

# VOICE OF LABOR

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## RUTHENBERG TRIAL OPENS

### GREAT PLOT NIPPED IN BUD BY BURN'S SLEUTHS

#### Judge However Told Arrested Victims to Take Their Hats and Go

WASHINGTON.—The great Bolshevik plot to burn and loot Washington on May day has been nipped in the bud! Fourteen of the fifteen desperate revolutionists seized by the department of justice on Monday night were turned loose on Tuesday, and the fifteenth was freed on order of a constituted court on Wednesday. Finding itself safe and sound and back where it started, the national capital breathes easily and gives a vote of thanks to Sherlock O'Day, the Daugherty lieutenant who got his name in the papers by bounding up the desperadoes.

On Wednesday Justice Hoehling listened patiently while the local police and department of justice tried to make out a case against Edward J. Irvine, reputed secretary of the local Workers' Party. But after enjoying one postponement of the case from 10 A. M. until 3 P. M., the defenders of law and order were forced to confess that while they had no evidence against Irvine as yet, they "hoped to

### Second Test in Struggle Between Progress and Reaction Staged in St. Joe

The trial of C. E. Ruthenberg, secretary of the Workers Party of America opened in Saint Joseph on Monday, April 16. This is the second trial arising out of the raid on the communist convention held in Michigan last August. The failure of reaction, led by the labor hating attorney general to railroad Foster to jail was a bitter disappointment to them but they are determined to keep up the attempt to secure victims. Ruthenberg is the man selected for the next attempt.

Much depends on the outcome of the present trial for the labor movement in general. Every effort will be used by the stool pigeon brigade led by the notorious liar and allround scoundrel William J. Burns to drive the communist movement underground again where his human vermin can do their foul work and enable him to milk the capitalists of this country of millions of dollars.

Funds must be raised to back up Ruthenberg who is holding aloft the unblemished banner of communism in Saint Joseph, Mich. Foster and Ruthenberg in their splendid stand as defendant and witness respectively at the first trial have won the respect of every honest revolutionist in the country regardless of affiliation. But this must be said. Only for the financial support given by the workers which enabled the Labor Defense Council to secure the services of the best legal talent in America to defend Foster a different result might have ensued.

The Labor Defense Council with national headquarters at 166 W. Washington St., Chicago, Ill. and branches in a hundred principal cities is exerting every effort to the end that Ruthenberg will be acquitted. A dollar invested in Labor Defense now will yield dividends for labor that would make the Standard Oil Company ashamed of its meager profits.

### KANSAS POLICE RAID LABOR DEFENSE MEETING

#### Five Workers Held and Fined \$200 Each for "Disorderly Conduct."

After practically admitting that his decision to slap a two hundred dollar fine on members of organized labor in the Kansas City, Mo., was unwarranted and a kick in the face to even capitalist "justice," Judge Fleming finished by declaring that "he did not believe in the doctrines which that meeting apparently stood for."

The five workers arrested and fined are C. E. Kable, John Noonan, Frederick Simmons, E. Peterson and George McLaughlin. The Kansas City papers gave different versions of the arrest, some of them claiming it was an L. W. W. meeting.

When attorney for the defendants stated that this "was a free country," the judge emphasized the truth of the communist contention that there cannot be democracy or freedom under class rule for the subject class, explained with emphasis, "This is not a free country for radicals. We, of the general public, are going to run this country for some time longer." This vendor of general bunk is typical of the kind of citizen who finds his way to the bench in a police court.

Culture and knowledge are alien to this type. They would have made good holdup men if chance did not place them where they could better serve those who hold up the workers legally and by the process of capitalist law in robbing labor of the product of its toil.

The following excellent story of the arrest and subsequent development is written by a young comrade.

KANSAS CITY.—Mother Bloor addressed a meeting of about 250, principally trade union members, on April 11. She contrasted tellingly the results obtained by the "practical, materialist German socialist" with those of the work of the "dreamy idealist Russians." She started to discuss the farce that anti-red activity has made of the Bills of Rights in the different constitutions. These guarantee free press and the right to assemble peacefully.

At this point Fink Webb (who very strongly resembles Bob Minor's cartoon of Spolansky) burst in dramatically. He evidently feared the crowd might not take Mother Bloor's words seriously without auxiliary tangible demonstration. He marched forward, holding a police shield, noticeably smaller than a tea tray, up above his head. "Shut up! Meeting closed!" he yelled, incessantly. The crowd rippled out in a very resentful mood, grabbing dozers of future meetings and vowing they'd sure attend.

Comrade Johnson is to be commended for his presence of mind and accurate estimate of the ability of lips to obey the sixth commandment. He was seen shoveling the proceeds of tickets and book sales into his pockets with a businesslike look in his eye.

Irish Radical Meeting Will Be Held April 21

Capt. E. Monteith, Irish republican soldier, and one of those who helped James Connolly to organize the Irish Citizen Army, the army of the Irish labor movement, prior to the Easter Week rebellion, will speak here on Saturday evening, April 21, in Emmet Memorial Hall, corner of Ordway Ave. and Taylor St.

Thomas O'Flaherty, editor of the Voice of Labor, will speak on the Irish workers in the American labor movement. Capt. Monteith will tell the story of his experience in Germany and his adventure with Roger Casement on the submarine, which took both from Germany to Ireland in 1916.

### BURN'S AGENCY TRYING HARD TO GET VICTIM

By JOE CARROLL.

Again they have failed. The attempt by the united forces of the capitalist industrial overlords to "get" Wm. Z. Foster, because his success in persuading the great masses of the workers to organize for their own benefit rather than for the benefit of their exploiters has failed. And there have been failures recently of such attempts in other cases. But this fact will only increase the efforts of the "frame-up" specialists, in the interests of their employers.

As in Williamson county, Illinois, and in Logan county, W. Va., the taxpayers of Berrien county, Michigan, have demonstrated their unwillingness to act as the cat's paw of capitalism, for use in the suppression of workers' industrial organization. And the fakeries of the Burns Detective Agency, like those of the Baldwin-Feltz outfit of infamous memory, must now be paid for—wherever used—just as the "Department of Justice" itself is financed, by the capitalist masters of the present United States government.

Trying to Strengthen Frameup.

Having failed to obtain a conviction of this first case before the Circuit Court of Berrien county, the Department of Justice and its Burns Agency sub-department are now busily engaged in "framing" new "evidence," with which to impose upon the credulity and the pockets of the citizens who have been paying the costs of such prosecutions.

The next case of this sort which the people of Berrien county will be asked to finance is that of C. E. Ruthenberg, executive secretary of the Workers' Party of America, scheduled to begin on Monday, April 16, in the same county court which has just completed a three weeks experiment in such gratuitous service.

