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# THE NEW LEADER

A Weekly Newspaper  
Devoted to the Interest  
of the Socialist and  
Labor Movement

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# STRIKE HOLDS BRITAIN IN GRIP

## SOCIALISTS PLAN IMPORTANT WORK

Action on League Postponed — Communist Union Barred — Henry New National Secretary

By James Oneal

PITTSBURGH.

THE Socialist party convention here gave evidence that it is very much alive despite the fact that its enemies have insisted that it is either dead or is dying. Its enemies were sure that they had destroyed it during the World War. When it insisted on living into the post-armistice period they again insisted that it was dead, and when it refused to be buried they have pretended that it is at least dying.

The corpse, however, managed to wiggle through a national convention of three sessions, hold a number of mass meetings, raise about \$3,000 for educational and organization work, give considerable attention to organization and propaganda work, and do many things that suggest a movement that has no intention whatever of dying. The organized Socialists of the United States have gone through very trying experiences since the year 1917. There were periods when the future looked black, indeed, but there is no instance of the Socialist movement ever being destroyed in this or any other country, and there is no likelihood of it ever suffering that fate here.

While not rising to the importance of some other conventions in the party's history, the Pittsburgh gathering brought Socialists together from many States, who took their job seriously and performed their tasks with dispatch. The record of the convention would not be complete without reference to the arrangements made by the Pittsburgh Socialists for the convention and the entertainment of the delegates. The arrangements were ideal, and in addition to the entertainment program they contributed \$1,000 to the educational and organization work of the National office. It was with genuine appreciation of this service that the delegates voted here thanks to the Pittsburgh Socialists for their thorough and satisfactory cooperation.

When the Socialist party national convention was called to order Saturday morning on the roof of the Chatham Hotel seventeen states, one district organization and four language federations had presented credentials. By the time of the afternoon session forty delegates were present, including members of the National Executive Committee. Before the morning session began delegates and visitors had gathered in the lobby and the convention hall exchanging greetings, inquiring about the Socialist movement, its prospects and discussing the work which they were to take up.

The complete roster of delegates showed the following states represented:

### Delegate Roll

California, Lena Morrow Lewis; Connecticut, Martin F. Plunkett, Karl Juresek; Idaho, O. A. Kennedy; Illinois, Florence S. Hall, W. R. Snow; Indiana, Emma Henry, William Henry; (Continued on page 3)

## THESE ARE THE WAGES BALDWIN SAYS MUST COME DOWN EVEN MORE

Official figures place the British miners' weekly wages as follows:

Underground laborers, \$12.25.  
Semi-skilled, pithead and screenmen, \$10.95.  
Piece workers, \$18.50.  
Skilled timbermen, \$15.50.  
The average wages for other trades are:  
Locomotive engineers and trainmen, \$21.22.  
House painters, \$17.76.  
Shipwrights, \$13.47.  
Printers, \$17.95.  
Street car conductors, \$13.33.  
Farm laborers, \$8.50.

## Strike's Leader



J. H. Thomas

## TIMELY TOPICS

By Norman Thomas

"CUT to \$5 and \$13 weekly, British coal strike cause." That newspaper headline gives the real focus of the case, stripped of the bunk that is already filling columns and columns of newspaper and editorial space. The coal miners struck against intolerable reductions in wages. They struck because the only remedy for the coal industry offered by their lords and masters was a \$5 a week wage for unskilled labor and longer hours. The longer hours might mean better daily wages for the workers, but they would certainly mean a bigger glut of coal and fewer days work. The other workers in Britain support the miners not merely out of sympathy, but because they know that the reduction in wages of the coal miners was to be followed by a general reduction of wages. Prime Minister Baldwin himself let the cat out of the bag a good while ago.

Now Mr. Baldwin cries out against the union executive council as an "alternative government." It is at present nothing of the sort and Mr. Baldwin's protest merely begs the economic issue. If ever it looks in that direction it will be the fault of the present government, which backed the owners' side in this controversy without any constructive suggestion for solution. Even more truly, it will be the fault of our whole social system and its failure to provide a better way out of the dilemma in which the workers found themselves, than the hard and difficult road of the general strike.

Let us try to look at the thing through the eyes of the workers who are most affected. Workers do not go lightly into a general strike from which they and their families will be the first to suffer. But what do they see? The owners of industry, backed by a Tory government which has failed to bring relief by experiments with a high tariff, etc., engaged in a deliberate effort to throw the brunt of England's unsatisfactory economic condition on the workers. The government claims that the coal miners are not the worst paid in England. Imagine the state of others when coal miners have to strike against a cut to wages as low as \$5 a week. Meanwhile these workers have seen about them the continued signs of inherited wealth and luxury. Coal land owners still claim their royalties and operators their profits, though in many cases these owners and their ancestors before them contributed nothing at all to the industry and their only claim upon it is the claim of legalized theft.

It is one of the peculiar difficulties of the British situation that the economic life of the country is so upset, its domestic and foreign markets are so disorganized, that more nationalization of coal—especially if nationalization involves purchase at a high price—will not automatically solve the problem of the coal miners. Yet nationalization is the essential condition for any solution. Without it no program of recovery can ever be achieved. Nationalization was recommended by the Sankey Commission years ago. It might then have dealt more easily with difficulties that have since grown enormously more complex. But the government which had appointed the com-

(Continued on page 2)

## TORY CABINET FORCED ISSUE

Walkout Comes After Baldwin Abruptly Ends Peace Negotiations with Unions

By Louis Silverstein

IT has happened. Three million British workers in the basic industries out on general strike, almost as many more in less essential occupations straining at the leash impatient to join the struggle, and finally the Government setting up the machinery for a gruelling contest. These are untraditional manifestations for May days in Merrie Olde England.

On Saturday, May 1, which appropriately enough was International Labor Day, one million one hundred thousand miners lived up to their determination not to accept a penny off their wages or a minute on their time, and refused to work on the terms dictated to them by their employers. That same day the General Council of the British Trades Union Congress voted to stand shoulder to shoulder with the miners and declared for a general strike in the main branches of industry to take effect Monday midnight. The Government's reply was a proclamation under the Emergency Powers Act of 1920 virtually placing the country under martial law. Hyde Park became a military encampment. Soldiers were stealthily moved to regions of possible outbreaks. Volunteers were called upon to act as scabs. The whole government engine of strike-destruction that had been secretly built up since last summer began to rumble and then moved like a juggernaut upon the workers.

Then, everything being in readiness the sweet, gentle, reasonable prime minister, Stanley Baldwin, in the small hours of Monday morning broke off all negotiations with the labor representatives. He would have nothing to do with them until they rescinded their strike order. By a stretch of legal imagination he declared the proposed action unconstitutional. In the parliamentary debate that day he translated the implications of the walkout into an accomplished fact and asserted that English constitutional democracy was being threatened by "an alternative government." Of course,

(Continued on page 4)

## BRITAIN'S ANSWER TO A LIVING WAGE PLEA



British troops mobilizing in London for strike service. The photo was received in this country by radio. One of the first "radiophotographs" ever transmitted. It records marvelous scientific progress and indicates the great gulf between the development of science along mechanical lines and the application of the ancient serf and master idea in human relations.

## PASSAIC GUNMEN HALTED

Injunction Stays Sheriff's Threat to Bomb Meeting of the Textile Strikers

By Art Shields

SHERIFF NIMMO, the little czar of Bergen county, went to defeat as strikers poured into Belmont Hall, Passaic, past 100 thugs with sawed off shot guns who had been enforcing the ban on meetings since Nimmo's reading of the Riot Act three weeks before. An injunction from vice-chancellor Bentley in Jersey City had been served, forbidding interference with lawful meetings held on private property by the American Civil Liberties Union or the United Front Committee.

It was the big day of the strike. In (Continued on page 7)

## British Public Opinion Behind Labor Movement, Two Bye Elections Show

With the election last week of Miss Susan Lawrence, Socialist-Laborite, to Parliament, the Labor party has won three elections in a year from the Conservatives. Miss Lawrence defeated the Tory, who received 9,171 votes, and a Liberal, who received 5,603 votes. She received 16,738 votes. The election is a clean cut turnover in Labor's favor. Miss Lawrence having lost the seat to the Tories in the last general election.

The Eastham election in which Miss Lawrence triumphed follows on the heels of Labor victories over Baldwin candidates in Stockport and Darlington. How unpopular the Baldwin Government really is is indicated in a dispatch to a conservative New York paper, which states that if there is anything the Tories fear more than the general strike it is the possibility that they may have to go before the country in a general election.

## EUROPE'S MINERS MAY STRIKE

German and French Federations Instruct Men Not to Mine Coal for Britain

THE response from the workers of Europe to the great general strike is an inspiring demonstration of Internationalism. The United States, as well, joined in pledging the British strikers aid. The co-operation of the International Miners' Federation may go to the extent of a general sympathy strike which would involve 700,000 miners on the Continent, according to the agreement reached at a meeting of the Miners' International executive in Brussels April 16. The International outlined this possible step in the event that the shipment of coal from Europe to Britain should menace the British workers' strike.

According to the agreement, in the event of a sympathetic strike on the Continent, the direction of the British miners' strike would pass from the British leaders to the International's executive committee and that there would be no separate settlement in England.

Frank Hodges, secretary of the International, has cabled to all affiliated sections to hold themselves ready. M. Vigne, secretary of the French miners, believes an international strike is quite possible. A meeting in London or Brussels, within a few days, will take important steps, he said. In this respect, he referred to the strike decision arrived at in Brussels last month.

Other indications of labor's united backing of the general strike are indicated in the following dispatches: Amsterdam.—The entire treasury of the International Federation of Trade Unions, holding 200,000 guilder, is at the disposal of the British strikers. It was announced here by Jan Oudegeest, secretary of the International. He said, however, that the British unions could carry along for four or five weeks without outside assistance.

Essen.—The German Miners' Federation will act in strict accordance with the International's agreement reached at Brussels and will not permit the transportation of coal to England during the general strike, the Federation has announced. The Federation instructs the miners not to work overtime and await further orders.

Berlin.—Forwards, official Socialist daily, states the German workers stand ready to assist the British strikers whenever aid is needed.

Paris.—The French Miners' Union has ordered its members not to work more than forty-eight hours a week in order to prevent production of a surplus which might be sent to England. (Continued on page 2)

## 3,000,000 MEN OUT IN STRUGGLE

Trouble Is Not Getting Men Out, but Keeping in Those Not Yet Ordered Out

By Norman E. Ewer (Foreign Editor, London Herald)

(By Cable to The Federated Press)

LONDON.

"THE stoppage is complete," says an official announcement of the Trade Union Council.

That summarizes the situation. From one end of the country to another the general strike call of the Trade Union Council has been answered with unanimity and enthusiasm, surpassing even the most confident expectations. The Trade Union Council has been answered by the railroad workers, transport workers, including the dockers, the iron and steel workers, except those directly engaged in housing construction, and the printing workers.

As a result, only twenty trains, carrying essential goods and foodstuffs, are running. The docks are all idle. The tram and bus services of every town is shut down except for a few scab buses.

With the exception of two or three local provincial sheets, not a single newspaper is printed.

The government has published "The British Bulletin." Volunteer labor printed the Morning Times and Post, as well as small lithograph sheets. The Trade Union Council has replied with "The British Worker," a strike bulletin printed in the Daily Herald plant.

The enthusiasm among the workers is amazing.

The trouble is not to bring out the workers, but to keep in those as yet not yet ordered on strike.

Complete order prevails everywhere. The only untoward incidents have been of the most trivial character. Yet the government is already drafting troops for mining and other working-class areas. This and the enrollment of "volunteers" may, unless handled most carefully, prove provocative and lead to trouble.

London streets present a most extraordinary spectacle. From all bourgeois suburbs thousands of small cars stream in so numerous that they completely choke all roads. Car owners coming four and five miles often take two hours to make the trip. They were hopelessly outdistanced by workers plogging along on foot.

## AMALGAMATED GREETS STRIKING BRITISH LABOR

THE Amalgamated Clothing Workers union has cabled greetings to the British strikers: "Herbert Smith, president Miners Federation, London, England: 'The Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, on behalf of its 150,000 members, extends to you its heartfelt greetings in a spirit of solidarity and wishes you success in your struggles.'"

"You are engaged in resisting the onslaught of organized capital in its drive to break down the standards of living of labor throughout the world and bring labor to a status of wage slavery. The solidarity of labor is the only force that will successfully defeat this attempt. Yours for victory."

## Goodyear Company Sees 'War for Rubber,' Urges U. S. Break Promise to Philippines

THE breaking of the United States' promise of independence to the Philippines, revision of the islands' laws in accordance with the interests of manufacturers of rubber materials, and colonization of the islands with "hordes of coolies," is urged by the General Tire & Rubber Company, makers of Goodyear tires.

"Rubber May Cause Next War," is the heading on the statement sent out by the rubber company. It follows: "While economic laws are settling the price and supply of crude rubber, the Philippine question is also being forced to a showdown," said the General Tire and Rubber Company in a recent statement to the trade. "Persons not in touch with Philippine affairs will be surprised to learn how hard the working out of the rubber problem strikes the national consciousness in the Philippines and among the thousands of Americans who took part in the war that made the Philippines independent of Spain in 1898-9."

"It was generally understood that Uncle Sam was not looking to build a world empire when the Spanish War was fought, and the world has believed that the Philippines would be set up in business for themselves as soon as Washington considered the natives capable of self-government. A powerful lobby both in the islands and at the National Capitol has been working steadily for Philippine independence for the last quarter of a century.

The last two years have made

## Revision of Land Laws to Suit American Interests and Colonization by 'Hordes of Coolies' Urged

it apparent that immense areas in the Philippines can be devoted to high grade rubber cultivation, if Uncle Sam will forget his promise of Philippine independence, change land laws and permit the importation of hordes of coolies for clearing land, planting and tending trees, etc. There is a very definite move by American capitalists and their political friends in this direction, and Filipinos with national aspirations are roused accordingly and are fighting every move in this direction. They insist that the promise of Philippine independence was made not only to the natives themselves, but to the whole world.

"The world is using more and more rubber each year, and the industries of the United States themselves are more and more the world's biggest rubber customer. The efforts of establishing plantations, principally Malays, to increase the annual crop are not proceeding as efficiently as was hoped, and though the Malay plantations will increase gradually there may still be another pinch in supplies before the future comes into being.

"At any rate, the Philippine Islands, that is, a few of the Philippines having favorable climate, are more attractive to rubber men than ever before, and that part of the

world is fast becoming a hotbed of international politics.

"It remains to be seen whether the promises made to the world by the United States Government a quarter of a century ago in the heat of a world war will stand against expediency and the urge of the world's greater need of an industrial commodity. Leaders at Washington have taken no definite stand as yet, but people generally would welcome the appearance of a real statesman at Washington, who could engineer the development of this great raw material which the world is using more and more every year, without causing us to break our national word, or, on the other hand, setting the Philippines adrift among the nations.

"It is certain that some way will be found to increase Philippine rubber production. What will become of the Philippines themselves, and how politics will cause the nations to react, remains to be seen. It is within the bounds of possibilities that this business of supplying the world with enough crude rubber may be the cause of the next world war, for all the powers are watching the island group in the Pacific over which the United States has established a protectorate."



# Strike Is Fight to Keep Miners From Starvation

## EUROPE'S MINERS MAY JOIN STRIKE

(Continued from page 1)  
Representatives of French miners, rail, dock and marine workers have passed resolutions stating "all efforts will be made to contribute to the success" of the British general strike.

The Hague.—The Central League of Transport Workers has instructed all Dutch sailors and transport workers to see that "not one ton of coal may be exported to England." The manifesto says: "Work must be refused on all ships attempting to load coal for England. Sailors must strike in case their ship is taking coal destined to England. All ships that would be bunkering in English ports and which now try to fill their bunkers elsewhere must be refused coal. Enlistment on British ships is forbidden."

Rotterdam.—Dock workers are instructed to refuse to load coal for Britain in a manifesto issued by the Rotterdam Transport Workers' Federation.

Ottawa.—The trades and Labor Congress has cabled Britain offering to give all possible financial assistance the strikers may find necessary.

Washington.—While expressing the fear that a general strike may becloud the basic economic issues, President Green of the American Federation of Labor declared the miners' demands are just, and that American labor will not pass judgment on the tactics of the British workers.

Berlin.—The Christian trade unions regard the British strike at present as a purely domestic affair, but the leaders intimate that, should the British workers appeal for financial aid and declarations of solidarity, they will not lag behind the general federation of trades unions, even though they are not affiliated with the British unions.

Athens, Greece.—A meeting of Greek workmen voted sympathy with the British strikers.

Mexico City.—Ricardo Trevino, secretary general of the Regional Confederation of Labor, announces that Mexican organized labor is in sympathy with the British strikers and will aid them in the most efficacious way possible.

New York City.—The Amalgamated Clothing Workers and the Joint Board of the Furriers' Union, the latter themselves conducting a strike, have cabled greetings of support to the striking British workers.

## THE CLASH OF LEADERS

British General Strike in the Hands of "Conservative" Leaders of British Labor—Baldwin Shields Labor-Haters in the Cabinet

HERE is a Who's Who of the leaders of both sides in the great general strike:

J. H. THOMAS has emerged as the leader of the great strike. He is a conservative labor leader, one of the few in Britain who is not a Socialist. His diligent and continuous efforts at keeping industrial disputes from reaching the strike stage has earned him the reputation of a "peace at any price man." He favors nationalization of industries, but at a slow and careful pace. Under Ramsay MacDonald's premiership, he was Colonial Secretary. He is often mentioned as responsible for "Black Friday." Discriminating students of that affair, however, are inclined to place the blame on the shoulders of Frank Hodges, ex-secretary of the miners' union.

RAMSAY MACDONALD is a member of the negotiating committee of the Trades Union Congress. First premier of the Labor-Socialist forces, it would not be altogether surprising if the present crisis may send him back into 10 Downing Street at the head of a stronger Labor Government than his first. MacDonald, like Thomas, has always deprecated strikes except as an extreme recourse. He is probably the best known Socialist in the world with a brave record as a stalwart defender of peace in international as well as in industrial relations.

A. J. COOK, secretary of the striking Miners' Federation has served time in jail for his devotion to peace. He has sometimes been called a "left wing unionist," in the present controversy he has turned the miners' case into the hands of Thomas and the Trade Union Council. A Socialist, Cook is a member of the Independent Labor Party. The New York World's statement that he is a Communist is a display of ignorance with, perhaps, a mixture of malice.

BEN TILLET led the world-famous London dock strike in 1889, a landmark in labor history. He has also been described as a "conservative" labor leader. He is a Socialist.

ARTHUR HENDERSON was Home Secretary in the Labor Cabinet. He is a great organizing genius and is President of the Socialist and Labor International. In Henderson, we again find a "moderate" labor leader helping lead a general strike.

STANLEY BALDWIN, Premier, whose disregard of labor's rights and political ineptitude were equally demonstrated when he declared, last year, that wage cuts for the miners must be only a prelude for general wage slashing. In the opposition to the strike, he is somewhat of a figure-head, concealing with poor success of the guiding hands of Winston Churchill, Joynson-Hicks, Lord Birkenhead and other notoriously bitter labor-haters. A mild and weak man, he is regarded with a certain amount of distrust by the Mussolini-apers in his own Tory Party.

SIR WILLIAM JOYNSON-HICKS, commonly known as "Jix," is Britain's leading Calamity howler, leading the Duke of Northumberland by a narrow margin. Like our own Mitchell Palmer and the late-lamented Lusk, he sees red even when his eyes are shut. Recently he announced the following remarkable discovery: "The Communist Party may be small, but it is powerful and definitely in alliance with Russia." Of what present consequence this is, he forgot to say.

WINSTON CHURCHILL, another fire-eating Tory with a poor digestive system. He is a member of the Baldwin cabinet, as is "Jix." His bungling methods during the war, when he was the cause of thousands of needless deaths in Gallipoli and Russia, kept him out of Parliament for a long time. He makes no effort to disguise his hatred for labor's ambitions for a better deal. A rabid war-monger, he is now as dangerous a menace to industrial peace.

SIR WILLIAM MITCHELL-THOMSON, dictator under "emergency rule" holds a decoration from Fascist Italy. He is described as "a business man who has drifted into politics."

LORD BIRKENHEAD, is none other than "Gallagher Smith," apologist for the excess of British imperialism, whose tactless mouthings of reactionary views here a few years ago kept his party on the uneasy seat.

## Labor's Secretary



Arthur Henderson

## 300 ATTEND A.C.W. CONVENTION

"Left" Strength Is Nil in the Biennial Gathering at Montreal

MONTREAL.

MORE than 300 delegates have arrived to attend the 7th biennial convention of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America. The convention convenes here after two years of marked progress in the various clothing markets of the country.

The accomplishments in the New York market have been particularly encouraging. In that city, the arbitration system scrapped in the fight of 1921-22 has been completely re-installed, the fight of the International Tailoring Company has been stemmed and factional differences, based on political matters rather than industrial, have been eliminated.

For the latter accomplishment, which has brought with the most efficiently run Joint Board in the union's history, much praise is due Manager Abraham Beckerman.

Since the last convention, the first unemployment fund in the history of the country has been placed in operation in Chicago. The convention will consider its extension to other markets. The union's two banks have amassed total resources of \$12,000,000. Labor banking is no longer an experiment, the reports to the convention will show. The convention will be pleasantly free of political bickering. The so-called "left" delegation, numbering some Communists, will be small and inconsequential.

## Rand Gym Dance

The 7th annual dance festival of the Gym Department of the Rand School will be held on Saturday, May 15. A program of Interpretative and Folk Dances will start at 8:30 p. m. Tickets obtainable at 7 East 15th street, where the program will be held in Debs Auditorium. Tickets are 75 cents and no reserved seats.

## Socialist Convention Greet British Strikers

The National Convention of the Socialist Party in Pittsburgh adopted the following declaration on the general strike in Britain: As the Socialist Party of the United States is assembled in national convention at Pittsburgh the working class of England is facing one of the most momentous struggles in British labor history. Unless some unforeseen factor intervenes England will witness the solidarity of five million organized workers rallied to the support of the British miners.

Moreover, the continental workers may become involved. Anticipating this struggle of the British miners the miners of Europe have, through the Amsterdam International of Trade Unions, pledged their support. Thus the workers of England are pledged the solidarity of European workers in a basic industry and the common cause of all will break down the artificial barriers of frontiers, language and nationality.

Meantime the reactionary British Government, after postponing the inevitable reorganization of the coal industry by a subterfuge last year, is now prepared to resort to the armed forces of the nation to drive the miners back to a miserable life in an industry that requires nationalization. In this crisis in the economic life of England capitalist ownership of a basic industry as well as the political leadership of British capitalism have become archaic, incompetent and disastrous.

The Socialist Party of the United States rejoices over the solidarity displayed by the organized workers across the Atlantic and urges the American workers to render all aid that is possible to insure a victorious conclusion of the struggle for the miners.

The convention also instructs the National Secretary to send a cable of greetings to the British Trade Union Congress for its magnificent decision to mobilize the workers of England for a common cause.

## WHAT WE FIGHT FOR

Labor M. P. in New York Presents the British Movements' Reasons for the Great General Strike

By Rennie Smith, M. P.

THE general strike, much talked of in all industrial countries for generations, has broken out into an actual fact at last in the very home of modern capitalism. Strikes have occurred before. Strikes of particular trades, strikes of a whole industry. There was once an occasion when three great industries of Great Britain united in the "triple alliance" threatened a combined strike endeavor. But the threat was all.

