

I contacted labor leaders whose whereabouts are hidden for days at a time even from their families, harried men who flit from cheap rooming house to rooming house just one step ahead of the murderous secret police.

For the most part we met in public squares, mingling with pleasure-seeking crowds so as to escape police notice. The majority of these men had been imprisoned on framed charges some time during the past year; several had been heinously tortured; all of them knew that their next encounter with the police can only end with a bullet in the back—the "shot in flight" phase of the terror.

Union Smashing
They were unanimous in telling me that the smashing of Cuba's unions represented only one step in the process of repressing opposition parties.

Ever since the overthrow of Machado, the complete rule of the United States over Cuba has been used to force down the throats of the Cuban people a government which satisfied not its desires but those of absentee landlords and banking and utility interests.

Intrigue and cheap cunning accomplished puppet government set-ups above the real will of the Cuban masses. At no time did our State Department desire anything more radical to succeed Machado than an army coup supported by the "respectable" elements of white pseudo-aristocratic job-hunters, typified by the present President Gomez, Mendieta and Menocal.

The unions and the powerful revolutionary parties of the left wanted much more. It was they who kept alive the rallying cry: Cuba Libre! None of the provisional puppet presidents received their support with the single exception of Grau, who came to power despite our State Department and Welles' Machiavellian wire-pulling, and all of them collapsed ignominiously in conse-

The CALL here presents an amazing story of Roosevelt's "good neighbor" policy as it has affected Cuba. This is the record of Roosevelt imperialism! Other articles by Mr. Pincus will follow.

quence. The unions were a stumbling block to reaction.

The U. S. Ambassador
It was only when Ambassador Jefferson Caffery backed not a president but the treacherous army chief, Col. Fulgencio Batista, that reaction marched along an unimpeded road in Cuba and the vicious destruction of the trade-unions was made possible in all its hideous clarity.

One of the first laws that Batista, with Caffery's smooth connivance, jammed through was the infamous Emergency Decree-Law No. 153 which deprived the working class of the twin prerogatives of the right to strike and the right to criticize the government. Caffery recognized his enemy.

It had been the union leaders who had been mercilessly publicizing his role as divine agent, not of the American people but of the two billion dollars of American absentee landlord investments in Cuba. The union leaders had to be silenced or the show would be given away.

A ruthless, bloody and inhuman terror was the silencer employed.

Labor was faced with no alternative. It was either struggle or go under. A General Strike call was issued for May 9. Too long had the explosive revolutionary forces been clamped down. Pent-up, they burst the fences of Caffery's politely worded legal formulas with which he had shored up Batista's regime.

A Political Strike

Starting as a peaceful protest, the General Strike soon took on the aspect of a political strike. It aimed deadly shafts at Batista, at the basic menace of Yankee imperialism which had condemned a whole nation to peonage, at the career diplomat, Caffery; it threatened to strike a body blow at Roosevelt's "good neighbor" policy.

The strike got rolling slowly. By four o'clock Saturday afternoon, it had tied up every activity on the island. Batista and Caffery were in a panic. Student factions and members of bourgeois opposition parties had joined ranks with the workers. What to do?

It started with the double murder of Armando Feito, student leader, and his father-in-law, Miguel Roqui. It extended to include Crescencio Fraite, a member

Fascists Riot Against Blum

PARIS—While Fascists rioted in the streets of the nation's capital, sailors on fifty ships in Marseilles went out on strike, raising red flags from the masts. They demand a forty-hour week.

The number of strikers throughout the country, according to the Minister of Interior, has been reduced from the 1,000,000 of a few weeks ago to some 200,000 who have not yet won their demands.

Fascist bands, infuriated by the recent successes of the strike wave that accompanied Leon Blum's entrance into office and by the government's order to dissolve their armed forces, have come to blows with people's front adherents in the streets.

Upon the demand of the police force, the fascist prefect of police has been dismissed, and the thousands of Socialist gendarmes who had been dismissed in past years have been installed in their position.

of the Central Committee of the Havana Federation of Labor, and a half dozen other trade-union leaders. By Sunday night, Batista's murder gangs were sweeping through the island, firing in wanton massacre on every tiny knot of people. Result: one hundred killed; scores wounded; unarmed workers forced to retreat to cover.

But Batista was not satisfied. Something more spectacular was wanted. Something that would strike paralyzing fear into the hearts of Cuba's awakening masses. A new order went out: "Smash the trade-unions!"

Night Raids

That night all union headquarters, all workers' centers were physically destroyed. Files and correspondence were heaped in the street and the whole set afire.

Axes smashed windows, leveled walls, crumpled typewriters and mimeograph machines.

Emergency decree laws declared all union funds to be State property.

Workers who unwittingly came to meeting halls were packed into motor lorries; hauled before military courts and railroaded to long prison terms.

Active unionists were arrested in a series of whirlwind raids, dumped into police stations and subjected to systematic torture to get them to inform on their comrades.

Fingernails were ripped out by pincers.

Gossamer thin wires were looped around the head and tightened with the butt of a gun until the eyes threatened to pop from their sockets and skull bones to crack.

Arms and wrists were broken.

Testicles were squeezed, sometimes to pulp, by means of instruments.

In the fifteen months that have elapsed since the General Strike, the terror has in nowise abated.

Each week some other one of them is captured by the police to be tortured, imprisoned or murdered. But the work does not falter. The work of rebuilding the unions goes doggedly on. Secretly, underground, the hope of salvation for Cuba's oppressed masses is fanned to a bright, steady flame.