One business man of St. Joseph, where the trial was held—a former member of a railroad workers' union—expressed himself in those words: "The whole thing seems to be an attempt to prevent repeal of the Criminal Syndicalism Law in this state—and that is certainly not a good law for union men." Another expressed himself even more strongly to the same effect: "If the decision had gone against this man Foster, then the whole American labor movement would have been shattered." And in support of such expression of opinion, is the fact that the state assembly has now under consideration a bill for repeal of the Criminal Syndicalism Law, filed by the Michigan State Federation of Labor.

### Voice of Labor Editor to Report Ruthenberg Trial

Our special May Day edition will have special articles by Bishop William M. Brown, James Cannon, C. E. Ruthenberg, Norman Tallentire, Harry Gannes and Israel Amter, Jay Lovestone, Charles Krumbine, Arno Swabeck, Mikitz Loeb, J. Ramirez and Earl Browder. The editor of the Voice of Labor will report the Ruthenberg trial for the workers' party press and the Voice of Labor will carry first hand stories of the great legal battle. Send in your orders now for bundles of the May Day edition. Write to N. Dozenberg, Business Manager, Voice of Labor, 2517 Fullerton Ave., Chicago, Ill.

### FASCISTI ON THE DECLINE.

Mussolini's government is tottering. The champion fourthouser of the world is now beginning to learn that a government founded on carnage, arson and robbery cannot live. One by one his supporters are leaving him and rebellion prevails in his own camp. The last and most damaging blow to his brigand reign is the defection of the Catholic church, which he placated into an open alliance by expelling the Freemasons and replacing the crucifixes in the schools.

But the world reaction against the bloody rule of Fascism has caused the Vatican to reverse its decision. It now turns on Mussolini and leaves him politically naked. Another thorn in his side is the meeting of the socialists and communists at Milan to consider fusion. The united front of labor in Italy will mean the death blow of Fascism and the restoration of the morale of the radical movement in Italy presages a communist government in the near future.

### Foster, Johannsen, Buck to Speak Here April 27

With a trio of speakers such as are seldom seen here at any mass meeting another onslaught will be leveled at the Burns-Daugherty crew of labor baiters when William Z. Foster, Anton Johannsen and Robert M. Buck address a labor defense demonstration at the Ashland Auditorium Friday evening, April 27. It is a misuse of the term to call this meeting a "defense" meeting for like all else connected with the defense of the men and women on trial in the Michigan Criminal Syndicalism case, the meeting will be an offensive, militant demonstration against the enemies of labor.

On the Offensive.

Even before the Foster trial ended with success for the labor movement, in fact shortly after the Bridgeman raids, the Labor Defense Council has been maintaining to a great extent an offensive attack. In the same way Burns and his cohorts of the industrial underworld have been forced to defend their position and their acts in causing the raids. After the Baldwin exposure of the vile practices of the detective agencies caused such a furor through the country that these stool pigeons and gunmen were forced to take even mere to cover. On top of all this and as a direct result of the Michigan case, a bill for the repeal of the Michigan Criminal Syndicalism Law was introduced into the Michigan legislature. American sentiment which allowed these infamous criminal syndicalist bills to be passed in thirty-five states in 1919 has now taken an about face and is beginning to see the danger of such anti-labor legislation.

Preparation for the "fair and impartial trial" of this case, the full power of the capitalist press was enlisted upon the side of the prosecution.

It will be a big job for the all too limited facilities of the workers' press to offset the tremendous influence which will be exerted by these anti-labor propaganda publicity organs. But it is a job that must be undertaken and persisted in, until further prosecution of these cases is stopped.

Full information with regard to the various phases of this work may be had upon application to the Labor Defense Council, room 307, 166 W. Washington St. (Chicago Federation Building), Chicago, Ill.

Financial support for the defense of the remaining trials is urgently needed, all liberty loving persons are urged to send them to the Labor Defense Council at the above address.

Since the French were... The capitalist governments did threaten to cut off France from associating with "civilized" nations. Had the French executed a Catholic or Protestant prelate perhaps it would be different and perhaps not. France is a capitalist nation. Six young Irish Catholics were executed in Tuam on the west coast of Ireland last week by the Irish Free State Catholic government. There were no protests from other capitalist governments. Of course not. The Free State is a lackey of Imperial Britain and therefore its cutthroat policy has the blessing and sanction of other cutthroat governments.

Grand Knight Flaherty of the Knights of Columbus denounced the Soviet government for executing a Soviet revolutionist who carried on his plots under the cloak of religion. The membership of the Knights of Columbus is almost entirely Irish, yet the shocked Grand Knight did not protest against the murder of Irishmen who were fighting for independence against the renegades who for the sake of the doubtful privilege of doing England's dirty work threw their principles overboard. These protests of pious frauds will not fool the American workers.

When the present premier of Bulgaria warned King Ferdinand that if he entered the late war he would lose his head, the King replied by clapping the premier into prison. Now the King is dead and the premier rules Bulgaria. The Bulgarians have done a novel thing. They tried all those responsible for bringing Bulgaria into the war and sentenced them to long terms of imprisonment after submitting the question to a referendum vote of the people. How would the American capitalists like such an example of democracy?

The president of one of our Goose-Step institutions of learning Dr. Gage of Coe College, in an address delivered before a post of the American Legion denounced the pacifists for their efforts to reduce the expenditure on military and naval preparations. He also declared that the execution of a Russian clergyman would draw the attention of the world to the fact that disloyalty to the church exists. He should scratch himself with a red hot poker to see if he has not been sleeping for the past four years. The church got a knock-out blow during the war and the Ku Klux Klan and the Fascisti cannot restore its faded prestige.

The Roumanian chamber on March 2nd passed a law prohibiting all Catholic congregations in Roumania. The religious orders must leave their monasteries while numerous Catholic schools and colleges must be closed. This was not done by the Soviet government so it will not excite any comment in the capitalist press.

The Swedish cabinet lost out on the proposal to distribute diox among the unemployed. The Branting cabinet resigned. The impotency of the parliamentary machine of the capitalist state to serve the workers has been amply demonstrated by the Swedish socialists. They have accomplished nothing of value for the workers of that country and now they are into the cold and are replaced by a conservative government. Mr. Branting is not worrying. He is a socialist and has made his peace with capitalism so he is going to Geneva to devote more time to the League of Nations.

The Standard Oil and other American trusts have won out in the nearest scramble for oil and railroad concessions. The silent American observer who attended the Lausanne conference did not waste his time. We learn that Britain is furious. This means more trouble and perhaps more bloodshed.

There is liable to be trouble between Japan and the United States over a radio monopoly in China. The Radio Corporation of America has so far got the best of the Japs. The latter claim a monopoly of the wire and political complications are less business in that part of the world and political complications are threatened. In this war years for democracy and perhaps for Chris-

The crowd milled in the street for a few minutes until brutally dispersed by the police. Five union brothers, who failed to show proper doglike docility, were at once pinched and hugged to the jail. Three were released, the other two, who have no local pull, were held.