Never before has England stood before the accomplished fact and the bar of judgment of a general strike. This dramatic and far-reaching event is not of the chipping of the organized labor movement. For seven long, difficult and anxious weeks, the trade union movement, assisted by the Labor Party on the floor of the House of Commons, has exhausted every device of negotiation, of round table conference, and of statesmanship in order to reach a peace by agreement of this vexed and troubling question of what is to be done with the British mining industry, and above all, what is to be done with the million miners to dig the nation's coal.

For three years now, the miners of Great Britain have gone from one misfortune to another. The temporary improvement of 1919 has gone by the board. For more than three years, their standard of life has been substantially below what it was in 1914. That standard has been still further dragged down by the chronic persistence of the largest proportion of unemployment in any British industry.

When they were challenged last July to accept still lower wages, or longer hours, or both, they replied to the owners, to the Government and to the nation at large, "Below where we are now, we will never consent to go. We stand on the irreducible minimum. The nation has no right in decency or in morals to ask us to degrade still further our present pitiable standards. Not another penny off the pay, not another minute on the day."

Against that issue Prime Minister Baldwin issued the statement that both miners and all wage earners must be prepared for a further reduction in their wages. This declaration led to the general line-up of the workers last July. And before it Baldwin yielded, introduced the subsidy and appointed the Royal Commission. That Royal Commission reported on March 10. For seven weeks, the three parties concerned have struggled

with the recommendations of that report. They have been unable to reach agreement. In the last seven days of the struggle, the owners fearing the loss of a subsidy, posted lockout notices. The struggle contemplated on the issue of wages and hours. The momentous thirtieth of April offer of the owners was an eight-hour day in place of seven, and 13 and 1-3 per cent off the wages. And no further argument, no further negotiation.

It is on that impossible offer of the owners that the General Council of the Trade Union Congress has been compelled to take their stand with the miners in this great national issue which is neither more nor less than an organized effort to safeguard the existing standard of life of the whole of the workers of the country.

The organized workers are seeking in great Britain, through this great crisis, and since it has been forced upon them, to bring to an end forever the view that industrial progress can be secured by continuously dragging down the wages and the conditions of the workers. The workers of Great Britain stand shoulder to shoulder in wonderful solidarity to re-establish throughout Great Britain the principle of the living wage for all workers and to declare that capitalists who cannot face this bill must recognize that the only way out in the superior kind of scientific planning and national public economy which the Labor Party has been steadily working at and advocating for a generation.

The forces of progress go with the Labor Party. The International Federation of Trade Unions has pledged all its resources to the British workers in their struggle. Even the miners of the late enemy country of Germany have promised a sympathetic strike if German coal is imported into Britain. The eyes of the workers of all countries are upon this great struggle. The deeply rooted practices of democracy and of constitutional government which are the breath of life of the Labor Party, and which they have always safeguarded against all dictators, whether from the right or from the left, are now undergoing a tremendous strain. But the Labor Party has brains, strong-will and a large patient sense of responsibility. It has common-sense, it knows how to laugh when skies are dark, it has a great tradition. The Labor Party will triumph over all its enemies and will carry the country forward to a new era of industrial and political progress.

difficult problem of the essential reorganization, not only of the coal industry, but of other industries in post-war Britain?

These are some of the questions to which we eagerly wait the answer. But we wait the answer not as dispassionate onlookers but as those whose hearts and souls are with the exploited workers. Britain is the cradle of the industrial revolution. There, more than in any land, were forged the tools by which man has made nature his servant. But the workers have got most benefit from all the labor-saving devices of the modern world. Britain's might and glory have been supported upon the bowed backs of toilers who barely earn a subsistence wage.

The present general strike, from one point of view, is an inevitable part of the price mankind must pay for its blind stupidity in not using for its own release the tools which it has made for the conquest of nature. Let no American rejoice that we are exempt. We have advantages denied to the British. But in our handling of our coal problem we have been as stupidly devoted to the private profits of private owners as the British themselves. If we desire that we or our children should escape a general strike or worse it is necessary that we should begin now to substitute industrial democracy for autocracy and production for use in place of production for profit.

The foregoing was in type when I read Premier Baldwin's remarkable statement in the House of Commons that he would negotiate with the workers only after the strike was called off. Labor was ready for negotiations, Mr. Baldwin demands the unions surrender. This is the temper not of democracy but of autocracy, not of peace but of war. Will the government now, contrary to British conditions, resort to brute force to break the strike?

Vienna.—The metal workers' Federation, a powerful industrial union, embracing miners, machinists and others, has voted full support of the British comrades. They have already started the collection of funds.

At present a thousand different interests ask whether this pit or that pays to work either of itself or as part of a group. The time must come when what we shall have to ask through managers concerned solely with the interests of the community is: What is the economical coal production of this country? Suppose, for instance, that one-half of our commercially disposable coal production was sold at a profit of 12 cents in the ton and the other half at a loss of 2 cents in the ton, under private ownership that state of things would help an argument that in half the coal production there was no money to increase wages; that, indeed, a reduction in wages was necessary to keep men in work; that an extension of hours ought to be tried. None of these questions would probably arise under nationalization, because the average margin would be 5 cents in the ton and the whole industry would be paying.

## NATIONALIZATION

ONE HOPE, SAYS MACDONALD

Labor Chief Pledges Miners Full Support of Political and Industrial Organizations

By J. Ramsay Macdonald  
Leader of the Labor Party in the House of Commons

NEITHER the general British public nor the trade union movement as a specially interested section of that public can allow the miners and their families to be offered up as sacrifices to the lamentable failure of private enterprise in mining which is now being disclosed, and no Socialist can be satisfied with any settlement of a temporary character which does not place the miners' interest in a thoroughly sound position.

Private interest has played with coal, governments have played with the results that we are experiencing today. And in the past no section of the community has been more left to fight its own battles than the mining section. They were the last of our workmen recognized legally as slaves; their wages have been of the lowest and their working conditions of the most hazardous and undesirable character; their homes and their fate have been disgraceful. Today, when commission after commission has reported on the utter failure of the present organization of the industry to secure fair treatment for the men, it is surely time that public opinion should rise up in moral indignation at the whole disgraceful story and demand a complete change in the whole industry.

The question that faces us now is whether human life is to continue to be sacrificed to private enterprise. Private enterprise no longer describes our industry as a whole, so limited and so supplemented has it become. But it survives as a shibboleth to cloud people's minds. Whenever a great industrial problem arises, fears and habits are carried back by old sacred words and phrases to the dead past, and firm and scientific handling is prevented. That is the case, today in the mining industry.

The report has nothing immediate to recommend for the reconstruction and reorganization of the trade. There is no certainty that if the present difficulty were patched up these proposals would be carried out. In it is a series of tables relating to the production and the selling of coal, wages, profits and losses, which is the unanswerable case for an organization of the industry on lines which mean nationalization.

But these tables show us that production per man shift, prices, profits, losses vary enormously not only between district and district but within the districts themselves. That knocks on the head every hope that district agreements are easier to make than national ones. A district average upon which to base wages or estimate costs under separately owned properties is just as fictitious as a national one. It is therefore plain if we are to put costs of production and wages on a really sound footing, we must end these separate enterprises that are competing with each other and exploiting their employees, and organize the coal industry as a unity.

At present a thousand different interests ask whether this pit or that pays to work either of itself or as part of a group. The time must come when what we shall have to ask through managers concerned solely with the interests of the community is: What is the economical coal production of this country? Suppose, for instance, that one-half of our commercially disposable coal production was sold at a profit of 12 cents in the ton and the other half at a loss of 2 cents in the ton, under private ownership that state of things would help an argument that in half the coal production there was no money to increase wages; that, indeed, a reduction in wages was necessary to keep men in work; that an extension of hours ought to be tried. None of these questions would probably arise under nationalization, because the average margin would be 5 cents in the ton and the whole industry would be paying.

Some of the figures in these tables are interesting. In 1925 the Scottish coal field is shown as having had an average loss of 18 cents in the ton, but

(Continued on page 4)

## Can Labor Save Britain?

By HERBERT TRACEY  
of British Movement

Absorbing—Timely

## DEBATE LABOR BANKING Promise or Menace?

In the MAY ISSUE of LABOR AGE

The National Monthly

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In Support: ALBERT P. COYLE, Editor, Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers  
In Opposition: J. F. ANDERSON, Former Vice-President, International Association of Machinists

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## General Election or Revolution?

By Edward Levinson

A GENERAL election or a revolution. These are the two leading alternatives facing the British nation today.

The Government is attempting to force the revolution.

Labor is working for the general election.

The talk of "civil war," the rattling of sabres, the mobilization of troops, arbitrary refusal of the Government to discuss peace unless the workers surrender, these are the tactics with which the Baldwin government is trying to goad the strikers into turning their movement into a rebellion.

The Government wants to incite disorders so that it may ruthlessly crush the strike and once and for all break the back of labor.

Labor's hopes, as formulated by the strike leaders, J. H. Thomas, Ramsay MacDonald, Arthur Henderson and others, is to place the case of the miners and their fellow workers, before the British people.

Baldwin and his backers fear a general election, knowing public opinion at this stage is against them. They hope, by goading the workers to violence, to turn public opinion against them.

Raymond Swing, correspondent of the Evening Post, stand-pat organ, has sensed this, as have other of the better equipped correspondents on the spot. He writes: "The labor movement believes it is dealing with a strike. The Government is aware that it is dealing with a revolution."

"In the same matter of fact way in which they (the Government) conducted the war," writes Swing, "they are now setting out to break the general strike and the men who built it up. They regard the strike as a revolution and see beneath its surface something deeper than the coal dispute."

Next Lecture of Course on Communism and Civilization BY LEON SAMSON AT THE LABOR TEMPLE 244 East 14th St. SATURDAY EVE., MAY 8th at 8:30 P. M. SUBJECT "THE STATE" Bourgeois and Proletarian Theories Compared and Analyzed Questions and Discussions After Each Lecture ADMISSION 25 CENTS

pute. They see the organized march toward Socialism. Whatever it costs, they now want to root these elements out of British life and believe they can do it.

Baldwin has been swept aside in this ruthless plan. Five men, bitter enemies of labor's aspirations, are pulling the strings to which he is attached. They are Churchill, Birkenhead, Chamberlain, Amery, Joynson-Hicks.

"They prepared the ultimatum of the government to the trade unions to withdraw the strike notices and they prepared it while Premier Baldwin was in negotiation with the union leaders," Swing reveals. "They confronted him with their view and forced the issuance of the ultimatum. Throughout his (Baldwin's) negotiations he has been hampered by the acts of his colleagues which aimed at making peace difficult."

So much for the Tory's plans to hurl Britain into a bloody reign and beat labor into submission.

More than that: It is now revealed that the Trade Union Council leaders had actually accepted a peace program, on Sunday night, which they had in Baldwin's own handwriting. They were discussing the proposed peace with the miners' representatives when the ultimatum, like a shock, came to them. Ramsay MacDonald and others immediately hurried to the Cabinet headquarters for an explanation. They found the lights out and the doors bolted. The diehards had forced the ultimatum, and then fled, less their work for war might yet be scotched.

In Parliament later, Baldwin admitted that his peace proposal was being discussed by the miners and the Trades Union Council.

Labor's plans are along democratic, constitutional and peaceful lines. The last three bye-elections, all defeats for Baldwin, and the present grave situation, they hold, provide sufficient cause for a general election. If Baldwin attempts to use the emergency act to force the strikers back, he must certainly ask the nation for a vote of confidence, they maintain.

Thus the lines are drawn. The mine owners and the government are for the crushing of labor, through fair or foul means; labor wants peaceful settlement of their just grievances.

Cooper Union Debate The Cooper Union debating class will hold a debate and entertainment Saturday evening, May 8, in the large hall of Cooper Union. The subject will be: "Resolved that industrial arbitration in all labor disputes be made arbitrary."

## TIMELY TOPICS

by Norman Thomas

(Continued from page 1)

mission calmly ignored its recommendations. Now another government representing the same interests asks the workers to pay for its predecessor's sins of omission.

All this the workers know. They know, too, that it is useless to appeal to a political Parliament controlled by the party of the landlords and profit takers. It is a misconception of democracy to hold that workers must submit to starvation for themselves and their families unless and until, through cumbersome political machinery, usually controlled by the people who have the money, they can raise wages by an act of Parliament. Except cowardly submission, the workers had no choice save a general strike or a violent uprising. They chose the better road. It is a road that has its dangers and great hardships. No man can foretell what may come out of a general strike. Although it is not revolutionary in intention, it is, of course, possible that it may be revolutionary in result. A great historian of the French Revolution has said that when it began not twelve men in all France desired a Republic. In time of crises events command men.

If violence and bloodshed can be prevented there is a better chance for reason to hold sway. Fortunately, on this point Britain has better traditions than the bloodstained areas of industrial conflict in our own country. If a minimum of food and health services can be maintained, the position of the strikers will be stronger and their own families will suffer less. Such services should be—and apparently now are—maintained by agreement and with the approval of the strikers so that they may not become strike breaking agencies.

For a long time men have argued as to the advantages and disadvantages of a general strike as a weapon in the labor movement. Great Britain is, as it were, a laboratory for the whole world to observe. The workers and their leaders are testing a method at great price to themselves. All of us may be the gainers by lessons learned from their struggle. Can they preserve order and unity? Can they prevent breaks in their own ranks? Can they ward off actual starvation? Can they, by abstaining from work, bring the united owners of Britain to terms? Have they the courage and wisdom to tackle the

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# The Socialist Party in Convention

## MEMBERSHIP UP, KIRKPATRICK REPORTS

### Convention Urged to Experiment with Weekly Propaganda Press Service

THE report of Acting National Secretary Kirkpatrick to the National Executive Committee of the Socialist Party, which, in turn, has been submitted to the national convention, contains some interesting items. The report shows a gain in membership for the first three months of this year compared with the same period in 1925.

One of the most interesting aspects of the report is the results obtained by the publication of the American Appeal, the party's national propaganda organ. While there are no striking increases in party membership or rapid increase in circulation, still there is a slow and steady gain in these matters. This is to be welcomed, as the party has learned a lesson to be avoided in the abnormal increase in membership following the entrance of the United States into the World War.

The American Appeal is still a few months old but it is, to quote Kirkpatrick, "by far the best, if not the only, available—or practicable—resource for the upbuilding of the party at this time; and is the one big thing for organization work as regarded from the National Office point of view."

**Finances Summarized**  
A summary of the party's national finances is found in the following excerpt from Kirkpatrick's report:

Total receipts, 1925, \$35,639.77; total expenditures, 1925, \$35,402.29; balance, January 1, 1925, \$237.48. (This balance of \$237.48 is different by only \$2.18 from the balance March 1 of the present year.) Average monthly receipts, \$2,969.96; average monthly expenditures, \$2,950.19. Our total income for 1925 was \$5,045.75 less than for the year 1924. Liabilities at close of 1924, \$4,456.73; liabilities at close of 1925, \$1,806.20; liabilities at close of March 31, 1926, \$1,156.17. Liabilities paid during 1925, \$2,650.53; liabilities paid first three months of 1926, \$650.03.

It will be observed from these figures that despite the fact that the total income in 1925 was \$5,000 less than the year previous, there has been a constant decline in the party's liabilities. The liabilities of nearly \$5,000 at the close of 1924 have been reduced until they amounted to the small sum of \$650 the first three months of this year.

For a number of years the party has had to face the necessity of paying pressing bills. Contributions that might have gone into propaganda had to be used in meeting these obligations. With the party debt wiped out, we face a future with more possibilities for propaganda and organization. This may well serve as a call to many members who can afford a regular monthly contribution to the sustaining fund to get on the list with those who for a number of years have been making these contributions.

**Big Literature Output**  
The literature sold and distributed by the National Office naturally does not measure up to the figures of the old days before the World War but it shows a continuous output that promises a good increase by the end of the year. The following figures show what this literature business was in the year 1925:

Literature sold and distributed during 1925: Cloth bound books, 95; paper bound books and pamphlets, 17,832; leaflets, 188,445. The following leaflets and pamphlets are included in the above totals: Pamphlets, Debs Can-

(Continued from page 1)  
Kansas, Arthur Bridwell; Kentucky, John Tobey; Maryland, William A. Toole; Michigan, Joseph Bernstein; Arthur Rosenfeld; Missouri, G. A. Hoehn; Montana, James D. Graham; New Jersey, William Kane Tallman; Mrs. Charlotte Bohlin; New York, Herbert M. Merrill, James Oneal, Julius Gerber; Ohio, John G. Willert; Pennsylvania, Darlington Hoopes, William J. Van Esen; West Virginia, William Frankona; Wisconsin, William Coleman, Victor L. Berger; New England District, Samuel P. Levenberg, Walter L. Hutchins; Finnish Federation, W. N. Reivo; Italian Federation, James Battistoni, Gioacchino Antoni; Jewish Federation, Alexander Kahn; Jugo-Slav, Charles Pogorelec; West Virginia, I. G. Miller.

**Kirkpatrick Opens Session**  
Acting National Secretary George R. Kirkpatrick called the convention to order at 10:20 a. m. and Julius Gerber was elected temporary chairman. Upon assuming the gavel Gerber stated that he did not propose to make a keynote speech, but thought it appropriate to call upon Congressman Victor L. Berger to make an address. Berger declined as he had learned that John W. Clayton had been selected by the Pittsburgh comrades to welcome the delegates.

Clayton will be remembered as one of the most popular speakers the party had developed some twenty years ago. He was also the first Socialist to be elected to a city council in Pennsylvania. In a few well-chosen remarks he welcomed the delegates and spoke hopefully of the future of the Socialist party.

Morris Hillquit was called upon to speak for the national organization. Hillquit observed that if one were to ask a leading Republican or Democrat what were the distinctive character and program of his party he could not answer. The same question addressed to Socialists is not difficult to answer because it is not a party in the old sense of the term. It is international in its outlook. The nations are so linked together that the problem of one nation has become the problem of all so that we cannot ignore what is happening abroad.

**Predicts "Come-Back"**  
Turning to the present status of the party, he said that we know that we have lost in political strength in recent years but we also know that we will come back. Nothing can prevent our return. The future does not belong to the parties of capitalism but to the Socialist Party, the hope of the working class.

William Van Esen of Pittsburgh was made Vice-Chairman and Secretary Kirkpatrick was made secretary of the convention with power to choose his assistants. The convention lost little time in getting down to business as the agenda system of conducting its work saves considerable time. The following committees were elected: Rules, Merrill of New York, Herman of Washington and Graham of Montana; Resolutions, Berger of Wisconsin, Sharts of Ohio and Oneal of New York; Organization, Herman of Washington, Snow of Illinois and Merrill of New York; Constitution, Collins of Illinois, Koop of Pennsylvania and Levenberg of Massachusetts; American Appeal, Van Esen of Pennsylvania, Coleman of Wisconsin and Florence Hall of Illinois.

Secretary Kirkpatrick then presented an exhaustive report of the work and finances of the National Office which was supplemented by some remarks in which he rejoiced that the finances of the party are better than they have been for years. The organization campaign last year with Comrade Debs in a leading role had prepared the way for the publication of the American Appeal.

Speech, 1,561; Debs and the War, 7,472; Is Socialism Inevitable, 1,000; Labor and the Next War, 991; Life and Deeds of Uncle Sam, 932; A Nation Divided, 755; Trinity of Plunder, 2,229. Leaflets, Party Policy, 59,900; Out of Work, 16,070; What Is Socialism, 32,045; Silence, 13,000.

**65,000 Appeals Issued**  
To this may be added the fact that the current number of the American Appeal, which is a special issue, has already reached 65,000 and more orders are coming in.

Secretary Kirkpatrick has made a number of recommendations, among which the following are the most important:

"That, as soon as practicable, a new pamphlet be published, containing in all about 64 pages, each of 32 pages to be devoted to a simple a-b-c lesson—or theme—illustrative and instructive in our presentation of the purpose, principles, practices and results of capitalism; instructive in the fact and history of the working class; in the outlines of the industrial reconstruction program proposed by the Socialists; and that 32 pages of this booklet be devoted to cartoons, pictures or remarkable machines used in industry, etc."

"That this illustrated booklet be offered as a premium with the American Appeal. (The cuts—many of them—could be used in the Appeal to good general effect, at the same time advertising the booklet.)"

"That from one to a half dozen small (envelope-size) leaflets be published for use by all comrades as enclosures in all possible of their correspondence, and that the Socialist Press urge all comrades everywhere to make use of these leaflets."

"That the Young People's Department be more liberally supported with

## THE SOCIALIST CONVENTION

THE national convention of the Socialist Party completed its labors in three days and the work accomplished by the delegates indicates the value of the agenda system for transacting convention business. Of course, the convention did not have as much business before it as it would have in a presidential year, but making allowances for this it is certain that without the agenda system of doing business the convention could not have considered resolutions at its opening session. In the old days it often required a whole day and part of another day to even organize a convention.

The actions of the convention are reported in this issue of The New Leader and it is not necessary to consider them here. It is sufficient to observe that the delegates wasted little time on superfluous oratory. They were in convention to transact business and they gave their attention to the work before them. What little difference of opinion appeared on a number of matters was expressed with good feeling and a spirit of toleration was evident on all sides.

The delegates left Pittsburgh with a determination to renew and intensify their efforts for Socialist education and organization. Although the membership is not what it was years ago, it is as widely distributed as it ever was, and in all the former strong states there are organizations awaiting a favorable opportunity to go to the masses. The so-called progressive organizations have practically disappeared. The Communists have made no headway. The field is clear for the Socialist Party and its members have a call for service that must bring a willing response in work of propaganda, organization and devotion to the ideal of working class emancipation.

Location of the American Appeal which had become a valuable propaganda asset. It has rallied hundreds of Socialists who have not been heard from in years and the trend of party building is unmistakably upward. "Let's go ahead," said Kirkpatrick as he sat down amid applause.

**Mark Slonim Speaks**  
Mark Slonim, representing the Social Revolutionaries of Russia, was observed in the hall and Chairman Gerber introduced him to the delegates. Slonim spoke briefly, recalling the fact that thousands of Socialists in Russia are in prison, in the mines of Siberia and forced to live a secret existence because of the terroristic regime of the Bolsheviks who feared any criticism of their program. He expressed confidence in the organization of just as powerful a Socialist movement in the United States as in any other country.

After Comrade Van Esen made an announcement of the detailed program for the entertainment of the delegates the convention adjourned for lunch.

**Afternoon Session**  
The larger part of Saturday afternoon was taken up in a debate over the question of approving the entrance of the United States in the League of Nations. The agenda contained a number of alternate proposals regarding the League and the World Court but the debate centered around the League. As action on this would determine the action on the World Court it was realized that the whole issue would be determined by the action taken toward the League. The following are the alternate proposals of the agenda:

"1. That the Socialist Party of the United States favors the Government of the United States joining the League of Nations without reservations."  
"2. The Socialist Party favors the Government of the United States joining the League of Nations with the reservations and on condition that Russia and Germany are admitted to the League."

"3. That whether the United States joins the League of Nations at this time is of no immediate concern to the working class of the United States and that, therefore, the Socialist Party refrains at this time from taking a position on the League of Nations."  
"4. The Socialist Party of the

cash and free literature and that a special leaflet be prepared on opportunity for the young at present as compared with opportunities for them a few decades ago—in this country."

"That the American Appeal regularly devote at least ten to fifteen per cent of its space to simple, direct propaganda, and that the paper carry far more pictorial material."  
"That the National Office experiment for a few weeks with a press service each week to 500 liberal, religious, agricultural, educational and labor papers—the service to be at most two pages of historical, sociological and political material, instructive and liberalizing."

