

Norman Thomas

On
*Shall We
Support War?*

SEE PAGE 12

Socialist Call

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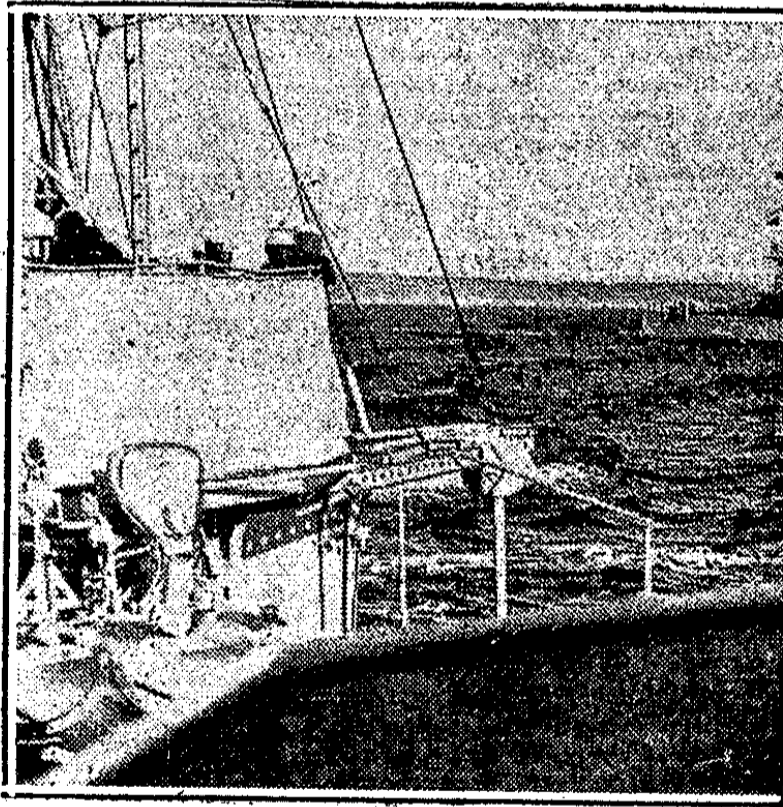
Vol. 1.—No. 30

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12, 1935.

PRICE FIVE CENTS

AFL UNIONS OPEN WORLD CAMPAIGN AGAINST WAR

—STORY ON PAGE THREE



Is This Neutrality, Mr. President?

While the President (top right) spoke soft words of peace and neutrality, Socialists recalled that another president had spoken in similar vein in 1914—Woodrow Wilson. And then they remembered that it was the peace-loving, soft-spoken President Wilson that had led the United States into the World War—50,000 lives to save Wall Street profits.

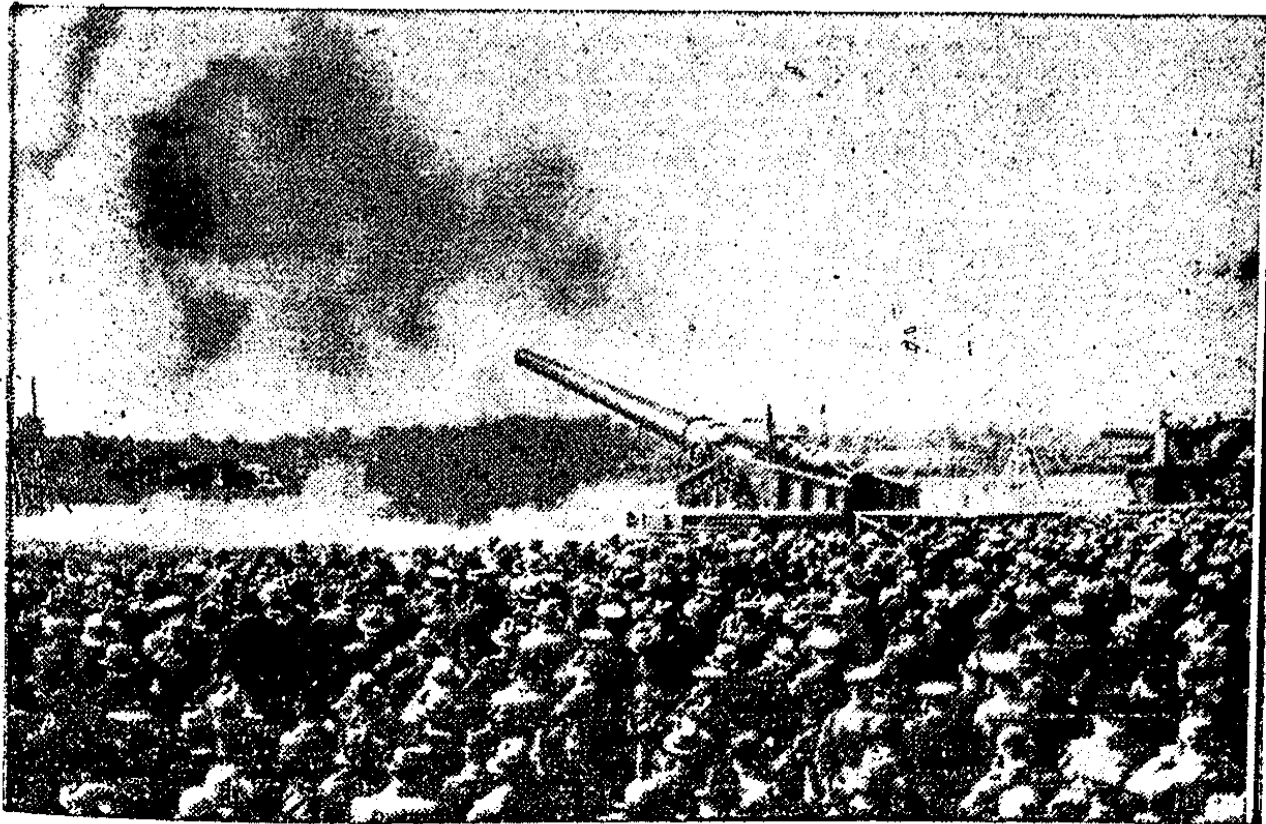
Immediately after the speech, Roosevelt went about strengthening America's jingo preparations, for more armaments, more troops, and, the inevitable result, war!

Here are some of the preparations the President okayed:

Top left: Major General Malin D. Craig, U. S. military expert and commandant of the War College, was named new Chief of Staff of the U. S. Army to succeed General Douglas MacArthur.

Top center: Immediately after the speech, Roosevelt reviewed the Pacific fleet—more warships and guns than the United States has ever had in peace-time.

Bottom left: Belching smoke and fire with the detonation shaking grounds for miles, a new 16-inch gun bought by the U. S. Army hurls a ton-heavy projectile twenty miles out to sea.



GREEN FIGHTS PROGRESSIVES AT AFL MEET

By DAN O'FLAHERTY
(By Telegraph to The CALL)

ATLANTIC CITY—President John Lewis of the United Mine Workers of America and Vice-President Francis J. Gorman of the United Textile Workers of America early took the lead of progressive forces as the national conven-

tion of the American Federation of Labor, in annual session here, heard President William Green openly defy progressives in their attempt to make the AFL a vital and militant force in the American working class.

Green's defense of the conservative policies he has followed took the form of a keynote address as the convention began. He openly attacked the question of a labor party as "communist-inspired" and decried progressive measures that would place the AFL squarely on record for industrial unionism and a workers' rights amendment to the Constitution. Previously, the executive council of the AFL had proposed an amendment to the federation's constitution which would bar "communists" and militants from union membership.

Progressives were quick to take up the challenge. Gorman, militant leader of the historic textile strike in 1934, introduced a resolution Monday afternoon calling for a broad labor party. The party he proposed would include all labor elements with a broad Socialist program, including a proviso for militant action against war and fascism. Gorman's resolution echoes hundreds of other resolutions by international unions.

(Continued on Page twelve)

ELECTION GAINS FOR SOCIALISTS IN CONNECTICUT

NORWALK, Conn. (Special)—Steadily snow-balling their vote up from a mere 50 four years ago, local Socialists polled over 2,000 straight ballots for their ticket in the municipal elections here Monday.

The vote for various candidates fluctuated between fifteen per cent and twenty per cent of the total cast, presaging a probable victory for the party at the next local election two years from now. Arnold E. Freese, Socialist mayoralty nominee, received 2,017 votes.

Socialists in nearby Wilton and Darien, running their first town slates, likewise showed decided strength. In both towns the Socialist vote was approximately ten per cent of the total and within striking distance of the Democrats, second largest party at present.

Bridgeport Party Confident

BRIDGEPORT, Conn. — As Democrats and Republicans finally decided not to fuse against the incumbent Socialist administration and to run their own slates, the Socialists launched a campaign in which they feel confident of re-electing Mayor Jasper McLevy and his entire supporting slate.

The election here, as well as in New Haven and Hartford, will be held November 5. In the latter two cities strong Socialist advances are also looked for.

Unemployed Thanksgiving Message Is "For What?"

PITTSBURGH (Special)—A million postcards will greet President Roosevelt Thanksgiving Day with the message that the unemployed have little to be thankful for under the Democratic administration.

According to plans worked out at the three-day session of the national executive board of the Workers' Alliance.

The "thanksgiving" postcards may be accompanied by a great national demonstration later in the winter to demand jobs at living wages, continuance of Federal relief, raising of relief standards to a decent scale and unemployment insurance. Affiliates to the WAA are being asked if they will participate in such a demonstration.

In 31 States

Paul Rasmussen, national secretary, reported affiliations in 31 states with the likelihood of additional affiliations in five more states within the next month. The WAA is especially strong, he declared, in Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Oregon and New Jersey.

A committee of three was elected to attend the national convention of the American Federation of Labor this week to seek closer cooperation. The WAA has been publicly endorsed by President William Green of the AFL and many state federations and local trades councils.

Ask Unity

Committees were also elected to negotiate with the National Unemployed League, which has groups in Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia, and the American Workers' Union, with groups in Missouri and Kansas, to secure complete unity of the nation's organized jobless.

PICKET KILLED IN MILK STRIKE

CHICAGO—One man was killed and tear-gas and machine guns threatened hundreds of other Wisconsin and Illinois farmers as police, armed guards and federal deputies moved to smash a militant strike of dairy farmers in the Chicago area this week.

Protesting a slash of 45 cents per hundred pounds, the farmers succeeded in stopping 40 per cent of the normal shipments, according to figures compiled by the city health authorities here. Under new price scales initiated by Borden's and other big dealers, the farmers would receive only \$1.75 a hundred in place of the old \$2.20.

Line Highways

Vicious attacks on milk pickets lining highways leading to this city featured attempts to break the strike. Guards convoying the scab shipments openly boasted of their exploits with sawed-off shot guns and machine guns, and at Forest Park police threatened milk strikers with tear-gas bombs.

The first death recorded in the strike occurred near Kenosha, Wis., as a convoy of eleven scab trucks crashed through a picket line of 200 on Highway 42, just north of the Wisconsin state line. Struck by the first of the trucks, Herman Slater, a striker, was brutally run over and crushed by the third truck. The entire caravan sped on without stopping.

Socialist Bill Closes Milwaukee Stove Plant

MILWAUKEE—Threatened with forced closing of their struck stove plant by Mayor Daniel W. Hoan, Socialist, directors of the A. J. Linemann and Hoverson Co. ordered a shut-down and entered into ne-

gotiations with their unionized workers here last week-end.

The action, climaxing seven weeks of stubborn refusal to negotiate, came simultaneously with official publication of a Socialist-sponsored ordinance just passed by the Milwaukee city council. Introduced by Socialist Alderman Frank Boncel, the new law empowers the mayor to close any strike bound plant when its management refuses to bargain collectively with employees.

With 850 of its 900 regular workers on strike the stove works

had been the scene of mass picket lines of as many as 7,000 workers. Severe police attacks on the lines led to violence which, in Hoan's opinion, made the plant little better than a house of pestilence.

The Boncel ordinance was supported both by Hoan and by Leo Krzycki, labor organizer and national chairman of the Socialist Party. Under its terms the plant would have subjected itself to a fine of \$50 to \$100 a day every day it remained in operation following issuance of an official order to close.

ENDORSED BY LABOR



Douglas A. Strachan, fighting Socialist leader of automobile labor, whose candidacy for the City Council in Detroit was unanimously endorsed by the Detroit and Wayne County Federation of Labor. Strachan accepted the endorsement after placing himself on record as opposed to the AFL policy of "rewarding friends and defeating enemies." In a speech before the Federation, he declared himself a Socialist who was pledged to the abolition of capitalism. He called organized labor to the formation of a labor party and attacked liberal illusions of "labor tickets."

FEDERAL COURT DENIES MARTIAL LAW INJUNCTION

INDIANAPOLIS.—Although attorneys for the Labor and Socialist Defense Committee showed that Governor Paul McNutt's institution of martial law in Vigo County is a violation of due process of law under the federal and state constitution, a three-judge federal court on Monday denied their plea for an injunction to restrain violation of the Bill of Rights in that county, under military rule since July.

In a sweeping decision virtually granting McNutt power of life and death over every citizen of Terre Haute, the court set aside all constitutional and statutory safeguards and ruled that since the Governor had sent troops into the county only at the request of the mayor and sheriff, his action had not been arbitrary.

"Socialism and labor have only begun to fight," Clarence Senior, national secretary of the Socialist Party, declared. "The refusal of federal courts to grant this injunction means that our efforts must be intensified." Contributions to the Labor and Socialist Defense Committee should be sent to 549 Randolph Street, Chicago.

Gallup Trial Opens

FARMINGTON, N. M. (Special) Ten Gallup miners went on trial this week, framed on the charge of murder. In an attempt to speed up the trial farce, authorities have transferred the trial scene to Aztec, N. M., a small village miles from a railroad, in a courtroom which seats only 85 persons.