The police picketed the hall and caught three late arrivals, George McLaughlin, Fred Simmons and E. Peterson. The speaker of the evening had been escorted from the neighborhood and the police decided to make these five the scape goats. The boys were grilled separately, the last two stated that they were union men and were jugged at once. The first believes in old-fashioned Americanism. Being asked if he believed in the U. S. Constitution, he stated emphatically he did—especially the first ten amendments. It developed that he had enlisted in the infantry in April, 1917, and had a perfect service record, lasting until August, 1919. He claims that "free speech" means what it says, that there never was a tyrant in history who did not grant perfect freedom to other speech than was acceptable to him. Webb evidently felt that a man, who had served through the war and read the Versailles treaty and still took the U. S. Bill of Rights seriously must have something wrong with him, so he and a dozen other police stripped him to the skin and carefully examined his abdomen and thighs—for the punctures of a dope fiend!

The boys were held incommunicado in cells that had lots of bugs, cockroaches, and other vermin. They were filthy and the air was terribly foul. A group of rich gamblers, who were brought in about 2 A. M. were bailed out within twenty minutes—as was to be expected.

At the trial next morning the union boys were defended by Judge Julian. He grilled the cops mercilessly for breaking up a meeting, though it was entirely peaceful and within the rights guaranteed by the Constitution. He also roasted Webb for stealing \$25.00 worth of current labor magazines from the meeting. Webb had no "search and seizure" warrant, but contended strenuously that labor unions can have no title to property, that their papers and books may be seized by any detective with enough armed help and no law is violated thereby.

Bro. Noonan combatively maintained his right to believe and speak whatever he pleased. The judge released him without fine on account of his age, but was told acutely that he was asking no favors because of that. A copy of the April "Liberator" was handed Judge Fleming and after launching at Bob Minor's cartoons he waxed indignant over such flippant treatment of the mighty and respectable, rated the boys harshly and assessed a \$200 fine on each. The boys protested over the punishment for a meeting, at which they were innocent auditors, and for cartoons in a magazine, which had not in any way been connected with them. They had not sold, bought, nor even (at that time) read the magazine.

The secretary of the Labor Defense Council scurried round and in spite of the outspoken hostility and snobbery of the court officials got the appeal bonds completed just before the boys were carted out to the safe semi-starvation of the municipal farm.

Two federal operatives browbeat the manager of the Westgate Hotel into insisting on the immediate departure of Mother Bloor. In all her life this has happened only once before and that in the heart of the Steel Trust district in Youngstown, Ohio.

The Labor Defense Council is determined that Mother Bloor shall address a meeting of the union men of Kansas City before she leaves.











# Labor Congress Refuses to Endorse American Legion

(By WALLACE T. METCALFE, special correspondent.)

YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio.—Following a request from the Hyde Post of the American Legion of Niles, O., to endorse their campaign for new members the Trumbull County Labor Congress, consisting of delegates from the trade unions in Warren, Girard and Niles, Ohio, voted down the request giving as their reason the unfriendly attitude of the Legion during the steel strike in which the principal occupation of the Legion was protection of the life and property of the steel barons.

The Trumbull County Labor Congress heartily endorses the World War Veterans and supports this organization as representative of the ex-service men.

The campaign of education carried on by the World War veterans in the steel district has met with favorable response from organized labor. Shortly a campaign of organization will follow up the campaign of education.

Ex-service men desiring information about the World War Veterans should communicate with P. O. Box 553, Youngstown, O.

## "INPREKORR" SUBSCRIPTION.

The International Press Correspondence, ("Inprekorr") which heretofore has been available only for Party editors and Party officials can now be secured by subscription.

The International Press Correspondence for more than a year published the best writings of the Communist leaders of the world. Lenin, Trotsky, Zinoviev, Bukharin and Bucharin are frequent contributors. The articles in "Inprekorr" give a fundamental review of economic and political conditions and the development of the Communist Movement all over the world.

"Inprekorr" is published in English, German and French. The subscription edition will be a weekly publication of sixteen pages. The subscription rate is \$3.00 for 6 months and \$6.00 for a year. Subscriptions should be sent to the Workers Party of America, Literature Department, Room 406-799 Broadway, which is acting as the agency of the "Inprekorr" in the United States.

Every student of Communism, every writer, every speaker, every Party official should be a reader of the "Inprekorr."

## The April Liberator.

The slogan of the Third Congress of the Communist International was "Go to the Masses," meaning the proletariat. The slogan of the April issue of the Liberator seems to be "Back to the Masses" that spirit, interesting magazine that preceded the Liberator and was put to sleep by the ministrations of the then head of the Department of Justice.

The Liberator is an institution that the American radical movement cannot afford to lose. It is in a class by itself. There is nothing else like it. A Liberator fan would feel as miserable without his monthly treat as a baseball fan who missed the day's account of the record of his favorite star. When the Workers' Party took over the Liberator many of its lovers feared that economics would crowd out art and that the cartoons that made the Liberator famous would be sacrificed to manifestos. It appeared to stagger in that direction but in the April issue it has completely sobered up and is as near to the old Masses standard as could be expected after its little spree.

The writer got a kick of it. He read it from cover to cover.

The editorials are written in a catchy style that carries the readers along to a beautiful story of the Michigan trial with several sketches of the principal actors in the trial by Robert Minor. "Bob" is some painter of words and pictures. Then there are cartoons by Soglow, Gropner, Boardman Robinson and others; articles by Michael Gold, book review and the second installment of the Outline of Marriage by Floyd Dell. It is certainly a bargain for twenty cents. Readers of the Voice of Labor can secure a copy at the office, 2517 Fullerton Ave., and do not forget that you can secure the Liberator and the Voice of Labor both for one year for the small sum of \$3.00.

The debate upon Mesopotamia in the house of commons was the occasion of indignant labor outbursts against the British policy of bombing Arab villages from the air, and the loss of British prestige abroad owing to these proceedings. The motion to withdraw from Mesopotamia was defeated by the silent Tory

# STORY OF ASSAULT ON LIBERTY IN MICHIGAN RAID CASE

By Labor Defense Council. PRICE TEN CENTS.

Declaring that it is sheer effrontery for them (Atty. Gen. Daugherty and his ilk) to charge exponents of progressive trade unionism with importing radical ideas from abroad, the Labor Defense Council, in a pamphlet giving the history of the Michigan "Red" Raid, accuses Daugherty and his chief stool pigeon William J. Burns and their predecessors in office of importing the agent provocateur from the monarchial despots of Europe and making of him a national institution. There is no innovation in America, as repugnant to the ideas of freedom held by those who take the Declaration of Independence seriously as the smacking labor spy and his blood-brother, the provocateur, who fosters trouble where none exists and then in return for blood money delivers his unsuspecting victim up to his paymasters to be tortured, imprisoned, and if an alien, deported.

