

Workers Age

A PAPER DEFENDING THE INTERESTS OF WORKERS AND FARMERS

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BRITISH LABOR OK'S REARMING

Back Conservatives' War Budget; Neutrality In Spain Upheld

Despite the most extensive plans for British rearmament, recently announced by Sir Samuel Hoare, First Lord of the Admiralty, the British Labor Party, now in session at Edinburgh, Scotland, broke with its traditional pacifist position by voting 1,738,000 as against 657,000 for a resolution favoring rearmament because of "the threatening attitude of dictatorships."

The leadership of the Labor Party, panicky over the aggressive attitude of Germany in continental Europe and its persistent demands for the return of a share of its colonial possessions lost during the world war, horrified at the prospect of the loss of the Mediterranean trade routes to India, has swung over completely to the position of the Conservatives. However, fearing the reaction from its own constituent membership, the leaders attempted to explain away this decision, leaving the delegates in pretty much of a daze.

Thus, when Dr. Hugh Dalton brought the Congress down around his ears with the statement that the Labor members of Parliament must discard their historical opposition to the defense program of the Conservative government, and should be prepared to vote for military appropriations, Herbert Morrison arose to calm the troubled waters. He stated that the resolution in no way changes the attitude of the Parliamentary Labor Party. The obvious contradiction was protested from many sides and resulted in a statement by Major Clement R. Attlee, leader of the Parliamentary Labor Party, to the effect that the passage of the resolutions by the conference does not make it mandatory to support the Conservative governments defense program either in whole or in part. How such a thing is possible he did not trouble to explain.

The Labor Party Congress which had previously backed the neutrality position of the British government by a vote of 3-to-1, was finally forced to reconsider its action after a stirring appeal by a delegation from Spain and by the stirring fight being conducted by the Soviet Union against assistance by Germany, Italy and Portugal to the fascists in Spain. The new position calls for outright armed aid to Spain if the contention of the Soviet Union and the Spanish Government is substantiated.

OFFICE WORKERS ON STRIKE AT GLOBE

Twenty-seven additional employees joined the 64 office workers of the Globe Mail Service, Inc., 148 West 23rd Street, who went out on strike on Tuesday, September 29th under the leadership of the Bookkeepers, Stenographers and Accountants Union of the American Federation of Labor.

The strike was declared on Tuesday of this week when 64 employees in a closed, secret ballot voted unanimously to walk out after their appointed representatives, including a committee of the union, were

Soviet Union Demands End of Aid To Rebels by Germany and Italy

Soviet Russia, having failed to convince the Socialist Blum of the necessity of a common stand on Spain, declared to the Non-Intervention Committee sitting at London, that "unless certain powers cease open aid to the rebels, we shall consider ourselves free from any obligation resulting from the agreement". (i.e. the non-intervention pact).

The declaration provoked the most hypocritical reactions not merely from the fascist representatives of Germany and Italy, but from England and France, two "great democracies". Britain snickered that it would very much prefer to have "some arms trickle in thru Portugal" than to give open aid to the anti-fascist government at Madrid. Despite the presentation of documentary evidence of aid being given to Franco's gang of cutthroats by the German and Italian governments, the powers that be (France and England) ignored the desperate plight of the Spanish masses and continued their "neutrality" stand. The brazenness of Germany and Italy can only be explained by the fact that they were well aware that their "democratic opponents" were intending no support to Madrid. Grandi shrugged his shoulders when presented with evidence of aid in the form of troops and planes amounting to practically a whole army in the capture of the Balearic Islands (promised to Mussolini by Franco). Germany "denied" having aided the fascists in Spain, but maintained that Russia was the one who had broken the agreement! The sheer effrontery of these two powers, coupled with the democratic indifference of France and England, is a brutal commentary on imperialist diplomacy.

Today, Blum's government can do a great deal of explaining as to its "bold" stand. When the French C.P., a few weeks ago had called for arms to Spain, Blum replied "Why not demand this of Soviet Russia?" Aided by the strengthening of Russia's stand the French C.P. now has sharpened its campaign—and what does Blum say now? Blum stands as the most contemptible betrayer that the labor movement has seen in a long time. Not even moved by the national interests of France, to which a Fascist Spain with a pro-German orientation is an obvious danger, he preserves "peace"—and is today worthy of the highest decorations Franco and Mola can bestow for services rendered.

The military situation grows increasingly tragic for Madrid as the fascists completed their encirclement of the capital despite the heroic fighting of the proletarian battalions. After a long siege, the good news has come that the brave Asturian miners have dynamited their way into Oviedo.

refused an interview with Mr. Charles E. Whitehouse, President of the Globe Mail Service. Wages as low as \$5.00 to \$11.00 a week for a 44-hour week were being paid to the great majority of employees and a "bonus system" by which the employees' work was intensified and pay decreased is one of their chief grievances.