One of the surprises of the report is the number of States which have members of the Socialist Party. Before the World War there were quite a number of the Southern States in which we had either no members or only a handful in one or two branches which would expire and reorganize from time to time so that never at any time could it be said that the party was organized in these States.

Therefore it is surprising that the membership is distributed over thirty-nine of the forty-eight States. This indicates that the party is practically as widespread as it was in the old days before capitalist terrorism and Communist stupidities considerably wrecked the organization. The fact that we have members in these thirty-nine States provides a basis for rebuilding the party in all of them, for it is certain that these members who hold membership cards will not be attracted to any bourgeois reform movements. In many of these States these members stand as a Spartan guard and have remained immune from the lure of all such barren movements.

## BANQUET POURS \$2,000 INTO THE TREASURY

### Hillquit Declares British Strike May Have Repercussions in This Country

RARELY has a banquet at a national Socialist convention been more demonstrative of enthusiasm than the banquet which delegates and friends attended in the roof garden of the Chatham Hotel, Pittsburgh, Sunday night. The banquet at the Chicago convention of 1924 was remarkable in many respects, especially considering the fact that the delegates were uncertain what would be the result of our co-operation with the La Follette forces that year.

The banquet hall was literally packed. Socialists came for miles around the Pittsburgh district, and more could have been seated than had tickets if there had been room for them.

William Van Esen rapped for order after the diners had satisfied their appetites, and presented Morris Hillquit as the toastmaster, who was particularly happy on this occasion. He observed that Socialists are incurable optimists; they never become discouraged. "If we have a victory, we meet to celebrate the victory," he said. "If we have suffered a defeat, we celebrate the next victory." While he was speaking Victor L. Berger came into the hall, which induced Hillquit to say that we all like to celebrate and some "come late" to celebrate.

**Refers to England**  
Hillquit went on to observe that since the convention had met news had arrived of the great struggle of the miners in England and the remarkable solidarity displayed by over 4,000,000 organized workers who had decided to down tools in behalf of their brothers. "Who knows?" he said with much feeling, "that the repercussion of what is happening abroad may not be heard here and stir the great masses to action?"

Joseph Sharts of Ohio was introduced in the various capacities of an editor, speaker, publisher, lawyer and attorney for a Communist bishop. Sharts appeared to give a keynote for other speakers when he dwelt upon Pittsburgh's smoke and the enormous values that are wasted as well as the failure of capitalism to utilize the values that go up in smoke.

Lena Morrow Lewis of California presented the superior claims of San Francisco's fogs over Pittsburgh's smoke, and then gave some consideration to what socialized effort can accomplish, by pointing out the transformation of Western deserts by irrigation. She concluded with a warm reference to Tom Mooney and Warren K. Billings. From the latter she quoted a statement of his that, come what may, so long as he lived he would be true to his ideals.

**Collection Nets \$2,000**  
William H. Henry of Indiana was then presented to make the talk which all knew is essential to a Socialist banquet. By the time he had concluded his work more than \$2,000 had been contributed in cash and checks for the work of the National Office. Socialists of Allegheny county alone contributed \$1,000.

Van Esen then obtained the floor and announced that the Pittsburgh Socialists desired to show some appreciation for Hillquit's services in his debate with Clarence Darrow a few months ago, and then presented a large and handsome black suitcase to the toastmaster.

Hillquit observed that this was the surprise of the evening, and called attention to the fact that the color of the suitcase was appropriate for Pittsburgh and that he feared that it was too large for his earthly possessions. Thanking them for the gift, he presented Victor L. Berger to the audience as a man who is proud of the fact that he missed being a lawyer.

**Berger Raps Press**  
Berger, after a few humorous remarks, observed that he had purchased every Pittsburgh newspaper and did not find a line about the convention in any of them. This led him to emphasize the necessity of a Socialist press, especially a daily press, as an antidote to the influence of the capitalist press. He promised to come to Pittsburgh at any time to help the Pittsburghers to establish a Socialist daily.

William Adams, one of the veteran Socialist workers of Allegheny county, spoke effectively on Socialist propaganda. He was followed by James H. Maurer, who indulged in some screamingly funny reminiscences of his boyhood and of his early experiences as a Socialist soap-boxer.

The banquet came to an end, the diners leaving with a feeling of regret that such enjoyable affairs must reach a conclusion, but conscious of having contributed substantial aid to the National Office in its work of party building.

"Every year of peace means a strengthening of the Socialist movement." Whether Republicans or Democrats oppose or favor it does not concern us. We must break down the Chinese wall which is due to our isolation. "Every repercussion abroad affects us here. You would not have Europe embroil us, but we have our finger in every pie without having any responsibility to any tribunal. American capitalism wants no accounting to any (Continued on page 2)

## Let's See Your Tongue!

If you don't feel so well today, if you lack energy and ambition, if you are tired and lazy and feel as if you would like to run away from yourself, just take a mirror and look at your tongue. If your tongue is white and coated, it is a sure sign that your liver and bowels are not in perfect order and must be regulated at once.

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# :- Labor Takes Up Gauntlet Thrown By Tories :-

## General Strike Rooted in Government Attempt To Penalize Workers for Capitalism's Breakdown

(Continued from page 1)

he did not explain why that was not the case last summer when a general strike was then impending and the Government capitulated by granting a subsidy.

But then the cabinet was not prepared. Now it was different. In nine months plans had been laid, as if for a war. It was rumored that five ministers had proffered their resignations unless the ultimatum to British labor was issued. Among them were the reactionaries, Winston Churchill, chancellor of the Exchequer, and Joynson-Hicks, home secretary, who has been perfecting the strike-breaking apparatus. If these ministers had deserted Baldwin, the cabinet would have fallen and then, who knows the consequences?

At the last moment, it seemed as if a truce might be arranged. It was in the course of the discussion in Parliament, J. H. Thomas, head of the railway men, asked whether the lock-out notice would be withdrawn simultaneously with the general strike order. But the suggestion was not taken up. As the big clock on the Parliament buildings struck 12, labor took up the Government's challenge. The general strike was on. Promises of material support from the continental labor movement came trick and fast.

What Baldwin's prattling about constitutional democracy really amounted to has become increasingly clear. It is true that the Conservatives have a majority in the House of Commons, but the members were elected on issues entirely unrelated to the present controversy. Ramsay MacDonald and the Labor M. P.'s are anxious for a general election. If democracy must be maintained, let it be thoroughgoing. A referendum according to orderly British constitutional procedure should be the order of the day. But that would be too risky. Labor united might sweep its candidates into power. Will the Government eventually submit?

Why should the whole British labor movement take up the gauntlet for the miners? Why should the latter be so insistent in their demands, or as the capitalist press puts it, obstinate? It is not fanaticism that has led the workers to maintain a solid front. It is bread and butter. The miners today receive on the average from eight to seventeen dollars a week. The mine owners proposed to cut these meagre wages to about five and thir-

teen dollars respectively. That for a married man and his family! Is it any wonder, then, that the miners will not accept even a penny's reduction? And the other trade unionists know that should they not stand by their exploited fellow-workers, that any cut will simply be preliminary to a general onslaught upon the whole labor movement.

The mine owners insist that they cannot afford to pay the wages that their employees are demanding. The Miners' Federation replies that if the coal industry cannot produce a living wage for those engaged in it, that it is high time it be nationalized, so that profit can be eliminated and the opera-

tions be conducted purely with service in view. Moreover, they say, under private ownership thorough reorganization of the industry is impossible. It is inconsistent with capitalist motives. The competitive system of production has served its usefulness. It must now be replaced by socialization, by socialism, if you please. To agree to that, the capitalists of England recognize, would mean an entering wedge for the abolition of private property. Hence, the determination with which the present strike is being resisted. Hence, the significance of the present occurrences for the socialist and labor movement of the world.

The events of the last week have

been long expected. They are the direct consequences of the economic situation created by the war. Industrial depression gripped the world and knocked the bottom out of the international coal market. England, the chief exporter of that commodity, suffered most. There was a respite for a while in 1922-23 when the French occupation of the Ruhr cut off the German production in that region. But the bad times were resumed thereafter. In fact, matters were made worse by the overproduction that had ensued.

In addition, there was the loss of the pre-war markets. Russian industry, which had been the chief customer, was at a standstill. Germany was utilizing lignite or brown coal for the production of electric power. Italy was resorting to hydro-electric facilities. Then, reparation coal from Germany under the terms of the Versailles Treaty and the Dawes Plan was displacing the British product in France and Italy. Finally, the old coal mines of England were becoming exhausted and the owners failed to institute modern scientific methods, first, because they were making their profits anyway and secondly, because the English laws, like our own, gave the ownership of the sub-soil to the proprietors of the surface and thus interfered with the efficient laying out of mines.

Now, coal mining is England's chief industry. It employs more men than any other, except agriculture. Upon it depend the country's manufactures. It explains England's supremacy on the seas, for it furnishes outward cargo for vessels and thus reduces the cost of shipping. It constitutes one-tenth by value of the country's exports and four-fifths by volume.

During the war the government took over the mines. Then, in 1919, due to the dissatisfaction among the miners, the famous Sankey Coal Commission was appointed. It recommended shorter hours, increased wages and NATIONALIZATION of the mines. Only the first mentioned provision was adopted. Hours were reduced from eight to seven. It must be remembered that that does not include a half hour additional on the average that it takes to get into and out of the mine. The following year a strike occurred but since the British Trades Union Congress was not yet prepared to take up the cudgels for the miners an unsatisfactory settlement was patched up. In 1921 the government ceased its war control of the mines and the employers posted wage-cut notices and locked out their men.

Then it was that the lesson of trade union solidarity was hammered home that has borne fruit in the present general strike. The Triple Alliance, consisting of the unions of the miners, the railwaymen and the transport workers collapsed on April 15, 1921. This date has gone down in labor history as "Black Friday." The resulting agreement with the owners provided for a division of the net proceeds in each district so that labor would receive 85 percent and capital 15. But the minimum rate in any case was to be 20 percent above that of 1914. In 1924 these proportions were changed to 87 percent and 13 percent respectively and the bottom rate was increased by 11 percent or to 33 1/2 percent in excess of 1914's.

This was the situation last June when the mine owners again posted reduction notices to take effect August 1. But this time the labor movement was united. A general strike was certain and at the last moment the government surrendered and offered a subsidy until May 1, 1926. Lloyd George has called it England's "golden suspenders." It meant that the British Treasury would pay the difference necessary to enable the employers to retain the old wage scales. Then, a coal commission was once more appointed to go over the whole ground.

The Baldwin government packed this body with opponents of nationalization. At first, indeed, the miners refused to appear before the commission. When its report was finally published on March 10 of this year it was not at all surprising that it came out flatly against nationalization. It compromised, however, by advocating government purchase of coal deposits. Then, it took a definite stand against

It is therefore a plain task imposed upon the Labor Party to co-ordinate and organize the coal industry so as to secure both the maximum wages and the maximum production.

Here is a fine permanent piece of work in human betterment and business organization which a Labor Government ought to tackle.

Prague.—The Miners' Federation of Czechoslovakia has voted full support of the British strikers, even to the extent of a strike, if necessary, to prevent shipment of coal to England. In parliament, leaders of three parties, the Social Democrats, Foreign Minister's Benes' Socialist Party, and the Communist Party, joined in lauding the British strikers.

the further extension of the subsidy. It said that the industry must be thoroughly reorganized to enable it to stand on its own feet. Finally, it declared that as a necessary step in this direction hours might be maintained as heretofore, but wages, particularly among the better paid workers, had to be reduced 11 per cent to about the 1921 level. The government accepted the report and a deadlock between the miners and the owners was the inevitable outcome. Last minute concessions by the employers were rejected, since the workers felt they could not live on less than what they were already receiving, for while wages had risen about 33-1/3 per cent since 1914, the cost of living in England had increased twice as fast.

Economic necessity had forced British labor to close its ranks. The British Trade Union Congress had not only pledged its support, but had authorized its General Council to centralize labor's activities on behalf of the miners, in case of need. It was, therefore, an Industrial Committee, representing all British labor, that was conducting the negotiations with the government and not the miners in isolation. At the same time the Triple Alliance had been revived under the name of Workers' or Industrial Alliance. The National Union of Railwaymen has not joined the movement, but it has already been sanctioned by the Miners' Federation, the Transport and General Workers, the Amalgamated Engineering Union, the Workers' Union, the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation, the Locomotive Engineers and Firemen and the Electrical Trades Union. Altogether 1,600,000 workers are already included within its fold.

Opposed to labor are the government military and naval forces and the Army Supplementary Reserve. Unofficial bourgeois strike-breaking organizations have been encouraged. There are the Organization for the Maintenance of Supplies (O. M. S.), the National Citizens' Union, the British Empire Union, the National Guard and the British Fascists. In back of these is the Federation of British Industries representing 185 employers' associations. Against this array of forces, British labor, except in a few scattered communities, has not made and preparations against physical opposition. It has avoided the dangers of provoking violence. The general strike will be a test of its faith.

LOUIS SILVERSTEIN.

### WIFE OF JOSEPH STEIN DIES IN BROOKLYN

Socialists of New York and vicinity will be grieved to learn of the death of Mrs. Joseph Stein, wife of Joseph Stein, one of the most devoted Socialists in this country. Mrs. Stein had been ill for many months and died Tuesday night. She is survived by her husband and two daughters, Eleanor Aveling, who was named after the daughter of Karl Marx, and Alice. Mrs. Stein was buried in Mount Carmel Cemetery, Queens, Wednesday afternoon.

Comrade Stein belongs to the older generation of Socialists, having been a member of the S. L. P. for years before the organization of the Socialist Party. He has been active in many institutions and organizations related to the Socialist Party, the New York Call, the Workmen's Circle and The New Leader.

Comrade Stein has been not only an active Socialist for many years but generous in his contributions of services and funds. A fine human personality, devoted to his ideals, and enjoying the affectionate regard of his many friends, Joe Stein has left his genuine sympathy in his loss. Among the floral tributes to Mrs. Stein was one from The New Leader.

### How the Welsh Miners Live and Strike

By Lucy Branham

YOU would think, from the cables the press brings from London, that the miners of England had disturbed a peaceful social order. Do not believe it. Five years ago this May, after the breakdown of the triple alliance, when the miners had to carry on alone, I traveled over the grassy coal-dust hills of southern Wales with A. J. Cook.

Perth, Maerdy, Merthyr Tydvil, one town was like another. The colliery smokestacks of Aberdare are as grimy as those of Pontypridd, the crowded cottages of Goverton as forlorn as those of Ystraw-Rhondda. Spiritless little schools, there were, that gave a dose of the three R's. There were churches, but no movies. In little settlements after little settlement I saw one sign of hope and one alone—the trade union halls of the South Wales Miners' Federation, where the working-class schools were held to study the history of the world and to inquire if forever and forever hunger and insecurity were to be the share of the workers' children.

I went with the miners and their wives to mass meetings held on the hill-slopes. Among the proclamations on the church walls were posted the King's, addressed to the miners' wives, quoting Bible and commanding them to break their husbands' strike. But it was their strike, too. They were back of their men. They worked early and late in the soup kitchens that served little enough of soup. Bread without butter and tea. That was the fare they struck on in the colliery towns. The children stood in queues.

Others may think of England as a land of smooth, green lawns, comfortable fireplaces and vessels on every sea. I know where the coal comes from, and how cruelly the coal owners, the government and the ship owners betrayed the miners five years ago this spring. What is happening today is only the fruit of that betrayal. South Wales is a coal country; nothing but coal—little agriculture and no industry. The absentee coal owners stood out against anything that would bring order and peace into the depressed industry. Their cure for

everything was less wages for the workers. I tell you, the miners of England live on the lowest possible wages. I stayed in Maerdy with the family of the secretary of the miners' local, who was also a teacher in the miners' school. He and his family had barely enough to eat and their lot was, if anything, better than the rest. The man himself had one diversion. Once a year he traveled 50 miles to Cardiff to hear a concert, but his little library of a dozen books he had bought over a long time on the installment plan.

He was one of thousands of miners who saw no future for himself or his children. The coal owners refused to unite and grant a national wage in the collieries. They had an advantage of the workers if they paid one rate here, another there, and played the miners off one against another, and threatened lockouts in a region where, if the mines were closed, there was absolutely no place else to go—no factories, no farms.

After the war, the miners' union saw that the coal owners would have to agree to some reorganization of the mines if the workers were not to be sacrificed. The miners prepared to strike. The Lloyd George Government asked them to postpone any action until the Sankey Coal Commission could study the situation and make recommendations upon which the government would itself act.

When I visited Wales, the Sankey Commission had reported. The coal owners refused to accept the recommendations, and the government deserted the miners, broke its pledges, behaved as if the Sankey Commission did not exist.

On the hillsides of Wales the miners talked. They laughed at Lloyd George, who had once been their idol, a Welshman, they had thought, like themselves. The officials of the railway unions and the dockers' union had gone over to Lloyd George. Five years ago the miners lost. But they knew then that the coal industry of England must be reorganized before it will pay its way. The coal owners want to reorganize by cutting wages that are already at starvation level.

### Nationalization One Hope, MacDonald Declares

(Continued from page 2)

five small undertakings appear to have lost \$2.50 per ton (1) and nearly 20 percent of the product showed a profit. Northumberland, with an average loss of 33 cents per ton, shows over 15 percent making profit. Durham, with a loss of over 18 cents, shows nearly 36 percent making profit; Nottingham, with a profit of nearly 25 cents a ton, shows 37 percent making a loss; and so on. In the same period, the national figures show a loss of 6 cents per ton, but with 42 percent of the product being sold at a profit. Readers must be warned about the figures so as not to misuse them. The average what would have happened if the experience from January to June in that year had been continued throughout the twelve months. They show what the problem is with great clearness.

The part that wages play in cost of production is seen to depend not so much on what wages are paid as on how the industry is organized. The Scottish figures for 1925 (January to June average) show wages varying from 20 percent of the cost of production where production is low, to between 11 and 13 percent where it is high and pits are economically managed. These figures prove that tinkering with wages will do nothing to put the industry on an efficient footing, but will only encourage low grade production.

It is therefore a plain task imposed upon the Labor Party to co-ordinate and organize the coal industry so as to secure both the maximum wages and the maximum production.

Here is a fine permanent piece of work in human betterment and business organization which a Labor Government ought to tackle.

Prague.—The Miners' Federation of Czechoslovakia has voted full support of the British strikers, even to the extent of a strike, if necessary, to prevent shipment of coal to England. In parliament, leaders of three parties, the Social Democrats, Foreign Minister's Benes' Socialist Party, and the Communist Party, joined in lauding the British strikers.

### WHAT HAS HAPPENED

1909 Eight-hour day in coal mining established by law.  
1917-21 Government control of mines.  
1919 Sankey Coal Commission recommends—  
1. Increased wages.  
2. Seven-hour day.  
3. Nationalization.  
1919 Seven-hour day established by law.  
1920 Strike ends in unsatisfactory settlement.  
1921. Lockout.  
April 15, "Black Friday," Triple Alliance falls.  
July 1, agreement:  
1. Wages 20 percent above 1914 rates.  
2. Labor to receive 85 percent of net proceeds in districts.  
1924. Agreement:  
1. Wages 33-1/3 per cent above 1914 rates.  
2. Labor to receive 87 percent of net proceeds in districts.  
1925. Workers' Alliance replaces Triple Alliance.  
June 30. Mine owners announce wage cuts.  
July 31. Government grants subsidy.

September. Trade Union Congress plans joint action.  
1926. March 10. Coal Commission recommends—  
1. No more subsidies.  
2. No increase of hours.  
3. Wage cuts to 1921 level.  
4. No nationalization.  
5. State purchase of coal deposits.  
6. Reorganization of industry.  
March 24. Government accepts report.  
April. British and international labor promise support.  
April 30. Subsidy ends; negotiations break down.  
May 1. Miners strike.  
Government declares a national emergency.  
Trade Union Congress calls general strike for May 4.  
May 4. General strike effective.

## International Congress For London

### Executive of the Socialist Labor International Meets

THE 1927 Congress of the Socialist and Labor International will be held in London. The invitation of the British Labor Party, transmitted by Arthur Henderson, was accepted by the Executive Committee of the S. L. I. at a meeting held in Zurich, April 11.

At this meeting, the first in the new home of the International's Secretariat, the Executive rejected, by a vote of 247 to 3, the proposal submitted by the Independent Labor Party of Great Britain (reported at length in The New Leader of April 3) suggesting an attempt to hold a unity conference with the Executive Committee of the Communist International. During the discussion it was pointed out that the I. L. P. proposal had already been scorned by the Enlarged Executive Committee of the Communist International. Only the representative of the Independent Polish Socialist Party voted with the I. L. P. for the motion. The memorandum on the unity question submitted to the meeting by the Secretariat read, in part, as follows:

"We are convinced that the day will come in Russia also when there will be an end of the insane system under which a single party keeps in its hands the exclusive monopoly of political activity and suppresses Socialist parties by arbitrary methods.

"Only when Socialist parties can carry on their political activities within the Soviet Union legally, on the basis of free profession of their convictions as class conscious workers, without being exposed to terrorism; only then will the moment have arrived for entering upon the discussion of the problems of the deep antagonisms of principles and tactics among the working class with any prospect of success.

"But the strongest pledge that a check will be placed on the appalling expenditure of energy by the working class arising from the divisions lies in the steady and unswerving advance in building up the Socialist and Labor International. The stronger it becomes the nearer is the day when the workers of the world will once again be united in one all-inclusive International."

Despite the feeling of dissatisfaction with the functioning of the League of Nations arising from the Assembly's failure to admit Germany at its March meeting, the Executive Committee renewed its declaration of faith in the principles of the League and urged the Socialist members of the various parliaments to insist upon more democracy in the League and the election of the Council by the Assembly. The Executive's statement on this subject follows, in part:

"It is imperative also that the peoples should realize that the pacific policy of the organized Socialist and industrial democracies of the world cannot be effectively guaranteed by armaments, military alliances or secret diplomacy, but by a League policy which secures the settlement of all national disputes by arbitral and other pacific methods. The Executive recognizes the imperative need for a speedy agreement upon the greatest measure of disarmament possible, as recent diplomatic efforts to respond to the popular demand for deliverance from the burden of armaments have touched only the fringe of the problem of world militarism.

"The policy of international co-operation, in the opinion of the Executive, can be effectively applied only when the democracies determine that the League of Nations is to be the chief instrument for dealing with international problems. The Executive resolves that a commission be appointed to undertake a thorough study of the problem of disarmament as it presents itself to the League of Nations.

"It wishes, meanwhile, to protest against the peculiar interpretation given in certain quarters to the Covenant of the League of Nations, which, contrary to the obvious facts, would deprive the nations concerned of the right of carrying out their own disarmament as far as they may think necessary.

"The International must follow

close all the activities of the League of Nations and must draw the attention of the affiliated parties to the advisability of strengthening the Socialist element on the organs of the League of Nations. Finally, it must in every case bring about co-ordination of the efforts of these parties, in order to facilitate the adoption by the Assembly of resolutions in conformity with our desires.

"The S. L. I. records that the Socialist Party in Germany, in accordance with the Versailles resolution, has conducted an energetic agitation, which has resulted in the German government applying for admission to the League of Nations. It hopes that the workers of America and Russia, to which it makes an appeal, will also urge that their governments should guide their international policy along the line of the League of Nations, so that the latter may increasingly correspond to the conception of a universalized and democratized organization for peace."