Marched Through Streets in Chains. This excellent little pamphlet relates the story of the arrest of sixteen workers and a stool pigeon in Bridgeman, Mich., in the latter part of August, their imprisonment under heavy bail, their humiliating treatment by being led manacled through the streets of St. Joseph in order to give the populace a Roman holiday and the subsequent activity of the Burns stool pigeons in spreading propaganda among the prospective jurors of Berrien county, thus poisoning the springs of justice and making it exceedingly difficult to secure an unprejudiced jury to try the defendants.

Despite a provision in the Michigan law that no money other than public funds can be used to prosecute persons in that state, Max Burger, "expert" donated by Burns to the Michigan prosecution, informed the Berrien county board of supervisors that the money to prosecute the "reds" would come from outside sources. The question now being asked is, "Where is the boodle coming from to prosecute the trade unionists arrested in Bridgeman?" It will be remembered that the Illinois Chamber of Commerce appropriated \$50,000 to have the Herrin miners and failed, and the disagreement in the Foster case indicated that the funds appropriated by the open shop advocates, who fear Foster and the communists, will be money wasted.

## Chief Labor Fakers Scared.

The American labor movement immediately saw in the arrest of the trade unionists in Michigan a blow struck at the principle of freedom of assemblage and free speech and rallied to their support. The Chicago Federation of Labor led the way. Other federations and central councils followed. So rapid has been the turn of the tide in favor of the defendants among the rank and file of

the trade union movement that Matthew Wall, who is looked upon as the heir pres-utive to the Gomer's throne, frankly appealed to the authorities of the state of Michigan not to retry Foster fearing that the added publicity would increase his prestige and dim the glimmering glow of the presidential star that flickers above the handsome but brainless Crown Prince, lineal descendant of the old and doddering president of the American Federation of Labor.

The pamphlet is profusely illustrated, containing the photographs of the principal figures in this class struggle drama, including the defendants, the stool pigeon Morrow, alias Ashworth, William J. Burns and lawyers for the defense and prosecution, leading members of the Labor Defense Council, such as Gene Debs, Robert Buck and Father Ryan. It also contains the report of the committee appointed by the Michigan Federation of Labor on the repeal of the criminal syndicalism act. A bill for the repeal of this pernicious measure has been introduced in the Michigan legislature and all the liberal elements in the house favor it.

## Support of Labor Movement.

We urge our readers to purchase this pamphlet and see that it gets the widest possible circulation. It gives a brief account of a trial that will undoubtedly go down in American history as a milestone in the struggle of the workers of this country for their emancipation. It shows how for the first time a group of men, making no attempt to hide their belief that only through communism could the workers of this country escape from the horrors incident to a capitalist state of society, receive the warm-hearted support of a great section of organized labor, because of the recognition by the bona fide labor movement—which is the progressive wing—that the capitalists were making no distinction between extremists and those of less radical views but that they were out to crush every organization that endeavored to rally the workers industrially and politically for united action in their own behalf and for their own advantage. This recognition that the communists are not beings separate and apart from the labor movement but rather its most militant section is a development that more than compensates for the great sacrifice of time, energy and money on the part of the workers who made it possible for the Michigan defendants to secure adequate defense.

A single copy of this pamphlet costs 10 cents, 3 for 25 cents, 14 for \$1 and \$6.00 per hundred. Address all communications and make checks payable to Labor Defense Council, Room 307, 166 W. Washington St., Chicago, Illinois. T. O. F.

# AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES EXPOSED BY NOTED WRITER

The Goose-Step by Upton Sinclair. Published by Upton Sinclair at Pasadena, California.

What the average American knows about our universities could be told within the limits of a membership card of the Workers' Party. What he does not know about the universities of the financial and industrial masters of America would fill an encyclopedia.

Upton Sinclair in the "Goose-Step" tears the veil of respectability from the gentlemen of easy intellectual virtue, who run American universities in the interests of the ruling class and presents them catalogued and identified as exhibits in the case of the working class v. s. intellectual dope factories called universities with public opinion as judge and jury.

Sinclair makes a good case. He takes them one by one and tells us who owns them from Columbia in the East to Leland Stanford in the West. While those who understand the class character of society and the fact that under the class rule all institutions must necessarily serve its interests are not surprised that the Hope of Morgan owns Columbia or that the University of Pennsylvania is controlled by the United Gas Improvement Company and that an interlocking directorate of comparatively few plutocrats controls every university in the United States, the array of facts marshalled by Sinclair in proving his case is simply astounding. It is goose education with a vengeance.

While on the subject of geese we might say that the cover design by Art Young is worth the price of the book. That master portrayer of capitalist humbug and hypocrisy pictures the Honorable Murray Butler—a real master of the money game

—and the other and lesser butlers as a flock of geese doing the "goose step" of intellectual militarism while they lend a certain air of respectability to the plundering careers of the interlocking directorate that controls the souls of the geese who pose as educators.

During the war many professors, who held their honor in higher esteem than the reward for intellectual prostitution, were expelled from the leading universities in spite of the oft-repeated boasts that there was full academic freedom in these so-called seats of learning. Many fell under the patriotic axe of Mr. Butler. Yet today when a group of Italian workmen protest against one of Butler's staff acting as a Fascist press agent and organizer the president of Columbia waves the protecting flag of academic freedom over the head of the disciple of reactionary violence instead of the stars and stripes under the folds of which he cursed with bell book and candle light those men who dared to keep their souls clean while the paymasters of the literary gang-foremen, who preside over the universities were indulging in a little murder campaign in Europe and spilling the blood of millions.

All of which is to the good. The universities are valuable weapons in the hands of the ruling class. They use them to good advantage. They are class conscious and we admire them for it. They see things as they are. Unfortunately the workers and working farmers do not yet realize that the universities are lie factories controlled by the trusts and run by their hirelings not for the purpose of spreading enlightenment but to block the advance of learning and shut off new thought and quell the

# WHAT OF AMERICA?

Shall This Government Live or Die?

By a Kansas Star Gazer.

"The whole of our political conduct has been one continued series of weakness, temerity, despotism, ignorance, futility, negligence, blundering and the most notorious servility, incapacity and corruption."

The above headline riveted my attention as I glanced at the Kansas City Star Thursday April 5, 1928. "Alas," I thought triumphantly, "The Voice of Labor lies, when it claims that our Daily Press is corrupt. Here is the phlegmatic K. C. Star fighting a crusade against our government's corruption and servility to the Master Class." Alas! as I read on, I learned that the Star has no wish to father these bold words! It credits them to an English politician, who functioned in 1775. It devotes two columns to fulsome eulogy of a handful of brave Americans, who fought and suffered in order that their children might be freed and exploited by American capitalists instead of English exploiters. Such is patriotism! Never a word about the present day group, that strives and suffers, that their children may not be exploited at all. I gloomily concluded the Voice of L. tells the truth after all and went out and got three subscriptions on the strength of it.