Juan Alvarez de la Vayo, Foreign Minister of Spain, conferring with Maxim Litvinoff, Commissar of Foreign Affairs for Soviet Russia, at the recent Geneva Conferences. The Soviets have demanded that the Spanish government be supported, and have established the most friendly relationship with Madrid at a time when the latter stands deserted by "democratic" France and England.

WHITE HOUSE NOT TOO RED FOR WALL STREET'S GOLD

WASHINGTON is thick with rumors and reports about a rapprochement between Roosevelt and the biggest fellows down the "Street"

Usually reliable sources are convinced that the bankers have practically written off the chances of Landon's winning the Presidency. In anticipation of the inevitable, the leaders of the banking fraternity are now looking around for men and means to be used in securing not merely a truce but harmony

FASCIST ARMY PLAN EXPOSED

Extensive plans for a private fascist army to number some 830,000 have been uncovered by the United States Treasury Department, and an investigation into its ramifications is under way. Colonel Hubert W. Eldred, a Treasury Department employee who conceived and set about to organize this army, stated that the "National Veterans Reserve Corps"—as the army is called—was intended for use in national emergencies.

A most important phase in the whole matter is the support which this movement seems to have secured among former army and navy men. Among those who are known to have taken a leading part in floating this fascist army are to be found Admiral Richmond P. Hobson, Lieut. Col. Edwin Laurie, Col. Daniel Kelly, Major Ernest Spallholtz, Lieut. Col. Charles Grobet, Capt. Joseph Marino, and Capt. William MacLaughlin.

Intensive organization for the "National Veterans Reserve Corps" had been proceeding among WPA workers in New York. It is stated that the "Corps" was intended as an anti-semitic and anti-radical movement.

A.F.L. DISCARDS PEACE PLANS

Refuses To Rescind The Suspensions of CIO Union Bloc

The Executive Council of the A. F. of L. has practically turned down the peace plan of the Millinery workers union by insisting that the suspension of the CIO unions stands altho the Council has accepted that part of the plan which calls for another conference with the CIO unions. This brings the discussion right back where it started, the A.F.L. insisting that the CIO liquidate and reinstatement will follow, while the CIO insists on the status quo ante.

The Council elected a committee but it is not known whether the CIO will meet with it because of the decision on suspensions.

The Millinery proposal did not stipulate the reinstatement of the CIO unions but rather referred vaguely to "seating" the delegates from CIO unions. The full meaning of this clause became clear when it was learned that a number of conciliatory members of the Council had drafted a peace plan which called for seating the CIO union delegates "with a voice but no vote".

The same plan also calls for further conversations with the CIO and offers a mutually agreeable organization committee for the steel and other mass production industries. Union organization is to be conducted along industrial lines but skilled workers are to have the right to affiliate with their respective craft unions rather than the industrial union.

There is not a single "peace plan" which really offers permanent peace since all dodge the question of industrial organization in some manner. The acceptance of any of them would therefore merely postpone and aggravate the crisis rather than solve it.

AUTO WORKERS FORCE REHIRING

LANSING, Mich. — Wholesale discrimination against union members by management of the Reo plant has been frustrated by action of Local 182, United Automobile Workers of America, who forced the company last week-end to consent to the working out of a written seniority agreement.

Settlement of the dispute, that involved the jobs of some fifty to sixty men, was reached after several weeks of negotiation. The controversy began nearly six weeks ago when six union members were discharged from the shipping department in violation of a verbal seniority agreement. Protest of this action by the union resulted in the firing of 6 other union members and this was followed by a wholesale discharge of forty to fifty men.

The union immediately answered with charges of discrimination and a publicity campaign in newspapers, handbills, and over the radio.

Union officials insist that the agreement worked out must provide for the reinstatement of all men discharged, some of whom have worked for the company for as long as 15 to 20 years.

The big bankers apparently have
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WALL ST. FINDS F. D. R. "SAFE"

(Continued from Page 1)

enough foresight to find it necessary to utilize the present moment for strengthening the position of the right-wing of the Democratic Party, headed by such people as Owen D. Young, S. Parker Gilbert and John W. Davis. The latter, along with Giannini, President of the Bank of America, are amongst the ultra-conservative magnates who have not yet jumped on the Landon band-wagon and who are still close to Roosevelt and even support him vigorously. The leaders of the bankers in Wall St. propose to utilize these people as the peace-makers with Roosevelt and thus strengthen their position inside the Democratic Party in preparation for the fights which are bound to break out in the Democratic Party right after the election—fights which have only been delayed because of the bitterness of the election conflict with the Republican Party.