In addition to the adoption of a resolution to erect a monument in the People's House in Brussels to Giacomo Matteotti, the Secretary of the Italian Socialist Party of Italy, murdered by Fascists on June 10, 1924, and to establish a special Matteotti Fund to help the labor movement in countries without democracy, such as Italy, Hungary and Spain, which was embodied in the May Day manifesto printed in The New Leader of May 1, the Executive Committee called upon the Socialist parliamentarians to try to induce their governments to instruct the government delegates to the conferences of the International Labor Organization of the League of Nations to vote with the labor delegates against the admission of Fascist union representatives to the sessions. It was pointed out that under the Fascist labor laws in Italy the regular labor unions were hardly able to keep alive and that to

admit the black shirts as real labor men would be a poor joke. Recent events prevented the Italian Socialist delegates from attending the Zurich meeting.

The Bulgarian Socialists' report on their party's successful fight for amnesty was accepted and they were urged to keep up the good work until the rest of the political were freed. A report on Rumania confirmed stories of the high-handed way in which the Averescu government is trying to make the coming general elections a farce.

It was decided to hold a meeting of technical experts in Berlin to work out a plan for the organization of an international Socialist press service. A commission to report on the colonial problem to the 1927 congress is to be named at once. The dispute between the Socialist parties in Czechoslovakia was referred to the permanent Minorities Commission, which met in Zurich on April 13 and decided to assemble all the available material on the matter and to meet again in Dresden on June 6.

In addition to Arthur Henderson, President of the Executive, and Fritz Adler, Secretary, the following members of the Executive Committee were present at the Zurich meeting:

De Brouckere, Van Roosbroeck, Belgium; Anderson, Denmark; Crispian, Muller, Wales, Germany; Dr. Heio, Finland; Bracks, Longuet, Renaudel, France; Tsereteli, Georgia; Cramp, Fenner-Brockway, Gillies, Great Britain; Vilgen, Wilbaut, Holland; Foster-voll, Norway; Bauer, Ellenbogen, Austria, German S. D. L. P.; Wawrousek, Austria, Czech S. D. L. P.; Locker, Palestine; Diamand, Nizdialikowsky, Poland S. P. S.; Abramovich, Russia S. D. L. P.; Suchomlin, Russia S. R.; Bestelo, Spain; Engberg, Sweden; Soukup, Czechoslovakia, Czech S. P.; Czech, Czechoslovakia, German S. P.; Peyer, Hungary; Drobner, Ind. S. P.; Poland-German S. P. in Poland; Yugoslavians, Lithuania.

Popp and Heinz attended as representatives of the International Women's Committee, and the Socialist Youth International, respectively.

### THE HEALTH EDUCATOR AND GUIDE

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The investigators, the scientists and geniuses' labors have been fruitful—at last you will realize that in all these years you have lived you have been worshipping false goddesses of health and reaped only disease; as you reaped what you inherited or sowed—the seeds you have so copiously sowed in your body through your stomach—your nursery to blood and life—proved to be a real disease bacteria, and you became sick, and you took medicine, and still grew sicker. Are you ready now? It's not too late! If so, read one of the most potent books ever written on health and how to get it. But in reading obey its teachings for it teaches the truth and when you know the truth you can free yourself. But remember one great truth I emphasize—sickness and disease are not necessary! It's man's own fault that he is sick, as he can live to be 140 to 150 years old. And his longevity can be increased from generation to generation to hundreds of years instead of dying as today at 40, 60 and 70.

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Vegetable diet ideal food. What foods to eat for health and how to combine them. The scientific and proven value of fruit and how it promotes digestion. Digestion: Mixing Fruits and Vegetables; Bad Food; Cereal and Carbohydrate Foods; Proteins: What to Eat for Health—How to Combine It. Fruit and Meats Not to Be Eaten Together. How Fruit Acts on the Organism; Cooked Food; Whole Wheat Bread and Digestion; Vitamins in Plants; Raw Foods; Canned or Preserved Foods; Advice to Mothers in the Feeding of Their Children; Nut and Their Value as Food; Milk as a Food; Tea, Coffee and Chocolate; Condiments; Over Eating; Minerals in Plant Foods—Their Salts in Body Building; White Sugar: The Question of Eggs Food; Butter and Cheese; Right and Wrong Foods; Bathing for Health; Constipation—Its Treatment and Cure; Dressing the Body; Exercise; Fasting; Sun and Air Baths; Colds; Appendicitis; Obesity; Increasing Weight; Reducing Weight; Menstruation; Hay Fever; Bronchitis; Neuralgia; Heart Disease; Liver; Kidney; Pleurisy; Cholera Infantum; Ulcer of Stomach; Intestinal Disease; Tuberculosis; Rheumatism; Gout; Epilepsy; Typhoid Fever; Diphtheria. The book is on sale at the Rand Book Store, 7 East 15th St.; paper cover, \$1.10; handsomely bound in cloth, \$1.50. Printed on fine paper and finish. Mail orders promptly shipped and send check or money order to the author.

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# A PAGE OF EXCLUSIVE FEATURES

## The Truth About Cats

"To Boston, to Boston  
To Tell about the Strike."

WE are on our way, boys and girls, to invade the home of the cod and the bean with the message of the Passaic strike. We are going to talk to eight meetings in Boston and vicinity about what is happening in New Jersey. We hope to convince the New Englanders that Passaic is nearer to them than they think. We will tell you all about it next week.

A French Socialist dropped in on us the other day and was greatly surprised to find that we had a profound admiration, not to mention affection for our Mack cat Isabel, her daughter Funny Face and the five kittens which the two mothers have recently presented to us. Said our visitor, "I did not know that Socialists could find anything to admire in a cat. Cats I have always found to be singularly unsociable animals, curiously independent, unable to cooperate, supremely selfish."

As he was but voicing a most common misapprehension as to the character of cats, we must rise in protest and summon to our aid all those who have made a study of the subject and now realize that through the ages cats have been cruelly slandered.

First in regard to the supposed lack of affection displayed by cats. This is pure hooey. To be sure, they are not effusive sentimentalists like dogs, for instance. They do not wear their hearts on their sleeves for claws to peck at, if that is the correct quotation. On the contrary, they give their love sparingly and only after due deliberation.

When a stranger comes into the presence of the matriarchal Isabel, she does not dash up to him, wiggling with glee, slaving welcomes. She sits at some distance and regards him through her great yellow eyes with mild skepticism and an inscrutable look. Sometime later, if she has decided that he is a fit and proper person to share her confidences, one who will not make sudden movements, scratch her in the wrong places or pull any of that bothersome "pretty pussy" stuff on her, she may condescend to sit for a moment in his lap, keeping in the meantime a very close scrutiny over her fluffy brood in the nearby dress box.

Now is not this the manner in which all of us should approach those who seek to become our intimates? Ourselves, we are nowhere near as good judges of human nature as is Isabel. Time and again to our infinite regret we have thrown ourselves upon the necks of comparative strangers only to receive the Judas kiss. All too often have we led rank outsiders with muddy boots into the secret places of our soul and lived to rue the day when we put out the disregarded door mat with the word, "Welcome" naively inscribed upon it.

In our opinion, Isabel's technique is the intelligent one. Give yourself, to be sure, but only to those of whom you are sure.

As to the independence of cats. Breathes there a man with soul so dead who can fail to doff his spiritual hat before the complete independence of the common cat? Can those of us who run with the pack, who, dog-like, whimper and cower before the commands and scolding of our superiors complain because there has at last been found upon this harassed earth a living thing that will not be bossed? Tell Isabel to come and she goes. Bid her leap across your outstretched arm and she looks upon you with an air of such deep pity and disgust as well-nigh to wither that member. No hog on ice is as God-awful independent as a female black cat. And that is all to the good. Most of us leave our independence to a fading document in a vault in Washington and meekly endure such enormities as the Administration of Calvin Coolidge, Prohibition and the Passaic Police. But not Isabel. If she should ever meet Calvin Coolidge (Gott verurthe!) he would be no more to her than our ashman, if as much, for about our ashman there are certain intriguing smells that endear him. And if Calvin should command her do something that was not in her mind at the moment she would simply elevate a tail of contempt and leave him flat.

Finally it is an outrageous libel to say that cats cannot co-operate. Funny Face's kittens were born two weeks before Isabel's. Funny Face's were born behind the encyclopedia (volume, "Birth to Borneo") as was exclusively forecast in these columns. Isabel's were born upon torn up copies of "The Survey Graphic" and "The World Tomorrow" in the corner of the shoe closet. Were the two sets of squallers kept apart? Not at all. The very day that Isabel's offspring first opened their pink mouths, a co-operative nursery was set up in the dress box in the kitchen and since that time, aunts and uncles, nieces and nephews have been fed indiscriminately by both mothers. When Isabel gets out of the box to wander by "her lone self," inspecting things in general, or looking with dreamy retrospect out into the backyard, the scene of her latest amours, Funny Face attends to the squirming five. It is all for one, one for all with a vengeance, as an inquiring terrier discovered the other day when he came into the yard and found the back door open. The dual catapult of shrieking and outraged mother fur that was launched upon him convinced him that among cats there is a far greater solidarity than is found among most humans.

We are forming a Society for the Dissemination of Truth About Cats. Our letterhead carries a cat rampant upon a field of dogs, humans and other lesser animals. Our motto shall be, "Hew to the feline, let the dogs fall where they may." We are setting up headquarters at 70 Fifth Avenue, where all interested parties may interview us between the hours of 8 and 8:30 a. m. daylight saving. Do drop in.

McAlister Coleman.

## The German Social Democracy HISTORY OF SOCIALIST THOUGHT

By HARRY W. LAIDLER, Ph. D.

IN justifying his program, Lassalle declared that universal suffrage was necessary, for without this practical way of realizing the workers' class, "we may be a philosophical school, or a religious sect, but never a political party. Thus, it appears that universal suffrage belongs to our social demands as the handle to the axe."

He did not regard his idea of productive associations as a finality. He felt, however, that mere abstract principles of economics would fail to touch the masses, and that some tangible, simple, yet fundamental proposition must be placed before them if their imagination were to be captured. Such a final solution, he declared in his letters to Rodbertus (April 28 and May 26, 1863), might require 500 years for accomplishment, but his proposal was a step in the right direction.

From the formation of the association until his death Lassalle worked ceaselessly and with wonderful effectiveness for the building up of a powerful political party. He set his heart on 100,000 members.

At first the press ignored the movement, though later was compelled to break its silence. A number of papers came to his aid, as did many distinguished publicists and in less than a year Lassalle found himself one of the most talked-about public men in Germany.

### Triumphal March

The next winter was spent in bitter controversies. In the spring of 1864 Lassalle began his "glorious review of

the army," held great gatherings in Cologne and elsewhere and on May 22, reached the climax, when, at Ronsdorf, he was hailed as a great prophet of the workers, deluged with flowers thrown in his pathway by working girls, escorted by a joyful group of workers under triumphal arches and given a wonderful ovation during the delivery of his address. "I had a feeling," he wrote afterwards to the Countess, "that such scenes must have been witnessed at the founding of a new religion."

### Death of Lassalle

It was after these ovations that Lassalle, at Rigi, again met Fraulein von Donniges, with whom he had become acquainted in one of the fashionable circles of Berlin. They became greatly devoted to each other and decided to marry. The father of the young woman, a Bavarian diplomat, was indignant, however, when he heard of the proposed match. The girl finally, under questionable pressure, renounced Lassalle in favor of a Wallachian, the Count von Rocowitza. Lassalle immediately challenged the successful suitor to a duel. At Carouge, near Geneva, the fateful event took place on August 28, 1864. Lassalle was wounded and died three days later.

Of unbounded energy and brilliancy, Lassalle nevertheless lacked the saving grace of common sense and too easily became diverted by personal passions from the cause he held so dear. He had, however, given much of inspiration to the movement of the workers. "Until Lassalle entered public life,"

writes Dawson, "the working classes had been without organization, and had wandered about like sheep without a shepherd. He it was who drew the masses together and formed for the first time a true workingmen's party."

### Program of Bebel and Liebknecht

The membership of Lassalle's party came chiefly from Prussia. At his death it amounted to scarcely more than 5,000. The movement was unfortunate in the selection of a successor, Bernhard Becker, vain and incapable, who made himself ridiculous with his self-imposed title of "President of Mankind." In 1867, after several changes, Schweitzer, able and well educated, was elected president. In the first year of his presidency universal suffrage was granted as far as election of members of the north German Reichstag was concerned. This concession had a profound influence on the whole movement.

Prior to Lassalle's death, other associations had been organized among the workers of Saxony and South Germany. These latter groups united at Frankfurt in 1863. In general they were for supporting Schultze-Delitsch and opposing Lassalle. While generally regarded as merely progressive in its tendency, the union of these groups contained a number of radical spirits. One of these was Wilhelm Liebknecht, descendant of Luther, and a member of a family of education and refinement. Liebknecht had been exiled after the revolutionary out-

break of 1848, and in Paris had been introduced into the circle of Marx and Engels. Of prominence also was August Bebel, a turner by trade, who had drunk the bitter cup of abject poverty and was the incarnation of the spirit of working class revolt.

Under the guidance of these men, the union became more radical in its nature. As early as August, 1866, Liebknecht and Bebel drew up at a congress of workers at Chemnitz political demands which, in their opinion, should be the immediate objectives of German labor: the unrestricted right of people to self-government, universal, direct and equal suffrage with the secret ballot, the abolition of the standing army and the substitution of the militia, a sovereign parliament with power to decide on the question of peace and war, the unity of Germany as a democratic state, the abolition of the privileges of position, birth and confession, and legislation tending toward the furtherance of the physical, intellectual and moral improvement of the people.

In the autumn of 1867, Bebel was elected president of the League (or union) of Workingmen's Associations. The following year the radicals succeeded in persuading the congress to accept the main tenets of the International. In 1869, the League dissolved and the Social Democratic Workingmen's Party was formed at Eisenach. The party sent representatives to the International congress at Basel.

(To be continued next week)

## The Prohibition Poll

WELL, folks, didn't I always tell you that prohibition was driving people to drink? And now we have the proof. State after state that was dry when the nation was wet is soaking wet now, according to the poll conducted by the Newspaper Enterprise Association.

Here are the figures:

For Prohibition.....	315,953
For Repeal.....	523,698
For Modification.....	326,640

Grand Total.....1,166,291

Some of the larger cities voted fifty to one, wet. Among women voters, only the farmers' wives voted dry, which may be explained by the fact that their hobbles usually come home with a load after taking a load to town. So let's forgive them.

The only states in which the dries have a clean majority are South Carolina and Kansas. The nation over, the vote stands five to one against prohibition. Now let's have a national referendum and settle for good and all whether this republic shall die of delirium tremens or pursue the even tenor of its way in a gentle stew. And now a personal word to my prohibition friends.

Judged by my outbursts you may have gathered the idea that I am a champion souse. Well, I am nothing of the kind. In the good old wet days I often went for weeks, months, yea and even years without as much as a harmless glass of beer or wine. As far hard "likker" I can only say that up to the enactment of the Volstead act I doubt if I drank as much as a gallon of the stuff during my whole eventful life.

Moreover, I always regarded alcohol as a menace to our class, believing that it was lowering its thinking and fighting ability. Hence, I preached and practiced voluntary abstinence from drink for many years, so much indeed that many of my brewery worker friends regarded me as a disguised prohibitionist.

Then came prohibition, and drinking became a kind of religious duty; the libation of a soldier of liberty on the altar of freedom. I resented with every fiber of my being that others should arrogate to themselves the right to say what I should pour into my own stomach. I have a good stomach. I love it and we have been good friends for over fifty years. Hence I double dare anyone to claim that they love my stomach more than I do.

Like a dutiful servant, I obeyed every one of his wishes. When my stomach asked me for a drink of cooling lager, he got it. When he hinted for a glass of port, it was "his'n." Yes, I even would let it have a drop of Old Bourbon now and then, although I never liked the taste of the stuff.

In return my stomach was reasonable in its demand and showed excellent judgment in both eating and drinking. It performed every function in a workmanlike manner. It would absorb a mixture of pig knuckles, sauer kraut and ice cream without ever batting an eye. It would digest Chinese chop suey, Mexican hot tamales, Swedish hard tack, German punkenickel, Hungarian goulash, Bawerische knoedel, Italian spaghetti and kosher wurst like a true internationalist. In short, there is not a thing my stomach would not accept and dispatch in the proper manner.

My stomach gave me dreamless nights, a wonderful appetite and the constitution of a grizzly bear. In fact, were it not for the calls for cats, which frequently issue from its depths, I never would know I had a stomach at all.

Here, then, is a true friend; a lifetime friend; the kind of a friend which deserves to be loved, cherished and obeyed.

Then along comes that prohibition foolery and says my stomach can't have what it wants. What's the result? My stomach develops an appetite for alcohol regardless of taste, kick, chemical affiliation or previous condition of servitude. Of course, like the true friend he is, he would not ask me to go out of my way and procure the stuff for him. But whenever a friend or acquaintance or even a total stranger enters my presence armed with a hip flask, my stomach would up and ask for a drink; which he got.

In the early days of prohibition, hip flasks were not very numerous. The great American industry of home brewing, back cellar distilling and bootlegging were still in their swaddling clothes. But by and by hip flasks multiplied like the sands by the sea and the stars in heaven. Wherever I went I met hip flasks and breaths that shrieked of hip flasks. As a result, my stomach acquired the aching habit and now, I am sorry to say, I drink almost anything that does not contain an alarming per cent of water.

Yes, dear friends, prohibition has driven my stomach to drink and I am sure it has done to millions and millions of other stomachs the same thing. So I pray, my bone dry friends, in the name of temperance, voluntary abstinence and the best stomach I ever had, to cut loose from the bootleggers and the dyspeptic yokels of the hinterland and cast your united votes for wet sobriety.

## A SUCCESSFUL (?) MAN

Here is the biography of one of those successful men who don't know any better than to be proud of their job:

August Thyssen was born of poor parents at Eschweiler in the Rhineland in 1842. While still in the early twenties he had the sagacity to inherit 20,000 marks with which he started a rolling mill.

With the outbreak of the war in 1871 money came rolling into Thyssen's rolling mill. By the time the next war came along he had amassed a huge fortune which doubled during the duration of war.

Thyssen was a go-getter, coin-snatcher and money canner of the first order. He had no pleasures. It is said he never spent more than \$20 on a suit of clothes. Until a few years ago he always had traveled second class. His old automobile model of 1909 was well known in the Ruhr. Its place in the yard at the side of the luxurious cars used by his directors and associates was a sign that "King Thyssen" was in his office, a dingy, cheerless place, overlooking his steel works.

Thyssen was divorced many years ago and it was agreed that he was to control his fortune until he died, whereupon it would go to his sons. His second son, August, Jr., knew of this arrangement and anticipated his heritage by extravagant living in Berlin. The young man's promissory notes passed as currency in some circles. There was a legal scandal when father and son fought each other in the courts. They became reconciled and greeted each other for the first time in ten years after the father had agreed to pay August's debts.

Another son became a Hungarian Count and is therefore a member of the nobility which recently has become famous as counterfeiter.

Thyssen's motto was: "Rast ich so rést ich," meaning, "If I rest I rust." Now it is "I rest and rot." He left (heavy on the left) a fortune of \$100,000,000 behind him.

A self-made man, an eminently successful man, as the papers say. Sure, Mike. The only thing he missed in life was living. Adam Coaldivger.

## GOVERNOR MINTURN A Labor Novel of the Northwest

By M. H. HEDGES

### CHAPTER VIII

#### How Dan Loved Agatha

"I HAVE IT," he said. "I knew I had known you before. I saw you election night with your uncle in the car."

"Perhaps it was before that," Agatha announced with a slow smile.

Dan had torn his cap off his head, and in his efforts to remember was passing his free hand through his tousled hair. He looked very boyish, and yet somehow quite "senatorial," as he surveyed her from his height. They were standing under a birch tree overlooking the river. Spring was in the air and had shed its shien over stream and field. Dan's head was completely filled with Agatha.

"Strange," he mused, "your hair is red, too, but richer than Billy's. You're so still, deep-like, strange, strong. Your voice is very soft and commanding. And you never laugh, but always seem to be smiling with yourself at something—at me—at the world. You have a wonderful body—so full, rounded, yes, sleek and silky. Dare I touch you ever?" His mind following the tortuous underecurrent of his impulses never got beyond that dare.

He drew very near to her in his thoughts, yet he stood far off from her in actuality. He often just sat and stared at her, as she in turn sat, with her immaculate hands in her lap and stared across the river, seeing and unseeing.

Agatha's hair, soft and shimmering, an improvement on nature, its texture as if taken from a mould, falling so artfully about her ears and temples.

Agatha's eyes so golden brown, so clear, so cynical, so bold, so untender, with the long lashes as if combed. Agatha's skin, so smooth and healthy, the rouge blending with—or was it rouge? The skin overlaid with lovely down, more visible on the nape of her neck, and her tapering arms.

Agatha's teeth, even, dazzling white. Agatha's mouth too large for her oval face, with lips full, yes sensual, yet cut exquisitely and moulded like a statue's.

She was a perpetual feast to him. She smelt of Paradise. He did not care about talking to her if he could only be where he could see her. So he told himself. She crowded the thought of every other human being out of his mind, his mother, Bricktop, Alice Miller.

She made him irrational. He forgot his personal affairs, his party's affairs. He became a poet. He did not doubt the myths of love, the foolish stories of affluents, Paolo and Francesca, Romeo and Juliet. She made him a Platonist. He accepted the illusion that two souls can become one—the futile dream of the ages. She made him a hedonist. His senses dominated his inner life. He was willing to override custom, convention, law, if he might possess her.

He became ridiculous. He had a way of drawing close to her and feeling the texture of her gown, passing it between his fingers like a miller testing flour. He scanned her pumps, her stockings, the lace over her bosom. When she stood up he liked the way the fur about her neck fell down over her wide shoulders.

She suffered his adulation with an air of amused exasperation. When she felt his hungry eyes upon her, his gaze was as good to her as sunlight to a plant, sending the blood within her beating to every tiny capillary of her body. She was filled with a cosmic warmth. She felt a fondness for the

gophers that ran in and out of the tree trunks along the river bank.

Yet she did not love him. She hated him. He stank. The odor of his store clothes, soaked with stale smoke of legislative and committee rooms, sickened her. She doubted if he were clean. He seemed, too, to her to be ineffectual, a kind of clawing, embryonic piece of life, undirected, misdirected energy. He had bad manners. His English was abominable. There was nothing attractive about him, no save the power in his eyes to compel her to look away, a fierceness and a warning.

He amused her, as the lumbering exhibition of a turtle on the shore amused her. He was a phenomenon, just another feature in the eternal circus of existence, to save her from boredom, teas, committees, dancing and theater parties.

So they stood that spring day on the bank overlooking the Mississippi, two sentient bundles of antipathies and attractions, trying to brush away with words the mounting barriers that civilization and diverse environments had laid between them. Early they had learned to be silent together, for then and then only, did they seem to be speaking to each other. When they opened their lips they were strangers.

"Strange, how we got to talking walks together," he remarked.

"Oh, I don't know," she answered casually, but gave him a searching

look, as if she would read his thoughts. "Don't your friends dislike it, Miss Morreson?" he insisted. "And what does your uncle say?"

She felt his mind come back anxiously to this point of attraction, the difference between their stations. It annoyed her. It was something that should not be openly noticed, admitted, least of all discussed. That, she concluded, was part of his boorishness.

"It is none of their business," she remarked coldly. She wanted this to be a hint to him to cease speaking about this—yes, this class difference. But he could not. Guiltily his mind returned to it, played over it, drew back from it in fear.

"It's funny, don't you think, Miss Morreson, that it could happen just this way?" he continued.

"Don't you think, Mr. Minturn, that is something pretty much in your own mind?" She was cutting . . .