# Phil Snowden Slaps Capitalism on Wrist In House of Commons

By EVELYN SHARP

(Federated Press Staff Writer.) Philip Snowden, socialist member of parliament, who has moved an indictment of capitalism in the house of commons in the form of a motion calling for the gradual supersession of this system by one based on public ownership, had chosen the right psychological moment for doing so, in view of the crises in the building and agricultural industries.

The government gave a whole day for the further discussion of Snowden's motion. The debate was mainly occupied by the exposition of the socialism of the Independent Labor Party, and by Sir Alfred Mond's clever reply in the form of a motion to amend the resolution in favor of reforming, not overturning, the present system. Snowden's proposals seemed in some cases so moderate that one wonders that he was not interrupted from his own back benches where several extremists sat who might have disputed both his modern and his indictment of "Bolshevism," which appears to be the same kind of bogey to the parliamentary socialists as socialism is to the parliamentary liberal or Tory.

The Supreme Court by a vote of 5 to 3 declared the minimum wage law passed by Congress fixing the wages of women and minor girls in the District of Columbia to be unconstitutional. Taft was in the minority. We would not be surprised after that to hear he was arrested by Burns for carrying the red flag.

# Butte Labor Council Will War On Reaction

BUTTE, Mont.—A mass meeting of protest against the continued prosecutions and imprisonment by the American courts is the answer of the Silver Bow Trades and Labor Council to the reaction in this country.

The council reaffirmed its desire for the speedy recognition of Russia and ordered telegrams to this effect sent to Secretary Hughes and President Harding.

The telephone operators reported that their employers were trying to break up their organization and had discharged one of their members in Missoula for attending a union meeting. This is in violation of the union agreement and the council pledged full support to the operators. They are now taking a strike vote.

Reports show that employment is on the increase; several unfair employers have made settlements in the last week.

Spirit of investigation. Sinclair throws the searchlight on them and in the "Goose Step" he has in our opinion rendered a great service to the American workingclass. It should be circulated by the tens of thousands and particularly among the students of the universities. It will prove a thorn in the side of the university "floor walkers" and no doubt will be furiously denounced by the hack writers of the capitalist press.

# THE WORKERS' REPUBLIC

The articles in this series are released through the Friends of Soviet Russia Press Service

# A Factory Manager in Karkov.

By A. C. FREEMAN.

The size and modern equipment of many of the Russian factories stand in curious contrast to the general economic backwardness of the country. The foreign capitalists who advanced the money necessary to erect these huge structures in the midst of a primitive peasant population scarcely realized that they were providing the necessary industrial backbone for the social revolution.

I visited one of these large plants, an electrical factory on the outskirts of Kharbov, and was shown over the buildings by the manager. At first I thought he might be one of the disaffected and sabotaging engineers of whom one hears so much in Russia; but this impression was quickly shaken when he pointed to an especially large motor with the remark that it had been turned out not under capitalism but under the rule of the workers and peasants. A little later he showed me a new kind of varnish preparation which had been invented by a worker in the factory at the time when the blockade cut off foreign imports.

"In one way the blockade was a good thing for us," he said. "It made us depend more on ourselves and less upon the foreign capitalists."

And my last doubts about his political attitude were swept away when he turned to me and asked, with the naive hopefulness that one always finds in the provincial-Russian communists: "When is the revolution coming in America?" Then I asked the manager a little about his personal life, and found that he had the background which one finds with three out of every four Russian communists: prison under the Czar, service in the Red Army.

I got another glimpse of this manager a few days later, when he spoke at the opening of a school for the young workers of the factory. Per-

haps just because of the striking contrast, I thought of the speech which the typical capitalist factory-owner would have made on such an occasion: the pompous exhortations to thrift and industry, the complacent references to his own merits and high position, the generous assurance that anyone who would exultate his virtues might hope to rise to his station. But the communist factory manager was not a superior lecturer to subordinates; he was simply a worker among comrades. What he said, as I remember it, could be pretty well summarized as follows:

"Comrades, the long years of war and blockade have left us poor and shattered. We haven't been able to push forward as fast as we should like, or to realize immediately the richer and happier life which the revolution promised and will some day bring about. But things are going a little better now; and one of our first tasks is to give the young comrades and workers the general and technical education which we older revolutionists had little opportunity to get. We have conquered the power, now we must learn how to use it. And so I ask you boys who are going into this school to show your loyalty to the revolution that opened the door of education to the Russian workers by studying hard and training yourselves to become good citizens of the Workers' Republic."

A shy, quiet man, the factory manager was not such a fiery and fluent orator as many of the Russian revolutionists. But his words conveyed an even deeper impression of sincerity because they were spoken so slowly and with so little rhetoric. And the applause which he received from the boys, who crowded the room, left little doubt that they would respond to his appeal.

# FOSTER TO START ON TOUR

Leaving Chicago on April 27, Foster will start on a speaking tour which will cover the cities of Detroit, April 29, Toledo, April 30, Cleveland, May 1, Pittsburgh, May 2, Baltimore, May 3, New York, May 4, Philadelphia, May 9, Boston, May 13, and Buffalo, May 15 and back to Chicago. The trip will be of two or three weeks duration and, as many meetings as possible are to be arranged for that time.

Those who hear these talks will learn the truth—all the things that could not be learned from a reading of the daily newspapers. Even the newspapers of the workers' press, so heavily handicapped by limited facilities, have not been able to gather and publish all the facts and information that Foster himself can give to his hearers. And all members of progressive labor organizations should have full knowledge and understanding of these facts.

The militant workers everywhere are therefore urged to attend these meetings and to give them all the support possible, both individually and through solicitation of such support from others.

The Michigan State Federation of Labor has presented to the state assembly a demand for the repeal of the Criminal Syndicalism law and this is now under consideration by that body. Sentiment in favor of erasing from the statutes this hold-over relic of the war-time hysteria is steadily developing. But it cannot be confidently predicted that the sentiment is of such strength as to result in the abolition of that law at this time. Hence, the necessity for exerting every effort toward this great objective.

The Labor Defense Council, with national offices located in Chicago and branches throughout the country, was enabled only through heroic efforts of its members and friends to provide for and meet the tremendous expense thus far incurred. It must now call upon more upon all friends of progressive labor movement, to render every possible assistance in the present emergency. Full information with regard to the many phases of this great defensive struggle may be had upon application to the headquarters office: Room 307, Federation of Labor Bldg., 166 W. Washington St., Chicago.