It is obvious that this entire strategy is based on a recognition of the hopelessness of Landon's prospects in November. It is likewise based on a growing recognition by the big bankers that, all said and done, Roosevelt is very far from being unreliable in so far as their fundamentals are concerned. After all, he has done them one very good turn in the depths of the crisis in '33 and has pledged to try to modernize and "improve" the profit system.

There is every reason to conclude that Roosevelt will welcome any olive branch extended to him by the uppermost layer of the banking world. While his election is rather certain, yet, due to the fact that the biggest interests are pouring so many millions of dollars into the campaign for Landon, the campaign is assuming an intense bitterness and is threatening to weaken considerably Roosevelt's strength in the coming Congress. For this strategic reason, Roosevelt would be more than glad to come to terms with the bankers. The latter feel so confident nowadays that they reckon they have practically nothing at all to lose and very much to gain thru such an arrangement. Roosevelt very probably feels that he also can only gain in his campaign in holding conservative force because, in general, the liberal forces of the country are definitely lined up with him anyhow.

It is unlikely that this arrangement will have any repercussions in the ranks of labor immediately. It is certain, however, that such an arrangement would have a profound effect on Roosevelt's so-called social program and that this effect would be only at the expense of labor, even more than in the past.

PATRONIZE THE CANTON — — CAFETERIA

46 GRAHAM AVENUE
Corner Cook St.

The only 100% union house in
the neighborhood

PURE FOOD
MODERATE PRICES

"WHERE KNITGOODS
WORKERS MEET"

SUBSCRIBE NOW TO
WORKERS AGE

"SUSPENSION!"



DOLL WORKERS ENDORSE LABOR PARTY DESPITE SOCIALISTS

The Doll & Toy Workers Union at its regular membership meeting held at Beethoven Hall, October 3rd enthusiastically voted to accept the Executive Board's resolution favoring affiliation to the American Labor Party.

Out of about six hundred people present, only 8 voted against the resolution. These eight, members of the YPSL, disgusted the union membership with their sectarianism. The YPSL made intense preparations for the meeting. Prior to the meeting they held a street meeting in front of the hall to plead with and urge the doll and toy workers not to vote for affiliation to the "ALP" because it was a "fake" labor party, a party organized by the Democrats to elect Roosevelt. The results of the vote was foreshadowed by the "tremendous" attendance at their meeting. The leaflet distributed by them was an additional piece of nonsense. To disguise themselves it was issued under the name of the "Doll & Toy Workers League for Thomas and Nelson" which has a mass following in the Union of eight Yipsels.

The resolution adopted points to the A.L.P. as a step forward away from the two capitalist parties and points out that despite its endorsements of the "standard-bearers of the Democratic Party" the ALP has historic potentialities which if successfully harnessed by the progressives and class conscious elements can result in a labor party completely free from the capitalist parties, and a powerful weapon in the hands of labor.

In the election for the vacancies to the Executive Board and the Vice-Presidency, the membership of the union elected the candidates of the Progressive Group. The Rank & File Group did not nominate anyone for vice-president but they did nominate one for the Executive Board. Despite the intense campaign of the Rank & File prior to the meeting and at the meeting, the Progressive Group candidate was elected even though the Progressive Group did very little in the way of campaigning, leaving it to the judgment of the membership to decide whether the Progressive Group has successfully run the af-



A. L. P. Emblem

fairs of the Union. The election of the two Progressives keeps the whole administration 100% Progressive and is a vote of confidence for the Progressive administration.

Despite the rise of little oppositions every now and then, the Progressive Group has been able to keep its influence intact because of its success in advancing the interests of the Doll & Toy Workers. Workers, no matter how backward, judge accomplishments by deeds and not by words.

T. A.

COUGHLIN BACKS DOWN ON F.D.R.

Coughlin made a hastily covered retreat in his attacks on Roosevelt when the Papal Nuncio arrived this week. In New York the whole Union Party ticket was withdrawn, and Coughlin cancelled a few of his meetings. He suddenly decided that "some things that Roosevelt has done I approve of". This change is significant of the hard work the Democratic boys are doing to protect their votes, and also shows how hard the good father works for his money. This is not the first time the administration has dealt with the radio priest, whose hobby runs to metal work—preferably silver in disc form.

Just to make sure that this half-step back to the camp of the administration wins the votes, Secretary Ickes disclosed connections between Hard, member of the Republican National Committee, and Coughlin. The former was shown to be on the priest's payroll.

DRESSTRUCKMEN DEMAND RAISE

A strike that will tie up the trucking of finished and unfinished dresses, thus affecting New York's largest industry, became a possibility following the breakup of a conference today (Oct. 4) between the Joint Board of the Dressmakers' Union and representatives of the merchant truckmen's associations at the Hotel Astor, Julius Hochman, Joint Board general manager announced.