After that, there were night excursions. He refused to go with her in her car. She humored him, and found it more exciting, and better for her figure to walk . . . Once they came upon a tiny park, deserted now under the brilliant sky. There were swings hanging from bars. A spirit of play seized them. Agatha cried, "Let's swing."

He watched her get into the seat, and he gave her a push. As the pendulum got up motion, she was de-

lighted, laughing merrily like a child. He caught glimpses of her upper legs as she darted past him through the air. He was stirred deeply.

Agatha was possessed with the notion that they must swing together "just like kids." So he got up with her, and slowly they began to pump. She was strong, he found. . . Higher and higher they mounted until their feet as they swung up were almost on the level with the bar. The air surged from their lungs ecstatically. They were flying together. . . Suddenly their bodies met. The contact was electric.

"Quick," Agatha said, "get me down. I'm getting sick."

When he lifted her down, he found her trembling, and her eyes were strangely lit.

They found a warm, grassy bank and sat down. Their tongues were unloosed, and for the first time they began to talk together about sex—nakedly but objectively.

To Agatha it was a dirty business, gross, earthy.

"Proof of the infinite discords of nature . . . Nature is so un-aesthetic, you know."

To Dan it was the glorifying principle of life—mystery, adventure, romance—a thing that made women adorable, lovable, in fact, endurable.

"Women would be only bric-a-brac without this function. It makes them equal to men. It is their work. It is earthy, but that's the glory of it."

"I don't care. I shall never have a child—growing in you like a tumor."

Dan was amazed.

"My mother had seven," he said simply. "Three died."

He thought of his mother now differently, as something growing like a tree, bearing good fruit, and he thought of Agatha as a flower, shedding fragrance for a little while from a vase.

He was colder toward her now. She did not seem so essential to him. As she talked, he saw her as he had not seen her before, an infinitely intricate mechanism of such delicacy that she shrank from life. And with this shrinking came corroding cynicism, delicate, too, but all pervading, extending to all things, to all persons, to God himself.

"God must have been a man," she asserted gently, "or he never would have made women bear the children. Women have the bad end of the business, twist it and turn it the way you will."

This seemed nonsense to Dan. It seemed morbid. It seemed indecently selfish. It was the philosophy of consumption without production applied to marriage.

He looked at her. She was strong, with full bosom and lithe, supple limbs. Her hands, though immaculate, were not delicate. She was a full-blown woman, ripening, and beautiful, but she feared kisses and children.

"Let's go," he said, "I must get back to work."

"I've disappointed you" she answered with her slow smile, teasing and aloof.

"Tea."

"Well, I don't care," she responded. "What I say is true, and if you were honest as you pretend to be you would admit it."

"I admit nothing," he answered angrily. "You are a coward, a sheltered . . ."

She gasped. What was he saying? There it was again, that class thing dangling between them no matter which way they turned.

They went home in silence.

(To be continued next week)

### Children's Part in Peace To Be Discussed May 14th At Pioneer Youth Meeting

How a firm foundation for peace is being laid by Pioneer Youth of America, a new children's camp and club organization, will be the subject of a public meeting Friday evening, May 14, at the Labor Temple, 14th street and Second avenue.

Speakers active in the labor movement will address the meeting, among them Norman Thomas, Professor Le Roy Bowman, of Columbia University, Maud Swartz, president of the National Women's Trade Union League, McAllister Coleman and S. A. DeWitt. They will show how Pioneer Youth is strengthening the labor movement and other efforts for international peace. Edmund B. Chaffee of the Labor Temple will preside. Joshua Lieberman, executive secretary of Pioneer Youth of America, will discuss the aims of the organization and show motion pictures of Pioneer Youth children at camp. The Pioneer Youth Children's Orchestra will give a musical program, and Russian, Hungarian and Negro folk songs will be sung by children of these nationalities.

Pioneer Youth of America was organized two years ago by labor unionists, progressive educators and parents, to afford the children of the workers recreational activities in a wholesome environment, free from anti-labor influences and where they might have an opportunity to develop their creative capacities. Pioneer Youth clubs are not only interested in peace, but have undertaken, as well, many activities for social betterment. A number of Pioneer Youth children's groups, during the last year, have shown a keen interest in Labor's struggle. The miners' strike last winter, the Willamette textile strike and the present Passaic labor war have been not only discussed but money and clothing have been col-

### Rosamond Pinchot to Aid Passaic Strikers at Dance In Rand School May 19

The Emergency Committee for Strikers' Relief will give a dance at the Rand School, 7 East 15th street, Wednesday evening, May 19, at 8 o'clock, in order to raise funds for the benefit of the Passaic strikers.

The feature of the evening will be a magic show by F. Serrano Keating, well-known sleight-of-hand expert, who specializes in mystifying at close range and who has offered his services. Mr. Keating and his company will be assisted by Rosamond Pinchot, who made a great success in "The Miracle." Tickets may be had at \$1 from the committee offices, Room 638, 799 Broadway, or at the Civic Club, 14 West 12th street; at the Rand School, 7 East 15th street, or at Jimmie Higgins' Bookshop, 127 University place.

The strikers and their families are absolutely dependent on outside relief for their existence, so the committee is asking for donations. Checks should be sent to the treasurer of the Emergency Committee for Strikers' Relief, Room 638, 799 Broadway, City.

lected by the children and sent to the strikers.

Pioneer Youth represents to many veterans in labor's cause one of the most constructive steps taken by the labor movement in recent years. They realize that in order to counteract the goose-step regimentation of our present day mass education and the propaganda of our militarists and go-getters—positive forces must be created to develop initiative and individuality and stimulate in our children a broad social idealism and a desire to devote their energy for the common good.

There are now over 145 International and local unions and central labor bodies co-operating with Pioneer Youth and the number of nationally known educators, prominent in the new progressive education movement, are actively sponsoring it.



# Ellen Key, Socialist

By John Jansson

IN the recent death of Ellen Key while on a visit to Copenhagen, the world has lost one of its noblest spirits and the Socialist movement an adherent who was a tremendous factor in building up the powerful Socialist Party of Sweden. It was my privilege to know Ellen Key for many years before I came to the United States, and I have always felt that the comrades of this country have never realized the value of her services to our movement. She was the spiritual leader of the Socialist Party in Sweden, and no one ever envisioned a more splendid future for the human race. She had no bent for economic studies and the writings of Karl Marx were too heavy for her, but intuitively she sensed what materialists considered necessary to prove with facts and figures.

And not as those who, fired by a vision of the better world to be, flash meteor-like, brilliantly but momentarily, across the skies until, their early enthusiasm consumed by the heat of its own ardor, they relinquish the ideals of their youth—not so was Ellen Key, but as a star, immutable, she remained throughout her life true to her ideals and an inspiration to all who were drawn into the circle of her influence.

## Had Scotch Ancestry

The great Swedish Socialist, feminist, philosopher, author and lecturer was born at Sundsholm, Smaland, on December 31, 1849, the daughter of professor Emil Key and the Countess Sophie Posse. On her father's side, some generations back, her ancestry was Scotch. Professor Key was a member of the Swedish Liberal Party and his daughter was also drawn into it. She soon acquired an important influence in the party and through her broad tolerance for divergent opinions served for some time as the tie which held the several factions of the Liberal Party together.

As early as 1870 she had begun to write articles, and after her father's loss of fortune about 1880 she commenced to teach in Stockholm in the school of a friend, and a few years later to lecture at the Workmen's Institute.

When a split finally occurred in the Liberal Party in 1899, she left it, and thereby brought upon herself a very bitter attack by the Moderate Liberals (Stockholm's Tammany Hall), which was to be the prelude to the stream of vituperation with which she had to contend constantly from that time on. She then joined the Independent Students Educational Society "Verdandi," of which the late Hjalmar Branting was also a member, whose purpose was

## The Great Feminist Leader's Contribution to the Labor Movement of Denmark

to bring education and culture, a knowledge and appreciation of the finer things of life to the working people of Sweden.

The activities of this organization infuriated the "better people" at Stockholm, who resorted to the extreme measures against the society, boycotting its members and subjecting them to all sorts of indignities. Hjalmar Stromer in a lecture on astronomy, had upheld the nebular hypothesis as against the Mosaic account of creation, which so enraged the church people that they had the halls of Stockholm closed to him and notices of his lectures barred from the newspapers. Prevented from lecturing and thus deprived of his chief means of income, Stromer was found the following winter in the streets of Stockholm insufficiently clad and died as a result of exposure and under-nourishment.

## With Friends and Enemies

But Ellen Key could not be swayed by slander or persecution, however vindictive, from any course she considered right and she continued her fight for free speech, culture and a higher and nobler humanity. And while she made powerful enemies, she won many more faithful and loyal friends. Accused by the upper class women of Stockholm with advocating free love, she silenced them with her famous reply: "Would you dignify a casual adventure as Love? How dare you mention vice in the same breath with that holy word? With love in one's heart, even death holds no terrors."

Ellen Key joined the Socialist Party about 1890, although she had lectured for the party prior to that time, and soon occupied there the same position she had filled in the Liberal Party, that of mediator and conciliator, her tolerance and a few well-chosen words reconciling the factions in the common endeavor. However, she never sacrificed principle for the sake of harmony and did not hesitate to criticize party tactics with which she did not agree, but never with bitterness, and she said that she often criticized most those whom she loved best. On one occasion, when a bitter fight over the party program threatened to split the movement, she saved the situation by likening the program to the scaffolding which builders erect before they rear the principal structure itself, and pointing out that the building is found to be very different from the scaffolding used in its construction and which can now be torn down. Much of her power in the party and on the lecture platform lay in her plain, direct speech and simple illustrations. She never resorted to high-flown oratory.

## Made Great Sacrifices

When she joined the party, the Socialist movement in Sweden had begun to acquire rather considerable momentum, and enthusiasm ran very high. No sacrifice was too great, no task too arduous. This made a strong impression on Ellen Key and inspired her. She looked upon it as a guaranty of the eventual fulfillment of her dreams. She felt that, just as the love and enthusiasm of the artisans of the Middle Ages had flowered in the wonderful cathedrals, so this splendid enthusiasm for Socialism would find expression in even grander and nobler form.

Ellen Key had a very fine artistic perception and she numbered among her friends many of the leading artists of Europe, who not only admired her rare personality, but valued her criticism of their work. When the People's House was built in Stockholm, it was through her instrumentality that two splendid paintings were presented to that institution, one by the artist Rickard Berg, and the other by an anonymous artist, who was generally understood, however, to be Prince Eugene, son of King Oscar.

She also served the Party richly as a lecturer. So far as I know, she never took payment for her lectures for the Party, and many a Socialist Party branch owed the balance in its treasury to a lecture by Ellen Key. She also delivered a series of lectures the proceeds of which helped to build the People's High School at Brunsvik, in Dalarna, an institution similar to the Rand School, but broader in its scope. She spoke for the Party indoors and out and was always available for May Day meetings or peace demonstrations. Bad weather never deterred her; wherever and whenever anyone would listen to her message she was ready and willing to deliver it.

## Lectured at Party School

Her lectures at the Workmen's Institute, already mentioned, were a school for Party speakers and officials. She trained the speakers to refrain from contentions and to emphasize

size comradeship, to eliminate the non-essential and to present in simple, direct language the essentials of a matter, basing all conclusions on clear, logical reasoning. She made them feel a sense of their responsibility to the Socialist movement and of the Socialist movement to the community. Her services in this respect were invaluable.

While Ellen Key never wanted for the ordinary necessities and comforts, her life was not one of unalloyed happiness, and she was sometimes oppressed by a slight melancholy. On rare occasions she would vouchsafe a glimpse of the ordinary hidden inner recesses of her nature when she would speak to a little group of us through fairy tale or allegory (sage). Pride, Arrogance and Unworthy Ambition would contend with Humility, resulting in Frustration and Melancholy (Vemod), until at last Love would lead to Forgiveness, Peace and Freedom. And then she would fold her hands and sit quietly, gazing pensively at a flower at her feet, and we would realize that she herself had lived through this tale and we would understand her occasional melancholy.

From 1899 to 1910 she spent much of her time abroad, traveling in 1903-1909 through Germany, Denmark, Holland, Belgium, France and England, visiting many of the great thinkers and artists of these countries. In Belgium, Maeterlinck's wife read the "Blue Bird" to her before it was published. In Copenhagen, she arrived a little late at a lecture by Georg Brandes. The distinguished lecturer had already started to speak, but he paused to greet her.

"I salute and bid a hearty welcome," he said, "to the most intellectual woman of Sweden; yes, of Europe; perhaps of the whole world."

## Averted a War

In 1905 she was recalled from Holland by a telegram informing her that the union between Sweden and Norway had been dissolved and that the latter country had proclaimed its independence. She threw herself at once into the struggle to maintain peace between the two countries, and while the entire Socialist Party worked valiantly and bravely and others were threatened with prison for their activities, it was Ellen Key, more than anyone else, who was responsible for averting war between the two Scandinavian peoples.

Ellen Key believed implicitly in the innate goodness of humanity, and it was this abiding faith in mankind that motivated all her actions. She always appealed to the best in human nature and sought to arouse in her auditors all the finer sentiments. She was keenly interested in the spiritual and intellectual advancement of the race, and it was her constant endeavor to eliminate man's "monkey" nature and raise him to his full human stature. In a moving and inspiring verse, which, unfortunately, I cannot render adequately in English, she calls for adherence to one's ideals to the end, come what may, and likens this firmness in the faith, through trial and tribulation, to the rainbow glistening in the tear drop.

Besides her Socialist activities, which I have rather emphasized, her literary essays, biographical and critical studies of remarkable originality, won for her recognition as "the Palase of Sweden." She was also a pioneer feminist and was largely instrumental in elevating her sex to the position it has reached in recent years, while she has given the world a higher concept of the marriage relation and clothed it with a new dignity. In addition to innumerable articles and papers, she has written some thirty books, among the best known of which are: "The Century of the Child," "Love and Marriage," "The Morality of Woman," "Renaissance of Motherhood," "War, Peace and the Future" and "Rachel Varnhagen." Most of these have sold more extensively in English than in her native Swedish.

Ellen Key is dead; but through her books and through the work of those who knew the inspiration of her presence and who will transmit some measure of this inspiration to future generations, she will live through the ages.

## CRITICAL CRUISING

(Continued from page 10)

Whatever enjoyment one may derive from reading Mr. Sherman's essay on L. Powys or Pierre Loti and Exotic Love, however, is always dulled by asinities such as these:

"Their proposals (Wells' Utopian tracts) for reconstruction have included from time to time most of the forms of social tyranny contemplated by the Socialists."

And better:

"Mr. Dell is a poet, and no real poet, so far as I have heard, was ever a real Socialist."

Has Mr. Sherman ever heard of William Morris, Verhaeren, Mayakovsky, Yessenin, A. E., Sandburg, Max Eastman, etc.?

# THE SOCIALIST PARTY AT WORK

## New Jersey

State Committee meeting, Sunday, May 9, at 2 p. m., at 236 Central Avenue, Jersey City.  
Hudson County Committee meeting, 8 p. m., Monday, May 9, 236 Central Avenue, Jersey City.

## Connecticut

The Socialists held a largely attended May Day meeting at Herman's Hall Sunday evening, May 2.

Jasper McLevy of Bridgeport spoke, reciting the history of the strikes held during the past year, the coal strike, Wilmantic strike in this State, and Passaic strike in New Jersey. He advised the workers to organize industrially and politically.

A musical program was rendered by Miss Rose Green on the violin, the Meltzer Brothers, violin and piano, Praelner Getar and Beatrice Rice gave a recitation.

Mr. P. Dembley, organizer of the Jewish Socialist Verband, spoke telling about May Day celebrations in the past in Europe where the workers were shot down, now May Day in Europe is considered a general holiday. He also spoke of the threatened general strike in England over the coal strike situation.

The celebration was the most successful that the Socialists and Workman Circle branches have held in a number of years.

## New York City

### MANHATTAN

Monday, May 10  
Corner 158th St. and Broadway; speaker, Esther Friedman; chairman, August Claessens.

Tuesday, May 11  
Corner 112th St. and Lenox Ave.; speakers, Lena Morrow Lewis, Tim Murphy, Eli Cohen, chairman.  
7th St. and Ave. B.; speakers, Esther Friedman, Alfred Baker Lewis, Lester Diamond, chairman.

Wednesday, May 12  
133rd St. and Lenox Ave.; speakers, Lena Morrow Lewis and Alfred Baker Lewis.

Thursday, May 13  
10th St. and 2nd Ave.; speaker, Esther Friedman. August Claessens, chairman.

### BROOKLYN

Monday, May 10  
Corner 163rd and Tiffany Sts. Speakers, Lena Morrow Lewis and Isidore Polstein. Mathilda Tillman, chairman.

Saturday, May 15  
Corner 180th and Daly Sts. Speakers, Lena Morrow Lewis, Tim Murphy, Joseph Tuvim, chairman.  
All meetings begin at 8:30 p. m.

### BROOKLYN

Wednesday, May 12  
Corner Knickerbocker and Stockholm Sts. Speakers, Esther Friedman and J. A. Well.

Thursday, May 13  
Corner Broadway and Monroe Sts. Speakers, Lena Morrow Lewis, Tim Murphy, Sam H. Friedman, chairman.

Friday, May 14  
Corner Pitkin Ave. and Bristol St. Speakers, Esther Friedman, Lena Morrow Lewis, Conrad Labelson, chairman.

Saturday, May 15  
Corner South 4th and Havemeyer Sts. Speakers, Esther Friedman and August Claessens.

The next meeting of the 3rd, 5th, 10th A. D.'s Branch will be held in Room 402, The People's House, 7 East 15th street, City, when Arthur J. Goldsmith will deliver his lecture entitled "Big Moments From Great Authors."

## Bronx

The May Day demonstrations in this Boro were held as scheduled but several speakers were conspicuous by their absence. The Young People's Socialist League did their share well. They hustled platforms, acted as chairmen and speakers, distributed New Leaders, Appeals and May Day leaflets. Comrades Thomas, Lee and Kaye journeyed to the Bronx and their devotion and fine addresses were worthy of a better reception.

The indoor rally held at the Club Rooms of Branch 7 was inspiring owing to the presence of many young people. Bela Low gave a very interesting talk on May Day and the party in general. Madame Padulsky, Chicago opera singer, rendered several very fine selections. She was received with much enthusiasm. Miss Sosno was the accompanist. The lady comrades did all the hard work, prepared appetizing refreshments, washed dishes and worked continuously until near 1 p. m., and the old reliables hustled. Bronx comrades owe much to Mrs. Babbit, Volovick, Arishin, Mardfin and several others.

The young people danced, sang revolutionary songs, and enjoyed themselves as only the young can. The affair was full of pep, very encouraging and broke up in the "wee sma'" hours after singing "The International." A telegram conveying the heartiest greetings of the Bronx membership was sent to the National Convention.

All members of Bronx County are urged to be present at the General Party meeting to be held at 1177 Boston Road, Friday, May 7. The referendum on one local for the Greater City must be voted on at this meeting. Bring your dues book or see that you are in good standing. Branch secretaries will have dues stamps. Members' books must carry a State stamp to be in good standing.

A large number of members do not read The New Leader. Consequently, they are not in touch with party activities. Those in this class are urged to subscribe at once and have the paper mailed to their homes.

Branch 7 is preparing for its entertainment and dance at the club rooms, 4215 Third Avenue, Saturday evening, May 15. Keep this date open. Be thankful you are not in Passaic where they rock you to sleep with the soft end of a deputy's club to the tune of "God save the State of New Jersey." Come and enjoy good comradeship, good eats, entrancing music, and last, but not least, plenty of pretty girls to dance with.

## Yipseldom

### Senior Y. P. S. L.

League hike will be held this Sunday. The hikers will start from Van Cortlandt Park Station at 9:30 a. m. sharp under the leadership of Joshua Lieberman. Dunwoodie-on-the-Hudson will be our destination. Yipsel of all circles will be there to greet all.

Last Wednesday, April 28, the League Athletic Committee met and laid out the following program for the summer season. The most important being the "League" Field Day. The following events have been tentatively chosen.

1. 60 yard dash (girls), 5 points, first and second prize.
2. 100 yard dash, 5 points, first and second prize.
3. 440 yard dash, 6 points, first and second prize, pennant to circle.
4. Baseball game, 5 points, silver loving cup.
5. High jump, 5 points, first and second prize.
6. Broad jump, 5 points, first and second prize.
7. Sack race (boys, girls), 5 points, first and second prize.

The medals will be in silver and bronze. A banner will be given to the circle receiving the greatest amount of

points. All circles are requested to immediately start in training for the tournament. Baseball elimination contest will start immediately. Circle Manhattan has already issued a challenge to any circle in the league to the first baseball game in the contest. Who dares accept?

### Juniors Y. P. S. L.

This coming Saturday evening, May 8, at 137 Avenue B, Circle Eight Juniors will celebrate the activities of their circle by holding a real good lively entertainment and dance.

The committee has been fortunate enough to get various circles in the juniors and seniors to send talent to this affair. Comrades Friedman, Ymmer, Weingart, Sperling, Spodak are some of the headliners of the evening. All those interested in having a good time please take notice of the time and place.

### Bronx Juniors

The following members of the Junior Y. P. S. L. of the Bronx deserve credit for their co-operation with the party in the May Day meetings held in the Bronx: Comrades Kate Polstein, Dorothy Steinberg, Isidore Bassoff, Esther Milgram, Winston Dancis and Sidney Hertzberg.

The Juniors are preparing numerous outings, hikes and bus rides in conjunction with the Seniors of the Bronx. Watch the New Leader for definite arrangements. This Sunday we are all going to the league hike, of course.

The seventeenth meeting of Circle No. 2 of the Young People's Socialist League was held on Sunday, May 2, 1926. Three young women were accepted as members. Three others signified their desire to join. A dance to be held on June 12 was agreed upon. Twenty-five members declared that they would be on hand at the Brownsville Labor Lyceum, 219 Sackman street, Brooklyn, at 7 a. m., Sunday, May 9, to start their ride to Van Cortlandt Park station to meet the other Yipsel circles and from thence hike to Dunwoodie, the goal.

## BROOKLYN

The 5th A. D. will hold its regular meeting on Sunday night, May 9, at 329 Stuyvesant Avenue, Brooklyn. Meeting will start at 8:30 p. m. sharp, and after a short business session, reading and discussion of the first chapter of Stuart Chase's "Tragedy of Waste" will take place. All members of the 5th A. D. are invited to bring their friends to participate in the discussion.

## August Claessens at Bronx Fellowship Sunday

August Claessens will address the Open Forum of the Bronx Free Fellowship, 1301 Boston Road, Sunday evening, May 9, at 8:30 o'clock. His subject will be, "Are the Conditions of the Masses Improving?"

At the 8 o'clock meeting Genevieve Kaufman will sing and the Rev. Leon Rosser Land will speak on "Impressions of the Great Strike."

A youth peace rally will be held at the Fellowship Friday, May 14, at 8:30 p. m. A number of speakers from youth organizations will address the meeting. There will also be special peace music. The meeting is open to all, and is held under the auspices of the Bronx Fellowship of Youth.

## Spring Festival, Dance At the Rand School

The big spring festival and dance run annually by the Women's Committee of the Rand School will take place in the Debs Auditorium at the Rand School, 7 East 15th street, on Friday evening, May 14.

There will be music, refreshments, dancing with an excellent band, and other forms of entertainment as well. The Women's Committee have succeeded in getting as their stars two well-known Russian singers. One of them is Ksenia Vasenko, who has sung at the Moscow Opera House with Chaliapin, and the other Anna Sablukova.

## The Lecture Calendar

### Sunday, May 9

Rev. Leon Rosser Land. The Bronx Free Fellowship, 1301 Boston Road. Subject, "Impressions of the Great Strike," 8 p. m.