WON'T INSURE AFL ORGANIZERS

CHICAGO (FP) — The Lumbermen's Mutual Casualty Co., leading insurance firm, refuses to insure the cars of American Federation of Labor organizers. A representative told the vice-president of an international union,

ONE SHOT AS SCABS ATTACK DOCK PICKETS

NEW ORLEANS—Militant longshoremen at New Orleans and other gulf ports continued their battle with scabs and police this week, and said they believed a continuance of effective picketing would bring them victory.

One man has been shot and dozens of others report stab wounds of varying severity, however, as the result of frequent clashes of pickets with scabs. The militancy of the picket lines, however, forced police here to cease escorting strike-breakers to piers.

The man who was shot is Richard Gordon, 23-year-old Negro striker, who was seriously wounded when an unidentified scab fired at him from a truck speeding through a picket line toward the docks. Other strikers received battered heads, bruised faces, and stab wounds, as police aided scabs in attacks on workers.

The strikers seek higher wages and union recognition.

Frisco Men Reinstated

SAN FRANCISCO—After being black-listed because they refused to load "hot," or scab, cargo, 1,600 dock workers, members of the International Longshoremen's Association, won reinstatement this week by the employers. The waterfront dispute over unloading of the steamer Point Clear neared settlement.

UNION CAPTURES 'CAPTIVE' MINES; MINERS RETURN

PITTSBURGH (Special) — Organized miners scored a significant victory when so-called "captive mines," controlled by the steel trust, quickly signed contracts with the United Mine Workers of America providing for the same wages and hours won by the miners with coal operators in the four-day general strike recently.

The only hold-outs now are "independents" in Tennessee and outlying districts. Organized miners are still on strike in these territories.

The victory of the UMWA with the captive mines is considered all the more remarkable because it was these companies, true to the orders of the parent anti-union steel concerns, that resisted union organization in the fall of 1933. At that time murder and armed attack were common weapons of the employers in their fight against the UMWA.

W. Va. Labor OK's Rights Amendment

By J. F. HIGGINS

WHEELING, W. Va. (Special)—The Hillquit Workers' Rights Amendment was endorsed on the eve of the AFL national convention by the state convention of the West Virginia Federation of Labor. The convention also endorsed the principle of industrial unionism against craft unionism.

H. L. Franklin of Fairmont, chairman of the state executive committee of the Socialist Party, was recently elected secretary of the Fairmont Trades and Labor Council. Socialists are active in union work in every city in West Virginia.

UNIONS OPEN WORLD DRIVE AGAINST WAR

WASHINGTON—Fifty million signatures against war!

As a new world war appeared on the international horizon, labor and pacifist groups united in a tremendous effort to stop war by mobilizing public opinion against another butchery of worker by worker. Under the auspices of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, a drive is under way to obtain 50,000,000 signatures to a people's mandate against war.

The drive will take place throughout the world. American organizations participating in the movement have set for themselves the minimum goal of 12,000,000 endorsers of international peace. Among the supporting organizations are the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union, the National Women's Trade Union League, the American Federation of Teachers and the Farmers' Union.

Socialists Meet

Meanwhile, preparations were going forward in Chicago for the quarterly meeting of the Socialist national executive committee. Convening at a time when the Socialist movement throughout the world is torn once again by conflicting ideas of labor action, American Socialists are expected to reiterate the traditional position of the Socialist Party of the United States:

"Absolute opposition to imperialist war! Capitalism is the breeder of war! Only a workers' democracy can guarantee peace and freedom."

In Atlantic City, President William Green of the American Federation of Labor reiterated labor's demand of absolute neutrality on the part of the United States government in his keynote speech to the AFL national convention.

"Labor says to our government," he declared, "that under no circumstances whatever must we be drawn into this European conflict. We have not forgotten the lessons of the last European war and the termination of that tragic conflict."

CHICAGO YMCA CALL INSTITUTE HEADQUARTERS

CHICAGO.—The Midwest Call Institute, it was finally announced by the Arrangements Committee this week, will be held Saturday and Sunday, October 19 and 20, in the Hyde Park YMCA at 53d St. and Dorchester Ave., Chicago.

Arrangements have been made for a private dining room for all those registered. For Party and YPSL members outside of Chicago, there will be a registration fee of \$1 and combined lodging and meals will cost an additional \$3.

Registrations must be in by October 18. For Chicago Party and YPSL members, there will be a registration fee of \$2, with a limited number of scholarships for Chicago comrades. All communications and registration should be addressed to Maynard C. Krueger, 5416 Woodlawn Avenue, Chicago.

The program features, among others, Paul Porter, national labor secretary of the Socialist Party, Amicus Most and Jack Altman of New York, Andrew J. Biemiller of Milwaukee, Maynard Krueger, Al Goldman and Ben Fischer of Chicago, and Herbert Tam of New Jersey.

However, Green endorsed the action of the Trade Union Congress of Great Britain which had proposed economic sanctions against Italy.

World Labor Divided

As the League of Nations outlawed Italy as the aggressor in its attack upon Ethiopia, world labor was divided on the question of sanctions. The South African Labor Party voted to seek military sanctions against Italy. Sanctions voted by the British Trades Union Congress and the British Labor Party have been limited to economic boycott.

Frank Simonds, noted international authority, however, declared that sanctions "constitute a deadly peril for the friends of peace because it inevitably involves them in a series of operations which not merely end in war but also must compel them to give their approval of war." In a letter to The Nation, liberal weekly, protesting against its stand for sanctions, Simonds declared:

"No one can view fascism, whether Italian or German, with greater distaste than I do. But as much as I hate these forms of violence . . . I am unwilling to make war upon them to serve the ends of either British or French imperialism."

Prominent British Socialists led by Stafford Cripps have taken the identical view that sanctions "merely tend to strengthen British as against Italian imperialism."

Economic sanctions . . . military sanctions . . . Article XVI of the League of Nations Covenant . . . Mussolini's raid on Ethiopia . . . Britain's massing of its fleet and reinforcing its Egyptian army . . . all point to the coming world conflict.

There is only one force that can save us—working-class action against war!

Liberals Form New Anti-Hitler Group

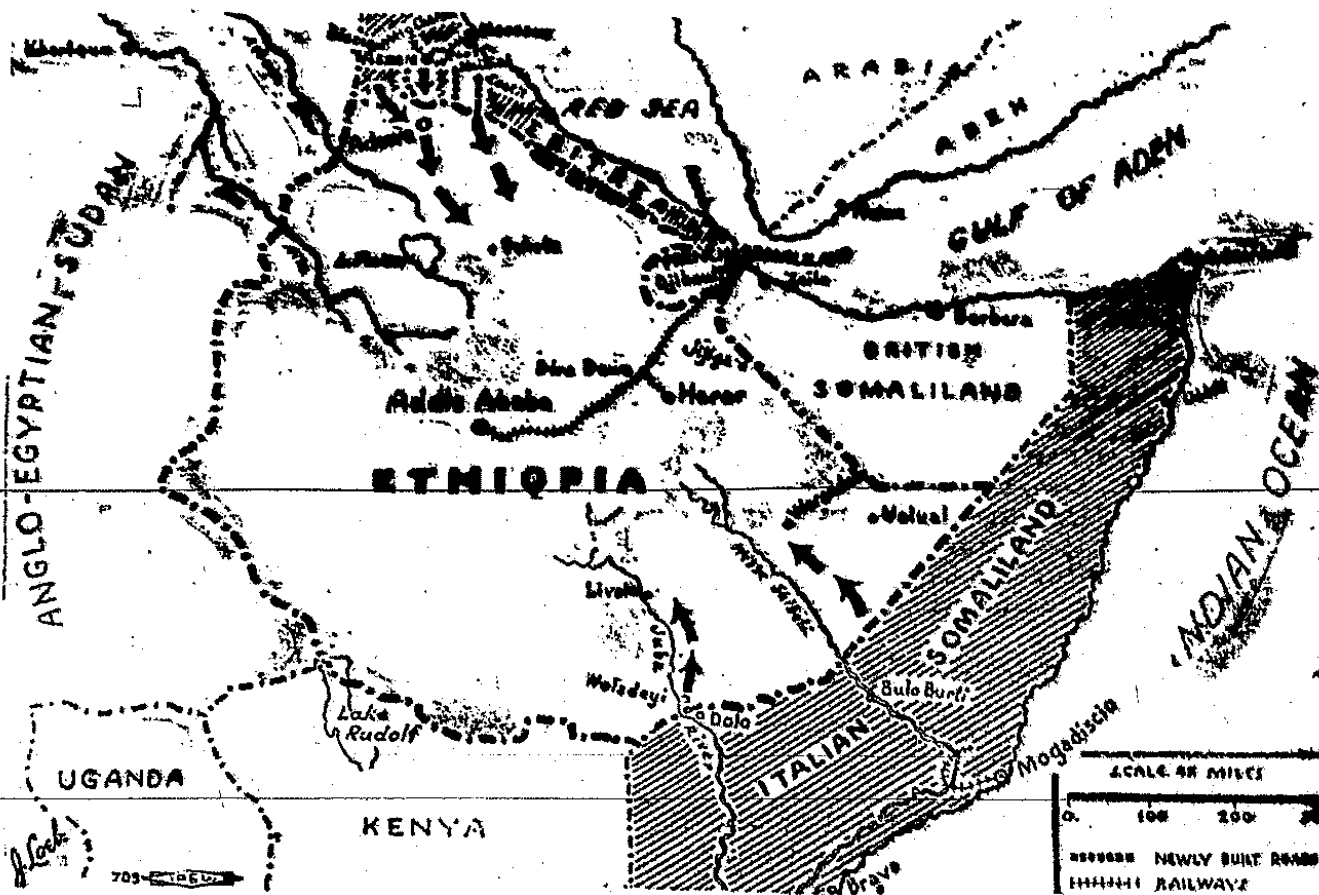
NEW YORK (FP) — A group of prominent liberals has announced the formation of an Emergency Committee in Aid of Political Refugees from Germany to aid existing labor and church organizations in the same work. A goal of \$250,000 in collections during the next two years has been set.

The new committee will cooperate with such existing organizations as the AFL's Chest of Liberation, the American League against War and Fascism, liberal and radical anti-Nazi groups and a new Catholic anti-Nazi committee.

VOTE SILK STRIKE

PATERSON, N. J.—Unless Paterson silk manufacturers restore 1933 pay rates for weavers, a strike which may affect as many as 6,000 workers will be called within the next few weeks, members of the United Textile Workers voted at a union meeting here.

WHAT IS HAPPENING IN ETHIOPIA



While one Italian army moves southward toward the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa, another army, starting from Italian Somaliland in the south, is planning to go forward.

COTTON STRIKE WINS PAY JUMP

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (Special) — Having won widespread offers of 60 cents for a hundred pounds for cotton picking, the Southern Tenant Farmers Union officially called off its general strike. More than 30 local unions have been organized in the two-week strike.

Many planters had already acceded to a 75-cent rate while some plantations had offered the union demand of \$1. The 60-cent rate is more than a 100 per cent increase over wages paid previous to the strike.

Although the strike was called off, H. L. Mitchell, militant Socialist and leader of the union, ordered the strike continued on plantations which have not reached the 60-cent scale.

The strike was remarkable in its effectiveness. Union leaders called it just as the cotton ripened and 16,000 leaflets brought out more than 10,000 pickers. The union met the terror of arrests and vigilanteism by successfully raising the slogan:

"For each striker arrested, a thousand more shall strike!" All arrested strikers have been released.

Fat-heads Feed Fabulously At Fairless Feast

PITTSBURGH (FP) — There was plenty on the bill of fare when the fat boys of the U. S. Steel Corporation threw a little \$5-a-plate luncheon in Pittsburgh for Benjamin Fairless (that's his name!), recently chosen president of the trust's new Carnegie-Illinois Steel Corp.

Here are some of the choice bits the steel barons had to chew during the high spot of their two-day breathing spell from business:

Fruit supreme on hearts of romaine; celery, olives, assorted nuts; clear grain turtle soup; boneless breast of chicken with boiled mushrooms, green lima beans, Parisienne potatoes; raspberry, orange and lemon sherbet, encased on eight inches of ice; assorted cakes and mints, and 50c cigars.

PAGE MR. HEARST

TOKYO—"To promote a sound development of national thought," text-books have been revised, many lectures changed, and new, "patriotic" courses organized in Japanese universities. The gag moves were on order of the Ministers of War and Marine.

FASCISTS THREATEN 'ACTION'



If the united front of French Socialists with communists and radicals continues its powerful gains in France, Colonel De La Rocque, head of the fascist Croix de Feu, wants "direct action," he told followers at a mass meeting near Meaux, France.

MOONEY 'TRIAL' CALLED FARCE

SAN FRANCISCO — Declaring that hearings now being held before Referee Addison E. Shaw at the Hall of Justice here are only a tragic farce and are becoming more and more snarled every day, attorneys for Tom Mooney moved on two fronts this week to cut through judicial red-tape for quick action on Tom's plea for freedom.

The big surprise of the legal fight came late last week when Defense Attorney John J. Flinerty once more petitioned the United States Supreme Court for judicial action, asking that the nation's highest court "put an end to the travesty of a judicial hearing which the Supreme Court of California is giving on the writ of habeas corpus issued by that court."

Court Empowers Shaw

The defense also secured from the State Supreme Court a ruling empowering Shaw to decide on the admissibility of testimony or evidence presented before him.

Although the weight of testimony thus far presented has been predominantly in Mooney's favor, the defense feels greatly dissatisfied, and claims that the present hearings here "prove beyond a shadow of doubt that no judicial remedy exists in the courts of the state (of California)."

Billings Finishes

The hearings themselves continued, however, with Warren K. Billings; indicted and convicted along with Mooney, standing up well under grueling cross examination and attempts to impeach his testimony. After Billings had declared he was convinced that "the most glaring and unspeakable corruption" was involved in the frame-up, he finished his testimony and gave way to Maxwell McNutt, once attorney for Mooney and now a judge of the San Mateo County Superior Court.