Amnesty or no amnesty, Cuba's masses will continue to be persecuted, hounded and exploited. Only the pitiless searchlight of publicity trained upon events transpiring on the island and the help and solidarity of the American working class, actually the parent body and inspiration for Cuba's heroic struggles, can abate the white terror with all its concomitants, and rebuild Cuba anew on a sound basis.

The column, "World Socialism," by Herbert Zam, which regularly occupies this space, was received too late to be printed this week. It will appear as usual next week.

A Fascist Party Is Born

By ARNOLD LEVER

IT'S HERE—the united front of fascist demagogues. The Coughlin, Long and Townsend movements have a presidential candidate, a political platform, and are beginning a campaign to drive the United States back to the middle ages.

Two radio broadcasts have brought the threat of the new-born fascist movement into the homes of the nation. William Lemke, Republican and Non-Partisan Leaguer, has announced that he will summon the voters to join him in a crusade to enthrone him. At the same time, Father Coughlin took to the air-waves to express his endorsement of Lemke and his new party, the Union Party. The Townsend movement is expected to follow suit.

The news struck the ears of the nation when Lemke bellowed into the wires of a microphone the happy tidings of the "formation of a new party which I am launching." Not a party launched by the American people, as politicians generally announce; no, not even that. Just a party that "I am launching."

In the five minutes or so which this announcement required, beginning with, "I have accepted the challenge," and ending with, "I thank you," Congressman Lemke got across a total of thirteen long-legged personal pronouns. In the Union Party, the "I's" will have it—and the "I's" are Lemke and Coughlin.

Following the prescribed pattern for fascist leaders, the Fuehrers prepare the program and then ram it down the throats of the masses. And what a program! The only way to get the nation to swallow it is to use the dictatorial ramrod. If that fails, Dr. Benito's castor oil and Prof. Adolph's concentration-sanitarium come next.

History repeats itself. If it doesn't, Lemke and Coughlin will repeat it for us, re-writing the record of Italy and Germany for the American stage.

All Things To All Men

Like their fascist predecessors in European countries, they offer all things to all men and give nothing to anybody but the capitalists whose profit system they are trying to save.

"Congress shall protect all industry and private enterprise by controlling and decentralizing the economic domination of monopolies to the end that these small industries and enterprises may not only survive and prosper, but that they may be multiplied," says Mr. Lemke's platform.

As in Hitler's platform before he waded to power through the blood of the German workers, the promises to industry and private property come first. They will be carried out first, and after they are fulfilled, there will be no need to pay attention to the second promises because there will be nobody free to demand that they be realized.

But don't you fear, lovers of liberty. Just as Hitler did, Mr. Lemke also promises freedom. Have no fear—the great "I" will give it to you, just as Hitler gave it to the Germans and Mussolini to the Italians.

Patriotic Pay Cutting

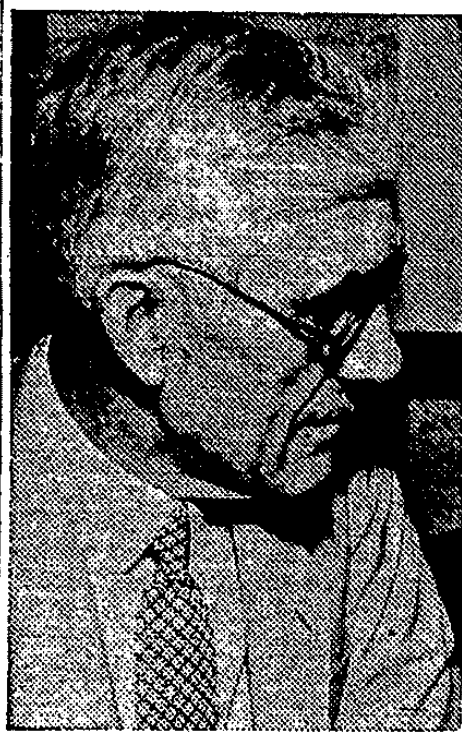
And over it all, we'll wave the American flag. The very first plank in the platform reads that "America shall be self-contained

and self-sustained—no foreign entanglements, be they political, economic, financial or military." Again like Germany, which calls this program by the fancy name of "autarchy," we'll set ourselves apart from the nations until we go to war with them.

Mr. Lemke has written into a political platform the program of the Detroit political boss, a program that every student of political history has compared with Hitler's Nazi program and described as coming out of the same mold. Recently, the Methodist Federation of Churches drew up a list of similarities between Coughlin and Hitler.

Coughlin has said, "Usury must be abandoned . . . Human rights must be preferred to financial rights." Compare that with the Nazi Article of Faith which reads, "Offenders against the interests of the community, usurers, profiteers, etc., should be punished."

Coughlin has stated, "I hope that you share my confidence in the overthrow of the power of the international bankers." Compare that with Hitler's Article of Faith which says, "The struggle against international finance . . . has be-



When the Rev. Gerald L. K. Smith (right), self-appointed inheritor of Huey Long's mantle, and Dr. Francis E. Townsend met to discuss William Lemke's "Union Party," they met, significantly, in William Randolph Hearst's Hotel Warwick in New York City. In the center is Father Coughlin, the fourth member of the quadruplets, as reporters found him at the swanky summer home of Francis P. Keelon, Wall Street silver manipulator.

come the most important in the war for freedom and independence."

The Methodist Federation sums up Coughlin's program, now embodied in the Lemke platform, by saying that it is "derived from medieval sources (and) runs true to the economic pattern of the fascist state." And now, this American translation of the Nazi campaign program has been launched as a political movement and will have a place on the election ballot.