# "Don't Mention Foster's Name" Walis Crown Prince

CHICAGO.—To ignore Wm. Z. Foster and stop giving him the publicity of a martyr will relegate him to obscurity if followed, in the opinion of Matthew Wall, vice president of A. F. of L., who included the plea in a statement given by him to the press.

Hoping that the Michigan authorities will not try Foster again on the syndicalism charge on which the jury split 6-6 in the first trial, Wall says in part:

"To ignore Foster now is to destroy the great monster that has been made out of mere tissues of capitalist propaganda. To disregard him is to inflict the greatest punishment that can be given him.

"The organized labor movement is unconcerned about Foster. His power and influence in the American trade union movement are nil. That which he attempts to teach is old, tried, and has been found wanting—beautiful in

theory but impossible of accomplishment. The only new thing about it is his method of commercializing old and imperialistic and autocratic ideas."

Asked for a statement on Wall's published attack, Foster said: "The fact that Mr. Wall thought it necessary to compose this attack and give it to the anti-labor press might indicate that the progressive movement in the trade unions is a greater menace to his circle than he would directly admit."

# Los Angeles L. P. Spurs Workers to Enthusiasm

LOS ANGELES, Cal.—The Labor Party was formed here as a result of the resolution adopted by accredited delegates who were empowered to represent their unions and who were called into conference by the Joint Executive Board of unions affiliated with the following councils: Central Labor Council, the Building Trades Council, the Metal Trades Council and the Allied Printing Trade Council on Thursday, March 8.

At a subsequent conference, at which delegates from the Railroad Brotherhoods, independent labor unions, and workers political groups were seated, nominations were made from the floor. Every delegate had an equal opportunity to nominate. All those were nominated and who agreed with the platform and principles of the Labor Party were placed on the blanket petition which has already received the necessary signatures and will be on the ballot.

The convention of the California Building Trades Council endorsed the formation of a State Labor Party as a result of labor's action in Los Angeles.

# Slaves of Open Shop Concern in Revolt

By LORNE CUNNINGHAME.

GUELPH, Ontario, Canada.—There was a little fuss around here during the past month when the employees of the International Malleable Iron Works went on strike for four days. At the end of that time the management promised them a raise of 2 1/2 cents an hour immediately and another 2 1/2 cents on May 1. This they accepted temporarily and went back to work. The company is a Chicago concern and adroit open shoppers.

The wages paid in this place prior to the strike was 27 cents to thirty cents per hour.

# "Socialist" Bureaucrats Split I. L. G. U. Local to Maintain Control

NEW YORK.—One of the most glaring illustrations of how far reactionary bureaucrats are willing to go in order to maintain themselves in power has been furnished recently in the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union by the split-up of the Ladies Tailors and Sample Makers' Local 3.

The workers of this local do identical work. One part of the year they produce sample garments, and the other part of the year they produce garments to order for the rich. Very often the same firm produces both kinds of garments, employing for both kinds of work the same workers. It would appear that these workers should belong to one union.

But the reactionary bureaucrats do not decide problems of the trade in accordance with the interests of the workers. Having lost control over the three big clothing centers—Philadelphia, Chicago and New York—the last trump-card of the reactionary bureaucrats remained the Shoemakers' Joint Board of New York. And even here the lefts are in control of two of the biggest locals that are part of the Joint Board. Thus, in order to maintain control over this body for another year, they decided to break up Local 3, so as to secure additional representation on the Joint Board.

To apply such tactics at a time when even old America conservative unions are lining up for amalgamation, is beyond comprehension. Upon the workers, all over talk about amalgamation of craft unions into big industrial combinations, these "socialist" leaders are busy breaking up craft locals into sub-craft divisions without paying the least attention to the effect that this may produce upon the fighting ability of the union.

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo.—A bill authorizing co-operative banks among farmers, passed by the house, has been killed in the senate.

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# Editorial Page of the Voice of Labor



## It Suits Both Sides

Disappointed over the result of the Foster trial in Michigan the capitalist press is taking refuge in the thought that the "people" are compensated for the cost of the prosecution by the publicity that was given to Foster's activities and the "boring from within" policy. Well if they take any consolation out of that fact, they are welcome to it.

The communists are also fairly satisfied with the amount of publicity given to the communist movement, though they would like some more. Never was the communist position stated with greater clearness and never was the theory on which the Workers Party is founded given such a wide forum. It was spread broadcast from coast to coast by our enemies. They did that knowing that they were doing something that would ultimately injure themselves but the trial had news value and in this era of newspaper competition one journal fears that the other one may spring a scoop. Thus particles of truth leak out.

The Chicago Tribune and the New York Times appear to have been inspired by the same stool pigeon. While William J. Burns goes around braying about the great growth of communism in this country the Times and the Tribune belittle the movement. The latter featured a story by Matthew Woll, giving expert advice on how to keep Foster in isolation; the former quotes the following excerpt from the New York Call as a sample of what the "orthodox" Socialists think of Foster and his comrades:

In the history of the organized labor struggle of this country there has never appeared a more asinine or inept group than this collection of furtive Communists. It cannot stand the withering blight of publicity thrown upon its activities during the past four years.

While all these gentlemen rejoice over the result of the Saint Joseph trial we do not wish to spoil their merriment by introducing a discordant note. It is not an ill wind that blows everybody good.

## A Peeved Panhandler

Much though we disagree with the reactionary and stupid policy of the executive committee of the American Federation of Labor we are nevertheless sorry to see its president so far forget the dignity associated with that high office as to indulge in an exhibition of peevishness of a kind that cannot be characterized other than disgraceful.

One of the tricks of an importunate beggar is to roundly abuse those who do not respond to his demand for pecuniary assistance. It oftentimes happens that professional beggars are sometimes better circumstanced than those of whom they beg. This applies to Mr. Samuel Gompers.

The capitalist press and of course the press that carries the intellectual hash furnished by the A. F. of L. press service, last week carried a story featuring an attack by Mr. Gompers on the American Fund for Public Service Inc., an organization formed for the purpose of supervising the expenditures of a fund of \$800,000 which a young man by the name of Garland donated for workingclass educational and other similar purposes. This fund has made several donations to institutions of a workingclass character.

Now it happens that Samuel Gompers is running an alleged educational institution and as is usually the case with ventures in the control of reactionaries it has a large staff on the payroll and needs money. Gompers wrote a letter to the Garland Fund, Board of Directors asking for a contribution.

He was turned down on the ground that the funds at their disposal were to be used for institutions which taught the workers how "to emancipate themselves" and as Mr. Gompers does not believe in anything as dangerous to the capitalist system as that they could not see their way clear to disburse funds for a purpose subversive to the objects for which the money was intended.

