

Is Roosevelt Solving Unemployment?

NRA Provides Neither Jobs Nor Money to Buy With

By I. AMTER

Heralded throughout the country by the "brain trust," his sycophants, the Socialist and A. F. of L. leaders, as bringing about a "revolution along the American methods," Roosevelt has retired to Hyde Park to look over his "work." No doubt he, Johnson, Sidney Hillman and William Green have pronounced it good. A few insights into basic features of the N. I. R. A. will convince us otherwise.

The purpose of the N. I. R. A. is to end unemployment. As the World-Telegram in an editorial of July 17th stated:

"American business leaders have admitted again and again that our economic structure can survive only if a way is found to keep the whole population at work and earning enough to buy enough to make the wheels go around. . . . Business is making faltering progress toward saving itself from destruction. Only continued firm guidance from the administration can pull it through."

Can it? That question is answered very simply. The working population can NEVER buy back what it produces, owing to the nature of the profit system, and therefore the wheels must stop and capitalism faces destruction.

Will the N. I. R. A. do the job—for that was its aim. Let us look at facts. The cotton mill owners were warned sufficiently in advance of the enforcement of the cotton code. Presumably, the number of workers to be hired on the reduced working hour schedule should immediately have increased. Did it? It did not. The N. Y. Times on July 21st informs us that: "The authorities estimate that Southern mills will add some 50,000 new operatives in the next few months." But it adds gloomily: "The forecasts have not been borne out as yet. On the day that the new code became effective only one mill in the Carolinas reported that it was taking on new employees, and this was counter-balanced by the announcement from another mill that it was discharging sixty-five."

Although the Virginia mills hired some new workers, the Times says: "It is overbalanced by the lack of increased employment in North Carolina, which for some years has had more spindles in place than any state in the Union, and in South Carolina, which has had the largest number in actual operation."

Increased Output, Less Employment

Why does this happen? Because, the writer adds: "They (the mill owners) have noted with some uneasiness the drop in the volume of business done by the department stores," and the question which concerns them is "whether the public will buy the products of their mills in sufficient quantities at the increased prices made necessary by the advance in wages and the reduction in working time." Correct uneasiness—and the answer? Have the wages enabled the workers at any time to buy back what they produce—and will the increased wages, which in many cases are reduced wages, and the lowering of wages of higher skilled workers to the minimum wages, plus the lowering of the hours, make it possible for them to buy more now? Of course not.

The proof is given in the report of Secretary of Commerce Roper on July 28: "Factory output increased 45 per cent from February, factory employment increased 8 per cent, payrolls gained only 15 per cent!"

How could the mill owners fire the workers, when the explicit purpose of the N. I. R. A. was to increase employment, when Roosevelt and Johnson both appealed to the "patriotism" of the employers and merely asked the workers to go along? This is very simple—although it may appear contradictory. In a statement concerning the firing of workers for union activity and of workers discharged in the normal progress of the application of the cotton code, Johnson said (July 20) "he cannot do anything about non-discriminatory reduction of forces. That's some of the eggs that are broken in making this omelet." It must be made clear: the codes do not guarantee those now working that they will have jobs; it promises no job to an unemployed worker; it does not protect the workers against discharge. But the workers are to put trust in Roosevelt's "revolution!"

A Stage Play

What hope have the workers of getting their wishes before the National Recovery Administration? According to Johnson in a speech on June 25, "it is trade or industrial associations in groups, and not combinations of trade with labor groups which are to submit codes or agreements." In other words, the industrialists submit their codes and then the workers—meaning the officials of the A. F. of L.—will be allowed to say amen. But on July 26, Johnson declared: "Where there are representative organizations of labor in an industry, it is desirable that they confer with those preparing the code." Why this change?