In the 1936 campaign, the Union Party, will probably rally very little support and will not affect the election results. The masses will certainly not give it backing and the American

capitalists will merely watch it until they need its tyranny. They have the Republican and Democratic Parties to do their work at the present time and are generously contributing their dollars to the campaign funds.

But even though it is not a threat now, we must remember that Nazism grew from a small seed until all of Germany became choked with its poisonous growth. Now is the time to organize against fascism. This is the hour for the workers and farmers to begin setting up their defenses against the monstrous enemy that wishes to blight their

hopes. To do that, the workers must rely upon themselves. They can expect support from none of those who seek to maintain capitalism, the father of fascism. They must use their own economic and political strength.

If fascism is to be defeated in America, the workers and farmers must build their trade unions and their own political party—the Socialist Party of the United States! This is the answer to Father Fuehrer.

Did You Ever Try To Get A Raise ?

Step into your boss's office and ask for a raise. He'll probably be very polite and nice about it. But you'll come out through the same door you went in, knowing that your pay envelope at the end of the week is going to be as light as ever.

Your boss wants to keep your wages down. You want to get them up. It means a fight.

It's a Fight

In our time we've seen some bitter battles—strikes, boycotts, unemployed demonstrations. They're all part of the fight between Those Who Have but Don't Need and Those Who Need but Don't Have, between Those Who Work for Wages and Those Who Live by Profits.

The nation is divided into two groups, as you can see. Of course within these classifications, there are fights going on at the same time as these classes are fighting against each other. One railroad magnate will try to steal a rival railroad and swell his own wealth. One worker may try to steal the job of his fellow-worker. But by and large, the railroad owners stick together against the workers; and the workers, by joining unions, unite against the owners. Sometimes they organize cooperatives to protect themselves as consumers.

These are all tactics in the daily fight that goes on, the fight between one class and the other. As the struggle continues, without thinking people find themselves lined up on

one side or the other. The nation is thus divided into two warring camps.

There is nothing personal about a battle of this kind. A worker may like his boss, and a boss may entertain cordial feelings for the worker, especially if she is a good-looking stenographer. Still the fight continues between them. The employer wants higher profits, which means lower wages; the worker wants higher wages, which means lower profits. This is the general rule.

This struggle between the workers and the employers appears in many different forms. Sometimes, it takes the form of a factory hand thumbing his nose at the back of the Big Boss as he passes by on a tour of inspection. When better organized, it takes the form of a union of workers going out on strike. On some occasions, it becomes a revolution and shakes the whole world like an explosion—as in the case of Russia.

Want Favors

In order to stand a better chance of winning in this struggle, both sides organize, applying the idea of team-work. The employers form employers associations; the workers join unions. In order to make sure of winning, each side would like to have the rules favorable to it. For that reason, they organize political parties so that the laws of the country will favor them. They want to control the government, the police and the judges, in order to have the laws interpreted and enforced in a way that will help their cause.

But while taking every step to win the fight, the employers would like to have the workers believe that there is no fight. They can win more easily if their opponents are asleep, to begin with. They know too that once the fight is permitted to grow sharper, it won't stop until one or the other side is destroyed.

Workers Are Necessary

In this fight, however, it is harder to get rid of the workers than to eliminate the owners. The workers are necessary in this world; without them, the factory wheels won't turn, the railroad trains won't run. Without the working farmers, the wheat and grain could not push its way out of the ground. The nation could get along without the stock-holders, but it couldn't get along without the working people.

This explains why it is that only the workers can create a world without classes, a world of real equality. They did not invent the class struggle—the system of profit-seeking did that—but they must win it.

The aim of the Socialist Party is to make this struggle plain to the workers who are involved in it. Since they cannot escape from the battle, they must learn to win it. In accomplishing that purpose, they will build a better world.

(Note. This article on the class struggle is the first of a series of articles on various phases of the Socialist program and philosophy.)

Party Activity!

Ohio Begins \$100,000 Fund Drive

CHICAGO.—The honor goes to Ohio for being the first state to accept its quota of the \$100,000 the Socialist Party is raising to carry on its campaign for Norman Thomas for President and George A. Nelson for Vice-President, according to Daniel W. Hoan, chairman of the national campaign committee.

Ralph M. Holland, state secretary of the Socialist Party of Ohio, said, "Our quota is being immediately re-allocated to the branches and plans are being made to fill our quota promptly. We also want the honor of being the first to fulfill our quota." Campaign headquarters are located at 549 Randolph St., Chicago.

California

PALO ALTO.—The second of the series of "Think Socialist—Vote Socialist" leaflets is being distributed by local Socialists. Printed on blue paper, the handbills are being greeted by the public who await the issuance of what they look forward to each month as the "blue leaflet."

Illinois

GILLESPIE.—A summer school for organizers will be held here, the home of John Fisher, Socialist candidate for governor.

Speakers now touring the state or soon to be, will include George A. Nelson, vice-presidential candidate, and Albert Goldman. Nelson begins his tour on July 27. On August 2, he will speak at a farmers picnic at Starved Rock.

Kentucky

LOUISVILLE.—The state convention of the Kentucky Socialist

Summer Resorts

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ELECTED



Joseph Belsky, secretary of the Butchers Union Local 234 of New York City, who was elected 9th Vice-President by the annual convention of the Amalgamated Meat Cutters & Butcher Workmen of North America.