August Claessens. The Bronx Free Fellowship, 1301 Boston Road. Subject, "Are the Conditions of the Masses Improving?" 8:30 p. m.

### Friday, May 14

Youth Peace Rally. The Bronx Free Fellowship, 1301 Boston Road, 8:30 p. m.

## Nature as Doctor

"THE Health Educator and Guide" is the title of a new book by William Hayes, one of the oldest Socialists in the U. S., a graduate Naturopath doctor of the Lindhri College of Chicago, where Eugene V. Debs went for treatment in the summer of 1924 and returned well and healthy. This book of two hundred pages is interestingly written and devoted to health and human disease. The book is full to the brim with the very essence of practical health hints and advice to all health seekers and diseased who are ill, sick and anxious to find the true track to direct recovery. Its index contains about seventy of man's diseases and common ills and their natural treatment—drugs, less, of course.

In its outline it vividly elucidates that man's illness is his own fault, wrong living, wrong foods, wrong combinations of foods and foods not containing the essential minerals for cell building and materials for the reconstruction of the diseased and destroyed cells of the body. The author is one of the very few real practical investigators of the cause and cure of disease through natural methods such as hydrotherapy or water treatments, wet cold packs for all acute diseases, as these diseases are nature's effort to get well and he manifests himself in fevers.

As the author has lived close to nature for years in his health-seeking crusade, his experimentation in that field of research are the result of valuable experiences—gained first hand—hence proved, which in itself is of great educational value, as mankind still lurks in the dark and is sick and diseased only because he is ignorant and lives not only disobedient to nature, but rather artificially, which is the cause of the unhealthy life resulting in sickness, disease and early death.

In his book the author lucidly shows or points out to man the cause of his sickness is solely due to error—violation of natural laws, which results in sickness, disease and early death. The book is published by the author and can be obtained at 7 East Fifteenth street, N. Y. C., or will be mailed upon receipt of remittance of \$1.10 paper, or \$1.50 nicely bound in cloth, by addressing William Hayes, 7 East 15th street, N. Y. C.

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## N. Y. Plans Connolly Memorial Meeting

Friends of Martyred Revolutionist and Radicals of the City Will Commemorate the Execution of Connolly by the Imperialists and Tell of His Contribution to the Cause of International Freedom

THE tenth anniversary of the murder of James Connolly by the imperialist soldiers while he was a prisoner of war and while suffering from severe shell wounds will be commemorated on May 12, 8 p. m., at Bryant Hall, Forty-second street and Sixth avenue, New York. Connolly's work as a writer and student; his contribution to economic and labor history; his fight against conscription during the world war, and his last great stand with the Irish revolutionary forces at the general post office April-May, 1916, when he was taken prisoner while severely wounded, will be dealt with by men who knew Connolly personally and who worked with him both in Ireland and England as well as in the United States.

Prof. Scott Nearing, who has made a careful study of Connolly's writings; P. J. Ennis, formerly of Liberty Hall, Dublin; Joseph O'Byrne, Irish Republican; P. L. Quinlan and others will address the meeting.

There will also be a fitting musical program. Admission will be free and the doors of Bryant Hall will be open at 7.30 p. m. Internationalists of all kinds welcome.

## THEATRE PARTY WILL AID RUSSIAN SOCIALISTS JAILED BY THE SOVIETS

The Relief Society for Socialist Prisoners and Exiles of Soviet Russia has received news from Russia of great need and suffering among the prisoners and exiles.

There are no prospects for changes

## Passaic Gunmen Halted

(Continued from page 1)

The morning there had been a mediation conference between mill committee members and Henry Hillers, secretary of the state federation of labor, and McBride, state labor commissioner and Hillers had announced that the outlook for settlement was hopeful. Then came the dramatic afternoon, with thousands of strikers filling the streets on the declaration of the American Civil Liberties Union that John Haynes Holmes, pastor of the Community Church of New York, would discuss the strike at Belmont Hall in Garfield, despite Nimmo and his vows to break up the meeting and arrest the speakers.

Nimmo and fast Undersecretary Donaldson and the shot gun army tried to move the workers away but the crowd laughed. "Don't move for him," I heard two little girls of 12 or 13 say as a New York gangster, flaunting a deputy sheriff's badge and a buck-shot pump gun tried to push the newspaper men on. A plump grandmother of 70 sat tighter on a grocery box as a tug told her to "get." Another gunman came up and she pushed him away with a fist in his belly.

It was a peaceful crowd, determined on its rights and it got Nimmo's goat. He jumped on a porch, with his hand on a tear bomb in a satchel, and screamed that if they didn't disperse

in their situation under present political conditions. Many of them have children and are literally starving in the most terrific regions of Siberia. Russian revolutionists, who struggled all their lives for real freedom and the cause of the working class are now dying, almost without help. There are more than 100,000 political prisoners in Soviet prisons at present.

"Friends of Socialism, friends of Russian liberty, do not be silent, do not be indifferent. Do the best you can to save the lives and to better the existence of your comrades," says an appeal of the society.

The Relief Society has bought a theatrical performance of the brilliant Oscar Wilde's play, "The Importance of Being Earnest," at the Comedy Theatre, on West Forty-first street, Saturday, May 8.

By attending this benefit performance you will help Russian revolutionists and Socialists in Soviet prisons.

## Tourist Club Outing

Sunday, May 9, the Tourist Club, "The Nature Friends," will go to the Luray Caverns, Luray, Va., the second largest in the United States. Their beauty is beyond description. The Fish Market, the Grand Ball Room, the Natural Bridge, the Inferno and countless other caverns can only be appreciated by a personal visit. Guides will explain in detail the geologic formations, etc. All friends are welcome to participate. Round trip fare \$6.00. Admission to Caverns about \$1.00. We meet Saturday, May 8, at 9.30 p. m., at 33d street and 8th avenue.

he'd Read the Riot Act and Break 'Em Up.

Holmes Came: The Civil Liberties Sacrifice, he was called. Nimmo had just been ramping through the rooms connected with the hall, threatening to "run in" anyone who started a meeting. Holmes was ready to start at once but Forrest Bailey, director of the Liberties Union, told him the injunction was being applied for, and to wait, but promised that, writ or no writ, the meeting would be held; that Garfield would be opened up regardless.

"There'll be no meetings in Garfield," Donaldson was growling outside. But John Larkin Hughes, attorney for the Liberties Union, was even then getting the writ signed in Jersey City and was speeding to Garfield. Donaldson pretended he couldn't read it when the paper was thrust into his hands. But soon he threw up his palm and the hall doors were opened. A deputy kicked one worker in the stomach as the crowd streamed in, and the men who first opened the doors were taken in the patrol wagon to the police station. But the meeting was on. Nimmo had ducked when he heard the writ was coming.

After the songs and cheering quieted Bailey opened the meeting and Holmes began. He eloquently praised the strikers for the brilliant victory they had gained by discipline and peaceful measures. The complete victory of the strike was in sight, he assured them. Their fight was known from coast to coast and support would stream in from all sides till their demands were granted.

Robert Dunn spoke and was followed by Norman Thomas, both out on \$10,000 bail from Nimmo's Riot Law. Speakers and crowd were exuberant as the crowd. Then the strikers went wild, for Albert Welsford, strike leader, and Elizabeth Gurley Flynn were seen coming. Flynn pointed to the American flag now "out of jail."

"This meeting marks the end of the reign of terror in Garfield," declared Welsford. "A union meeting will be held in the Park outside tomorrow and picketing begins next week. The workers are showing their power."

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# Amusements

## DRAMA

HELEN WESTLEY



In the Theatre Guild production of *Munro's* amusing comedy, "At Mrs. Beams," which is now playing at the Guild Theatre.

### Oscar Wilde's Comedy Furnishes Many Laughs

"Importance of Being Earnest" Sparkles with Wit and Satire at the Comedy

SINCE the nation-wide publicity in connection with the production of Oscar Wilde's "Lady Windermere's Fan" in the motion pictures, it is natural that the amusement public again turn to this brilliant epigrammatist in a mental recatalogue of his stage opuses. Now the Actors' Theatre, after struggling along for some time past are presenting at the Comedy Theatre "The Importance of Being Earnest," their production directed by Dudley Digges.

In revivals of this sort the public's chief interest is in whether the lines and situations will seem hopelessly out of date in this modern age or not. Fortunately in the case of "The Importance of Being Earnest" we can report that there are few creaking joints in this play and that the smart Wilde dialogue shimmers and sheens as brightly as when it was first produced. In fact, comparing it with the vulgar witlessness and wisecracks of many of the Broadway farce comedies produced, the humor of this play stands out in clear-cut enjoyable contrast.

Wilde dialogue is unique, for under the surface of the witlessness in many places the "modern punch" is evident. In other words, its froth and chatter has substance and what is concrete proof, the audience sat back from curtain to curtain and laughed in that happy vein of people enjoying themselves in the theatre.

Reginald Owen plays Algernon Moncreiff and Vernon Steele, John Worthing, and these two heroes exchange merrily at will from one identity to another in an endeavor to cover up their intrigue behind invented personages. Both actors incidentally give capital characterizations. Lucile Watson as the dowager Lady Bracknell is peculiarly aptly cast in a role that suits her to perfection. Patricia Collinge played Cecily Cardew with a girlish sparkle and ingenuousness that made her role most attractive. Haroldine Humphreys acted the Hon. Gwendolen Fairfax with some pronounced mannerisms that fortunately served to give character to her role. Catherine Proctor as the governess, Miss Prism, caused many a laugh, while Dudley Digges in the role of the Rev. Canon Chasuble, D. D., in his brief but important part acted the character for all it was worth. Minor parts were taken satisfactorily by Gerald Hamer and Wallie Roberts as laughable servants.

The success of this revival leaves one to question how soon "Lady Windermere's Fan" will be seen on the boards again besides some of the other Wilde comedies that are not so well known in this country.

All in all, "The Importance of Being Earnest" provides a most pleasant and amusing evening in the theatre and one that the theatre-going public in New York should respond to.

Edward Locke's "The Climax" At Special Matinees May 18

Edward Locke's play, "The Climax," will be presented at the Hudson Theatre for a series of six special matinees by Samuel Wallach. The performances will start on Tuesday afternoon, May 18, and will be given on Thursday, May 20; Friday, May 21; Tuesday, May 25; Thursday, May 27, and Friday, May 28.

Dorothy Francis will head the cast, which will include Albert Brunning and Edgingham Pinto, who were in the original production of "The Climax," and Averill Harris.

## New Plays in Paris Theatres

OF the new plays recently produced in Paris special mention can be made of "La Riposte" ("Repartee"), a drama, which seems to be an instantaneous favorite.

This play is a four-act work by F. Noziers at the Theatre de Paris, which L. Volterra is presenting.

In story it tells of an abandoned and ruined woman who dies destitute with her daughter ascertaining the identity of her wealthy father and vowing vengeance. Locating her parent, the girl encourages the father in a flirtation until the man passionately declares his love. She reveals the relationship with the father dropping dead from apoplexy brought on by the shock.

Mlle. Vera Sergine is splendid in her dual role, playing the mother and the daughter. Harry Baur scored as the father, with Nadine Picard and Henri Rolland in minor roles.

The new "Folies Bergere" revue is the musical in the list, opening only after the house had been closed a few days for rehearsals. The production is excellent, but resembles its predecessors without particular novelty.

Josephine Baker, starred in the recent colored revue at the Champs Elysees Music Hall, is featured here, as are Head and Zapp. Others in the cast include Dorville, held over from the previous show; Mlle. Pepa Bonafe, Albert, and the Tiller Girls. L. Lemarchand is the producer.

F. de Croisset and R. de Fiers' "Docteur Miracle" ("The Miracle Doctor") should continue the good patronage at the Theatre de la Madeleine. Trebor has signed this comedy. It tells of a young physician who dreams his life for 500 years. The authors have amusingly introduced political allusions. The doctor is played by Andre Brule, his support comprising the clever comedian Beuve, and the Mmes. Augustine Leriche, Jeanne Provost and Devillers.

Following a long run of musicals, the small Theatre des Nouveautes has returned to straight comedy with "La Noce" ("The Wedding Breakfast"), an interesting writing by Pierre Wolff and Henri Duvernois, which was approved at its premiere.

This one has to do with an artist who enacts a false wedding party that terminates romantically. Camille plays the bride, Jane Cheirel is the bogus mother-in-law, Charles Boyer the bridegroom, and Germaine, veteran

French comedian, returns to the stage after a long retirement. "Bata, l'Africain" ("Bata, the African") is another of the comedies to be fairly received. Bernard Zimmer is the author of these four acts of a group of provincial people who believe a bragging lawyer's clerk is the hero he claims to be. The story takes a twist when the townspeople are thankful for the disillusionment and prefer to believe Bata's entertaining stories.

Louis Jouvet, manager of the Comedie des Champs Elysees, where this piece is playing, ably holds one of the roles. The cast also has Romain Bouquet and Mme. Franco Ellis.

Tristan Bernard's "Le Perdreau" ("The Partridge") came into the Theatre Michel, supplanting "La Peau." It is a three-act farce based upon an embarrassed youth who requests an elderly friend to arrange his love affairs with the girls, preferring the friend and the boy being deceived.

Pierre Guingand is cast as the youth, supported by Signoret, Jane Chevrete, and Henriette Delannay.

"The Flame" is in many respects one of the best plays of Henry Bataille, and its revival at the Porte-St. Martin has been very well received. There are now two Bataille revivals in Paris: "Les Flambeaux" and "L'Animateur," the latter being played at the Theatre de Paris. Henry Bataille is one of the few dramatists whose pre-war plays have not grown old and theatrical in our ears. At times the dialogue may sound a little literary, but there is always a measure of poetry in it, and behind it there is always a vivid sensibility and thought.

"Les Flambeaux" is a drama of ideas, the struggle of the intellect over the flesh. The Comedie Francaise was the scene of a violent incident recently when a crowded house protested angrily against a drama which, it is alleged, is offensive to the honor of the French army.

The play, "La Carcasse," was written by Deny Amiel and Andre Obey, French playwrights, and tells the familiar story of a domestic triangle in which a French officer plays the degrading role. The League of Patriots, prominent French Generals and other offended persons have demanded that the piece be withdrawn.

When the curtain rose the actors were greeted with hisses, whoops and shouts from all parts of the theatre, finally necessitating the suspension of the play until order was restored.

MARY ELLIS



Is playing the heroine in the repertoire program at the Neighborhood Playhouse—portraying a tragic part in "The Dybbuk" and a comedy role in "The Romantic Young Lady."

### Spanish Players Open Season Manhattan O. H. May 17

Maria Guerrero and Fernando Diaz de Mendoza and their company from the Princess Theatre in Madrid come to the Manhattan Opera House for the week beginning May 17. The repertoire for the week has been arranged. The opening play will be "Dona Maria La Brava" (The Valiant Lady Maria), by Eduardo Marquina. Tuesday night "La Malquerida" will be the play. This drama by Jose Benevente was played in this country by Nance O'Neill under the title of "The Passion Flower."

Wednesday night, "Locura de Amor" (The Love Madness) by Manuel Tamayo Baus. Thursday night, "Don Juan Tenorio," by Jose Zorrilla. This is said to be the most sparkling of all Don Juan dramas and is a great favorite with the Spanish speaking people.

Friday night, "Cancionera" (The Folk-song Singer) by S. and J. Alvarez Quintero, two of the most popular Spanish writers of the day. Saturday matinee has "La Condesa Maria" (The Countess Maria), a comedy by Juan Ignacio Luca de Tena, and Saturday night "El Caudal de los Hijos," which means the heredity or inheritance of children, written by Jose Lopez Pilonis.

The acting is on the usual high level of the Guild, with honors, after the chief roles of Alfred Lunt and Lynne Fontanne (whose passion was a mingling of the playful tiger cub and the untamed boar), going to Henry Travers and to Jean Cadell, who made every moment of her long, though not difficult, role a delight, by her apt taking off of the genteel pretender. "At Mrs. Beams" is genuine comedy, swiftly moving, well played, and truly entertaining. While it may not linger in the memory through the passing seasons, there are elements in it that suggest it is worth while reading; it would not surprise this reviewer to find it coming along some years from now in popular revival, or finding a regular place in the new Guild repertoire. But don't wait till then to enjoy it.

W. L.

## The Audience Beams

The Theatre Guild Presents Munro's Clever Comedy "At Mrs. Beams" at the Guild Theatre

WITH C. K. Munro's comedy, "At Mrs. Beams," the Theatre Guild offers the last of the season's subscription series at the Guild Theatre, and maintains its admirable record for excellent presentation and good workmanship. Many of the plays the Guild has presented, in its eight years, have been slight enough, but even in their inconsequential way they have been consummately done. Indeed, in the writing of a clever but unimportant comedy like "At Mrs. Beams" there is a deal more smooth writing, perfection of form, than in a serious and profound play like "Processional." The plays where form and substance are equally thought out, subtle, sharp, mellow, profound, are the rarities.

"At Mrs. Beams" is, let us say without further introduction, one of the cleverest comedies of this and several seasons. Set in a genteel, but decaying, boarding house in London, where women who have almost attained society talk as though they have had wide experience, while waiting to die, the action evolves out of the response of Mrs. Beams' regular boarders to a young couple that comes out of the gay life of Paris to stop at the place. Romance would probably have laid the delicate rose-petals of spring honeymoon talk upon the lips of the women there, save that old ladies are more likely to be fond of suspecting worse things and that a newspaper description of the latest Paris Blue Beard (39 is the exact number of victims) seems to tally with the appearance of Alfred Lunt—excuse me, of Mr. Dermott. The complications that rise are pleasantly reflected in the lives of the persons involved, until the doughty Blue Beard makes the tremendous gesture of his departure.

The chief value of the play consists in the excellence of the characterization. Dermott is a truly biased specimen of the boulevard, reminding one of Heywood Brown in his vigor. Above all, Miss Shoe is depicted with delightful and devilish skill, the typical dear old lady who insists on being right, even when she has slipped into declaring that two and two are five, who emphasizes that Monday is likely to follow Sunday, and who looks upon herself as of true cosmopolitan blood, with wide experience and the ability to be a mother and sister to all the "unfortunates" of the world. While the chief conflict seems to be a sort of battle of jealous determination combined with fear in Dermott and his present partner, Laura Pasquale, the chief interest lies in the character of

Miss Shoe and her friends at Mrs. Beams.

The acting is on the usual high level of the Guild, with honors, after the chief roles of Alfred Lunt and Lynne Fontanne (whose passion was a mingling of the playful tiger cub and the untamed boar), going to Henry Travers and to Jean Cadell, who made every moment of her long, though not difficult, role a delight, by her apt taking off of the genteel pretender. "At Mrs. Beams" is genuine comedy, swiftly moving, well played, and truly entertaining. While it may not linger in the memory through the passing seasons, there are elements in it that suggest it is worth while reading; it would not surprise this reviewer to find it coming along some years from now in popular revival, or finding a regular place in the new Guild repertoire. But don't wait till then to enjoy it.

W. L.

### "The Great Temptations" Opens—Due Winter Garden May 18

At the Apollo Theatre, Atlantic City, "The Great Temptations," newest revue of the Messrs. Shubert, had its out-of-town premiere Thursday night.

"The Great Temptations" is destined for the Winter Garden, opening May 18. The new revue has thirty-five scenes. The book is by Harold Atteridge and was staged by J. C. Huffman. The music is by Maurice Reubens, the lyrics by Clifford Grey. The production is under the general direction of J. J. Shubert.

Featured prominently in the cast are a number of European artists who are making their American debut in the revue. These include Roseray and Cappella, from the Casino de Paris, Paris, and the Guy Sisters, from the Palais, Paris. A unit of sixteen of the Foster Girls is also featured.

The large cast includes Hazel Dawn, Billy E. Von Miller and Lyles, Florenz Ames, Jack Benny, J. C. Flippin, Charlotte Woodruff, Pat and Terry Kendall, Wilfred Seagram, Paul Mall, Jack Waldron, Lew Cameron, Ara Gerald, Dorothy McNulty, Duval Sisters, Molly O'Doherty, Kelo Brothers, Gertrude Purcell, Marion Chambers, Arthur Treacher, Ruth Mayon, Nina Susov, Betty Allen and John Dunn.

The 600th performance of "The Student Prince" was celebrated at Jolson's Theatre Thursday evening.

### Brieux Offers Prize for Plays of Social Character

From Paris comes a report that Eugene Brieux, the noted dramatist of social problems and a member of the academy, informed his colleagues, comprising France's Immortals, that he was founding a biennial prize for playwrights. It will be awarded to authors of three-act plays of a social and moral character, regardless of the political and religious opinions expressed. The monetary value was not mentioned.

M. Brieux is best known in the United States by the production of "The Red Robe," "Damaged Goods" and "Accused," which latter play was staged here this year, with E. H. Sothern. He wrote his dramas always "with a purpose," in an attempt to picture to mankind life as he saw it, and this he did mercilessly. He is 68 years old.

The "Hello, London," company after having spent the last few days in seeing New York are now ready to devote all their time to rehearsing. Prominent among the cast are Morris Harvey, Lillie Long, Lola Raine, Donald Calthrop, Grace Clover, Desze Retter, Alex. Frazer, Edwin Lawrence, Bernard Dudley, Elma Gudrun, Selby Galloway and Grace Hayes, all from England.

ADOLPH LINK



Has the important role of Toni in "The Student Prince" at Jolson's Theatre. The 600th performance of the operetta was celebrated Thursday night.

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THEATRE GUILD PRODUCTIONS

OPENING MONDAY NIGHT AT 8:30

THE GARRICK GAITIES of 1926 GARRICK THEA. 65 West 35th St. Eves. 8:30 Mats. THURS. & SAT., 2:40

AT MRS. BEAM'S A Comedy by C. K. MUNRO GUILD THEA. West 52nd St. Eves. 8:30 Matinees THURS. & SAT., 2:40

"The most briscent bit of nonsense that is fluttering these evenings in the Broadway breeze."—Percy Hammond, Herald-Tribune. OSCAR WILDE'S COMEDY MASTERPIECE "THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST" Brilliantly presented by the Actors' Theatre for an indefinite engagement

"The Comedy Theatre shook last evening with the almost forgotten experience of laughter."—Alexander Woolcott, World. COMEDY THEATRE WEST 41ST STREET, PENN. 3558 MATS. WED. & SAT. EVES. 8:30

PLYMOUTH Thea., W. 45th St. Eves. 8:30. Mats. Thurs. & Sat., 2:30 Winthrop Ames presents GILBERT & SULLIVAN'S

**IOLANTHE** "Superb."—Times. "A delight."—Sun. "Joyful entertainment."—Post. "Refreshing."—Herald Tribune. "Enchanting."—World.

Sixth Month of Brilliant Success!

The

**PATSY**

BARRY CONNER'S Deft and ingratiating comedy Produced by RICHARD HERNDON with

CLAIBORNE FOSTER

Giving a fascinating Performance

BOOTH Th. 48th W. Eves. 8:30. Mats. Wed. &amp; Sat.

Vaudeville Theatres

MOSS' BROADWAY

The noted comedienne, Mildred Livingston, will head the May Frolic program at B. S. Moss' Broadway Theatre next week. Mildred Livingston will appear in a reviviscence, entitled "Cinderella," by Wm. K. Wells, assisted by Billy Hutchinson and company, Claude and Marion in "Still Arguing," Moran and Wiser, Keller Sisters, Teddy and Nan and Frank Lynch in "Spirit of Youth," Winifred and Mills, and Worden Brothers will complete the bill.