In preparing the cotton code, McMahon of the United Textile Workers co-operated. But in order not to lose his influence among workers who went out on strike, at the hearing he pretended not to agree with the provisions of the code. Green objected to the steel code, whereupon Lamont, speaking for the steel manufacturers, drew out of his pocket a second statement, which Green accepted. This was stage-play. But what about the rank and file who do not regard Green, Lewis, Hillman or other labor skates as their spokesmen? How will they be heard—despite Johnson's promise that any group of workers will be given a hearing? The aim of Johnson's last statement is to rule out all workers' groups with workers' programs and demands. And we should not be surprised. Johnson said on June 25: "They (trade associations) were not very strong under the old law, but he new one makes them highly important. They are almost part of government and they can do and agree to many more things than they could ever before."

And what will the employers and



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their government do? Will they permit the workers to strike against the wages and hours imposed? David Lawrence already intimated what would take place—and it has. On July 29 the Associated Press reported

"COLLECT A DIME" WEEK TO FINANCE C. P. ELECTIONS

Drive to Start Aug. 19 for N. Y. Communist Campaign

NEW YORK. — To help finance the biggest Communist election campaign in New York City, the week beginning Saturday, August 19 will see workers and sympathizers of the Communist Party collecting ten-cent pieces.

The Communist Election Campaign Committee, through its manager Carl Brodsky, issued a statement to all mass organizations, trade unions, workers' clubs, International Workers' Order branches and language groups calling for support of the dime financial drive. A goal of 20,000 dimes has been set.

The call follows:

"The Communist Election Campaign is coming in full swing. Every worker in New York City, every sympathetic group is vitally concerned in helping to elect a few Communist representatives this year. We must all join together in a concentrated fight against the Tammany graft administration and the Roosevelt fake new deal. We must secure thousands of Communist votes for: Unemployment insurance, immediate cash relief, against evictions. "Join up, help finance the biggest Communist election campaign in New York City."

"Your immediate task is as follows:

"The week of August 19 to 27 has been set aside for the collection of 10 cent pieces. This is the first preliminary step in helping to finance the immediate purpose of the campaign. "Collect a dime" boxes are ready for your membership in order that they may proceed at once to secure 10 cent contributions during the special week of August 19th to 27th. Have one of your representatives call at Room 539, 799 Broadway, headquarters of the Election Campaign Committee, where he will be given as many boxes as will be necessary in order to involve your membership in this first necessary step.

"Do not delay, set your organization into motion at once!"

600 Pharmacists At Union Convention

NEW YORK.—About 600 in attendance at the N. Y. State Convention of the Pharmacists' Union of Greater New York, held last Thursday at Pythian Temple, 135 W. 70th St., voted enthusiastically to endorse the proposed workers' code, calling for a 40-hour week, for wages up to \$45 for licensed pharmacists and unemployment insurance at the expense of the bosses and the government.

The union received 65 new dues paying members at this convention, and more than 100 more applications were filed to be acted on later. It was decided to make this convention representative of the entire eastern section of the country.

Among the resolutions was one calling for proportionate representatives of the pharmacists on the State Board of Pharmacy.

Full details of the convention will be found in the Union Pharmacist, published by the union. Headquarters of the union are now at 612 Third Ave.

Laundry Code of \$6.30 In South is Withdrawn After Workers Protest

WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 6.—The worst conditions of any codes so far were the ones proposed in the code filed by the laundry bosses yesterday. The minimum wages asked for in this code were set as \$6.30 a week in the South, \$9 a week in the Southwest, \$10.12 in the North and \$11.25 a week in the East.

An attempt was made by the National Recovery Administration to sneak this code over without a hearing, under the latest trick of the administration by which the bosses are allowed to operate under a "modified blanket code," which is nothing but the very code they propose for themselves.

However, in this case, the storm of public criticism that burst following the announcement of such low wages forced the laundry bosses hastily to withdraw this code today.

Communists Only Ones Exposing Meaning of New Deal

that in the strike of the textile workers in Fairlawn, N. J., the government mediator, John A. Moffatt, informed the company that "if it wanted to resume operations, the government would aid it." Plain strike-breaking—government strike-breaking—part of the Recovery Act!