Party will be held here on Saturday and Sunday, June 27 and 28. The tentative agenda includes plans for the presidential campaign, the nomination of state candidates, election of state officials and the pushing of the CALL drive.

Maryland

EDGEWATER.—Socialists from neighboring areas are participating in a Tri-City Forum Conference on the subject, "An Appraisal of the New Deal," to be held on July 11-12. Included in the number of Socialists scheduled to speak are Nancy Elliot, Val Lortwin and John Herling. Others listed are David Saposs, Benjamin Marsh, Katherine Pollak and V. F. Calverton.

Missouri

ST. LOUIS.—The Socialist Party of St. Louis County is holding a picnic on the Fourth of July at Creve Cover Farmer's Club Grove. George Duemler, candidate for Governor, and Samuel Hill, congressional candidate, are scheduled to speak.

New Hampshire

CONCORD.—Socialists throughout the state gathered here on June 14 in convention and adopted a resolution petitioning the National Executive Committee for a state charter. They nominated presidential electors for Thomas and Nelson. The Socialist Call was made the official organ of the

Summer Resorts

RESTFARM SEDLAR

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BOOKS

Insurance: A Racket

American workers sink \$80,000,000 every year in insurance policies which they hope will return enough in event of death to bury them and provide small sums for their dependents.

The high cost they pay for dubious protection is shown clearly in Life Insurance: A Legalized Racket, by Mort Gilbert and E. A. Gilbert (Marlowe Publishing Co., Schaff Bldg., Philadelphia, \$2.50). The holders of industrial or "five-and-dime" insurance do not realize that buried in the abstruse verbiage of policy-writing are several jokers which may cheat them of their protection—a protection which levies 6 per cent of their annual income.

"Sound Health"

The express warranty or "sound health" clause, unknown to the holders of such policies, gives the company the right to declare the policy void if it is discovered after death that the holder suffered from unsuspected disease of the heart, liver, kidneys, bladder, stomach or bowels. What worker can be sure he is free of these?

The direct wishes of the policy-

holder, furthermore, can be and are subverted by the companies in the matter of beneficiaries. Such policies carry a clause which allows the company to pay the protection to anyone having a claim, including the undertaker.

8 Times the Cost

To cap it all, the worker who pays for this type of insurance in nickels and dimes is paying eight times the cost of ordinary life insurance.

While the chapter on industrial insurance is of paramount interest to workers, this book also exposes inadequacies of fancy-sounding policies such as straight life, 20-payment life, 20-year endowment and mutual contracts. It advocates dropping these for renew-

New York

NEW YORK.—Two new branches have been chartered by the New York Socialist Party, one in Harlem and a Jewish branch in the 4th-14th Assembly Districts of Kings. The officers of the new Harlem branch are Noah Walters, organizer; Maxine Dandridge, secretary; Annie Peters, secretary-treasurer; city central delegate, Frank R. Crosswaith.

Wyoming

CHEYENNE.—On the fourth of July, Socialists of Wyoming will rally here for their state convention. The nomination of candidates for public office and the adoption of a state platform will be the main business. Sessions will continue through Sunday and will be held at the District Court Room, City and County Building, 19th Street and Carey Avenue.

State Convention Opens Campaign

NEW YORK — The 1936 campaign for Socialism in New York will be officially launched this week-end, June 27-28, by the state convention meeting in the Hotel Delano.

Candidates for Governor, Lieutenant-Governor and other state offices will be nominated and a state platform adopted.

The delegates will be welcomed by the New York city Socialists at a dance and entertainment on the roof garden of the Hotel Delano on Saturday night, June 27, at which Rebel Arts will perform. It will be preceded by a banquet at Rosoff's Restaurant at 7 o'clock with Norman Thomas as the only speaker.

The sessions will be held at the Hotel Delano, 13rd Street near 6th Avenue. The day before the opening of the convention, Friday, June 26, the state committee will meet at the state office, 21 East 17th Street.

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The Workers' March

By Louise Darcy

I have seen the workers marching Toward the sunrise in an unbroken line. They are searching for the ultimate truth Which has ever been denied them. These men are not the great ones, These men are not the leaders of nations; Tattered clothes and dusty faces are the credentials Which proclaim their position to the world. They do not covet ranks or titles, Hollow symbols of misplaced authority; They ask but truth and justice for their own. They have learned well the lessons of their masters; But in them was too much of gold and greed: Spoils for the masters but starvation for the pupils. Truth is not always an immaculate conception, Nor is it the semblance of the truth hypocrisy. One day there will be born a better truth, Obscured by grime and smelling of the earth: That day hastens and the workers march.

—The Advance

able-term policies which give pure protection, eliminating the savings myth which ties up the holders' savings except at exorbitant interest rates.

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New York City

Brookwood Ends Tour

30,000 See 'Gun Cotton' In 23 States

A two months' tour, during which one hundred and fifteen performances of "Gun Cotton," an anti-war drama, were given in one hundred cities of twenty-three states before an aggregate audience of thirty thousand, has just ended for the Brookwood Labor Players of Brookwood Labor College, Katonah, N. Y.

Written by Mickey Harris, young Socialist student, the play takes place in a rayon mill which is about to be turned into a factory for the manufacture of gun cotton. The workers refuse to make munitions to kill their fellow workers. The drama is personalized in the struggle between the militant strike leader and his father, who looks upon his action as treason.