FIGHT SALES TAX

DENVER — Protesting against diversion of state sales tax revenues from relief needs to "political or administrative purposes," the Socialist Party of Colorado declared here:

"The sales tax is fundamentally wrong, and we shall use every means to end it."

THE SOCIALIST CALL

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Vol. I Saturday, October 12, 1935 No. 30

An Open Letter To The National Executive Committee

Dear Comrades:

The CALL and its readers greet you on the eve of what we hope will be a historic meeting of your committee—a meeting that will rally the entire party membership in the greatest Socialist campaign ever witnessed in the United States.

Conditions are ripe today for the building of a powerful Socialist party.

Workers and farmers are losing faith in the New Deal. In many places they are spontaneously turning to the organization of local labor parties. The militancy of strikes is increasing. Farmers in Wisconsin, only a few miles from where you will meet, have renewed their militant struggles against the dairy trust.

In Reading, Connecticut and Wisconsin the workers are rolling up great majorities for the Socialist program, and pointing the way to a Socialist government in America.

Yet with all these factors in our favor our party is marking time. In some places we have slipped backward. A large measure of the trouble lies, we realize, with a dwindling sore-head minority that would prefer to ruin the party if it cannot rule it—that has sabotaged the fund drive and almost every major party activity, that has even sought and obtained the aid of capitalist newspapers in slandering your committee, many party members and a number of state organizations.

But we can and must go ahead anyway. The CALL has loyally supported your decisions, although we felt some of them worked a great injustice on us and many devoted comrades. We did so because of our unflinching party loyalty, and because we respected your sincerity and your integrity.

And now we feel that we are justified in calling upon you to give a positive lead to the membership. Thousands of members and sympathizers await your action. You must present them with a program of immediate tasks, and directions for their performance, that will give every member, every sympathizer, a specific job to do. Among these tasks we propose the following:

A drive for real unemployment insurance and social security.

More intensive support for the Workers' Rights Amendment.

Creation of a labor defense organization.

A drive for the repeal of sales taxes where they now exist; to block them where proposed.

Aid to Socialists in organizing the unemployed and in fighting for a more powerful and more progressive AFL.

Vigorous struggle against war and fascism.

A drive for a membership of 50,000 by May 1.

A campaign for the creation of a mass Farmer-Labor Party.

And finally, a popular presentation of Socialism as a concrete alternative to the New Deal.

Give us this program and a positive lead in achieving it, and we pledge our untiring aid in carrying it out, doubling our membership by May 1, and in polling 5,000,000 votes for Socialism in November, 1936.

The Bird That Lays The Golden Eggs



And What Does "Americanism" Mean?

To the Editor:

"Americanism" seems to be a word to conjure with. It has been made to have so many meanings, that none can say that this or that is its real definition.

"Americanism" in the days of the Boston Tea Party meant the willingness and desire to fight against oppression and taxation without proper representation.

"Americanism" in 1812 meant the right to live as, and enjoy the privileges of, citizens of a nation and a system of government of our own choosing, and the willingness to fight to maintain that government.

"Americanism" in 1863 meant the right and the desire to give to others that justice symbolized in the words: "All men are created equal."

"Americanism" in 1898 became the strange device on the banners of the then expanding infant industries—sugar and tobacco.

"Americanism" in 1917 meant the wild lending to European nations to enable them to continue

The letters appearing in this column do not necessarily express the point of view of the CALL. Letters should not be more than 200 words long. All letters must be signed, although the name will be omitted if requested.

their bloody slaughter, and which lending, like a boomerang, brought to us the hatred of the entire world. Even now, American and "Americanism" is the excuse for slights and sneers.

"Americanism" in 1935 has acquired a newer and baser meaning. Nowadays the word as interpreted by two American Fascists, both publishers, means forgetting and foregoing our rights as American citizens; forgetting and relinquishing the right to fight against injustice and oppression and foregoing the rights of free speech, free press and free assemblage, given to us by the greatest of all American documents, The Bill of Rights.

"Americanism" for the duration of the boom era meant big-

ger and better and yet better and bigger everything in the lives of all of us. Higher living standards, increased productiveness of land (remember that thing about having two sheaves of wheat grow, where only one grew before), greater industrial achievements and wider trade horizons.

"Americanism" today apparently means unemployables on meagre relief, the destruction of cotton, the wasting of pigs and other food-stuffs in the hope of making starvation and nakedness the stepping-stones to prosperity.

Truly a strange word—"Americanism"! M. M. LEVINE. New York City.

THE FOOD, DRUG AND COSMETIC RACKET

To the Editor:

Organized labor in general and Socialists in particular should seriously consider assuming the leadership of the struggle for a decent revision of our archaic Pure Food and Drug Laws. Organized greed and spineless politicians have had their innings long enough.

Undoubtedly, the food and drug laws will be an important part of the business when Congress reconvenes. It is up to labor to press for real protection for the consumer. An educational campaign to arouse the masses would be a great help.

I can think of no better slogan in this suggested struggle than "Take the unearned profit out of the food, drug and cosmetic racket." JAY STEIN. Brooklyn, N. Y.

CALL readers are requested to sign this blank and mail it to the Nobel Peace Prize committee, Carl Von Ossietzky, a German pacifist, is now a Hitler prisoner and if the prize is awarded him it will mean a recognition of the world's reaction toward the Nazi anti-labor government.

The Norska Stortingets Nobel-Komitee, Oslo, Norway.

Carl Von Ossietzky has been a leading fighter for peace. I consider him the most deserving candidate for the Nobel Peace Prize and ask that the 1935 prize be awarded to him.

Name
Address
City, State

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

By David Paul

In forming their new programs—and new programs are made necessary by changing conditions—Socialists everywhere are forced once more to consider the question of democracy. Socialists believe in democracy. They wish the change from private ownership of industry to collective ownership to come as a result of laws made by a duly elected workers' government. They certainly intend that the workers' government shall be a workers' democracy—and not a dictatorship over the workers in their name.

Unfortunately, the course of history is not determined by what men wish. So long as democracy exists, so long as the workers have the right to vote, to discuss economic and political questions, to meet, to agitate, to print their views—so long will the Socialist movement use these methods of propaganda. The difficulty will arise, if at all, when these rights are threatened, curtailed, or even taken from us.

This is not a remote possibility. If we consider for a moment what it is that we propose to do with political power, the possibility that democratic rights will be withdrawn becomes very real.

A SOCIALIST GOVERNMENT

A socialist government in power will not be content with adapting relief laws or creating public works programs. It will not stop at workmen's compensation laws or the abolition of child labor. Nor, in view of the experiences of Germany and Austria, will it be satisfied with these half-measures today, in the expectation of proceeding to truly Socialist measures tomorrow. It will proceed to truly Socialist measures at once. It will take the industries away from the present owners and put them into the hands of the workers.

The capitalists know this. They fear it. They mean to prevent it if they can. They have no immediate fear that the Socialists can gain enough strength now to enact this program. They know, however, that the political scene may change rapidly. Should the Socialist strength threaten capitalist property and power, the easiest way to check the growth of the workers' power would be to abolish the democratic methods of government.

It would be a simple thing to limit the right to vote so that no worker could use it. We have seen again and again that freedom of speech, press and assembly depend not on constitutional right but on the good-will of our capitalist rulers. They can abolish these rights in a moment, if they are so inclined. They can change the government into a fascist dictatorship. And they will do so, if they believe their rule is in danger.

TWO COURSES

Under the circumstances, Socialists have a choice of two courses. They can make their economic and political program so mild that even the capitalists do not fear them. They can make them so "gradual" that even a thousand years would not bring us closer to Socialism. If we do this—and this is the right-wing position—we need never fear that democratic rights will be in danger. Capitalists are not worried about democracy, so long as people don't do anything with their democratic powers.

The second course open to us is to make our program a thoroughly Socialist one—and to be prepared for the abolition of democratic political methods.

It is important for Socialists to remember that democracy is not an end in itself, but a means to an end. We value democracy not because there is any sacred or magic power in voting, or counting votes, but because in the past, great gains have been made by the workers through the spread of political power. We will continue to value it so long as new gains remain possible.

If and when democratic forms fail; if and when they are withdrawn; if and when they become just forms that produce nothing for the worker—the workers will turn to more effective means of attaining their ends.

GUNS MOW DOWN ETHIOPIANS



Direct from the Ethiopian war lines, this picture shows Italian soldiers tuning up a machine gun for use against Haile Selassie's native troops at Adowa.

(Federated Press Wirephoto)

NOTES FROM ENGLAND BY-ELECTIONS SHOW LABOR'S STRENGTH

By JOHN CRIPPS

John Cripps, one of the leaders of the Socialist youth movement in Britain, will contribute regular articles to the CALL on significant events across the sea. Cripps is the son of Stafford Cripps, secretary of the Socialist League in Great Britain, and became well known to many American Socialists when he toured this country with the Oxford debating team last year.

The Labor Party did not win the recent by-election in Dumfries, Scotland, but the result was very encouraging. The National government candidate was elected, but his vote was over 10,000 smaller than in 1931. The Labor candidate's vote was 3,000 higher than in 1931, which was itself the best election that Labor had ever had there.

Another by-election is due to take place shortly at Farnworth, Lancashire. There should be no difficulty in winning the seat for Labor, as the government majority was only 3,000 in 1931.

The divisions within the Labor Party over the Abyssinian dispute remain. Comrade Lansbury is met everywhere by enthusiastic audiences, but his resignation from the leadership of the party seems to be nearer than it did last week.

Opposition to sanctions is spreading, but still finds itself cut off from the avenues of publicity to a great extent. "This is none of our business; let's keep out of it" seems to be the attitude of a surprisingly large number of people.

Meanwhile the National government is using the dispute as a further excuse for increased armaments. They are following the lead of the Archbishop of Canterbury, head of the Church of England, who recently demanded bigger armaments in the name of "collective security."

The Miners' Federation is launching a great campaign for higher wages and a national agreement. The miners have one

of the most militant unions. But they have never been able to force the employers to sign a single agreement to cover the whole country. The general strike and the far longer miners' strike of 1926 failed to win that. Now regional agreements are used by the employers to play off the workers of one area against those of another. The employers have resolutely refused to meet the union leaders in the present dispute.

The miners form one of the most exploited sections of the British working class. Some get as little as \$3.15 a week. They have borne the brunt of the National government's fiscal policy, for the mining industry is dependent upon its export trade. Any advantages that might have come from currency devaluation in 1931 have been offset by a policy of high protection for other industries. In some South Wales villages there is 97 per cent unemployment.

The mining areas have been treated as special "depressed areas" by the National government. But it has only put \$10,000,000 at the disposal of its special commissioners there. (Incidentally, these special commissioners have caused the government much embarrassment by issuing reports showing the futility of its plans).

The problem of the mining areas can never be solved until it is treated as a part of the problem of planning our whole industrial life. Only Socialist planning can help the miners—and they know it.

DRAMATIC INTERLUDE

By McAlister Coleman

Three weeks a big shot dramatic reviewer and what do you think has happened to me, boys and girls? I'm working on a play.

Yes, sir, one of those Broadway things. It's going to be called "A Mid-Summer Love Set on January 16th." It's going to be a smash hit, for it will combine love interest, mystery, economics and pacifism and most everything else I've been sitting through since I started being the CALL'S Jimmy Huneker.

The curtain goes up on a startlingly original scene. It is laid in a Park Avenue penthouse and the telephone is ringing. Martingdale, a secretary, hurries in and answers it. "Sorry," he says, "but Mr. Greenburg is lying dead drunk in the Southampton police station. His wife is riding to hounds with the Eastern Parkway pack and his daughter has gone off on a yacht with a couple of utility magnates."

That gives you a clear idea, right at the outset, of the sort of people you are going to spend the evening with and from then on things begin to het up.

It seems that Oliver Wendell Greenburg, the filthy rich munitions maker, was not dead drunk after all. Just dead. And under circumstances that pointed suspiciously to murder, as his skull was fractured, his throat was cut, two ribs smashed and both legs busted. All this comes out after an autopsy, and confirms the diagnosis originally made by the ambulance interne that something was wrong with Mr. Greenburg, when he was discovered lying under an ash can on Utica Avenue.

By this time the audience understands that it is moving in the way highest society and it is strengthened in this idea by the vast amount of liquor consumed by all hands in the course of the play. When Mr. Greenburg's wife, Sheila, comes back from the hunt and hears that her old man has been rubbed out, she decides to have a hunt breakfast. Everyone comes to the hunt breakfast in red coats and shiny high boots. At this affair, in the course of which a number of Hunter College girls are carried out in a high dudgeon, Sheila falls in love with young Nicholas Butler, one of the Butlers with the blue lips and the red eyes of aristocracy, and they decide to slip off together on the Normandle, as unostentatiously as possible, due to the fact that Nicholas is no saint and has a wife and two children in Passaic, N. J.

Now you see how complicated things can get in one of our better people plays. Some of the lines I have written for this scene are pretty good.

Nicholas: "Life is a dark and tortuous journey through an uncharted desert, lighted only by the flickering flares of Love."

Sheila: "Wow."

Nicholas: "When I look into the deep pools that are your eyes, when I think of the happiness that is ahead of us, I am lifted out of myself, I become as one soaring on wings or something."

Sheila: "Wow."

Before they sail on the Normandle, the loving couple go down to the Fifteenth Street morgue for a last look at Mr. Greenburg and there is quite an affecting bit here as the widow says her last "Goodbye, you old So-and-So and I'll bet you would cut me off in your will if you knew where I was going."

You remember, don't you, that all this time the daughter Ariel has been riding around on a yacht with those splendid utility magnates. When she comes back she starts in crying and Martingdale tries to comfort her.

Martingdale: "Tell Martingdale, Toots. Everybody tell Martingdale everything."