Mr. Hochman quoted the merchant truckmen as saying that they could not grant the demands of the union because their own contracts with the dress jobbers were being violated. He pointed out that the union had had no part in the making of the agreements between the truckers and dress jobbers and that any effort to unduly prolong negotiations over the union demands would cause the union to tie up the dress trucking industry.

In addition to demands concerning hours, wages and working conditions, the program of the union is designed to curb a small group of boss truckmen engaging in activities outside their sphere, Mr. Hochman said. He pointed out that certain truckmen had recently begun to act as go-betweens in an effort to stimulate non-union dress production in rural areas. The union demands, he said, would stop these leaks and extend the union program of stabilization to cover dress trucking.

First move toward the events that led up to today's conference were taken recently when Local No. 102 of the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union, to which all dress truckmen in the New York area belong, affiliated with the Dress Joint Board, bringing the number of Joint Board locals to five. The four other locals in the Dress Joint Board are concerned with the actual manufacture of dresses.

STRIKE DEATH INVOLVES COPS

On Thursday, September 24th, Otto Krueger, a relative of a striker of the Acme Braid Company located in Closter, New Jersey, was fatally shot by Abe Kelchefsky, foreman of the company.

So involved were the police authorities in this murder that Chief of Police Henry Parcells and patrolman John Barnett, both of Closter, were suspended from office on the order of the Bergen County grand jury and the public prosecutor in the case was forced to say that "this case is an outstanding example of police stupidity and negligence."

The workers of Closter, New Jersey, indignant at this cold-blooded murder of one of their residents and wishing to voice a protest organized a memorial meeting for Monday, October 5th, to be held in the Nemo Theatre in Closter, New Jersey. The police of Closter, acting arbitrarily and without legal right, threw a cordon of police around the theatre and refused to permit the meeting to be held.

One of the residents of Norwood, a nearby county, offered a vacant lot which he owned in Norwood for the meeting. The meeting decided to move to Norwood. No sooner had the meeting started on the private property of a Mr. Golden, then the Norwood police arrived and broke up the meeting, dragging Milton Rosenberg, organizer of the United Textile Workers of America, from the platform and violently pushing

BOOKS of the AGE

TWO WORLDS. By Lester Cohen. N. Y., Covici, Friede. 1936. 412 pages. \$3.50.

This book sets down the author's trip around the world. He spent brief days in Paris, London, Leningrad, Moscow, Kiev, Kharkov, and Yalta, Instambul, Athens, Jerusalem, Colombo, Madras, Hong Kong, Peiping, Japan and then home again.

Mr. Cohen is a careful observer of the way men live but he was handicapped by the too brief stay in each place. Two or three cities however, come to life: Paris—with all its wizardry, all its magic and its pain. He must have felt deeply its extraordinary beauty to make us relive Paris so vividly; but how about the rest of France? It just isn't there.

London? Yes, several chapters on London—speeches in Parliament, debates on Fascism—in the Commons—and that's all. How about the rest of England? How about Workers' England? Here the title of the book is altogether misleading.

The Soviet Union—from north to south, but mostly really tourist sight-seeing and space out of all proportion to a small group of de-classed Jews.

All the cities of the Levant and India pile up kaleidoscopic scenes of filth, dirt, hunger and vast misery of those who slave to live. The chapter on Palestine is good and sound, but one wishes Mr. Cohen had stayed longer in India and given us a more detailed description of the workings of British imperialism in that section of the globe.

China comes to life again—overwhelming misery of hundreds of millions of beings who no longer appear human under the burden of their brutalizing labor; the chicanery of the military bandits, the ever-shifting role of Chiang Kai-shek, the machinations of the few Trotskyites, the difficulties of the Communists in trying to wipe clean this gigantic cancerous decay—and what a feeling of hopelessness!

The book is full of interesting material that just fails to come to life. There are numerous deficiencies in style; one is too often conscious of straining for effect; the scene in the Hong Kong cafe is a piece out of a Hemingway notebook. There is too much cashing of travellers checks and the wife's constant fatigue begins to bore after a time. But one would say the book is interesting in spots.

—Ellen Ward.

and shoving him off the lot.

The Joint Council Knitgoods Workers Union sent protests to the mayors of Norwood and Closter and to Governor Hoffman of New Jersey, demanding that this arbitrary police ban on meetings of citizens of the counties be removed and pledging support to the strikers of the Acme Braid to carry on the fight until the murderer of Otto Krueger is brought to justice.

PHILADELPHIA

JAY LOVESTONE

— speaks on —

"Six Months of the
People's Front in
France"

at

329 PINE STREET

Sunday, Oct. 18 at 8 p. m.

Auspices: Local Phila. C.P.O.

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