Enraged because his panhandling venture was unsuccessful he turned around and attacked the Fund as being used for "revolutionary purposes." The saints help us! The board of directors published a list of donations and loans and as far as we could see with one or two exceptions they were devoted to institutions as harmless as the Society for the Protection of Bug-bitten Egyptologists. The Secretary of the association also suggested in his letter that it was rather unseemly for a gentleman in Mr. Gompers' position to beg from an institution which he considered "subversive." The supposition is that had Mr. Gompers been successful in securing a good sized donation he would keep his mouth shut or perhaps issue a statement praising the Garland Fund for its "Stalwart Americanism."

Among those attacked in Mr. Gompers' indecent letter was Sidney Hillman president of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America and one of the most intelligent and far seeing leaders in the American labor movement. It is not surprising that Sam should attack men like William Z. Foster, Scott Nearing and others, who are actively engaged in educating the masses of American workers and are proving thorns in the sides of the mental dodos whose minds have long since refused to move except in behalf of their own selfish interests. But Sidney Hillman has devoted himself to looking after the interests of the union of which he is president and doing his utmost to aid the Soviet government in reconstructing that country industrially. Perhaps that is the unforgivable sin in the eyes of the capitalist waterboy Gompers.

This latest eruption of Mr. Gompers painfully impresses on the American workers the fact they are led or misled by an old man in his second childhood. But this serves one good purpose. Gompers will solidify the opposition to his moss grown policies, and make the progressives more determined than ever to remove himself and his political plug uglies from the leadership of the American labor movement.

May Day is approaching. On the international holiday of labor the workers should come together and participate in joint demonstrations thus proving to their capitalist enemies that they are learning the value of presenting a united front against capitalist oppression.

## A Little Sop to the Slaves

King Gary of the Steel Trust gave his subjects a few more cents an hour in order to kill the agitation for the eight hour day. This additional frankfurter for lunch may serve as an opiate for the slaves until the present wave of capitalist prosperity passes by—then they may starve on the streets while Gary takes another trip around the world.

Following Gary's lead other slave owners increased the wages of their subjects a few cents per hour. Great headlines appear in the prostitute press shouting prosperity. Some of the workers receive THIRTY SEVEN CENTS AN HOUR. Some prosperity!

This prosperity boomlet will not last forever. In fact that well known capitalist statistician, Roger Babson, warns the capitalists that it will not last long. Then the wages will be again reduced and the extra frankfurter will be dropped from the menu of the slaves of the Gary mills.

But Gompers spends his time gnashing his molars over the perfidy of educational institutions that try and teach the workers how to emancipate themselves, and his Crown Prince shoots filth at William Z. Foster who got 400,000 of the steel slaves into a union but was thwarted by the Gompers gang and that splendid mass of workers scattered to the four winds. What the Gary slaves need is organization. They will then get the eight hour day, and compel the bosses to grant an increase in wages. But Gompers and his gang will not organize them. This requires militant leadership of the kind the Trade Union Educational League is trying to put in office.

## Political Scavengers

While the war was on a German was anathema to the ruling class of America unless he grovelled in the dust and out-Heroded Herod in his denunciation of the people of his native land or the land of his ancestors. Even then while publicly he was commended as one of those German who was fit to encumber the earth with his presence, privately he was treated with contempt.

The German business men and capitalists in this country crawled on their bellies in order to protect their wealth and spent millions advertising their patriotism. The workmen of German birth or extraction were treated like dogs and suffered persecution untold while the bloody fray was on in Europe.

Since then a change has come about. It is getting to be "good politics" now to cater to the German citizens of this country. During the recent municipal election campaign in Chicago the Democrats and Republicans vied with each in kowtowing to the voters whom they called "Huns" a few short years ago. Circulars in German and English have been distributed broadcast among the German population by both parties. These documents dwell on the virtues of the German citizen and what a great contribution the "Fatherland" has made to the United States.

The capitalist press stressed the fact that this election would be decided by the naturalized citizens of foreign birth. So the capitalist politicians went on their knees to the hated foreigner in order to get elected and gorge themselves with the spoils of office. The German worker who listens to these political harpies will gain nothing for himself and his class. He will rather be forging the bonds of industrial slavery on his limbs. His duty to himself and his class is to join an organization like the Workers Party which will show him the way out of the industrial morass in which the workers are now floundering.

## King Tut Comes Back

Waking the dead was always considered a risky proposition but nobody seriously thought that old man Tutankhamen after slumbering peacefully for thousands of years while empires came and went would resent the intrusion of an English Lord intent on gratifying a curious world, who burst into his tomb without as much as ringing the bell and revealing the Honorable Mr. Tut's private affairs to the public.

New Lord Carnarvon is practically speaking, "as dead as King Tut." In the hey day of his career King Tut was a hard man to handle. He is still living (or whatever way you want to put it) up to that reputation. He was too dignified to throw an empty beer bottle at Lord Carnarvon and at the queen of Belgium when they lifted the latch and walked into his room but he whispered into the ear of one of his pet bugs and the rest of the story is brief. A bug, a Lord and a corpse. Moral: Keep away from "bugs." They are not all in Egypt.

Henrik Van Loon the author of "The Story of Mankind" speaking in Chicago recently appealed for truth in history. Old Napoleon is reported to have said that history "is a collection of fables agreed upon." There is more truth than poetry in that. Van Loon was attacked by the Illinois Society of the Daughters of 1812 for his candid treatment of American "heroes" in his writings.

"Why make our national heroes into synthetic agels?" inquires Van Loon. "Take most of the dates out of history. Stop writing volumes on war heroes and pay more attention to men like Pasteur who really did something."

"Anyone can be brave in war. War heroes are not to be worshipped. Newton and Pasteur represent the type of men we should worship."

"Children should be taught that their nation is just like the rest of the world—part good and part bad. From reading our histories one would believe that America was forced into every war to defend her name and preserve an ideal—which is not the case."

That's the stuff to feed the animals, Van

## Italian Labor Lines Up Against Fascism

By GIUSEPPE CANNATA.

The appearance of the first signs of Fascist organization in America has spurred the Italian workers of New York City to take a firm and united stand in defense of their rights. Up to this time the anti-Fascist activity and propaganda had been carried on independently by the various radical groups and bore mainly on the infamous activity of the Fascisti in Italy. The sentiment for concerted action, however, had been growing steadily and the attempt to organize Fascist groups in America has led to the formation of a vast anti-Fascist UNITED FRONT.

The Italian Chamber of Labor, an independent body representing all the Italian local unions of New York City, has taken the lead in this movement by calling a preliminary conference, held on Tuesday, April 3, at the Italian labor center, 231 East 14th St., New York City. Over one hundred enthusiastic delegates, representing local and central bodies of the Workers' Party, Socialist Party, Industrial Workers of the World, the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, the Mosaic and Terrace Workers, the Amalgamated Foodstuff Workers, the Journeyman Barbers, etc., participated in the meeting and approved unanimously the plan of action proposed for an anti-fascist campaign.