Ariel: "Oh, nothing Martingdale. Nothing at all. Only we . . . we . . . formed a holding company on that dreadful ole yacht."

Martingdale: "Tschk. Tschk."

The faithful secretary is so overcome that he pours himself two hookers of Green River, a brace of cocktails, a pony and half of brandy and a spot of Cognac. This gets the audience mighty thirsty, I can tell you, and is a good build-up for the liquor ads in the theatre program.

I have come along this far and all of a sudden recalled that fact that I haven't got in anything about pacifism, pro or con. There was a hint of it in the fact that the late Greenburg, about whose mysterious death there has been a considerable potter, was a munitions maker, but just to get the point over, I will have a feller come in and make a speech about peace that takes up a good twenty minutes.

DOES YOUR NEIGHBOR KNOW THIS FACT?

By Labor Research Front
The Motor Industry

Between the second quarter of 1934 and the corresponding quarter of 1935, the net profits of General Motors and Chrysler combined, increased 40%. (The profit rise would be even greater if Ford figures could be included, but they are not available.) During the same period other things happened:

- Production of General Motors and Chrysler combined, increased 13%.
- Production in industry as a whole, including Ford, increased 20%.
- Man-hours worked in the industry declined 10%.
- Productivity of labor, consequently, increased 33%.

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 _____

N. Y. Socialists Demand Increase In Relief Pay, Union Scale On WPA Jobs

NEW YORK—Demands for representation of the organized unemployed in relief administration and for full union wages on all WPA projects feature the Socialist program for the unemployed, as contained in the New York municipal platform released here this week.

Other sections of the Socialist platform denounce Mayor Fiorello H. LaGuardia for his introduction of the city sales tax.

The Socialist platform demands that excess profits of utilities and bank surpluses be taxed to provide for decent relief. Pointing out that the 40 per cent increase in relief payments was necessary to "make relief equal to that proposed by the Mayor's Committee on Unemployment Relief," Socialists proposed a seven-point program for relief of the jobless in New York City.

Asks Relief Increase

The program follows:
"1. We Socialists demand a 40 per cent increase in relief to make relief equal to that proposed by the Mayor's Committee on Unemployment Relief.

"2. We demand jobs at union wages on WPA projects, with treatment of those in the relief pay roll equal to that of those on non-relief. This means equality in the matter of salaries, vacations and sick leaves.

"3. We demand that jobs wherever possible be substituted for relief for all able to work.

Support Organization

"4. We demand the full right of the unemployed to organize and engage in collective bargaining on relief jobs.

"5. We demand that the unemployed be given representation on democratically-controlled administrative bodies and that their organization be given full recognition.

"6. We demand full cash relief for all those not given jobs under the WPA.

"7. We demand that relief be given to all WPA strikers."

THOMAS FACES EARL BROWDER, UPTON SINCLAIR

NEW YORK—Norman Thomas will defend the Socialist position against war and fascism and for working-class freedom twice within a month in New York City as preparations for the 1936 campaign get under way.

On November 17, he will debate Upton Sinclair, California EPIC leader, under the auspices of the

DON'T FORGET!

PHILADELPHIA — Norman Thomas will debate Upton Sinclair in Philadelphia on November 13.

New York Forum at Mecca Temple, 55th Street and Sixth Avenue.

On November 27 he will debate Earl Browder, communist leader, on the proposition "Which Road For the American Worker—Socialism or Communism?" Tickets for this debate, which is under the auspices of the CALL, range from 40c to \$1.65 with a few hundred seats available at higher prices. The debate will be held in Madison Square Garden, seating more than 25,000.

Tickets for both debates can be obtained from the CALL office, as well as bookshops throughout the city.

Plan Anti-Fascist Columbus Day Meet

NEW YORK — When Italian fascists gather at Columbus Circle on October 12 to pay homage to Mussolini and glorify Italian war plans, they will find a counter-demonstration staged at the same spot by thousands of Socialists and anti-fascists.

Italian trade unions, including Local 80 of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, largest local union in the world, the Italian Socialist Federation and the Italian section of the Communist Party will unite with other anti-fascists in the anti-war demonstration. The joint committee on arrangements for the counter-meeting is headed by Girolamo Valenti, editor of La Stampa Libera, Italian labor daily.

2,000 At Labor Sports Exposition

NEW YORK—Braving cold and rain, nearly 2,000 workers from all parts of the East gathered at Forest Park, Queens, for the track and field meet of the Metropolitan section of the Workers' Sports League. Feature of the day was the exhibition of mass calisthenics, in which over 150 participated.

Describing the organization of the workers' sports movement, Hugo Erickson, national secretary of the Workers' Sports League, told the crowd:

"Our aim is to develop healthy men and women, not to develop idolized stars."

Plan General Strike In Children's Wear

NEW YORK—With victory foreshadowed by a successful organization campaign which saw workers in more than 100 new shops joining the union, the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union began preparing for a general strike in the infants' and children's wear and housedress industry.

"We want peace but we prepare for war!" was the watchword broadcast over the radio in a series of broadcasts by Union Manager H. Greenberg. More than 10,000 workers are expected to respond to the general strike call.

RAND HIGH SCHOOL

NEW YORK — High school courses will be offered for the coming year at the Rand School, 7 East 15th Street with special appeal for members of the Young People's Socialist League and high school students interested in an honest interpretation of studies. The YPSL is cooperating with Frederick Shulman, director.

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Let's Go, New York! Wake Up!

While Rome burns, the Neros of New York fiddle! War has begun which may engulf the whole world. At home the workers' standard of living is continually being driven downward. The coolie wages of the WPA, dictated by Roosevelt, are destroying union wage scales.

Wages down. Prices up. Truly the workers are caught between the sharp blades of the capitalist reaper. And, all the while, the threat of fascism looms larger. The military dictatorship in Terre Haute is but one of the acute menaces to democracy today.

What does this situation demand of Socialists? It demands an immediate mobilization of anti-war sentiment, a vigorous campaign for workers' aims in the coming election, support of the Terre Haute defense.

But what are the dominant right-wing Socialists in New York doing about the situation? Precisely nothing—except fiddle!

At the last meeting of the City Central Committee, Jack Altman three times moved to plan action on these matters. But the committee right-wingers were too busy to consider them—for they were attempting to expel Abe Kruger, suspend Herman Woskow, wrangle about other petty grievance cases.

Hours for factionalism—not a minute for constructive work!

Comrades of New York, insist that our leaders build, not destroy the Socialist Party. Demand:

A huge anti-war parade with the cooperation of trade unions.

Support for the Terre Haute Defense.

A vigorous election campaign.

City Committee In N. Y. Rejects Party Activity

NEW YORK—Jingoism and war-feeling are played in blatant headlines—and the city central committee of Local New York suspended Herman Woskow.

An election campaign is on and the party membership is clamoring for action—and right-wingers on the city central committee moved to expel Abe Kruger.

Socialist sentiment among the workers must be organized quickly—and the city central committee voted to adjourn!

Spurn Altman Motions

Meeting in the last session before election, the dominant right-wing majority of the committee three times defeated motions by Jack Altman to consider the elections, party organization and an anti-war demonstration. Instead, they spent valuable time on grievances.

A possibility that Local New York would be reorganized appeared when the right-wing failed to achieve a two-thirds majority to expel Abe Kruger on demand of the State executive committee. In a letter to Kruger, Herbert M. Merrill, state secretary, had declared, that "the SEC has the power to take away the charter of Local New York should the Local fail to discipline you."

Woskow Suspended

The motion to suspend Herman Woskow, party candidate for assemblyman, for issuing a united-front leaflet on his own responsibility was carried by a bare majority. Woskow had repudiated his action as a mistake in the columns of the CALL previously.

After other grievances had been considered, right-wingers forestalled another motion to consider

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Socialist work by moving to adjourn. The meeting adjourned shortly after 11 p. m., unusually early.

UNDERWEAR STRIKE OFF

NEW YORK—A threatened strike of 15,000 underwear workers became unnecessary here when employers' associations signed a two-year agreement with the Underwear Workers' Union, Local 62, of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union. The workers won a five per cent wage increase.

SIGN CLOTHES CHAIN

NEW YORK—The Retail Men's Clothing Salesmen's Union, Local 1006, has just secured a closed shop agreement with Crawford Clothes, Inc., largest retail clothing chain in the city.

WE OFFER—

5% OFF TO ALL ORGANIZATIONS ON MIMEO AND OFFICE SUPPLIES throughout the Election Campaign.

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JOHN F. CARSTENS, 517 Coney Island Ave., Brooklyn, Upholstery slip covers, furniture repaired, refinished. IN. 2-6345.

SODA FOUNTAIN

DEBEST DRINKS—27 Union Sq. (next to the Ritz) Soda fountain—Orange & Pineapple drinks. Cigars, cigarettes, candy.

TO RENT

LARGE and attractive headquarters for village for dances, meetings, etc., at very reasonable rent, accommodate 200, Delmy League, 19 McDougal St., NYC.

CALENDAR

There is a 1-cent per word charge for all notices appearing in the calendar—minimum charge, 25 cents. All items must be in by Saturday of week previous to publication.

Every Week

Labor Dance Group sponsored by the Young People's Socialist League meets every Wednesday evening at 7:15 P. M. at the Young Circle League center, 11 Union Square. Fee: 10c per person to defray rent expense.

Thursday, October 10

Frank Crosswaith will speak on "The Workers' Strike in War" at the Renaissance Casino, 138th Street and Seventh Avenue, Harlem, under the auspices of Local 22, ILGWU.

Friday, October 11

Annual Rebel Arts entertainment and dance at Y. C. L. A. Hall, 15 Union Square. Slick floor, swell orchestra, snappy Rebel Arts Revue. Tickets 50c in advance (75c at door) from any Rebel Arts member.

Saturday, October 12

Social and reception for local candidates of Washington Heights branch at Washington Heights Labor Center, 423 West 156th Street (corner Amsterdam Avenue). Dancing, entertainment and refreshments. Miso and his aromatic accordion will be present. Admission 10c. Strike benefit dance and entertainment for BSAJ strikers at Amalgamated Joint Board headquarters, 31 West 15th Street. McAlister Coleman, master of ceremonies. Orchestra. Admission 35c.

Concert and festival at Irving Plaza, 15th Street and Irving Place, to raise funds for Ferrero-Sallitto defense. Admission 35c.

Dance to "hot" Harlem Band in our swell headquarters. Impromptu entertainment. Bellamy League, 107 McDougal Street. Hat check, 25c.

Sunday, October 13

McAlister Coleman, CALL columnist, will speak on "Soaking the Poor" at Bellamy League, 107 McDougal Street. Admission free.

Tenth anniversary celebration of Bronx Free Fellowship. Speakers, Leon Rosser Land, Professor LeRoy E. Bowman and Dr. John Howland Lathrop. Music by Choral Group. At Community Church Center, 550 West 10th Street.

Tuesday, October 15

Campaign meeting, Boro Park branch, symposium at Boro Park Yeshiva at 18th Avenue and 50th Street. Socialist speaker, George Fields, candidate for alderman.

Saturday, October 19

Campaign banquet sponsored by the AD Kings. A hearty meal will be served, good entertainment and dancing. Tickets are 75c, for Yipels, 50c. 167 Tompkins Avenue.

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Learn to Dance

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Individual and Class Lessons
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Registration—2 P. M. to 10 P. M.

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1 D.C. Electric Radio for Party Socialist Activity. W. Hueker, Gr. 5-8770 Socialist Call.

WANTED

FOR "Call Stars Quartet" 1 cello and 1 violin or viola. Interesting program arranged. Write Jack Cohen, 614-4th Ave., Brooklyn, or call South 8-5081.

CHORUS

NEW SINGERS, mixed chorus needed to new and revolutionary music still vacancies, all ages—Now preparing Eastern, Soviet and American songs. Quarters, good food, and many other social functions. New Singers, 20th Street, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7:30 P.M. Bookings Accepted.

Unemployed Hit The Road Seeking Jobs

Nine transients die as tank car burns.

Thus another headline informed readers that more of the large wandering army of America's homeless had reached the end of their weary trek.

From 1,500,000 to 4,000,000 penniless and homeless Americans are moving aimlessly about the country. Of all the American tragedies, theirs is perhaps the worst. Driven from their homes in Pennsylvania, New York, Ohio and other industrial states, from the drought-stricken areas of Oklahoma, Arkansas and other southwestern states, or from the poverty-stricken South, these victims of our economic order are traversing the land, hoping for better conditions elsewhere. For them there is seldom a return to "home."

Many Are Young

On almost every freight train, every main highway, may be found youngsters for whom life no longer offers even part of the opportunities they were taught to expect in school. From city to city they travel. Even hunger or an occasional stay in jail does not make the "homes" they left behind seem more attractive. On the road there are at least new sights.

The federal government has established numerous bureaus and camps where the homeless may settle down a while. But years of uprooted life do not make for appreciation of the government's efforts. Moreover, the government's present plan is to cease registering and caring for the homeless and turn them back to local agencies, which never fully recognized America's serious transient problem. At least little or nothing was done about it.