The play was presented as the contribution of the Brookwood Labor Players to the Emergency Peace Campaign. Other plays in the repertoire were "Picket Line and Ballot Box," which makes a plea for a labor party, and "Virtue Rewarded," a travesty on ancient melodrama in which "Trade Union" is the hero, "Company Union" the villain and "Tilly the Toiler" the heroine whom both pursue. There were also several stirring mass recitations, including "Uncle Sam Wants You for the Next War," "Speed Up," "Peace is No Job of Ours," and "Thousands of Voices," based on the recent fog-gings in Tampa, Florida.

In addition to the scheduled bookings, there were several unexpected engagements. In Rockwood, Tennessee, where a hosiery strike was going on, the Players gave a performance on the front porch of the strike leader's home. In St. Louis, they appeared before a group of unemployed, and then marched with them to the City Hall, singing labor songs on the way. In Washington, D. C., the Hearst press attacked the Players, and the next day an audience of 1,700 in Roanoke, Virginia, the largest of the tour, turned out for the performance.

Rebel Arts Recital

NEW YORK.—The Rebel Arts chorus will give its first annual recital at the new Rebel Arts headquarters, 35 East 19th Street, on Wednesday, July 1, at 8:45 p. m. Dancing will follow the concert. The admission is 25 cents.

Going To The Theatre?

Why not consult the Call's special THEATRE BUREAU for expert advice on matters pertaining to the theatre. Choice seats obtained.

Our BUREAU also arranges parties for current attractions. This service is FREE to Call readers.

Get in Touch With **The Theatre Bureau** c/o SOCIALIST CALL 21 East 17th St. New York City or phone GRamercy 5-8779

CIRCUS RINGMASTER



Our theatre editor insisted that there be an amusement picture on this page so we could think of nothing better than showing Postmaster General James A. Farley, ringmaster extraordinary in the Democratic circus.—Picture Editor.

Shuberts Bore From Within To Discredit WPA Theatres

By FRANK BARNEY GILSON

NEW YORK (FP) — Unemployed actors, newspapermen, musicians and white collar workers, pooling their talents in novel and daring productions, have brought international fame to the New York WPA theatre project. The project's only flops have been the productions staged by the Managers Tryout Theatre, control of which was grabbed off at the start by the wealthy Shubert theatrical trust. The Shuberts are now trying to reach out their heavy hand over the rest of the projects.

The tale of how jobless workers—the kind who are supposed to pass their time in futile boondoggling—made theatrical history, where theatrical big business flopped miserably, created an alarming example and has had its interesting developments.

One of these is that Philip Barber, New York regional director of the federal theatre project, is now being denounced as a turncoat by liberals who only yester-

day hailed him. Barber, they say, has become a stooge for the Shubert theatre interests, who own 60% of New York's theatrical real estate, control the production staffs thereof, and have heavy theatrical interests throughout the nation.

WPA Successes

The fame and following of the theater project—and none know this better than the Shuberts—are due to productions like Triple A Plowed Under and Macbeth. Triple A Plowed Under was staged by the Living Newspaper unit, sponsored by the New York Newspaper Guild, and ushered in a startling method of news presentation. Then came the voodoo Macbeth, produced by the Negro unit in Harlem. Macbeth has already shown to 100,000 people and is about to tour the country. Other successes followed.

The biggest flops of the New York project, on the other hand, were those productions staged by the Managers Tryout Theater. Ar-



COMING EVENTS

IMPORTANT DATES
State Convention, June 27-28.
Fourth of July Demonstration, July 4, at 11 a. m. in Union Square.
National Executive Committee Meeting, July 11-12.
City Convention, July 18 at 1:30 p. m.
Socialist Call Auto Outing to Jones Beach, July 26.

Thursday, June 25

Mrs. Ada Wright on Scottsboro Case at 42 51st Street, Brooklyn, auspices Downtown Kings Branch.
David Lands at open air meeting, 10th Street and 2nd Avenue, auspices Lower East Side Branch.
Alfred S. Belskin at open air meeting, 26th Street and 8th Avenue, auspices Chelsea Branch.
Howard White at open air meeting, 52nd Street and Lexington Avenue, auspices 12th A. D. Manhattan Branch.
Alfred S. Belskin at open air meeting, Kings Highway and 17th Street, Brooklyn, auspices Midwood Branch.

Friday, June 26

Hyman Moskowitz at open air meeting, Tompkins Avenue and Hart Street, Brooklyn, auspices 6th A. D. Kings Branch.
Open air meeting at 14th Street and 13th Avenue, Brooklyn, auspices Boro Park Branch.
Elmer Lachovetz at open air meeting, Union and Utica Avenues, Brooklyn, auspices 18th A. D. Kings Branch.
Sigmond Goldstein at open air meeting, Hindsdale and Sutter Avenues, Brooklyn, auspices 2nd A. D. East New York Branch.
Sam Frost and Irving Salert at open air meeting, Flatbush Avenue and Albemarle Road, Brooklyn, auspices 21st A. D. King's.

Aaron Panken at open air meeting, Brighton Beach and Coney Island Avenue, Brooklyn, auspices Brighton Beach Branch.
Victor Gaspar at open air meeting, 137th Street and 7th Avenue, or 125th Street and 7th Avenue, Manhattan, auspices 19th A. D. Branch.
Geymour Goodman at open air meeting, 170th Street and Walton Avenue, Bronx, auspices 2nd A. D. Bronx Branch.
Gus Tyler at open air meeting, Burnside and Walton Avenues, Bronx, auspices 8th A. D. Bronx Branch.
Al Lloyd, Jr., at open air meeting, Ward and Westchester Avenues, Bronx, auspices Lower 6th A. D. Bronx.
Hal Siegel and Irving Panken at open air meeting, Washington Avenue and Claremont Parkway, Bronx, auspices Jewish 1 Bronx Branch.
Aaron Levenstein at open air meeting, Graham Square and Southern Boulevard, auspices Jewish 5 Branch.