This is the Roosevelt "revolution." This is the revolution that the Socialist leaders hail—Norman Thomas, etc. Jacob Panken, leaving for the meeting of the Executive of the Labor and Socialist International, to give his blessing to Social-Democratic treachery in Germany and to imperialist war preparations, declared that the "National Industrial Recovery Act is one of the most revolutionary acts engaged in by any nation and is paving the way to state capitalism, state socialism and ultimately the establishment of social-democracy." The capitalists and Roosevelt regarded the N. I. R. A. as the means of saving their system. Panken and the socialists see in it the dawning of the socialist "commonwealth"—all through the stroke of the pen of Franklin D. Roosevelt in June, 1933!

Oswald G. Villard, of the Nation, is so overwhelmed by the "revolution" (as he calls it) that he wants "to go down on my knees and salaam respectfully three times to the East." The World Tomorrow adds its support in declaring: "The plan deserves to be sympathetically supported by all liberals." From Morgan to Green, Thomas, Villard and Niebuhr—and of course Roosevelt and Johnson!

The Communists leading the militant workers of this country stand as the outspoken antagonists of the N. I. R. A.—an act for demagogically enslaving the workers of this country still more, for putting more crushing burdens on their shoulders—to save the capitalist system for the capitalists. The workers are putting forth their own programs and are striking. Strikes will sweep the country, for the workers will not submit to more hunger. The N. I. R. A. will be destroyed by the workers, who through organization and struggle will demand more and get more. This they are doing today—showing up the N. I. R. A.—but this is only the beginning.

Analyzes N.I.R.A. as War Preparation

By a Marine Worker Correspondent

BALTIMORE, Md.—In Roosevelt's "Blanket Code," in line with the National Recovery Act, which is supposed to cover all industries, the blanket is rather wet. The strikes throughout the country against the Recovery Act prove that the workers will not be blanketed and smothered to death.

The "everybody a job" policy of "Recover Roosevelt" is no joke, because the coming war will supply all workers with jobs—a tin hat and a rifle, and told to go murder "them foreigners who are causing the rotten conditions."

We must begin to realize that every move of the bosses is headed directly into a war, for markets, for profits, and we must realize more than ever that we must organize and fight against bosses' wars, before it breaks out!

A fight against the Recovery Act is a fight against imperialist war, a fight against rotten conditions is a fight against imperialist war!

The Convention of the Marine Workers Industrial Union went on record to mobilize seamen, longshoremen and harbor workers to fight against bosses' war. To build a strong Marine Workers Industrial Union, to stop shipments of war material!

Exposes I.W.W.

Wobbly Paper Helps Anti-Soviet War Campaign

By JONES

In an article splashed over half the front page of their official organ, the I.W.W. broadcasts the lies and slanders of Nillo Vallari or Wallari, a stoolpigeon and police agent kicked out of the Finnish longshoremen's union and known to have betrayed to the Fascist government of Finland half a dozen secret printing plants of the workers in that country. Those slanders and lies claim that the International of Seamen and Harborworkers, to which the MWIU is affiliated, scabbed on the Finnish Seamen's strike, that the Leningrad longshoremen worked cargo on Finnish ships during the strike, and that the Soviet Union sent German seamen back to Germany and to prison in irons in the 1931 German strike in Soviet ports.

The fact that most of the German seamen in that strike are still members of the I.S.H. is the best proof that that story is a lie. As for the others, we offer you the record of the I.S.H., and the record of the I.W.W. to show which is the scab and disruptor of the workers organizations.

In March, the I.S.H. issued another call on marine workers of all countries to join in the united front against fascist reaction.

Immediately the I.S.H. sections took action on the basis of this call. Efforts were made in all countries to stop working cargo and manning Finnish ships.

On April 22, the Finnish seamen went out on strike. It began as a solidarity strike to support a strike of the Swedish seamen. The strike move was led by the I.S.H. members in the Finnish union, and, in accordance with I.S.H. tactics, the solidarity issue was enforced by local