Women and Girls

An interviewer in a Pennsylvania transient bureau along the main route between New York and the west estimated that of all the applicants for transient relief that he interviewed, about two-thirds were men with good work

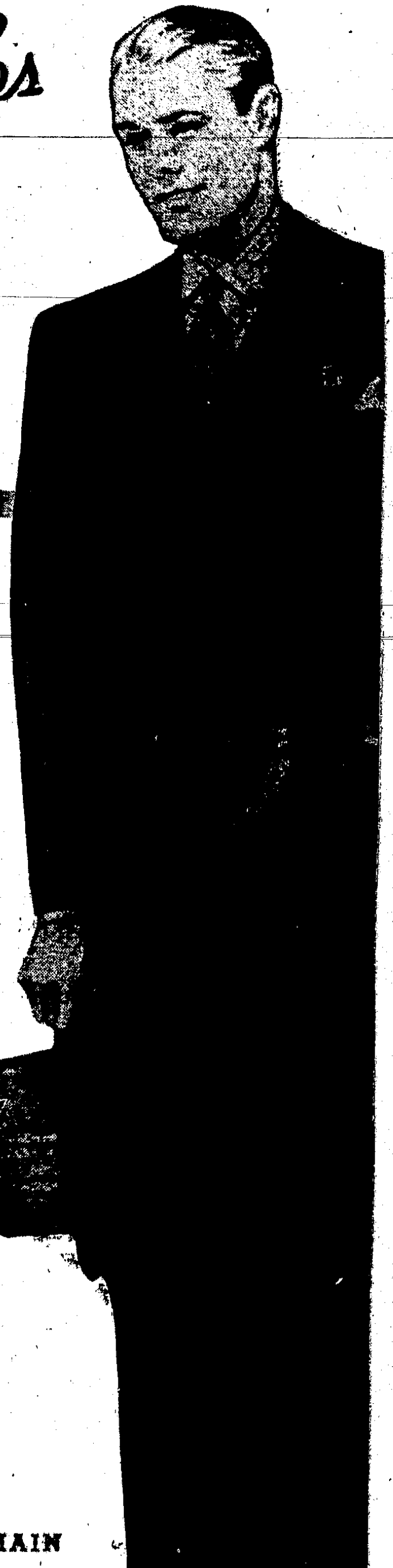
records who had been forced in recent years to leave their homes. Old-time Knights of the Road—tramps and bums, or hoboes—constituted only about 15 per cent

of the total, while boys and young men who had worked but little, if at all, made up the rest. Thousands of women and girls, too, are on the road.

That is the road thousands are being forced to travel—boys, men, women who have given up hope that "good times" will come back. They haven't learned of the

other road—the road to a society of production for use, not for profit, which will be reached by the organized strength of the workers.

THE
Finest Clothes
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EVER
MADE



WE know the new Crawford Custom Quality Clothes are the finest we ever made. But when our customers tell us that—as so many of them have—we are really inspired. For the constant improvement of our clothes is a fundamental policy with us. Finer fabrics. More hand tailoring. Better, always better. Crawford Clothes today are the talk of town. Bankers, doctors, lawyers—men to whom good appearance is important—are buying Crawford Custom Quality Clothes. at \$18.75 and sending their friends in to do the same. Yes, Crawford sales jumped 70%—and everything points to another sensational season! In fairness to yourself see Crawford before you buy your new fall clothes.

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(affirmative)
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MECCA TEMPLE—
NEW YORK CITY
Sunday, Nov. 17
Tickets: 55c, 85c, \$1.10, \$1.65,
obtainable at
SOCIALIST CALL, 21 E. 17 St., NYC.

TENTH ANNIVERSARY
MEETINGS
THE BRONX FREE
FELLOWSHIP
Sun., Oct. 13, 8 P. M. Azure Masonic
Temple, 1591 Boston Rd. LeRoy
Bowman, J. M. Lathrop, and others.
Special music.
Tues. ev'g, Oct. 15. Community Church
Center, 550 W. 110th St. Dinner;
International Entertainment; Danc-
ing. J. H. Holmes, J. W. Hughan,
Dr. S. E. Goldstein, and others.
Tickets \$1.00 (50c without dinner)
can be obtained from LeRoy E. Land,
511 W. 112th St., Monument 2-1575.

World Socialism

ANTI-LABOR TERROR IN CUBA

By HERBERT ZAM

The following article was written by Joaquin Ordoqui, a member of the national executive board of the National Cuban Federation of Labor, and the Federation's special representative in the United States.

By JOAQUIN ORDOQUI

The people of Cuba suffer under a military dictatorship which uses terror as cruel and savage in its treatment of the working class and peasants as that of the fascism of Mussolini and Hitler. No democratic rights, no freedom exists for

the great majority of the Cuban people. The most severe repression is exercised against the workers and their organs of struggle.

During the general strike of March 1935, all trade unions were declared illegal. The most severe attacks were directed against the National Cuban Federation of Labor. A law was decreed making it a "crime against the state" for employers or firms to negotiate with either the Federation or any of its affiliates. Since the Federation includes the majority of the organized workers of Cuba within its ranks, this decree really outlawed the majority of the workers. Furthermore, during the general strike and for some time previous, the right to strike was placed in the category of "sabotage" and punished with death or long imprisonment. For months after the general strike had been crushed, workers were still being taken before the Emergency Courts for the crime of participating in the general strike and sentences of eighteen months were being handed down with clockwork regularity. Strike leaders, like Yayo Galvez, Arturo Iser, and others who were caught in the blood-hunt savagely carried on throughout Cuba, first faced execution, but mass protest had their sentences changed first to life-imprisonment and then to thirty years.

Government Unions

Taking a leaf out of the practice of countries like Germany and Italy, the Cuban Department of Labor began the organization of government-controlled unions. The right to strike remained abrogated. Instead, the Government offered to arbitrate all difficulties. The unions organized in the present period are more like company unions than genuine, honest workers' organs of struggle for better conditions. A union is organized in each plant, instead of there being a union for an industry. Thus workers are divided.

The control of the trade-unions lies in the hands of the Secret Service and the Army, i. e., in the hands of the military-dictator, Colonel Fulgencio Batista. Military supervisors attend all union meetings, as does a representative of the Department of Labor. Meetings of these "government unions" are called infrequently.

Although the past few years of Cuban history have been replete with heroic struggles for improved conditions, there have been few strikes since the general strike. These few have been launched and continued without the support of the trade union officialdom recognized by the Department of Labor. This indicates the terrible terror and repression the Cuban worker suffers, because the cause for strikes still exists and the workers would strike were it not for the complete military control of Cuba exercised by the ruling clique.

Wage Gains Wiped Out

Let us look at wages, and we shall see how true this is. Wages during the tyranny of Machado ranged between 15 cents and one dollar, the average being about thirty or forty cents. If we consider that most of the workers are employed in the sugar fields, the

workers of Cuba overthrew Machado. They launched a series of powerful strikes which brought about the famous decree-law of Grau San Martin's regime establishing a basic wage of 80 cents for an eight hour day.

This gain has practically been wiped out. The decree (No. 727) of November 30, 1934, fixed wages of 80 cents a day for sugar-workers, but this very same Decree authorized a 40 per cent reduction in this amount to cover rent on mill-owned shacks. Other sums were taken off for services rarely rendered (Maternity Insurance, etc.), and workers are paid in scrip usable only at the mill-stores where prices are higher than in the village stores.

In September a decree on the minimum-wage for apprentices was passed. Wages of \$16 a month for apprentices younger than 16, of \$20 for those between 16 and 18, and \$24 for those older were decreed. Where shelter and food is provided, 40% is to be deducted. In the capital cities of provinces, this scale is further reduced by 20%, in towns by 30%, and in villages by 40%.

Cannot Strike

But even such low wages are not observed by the employers. Against this rapacity the workers have no recourse, having been deprived of their major weapon, the strike, and their means of organization, the trade union.

Reports indicate there are dozens of infractions of the minimum wage law for all categories of workers and in all industries every day. One need only read the Cuban papers to see lists. Here are reports of wages of from 30 to 50 cents a day, of an employer forcing his workers to sign contracts for \$15 a month but paying them \$10, of another paying \$2 a week, but forcing the employees to sign receipts for \$1 a day, another of wages between 20 to 45 cents a day, and so on. Dozens of cases daily of infractions of the eight-hour day. These cases are not exceptions, but the general rule, for every day dozens of such cases are listed.

It must not be forgotten that the cost of living in cities in Cuba is approximately that of cities of comparable size in the United States.

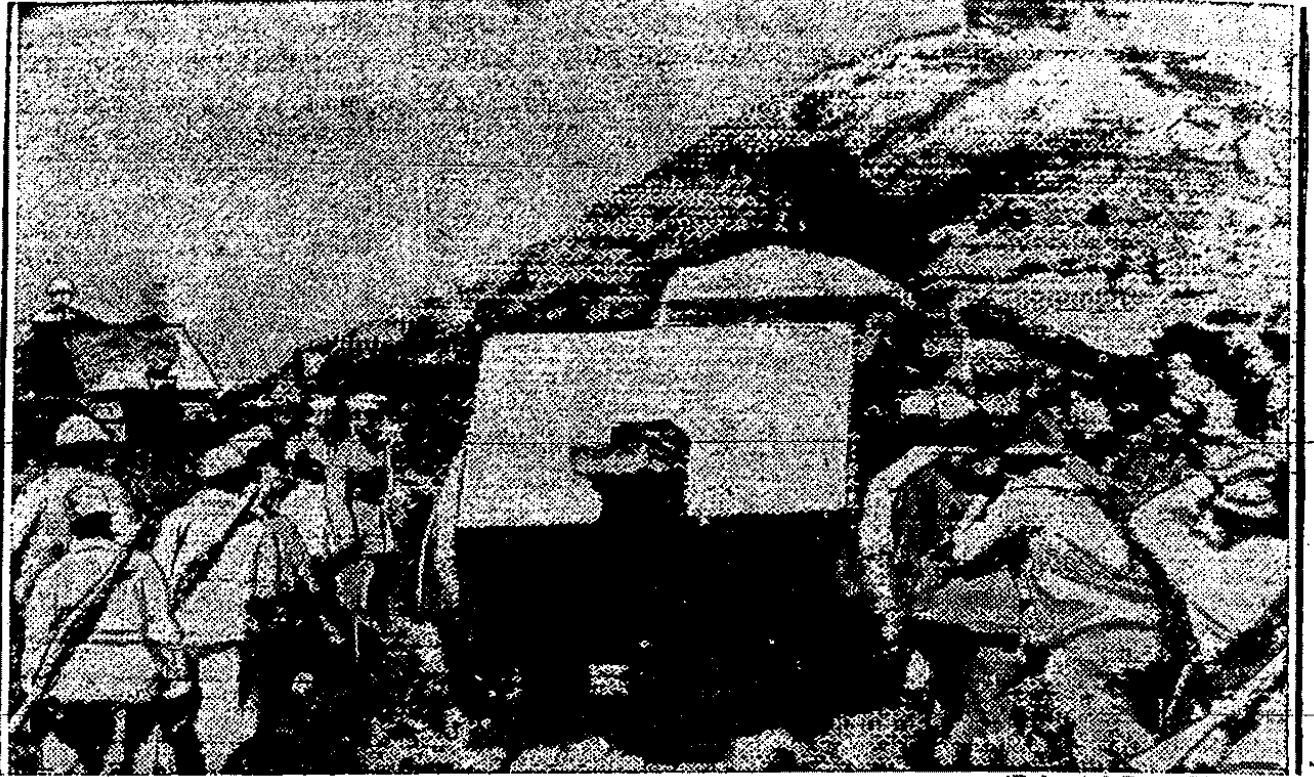
I have no space to go into details of the terror. Suffice it to say that the Cuban working class lives in daily terror and suffering under a military dictatorship which maintains itself by bayonet rule. I have no space to go into the matter of American imperialist intrigue in Cuban affairs. The fact is that the present bloody regime owes its very existence and continuance in power solely to the support rendered it by imperialism. It is, as Professor Leland Jenks calls it, "Our Cuban Colony."

What does organized labor want in Cuba? What does the majority of the people want? Nothing more than workers and the vast majority of the people all over the world want—peace and food and a happy life.

Asks Protests

We, the organized workers of Cuba, members of the National

DUCE'S TANKS "CIVILIZE" ETHIOPIA



(Federated Press Wirephoto)
After capturing Aduwa, scene of a historic defeat for Italian imperialism some thirty years ago, these Italian troops marched on toward Addis Abbaba, in Mussolini's drive to "civilize" Ethiopia. The tank is one of many used to transport Fascist "civilization" to the Africans. Direct from the battlefield, this picture was flown to Rome, telephoned to London, and then radioed to New York.

The Role Of The Socialist Party In A Farmer-Labor Party

This is the fifth of a series of six articles, presenting a summary of a questionnaire sent to various Socialist Party members, by Glen Trimble, of New Bedford, Mass., now residing in California. Other articles will discuss various phases of problems presented by the move toward a Farmer-Labor Party.

By GLEN TRIMBLE

What organizations and individuals would Socialists bar, or try to bar, from a Farmer-Labor Federation? I asked this question of active party workers throughout the country for several reasons. One that the partisans of such a federation are apt to view it in altogether too rosy hues. A consideration of the present organizations and leaders on the labor front helps realism, even though it may discourage optimism.

On organizations I asked simply which each correspondent considered undesirable. The runaway winner for unpopularity should interest the factionalist within the Socialist Party. Frankly, most of those who answered my questionnaire belong to what may be called the left wing. Almost all voted for the Declaration of Principles. Of these more than a third named the Communist Party, its "innocent groups" and its dual unions as undesirable in a Farmer-Labor Federation. The total naming the Communists is almost four times that singling out any other group. Only one correspondent stated that the Communist Party should be included.

Many "Undesirables"

Numerical totals for the remaining "undesirables" have significance, since the breadth of the question made it inevitable that

Cuban Federation of Labor, desire most ardently the establishment of democratic rights, of freedom to organize our own trade-unions under our own control so that they may be powerful weapons for the winning of better conditions.