Saturday, June 27

State convention banquet at Rosoff's Restaurant at 7 p. m. Reservations 75 cents.
Reception and Dance to state candidates at Hotel Delano Roof Garden, 43rd Street and 6th Avenue, at 8 p. m.
tistically, and at the box office, they were duds. Basically, the Tryout unit suffered from script trouble. That is, their plays were awful. The unit was sponsored by the League of New York Producers with the idea of putting on, with government backing, fine plays which producers owned but were a bit too far off the beaten Broadway track.

Street and 6th Avenue, at 9 p. m. Admission 49 cents.
Samuel Verne at open air meeting, Richmond and Bennett Avenue, Staten Island, auspices Staten Island Branch.

Sunday, June 28

Mrs. Ada Wright on Scottsboro case at special meeting in the hall at Rockaway and Livonia Avenue, Brooklyn, auspices East Flatbush Branch.
First Garden Party and Second Annual Auction of 12th A. D. Manhattan Branch at 206 E. 18th Street, beginning at 5 p. m. Admission 25 cents.

Monday, June 29

Ed Koppel and Sam Steinsaltz at open air meeting, 136th Street and Brook Avenue, Bronx, auspices 1st A. D. Branch.

Tuesday, June 30

Mrs. Ada Wright on Scottsboro Case at 1022 East 178th Street, Bronx, auspices 7th A. D. Branch.
Benjamin Horowitz at open air meeting, De Kalb and Throop Avenues, Brooklyn, auspices 6th A. D. Kings Branch.
Nonh C. A. Walters, Jr., and William Gomberg at open air meeting, Claremont Parkway and Fulton Avenue, Bronx, auspices Jewish 1 Branch.

Wednesday, July 1

Rebel Arts Chorus, First Annual Recital, at Rebel Arts Headquarters, 35 East 19th St. Admission 25c. Dancing will follow concert.
Speakers Seminar to discuss open air meetings at 21 East 17th Street, at 8:30 p. m.

PRESENT REVUE AGAIN

"Pins and Needles," the satirical musical revue which had its premiere last Sunday at Labor Stage Studios, 106 West 39th Street, will be presented again this Sunday night. The revue is produced by the recently formed Contemporary Theatre Company, under the auspices of the Labor Stage, Inc., a theatrical organization endorsed by the AFL. The revue treats of national and international events in a humorous manner.

ILG BASEBALL LEAGUE

A game, the result of which will be an important factor in determining the ultimate league champions, will be held this Saturday at Boys' High Field, Brooklyn, when the baseball team representing Local 89 Boro Park tackles Local 40 Beltmakers Union at one o'clock. In the nightcap those arch-rivals, Local 10 meets Local 102.

At Commercial Field at noon, Local 60 and Local 91, present cellar occupants in their league, do battle, and in the final, two undefeated teams in League B, Local 89 Williamsburg and Local 155 Knit Goods Workers fight.

FIRST GARDEN PARTY AND SECOND ANNUAL AUCTION SUNDAY, JUNE 28 FROM 5 P. M. ON IN THE GARDEN AT 206 EAST 18TH STREET Auspices of the 12th A. D. Socialist Party ADMISSION 25c

Come to the **INDEPENDENCE DAY MASS MEETING** JULY 4th, 11 A. M. UNION SQUARE
SPEAKERS
JOSEPH GLASS, Chairman, Legal Comm. Socialist Party, Militant Fighter for Workers' Rights
FRANK R. CROSSWAITH, Chairman, Negro Labor Comm.
Dr. HARRY W. LAIDLER, State Chairman, Socialist Party
MARY HILLYER, Chairman, Scottsboro Defense Comm.
AARON LEVENSTEIN, Editor, Socialist Call
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Aboard the S. S. Bear Mountain Showboat
Tickets from Socialist Party and Y. P. S. L., 21 E. 17th St., N. Y. C.

Before the Dance . . . Attend **The STATE CONVENTION DINNER** at ROSOFF'S, 147 West 43rd Street, New York City **SATURDAY, JUNE 27, 7 P. M. PROMPTLY** RESERVATIONS MUST BE IN FRIDAY, JUNE 26 State Office Socialist Party 21 E. 17th St., N. Y. C. **Guest Speaker: NORMAN THOMAS** DON'T FORGET ADMISSION 75c

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MUSIC by RHYTHM BOYS ORCHESTRA—"PICKETLINE" by REBEL ARTS
Auspices State Convention Socialist Party
ADMISSION AT DOOR
Roof Garden HOTEL DELANO 43rd Street and 6th Avenue **Sat., June 27—9 P. M.**



Norman Thomas:

A PARTY OF THREE MESSIAHS AND A PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE

UNQUESTIONABLY the appearance of the Union Party is an expression of discontent which is justified, and the platform of the party voices many aspirations with which one must sympathize. The question is, however, one of the adequacy of the platform and the possible effect of the appearance of this party.

It is fairly obvious that at this late date no party can make a real and significant impression in the 1936 election which has no organization and as yet no place on any single state ballot. The one chance of any significant vote for the Union Party is support not only by Father Coughlin's scattered adherents in the Union of Social Justice but also definite support by the Townsend Plan Clubs. Mr. Lemke thinks he is assured of this latter support but from the standpoint of shrewd politics the Townsend movement would probably be better off not to risk too much on a presidential candidacy but to concentrate, as did the Anti-Saloon League, upon the election of congressmen.