The activities discussed will include a vast propaganda campaign by means of the printed as well as the spoken word in all the Italian centers of this country. Speakers will be routed across the country in order to present the fascist movement to the workers in its true light. A servile and corrupt daily press has consistently lied to the great masses of Italian workers as to the character and aims of the Fascisti. This lying propaganda will be counteracted by the publicity planned. The movement will not limit itself to illuminating the Italian workers as to the danger of the Fascist theories and activities to organized labor, but will present this problem to American labor also. The Fascist groups in America will lack the middle class elements which in Italy have given it some semblance of political idealism; in America the movement must degenerate into subsidized agencies of gunmen and scabs, maneuvered by American capitalists to destroy American labor organizations. The Italian Chamber of Labor and the Anti-Fascist United Front

will bring this aspect of the situation before the highest councils of the American Federation of Labor in order to force official action in the matter.

Besides these purely defensive steps, the labor organizations represented have decided to launch an offensive against the Fascist regime in Italy, because of its savage oppression and persecutions of the Italian organized workers. The immigrants living here will be told to boycott Italian products, withhold remittances and deposits from all-Italian state institutions, and to REFUSE TO RECOGNIZE THE OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVES OF THE FASCIST REGIME IN AMERICA. The Harding administration, which has persistently refused to recognize Soviet Russia, will be made to realize that the Italian workers in America at least, do not consider the Mussolini regime a lawful and legitimate one, for it is maintained by systematic violence and armed force against the will of the producing classes.

The committee formed will also launch a campaign for funds to aid the victims of Fascist banditry, the widows and orphans in Italy, the maimed and the refugees from the reign of terror of the Italian reactionaries.

It is expected that at the next meeting many more organizations will send delegations, the committee will organize permanently and will authorize the formation of local committees in other cities which will work together with the Central Committee in New York.

The United Front of Italian labor in America against Fascism will be an accomplished fact and Signor Mussolini will have something more to worry about.

## Landslide for Labor Party

By J. LOUIS ENGDALH.

It's a landslide. Sentiment among the nation's workers for a Class Labor Party is overwhelming. The demand for a political united front against the two old parties is practically 100 per cent. This is the showing from the early returns on the Labor Party referendum now being conducted by the Trade Union Educational League among the 31,000 local unions of the organized American labor movement.

More than 200 reports have been received from 36 different crafts in 34 states. Only four locals rejected the proposition. There was a divided vote in favor of the Labor Party in 25 unions.

All the rest reported unanimous sentiment for working-class political action. "We feel that this proposition will hold good for the rest of the referendum, that will not be completed for another month," declares Earl R. Browder, associate editor of the Labor Herald, monthly magazine of the Trade Union Educational League, who is supervising the balloting.

One of the first returns came from a lodge of railroad conductors. It had written across the face of the ballot, "No Foster for Us!" But the same mail brought back the unanimous vote of another lodge of railroad conductors of 300 members, also the unanimous "yes" of a lodge of locomotive engineers.

Browder claims that some of the four rejections already listed resulted from the fact that the local secretaries sent the ballots back without even bringing them before their memberships. He says this is true in at least one case, where the ballot came back the next day, with no time for a union meeting intervening.

Local 39, Amalgamated Clothing Workers, Chicago, with 12,000 members, is the biggest local to favor the referendum. This local has always been one of the most militant in the Amalgamated Clothing Workers' Union. The Herrin, Ill., Miners' Union, under the oppression of the combined open shoppers of Illinois, cast a unanimous ballot.

One of the big victories is the favorable vote won at the convention of the California State Building Trades Council. The Labor Party referendum was brought up here by victory in spite of officials who continually trail with the old parties.

Among the crafts that have already reported are the sheet metal workers, a group of delegates and carried to electricians, teamsters, tailors, machinists, steam operating engineers, metal polishers, yeast makers, St. Chicago, Ill.

## Red Rockets.



## New York Socialists Adopt Underground Policy

Hold Secret Meeting Which Buried Everybody but Communist Reporter for the Voice of Labor. Here is the Report.

(Special to Voice of Labor.) By THE LEFRAUCHAN.

NEW YORK.—This is a country of surprises. After the Communist Party of America had succeeded in getting out into the open with their communist propaganda I was surprised to receive an invitation from the "inner circle" of the Socialist Party of New York to attend a very secret meeting for the purpose of discussing very important matters concerning the welfare of officials of the Socialist Party and auxiliary institutions.

I was warned not to breathe a word of this meeting to my wife for fear she might have imbibed communist inspiration with her salami which she is known to purchase from a grocer who advertises in the Freiheit.

Whether I did or not is left to our readers' imaginations. The important thing is that a fall fledged communist whose identity must not be disclosed for the present, attended the conspirative group and hereby gives the story to an expectant world.

Who's Who in the Plot. Representatives of the managing board of the New York Call, Members of the New York joint board of Amalgamated Clothing Workers.

Representatives of the Jewish Daily Backward. Delegate from the Rand School. The managing editor of the New York Call.

David Slain by Goliath.

As soon as the meeting was called to order I felt that somebody was doomed for slaughter. The victim turned out to be David Karsner, managing editor of New York Call. The chairman of the meeting read a clipping from the Voice of Labor commending David Karsner for a friendly editorial on Soviet Russia and rather intelligent comment on the introduction of a "socialist" bill in the House of Commons by Mr. Snowden. Karsner was roundly abused and once or twice I feared that physical violence would be inflicted on him.

1st. That in the future if Soviet Russia persisted in getting into the news and did not disappear from the face of the political world, the New York Call, not being able to ignore this phenomena, should doctor all cables about Russia published in its capitalist contemporaries to make them read unfavorable to the Workers' Republic. With the above object in view, special care should be taken in editing the foreign news of the early edition of a certain New York paper, which it is alleged provides the Call with most of the dispatches which carry a European date line and are titled "Special Wire to the Call."

2. Attacks should be launched once against the "borers" from within in the unions and everything possible must be done to win the confidence of Samuel Gompers, who is not yet convinced that the Socialist Party is not shamming in its devotion to the capitalist state and is not carrying out instructions received by special courier from Djersakiberry, the chief of the notorious Cheks, to bore from within the American Federation of Labor.

The meeting adjourned after each member of the gathering was warned of the consequences of revealing the proceedings. Instead of using "party names," as was the custom of the communists before they dropped the underground form of organization, the socialists used hieroglyphics. But it is impossible to keep anything quiet in an Anglo-Saxon country—even on the East side of New York—so the Voice of Labor representative wrote this story on his shirt cuffs while the wise socialists were plotting the overthrow of Soviet Russia.