We ask the support of the American working class, of the American people bred in the great American revolutionary traditions of democracy, to help us. Demand the amnesty of political prisoners (except the Machadistas) still in jail for their activity in the general strike; demand trade-union freedom; demand democratic rights for the people! Send protests against American interference in Cuba to Secretary of State Cordell Hull; and protests against the military dictatorship to President Mendieta and to Colonel Fulgencio Batista, Havana, Cuba.

only a small minority of those answering would select any particular organization. Those selected do, however, reveal many problems for a federation. Father Coughlin's National Union for Social Justice, the Share the Wealth Clubs and Dr. Townsend's outfit got frequent dishonorable mention. Middle westerners were strongly opposed to the Farm Bureau. Two opposed the Farmers Holiday Association, one as a "letter head" organization. From New Mexico comes the news that there is a no-good "Left-Wing Farm Holiday" thereabouts. Company unions, dual unions, the Communist splinters, the SLP, the Grange, the Dairymen's League, "tariff groups" among farmers, the American Workers' Party and Coin Harvey's disciples are consured by one or more of the correspondents. Two oppose admission of La Follette's Progressive Party, one the Farmer-Labor Party of Minnesota and one (this a "no" on any and all Farmer-Labor talk) the Farmer's Union and the AFL!

Represent Organizations

Several felt that all accepting the program and discipline of the federation should be admitted. A testing measure suggested is, the condition that all organizations admitted must have genuine worker or farmer membership and democratic control. This would eliminate most of those listed above.

What would we do about individual leaders such as Coughlin, La Follette, Norris, William Green, Woll, Townsend, Sinclair? The confusion of answers to this question would seem to lend weight to the accusation, made by one correspondent, that I had confused the issue by grouping Coughlin and Long with Green and Woll. What I intended was that in the four pairs of names the problem of four differing types of leadership sure to crop up in a Farmer-Labor Federation would be presented.

A sixth of those answering would allow all of those named to enter, subject to the program and discipline of the federation. A fif-

teenth would bar them all out. Most of the remainder were more discriminating. Long and Coughlin led in unpopularity with Townsend a close third, yet several recognized that their popularity with many of the affiliated groups would make their exclusion difficult. The extremes of pessimism were expressed in the answers, "The real question is what will they do with us?" and the two-word answer, "God knows!"

Fight Demagogues

The most significant answers dwell on the relation of the individuals named to a democratic federation of genuine worker and farmer groups. Only Green and Woll are directly affiliated with such groups and must be admitted. Our fight should be to restrict delegates, candidates and officers to organization men. Then even if some of those mentioned gained admission their powers would be limited by voting power, and by the rules of democratic control. Under these conditions our chances for education of the membership and exposure of the labor records of Coughlin and other demagogues ought to be all we should require. In short, come as close as possible to the conditions of a fair fight and then FIGHT!

The comment of one comrade from up-state New York provides an adequate summary:

"Norris, Townsend, Sinclair are probably typical of the mistakes or inadequacies a Farmer-Labor Party will be guilty of, anyhow, at the beginning. Green and Woll would be forced into line, or vigorous leadership might even displace them. Coughlin and others like him are the real problems, and there is no sure cure. But it is far better to set up a democratically controlled party which they would have to capture than to allow them to build their own one-man controlled organizations. In my opinion, the chief danger of both lies not in their programs but in the nature of their organizations."

Next Week—Mass Party's Spearhead?

Party Activity

NORMAN THOMAS will make a two-weeks' tour of the mid-West directly following the national executive committee meeting in Chicago October 12 and 13. His schedule follows: October 15, Davenport, Iowa; October 16, Lincoln, Neb.; October 17, Ames and Des Moines, Iowa; October 18, Kansas City, Mo.; October 19, Picher, Okla. and Joplin, Mo.; October 20, Terre Haute, Ind. and Indianapolis; October 21, Lafayette, Ind.; October 22, Anderson, Ind.; and October 23, Louisville, Ky.

California

SAN FRANCISCO open forum will sponsor Wayne Collins speaking on "The Constitution" on Wednesday evening, October 16, at 1057 Steiner Street, corner Golden Gate. Mrs. Bertha Munroe will discuss "Social Trends" on October 23 and Louis Bartlett will speak on "Hetch Hetchy" on October 30.

YPSL of San Francisco meets every Friday at 8 p. m. at 1057 Steiner Street.

Illinois

CHICAGO—The dinner and reception for the national executive committee of the Socialist Party Sunday, October 13th, at the Steuben Club, will hear the outstanding leaders of the Socialist Party sound the call to action for the 1936 presidential campaign under the general title of "Political Mirrors of 1936." Leo Krzycki, national chairman of the Socialist Party and general organizer of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, will speak on "The Labor Front as Seen by the Organizing Staff." Dan Hoan will speak on "A New Deal Tale of Three Cities," or "Corrupt Politics as Supporters of Economic Reform." Powers Hapgood will speak on "In and Out of Jail with the American Striker," and Norman Thomas' address will be entitled "Crooked Trails and Straight Through Social Crisis," or "Messiahs and Madmen of Our Times."

THE SOCIALIST PARTY of Cook County regretfully announces the deaths of Comrade Keith K. Smith, 47, an active member of the Evanston Branch and Associate Professor of Physics at Northwestern University.

Indiana

STATE CONVENTION, meeting in Marion last week-end, endorsed formation of a farmer-labor party having a working class basis.

New York

REGISTRATION for New York City voters will end Monday at 11:30 p. m. Up-state registration will be held October 11 to 19. Those who do not register can not vote in November.

Ohio

TOLEDO. Nelson Meagley, secretary of Lucas County Local, is campaign office manager in the Toledo United Labor Action Campaign, in which John Taylor has been nominated for School Board and Tim McCormick for City Council.

25TH WARD BRANCH in Cleveland is planning a Labor Institute Forum of six lectures for its Fall program. Held seven house meetings for campaign in one evening.

VICTORY NEAR



J. Henry Stump, Socialist candidate for mayor of Reading, Pa., is top man of a ticket expected to sweep the Keystone city at the elections next month. Stump was formerly mayor, but was defeated for reelection when the old parties combined against the Socialists.

at which many new contacts were made.

MASSILLON is putting on a vigorous campaign for Joe Long as Mayor and Comrade Slusser for School Board.

JUGOSLAV BRANCHES held big anniversary celebration for the Socialist paper Proletarec in Cleveland, last Sunday, at which Robert Dullea, candidate for Mayor, Frank Barbic and Louis Zorko, councilmanic candidates, were the main speakers.

CANTON. The new branch here held a mass meeting last Friday night for John Monarch in the City Hall.

THE SECRETARIES' CONFERENCE scheduled for Akron on October 13, is being postponed until November.

STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE held a meeting in Dayton on Saturday, October 5, in the Central Block Building. This was followed by a mass meeting for John Monarch in the evening.

Pennsylvania

PHILADELPHIA Labor Youth Council, organized some months ago, has launched the most important project attempted since its organization. This Council, which includes representatives from the Young Peoples' Socialist League, Young Paole Zion, Young Circle League and Student League for Industrial Democracy, has undertaken to run weekly forums in order to present to Philadelphia youth by means of "debates, symposiums and lectures, prominent speakers on current topics and trends in our social, political and economic order."

The following is the program for the first month. The lectures will be given on Sunday evenings at the Labor Educational Center, 415 South 19th Street, at 8 P. M., and will be known as the Labor Youth Forum.

October 13—Herbert Zam: "Seventh Congress of the Communist International." Foreign editor of the SOCIALIST CALL analyses new policy of CI.

October 20—M. Herbert Syme: "Labor Party." Prominent Labor attorney discusses the need and program of Labor Party.

October 27—Jesse H. Holmes, Ph.D.—"Does American Youth Need a New Social Order?" Professor of Philosophy, Swarthmore College, President American Federation of Teachers, Philadelphia Local.

BOOKS

By BRUNO FISCHER

Literature And The Party Line

PROLETARIAN LITERATURE IN THE UNITED STATES: An Anthology. International Publishers, 384 pages, \$2.50.

I regret that I cannot begin this review with a salvo of praise for such an anthology, for there is much in it that is good. But the editors themselves insist that criticism be factional, and for the space of a couple of sentences I shall take them at their word.

Let us get one thing straight. This is not an anthology of proletarian literature but of communist literature. The editors insist that there can be no distinction between the two. They state hearty agreement with Edwin Seaver that authors will no longer be classified as proletarian writers, "but as [Communist] Party writers and non-party writers."

This is dangerous even to communists themselves. For literary art is supposed to have a less ephemeral quality than editorials in the Daily Worker and so cannot keep pace with an eternally changing party line. The result is that a story or poem or review which was communist and proletarian yesterday is counter revolutionary and anti-proletarian today.

I don't know how much was excluded from the anthology because of this reason. But some heinous violations of the party line have managed to creep in. I'll call two to the attention of the editors so that they may be omitted in the next printing and the purity of the party line maintained.

In an article of criticism by Alan Calmer, written, as I remember, about a year ago, Calmer says that Giovannitti lost his talent for poetry "when he became identified with a reactionary section of the labor movement." And what is that reactionary section of the labor movement? Believe it or not, the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union—the union with which less than a year after the article was written the party line urged all good communists who can to become identified.

Another deviation from the party line occurs in a poem by one Alfred Hayes called "To Otto Bauer." It appears that Otto Bauer was guilty of shooting cannon balls into the Karl Marx Hof and slaughtering Austrian workers for the glory of Austrian fascism. But—"They are not crushed, Bauer!" "They marched forth Social Democrats but Bolsheviks they died!" While we may agree that the impetus to march forth to revolution comes from being a Socialist and only dead workers are Bolsheviks, it is

patent that this is not what Hayes meant. He simply doesn't know how to express himself. No matter. The fact remains that since that poem was written the party lines has decreed that Bauer is a leader of the working class, which is further emphasized by the fact that he favors a united front. Has Hayes been driven from the communist ranks for heresy?

There are other deviations, but we'll skip them to get to "Waiting for Lefty" I wish some kind editor would give me space to expose the play for what it is. Suffice it to say here that it was based on an article which Joseph North wrote about a meeting of taxi strikers which he may or may not have attended. I remember that article, and those of us who were to some extent active in the strike were in turn indignant and amused at the liberty North had taken with the facts.

In all fairness, I should like to point out that of the fifty or so writers represented in the anthology, not all are avowed communists. As many as five or six are not, but they are more or less sympathetic to the Communist Party. Needless to say, revolutionary writers of all parties or groups or unattached writers who have not demonstrated their allegiance to Stalin have been excluded.

LENIN

By RALPH FOX
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Let's Look At The Record!

Jack Altman, who describes in this article activities of militant Socialists in the American labor movement, is a member of the national labor committee of the Socialist Party, and was formerly labor secretary of the Socialist Party of New York. He is now business manager of The CALL.

By JACK ALTMAN

What is the relationship of militant Socialists to the trade unions?

They are warm supporters of the trade union movement as all CALL readers know. As union members they fight for strong, aggressive unions, thoroughly democratic in control and untainted by the racketeering that sometimes creeps into the labor movement.

They fight for political action through a labor party, for industrial unions as the strongest kind of organization, for the organization of the unorganized and their training in class-conscious labor education, for the right of all workers to belong to unions regardless of their race or political views.

They neither toady to nor go out of their way to oppose leaders of the unions. Some leaders they admire; some pursue policies they must oppose. But leaders are nobodies without a rank and file, and it is to the men and women in the shops, struggling daily against poverty and insecurity, that militant Socialists look for the motive power that will free labor from exploitation.

campaign in Lebanon, Pa., won the first closed shop in the history of that steel-bossed city.

Zilla Hawes, another Amalgamated organizer, a few weeks ago



DAVID LASSER

led Lynchburg, Va., clothing workers to a sweeping victory.

Franz Daniel, Socialist NEC member, and George Streater are conducting an important Amalgamated strike in Norfolk, Va.

Ed Simpson, president of the Battery Workers Union in Cleveland, led his union through a successful strike, and played a leading part in the organization of the new International Union of Auto Workers.

Douglas Strachan is secretary of the Chrysler Auto Workers local in Detroit.

John Sommerlatte, an official of the Rayon Workers local of the United Textile Workers, in Cleveland played a prominent part in their recent strike, one of the most militant in the history of Cleveland.

Kaz Miller has been made director of the organization committee of the Hosiery Workers in Philadelphia; since he took the job hundreds of new members have been brought in.

Murray Baron, manager of the Suitcase, Bag and Portfolio Workers Union, led his union in a highly successful strike.

Murray Gross led the fight for his union, the powerful Local 22 of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, for a labor party at the recent convention of bor.

TEACHERS' UNIONS

Militant Socialists have led the fight for unity in the Teachers Union. They have urged Lefkowitz and Linville to reconsider their unfortunate splitting stand and to remain with the union. Their determined fight against dualism has been precisely the stand of the N. Y. Central Trades and Labor Assembly. Vice-President John Munholland of that body has taken a firm stand against dualism in the Teachers Union, despite the claims of James Oneal that other unions would support Lefkowitz and Linville.

Leonard Duncan led the strike of rubber workers at Willoughby, Ohio. Joe Long is president of the Rubber Workers Union in Canton, Ohio, and a member of the Socialist SEC.

Carl Brannin, Octavia Edwards, Virginia Monk and others played

a leading part in aiding the heroic strike of ILGWU in Dallas.

Jack Rubenstein, organizer for the Dyers Federation of the U. T. W., has been conducting a successful organization campaign in New England.

Coy Fulton, secretary of the Tri-Cities Central Labor Union at Muscle Shoals, Ala.; Jane Wheeler, Blanche Yukers, Mary Hayes, W. M. Doyle and others at Mobile; Claude Williams, in Arkansas; Myles Horton and James Dombrowski, in Tennessee, and Edward and Martha Johnson, in Georgia, are a few of the Southern Socialists who have won wide popularity in union ranks because of their militancy.

Harold Rasmussen and Bob Parkinson are today well known leaders of the steel workers unions in the Gary-South Chicago district.

FARM WORKERS

H. L. Mitchell, J. R. Butler, Howard Kester and Ward Rodgers, with the invaluable aid of Norman Thomas and Dr. William R. Amberson, built the now famous Southern Tenant Farmers Union—probably the most significant thing in which the Socialist Party has participated in the last year.