Mr. Lemke is between the devil and the deep sea. He won't get far without the support of Coughlin, Townsend and possibly Reverend Gerald Smith who pretends to inherit leadership from Huey Long. If he gets the support of these three groups he may find himself cursed by the fate that always curses a triumvirate. Think what the rivalry of Augustus and Marc Antony did to the Roman Republic! It will be a hard job to build a party with three Messiahs — two first raters and one pretender — and one presidential candidate.

There is another consideration. The task on which Mr. Lemke has embarked requires money. He has not even such organization as Socialists or Communists possess. Clearly he will get whatever vote he gets almost exclusively from those who otherwise, with whatever reluctance, would vote for Roosevelt. His candidacy is a direct aid to Landon. He himself is still nominally a Republican and is going to run on the Republican ticket in North Dakota for congressman-at-large. For success of any sort he will need not merely the dimes and quarters of members of Townsend Clubs, but larger sums from Republicans willing to invest something on a party which will hurt Roosevelt. By the way, do Father Coughlin and Dr. Townsend intend to finance this campaign out of their own rather large resources?

Something For Everybody

Now let us look at the platform. It does voice discontent and it does voice certain aspirations with which one must sympathize. Nevertheless it will be observed that there is no thought of changing the profit system but merely of trying to control it. It is a platform framed on the principle of something for everybody. It is also framed on the ancient principle: promise a lot but promise it vaguely and don't say exactly how you will deliver it. It appeals not at all to workers as workers to get what they produce. It is an appeal essentially to the middle class. There is far more resemblance to the very early programs of Mussolini or the Nazi hodge-podge platform before the party got power than to any Socialist or genuinely radical document.

It was not a platform worked out democratically, nor was the ticket nominated democratically. It was something offered to the workers and the middle classes by self appointed Messiahs. No farm organizations, no labor organiza-

tions, no political party, not even Father Coughlin's private organization, really participated in framing this platform or nominating its candidate. It was something handed down from on high.

Isolation Impossible

This general criticism will be clear when one looks at the platform plank by plank:

1. The first calls for a degree of American isolation impossible in an interdependent world.

2. The second favoring a central bank for the issue of money, may or may not be a good thing, depending upon the way in which the bank is set up and the relation to the general system of money, banking and currency. The notion that one can keep capitalism with its private ownership of the great sources of wealth and then emancipate us by doing something about money is dangerously misleading. This Plank No. 2 does not even call for a general socialization or nationalization of banking but merely for a central bank of issue.

3. The first question to be raised about the third plank is how Congress is going to provide for the retirement of tax exempt interest bearing bonds, etc. Is it going to do it by inflation? That would be the easiest way. It is a way unthinkable disastrous to the mass of wage workers and to all those who have to live on small fixed incomes. Is it going to do it by virtual repudiation of debts while still keeping the capitalist system? If so, people with life insurance policies and savings bank accounts will have something to say about it.

It is good to consider relief to the mortgage burdened farmer and home owner, but simply to provide that somehow or other the Federal government shall bail out this particular class raises quite a lot of questions. Suppose the planters in the cotton country, and the absentee owners of farms who are very numerous everywhere, find that they no longer have any considerable burden of mortgage indebtedness, does anyone believe they will pass on the benefits to share croppers, tenant farmers or field workers? Never! It is highly significant that there is no suggestion here of any compensating legislation for the tenant farmers. This is legislation for land owners regardless of whether they are working farmers or not. It would strengthen private landlordism.

4. Next, how is Congress going to give assurance of "a living annual wage" to workers as the fourth plank demands? Certainly it will require something drastic to be done about the Constitution, and Mr. Lemke doesn't suggest what. Besides, what is a living annual wage? How can Congress impose such a living annual wage and still keep the private profit system which by its nature is a system of exploitation?

Perpetuation Of Profit

5. The fifth voices a praiseworthy aspiration to protect farmers from exploitation. But how? Is every farmer, including the most inefficient, to be guaranteed "costs of production plus a profit"? What is the profit that he is to be guaranteed? Is this not a perpetuation of the profit system? What is to be done, for instance, in the cotton country where there is need of changing the whole system? How can we keep the present system of landlordism and private profit, guarantee the farmers the cost of production plus a profit, and not raise food prices

to impossible heights for city workers, especially if we keep the structure of capitalist marketing? What the farmer ought to ask is the product of his toil, the remuneration of his labor. That is only possible under Socialism.

6. With the sixth plank all of us ought to sympathize. But the Townsend Plan Clubs will have a right to ask just what Mr. Lemke means by "decent security for the aged." Here is no mention of the sacred \$200 a month.

7. The seventh is another isolationist plank which may be interpreted to mean a further raising of economic barriers to trade. This plank probably is based on the delusion that it is possible to sell American surpluses of various sorts to the world and yet not buy.

8. The eighth gives no hint as to what an adequate defense is. It is based on a completely unrealistic analysis of the problems of war and peace and of defense. It admits the principle of conscription of men, and under any capitalist government men will always be more effectively conscripted than wealth.

9. With this plank on civil service one can be in entire agreement.

State Sovereignty

10. How is Congress going to "preserve the sovereignty of the individual states of the United States by the ruthless eradication of bureaucracies" and at the same time to do all the other things that Mr. Lemke wants? Just what is ruthless eradication of bureaucracies? Does Mr. Lemke want Congress to vote on every conceivable issue of detail in the management of the complicated affairs of government?