The screen presentation will be the first showing of Rod La Rocque, assisted by Elinor Fair and Julia Faye in "Bachelor Brides." This is screen picturization of the stage play.

PALACE

Anatole Friedland and his Club Anatole company and Markel's Club Anatole Orchestra; J. C. Nugent in his new comedy, "The Meal Hound," with Ruth Nugent; Maryon Vadie and her Maryon Vadie Dancers; Williams and Keen in "Shall I?"; Mary Haynes in "Among Us Mortals," assisted by Eben S. Litchfield; Harry Holmes; La Krenolina and Darras Brothers; Castleton and Mack.

HIPPODROME

Harland Dixon; George Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue," visualized for first time by Albertina Vitak and Albertina Rasch Ballet, with Dimitri Tiomkin and George Davidoff, pianists; Gertrude Ederle, Helen Wainwright, Allen Riggin in a water spectacle; Allen Virginia and West; Lorraine Sisters; Craig Campbell; Paul Kirkland and company in "The High Stepper"; Ralph Seed and Dave Austin; Lieutenant Felix Ferdinand with his Havana Band; Torcon Bozadian and Edna White; Robinson's Elephants; Valencia.

## THE NEW PLAYS

MONDAY

"GARRICK GAITIES" will open Monday night at the Garrick Theatre, presented by the Theatre Guild. Philip Loeb will direct the production. Lorenz Hart did the lyrics. Dick Rodgers the music. Carolyn Hancock designed the settings and costumes. The cast includes Romney Brent, Sterling Holloway, Philip Loeb, Edith Meiser, Betty Starbuck, Hildegarde Holliday, Eleanor Shaler, Blanche Fisher, Dorothea Chard, Ruth Morris and John McGovern.

This talented artist will return to the Bronx Opera House in Suderman's famous drama, "Magda," opening Monday evening.

Herndon to Stage Harvard Prize Play Next Season

Richard Herndon announced yesterday that he will present four plays by American authors dealing with native subjects during the early part of next season. The first of these is the Harvard prize play, "Up the Line," which he has already tried out this season. "Up the Line" is a play of the Dakota plains, and its chief actor will be Paul Harvey.

"Treat 'Em Rough," by Frederick and Fanny Hatton, which is now in rehearsal, is the second offering on Mr. Herndon's schedule. "Treat 'Em Rough" is a play of the lower east side's Italian quarter, and will have Genevieve Tobin, Allan Dinehart and William Ricciardi as the principal performers. A new play by Barry Conners, tentatively known as "Strange Gods," and described as a "psychological drama of serious purpose," and Samuel Shipman's "Day Lady," will also be among Mr. Herndon's early Fall productions.



## THEATRES



**FLORENCE REED**  
in **THE SHANGHAI GESTURE**  
with **MARTIN BECK**  
MORE THAN 100 CAPACITY PERFORMANCES

**THE NEIGHBORHOOD PLAYHOUSE**  
406 GRAND STREET. Telephone DRY DOCK 7316.

Repertory for Three Weeks:

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday Even. Friday, Saturday and Sunday Even. and  
Saturday Matinee  
**"The Dybbuk"** **"The Romantic Young Lady"**  
SUNDAY AFTERNOON, MAY 8: MONDAY EVENING, MAY 10  
TWO RECITALS BY ALBERT CARROLL

## Bronx Amusements

**BRONX OPERA HOUSE**  
140th St., E. of Third Ave.  
POP. PRICES | MATS. WED. & SAT.

**BEGINNING MONDAY NIGHT**  
Return Engagement of the World's  
Greatest Actress

**BERTHA KALICH**

Direct from a Successful Run in  
Sudermann's Dramatic Masterpiece

**"MAGDA"**

With An All-Star Cast of Players

Week of May 17th  
**"THE BUTTER AND EGG MAN"**  
with GREGORY KELLY

National Movie Censorship  
Shelved in Washington

Following a lively public hearing in Washington at which opponents and proponents of the Upshaw-Swope bills, providing Federal censorship of motion pictures entering interstate commerce, exchanged pointed charges imputing bad faith, the House Committee on Education today voted to postpone until next December further consideration of these two measures. An exciting episode occurred when Mrs. Florence P. Kahn, Representative from California, demanded that Representative Upshaw, author of one of the motion picture bills, withdraw a remark he had made that "nobody can be opposed to censorship of pictures except those who favor things unclear."

The censorship and department of education bills have excited controversy in the House Committee for several months.

## MUSIC

EMILY WOOLLEY



Is a featured member of the cast in the Shubert revue, "A Night in Paris," which just passed its 150th performance at the Casino de Paris.

## Music Notes

The Adesdi Chorus, Margarete Dessoff conductor, will give its first annual concert Wednesday evening in the hall of the Engineering Societies Building, 29 West Thirty-ninth street. The program consists of a Miserere by Adolph Hasse, four sacred songs by Gallus, Vittoria, Palestrina and Caldara; Schubert's Psalm 23; "Nippon," a cycle of eight old Japanese songs by E. Lendvai, and four songs of Brahms.

Paderewski will play his two remaining recitals on Friday evening, May 7, at the New Rochelle High School, and on Wednesday evening, May 12, at the Orange (N. J.) High School.

Chaim Kotlyarsky will give a song recital at Town Hall this Sunday afternoon.

"Hrabina" ("The Countess"), an opera by Stanislaus Moniuszko, Polish composer, will be presented at the Manhattan Opera House this Saturday night. The leading roles will be sung by Madame Maria Bogulicka, soprano, and Eugeniusz Stebelski, dramatic tenor.

David Madison, violinist, will give a recital at Steinway Hall this Sunday evening.

SOCIALISTS PLAN  
IMPORTANT  
WORK

(Continued from page 3)

tribunal for its deeds in Haiti, Nicaragua and the rest of Latin-America."

**Berger Hits League**  
Congressman Berger is known to be a vigorous opponent of the League and voted against the proposal at international congresses, so that when he obtained recognition he was greeted with good-humored applause. He said that he had followed the European movement too closely and asked when we will build an American movement. We are still a foreign colony.

"Think of our former intellectuals," he exclaimed. Where are Spargo, Russell and others? Wilson got them. He was afraid that a dead Wilson had captured others. The League is a thin smoke screen to hide the loot of the imperialist powers and the Treaty of Versailles. It really consists of four powers—France, England, Italy and Japan. The Big Four rule the world. Who is for the League? Dwight Morison and other bankers. Berger believed it would be a criminal error to support the League. Let us Americanize the party. Vote down the resolution.

Kirkpatrick asked the delegates to imagine a revolution in England. What would happen? The navies of the League would surround England and crush the revolution. The governments become more powerful under the League and we cannot make a vegetarian out of a tiger.

Coleman of Wisconsin requested a roll call on the question when it came to a vote.

Hoehn of Missouri contended that the League is not a European problem, but an American problem. It is our duty to take a decided stand. If the capitalist class have an interest in the League so have we. He favored the resolution.

**Denounces Reich's Exclusion**  
Graham of Montana recalled that when the International Congresses acted on the matter it was expected that Germany would be admitted, but that had been thwarted by recent events. Germany has been edged out. He reviewed old British-French rivalries and contended that these reactionary powers make the League worthless. "We cannot depend upon a League of Damnation controlled by the capitalist class," he concluded.

**Hoopes of Pennsylvania** contended that by joining the League there is some hope of averting war. The League may not be the kind of internationalism we want, but it is an approach to internationalism.

Oneal of New York observed that the variety of opinions expressed for and against indicated that few of the delegates were informed on the question, and for this reason it would not be wise to take final action at present. However, he said, it is not necessarily true that the League would crush working-class revolutions. The powers intervened in Russia and Hungary before the League was organized, and this proved that the great powers re-

quired no League to take united action against revolutionary governments if they desired to do so. Moreover, a large section of bourgeois opinion in many countries is opposed to war. Not for the reason we suppose it, but because it is feared capitalism cannot survive another world war. Considering the variety of views, he suggested that the delegates adopt section 3 of the resolution, which would postpone action to the next convention; in the meantime we could discuss the question in the party press and branches, and come to the next convention with our ideas better clarified.

**Gerber Favors League**  
Lewis of California formulated this suggestion into a motion, which was seconded.

Shafis of Ohio followed by a defense of the proposal. It is either the League, with a chance to avert war, or the certainty of war, with its horrors and uncertainties. Are we secretly expecting armed insurrection, which Communists favor? he asked. He placed his hope in democratic methods and education.

Gerber of New York favored the League, even though at first our support might strengthen reaction, but States and officials in this country are reactionary, and we do not refrain from trying to get control of these States. Isolation did not keep us out of the war. We had no grievances in Europe, and yet capitalist investments drew us into the World War. It is the duty of the United States to be part of an international movement to prevent war.

Toby of Kentucky, Miller of West Virginia, Plunkett of Connecticut, Levenburg of Massachusetts and Collins of Illinois also participated in the debate. Under the rules, Hillquit and Berger closed the debate for their respective sides, and the vote came on the Lewis amendment to postpone action until the next convention. This was carried by a vote of 15 to 13.

**Shanghai Massacre Hit**

Oneal then moved that all questions relating to the world court and international debts, as they were in part bound up with the League, be also postponed. The question was divided by referring the question of debts to the Resolutions Committee and postponing the matter of the World Court to the next convention.

The Committee on Organization and Propaganda was ready with a partial report, but before taking it up the three following resolutions on the Agenda were adopted without debate:

"The Socialist Party affirms its solidarity with the Chinese workers in their struggle to obtain a higher standard of living. With their ultimate aim of freeing their country from control by Japanese, European and American imperialists, we are in full accord. We particularly denounce the use of American gunboats to overawe the Shanghai strikers."

"To the workers of Mexico and their President, Calles, the Socialist Party sends fraternal greetings."

**Mexico defended**  
"We denounce the continued attempt of our government to bully the government of Mexico. We affirm our belief that the Mexican people have a right to control their own natural resources in the way they see fit. This right is far superior to any alleged rights of absentee American investors who acquired their claims under the corrupt and tyrannical Diaz regime, and whose only interest in Mexico is to exploit her people and her resources for their own profits."

"The Socialist Party reaffirms its stand in favor of immediate recognition of Soviet Russia and the opening up of trade relations with her." The convention rapidly disposed of organization and propaganda matters by approving the publication of a number of important propaganda leaflets and recommending that the State and National offices obtain where possible Socialist party correspondents in unorganized territory for literature distribution. The Executive was instructed to draw up bills for nationalization of railroads, mines, electric power and unemployment insurance. Approval was also given that a commission of five be elected to study and report on the feasibility of fraternal insurance by the party for its members.

**British Speakers Wanted**  
An agenda proposal for the National office to survey the methods of the various State offices and report upon them was defeated. A substitute was adopted which provided for the exchange by State secretaries of their reports, blank forms, routing of speakers, etc., only to be reconsidered later and to be taken up the following day. Another agenda proposal for affiliation of benefit societies, trade unions, co-operatives and farmer organizations was considered impractical and defeated.

Two Bronx resolutions came up for consideration, one being rejected and the other adopted. The favored resolution proposes the routing of some British Socialist speakers and the rejected measure was a proposal to experiment with touring open-air speakers to sell subscriptions for the American Appeal. A substitute was adopted for touring two or more organizers in co-operation with State secretaries for this purpose.

The first day's session adjourned after the delegates were invited to return to the roof in the evening to attend a reception and dance arranged by Pittsburgh Socialists.

**Sunday Morning**  
At the Sunday morning session of the Socialist party convention Julius Gerber was again elected chairman and Lena Morrow Lewis of California vice-chairman.

On Saturday it was decided to proceed to the election of the members of the National Executive Committee at 10:30 Sunday morning and the convention proceeded to elect. The result was the election of the following members: Morris Hillquit of New York, Victor L. Berger of Wisconsin, William Shof of Illinois, Joseph Sharts of Ohio, Mrs. William Henry of Indiana, William Van Esen of Pennsylvania and James Oneal of New York.

All these recommendations were adopted except the ninth, which was defeated. The delegates believed that nothing could be gained by changing the name of the paper, which is now generally known among Socialists and sympathizers.

Herbert M. Merrill presented a report on radio broadcasting which was followed with much interest. The delegates realized that this new source of information was rapidly drifting into the control of capitalist organizations and that it offered serious obstacles to Socialist educational work.

Merrill recommended that the National Executive Committee be given the power to establish a central radio station if a license can be obtained.

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## Resolution on the Communists

The Pittsburgh convention of the Socialist party adopted the following resolution on the Communist proposal that the two parties join forces in the coming Congressional elections:

"The Socialist Party in National convention has received from the so-called Workers' (Communist) Party a letter urging that the Socialist Party join with the Workers' (Communist) Party in establishing what the latter calls a 'united front' in Congressional and State elections this year, and in soliciting the co-operation of economic and political organizations of the workers."

"We are for a 'united front' of all working class forces. We have always been for it both before and since the Communist International started their campaign of disruption among the working-class organizations of the world."

"But this invitation comes to us while the official organs of the Workers' (Communist) Party constantly malign and libel the Socialists individually and collectively, calling us 'labor lieutenants of the bourgeoisie' and 'traitors to the working class.'"

"The purpose of the Workers' (Communist) Party is to 'bore within' any organization that trusts its offers of friendship, to organize stealthy cliques and factions, to sow suspicions and hatreds by falsehoods and intrigue and thus serve the enemies of the working class. All this is done systematically as its standard tactics."

"Such an offer under such circumstances cannot be accepted. There is no reason for believing this proposal more sincere than similar proposals in the past. Moreover, the Workers' (Communist) Party has by its disrupting tactics isolated itself from the American workers, and deserves its isolation. Its alliance would be a liability and not an asset to the cause of working class unity. Co-operation with it would alienate and not attract the American workers. Co-operation with it can lead only to disaster. A united movement can be realized only by ignoring it."

## The party constitution requires the

election of alternates who may be drawn upon to fill any vacancies that may occur in the committee, and the following were chosen: William Levenburg of Massachusetts, James D. Graham of Montana, G. A. Hoehn of Missouri, Martin F. Plunkett of Connecticut, William Coleman of Wisconsin, Herbert M. Merrill of New York and Lena Morrow Lewis of California.

## Debs Is Chairman

There was only one candidate nominated for National chairman. Eugene V. Debs was named by Hillquit, and he was elected unanimously by a rising vote.

Only one candidate for International secretary was suggested. Victor L. Berger took the floor, and in nominating Morris Hillquit said that he wanted Hillquit because he (Berger) could disagree with him, which caused a ripple of laughter. Hillquit was also elected unanimously.

Greetings to the convention were read from the Bronx, N. Y.; the Jewish Socialist Verband of Los Angeles; Local Worcester, Mass.; the Central Committee of Chicago, the Milwaukee Leader, the New England Bureau of the Jewish Socialist Verband, and a May Day mass meeting of 4,000 people in the Boston Opera House in Boston.

The remainder of the morning session was devoted to a consideration of changes in the party constitution recommended by the Committee on Constitution.

One matter reported on the agenda was nearly overlooked as the convention drew to a close. This was a proposal that the National Executive Committee consider the publication of study outlines adapted for study classes and for sale at propaganda meetings. The study outlines are to consider various phases of the economic, social, political, cultural and institutional development of the United States in terms of Socialist interpretation. This proposal was adopted by a unanimous vote with the understanding that it will take some time before the party can undertake these publications on any large scale.

**Monday Morning's Session**  
When the Socialist party convention met Monday morning it elected Lena Morrow Lewis chairman and William H. Henry vice-chairman. Fraternal greetings by telegram were read from Branch 1 of the Workmen's Circle of New York, the Jewish Branch of Detroit, and the Polish Branch of Chicago.

Much of the session was taken up with changes suggested in the party constitution and especially the matter of dues to be paid and to whom paid by the language federations.

While the constitution was being considered, a long telegram was read from Isaac Benzvi in behalf of the Jewish Socialist World Confederation of Poale Zionists, representing Palestine and 25,000 Jewish Socialists of Palestine. The telegram expressed greetings of Socialist solidarity.

**Report in "Appeal"**  
A number of resolutions and a report on the American Appeal came up for consideration. The temporary business manager of the Appeal, J. Mahlon Barnes, had submitted a long and detailed report on the status of the party organ which showed that not many subscriptions had been obtained until after the first issue had appeared in January. From that time the subscriptions and bundle orders began to roll in.

By the time of the convention, Barnes could report that the American Appeal was in receipt of 95 regular bundle orders, representing nearly a total of 2,000 weekly and nearly 12,000 subscribers. There are also subscribers in every State. All this had been accomplished in the first four months of this year.

"Through the Appeal," reported Barnes, "we have a more wide flung net of influence covering the country more completely than the party ever enjoyed. We reach more communities than we did when in our hey-day, before the war, we had over 5,000 locals, and we reach them every week in their home circle."

**Change of Name Voted**  
All these recommendations were adopted except the ninth, which was defeated. The delegates believed that nothing could be gained by changing the name of the paper, which is now generally known among Socialists and sympathizers.

Herbert M. Merrill presented a report on radio broadcasting which was followed with much interest. The delegates realized that this new source of information was rapidly drifting into the control of capitalist organizations and that it offered serious obstacles to Socialist educational work.

Merrill recommended that the National Executive Committee be given the power to establish a central radio station if a license can be obtained.

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Victor L. Berger said that the Milwaukee Leader had tried to establish a station, but found that the cost was so heavy that it had to be abandoned. Van Esen said that his experience was that some of the existing stations could be used providing that the matter submitted was intelligently prepared and of an educational rather than a propaganda character.

**Hillquit Addresses Hungry Ones**  
Levenburg of Massachusetts moved that a percentage of the dues received by the National Office each month be set aside for the establishment of a radio station. Oneal opposed the motion on the ground that it would tie up funds of the party for an uncertain proposal and thus cripple other lines of educational work. Levenburg withdrew his motion. The report was referred to the National Executive Committee for further consideration and investigation.

The morning session adjourned to attend a luncheon at the Hungry Club, an interesting organization of men of all beliefs but of a general progressive character. Morris Hillquit was the speaker at the luncheon, and his address was followed by a number of questions from the audience.

Hillquit's address was one of the most popular expositions of the Socialist view of society and of the Socialist program that has been heard in Pittsburgh. His answers to questions were apt and to the point. From all sides were heard expressions of appreciation, while a number of Socialist delegates observed that the address with the answers would make an effective Socialist pamphlet for general distribution.

**Communist Proposal Up**  
When the convention reassembled in the afternoon the delegates had a number of resolutions to consider. The Workers' (Communist) Party sent a long letter to the convention asking that the party form a "united front" with the Communists for the Congressional and State elections this year and solicit the co-operation of trade unions and other working class organizations. The letter was couched in the usual verbiage of the Communists and the convention felt no time in adopting a resolution declining to have anything to do with such a "united front."

A number of resolutions had been submitted to the Committee on Resolutions regarding the liquor question, and the committee brought in a statement favoring public ownership of the manufacture of alcoholic beverages and condemned the two capitalist parties because of their stupid attitude toward this question.

**Debate on Prohibition**  
The debate showed a considerable variety of opinion, a considerable proportion of the delegates from the West favoring the present prohibition law, while those from the East favored the resolution. The document was referred back to the committee, and after more debate later in the session the convention adopted the following statement:

"In the failure of prohibition enforcement in the United States, the Socialist Party sees the result of blind blundering legislative methods so characteristic of Republican and Democratic politicians. As the one solution of this serious problem, the Socialist Party advocates legislation that will permit of domestic use of light wines and beer and the manufacture for sale of alcoholic beverages by the Federal government alone under strict safeguards and proper restrictions."

**Mussolini Resolution**  
Although the convention had voted to refer all matters related to the League of Nations to the next convention for final decision, it made one exception. The delegates felt that something should be said regarding the debt settlement made with Mussolini, and without discussion but by a unanimous vote the following resolution was adopted:

"We denounce the present method followed by the United States Government of settling war debts upon an arbitrary basis, and its brazen disregard in favor of reactionary governments. Thus it granted extraordinarily generous terms to the murderous Fascist regime in Italy, while imposing much harsher terms upon the comparatively liberal government of France. Its settlement with Italy amounts to a gift of \$2,000,000 in interest to the Mussolini dictatorship upon a plea of poverty yet at once upon this settlement the Mussolini government agreed to pay no less than 7 percent interest to Wall Street bankers for a loan of \$1,000,000,000 for imperialistic purpose. It is hypocritical for nations spending upon war and warlike preparations more money than before the World War to plead poverty. The Socialist Party favors complete cancellation by the United States of all governmental war debts, including sums due from Germany, but only upon condition of international

disarmament, and cancellation of all inter-allied war debts and all reparations claims."

The delegates had followed with keen interest the development of the general strike in England, which was well reported by the Pittsburgh papers. A ringing resolution was adopted, which will be found in another column, and the National Secretary was instructed to send a cable of greetings and cheer to the British Trade Union Congress.

**Debs' Absence Regretted**  
Much regret was expressed because of the inability of Eugene V. Debs to attend the convention, which voted to send a letter to him, saying that "the delegates send their affectionate greetings to Comrade Debs and his family and assure him that the convention has been inspiring and its work will be fruitful of Socialist education and organization."

A resolution regarding the economic distress of the farmers was referred to the new National Executive Committee, which was also instructed to prepare a platform for the Congressional elections.

A number of resolutions relating to the Negro workers and a number of suggestions had been referred to the committee, which reported a comprehensive statement of the Party's attitude towards this section of the working class. The statement which follows was adopted without a dissenting vote:

"The Socialist Party calls to the attention of the trade unions the extreme danger to the standards of the white wage workers which lies in the policy of excluding colored men from the unions. It is not only a bitter injustice to our colored fellow-workers, but practically drives them into the ranks of strike-breakers."

"To the Brotherhood of Sleeping-car Porters, now organizing, we send our congratulations and fraternal greetings and our best wishes for success."

"In order to deal more effectively with lynching, that blot upon our Caucasian civilization, we favor the Berger Anti-Lynching Bill. The fact that the Republican Party, after nearly 70 years of almost continuous control of the federal government, has failed to protect the negro population, and even failed to pass any remedial legislation against lynching, is proof of the hypocritical character of its pretense of friendship for the colored people."

"The Socialist Party seeks to unite all producers, whatever their race, color or creed, in the effort to substitute co-operation for capitalism, and thus relieve the world not only of exploitation, poverty and unemployment, but of race hatreds and prejudices. The Negroes as a race are among the worst victims of the antagonisms engendered by the competitive foundation of our society. If they are ever to surmount the social, civil and industrial injustices of which they so rightly complain, they must seek it along the path of Socialism."

**Progressive Flop Rapped**  
The convention adopted a statement which recognized the "ridiculous collapse of the so-called Progressives and their return to the Republican fold," but also reaffirmed the "importance of intensive propaganda among the American masses to educate them to a knowledge of their true economic interests." The statement also called attention to the "rapid collapse of private capitalism in agriculture, which is 'bringing near the crisis when nothing but a class conscious and thoroughly disciplined organization of the workers and consumers can avail this nation from a bloody upheaval of sheer despair and ignorant hatred.' The statement also reaffirmed the willingness of the party to co-operate, 'as far as possible, with every genuine effort of Labor towards independent political action.'"

A detailed report of the Young People's department was made by Aarne J. Parker, who is the most efficient, resourceful and enthusiastic National Director the Yipsels have had. The report shows progress in rebuilding the Yipset organization and the American Appeal by publicity given the Yipset work has been of considerable aid. A number of recommendations were adopted which will be of material assistance to the Yipsels in their work.

A number of other matters of minor importance was acted upon and the delegates adjourned at 6 p. m. to permit the state secretaries and the new National Executive Committee to hold sessions before returning home.