Norman Thomas, Powers Hapgood and Lee Vernon, with the hearty support of the Indiana Federation of Labor, the Terre Haute Central Labor Union, the Chicago Federation of Labor and many other labor bodies, are leading the fight against bayonet rule in Indiana today. T. N. Taylor, president of the Indiana Federation, in introducing Thomas to a huge crowd, said: "I am proud of be associated with these radicals."

The above named are a few of the militant Socialists whose devotion, clear thought, judgment and constructive efforts have won them the respect and admiration of even the more conservative trade unionists. But Comrade Oneal in his New Leader article makes the sweeping and reckless charge that militant Socialists are alienating, not alone themselves but the party, from the unions and that they must be "halted" in their "suicidal policies."

Comrade Oneal, is it these comrades—or is it the Nembers, the Hochsteins and the Longs—that give the Socialist Party a black eye among union men? Are these the militants and these the "suicidal policies" you want halted?

HIGH FINANCE



In a deal too complicated for most stockholders to understand, J. P. Morgan & Co. forced an auction of key stocks of the Van Swerigen brothers' railroad empire, returning control to the Van Swerigens for a mere \$3,121,000 of a three-billion dollar system. George Whitney, Morgan partner, is seen leaving the auction room after the sale.

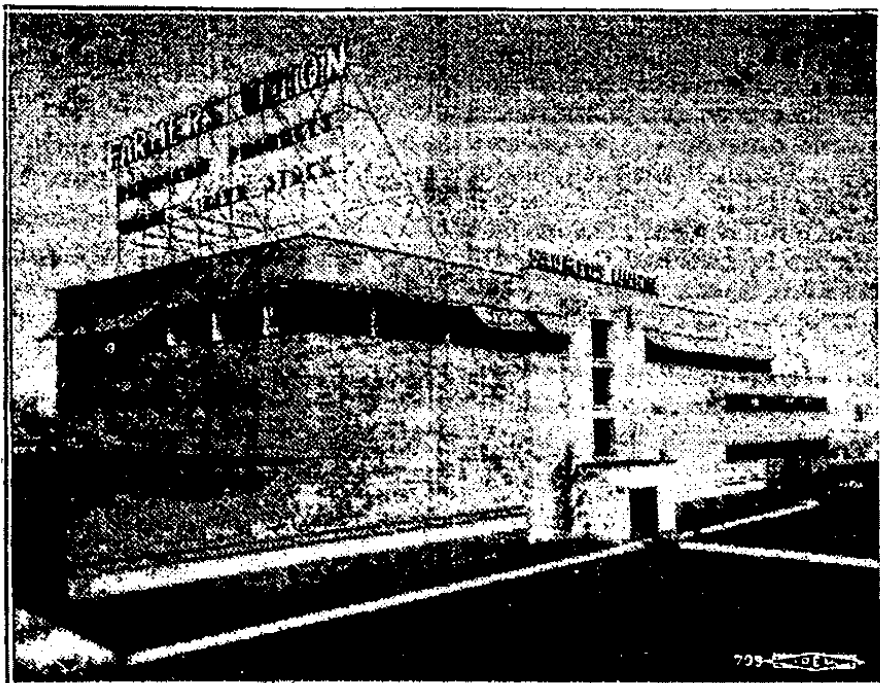
Radio Operators' Strike Is Solid

NEW YORK.—Transatlantic and transpacific radio circuits were paralyzed this week, as radio operators of the Mackay Radio and Telegraph Company left their posts in a demand for union recognition and higher pay.

STUDENT OUTLOOK

NEW YORK.—The October issue of The Student Outlook contains among other articles a statement from the national executive committee of the Student League for Industrial Democracy on the proposed amalgamation with the National Student League and an article "Negro Education and Status" by Lionel Florant.

THE HOUSE CO-OPERATION BUILT



This modern \$80,000 plant in St. Paul, Minn., is owned by more than 100,000 persons, members of the Farmers' Union Oil Cooperative in the midwest.

Consumers' Cooperation

By BENJAMIN H. WOLF

The church has generally considered one of the chief institutional bulwarks of the status quo. It is more than news when an existing church movement comes out flatly for social change. This week two items in the church field are worthy of notice in this respect. The Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America has voted to sponsor a "National Seminar on the Consumer's Cooperative Movement" to be held in Indianapolis December 30 and 31. Dr. Toyohiko Kagawa, leader of the Japanese cooperative movement which has confounded the jingoists and imperialists of that island empire, will meet with the seminar.

In Kansas City, the Missouri Methodist Conference unanimously approved a resolution endorsing the consumers' cooperative movement, calling upon their ministers and laymen to organize cooperative enterprises of every sort wherever possible.

COLLECTIVE BARGAINING FOR CONSUMERS. Pamphlet. Issued by Cooperative Distributors, Inc., 30 Irving Place, New York City. 10 cents a copy.

One of the most important of new techniques in building cooperatives is sponsored by Cooperative Distributors, Inc. Instead of establishing the traditional cooperative store, they would organize consumers' unions, which require little or no investment and which would depend for its effectiveness almost entirely upon collective bargaining much in the manner of trade unions. Such a technique has little risk attached to it. There is no need, for instance, of expert managerial guidance. Nor is it difficult to organize groups when very little money is needed as capital.

No study of the consumers' cooperative movement can be adequately made without an examination of the workings of Cooperative Distributors, Inc., and as an introduction, this pamphlet is superb. Besides a general sketch of the history of cooperation, it contains a concise statement of the principles and methods on which they rely.

Cooperative Distributors' work has been most effective. It has grown steadily and with increasing strides. Started by a group of labor leaders and intellectuals in 1933, in spite of the handicap of little financial support, it has organized over 50 local consumers' unions. It issues a magazine which already has a distribution of 60,000.

Tenant farmers in America would do well to study the success of cooperatives in Denmark. The Danes have gone a long way in their effort to throw off the yoke of absentee landlordism by cooperative action.

In 1850 some 42 per cent of the farms in Denmark were owned by persons who did not till the soil. Today only 3 per cent of the farms are operated by tenants. In contrast, tenancy in the United States has increased from 25.6 per cent in 1880 to 42 per cent in 1930.

The Danes have gotten together to build the beginning of a system of production and distribution for use and not for profit. Their greatest single tool has been cooperative action. Teach the farmers to mass their purchasing power and productive efforts and the absentee owners will be routed. The lesson learned by such united action will help make good Socialists out of our farm tenants.

NATIONAL POLICY

This is not the policy of left-wingers alone; it has long been the approved policy of the national party, and should be the practice of ALL Socialists. It is the practice of most. For giving vigorous support to this policy, militant Socialists need no defense. But when James Oneal—who has been singularly quiet about the malpractices of one prominent right-winger repudiated by responsible AFL leaders and the disgraceful conduct of another, an editor, who fired thirteen reporters, one a Socialist, in an effort to destroy a Newspaper Guild unit—makes the reckless charge that militant Socialists are alienating the Socialist Party from the trade unions, it is time to answer with an examination of the record.

Within recent months militant Socialists have "alienated" themselves from the trade unions as follows:

John Green, national president, and Philip Van Gelder, national secretary of the Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers of America, led to a sweeping victory the outstanding strike of the year—the sixteen-week Camden shipyard strike of 4,600 men. They were given financial and moral encouragement by the United Mine Workers, the ILGWU, the Amalgamated Clothing Workers and scores of local unions.

UNEMPLOYED

David Lasser, as national chairman of the Workers Alliance, has established an excellent working relationship with the American Federation of Labor and the New York trade-unions in the fight for union wages on relief jobs.

John C. Taylor, Elmer Ledford, Tim McCormick, Eugene Cole, Homer Hylton and other militant Socialists have been in the forefront of every important strike in Toledo. Taylor organized and led the first outstanding strike of office workers in the U. S.—the walk-out of the Toledo Edison office workers.

Newman Jeffry, in charge of the Amalgamated Clothing cam-

Coleman Reviews The Week

Chit Chat and This and That Concerning Shows and Things

By McALISTER COLEMAN

After a faltering start in the course of which several weird ideas of dramatic entertainment were unfolded before slightly befogged audiences, Broadway's season may now be officially pronounced under way. With the blessings of the new royalty, Alfred Lunt and Lynn Fontanne, the posthumous sponsorship of a playwright named Shakespeare and the appearance of a smart Society show, last week marched triumphantly forward. It was marked by the usual superlative performance of the Guild's distinguished couple in "The Taming of the Shrew" and a memorable job by James Bell in John Van Druten's new show, "Most of the Game." On the whole, things are looking up, and if the pace holds, this season promises to be chockful of interest for all sorts and varieties of people. For the mystery mugs, there is "Night of January 16th" and "Blind Alley," for pacifists, "Paths of Glory" and "If This Be Treason," for romanticists, "Remember the Day," for Shakespearean lovers, revivals at the Barrymore Theatre and "The Taming of the Shrew," for poets, "Winterset," for hoity-toity fun, "Most of the Game."

"Taming Of The Shrew"

THE TAMING OF THE SHREW, produced by the Theatre Guild, with the assistance of William Shakespeare. At the Guild Theatre, New York.

Quite evidently every one up at the Guild rolled up his sleeves, gritted his artistic teeth and said, "Now by God, we'll show them." And show them The Guild did. Alfred Lunt and Lynn Fontanne went to work on a scheme of production of The Shrew that made the eyes of the old-timers bulge out with its rowdy-dowdylism. Harry Wagstaff Gribble did the direction, Carolyn Hancock the altogether charming settings and Clagget Wilson the colorful costumes.

Alfred and Lynn bounce boisterously about, biting and clawing like Medwick and Owen at last year's Navin Field's display. All sorts of interpolations such as acrobats, clowns, funny horses and dwarfs come amazingly into the performance. Of course, the old-line critics took off their shoes, bowed three times towards the east and fairly foamed their applause. This was sure fire. You couldn't very well miss on two of our foremost actors in The Shrew. But, just the same, we couldn't help wondering why such a slew of art and talent had to be showered on Shakespeare, and whether there are a lot of kids with manuscripts up their sleeves who are getting all the breaks they might from an organization originally, at all events, devised to do something in a big way for our indigenous drama.

"Most Of The Game"

MOST OF THE GAME, by John Van Druten, staged by Aurio Lee, setting by Raymond Sover. At the Cort Theatre, New York.

As intimated above, most of this play is James Bell, he of the Jeeter Lester family of "Tobacco Road." Bell plays the part of a newspaper man who has picked himself a cushy job as secretary to a successful British author and playwright. That is, it looked cushy at the start. But very soon the secretary found that he had bumped into a mess of domestic troubles barging in and out of the author's swank apartment. How he straightens these tangled affairs out with the assistance of a load of potent hooch is the slim story of the play.

What delights an old newspaper man in the restrained performance of Mr. Bell's is that he acts like a real newspaperman instead of the usual stage combination of dipsomaniac and illiterate gangster. He is even restrained when he is right, just feeling

"The Reapers" Given By Artef

THE REAPERS, by Siskind Lier, directed by Benno Schneider, presented by the Artef Players Collective at the Artef Theatre.

Dedicated to the drama of the Left, the only Jewish workers' art theatre in this country anticipate their program of repertory with a short run of this dramatic study of peasant rebellion in a Ukrainian village.

In 1924 scattered sections of the U. S. S. R. had yet to be collectivized, and along the Polish frontier many Ukrainian villages had their Counts, wealthy peasants and exploited serfs of the old order. One Graf imports Polish workers for the Ukrainian harvest to the delight of the rich peasants who plan to cut the already miserable wage; thereafter the Poles can be ousted. Mikola, a Bolshevik, organizes the serfs, effects unity and joint action between Pole and Ukrainian, and they go on strike. The play ends as the militia is called in, the strikers answering with a conflagration of the crops they refused to harvest.

But, there is no getting away from the fact that the collective

puts on a swell show. Competency, imaginativeness and vigor are all to be found in the performance of the entire cast. No individual bows were taken, but we must make especial reference to M. Goldstein, A. Horowitz, Chiam Brisman, J. Velichansky, L. Freilich, and the beautiful Dena Drute.

Mark the Artef Group number one on your list for all their productions this season.

J. H. S.

RADIO PLAY IN CHICAGO

CHICAGO—"The Story of the IIGWU," popular radio play in six scenes written by Florence Lasser of New York, will be presented over WCFL, operated by the Chicago Federation of Labor. The presentation in New York over WEVD was electrically transcribed.

seen, you are hanging tight to your seat before the end.

The strain here is never mental but there's plenty on the nerves. Muni is such an intense and disarming personality as to give a lift to any picture, no matter how trivial its theme. When you want to forget war, economics, the depression and all, take a night off and go see "Dr. Socrates."

MISS PARK AVE.



Gladys Shelley in "Moon Over Mulberry Street" at the Mansfield.

a bit at the right moments and keeping the old brain on the job. You covered your assignment with distinction, Mr. Bell, and we hope to see a lot more of you when "Most of the Game" (which looks as though it would keep you occupied for some time to come) is over. Also we expect to see Dorothy Hyson, who makes her debut in Van Druten's latest in lots more important roles. And, by the way, Mr. Van Druten, you really know better than to waste your fine talents on such a bunch of rich riff-raff as clutter up your stage in this amusing play.

Paul Muni As "Dr. Socrates"

DR. SOCRATES, a photoplay, presenting Paul Muni, at the Strand Theatre, New York.

Whatever he does, Muni does with such masterly competence that he can even keep the G-Man picture alive and kicking. In this picture the Warner Bros., with a story by William Burnett, give us Muni as a doctor who has come to a small town to forget a medical mistake that lost him his girl.