11. This plank on conservation of resources is good as far as it goes but it is not true that millions of jobs will be created under it—certainly not unless there is specific provision for a very wide program of housing which is not directly mentioned.

12. This is the old anti-monopoly plank which calls on government to save us by making big business little. The theory is that the steel trust is bad but little steel companies are good; that a gigantic clothing company is bad but a lot of little ones are good; that chain stores are bad — which in many ways they are—but that struggling family stores with 15 hours a day for the workers are good. This plank is wholly incompatible with any decent planned economy and with carrying out the rest of Mr. Lemke's own desires. We need socialization, not trust-busting.

13 is an aspiration which tells us nothing about what kind of taxation Congress is to use.

14. This plank limiting incomes and inheritances is another good aspiration but tells us nothing about the way it is to be carried out or about the size of the income that will be permitted. If Congress really carries this plank out by taxation it would soon find that it was actually taking over in a biggety-piggety fashion a lot of industries to run. What would happen then to Lemke's plank No. 12?

15 is another pious aspiration without any statement as to how the job is to be done.

In spite of appeal and promise it is impossible of carrying out intelligently and can only prepare the soil still further for fascism.

To the first State Convention of the reorganized Socialist Party of New York, greetings and good wishes! You delegates have a magnificent chance to plan to win the Empire State for Socialism!

DIES



Maxim Gorky, world famous novelist and portrayer of the Russian soul, whose recent death is mourned by workers and students of literature in every land.

JULY 4

NEW YORK—The first campaign demonstration to be held by the New York Socialist Party will take place on the Fourth of July, with the adoption of the Workers Rights Amendment as the key issue. New York Socialists have decided to revive the annual practice of celebrating a red Fourth of July in Union Square.

Dr. Harry W. Laidler, chairman of the local, heads the list of speakers, which includes Frank R. Crosswaith, chairman of the Negro Labor Committee, Mary Hillyer, of the League for Industrial Democracy, and Aaron Levenstein, editor of the CALL.

The demonstration is scheduled for 11 a. m.

Farm Holiday Group Turns Toward Labor

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn.—That the death of Milo Reno, veteran farm leader, opened the way for a new emphasis on the part of the Farm Holiday Association is evident in plans for the national convention at Minneapolis late in June.

During Reno's presidency and his leadership in the Iowa Farmers Union, speakers at Des Moines included the Rev. Charles E. Coughlin, the late Senator Huey P. Long, and Governor Eugene Talmadge of Georgia. At one time, in 1934, Reno invited these three, Upton Sinclair, Dr. Francis R. Townsend, and others to meet in Des Moines for pooling forces toward a new national party.

A policy of more than personal followings and a tendency toward labor groups is seen in the list of 1936 speakers prepared by John Bosch, successor to Reno, to be invited to the Minneapolis convention. It includes John L. Lewis of the United Mine Workers and the Committee for Industrial Organization, a champion of industrial unionism, and H. L. Mitchell, Socialist and secretary of the Southern Farmer Tenants Union.

The Farm Holiday Association has supplied food to city strikers in several localities, notably in Wisconsin, and in the Iowa milk strike near Sioux City three years ago some of the picketing personnel was from the ranks of Sioux City labor.

Profit System at Fault, AFL Survey Shows

WASHINGTON—(FP)—"When we have man power and equipment enough to give us all a comfortable living, why do we produce less than enough even for the minimum of decency, while 11,500,000 men walk the streets in idleness? Why did we fail in our year of greatest prosperity to give 20,000,000 American citizens even the bare essentials of decent living when we could have given them plenty?"

These are the questions posed for American business by the American Federation of Labor in its monthly survey of business for June. It answers the questions by intimating the system of production for profit is at fault. By example the survey shows how that system works.

"Jones, a manufacturer of shoes, finds that he can sell shoes at a price which will cover costs and bring him a profit. If he believes the demand for shoes is increasing and the price is not falling he increases the number of shoes he makes. The farmer increases his wheat crop when he believes there is a market for it at profitable prices and the builder puts up a row of houses when he believes he can rent them profitably."

"Once a feeling of confidence becomes general in the business world the forces of expansion gather speed. Production speeds to the highest limit so as to get more of the market and make more profit. When everyone joins this mad rush production is bound to exceed buying power. There comes a time when several industries produce more than they can

sell, when they must reduce production, cut prices, lay men off. As men are laid off, buying power declines, other industries must cut production, and decline follows, leading to depression."

"Our economic system, under the profit motive, must and has always operated this way. Prosperity has never lasted more than a few years and for every year and a half of prosperity we have had one year of depression. And yet in all our history we never succeeded in producing enough for all our people."

The survey points out that at present production and profits are booming, but wages and employment are lagging sadly behind. It also points out that despite increases in profits which may reach to the 1926 level, generally considered normal, what wage increases have taken place have been cancelled by rises in living costs.

BEGIN SUMMER SCHOOL

ST. PAUL, Minn. (FP)—St. Paul's first summer school for trade unionists is getting under way under the auspices of the St. Paul workers' education conference with about 50 students enrolled. Public speaking, parliamentary law, labor economics, labor history and trade unionism are stressed.

"... Most Important ..."

The Socialist Call is probably the most important teaching agency in the Party.

The Call is a powerful exponent of Socialism and getting better all the time; and it is doing great work in collecting and editing news of our Party and of the labor situation.

DR. JESSE H. HOLMES,
Former Candidate for Governor,
Pennsylvania Socialist Party.