**Henry, New Secretary**  
When the N. E. C. met, it was informed by Comrade Kirkpatrick that he had accepted the temporary position of secretary with the view of retiring at an early date, as he felt that he was not equal to the tasks of the office. William H. Henry was then elected National Secretary and Business Manager of the American Appeal, it being understood that another manager is to be elected just as soon as a competent man can be obtained. Upon her husband being elected National Secretary, Mrs. Henry resigned from the National Executive Committee, as she believed that she should not act upon matters that would intimately affect her husband.

In electing alternates for the National Executive Committee, the delegates had voted by preferential ballot to choose the order in which alternates are to serve in case of vacancies. The order of choice for alternates was Graham of Montana, Hoehn of Missouri, Levenburg of Massachusetts, Coleman of Wisconsin, Lewis of California, Plunkett of Connecticut, and Merrill of New York. Upon the resignation of Mrs. Henry, Graham took his seat as a member of the National Executive Committee.

The convention had finished its work Monday evening and the committees concluded their work late that night. The convention was not a large one, but it dispatched a large amount of work, and the delegates went home with renewed hope in the Socialist movement and the conviction that an economic breakdown of capitalism in the United States is approaching which will test our resources to meet.

## :: DRAMA ::

Automatic Music  
For Movies Perfected

SCIENTIFIC developments which it was said would revolutionize the presentation of motion pictures in the largest metropolitan theatres as well as the smaller theatres in the little towns have just been announced as perfected by the Western Electric Company and Warner Brothers Pictures, Inc. These developments are the result of years of research in the Bell Telephone laboratories, the research laboratories of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company and Western Electric Company. They involve a system for the synchronization of motion pictures with reproduced sound having a degree of naturalness never before attained.

"This invention," says the announcement, "brings to audiences in every corner of the world the music of the greatest symphony orchestras and the vocal entertainment of the most popular stars of the operatic, vaudeville and theatrical fields. The system is available to all motion picture producers for the presentation of any film that they produce. Its use is not confined by any means to the presentation of pictures. It will be available for use in the educational, commercial and religious fields as well as that of amusement."

"A corporation has been formed to record the synchronization of music for motion picture producers all over the world and to distribute the invention among theatre owners."

"The apparatus by which combined films and sound records will be reproduced in motion picture theatres is no more complicated from the standpoint of operation than an ordinary motion picture projector. No special skill or technique is required of the operator. If the film breaks, there is no interference with the accuracy of synchronization. The sound record is not controlled by the film itself."

"The system represents successful combination and conversion to motion picture use of three major research developments."

"The first of these is the electrical system of recording. This method employs a high quality microphone of an improved type, electrical amplifying apparatus and a record-cutting mechanism. Recording may be carried on at considerable distance from the source of sound so that the actors may be grouped naturally in any scene and need not be crowded before a microphone."

"The second essential feature is a remarkable electrical reproducer which converts the movements of a needle in the grooves of a sound record into electrical vibrations. The electrical currents from this device pass into an amplifier and then operate a high quality loud-speaker of an improved type capable of filling practically any motion picture auditorium."

"The third development is the link between the reproducer and the audience. An adaptation of the public address system makes it possible to pick up electrical vibrations from the reproducer, amplify them, and by means of properly located loud-speaking telephones transform them into sound. The loudness is so regulated as to give the illusion that the source is the actors whose pictures appear on the screen. In the case of musical programs, a specially constructed loud-speaking telephone insures the correct volume and naturalness."

"An important use of the new system will be in providing musical programs for motion pictures already taken. This is accomplished by projecting the picture in the usual way

CLAIBORNE FOSTER



The star of "The Patsy," now playing at the Booth Theatre, will appear in her own sketch at the Press Agents' benefit this Sunday night at Mecca Temple.

Two Special Recitals at  
The Neighborhood Playhouse

Albert Carroll and members of the Neighborhood Playhouse company will give two recitals at the Grand Street Theatre, in which Mr. Carroll will present his character sketches of the Prince of Wales, Pavlova,



# THE NEW LEADER

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SATURDAY, MAY 8, 1926

## THE BRITISH STRIKE

WITHOUT question the general strike in England, which may extend to the miners of Europe and even many other workers, is one of the greatest events in modern labor history. The discipline and solidarity displayed by the mass of British trade unionists in support of the miners, their orderly and intelligent mobilization and absence of hysteria, are a magnificent tribute to what is now the leading section of the international labor army.

A general strike is a hazardous thing and not to be undertaken without careful consideration of all the factors involved. The organized working class of England have exercised this care and deliberation and have wisely made their decision in favor of a general strike. The situation in the mining industry had become intolerable. The Baldwin Government last year postponed a solution by the makeshift of a subsidy to the mining industry. With the expiration of the subsidy the government has nothing to offer for a solution of the coal problem except for the miners to accept a lower level of existence.

This attitude of the Government was a challenge to the whole labor movement of England. The Government considers private property in coal more sacred than the welfare of the miners and their families. British trade unionists and Socialists consider the welfare and happiness of men, women and children as the first charge on industry. They would nationalize mines and have them operated for the common good. The Government would preserve capitalist ownership as the first consideration. The two points of view conflict and what the outcome of the struggle will be remains to be seen.

This working class upheaval is also remarkable for its peaceful character and sober consideration of the issues involved by both sides to the controversy. There was no panic, no hysteria, no brutal use of power to smash it at its inception. In this country a strike of much smaller proportions but of a general character in some leading industry would have evoked the hysteria and venom of politicians and editors. Hired mercenaries of capitalist organizations would have swarmed into the strike zone; the army, police and militia would be mobilized and immediately become active; spies would have intrigued and plotted violence, and the public powers, especially the courts, would be hurled against the strike from its beginning.

Of course, the British struggle may yet assume a tragic character, but it is interesting that it has not begun with that brutality which has so often been displayed by governing agents and the capitalist class of the United States. The working class of all countries will assist their British brothers in this momentous struggle and whatever may be the outcome it will not be waged in vain. It will inspire the workers of all countries. It will give courage to the faint-hearted. It will go down in history as one of Labor's greatest battles. Its memory alone will be of great service in the universal struggle for the liberation of the workers from economic subjection and class rule.

## A WAR FOR RUBBER

HOW the material interests of investing capitalists shape the destiny of nations, formulate their foreign policies, conscript workmen, hurl them into wars and prepare for all this by clever propaganda, are demonstrated by an amazing piece of propaganda which the General Tire & Rubber Company has mailed to newspapers throughout the United States. The rubber magnates want more rubber and they see in the Philippines a potential supply that will meet their needs. The problem as they see it is stated in the following paragraph:

The last two years have made it apparent that immense areas in the Philippines can be devoted to high grade rubber cultivation, if Uncle Sam will forget his promise of Philippine independence, change land laws, and permit the importation of hordes of coolies for clearing land, planting and tending trees, etc. There is a very definite move by American capitalists and their political friends in this direction, and Filipinos with national aspirations are roused accordingly and are fighting every move in this direction. They insist that the promise of Filipino independence was made not only to the natives themselves, but to the whole world.

This paragraph puts the issue admirably. "American capitalists and their political friends" want to break down the Filipino standard of living which has risen in the past twenty years by importing "hordes of coolies" and change certain land laws that afford some protection to the natives. To prevent this fate the Filipinos seek independence. American capitalists oppose independence, as it bars their way to transforming the islands into a colony of hordes of coolies.

One other thing stands in the way of the rubber magnates. The United States once promised independence which the Filipinos want. Now what is to be done to make these

capitalists happy? They are ready with an answer. If Uncle Sam will only "forget his promise of independence," change the land laws and recruit the coolies, the Philippines can be made safe for rubber—American rubber.

But the Filipino may not like this program. What then? Our rubber magnates have an answer to that question also. They would "welcome the appearance of a real statesman at Washington." This "real statesman" would be the "real" thing if he repudiates the promise of independence! This may result in war, of course; it is even "within the bounds of possibilities—that this business of supplying the world with enough crude rubber may be the cause of the next world war."

Now, then, who will have to fight in this war? The rubber investors of Boston, New York, Philadelphia and so on? How absurd! They will stay home and "keep the home fires burning." They are not made for cannon fodder. The clerk, the printer, the miner, the textile worker, the laborer, and others of their kind will be sent to the Philippines to enslave the Filipinos, rob them of their lands and import coolie labor to slave under an American police regime.

That is the program as worked out by our rubber capitalists. Perhaps they will find in Coolidge a "real" statesman before that gentleman retires to his occupation of a bill collector. How do you like the prospect, dear reader? Is it easier to give your bones to our rubber capitalists than it is to give your vote for Socialism? It's up to you!

## OUR MEDIEVAL DRIFT

AN ARTICLE in the April number of *Inter-America* by Virgilio Rodriguez Beteta on the laws regarding the printing press in colonial America suggests a startling modern analogy. The author in the main considers the legislation of Spain for her colonies in America which brought a "theocratic terrorism." Spain was entering on her period of decadence and the first law on the printing press in America was issued in 1560. "She was beginning to develop fully the restrictive spirit of every kind in the political, religious and economic realms," he writes, "precisely when the world was opening to new horizons of liberty."

There is no need of changing this language to adapt the mood of medieval Spain to modern capitalistic America. Ours is not a "theocratic terrorism," but its spirit has made some headway in the fundamentalist drive to outlaw modern science by the enactment of anti-evolution laws. The propaganda for censorship books, the drama and the movies is a drift back to the decadent Spain of the sixteenth century, while there is nothing more calculated to evoke the horror of professional "patriots" than to suggest that the "fathers" of the republic were not cast in heroic moulds. Ancestor worship is becoming the fashion. He who sets out to prove that there is a free press within the area of the great capitalist organizations would be compelled to indulge in a masterly evasion of a mountain of evidence.

This tendency toward a medieval America occurs also when the world is "opening to new horizons of liberty." As the old Spain endeavored to crush the expansion of free minds, so our ruling classes seek peace and security in the same course. The bats of an earlier day have their heirs in the United States and if anything excites their ire it is "new horizons of liberty."

## THE HESSIAN MYTH

PERHAPS more venom has been spewed upon the Hessian troops employed by the British against the Americans in the war of the American Revolution than upon any other phase of that struggle. Vocal "patriots" during the World War recalled the use of these German troops against us and many orators in selling liberty bonds rang the changes on these alleged "German mercenaries."

But it is time that these Hessians who lie in unknown graves in this country should be cleared of the infamy ascribed to them by those who know no more about the revolution than they do about the theory of relativity. The Hessians were not mercenaries. The mercenary is one who knowingly and willingly sells himself into the service of others for questionable purposes. These Hessians were not of this type. They were workers and peasants in bondage to German nobles.

On another page next week we will publish the translation of a letter written by the Landgrave of Hesse-Cassel in 1777 which tells the tragic story of these Hessian workers. The letter was sold like cattle, and it is evident that the Landgrave had obtained a contract with the British Government which made it more profitable for him to have his serf soldiers killed than to live. The reader will observe the Landgrave's regret that all his serfs under a certain commander had not been killed.

The letter is an exposure of a revolting phase of class rule and it is time that we should do justice to the Hessian workers sold by a conscienceless parasite for blood money. These Hessian soldiers were martyrs to the measureless greed of ruling classes, not mercenary soldiers which empty-headed American "patriots" would have us believe. They deserve our compassion for the unmerited fate that was theirs and vindication by the workers of our time.

To what extent the capitalist press is concealing the real state of economic conditions in this country we have no means of knowing, but delegates to the Socialist convention of Pittsburgh brought some distressing stories. The tragedy that has overwhelmed many farmers in a great region of the West is generally known, but the distress of wage workers is not so well known. While Coolidge yawns of "prosperity" there are thousands of Indiana miners begging food of farmers. Hundreds of thousands of workers in the manufacturing cities and towns of the Central States are unemployed and the tendency of wages is downward. There is no need of mentioning the slave pins of Eastern textiles. Yet modern industry is capable of providing abundance for all!

# The News of the Week

## Debt Funding Farce Ending

With the approval of Lord Calvin, the American Debt Commission

has reached accords with representatives of France and Yugoslavia on the matter of "funding" the war debts, and this dreary farce will soon be over, as the Senate is expected to ratify the deals, although not without its usual amount of high flown oratory. Of course, the talk about lightening the burdens of the American taxpayer by means of the payment scheduled to be made to "us" by the thirteen nations that have come to terms is bunk, as the some \$209,000,000 a year (of which \$187,000,000 comes from Great Britain) due this way will be only a drop in the bucket of the national budget. But Morgan & Co. and the other money lenders are anxious to place more big loans abroad at high interest rates, and the Government has now lifted its "ban" on such loans because of the "successful" outcome of the debt negotiations. So the French Government may be able to borrow a few hundred million to brace up the falling franc and to wage war upon "subject" races in Morocco and Syria. Russia, Greece and Armenia are still on the debtors' list of the State Department, but there is not much probability of negotiations for a settlement with them being begun soon, although there are occasional rumors that the Soviet Government might be disposed to "recognize" the old Kerenky debt of nearly \$200,000,000 in return for recognition in Washington that would enable American bankers and concession hunters to do more business with Moscow, as well as facilitate direct trade between the two countries.

## Italian Masons Reported Active

Driven tempo-

rarily under

ground by the

anti-Masonic

campaign waged

by Benito Mussolini

for the double purpose of hitting

republicanism and ingratiating himself

with the Vatican, the Italian Free

Masons are reported to be actively

organizing their forces into bands of

Carbonari, eagerly awaiting the

chance to duplicate the blows at tyr-

anny struck by their prototypes in Italy,

by a high degree Mason just returned

from a fairly long sojourn in Italy,

the anti-Fascist sentiment is rising

rapidly and is being promoted by

groups of Free Masons in all parts

of the country. In the south the movement

is especially strong. Instead of

being put out of business by the

drive, the Masons are more numerous

than ever before, although their work

is now doubly secret. Their ties with

foreign lodges are being maintained

and they count upon material assistance

from abroad, particularly when the

hour for decisive action strikes.

In the meantime, the dictator goes

ahead "reorganizing" the Government

of Italy, and, just to preserve his

dignity, has a woman in Florence named

Malvina Fregioli sent to jail for eight

months for having uttered "derogatory

remarks about the Premier." A young

American, John Adams Abbott of Bos-

ton, has been accused of the same

horrid offense because he punched a

Roman guide in the jaw as the result

of the latter having tried to cut in

ahead of him at the ticket window of

the Vatican Gardens. Speaking at a

reception given by the Rome theatre

folk to Mary Pickford and Douglas

fairbanks, Edmondo Rossini, the ex-

anarchist head of the black shirt

unions, assured the movie stars that

Mussolini's health was like "granite,"

despite all reports to the contrary.

Mussolini has declined to have streets

named after him, but his head is to

"adorn" a series of new banknotes soon

coming out.

While attention

is concentrated

upon dramatic

events in England

we are likely to overlook other impor-

tant news. China is still on the map.

She is a sore spot in the world's af-

airs, made so by the capitalist pow-

ers who have taken her in charge.

While it is known that Justice E.

Finley of the Philippine Supreme

Court served as American Commis-

sioner on the "Judicial Inquiry" into

the Shanghai shootings last May little

is known of the analysis he made of

that affair. In correspondence to the

Times from Shanghai, Thomas F. Mil-

lard has given an interesting review

of Finley's investigation and conclu-

sions. He holds the foreign regime

responsible for the shootings, and

charges it to the usurpation of execu-

tive, legal and "police powers in Chi-

nese territory." We are unable to con-

sider the details that induce Finley to

make this report, but his conclusion is

substantially what every intelligent man

knows. What also interests us is that

this American view is so in contrast

with American dealings with Mexico.

The United States does not have the

big stakes to guard in China that it

has in Mexico. It acts in Mexico like

the powers do in China, but it con-

demns in China what it is guilty of in

Mexico. The reason is obvious. The

European masters in China have al-

most closed the door to other exploiters

and American diplomacy desires to

keep it open. Our diplomatic agents

in China, therefore, condemn the Shan-

ghai affair. Now if the European

powers will get together and condemn

American capitalism for its brutality

in Haiti, for example, it will be a case

of fifty-fifty and we will let it go at

that.

NEW YORK.—Louis Viskin, a

driver, of Queens Village, was

struck by a Long Island train

struck his truck at a grade cross-

ing in Woodside.—Anton Seifert,

of 16 West 84th street, Manhattan,

was killed when an elevator de-

scended upon him in the pit where

he was working at 347 West 35th

street.—John Murphy of 131 East

118th street, Manhattan, foreman

of a subway track gang, was killed

by a shuttle train.

# THE CHATTER BOX

## A Serial Story on Lawyers Chapter II

Of course, they are the products of an unnatural human civilization. Of course, not one of them is individually to blame; and certainly very few of us in other lines of livelihood are beyond judgment under similar indictment. And yet somehow, the countless hordes of law toilers stand out as peculiar to our sort of berating.

Business itself is at bottom such a splendid school for cold blooded assassination, that one usually is surprised at the occasional human being with humane ideals that may be found surviving in an unexplained manner among the cut-throats. Sneak-thieving, pocket-picking, brazen fibbing, windpipe choking and even dull blackjacking is more or less the common routine of business—for somewhere one of our original captains of industry set the entire ethical curriculum of commerce in the terse phrase—"The public be damned"—and so it has been one of the first tenets of the faith. And it has since expanded into including every other living thing on earth with the exception of yourself. So it would appear banal, and hardly worth repeating, that the business man is everything his competitor says he is and more.

But for the honorable, erudite and dignified gentlemen of the unimpeachable law, for these sworn defenders of the weak against the tyrannous, the innocent against the gesture of near-sighted Justice, order against chaos, civic honesty contra official knavery, for these to profit by the methods of their clients—and join in a sort of "second thief is the best thief" nursery game; for these to foreseize the slimmest hint of ethics and morals, study and laudable ambition, in a blind but scampering after fees that are twin sisters to blackmail, extortion and sometimes outright theft—there we have a heart sickening spectacle of how low a human being can fall under our catch-as-catch-can system.

Today the legal profession is like a famous lady of the Nile—everything to anybody who can pay. The lawyer who gets the defense or prosecution of a rich man's emotional perversions is the envy of the majority of our Solons and Blackstones. The tremendous fees, together with the publicity—and can heaven help being far behind? Poor people cannot afford a good lawyer—and by good we mean able to "put it across"—any more than they can afford Park Avenue Co-operative flats. And since laws have been made by lawyers so that other lawyers may try lawsuits under their verbal umbrage, only lawyers are supposed to be intelligent enough to interpret them. As a matter of fact, good lawyers are made not through successful interpretation—but by clever evasion of the law. (If you don't like this story, please take note that more will follow.)

## Perfection

If I must die, then let me die,  
White and serene and still;  
Let not a tear, let not a sigh  
Escape me as I die.

If I must die, then let me die  
Without a sign of strife;  
Give me perfection in my death,  
Since there was none in life.

—Goldie Becker.

## Courtesan

A shattered loveliness is on your face  
Like ruined castles  
In a battle place:  
The shards of broken dreams  
Hold on their edge  
The tarnished silver gilt  
Of a wan moon.

## Keen

These things I find in thee:  
An old dream  
And a warm breast  
And the flavor of sorrow.  
Now deep tranquility . . .  
And Tomorrow?

Now sheds the silly moon  
A sulphured stream  
And the reeling night  
Reaches to borrow  
The splendor of noon . . .  
But tomorrow?—tomorrow?

—Samuel Lessing Thaw.

For three hundred miles we traveled last Monday, broke up a most delightful New England trout fishing expedition, just to attend a Rennie Smith meeting in Brighton. Sleepy, weary, and listless we arrived, and sat during Comrade Smith's explanation of the British Strike situation. There must be something super-magnetic about the Labor Members of the British Parliament, for he successfully routed sleep and ennui—and when he had concluded a brilliant speech we were inspired to give a bit of zest to our own little stint at the meeting.—God's been miserly with the world, having given us so few Rennie Smiths.

During the period of our Annual Poetry Contest, which, by the way, ends May 15, if you have not already entered it, we have been regaling ourselves with two remarkable books—Joseph T. Shipley's "Modern French Poetry"—published by Greenberg, Inc.—and Cabell's new novel—"The Silver Stallion"—issued under McBride's insignia.—For Shipley's masterly rendering of the French Parnassians, we have great envy and greater admiration. Translation is dangerous alike to the transposer and the poet. The idiom has a teasingly difficult manner, the bon mot and the word magic of one language eludes the finest apparatus of another to properly transplant them. In so far as it is humanly possible to transfigure the Gallic into Anglo-Saxon and Americanese—Shipley has gone and put it across with originality and verve. A great creator is born perhaps—but a great translator must perform the greater mystery of re-birth.—Here's a big mitt—Joe—and no petty log-rolling about it either.

Cabellaisian is satisfactorily taking the place of the adjective Rabellaisian. There is that strange quality about Cabell's work that allows for no distinct cataloging among the ancients—since his modernity with the long withered tricks of the legendary is startlingly new. "The Silver Stallion" is the last of the tongue in cheek creations of the one brain in Virginia and America that may range alongside of Apuleius, Voltaire, and Rabelais, in full dignity. We have read and re-read most of Cabell's work and even in these distracting years have found the lasting aroma of the classic among them. It is so delightfully easy to review any of his work, since the story is never the thing—and the artistry of it so humanly impossible to describe.—One can at times put a landscape, or a battle scene to the adequate music of a phrase. How ludicrous, however, to employ fine words to convey the glory of finer ones.

Take our days, with its welter of sex, politics, prohibition, saxophones, Charleston and Coolidges, take all the hectic nervousness and the sordid colorlessness of our lives, and make of it all a fine skein of multi-tinted thread, and on golden looms of a laughing brain weave out a tapestry of romance and reality—and you have "The Silver Stallion," and a great part of James Cabell.

S. A. De Witt

# Critical Cruisings

By V. F. Calverton

## The Exciting Mr. Sherman

"MR. SHERMAN will write as a Yankee as long as he lives. He just can't help it," said John Macy at the Opportunity dinner last Saturday night.

And Mr. Sherman is a Yankee of an old generation—a generation that suffers from precocious senility. He still has an ironically childish affection for the old moralities and manias. He still believes in an advanced Puritanism. He is still a defender of "the good life."

Categorizing himself among "the ordinary puritanical Americans," he declares that "beauty, whether we like it or not, has a heart full of service," and accuses contemporary art of pandering to "sensual gratification" and imagining that "God cares nothing for the Ten Commandments or for the pure in heart." Thank God, it does.

## Mr. Sherman's Discovery

But Mr. Sherman's greatest discovery is the religiosity, morality and democracy of the American heart. This is really clairvoyant inspiration.

"It is certainly not by banishing or ignoring the austere ministers and making poetry, painting, and music perform a Franco-Turkish dance of sensual invitation—it is not thus that the artist should expect to satisfy a heart as religious, as moral, and as democratic as the American heart is, by its bitterest critics, declared to be."

A more amusing fiasco of an interpretation, a more risibly ridiculous expression of an attitude is hard to imagine. American literature presents no such picture. Mr. Sherman's reaction is that of the bourgeois critic and intellectual. His affection for "the profound moral idealism of America" is an affection for the culture of the bourgeoisie. His desire for Puritanism in art is an expression of his bourgeois philosophy. It was the eighteenth century—or, to be more exact, the close of the seventeenth, that inaugurated the invasion of the bourgeois motif into English literature. With the Sentimental Comedy of Steele and the bourgeois tragedy of Lillo, a bourgeois art and culture came into dominance. Steele's Sentimental Comedy had slowly placated the bourgeois hatred of the stage; Lillo's bourgeois tragedy had buried it. With the bourgeois tragedy