He won't mix with the natives, is sent to coventry and is going down and out with a vengeance, when along comes the god from the machine in the shape of the gangster Red Bastian. Red has been shooting up the Middle West generally, and in the course of it has been plugged in the arm. "Dr. Socrates," as the natives derisively call Lee Caldwell (played by Muni) because he has been caught reading a book on philosophy, fixes up Red. And thereby gets into a peck of trouble. A charming hitch-hiker, played by Ann Dvorak, further complicates matters, and no matter how many of these gangster things you see, you

Labor Guide to the Theatre

| Labor significance is marked as follows: †—Further the issue. 1—Unconsciously attacks the issue. 2—A direct attack on the issue. 0—Lacking treatment. | LABOR ISSUES | | | | | |
|---|------------------|------------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| | Organized Labor | Exposure of Capitalism | Fight on Fascism | Racial Equality | Civil Liberties | International Peace |
| ENTERTAINMENT VALUE **** Very good ** So-so *** Good * Nil | | | | | | |
| A SLIGHT CASE OF MURDER*** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| ANYTHING GOES*** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| A TOUCH OF BRIMSTONE* | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| SKETCH BOOK** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| IF THIS BE TREASON* | † | † | † | † | † | † |
| MOON OVER MULBERRY STREET* | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| MOST OF THE GAME**** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| PATHS OF GLORY** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | † |
| PERSONAL APPEARANCE**** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| SQUARING THE CIRCLE**** | (Returns Not In) | | | | | |
| TAMING OF THE SHREW** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| THREE MEN ON A HORSE** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| TOBACCO ROAD**** | † | † | 0 | † | 0 | † |
| WINTERSET** | † | † | 0 | † | † | 0 |
| RED SALUTE* (BOYCOTT) | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 2 |

CALL BOARD

RED SALUTE was saluted with a mass picket line last Saturday. The police took charge from 8:00 to 8:45 P. M. No one could get near the box office. Thanks a lot, officers!

PEPO COMES TO THE CAMEO. It's a new Soviet film, an Armenian-Soviet film this time and will have its premiere Wednesday, October 9.

BERTHA BROUGHT BACK. The Old Fifth Avenue Theatre will revive that famed classic, "Bertha the Sewing Machine Girl" or "Death at the Wheel". The resurrection will take place on October 25. Stern and Damroth perform the miracle.

NEW THEATRE will not neglect New York. From the Dakota hills, bayous of Louisiana and various other interesting places comes the word that the New Theatre is up and doing. The Civic Repertory will be the setting for the New York campaign for better social drama. October 12.

GHOST OF LEOPOLD AUER will sit into Town Hall Sunday afternoon, October 20. The International Music Guild, Auer's proteges, will start their series of concerts with a recital by the eminent violinist, Benno Rabinoif. There will be a commentary by the music-critic, Leonard Leibling.

CORNELL'S ROMEO & JULIET slighted New York this season. News has come that she has planned a tour through a score of American cities and then, just as an afterthought remarks that if a suitable place could be found in this dump (Manhattan Isle) she might stop in, just for a fortnight at Christmas.

SUCCESSOR TO "Lives of a Bengal Lancer." Gary Grant, Claude Rains, Gertrude Michael and others will head the cast of "The Last Outpost" coming to the Paramount Theatre, Friday.

THOMAS WILL SPEAK as the guest of the League for Political Education this season at Town Hall. There is a staggering list of other celebrities scheduled also. They include Will Durant, Sir Norman Angell, Everett Dean Martin, Lewis Corey, Afanogenov, Flynn, A. A. Berle and others.

-B. B. B.

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AT THE FRONT



.. By ..
NORMAN THOMAS

In this issue of The CALL appears a thesis on the Socialist attitude toward war which deserves the most careful attention. I shall probably discuss it and the vital issues of life and death which it raises more fully and carefully at a later time. My first reaction to it is that in spite of the great care which the authors have taken to guard essential Socialist interests as against imperialism, they are encouraging on the whole what I think to be the dangerous delusion that Socialists can manipulate war between rival imperialisms for their own advantage; that there is some short cut toward the Socialist goal which is entirely opposed to capitalist nationalism in the politics of contending nationalist nations. In short, that there may be a "good war."

But whatever the situation as it appears to European Socialists, in countries already connected with the League, it is of the utmost importance for us in America to clarify the line of action which we want to work for in this country in the present emergency and in the greater emergencies which are likely to arise either immediately out of the present situation or in the next few years.

A SOCIALIST POSITION

It seems to me that the wholly desirable position for the Socialist Party is this: We must insist upon the most rigorous and far reaching neutrality—a neutrality declared to be a national principle now as applicable toward belligerents and prospective belligerents in any war. If later we want to make exceptions it must be by solemn and formal act and not by

power entrusted to the President. This neutrality to be effective must put a ban on loans, on the travel of Americans in the ships of nations at war, and upon all exports of arms, munitions, implements of war and supplies which will prolong the life of war and enable our profit makers to coin the blood of foreign soldiers into gold.

I do not believe that we ought to starve the civilian population. I should therefore favor excepting from this embargo to belligerents the export of foodstuffs and other materials necessary for civilian populations in an amount equal to the average of the preceding five years. Care should be taken that under this neutrality provision no attempt is made to insist by force upon the right of Americans to export goods which the League of Nations should declare to be contraband in the execution of economic sanctions. But that is as far as we should go in connection with the League of Nations.

THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

We shall probably be told sooner or later in this emergency or another that whatever the faults of the League it now stands as the expression of the conscience of the world against the aggressor. We shall be asked, therefore, to join with it. This request will not be effective unless powerful commercial and banking interests decide that by joining with the League we shall get more in the way of trade than in any other way.

It will not be the ideal internationalism—if it be ideal—of the few, but the practical interests of the profit-makers which will throw us into the arms of the League

which has already failed. That way lies another war to enforce peace—a war, the effect of which in America would be to destroy whatever democracy we have left and to bring a new tyranny upon us.

Let it be clear, The League has already failed. It may still be that it can accomplish something by sanctions, short of general war. It may be that there is a certain very moderate advantage in having Mussolini's act of piracy formally condemned. But observe the facts. The League did not act against Japan when Japan was guilty of a crime as great or greater against China than Mussolini is committing against Ethiopia. The League looked the other way while France conquered the Riffs. The League never noticed it when only this summer England reached a separate naval agreement with Hitler.

If as recently as the Stresa Conference England and France had informed Mussolini that acting through the League they would prevent his African adventure, a settlement might have been reached. He had a right to think that the Powers would not act in view of their own record. They have been selling him goods almost to the very last minute. It was the British Shoe Workers' Union which challenged the crime of supplying Mussolini with goods. It was not the government. The government supported instead a ban upon the Ethiopians. The League did nothing until Mussolini had moved his troops through the Canal and was well fitted out for his African race.

Even Russia pleading the old excuses of treaties and contracts made money by supplying Mus-

solini's African camp with grain and coal tar stuffs. What greater proof do we need that the League has failed? It is acting now only because England's imperialist interests are vitally menaced by Mussolini's expedition, and French interests are menaced only to a less degree. The League is acting now only because France and England are on the verge of renewing the alliance which had much to do with bringing on the first World War.

The lesson is plain. We cannot get peace by imposing a League of Nations upon the chaos and inherent strife of rival capitalist nations. The League has never done anything to open to the less privileged nations a better access to the riches of earth. On the contrary, the very nations which belong to the League have built higher their tariff walls and conducted such currency wars as to shut out the less privileged nations—Japan, Germany, and Italy—from anything approaching a fair access to the raw materials and to finished products which modern invention and the modern power it commands. It is this fact which helped give birth to that sinister phenomenon, Fascism. Even if Italy and Germany had not gone fascist in time there would have been a division between the nations which have and the nations which have not—a division which the League has in no way mended.

MUSSOLINI'S ADVENTURE

To say this is not to excuse Mussolini. It is not even to argue that what he will gain if he is successful in conquering Ethiopia will be worth the cost to his country. It is simply to point out the psychological and practical effect of capitalist nationalism.

To say this is not to encourage Mussolini. What we all hope is that his own people will overthrow his dictatorship. This I think is far more likely if he finds in his Ethiopian adventure a long drawn out and costly struggle than if he can pose before his people as their champion against rival imperialisms. Suppose those rival imperialisms do conquer him, what will they do with Italy? What, indeed, will they do with Ethiopia whose Emperor, Haile Selassie, was so willing to give half of his kingdom to the tender mercies of the Standard Oil Co.

Even now there is a chance that the present crisis will not precipitate a general European war. Sanctions will be relatively mild. But if sanctions or some untoward incident results in war, unless that war is extraordinarily short, inevitably the League will not and cannot present a united front of nations against Italy. Rival European ambitions will be too much for it. It is in the event of such a general conflagration that the danger of America's being drawn in will be greater.

Hence the necessity now, first of all for the most rigorous type of neutrality and, next, for teaching as we have never taught before that the peace of the world rests upon a reorganization of the world effected by workers with hand and brain who know that only in a federation of cooperative commonwealths can there be deliverance from war and tyranny. It is the underground movement and not national cabinets to which we must look for delivery. It is the workers who must insist upon the only half-

way effective sanctions that can be built up against war and imperialism.

RED-HUNTING IN THE AFL

It ought not to be necessary to argue in the Socialist press that it will be a blunder as well as a crime if the American Federation of Labor Convention goes off on a Red-hunting expedition in an effort perhaps to harmonize differences on industrial unionism and other vital issues by a united front of witch-hunters. There is no way to have an effective union movement on the basis of the exclusion of members of a particular party or those who think a different way from officers of the union. By their acts they must be judged and by their loyalty to the workers.

UNEMPLOYMENT AND WAR

Did you notice that the Report of the Labor Office at Geneva about the increase in employment in Europe amounting to around a million workers specifically states that most of the new employment is due to war preparations in Italy and Germany? A great world this that we live in! We can find jobs for men for purposes of destruction but not to create abundance.

THE FOURTEENTH AMENDMENT

I have just received word that the application for an injunction against the Governor of Indiana, and others, was turned down by the Federal Court. If any proof was lacking this furnishes it, that the 14th amendment will protect property always but not liberty. No wonder we need a Workers' Rights Amendment!

Amalgamated Seeks Unity With Tailors

NEW YORK (FP)—A special meeting of the executive board of the Journeymen Tailors' Union will be called following the American Federation of Labor convention at Atlantic City to consider the proposal of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America for a merger of the two groups, Secretary William Reznicek, of the JTU has informed President Sidney Hillman of the Amalgamated.

The Amalgamated's proposal was made recently in an effort to abolish repeated jurisdictional disputes by creating a broad, well-organized industrial union.

Prosperity In Naziland

BERLIN (TIS)—Capitalism is doing quite well in Hitler's Third Reich, according to tax figures reported by the Nazi Economic Press Service. The fees received by the directors and other executive members of the leading industrial companies in 1934 were nearly 30 per cent higher than those of 1933. A further increase has been reported for the early part of 1935.

IN SECOND WEEK

NEW YORK—Strike lines held solid as the strike of the Bookkeepers, Stenographers and Accountants' Union against the Metropolitan News Co. entered its second week.

GREEN FIGHTS PROGRESSIVES

(Continued from page two)

state federations, city central labor bodies and federal local unions.

Your correspondent alone has seen an advance copy of a fiery speech which Gorman will make next week. This speech is certain to make him an outstanding leader of radical labor.

Federal Unions Organize
Industrial unionism is the overshadowing issue of the convention. Although craft unions apparently have a slim majority, industrial union advocates are prepared to make a sharp fight and the outcome is doubtful. Almost forty industrial resolutions have been introduced by various international and local unions. The federal local delegates are well organized to fight against being split into crafts, with many Socialists, including Sam Baron, noted New York Socialist and union leader, taking a leading role.

The craft unions have taken the offensive and the photo-engravers' union, led by the notorious Matthew Woll, and the printing pressmen's union, under the leadership of George Berry, are demanding that the lithographers be dismembered. Raids are being planned by craft unions upon the membership of the Oil Field, Gas Well and Refinery Workers and Brewery Workers.

Craft Raid Rumored
The convention delegates were electrified Monday by a rumor which quickly swept their ranks that a craft-union raid would be attempted on the United Mine Workers, in retaliation against the Lewis leadership in the fight

David Lasser, militant Socialist leader of the Workers' Alliance of America, national unemployed organization, has been invited to address the convention. About 40 delegates are Socialists, significant of gains made by the Socialist philosophy among organized labor during the past year. Last year less than half this number were Socialists. Circulating through the convention was Leo Krzycki, national chairman of the Socialist Party and vice-president of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America. He was greeted warmly by scores of unionists whose strikes he has aided during the past year.

Ask Hillquit Bill
The International Ladies Garment Workers' Union offered a resolution endorsing the Hillquit Workers' Rights Amendment to the U. S. Constitution. The amendment, endorsed by more than a million organized workers, provides for congressional power to legislate for workers' welfare. It was drawn up by Morris Hillquit, late national chairman of the Socialist Party, and the campaign for its adoption has been directed by the Socialist Party and various labor unions.

The question of union democracy will arise in a resolution proposed by the executive council amending the AFL constitution to bar communists. Although it was expected that the resolution will pass, opinions differed on its application. It was practically certain that the progressive unions like the needle-trades would ignore the order to oust communists

from unions because of their political opinions.

Teachers' Union
The first test of this question will take place when the credentials committee passes on the ad-

Dissident elements who split from the American Federation of Teachers after the progressive convention victory have formed a dual union, "The Teachers Guild."

mission of Florence Curtis Hanson, secretary of the Teachers' Union, as delegate. It was in the teachers' union that a split recently occurred when the hitherto dominant group walked out after defeat at a national convention, branding the progressive victors as "communists."

Observers pointed out that this attempt to brand all opposition as "communist" would become prevalent if the AFL constitutional amendment is passed. Progressive forces will make a fight of the issue, declaring that no labor union has a right to deny a worker membership because of political opinions.

Greetings to the convention from President Roosevelt were received silently, in sharp contrast to the enthusiastic reception given him last year. The convention was expected to take action against Governor Paul McNutt of Indiana, the Hoosier Hitler, by adopting a resolution introduced by the Indiana Federation of Labor praising the fight made by Socialists and labor leaders against martial law in Terre Haute